Volume 14 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 14 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE XXIX (Page 20) through AE XXXII (Page 139)).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

CSSN COPELAND: White Jeep.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he took you, or you just took his keys?

CSSN COPELAND: No, he took me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What store did you go to?

CSSN COPELAND: We went to Food Lion.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was that--which one?

CSSN COPELAND: I have no clue. There's like a lot of Food Lions.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair.

Do you know about what time you guys went?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You said you called her right, though?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I FaceTimed her.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you FaceTimed her, and then did you go to the store right after you FaceTimed her?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I hung up, and then after that, I was just telling him. I said, "Cool. Can we go to the store?" And he was like, "Yeah, let's go."

SA GOKEY: Okay.

MS. BEA: Did he go in with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm?

MS. BEA: Did he go in with you? Like, y'all were both doing some shopping?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, he went in with me.

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MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. And then, what'd you do after you left the store?

CSSN COPELAND: We went back home.

SA GOKEY: Back to your building?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, how did Resendez get there?

CSSN COPELAND: I came and picked her up.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And did--in what car?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate's car.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did he go with you on that one?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I came and picked her up.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

MS. BEA: Same Jeep you said?

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

MS. BEA: Same Jeep?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Same roommate. Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you guys went--or excuse me, you went and picked her up.

What was she wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: I can't recall. I remember she was wearing a black shirt and I believe black pants.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she have anything with her?

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CSSN COPELAND: I believe she had a--she had a purple backpack that she always carries with her.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I think that was it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Any--anything more descriptive about what she was wearing? Was like--again, like you may be one of the last people to here before she went UA.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And I'm really trying to find her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: because she's UA and she needs to be at work, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, anything more descriptive that I can start looking for?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, like, I can't really remember that. All I remember is her wearing a black shirt. I believe it was black pants and she had some Uggs.

SA GOKEY: Uggs. What kind of Uggs?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know the brand of--I--I just know of Uggs.

SA GOKEY: But--so, were they like slip-ons or were they boots or?

CSSN COPELAND: They were slip-ons.

SA GOKEY: They were the slip-ons. Okay. Okay. So, slip-on Uggs. Okay. Anything else?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Did you notice any jewelry that she was wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: I know she had a bracelet and I think a hair clip.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And a hair clip. Like one of the big ones to pull up a bunch of hair, or like a little big one.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was like a--a clip. Like an actual clip? Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But like, big one, little one.

CSSN COPELAND: It was like a medium-sized one.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know how females justify their hair clips, so.

SA GOKEY: No, that's fine.

MS. BEA: I never met [redacted]. Is she Hispanic? Is she black? Is she white?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe she's Hispanic.

MS. BEA: Okay. Does she wear, like, any kind of braids or anything like that? Or like, just kind of like, where's it long?

CSSN COPELAND: Military--military style, like in a bun.

MS. BEA: When you picked her up, was it in a bun?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. Was it in a bun the whole time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She always keeps her hair in a bun.

MS. BEA: Got it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Does she have her nose pierced?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Do you recall about what time you picked her up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't remember.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you picked her up, and then what did you do?

CSSN COPELAND: After that, we came home and we started making tacos.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she--did you say something about salsa on Sunday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I mean, that shit is in the sink right now.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: In my room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So did she--did she make it there or did you guys----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, she made it. I don't know if it was--it was like a guacamole or a salsa. It was one of the two. She made it in the room, so.

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SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She made everything, put it in the blender. The shit is still sitting in the sink right now, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was it good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, it was good, but it--it was her and my stomach. I have a weak stomach, so.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair. Did she bring any of the ingredients with her?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I bought everything at the store.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, you bought all the ingredients, and then she just made it?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, you guys made tacos. She made the salsa. Y'all ate. Then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, we started listening to music on my game on Apple Music and Spotify. It was going back and forth because too many people was on the internet at the time. So, obviously, it's going to start lagging. And then from there we just started talking. And she mentioned something about Gillespie, which is the dude that she talks to on the boat, and all this other stuff. And then, that's when I had brought up the fact that, like, something about he said something about him picking up a female. And she was like, that's crazy, because

she went on a walk, so and so, and she basically saw him pick up a female that looked like it was on his bike because he wears all black. So, she said it looked like it was his. And from there, I'm pretty sure she knew that it was him. So, she texted him and she was like, "Fuck you."

Sorry for my language.

SA GOKEY: No, but we're all adults. So, you cuss, you say whatever you--you need to say to----

CSSN COPELAND: But it--it is just me out of respect. I don't--you know.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But from there she said that. And from there, that's when she called her ex-boyfriend, that lived in Texas. And I was sitting on the couch. She was--she was sitting on the floor, and then she told me to come over to meet him. And then from there I was like, "What's good, Brody?" And he was like, "What's good?" And from there, they were talking, and I would just put my feedback in or just like, say like little things, because at the end of the day, it's not really my conversation, it's theirs. They're having a conversation, so. They were talking whatever. And then, from there they hung up and she was just calling other people, talking about how Gillespie's not shit, this, that, the third, and just going on a rabbit spree, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, what is Gillespie and her's relationship?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know. It's not really my part to really say, because I don't know much about Gillespie. I mean, I know that he works on our boat. She did mention they previously dated. I don't know how, for how long.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she tell you anything about if there was any, like, emotional abuse or physical abuse or anything like that between the two of them?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I know she was basically saying, like, how much money she spent basically on him paying for all his shit. He never done shit for her and so on. I know she mentioned--I think the thing that really like blew her over is how she said that she recently paid him $500 for a lawyer.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And from there I was like, that's crazy because I told him that he could have got a public defender for the--the--he was going to court for speeding.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And I remember previously talking to him that week about that, because I said he could have got a public defender, and I guess that blew her because she basically told him the same thing, and I guess he didn't listen to her and got

a lawyer anyway. So, she spent $500 helping him pay for a lawyer.

SA GOKEY: Damn. She seems nice. I wouldn't do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Right.

SA GOKEY: Absolutely not. Sorry. Okay.

Anything else you know about the relationship?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know much about Gil. So, that's as far as--that's----

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----everything that I know.

SA GOKEY: Okay. From your own perception, do--what do you think of Gil?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, I don't really know him that much.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, it's like, I can't really say what I know about him.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I've had a couple conversations to him, but I don't know him as a person, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you couldn't say if, like, he's mean or nice or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, from the conversations I had with him, he's--he's cool. Like, that's all I can say. I don't know him as a person, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Just asking mainly because you know, she--he's an ex-boyfriend, so.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't really know what they get into for their relationship, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. Okay. What about this ex-boyfriend from Texas? Do you know anything about that person?

CSSN COPELAND: That was my first time ever meeting, talking to him, seeing him, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What'd he look like?

CSSN COPELAND: He was kind of like my complexion.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Pretty much the same color. Same like, build. I believe he had dreads.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did--did you hear like a nickname or his name by chance?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And you saw him, so was she FaceTiming him?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, they were FaceTiming. Okay. All right. Okay.

So, then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: After what?

SA GOKEY: I guess, after you guys got off the phone with the ex-boyfriend from Texas.

CSSN COPELAND: She went on a, like, rampage calling other people and just talking about how Gilispe's not shit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And when you say, rampage, I'm asking just because I want to--I want to understand like her mindset right then, like her--her mental capacity at that point.

Like, can you describe to me what that means to you?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was just calling other people.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And just talking about how Gil's not shit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was she pissed off and cussing, or was she crying? Was she just like, you know, just kind of flailing around? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, she was like, she was cooling, but she--at the same time, you could tell that she's getting like agitated.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like I said, like, after we were talking, she mentioned that she spent $500. That's what blew her because she was, like, not only did I mention that, but she also told him, and on top of him telling her that, or, like, her telling him

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that, somebody else told her the same thing about getting a public defender, so.

It's just like she felt like he lied to him, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, I mean, in your opinion--I know you might not know him--do you think he was using her for money?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't--I'm not--it's not my part. I don't know him, so.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. No. That's fine.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: So, I was, like, in your opinion--if you don't know, you don't know, okay? So, do you know who all she was calling?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am. The only person that I saw, or that I knew, was her ex-boyfriend, which she introduced me to.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, just the Texas guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you didn't know who else she called?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So. All right. So, then, what else happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, after she started making phone calls, like, she started getting emotional, started crying, and

shit. From there, I just sat on the couch, you know, I was just like, all right, bro. Like, you just had her moment.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You were sitting on the couch. Where was she sitting?

CSSN COPELAND: She was sitting on the floor, like right in front of the table.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, she was still crying, and then my other roommate, the Mexican one that's also across the room, he walked in, and he was just asking, is everything cool? And I was like, yeah, bro. I was like, she's just having her moment. And I was like--I was like, she's--she's going to be good. And then he was like, all right. Cool. And he walked in the room, and I guess, I don't know. He just walked in the room and just kept it pushing.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he didn't really get involved?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Nah. He was just making sure if everything was good, and I told him, yeah, she's fine. Like, she just had some shit happen, so. She's just having her moment right now.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he was like, all right. Cool. And he was like, if y'all need something, just come, let me know. I was like, all right. Back at cha.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: And from there, that's when the night started ending. Like, I was like, cool. I'm going to go to sleep. And she was like, all right. Cool. So, she came and went to sleep with me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Where did you guys go to sleep?

CSSN COPELAND: My bed.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then your bed. Okay. And she slept with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Did you guys have sex?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then what happened? What was the next thing you remember?

CSSN COPELAND: I went to sleep.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then from there, that's when my chief came and knocked on the door the next day.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And what chief was that, again?

CSSN COPELAND: FCC Parker.

SA GOKEY: Parker. Okay. Do you remember about what time he knocked on the door?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was the sun out or was it still dark?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. The sun was out.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then walk me through what happened next?

CSSN COPELAND: He knocked on the door, and then I could hear somebody fidgeting with the doorknob. So, I thought it was my roommate because usually if I lock the door, if I close the door, he would just knock on the door until I wake up. So, I was like, hold on.

So, I woke up, and chief was there, and I was like, oh. I was like, good morning chief. And he was like, you having a late morning, like a late start? I was like, yeah. And he was like, is [redacted] here? I was, like, yeah, she's right there. He saw her. He was like, all right. Cool. And that's when he was asking like, do I got a ride to work and everything? And I was like, at the moment, like, my roommate, he can take me whenever he gets off work. And he was like, all right. Cool.

He was like, just make sure you call CS1 or whatever and let him know, like, you're heading to work and everything. I was like, all right. Cool.

So, my roommate, he still never came through like when he was supposed to get off. So, I--I didn't go to work and I was just like, fuck it. I didn't go to work.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when everything processed through, all the way up to Saturday, when CS1 and chief told me I was marked UA.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: But I feel like it was all a misunderstanding because obviously, I had the weekend off, but I guess that's how the military is. If you are marked UA or whatever the day I wasn't present, it still builds up until I actually go in and basically----

SA GOKEY: And show face.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, how many days did you get marked UA then?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday, Friday, I think it was four. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Yeah. Sunday, around like the evening time, I came and I went to the CDO, and from there the CO is--was like, yeah, your mom called and she was worried [inaudible 00:39:26]. I didn't know about that part either, so.

I was like, yeah, I was like, I'm here. So, he told me I just got to standby until, until they can get somebody to basically do a urinalysis on me.

So, I waited, and then they ended up calling my MA1 because they couldn't find whatever they needed to find for her to get my sample. So, I waited until she got to the ship.

She got there. She got my information, and then after that, I did urinalysis. And then from there, they said I was good to leave.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, then, you said you were marked UA Thursday through Sunday?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then what were you doing Friday?

CSSN COPELAND: I was at home.

SA GOKEY: At the barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What were you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: In the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did you go anywhere?

CSSN COPELAND: I never left the building.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What about Saturday?

CSSN COPELAND: I was also in the lounge. I was just in the barracks.

SA GOKEY: In your lounge? In your bedroom or in your----

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, in the building.

SA GOKEY: Oh, gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I think my roommate knows by now, I don't really fuck with him. Like, ever since I've been in the

barracks, I either sleep on the couch or whenever he is not in the room, that's when I'm in the room.

Obviously, when he goes to the room, I go into the living room or outside the room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the one that you share a space with?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You--you guys don't get along?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He's just fucking filthy.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it--it fucking irritates me every day that I have to go into a room with another grown man--you don't shower, you don't maintain yourself.

SA GOKEY: Gross.

CSSN COPELAND: And it came up until, I believe, yesterday morning, when his CO came to inspect the room and basically saw how shitty and fucked up his side was, that he had to fully deep clean the entire room.

It just annoys and irritates me that I have to live with someone like that, so.

SA GOKEY: No.

CSSN COPELAND: I go to the front desk every day. Like, they can't really move him because he's in a squadron. All right. Cool.

They offered if I wanted to move, but I told them, yeah, and--with just with me working my hours, I couldn't move because obviously when I had work, I wouldn't been able to move out within the timeframe they gave me, so.

They gave me like a timeframe. It was like three days or something. So, I couldn't switch rooms. So, it was what it was, but it just irritates me.

I think my roommate should know by now, like, whenever he's up or in the room, I'm outside the room or I'm in the living room. Whenever I go to sleep, I either go to my homeboy's room, or I go somewhere else, or I sleep on the couch.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Sometimes I sleep in the room because I'm--I'm just exhausted and tired, and--yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I don't blame you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It is--it annoys me, and he's older than I am.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. How old is he? Do you know?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe he's like, 21.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or 22, something like that.

MS. BEA: Yeah. It's just gross.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. I would not be able to handle living in a situation like that. I would lose my mind.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it is what it is. At the end of the day, I mean, deployment is the same way.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: The fact that you're on land, you have all the time in the world to take a shower, clean up, do what you need to do, but he just chooses not to.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know why. It's----

SA GOKEY: Some people weren't raised right. Okay.

So, that Saturday, you were in a lounge in the barracks. Do you know which lounge?

CSSN COPELAND: I was like, on the third floor--fifth floor.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you were on both of them, or, you know----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. Were you with anybody in there?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I was by myself.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do they have TVs in there or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. Okay.

So, then Sunday, what were you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: I was also in the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Of the barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when I went to go take a shit, and I went to--I was taking a shit, and I heard somebody knock on the door, and I believe it was Ms. Mary's voice, and she asked who was in here, and I said, Copeland. And she was like, okay.

A couple minutes later, I heard somebody else like, trying to get in. I was like, I'm taking a shit. But he asked if he could come in here. I was like, bro, I'm taking a shit. He was like, all right. Cool.

And I believe like three, five minutes after that, that's when I believe the MAs came knocking on the door, asking--telling me to basically come out. From there, I was just like, what the fuck?

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: After that, I told him, just lemme wipe my ass. I got up, washed my hands, and everything. Cool. Walked out, and he was basically asking, do you know why I'm here?

I was like, yeah, because my chief texted me this morning saying basically--or the morning before that I was marked UA. And they were like, all right.

And from there, they weren't really saying much, but I guess, they were just asking me questions, like, more about myself, like, who--like, where I'm from and shit. Like, what school I graduated from, what sports and stuff do I play.

And then from there, the MA that was talking to me had left, went downstairs to go find his chief. And then from there, I was just upstairs talking to the two--the other MAs that were there.

After that, we walked down there. And from there, they basically talked to their chief, whatever. And he basically told me, just go check in to my command because obviously, I'm marked UA and to not make things worse on myself than what it already is, so.

I was like, all right. Cool. And I was like, I'll go do that. So, after that, I called my chief, and I was like--I [inaudible 00:46:15] asking my chief like, should I go basically to the barge right now with the time that it is right now? Or should I just wait till Monday when I have work?

And my chief was basically saying, it doesn't really make a difference. He said it would be--it could be better if I just go now, so it can be up and out the way. And he was like--he was saying, it's not really going to make a difference though because even if I do go Monday, it's going to be the same thing.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. And I hung up, and I put on my uniform, and I went to the barge. And then from there, that's when they did urinalysis and everything.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, your chief texted you Saturday and told you you were UA?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Why didn't you go in then?

CSSN COPELAND: because I was off. I already--I already told him. He asked the same thing. I was just like, if I'm off, then I'm off.

I mean, I read that you marked me UA. Cool. But if I'm off, like, they already know I'm not going to answer my phone. Like, even my CS2s, when they call, if I'm off, I'm not answering the phone.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you thought you were just off and not being marked as UA for the days you originally had off?

CSSN COPELAND: I--yeah. I didn't know what UA fully was, obviously, up until now. And they basically told me, cool.

So, if I'm marked UA, I'm just thinking, all right. When I go in Monday, they're just going to ask me basically what happened over the weekend, or why didn't I come in?

I didn't know that it keeps continuously going every day until I go and check in.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

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CSSN COPELAND: Until the MAs basically came in and told me that, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did command or the MAs ever come knocking on the door, like, Thursday or Friday, or Saturday?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I was--I wasn't home at the time if they did come in.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GOKEY: So, then where were you?

CSSN COPELAND: In the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. Okay. But you were in the building somewhere?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Is there anybody that I can talk to to verify that you were in the lounges? Did anybody see you? Any friends, any passerby?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, shit if--whoever was there. I mean, you could talk to Ms. Mary.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She walked in the lounge. I was on the fifth floor. She asked if I was good. I told her, yes, ma'am. I just told her--she walked by again and asked if everything was

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good. I told her, yeah. I just told her I didn't want to be in my room.

She obviously knows the state of my roommate.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: because she was literally the only person that I went to every time I had an issue with my roommate. So, she can vouch and say the same thing, because I honestly do not like my roommate.

SA GOKEY: That's fair.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, he's a cool person. Like, he's a--he's a caring person, but it's just the way that he lives. I don't--I--I can't--like, I can't accept that.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just filthy. Like, I respect him as a person, everything you do, cool. It's just the way that he lives as a person, it's filthy.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair. Okay.

So, Ms. Mary saw you the whole weekend in one of the lounges?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not going to say the whole weekend.

SA GOKEY: Well, I'm sorry. Like, one of the days or one of the times of these?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Anybody else?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

I mean, there was another dude that was in the lounge with us at the time, but I don't know him.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'm sorry. I'm just picking up. You say with us. Were--was it just you and that other person, or were there like multiple people?

CSSN COPELAND: So, when I say us, it's like, it was me and another dude. We were inside the lounge, and at the time, they made him come into the lounge because they were people, like the workers there. They were cleaning the floor. They were waxing the floor. So, they made him come inside the lounge until they were done waxing the floor.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: But you don't know who that person is?

CSSN COPELAND: I've never seen him a day in my life.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Okay.

And then--so, then you guys go--do you go do your analysis? Who took you to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: So, when I walked in, one of my homeboys was--he was on watch and I was like, what's good, bro? He was like, what's good? And I was like, can you call the CDO for me? And he didn't know how to call the CDO. So, he walked into one of

the--he walked into like, this little area. It's like when you first walk into the barge and he asked for one of the chiefs.

And he was like, chief, do you think you could help me call for the CDO? And that's when one of the chiefs walked out, and he was like, you can't call for the CDO, like on the radio----

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: ----so, because it goes straight to the ship. And he was like, what do you need the CDO for? And then that's when I walked up and I was like, I need the CDO. And he was like, oh, okay.

And he picked up on his radio. He was like, CDO--he was like, CSSN Copeland here. And I guess like, basically, just telling him that I'm here to check in. So, he was like, give him a minute, he's going to head down.

From there, the CDO came down, it was a--it was, I believe, a lieutenant. And from there, he was talking to me, and he was basically saying that my mom said she hasn't heard from me. So, she called the base, and then she also called my command.

And from there, that's when they did the welfare check and everything. So, the lieutenant was basically telling me, my mom, and everything was worried. And I was like, yeah. I was like, she was, because obviously when I called her she was.

SA GOKEY: Your momma was mad at you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. So, I was--I was just letting him know that she was irritated.

Well, she wasn't irritated. She was just worried and mad, so. Yeah. So, then from there, he was basically saying, he's going to get somebody to go do your analysis.

So, he told me just to hang tight, and I was like, all right. So, he left to go basically find the urinalysis, and that's when me and the chief was talking. We were just talking about how he used to be a CS.

And then from there, I was just telling him how I wanted to cross rate because me personally, I don't like being a CS, and I don't think I can do like a full--like, my whole entire life is just being a CS.

So, I was talking to him about cross rating--being another rate, and he pulled me into like his little office and he pulled up like my ASVAB score. And he was basically saying, if I study whoopie woo, I can cross rate and become something else, like a yeoman.

We were also talking about like CBs. And then from there, the officer was basically saying, MA1 one was on the way because they couldn't find where the sample holder was for me to take urinalysis.

So, from there, I was just waiting for MA1 to come. Eventually, MA1 showed up and she told me to go downstairs with

her. It was the same class that was there. And the lieutenant--the CDO walked into the office where we first were. And I believe the chief followed down. He went downstairs with us, and from there, everyone asked for my CAC, and she was just taking notes down and everything, jotting everything down from my CAC.

And from there, she waited. I guess she was like filling out a piece of paper, and from there she took my chief. Or not my chief, but the chief basically walked me upstairs to go pee. I went pee. Went back downstairs, gave her the bottle, and from there she gave me back my CAC and said I was good to go.

And then, with chief and the CDO, I both verified--they both made me verify, when I had to come back to work, and I was basically saying, chief told me Monday.

So, I called chief to verify when I left. And he was just saying, just come Monday, 7:30. And I was like, yes, chief.

SA GOKEY: Okay. How did you get to the ship?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate drove me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. The same roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was anybody else with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Our other roommate, that was in the room with him. We went to get--he took me to the ship, and then afterwards we went to his Chipotle.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: We went home after.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And you guys--you stayed at the room the rest of the night then?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, you didn't leave at all after you guys had gone to the ship, Chipotle came back. Nobody--or excuse me. Not nobody leaves.

You never left again?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, presumably, you went up--got up and went to work the next morning?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who took you to work?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate.

SA GOKEY: Your roommate.

Is he on the same ship as you?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Whew. That man is a nice human. Where's he work? Do you know?

CSSN COPELAND: He works on base.

SA GOKEY: On this base?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

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SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

MS. BEA: I'm sorry. Is this the stinky roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Different roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Which one are we talking about?

CSSN COPELAND: The black African dude across.

MS. BEA: Black African dude. And your stinky roommate is which guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Sean.

MS. BEA: Sean. And what does he look like?

CSSN COPELAND: He's white.

MS. BEA: White dude. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Just want to make sure I'm keeping everybody straight. Okay. And the person that drove you around pretty much every time we talked about is your African dude, roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. Perfect. Thank you.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you have anything else right now?

MS. BEA: Yeah. I'm sorry. I know you got a ton of questions. I'm going to go back.

So, I know that you probably discussed a lot of this with Jess, like prior to me getting involved, right? So, I just wanted to make sure I understood.

So, what was your relationship with [redacted]? So, like, I know you said y'all didn't have sex that night, right? But I mean, like, were y'all talking, were you like getting to the point where you're going to be talking?

CSSN COPELAND: We just worked together.

MS. BEA: How long did you know her, like prior to her coming over?

CSSN COPELAND: Ever since I checked into the James E. Williams. On top of that, we went to A School together.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay. So, you guys go way back?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, she's a CS as well?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

So, did you guys like hang out in A School? Like, essentially, what I'm asking is like, it sounds like you guys were pretty tight.

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. I mean, at A School, we just knew of each other. When I checked into the James E. Williams, we hung out a couple times, and yeah.

We hung out with a couple other people. I remember we would go out sometimes. We would go to--we went to Dave and Buster's. We went to Dirty Buffalo.

So, there's been previous times where we've hung out before. We hung out when she came over.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, would you say you guys are just like platonic friends, or was there like a romantic interest there?

CSSN COPELAND: There was never a romantic interest.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, that's like way out of left field type scenario. You're just friends.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Understood. Okay.

So, you've known her for--for a while. So, you said that, you know, we already beat the whole salsa thing to death for certain. But you said that you guys were talking after you ate, and you mentioned something about--what's his name, Gilispe, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, I got confused. So, you said you saw him picking up a girl on his motorcycle. Tell me more about that.

CSSN COPELAND: He told me, like, that he was at work, and I was sitting down, and obviously, we were talking. The ship's not big, so.

MS. BEA: It is not.

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. We were sitting there talking, and he was basically saying how we picked up a female in his car and so on. Like, he was basically saying like, he didn't really say much. He picked her up.

Like, she was--well, she was in her car. It was two females, and a female asked him in the passenger seat, how fast did your bike go? And he basically nodded and said, come find out yourself.

So, she hopped on his bike and she drove down the street, or not she, but he drove down the street with her, and then from there he picked up her number and they've been talking ever since.

But [redacted], she initially got mad because--I'm guess--I'm guessing, the day that he was with the female, he was asking for his--his--helmet back that he bought [redacted]. And [redacted] was basically asking him like, why do you want the helmet? And he was basically saying like, because it brings back all the times, like, all the places they've could have gone together, this, that, the third.

And she basically just went off about the helmet, like, what does he specifically need the helmet for? And they were going on back and forth.

And then from there, he was just like, he cut it, and he was like, fuck it. Like, you could just keep the helmet.

MS. BEA: Did this all happen on Thursday night, did you say----

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: ----or this is Wednesday?

CSSN COPELAND: No. That--no. That was like the night that she came over. Like, she was basically telling me about that.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay. So, she started talking to you about that whole shit?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But I'm saying, like with Gillespie and the female driving.

MS. BEA: Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: That was--that was when he told me when I was at work, the same day that she came over.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, let me make sure I have it right. So, when she came over, at some point, she started talking about Gillespie. Was she just like talking about her relationship, and were they still dating at the time, or they had already broken up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I----

MS. BEA: It's messy. Okay. And then, she was like telling you about an argument that she had with Gillespie about this motorcycle helmet, and you were like, oh, well, Gillespie told me----

CSSN COPELAND: No. So, she was talking about Gillespie, and she had mentioned something about him and a female, and I was

like, that's crazy because so and so, and that's when I started talking about when you told me at work about the female.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And she was like, no fucking way you said that because he basically texted me the day that basically, I told him about her--told her about it.

She was--basically, put two and two together. And the same day that he was talking to the female was the same day that he was asking for the bike helmet back.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: I get it now. All right. And that really pissed her off, and it sounds like she--yeah. Flipped out about that. Okay.

So, she texted Gillespie, and she was like, fuck off or wherever--whatever, something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: And then you said that she called her--oh, I'm sorry. Did she call her boyfriend in--ex-boyfriend in Texas before or after that?

CSSN COPELAND: After that.

MS. BEA: After that. Okay. And so, it sounds like--I mean, she was probably--was she talking to her ex-boyfriend about stuff with Gillespie?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. When did she like lose it, lose it? Because you said that she was like on the ground, crying. Everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, after she got done calling everyone. Like, after she got off the phone with her ex-boyfriend. Cool. Then she just started calling other people, and I guess she just lost it. Like, she was just done calling people, and she was just like, she was done.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just like, cool. And that's when I sat there and just let her have her moment, and I was like, all right, bro.

MS. BEA: Was she drinking?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She had like a shot or two of buzz ball. But then again, Buzz Ball's not strong. So, I don't----

MS. BEA: I don't know what buzz ball is.

SA GOKEY: You don't know what buzz ball is?

MS. BEA: I'm so sorry. Oh, is that like the balls you see at the liquor store? Okay, my bag. Sorry. As we've talked about multiple times in the past, I'm pretty old. Okay.

So, she had like a shot or two out of the buzz ball?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Would you consider her to be drunk? I mean, have you seen her drunk before?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was--I've never seen her drunk, but I don't think she was drunk because she was totally impaired of everything that she was doing, so.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: She was aware of everything she was doing.

MS. BEA: Okay. What do you mean when you say that?

CSSN COPELAND: Say what?

MS. BEA: Like, that she was aware of everything that she was doing.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, obviously, if somebody's drunk, you can tell if somebody's drunk because like, obviously, if they're having like a speech impediment or----

MS. BEA: Can't walk.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, like, when I say, she was visible and aware of everything she was doing, like she was obviously, like, you can tell there were no symptoms, that she was drunk.

MS. BEA: Got it. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: And let me see here. I have a bunch of questions written down. Okay. I just want to make sure I understood the timeline a little bit.

So, you were like, all right. Well, I'm going to go to sleep, and she came into the room with you. Was your roommate in there at the time?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so. Shit. I dunno because by the time I woke up, everybody was gone.

MS. BEA: Was this Wednesday night into Thursday morning?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, you said, when you woke up, everybody was gone? Where--I never figured out where was she?

CSSN COPELAND: She was in my bed.

MS. BEA: She was in your bed? She hadn't left yet?

CSSN COPELAND: No. My chief was there.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When he walked in, he saw her. Cool. And he told me, all right. When I'm obviously done and everything, he told me, just get ready for work and head to work.

MS. BEA: Here's what I'm confused about, too. Why didn't Chief just drive you to work? You didn't go back there anyway, right? Did he offered----

CSSN COPELAND: No. That's--no. He should have. That's why I was pissed off because they fucking marked me UA.

MS. BEA: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: That's the thing that, like, I don't know, because he--I feel like he set me for failure. I told--I fucking told him that, bro.

MS. BEA: Did you ask him for a ride? And he was like, no.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I--I feel like I should have offered, like, I should have been like, can I get a ride to work?

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: But then again, like, I feel like, he knows, obviously, I don't have a car, so.

MS. BEA: Right. Yeah. That doesn't make any sense. Okay. So, it just doesn't make sense, period.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: It's not just to me, it doesn't make sense. It just doesn't sense.

CSSN COPELAND: But like, he--like, he was also saying when he called me, he was just saying it was just a big miscommunication about me being UA.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. But I still was like a little irritated with the fact that it just--like, they marked me UA and like they made it this big fucking deal, this issue. I'm like, cool. I just left how it was.

I'm not finna argue. I'm not finna start a hissy fit or nothing. At the end of the day, I was UA. Cool. I'm going to own up to it. So.

MS. BEA: Okay. And [redacted] was also UA with you, right? Like, essentially--because you know, are you both on the same schedule?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Was she supposed to be at work on Thursday as well?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She worked Friday and the weekend.

MS. BEA: Oh, I see.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: So, she was off.

CSSN COPELAND: We were opposite watch bill. So, when I'm working, she's not working. When she's working, I'm not working.

MS. BEA: And can you help me understand, are you on days all the time, or do you still have to work nights on the barge? Do you know what I mean?

You know how the carrier's like 24 hours?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah, but no.

MS. BEA: No. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, our schedule's like, obviously, you come in on a turnover day, 7:30.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And you work 7:30 and we get off around 17, which is like what, 5, 6, 7, 5:30, 5:40.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, it's pretty much 7:30 to five in the evening?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And then--so, she was supposed to be off. Was she at work on Wednesday? The day y'all had the conversation about the salsa?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was a turnover day.

MS. BEA: That was turnover. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: So, you came in and was she there as well?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. Every turnover day, both watch supposed to be there.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. And then she was supposed to be off, I would assume, like, you know, from Wednesday until Thursday, and she was supposed to go back to work on Friday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. Thank you for helping me understand that.

And, so, after chief woke y'all up--I mean, how did she seem that morning?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine.

MS. BEA: She was fine. When did she leave?

CSSN COPELAND: After Chief had left. Like, an hour or two later. I was just--she was just helping me clean, and then from there we left. And then that's when I called Chief, or I didn't call him, but I was just telling him--I texted him.

I was like, when my roommate gets here, I'll go to work. He never showed up. He got there by the time I got off work. So, from there, I didn't think to call or text. At the end of the day, I didn't show up. All right. Cool.

MS. BEA: Where did [redacted] go?

CSSN COPELAND: She went back home.

MS. BEA: Where did she live at?

CSSN COPELAND: On base.

MS. BEA: Same place or somewhere different?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Somewhere different. I think it is like, from this building, it's down the street.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so.

MS. BEA: Did she walk? Did somebody come pick her up? Did she mention anything about how she was going to get back?

CSSN COPELAND: Getting a Uber.

MS. BEA: A Uber. On base?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They got a zTrip.

MS. BEA: Oh, yeah. Not that they can't get on base, it's just kind of like she didn't want to walk.

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, the zTrip. It's on base teleportation. It's an Uber.

MS. BEA: I see. Okay. Got it.

Do you remember what time that was that you saw her last?

CSSN COPELAND: After chief left, and then after she got ready and everything and she helped me clean up my room.

MS. BEA: This might be a dumb question, but cleaning up how?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, the mess that was left in the living room.

MS. BEA: From what?

CSSN COPELAND: The food.

MS. BEA: From the food?

CSSN COPELAND: Cleaning up.

MS. BEA: Okay. Well, I just didn't--I don't know what type of mess y'all make. So, like, the messy kitchen type scenario?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: The food--there was food left out. We didn't throw none of the food away. So, everything was sitting on the countertop, on the stove, the pans and pots, and everything. There was dishes in the sink.

So, he was like, y'all need to get that cleaned up because obviously, if he's coming to inspect, that's unsat. If you have trash into the trash can, it's unsat. You have to take the trash out every day.

MS. BEA: Who's coming to inspect? I'm sorry.

CSSN COPELAND: My chief.

MS. BEA: I didn't know that part. Keep in mind, I didn't talk to you to begin with, right. So----

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I said that already. When he came into the room, he said like, he was coming to inspect.

MS. BEA: I didn't know that part. Okay.

So, he was coming into inspect, because why?

CSSN COPELAND: Monthly inspection.

MS. BEA: Oh. I've never lived in the barracks, and I've never been in the Navy. You know that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: I'm just trying to ask questions. Okay.

So, he was coming in to inspect.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Did he tell you that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He didn't text, call, nothing. He just came in. But like I said, I was asleep, and when I heard like the fidget on the door, I thought it was my roommate. So, I said, hold up. I got up, opened the door, it's my chief.

MS. BEA: Okay. And this is the same time he came and woke y'all up when you like, were supposed to be at work, and he was like, late day. You got a late start or something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, he was supposed to come by anyway to inspect. He just didn't tell you he was going to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't--I don't know. I don't know if it was because either I was late or if he actually was coming to do a room inspection.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, that's above my pay grade. Chief is the chief. I'm not going to argue with the chief. So.

MS. BEA: Okay. Did he say he was--okay.

Like, I wasn't there. Right. So, keep in mind, when I'm asking these questions, just because I wasn't there.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Did he say like, I'm going to come back and inspect? Did he say--did he walk in and he was like, this room's a mess. You got to clean up before you come to work. Like, how did that go? How did you know that this was like an inspection?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, when he woke up, he was just like, is it a late start? I was like, yeah. Cool.

I mean, obviously, on top of that, if you're supposed to be at work, you're supposed to have the room clean if you leave. So, regardless, you're supposed to have everything clean. But he was basically saying, I need to clean up, and when I'm done cleaning head--head to work.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. And then he was like, do you have a way of getting to work? And that's when I went to--I mentioned my roommate. I was like, my roommate, when he gets off work, he could probably take me. And he was like, all right. Cool.

When you get off work--when he gets off work, then just head to work. Make sure you call CS1 and somebody and notify them.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when I was like, all right. Cool. I got you.

MS. BEA: Got it. So, she helped clean. And then did you like--did she just like leave straight out of your room? Did you like walk her down to the front? Like, how did that go?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She just left.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, I had to start getting ready for work, and I called my roommate, and he didn't answer. All right. Cool. So, I just waited until he got to the room. By the time he got there, I was just like, fuck it. I'm not--I'm not going because by the time he got there, we were--they were already off work.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not finna go into work, like, who am I supposed to check into? So, I was just like, all right. Cool. And I left it. I let the days pass by until Saturday hit and they texted me saying, I'm UA.

At that point, I'm not finna argue. I was just like, fuck it bro. I'll just go in Monday. And then, obviously, all that shit happened Sunday. So, I had to go in, and that's when I went in.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, to be really clear with you, like normally, you know, being UA is not a crime that NCIS investigates, right? We're really worried about [redacted], which is, you know, why we want to talk to you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: So, you know, like all of the background is appreciated. I just, you know, I really want to know more about [redacted] as far as, like, what was her mental state when she left.

Like, do you have any information that would be helpful for us to find her? Like, did she say that she was like not doing well? Did she say she was sad she was going to go somewhere?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine. If you want to know more about her mental health, I'd probably say go to Mitch or Gillespie because, obviously, Gillespie had all the answers when he talked to me the other day, so.

MS. BEA: What do you mean by that?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm just saying, like he had everything, like, he was just saying, like, he was saying she liked to go on walks, saying that she wanted to buy plane tickets, this, that, the third.

He was basically stating how, when he would talk to her, he'd be like, randomly, what do you want to do? She would be like, I want to buy a plane ticket to so and so. Cool.

So, out of anything, I don't really know what [redacted] does. Cool. I just wanted to hang out. Cool. Obviously, it went bad because she had an attitude with Gillespie. They're not on good terms, or they got into an argument. Cool.

But out of anything, Mitch and Gillespie knows more than what I do about [redacted] because, obviously, they've been in relationships with her.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And they know her as a person. I don't fully know her as a person.

MS. BEA: Okay. And, you know, I'm getting that you're saying that you don't know her as well as a person.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, fully understand that. It's just that I think, you know, be like, you might have been the last person to see

her that we've talked to. Unless there's somebody else that saw her after you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, that's why I'm asking you. Did she say she had plans to go meet somebody else? Was she like, I'm just going to go back to my room and sleep?

Like, anything you have would be helpful for us.

CSSN COPELAND: It was just like, I'll see you later. All right. Cool. If you need something, just call or text me. All right. I got you.

MS. BEA: Okay. Was she still crying when she left, or she seemed like she was fine?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was cool.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, like, if you go to sleep after having a bad night, usually if you go to sleep and you wake up, you're fine.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Well, that's just how I see it. I'm not going to speak for her.

MS. BEA: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, if you're holding your emotions, you can hold your emotions. Cool. But from the talk that I had and when I--when she woke up and shit before she left, she said, I

was just like, have a good day. If you need something, just call her, text me. And she was like, all right. And she left.

MS. BEA: And then did you hear from her again after she left?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. Until I got back, and then my chief was basically saying we're both marked UA.

And then from there, that's when I texted her and I was like, yo, like are you good? I was like, they just barked--they marked me and you, UA. And then I was just like--I think I asked her to call or text me if she get the text or whatever. She never responded.

And then, I was talking to Gillespie when I went to the ship, fucking--the day that I went Sunday. And he was basically asking if I heard anything from her after that. I was like, nah. But I was just telling him like, if--like, when she left, like, if she needed something, just to call or text me, and he was like, all right. Cool.

After that, like, we just left it as that until, obviously, I went to work the next day, and he was just like talking about it and shit. I was just like, all right, bro.

MS. BEA: What kind of stuff was he saying?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, obviously, the stuff I was talking about, how she liked to go on walks, and she wanted to put plane--like, plane tickets and shit.

Like, he was asking me basically what you guys are asking me, like if she, like, said anything, like she wanted to go anywhere. I was like, nah.

Like, she was--I was like, I don't know what you did, but she was mainly just talking about how you fucked up, bro. I was like, I don't know what the fuck you did, like what the hell you told her, what you guys [inaudible 01:16:37] head up into? But I was like, "Bro, I was like, bro, you had her crying and shit. She was just mad as fuck at you." He was like, "Yeah, she text me so on." And I was like, "All right, bro." I was like, "I don't know what you did, but that's between y'all, bro."

Like--and people--like, most people already know, like, I don't like getting involved in other people's bullshit--like, what ya'll got going on is what ya'll got going on. I'm not fin'to get myself involved. As you already know, I like to [inaudible 01:17:04]. I don't roll with that shit. After that situation, I just been chilling obviously until shit like this happens. They asked if they want to come over. I'm being a nice guy. Cool. And shit like that happens.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. I mean, you seem like, you feel like a certain type of way because shit like you--you're involved even though you don't want to be.

I mean, you got any type of feelings about that?

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CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, it's like I can't do shit about it. Like, obviously, if I'm pulled into the bullshit, I'm pulled into the bullshit. There's no way I can get myself out of it. And once you're in, you're in.

I'm not going to sit here, nick and nag about it. At the end of the day, I allowed her to come over. She did what she did. That's just me being the nice guy, and now I'm involved in the bullshit. It's not shit I can do to get myself out of it. Cool.

SA GOKEY: Did you--that like, she ever mention if she had any type of like mental health struggles or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: She didn't mention it, or she did like----

CSSN COPELAND: She never said anything about that.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Got it.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, another thing that you mentioned that I wanted to chat about is you said that your roommate, Skipper, came by--the CO came by, and like, had him clean the room, and like it was nasty.

Did I mishear that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Your nasty roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Did you say his CO came and inspected it? The room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: When did that happen?

CSSN COPELAND: I think yesterday. Yeah. I think it was yesterday.

MS. BEA: Okay. And if you don't know, it's okay. Do you know what command he's with?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He is in a squadron.

MS. BEA: Squadron. You know what type of squadron? Are we talking helicopters, jets?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I don't--I dunno.

MS. BEA: That's okay if you don't know.

CSSN COPELAND: Because his--his command is decommissioning soon. So--yeah. When his command decommissions, he's going on the deployment with the new squadron that's attached to the FORD. So, that's the only thing that I know about his squadron.

MS. BEA: That's kind of positive. Right. They'll be gone.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, cool. But eventually, it's--somebody going to replace them.

MS. BEA: Hopefully, they're cleaner.

CSSN COPELAND: Hopefully.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, yesterday is when--if we think, the Squadron CO came by and, like, made him clean everything. Like, clean the room really well and everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was like mainly just his side and shit.

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. And then the other thing--I know I already asked you. I just wanted to clarify. When you said that your roommate drove you to the barge on Sunday, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Did he wait around with you until you were done doing your urinalysis and everything, and then that's when y'all went to Chipotle? Or like----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: ----did he come back?

CSSN COPELAND: He stayed there, but he can't--obviously, he can't go on to the ship. So, he stayed in the car. So, like, where I walk is like I need to--my chip is like a reader to a CAC scan for me to enter.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then from there I walked on, and he stayed, and then I texted him. I was like, just wait like 25 minutes because I got to wait for my MA1 to come. And when she gets here, they're going to make me fucking do urinalysis. And after that, they said, I'm good to go.

So, he was like, okay, bro.

MS. BEA: Okay. And this is the same African dude with the white Jeep?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. So, we spent a ton of time asking you questions. What do you think is relevant, as far as like, do you have any information that would help us or other people that we should talk to?

I know that they've been doing a lot of investigation and, you know, the name Gillispie and Mitch, sure is not unusual to them, but is there anything else you can think of, because we're really worried?

CSSN COPELAND: That'd be the only two.

I mean, obviously, they go back and forth, and they're so in love with her, so. Obviously, the only two people I would think that actually know [redacted] is Mitch and Gillespie, so.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. Did she--so, sometimes people like mention things and you don't think it's going to be important at the time, but then like, when you think back, you're like, oh, okay.

Is there anything that she might have mentioned to you in the amount of time that she was with you about, you know, like what she wanted to go do, or like, anything that was like indicative of her mental state, anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Even if you don't think it's important.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

MS. BEA: Okay.

Anything else, Jess, because I think we--we'll take a break real quick.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Let's take a break.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Do you need anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: You need to use restroom [inaudible 01:22:18] good?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. We'll be right back with you. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 01:22:31.]

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea returned to the room at timestamp 02:05:19.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Sorry about that. Are you good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You don't need to use the restroom or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, just a couple more things. So, with you going UA, what do you think--do you think the command's going to get pissed off at you? And like anything--like, do you think you're in trouble with them?

CSSN COPELAND: What you mean?

SA GOKEY: Like, do you think they're going to--you're going to---

MS. BEA: Yeah. You're going to----

SA GOKEY: ----put you on restriction or, you know, anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, with me going UA? Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Okay. So, one thing I wanted to pitch is--so, you said with--you told us that you were in the barracks the whole weekend, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: So, it's not like you were out, you know, in another state doing whatever God knows what, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And a lot of times when Sailors go UA, that's what we're worried about, is you guys are out doing dumb shit, getting arrested, doing dumb things.

Hell, some of them, the defect to frigging North Korea. So, I would like then to look at your phone and place you in the room, and that could potentially maybe help you with your command.

Like, we could pitch it to him like, 'Hey, man, he didn't go to work, but it's not like he was fucking missing or gone or whatever.' Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

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SA GOKEY: You would be cool with that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. What's your passcode?

CSSN COPELAND: 982--wait. [redacted].

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, [redacted]----

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted].

SA GOKEY: ----77. Okay. All right. I'm just going to fill this out real quick. It's June, oh, Lord, have mercy on my soul.

And I spell your name wrong. I'm tired too. J-E-R-M-I-A-H, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And then Copeland. What kind of phone you got?

CSSN COPELAND: iPhone 15.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Working--86 and 107. So, you said iPhone. I'm sorry, what?

CSSN COPELAND: 15.

SA GOKEY: iPhone 15. Okay. Conducting on June 25, by NCIS. Okey-dokey. All right.

So, I'm going to scoot back over to you and we're going to go over this. All right. So, did I spell your name correct that time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I'll read this to you.

So you, Jeremiah Copeland, after being advised by me, Special Agent Jessica Gokey, that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into the Article 86 and 107, which was the two we discussed earlier.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: You have been--have--excuse me. Our goal 86 and 107 have been requested to permit a search of my iPhone 15.

You have been informed of count--of your constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant.

So, what that means is, again, I don't have a search warrant to go into it----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: ----but you're just giving me permission to go ahead and go into that, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay.

In full understanding of this right, you have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made. This search may be conducted on 03 June 25 by NCIS, and you hereby give your permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search, which are desired for investigative purposes.

You make this decision freely and voluntarily, and is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to you?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'll say it again.

Do you--did I--have I threatened you today?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Have I made you any promises?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you agree with this statement?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm going to be able to get my phone back. Like, I got to call my mom.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: It's too much shit going on.

SA GOKEY: No. That's fair. Are you good with signing this?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But is it cool if I can call my mom?

SA GOKEY: Yeah. You want to call your mom?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you want to call her right now?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. Do you want to go ahead and sign that, and then I will----

CSSN COPELAND: Can I wait first?

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Sure. Absolutely.

MS. BEA: Let me--so, just to make sure that everything on the phone is like essentially, pristine, no problem with you calling

your mom. I'll give you my phone to do it. You know her number by heart, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. Do you mind if we ask you a couple more questions before we do that, or do you want to just call her right now?

CSSN COPELAND: Go ahead and ask the questions.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okey-dokey. Okay. So, like I told you earlier, we're conducting a cast in your room, and you do have that roommate that lives in there.

Can you tell me what electronics are his?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, everything that's on his side.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, nothing would be on--nothing on his side would be yours and vice versa?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you have any other additional electronics in that room?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I have another phone. That's my phone that I have to go turn into AT&T.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I got my PS5, and that should be it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Out in the common room, are there any electronics that stay out there?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, my PS5 is what I was saying. It's also in the living room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, your PS5's out there. Okay.

Is there anything else out there that's yours or anybody else's that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm mean, the TV.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But the TV's the barracks, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the PS5 out in the common area is yours, and then you have another phone in your room.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: What kind of phone is that?

CSSN COPELAND: It's an iPhone 15 as well.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know what color it is?

CSSN COPELAND: It's gray.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is it broken?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It's not broke, but I fucked it up, so I broke it, but I got it fixed. They replaced the front, so I have to go turn it in.

So, they basically gave me like 31 days in order for me to turn it in, or else they're going to charge me for that phone---

SA GOKEY: Oh.

CSSN COPELAND: ----with the one I'm already purchasing, so.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Okay. So, it's like a trade thing, so you get to keep----

CSSN COPELAND: It was part of my insurance.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Oh, that's nice. Okay. Do you have any, like iPads or laptops?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. What about any--nope. There wasn't a desktop in there. Right? That desktop's his, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.] Yeah. It's an Xbox.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Oh, it's a Xbox. It's just--okay. I got you. Okay. All right. I want to kind of talk about--go back to [redacted] Can I just call her [inaudible 02:13:05]--yeah, [redacted] Just a couple more questions. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: I know you're tired.

When she came over to your house, did she--she had her phone, right? What kind of phone does she have?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it was the same as mine. It was a black iPhone 15.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she have any other electronics?

CSSN COPELAND: She just had her phone.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she was just wearing that bracelet, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Does she have an Apple watch that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.] I don't think she's ever had one.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Have you ever had an Apple Watch?

CSSN COPELAND: I do have an Apple Watch.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Where's that at?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it's in my desk.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. When [redacted] was on the phone with whoever, when she was--I'll use your word on like a rampage, did she--when she was on the phone, did she ever ask anybody to come pick her up or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I mean, like I said, I was on the couch. I know she did call Rich. And she was on the phone with her ex, but from what I recall, I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

So, you don't recall hearing her tell somebody like, yo, come get me, come pick me up, I want to leave, or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who--what roommate was it again that walked in and was like, yo, is she good?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know his name, but it is--it's the other one that's across the room. Not the African one, but the other---

SA GOKEY: The other guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. Not stinky white boy?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then you guys--when you went to bed, you guys went to bed in your bed?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, I just wanted to clarify that.

So, this--this statement is the true statement, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. True and accurate to the best of your knowledge, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. It says, on--and I might've heard you wrong on Sunday. So, I'm not trying to come at you sideways. Okay. I just want to make sure everything I got it right.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Because on Sunday, I thought you told me that either you had slept on the couch and she slept in the bed, or vice versa.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I must have misspoke or misheard. I apologize. But you guys did sleep together in the bed?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But you guys didn't have sex?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What did you guys wear whenever you went to sleep?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I had the same thing on. It was just blue shorts and a black shirt.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is it the same black shirt you got on right now?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, what was she wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: The same thing she had on the whole night.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And what was that again?

CSSN COPELAND: Black shirt, black pants.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, the--another reason why I'm bringing that up, so FCC, we talked to him, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: He has a bit of a different story, right? He said that when he walked into the common space----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: ----that you two were on the ground in front of the couch completely naked.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Is that true?

CSSN COPELAND: When chief walked in, he knocked on the door. So, obviously, when he knocked, I was in my room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you weren't on the floor naked with her?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I was in my room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she was also in the room with you, though?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. When I opened the door, she was there.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he watched her when she was in the bed, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she say anything to him?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was asleep.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, FCC's not telling the truth?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He is not.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When he--when I opened my door when he knocked on it, she was asleep. I opened the door, and he's standing right there.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: He asked me was it a late start, and I said, "Yes, Chief."

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. I'm just going back through my notes real quick. Okay.

So, just to reiterate, so, Thursday--Thursday was the day that FCC got to your barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then Friday, Saturday, you sat in the barracks all day?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And went from various lounges?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then Sunday, the MAs got there, knocked on the door, and was like, yo, bro, you're UA?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right.

So then, the Jeep, so you went to go pick [redacted] up, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did you ask permission to take the Jeep at that time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. He let me.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. I wasn't sure if, like, maybe he had left the keys on the counter, and he's just like, yo bro, you can use my car whenever, as long as I get to work, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you did ask permission to take those keys?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: To go get her, to bring her back?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then, the next morning, whenever you guys were up--so, you added a couple more details. So, I just want to make sure.

So, you guys got up after FCC was there, and y'all cleaned the room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, can you give me an about what time she may have left?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know because I don't even know what time she had came into the room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, the reason again, I'm asking is because on Sunday you told me that you, your roommate, and her got in the car and y'all dropped her off at Miller Hall.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't say that Sunday.

SA GOKEY: You sure?

CSSN COPELAND: I said, "It--it was me, my roommate that--like, two roommates.

SA GOKEY: Oh, I'm sorry. Not Sunday. I do apologize. When you guys took her home Thursday morning. I'm sorry. You--you're right. You didn't say that Sunday.

So, Thursday, you told me that you, the roommate, and her got in the car car and then y'all dropped her off at Miller Hall.

CSSN COPELAND: Miller Hall is my barracks.

SA GOKEY: And you're at X2?

CSSN COPELAND: Which is Miller Hall, isn't it?

SA GOKEY: That's Willis Hall. Miller Hall is the one right down the road. Her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: Now, I'm confused. Miller Hall is my barracks.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then, let's just say it this way, then. Sunday, you told me--on Sunday when we talked, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Right.

SA GOKEY: That you, roommate, her got in the car and y'all together dropped her off at her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't remember saying that.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, what--so, she got in an Uber then now?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know it was Uber or zTrip?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably a zTrip.

I mean, obviously, most Ubers, you have to be like on base or base access.

SA GOKEY: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: I was just asking if you knew either way, because again, she's still UA, right?

CSSN COPELAND: When I say Uber, it's like, zTrip.

SA GOKEY: You're talking interchangeably?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. That's fine. I just wanted to clarify. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Did she tell you she was taking a zTrip?

CSSN COPELAND: No. That's what suspected. She was like, she's trying to go----

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----back to her room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But she didn't tell you she was taking it? She just----

CSSN COPELAND: No. I assumed it was a zTrip.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Why did you assume it was a zTrip and her not just not walking home like she normally walks?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I mean----

SA GOKEY: I'm just asking.

CSSN COPELAND: I never said she likes walking, so why would I assume she walks?

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, she left the room sometime that morning. You guys--you never got in a car with her and took her anywhere?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What time--so, the roommate that you gets rides from mostly, do you know his work schedule?

Is he on days or nights?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know what his schedule is.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But Thursday morning, he had already gone to work then?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, presumably, he would be at work for the entire day.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: But you told FCC you're going to wait until he gets home to go to work.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Which would've been 16, 1700.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Did you have anybody else to call or anything like that to get you a ride to work?

CSSN COPELAND: That's the only person. I'm not fin'to go out my day and ask other--somebody else to come pick me up.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, everybody works on a daily. I mean, I know my schedule's a little bit different with me being a CS.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, theoretically, everybody's like daily duty and they have to report every day, Monday through Friday.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And theoretically get the weekends off, so.

SA GOKEY: Fair.

CSSN COPELAND: He would be the only person I call. Sometimes I call my homeboy, or I'll call my CS2, but they're already at work, so there's only to call them because I know they're not going to come pick me up.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. It just seems like you presumably should have known he was going to be at work all afternoon.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't know, because usually I'll tell him or sometimes I'll wait. Sometimes he comes home early, sometimes he doesn't. Same with my roommate.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Because obviously, Squadron, they're--they're so much different from being--working on the ship.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, Squadron is honestly love, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. You brought up this homeboy a couple times.

So, you guys--you go sleep in his room sometimes because of the stinky boy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's his name?

CSSN COPELAND: It's a lot of them. It just depends on who--like, where we're going.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Who would you consider like your best friend out here?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably my homeboy on the Truman, but they just got back, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's his name?

CSSN COPELAND: His name's Devonte Williams.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Well, since they got back, that's not one that you sleep in his room?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who do you mostly--whose room do you mostly sleep in?

CSSN COPELAND: So, my homeboy's name is Dee Dee?

SA GOKEY: Dee Dee?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Is that a nickname?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe that's his name.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know the last name?

CSSN COPELAND: Williams.

SA GOKEY: Williams. What command's he with?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe he's on the Ike.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Anybody else that you sleep in the room?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Just his.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Let's see.

Do you have anything?

002583_COPELAND

MS. BEA: Not right now. You know, because of our interactions in the past, you know, that like I shoot straight and I'm not trying to bullshit you or anything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: You know that we're just trying to find [redacted], right?

So, do you know where she is?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Did you have anything to do with her disappearance?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: If you were to take a polygraph and we asked you those questions, would you pass?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, you got nothing to hide?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I've been straight up, everything you've been asking, I've been responded to.

MS. BEA: Okay. Yeah. I think a lot, you know--I know you're tired. I know you're frustrated. I know that this--it sucks being in this situation.

I know that, like, you know, we're asking questions like a 5-year-old would ask, but most of that is because we want to make sure that we understand you.

002584_COPELAND

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: And you know, kind of like we've been through this before, right? So, we talk to everybody, and everybody's got something different to say, usually.

So, sometimes people say pretty much the same thing, and sometimes there's wild shit differences. And what FCC told NCIS is just like real different. So, that's why, like, we really want to talk more about that, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, why--would this man lie on you?

CSSN COPELAND: I wouldn't say he would. I mean, he hasn't given me a reason to, but he literally walked in, and he knocked on my door. I opened--physically opened my room door and saw him.

MS. BEA: Yeah. Just want to make sure we're talking about the same thing. He knocked on the door to your suite, like with those two bunks in it, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Not to the main door, into the main living area. He knocked on your door?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. And--I mean, that's--because FCC told NCIS that y'all were naked.

CSSN COPELAND: I wasn't naked. I had shorts on.

MS. BEA: Oh, were you like not wearing a shirt?

Is that maybe why he got confused?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I didn't have a shirt on when I opened the door.

MS. BEA: Okay. What about [redacted]?

CSSN COPELAND: She was laying in the bed.

MS. BEA: And what about her clothes?

CSSN COPELAND: She had on a black top.

MS. BEA: When we're talking top, what kind of top were we talking? Like, a t-shirt. We talking a crop top bra?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. The same t-shirt she's been wearing the whole night.

MS. BEA: Okay. Yeah. I guess that's kind of where I'm at. Right. Is like, he said that he saw her like nude up top, and he saw her breasts.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Do you know, like, what's the deal with that? It's hard for you to speculate you're not him, right? But do you know, like, why he would think that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

I mean, I don't know why he's saying that. He walked in, and we were both butt naked on the floor when he specifically knocked on my door.

MS. BEA: Were any of your roommates home at this time----

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: ----that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: No. They were all at work.

MS. BEA: Okay. Tell me what Ms. Mary's schedule is. Like, does--do you think she would've been working at the time? Because it seems like y'all get along pretty well.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I mean, she works pretty much every day.

MS. BEA: Okay. Does she usually work during the day or at night?

CSSN COPELAND: During the day.

MS. BEA: During the day. Okay.

Is there anybody else we could talk to who would know--like, did you maybe talk to somebody at work about, like, [redacted] spending the night? Anything else? Anybody come at you sideways about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Did Gilispe talk to you about it?

CSSN COPELAND: I've already stated, "he did."

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.] You said that it was like-- was it twice afterwards?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And help me remember when that was.

CSSN COPELAND: Sunday, when I went to do urinalysis, and then the day after that, when I had work on Monday.

MS. BEA: Did you get the vibe he was being accusatory?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He was just asking me questions about [redacted] or where she would be. That was Sunday.

Like, he was just like asking where she would be. And then Monday, he was just asking the same shit, and then was just saying like, was she being weird or anything? I was like, no. And then that was it.

MS. BEA: Okay. I'm going to do a hard left question, but it's mostly because I'm concerned about you----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: ----because, you know, we've--we've talked about your mental health struggles in the past and not feeling so great and everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Is that why your mom was worried when she couldn't get in touch with you?

CSSN COPELAND: About what?

MS. BEA: Your mental health.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. Like, at the end of the day, I don't answer my phone sometimes, and she knows that. Cool.

There was a female that I'm talking to, like she was calling, I didn't answer either. It just comes to times I would just want a break. My mom knows this, and I don't talk to nobody for days.

MS. BEA: Why?

CSSN COPELAND: Just because. I mean, at the end of the day, that's my life. If I don't want to pick up the phone, I don't got to pick up the phone.

MS. BEA: I mean, that's true. I have no problem with that. Sometimes I don't want to talk to my fucking family, but like, usually that coincides with times in my life where I'm having a hard time.

So, that's why I'm asking. You know, Jeremiah, you might not believe me, but I do care about you. I've always cared about you.

Are you doing okay?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

MS. BEA: Okay. If you weren't--I mean, I know that, you know, on the ship, you have mental health resources. I don't know what it's like on the--on the James E. Williams.

Do you--do you have somebody you can talk to?

CSSN COPELAND: Always.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, on top of that, I have my homeboy that's on the ship. Whenever I'm down or something, I'll go talk to him, or whenever I'm frustrated, I need somebody to talk to, he's like the only person I really talk to on the ship, so.

MS. BEA: Which one's that? I'm sorry. I don't know any----

CSSN COPELAND: J.J. He is a CS as well.

MS. BEA: That's J.J. Okay.

So--so, you're feeling okay right now? You--you just didn't answer the phone because you just didn't feel like--it's not because you're not feeling good mentally?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, on top of that, I--it's the weekend. My CS2s--especially everybody within that I work with, they know I'm not going to answer if I'm not at work.

Like, my CS2s told me multiple times--even like, they've been serious situations--like, for instance, when I said the female tried to stab me, where--when I was chilling at home, they were calling me. I wouldn't answer my phone. Or it will be like, I'll call them and they don't answer, and they call me back because they saw that, you know, they missed my call and I don't answer.

So, they get mad because my phone stays on do not disturb. So, they'd be like, you need to take your phone off or do not

disturb. If you see, obviously, I'm trying to call you. And I'd be like, okay. I just leave it at that.

If I'm in the mood to call them, then I'll call them. If not, I'll just be like, all right. If I see them at work, then I'll just talk to them at work.

MS. BEA: Okay. I mean--and another reason I ask too is like, sometimes when we have Sailors go UA, it's because like they have like, personal problems.

Have you--have you been UA before? Is this the first time?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It's my first time.

MS. BEA: Okay. What made it--so, what got you to the point that when they were like, you know, come into work or--or chief came by and was like, Hey, you got to come into work, that you were just like--you said fuck it, right?

What--what got you to that point? because I know you talked about not being happy there.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm saying like, my roommate didn't come. So, by the time he got home, they were off work.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, it was like, this isn't worth it, essentially?

CSSN COPELAND: It--it is not really about----

MS. BEA: Not a shitty thing.

CSSN COPELAND: ----not worth it, but I'm just like, fuck. Like, there--there ain't shit I could do about it.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: They're off work. So, who am I reporting to? Cool.

So, from there I was just like--when I got work on Monday, I'm going to just go to work and tell them what happened, which I told them this whole time. Whole time, my chief kept saying it was a misunderstanding or miscommunication. All right. Cool. I'm not finna argue.

MS. BEA: Yeah. I don't blame you. Okay.

And then--just for my own curiosity, right. Don't they have shuttles that take you to the different bases?

CSSN COPELAND: No. They don't.

MS. BEA: because like, how the fuck are you supposed to get--there's--how are you supposed to get where you're going?

CSSN COPELAND: They don't have shuttles. They have a shuttle----

MS. BEA: They just expect you to figure it out?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They have shuttles on base that take you different parts on base.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: But they don't have a shuttle that goes different places off base.

MS. BEA: Okay. because I remember----

CSSN COPELAND: They used to.

MS. BEA: ----the Truman was in Portsmouth, they had--yeah. because like, a lot of people were up at Little Creek, and then they just had duty drivers take people down. Nothing----

CSSN COPELAND: They had a shuttle bus that went from Little Creek to Norfolk Base when I first checked on board, which was after A School, and then months down the road, they ended up closing it down.

So, it was there for a minute, and then they ended up shutting that shuttle down.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: But I don't think I was on the Truman when they were in--in wherever you just said.

MS. BEA: Yeah. Portsmouth. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. And, you know, has your mom ever had to call the police before to see if you were okay?

Is this the first time?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure.

I mean, there's been times where, like, she called other people to make sure I'm fine, but it's due to the fact that I--I think somebody texted her and they were asking, like, have they heard from me? And she was like, no.

So, from there, obviously, she called me a couple times and then text me, and I didn't respond. So, then, that's what made her call my command or whatever.

MS. BEA: Do you know who texted her and asked if she could get in touch with you? Was it the command?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It was a female that I talked to.

MS. BEA: Okay. Is she a Sailor as well?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She's a civilian.

MS. BEA: Okay.

Does she live around here, or is she back in----

CSSN COPELAND: No. She's back home.

MS. BEA: Back home. Home, Whidbey, or home Carolina?

CSSN COPELAND: Whidbey.

MS. BEA: Whidbey. Okay. Got it.

So, she got in touch with your mom because she hadn't heard from you either? I'm understanding now. That's why you mentioned her to begin with. Okay. Got it. Okay.

So--I mean, you kind of had--you kind of know how we work at this point, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: All we're really interested in is finding [redacted]. Everybody we talked to is going to get the same questions that you just answered for me about having anything to do with her disappearance or knowing where she's at.

002594_COPELAND

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: You know, and at the end of the day, what I really want you to know is that is all we are interested in.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: So, if we could like--theoretically coordinate a polygraph for you tomorrow, is that something you'd be willing to do?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Fuck it.

MS. BEA: Fuck it. Yeah. I feel you. Okay. We're going to take another quick break. Unless you--I'm sorry.

SA GOKEY: No.

MS. BEA: Didn't mean to speak for you.

SA GOKEY: No. You're fine.

MS. BEA: Okay. We're going to take another quick break, and then we'll be back. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

MS. BEA: Do you need to use the bathroom?

CSSN COPELAND: Naw.

MS. BEA: You want more CheezIt?

CSSN COPELAND: Naw.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Oh, I'm sorry. I just kicked you.

MS. BEA: No. You're good. You're good.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 02:36:41 and returned to the room at timestamp 02:58:21.]

SA GOKEY: Okay-dokey. Sorry, Jeremiah.

MS. BEA: You okay? I know you're tired. We're about done. Okay. I just had a couple more things that we wanted to ask you about. As always, it is your choice.

Like we talked about, we are really, really interested in finding [redacted] and we don't know what's going to be important when we start investigating. We just got to try to get as much as we can. Okay?

So, I wanted to ask you if it's okay--we're, you know, we're searching the barracks and everything else. Specifically, we wanted to go into spaces, like, you know, any kind of backpacks you have or anything else like that. You can be present for that as well. It's no problem either way.

And then, you know, I know we already talked about your phone and you were okay with us, you know, looking through that. And I wanted to ask you about the other iPhone that you have in your room. Is that something you would also be okay with us going through?

CSSN COPELAND: It's broke.

MS. BEA: Will it turn on?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Won't even turn on?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, it's broke.

MS. BEA: Okay. And then other electronic devices we talked about that was your PS5.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: And then the watch. Does the watch work?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And what does that one look like? Like, what kind of band do you have? Do you have like a----

CSSN COPELAND: It's a white band.

MS. BEA: A white band. Okay. So, if you'd be okay with us looking through that stuff, that would be cool, but again, it is completely up to you. It is always your decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Is that something you're all right with?

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine. Go ahead.

MS. BEA: Okay.

So, I have the--the same kind of verbiage of the--I can read this over to you again. You want me to?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Yeah. Okay.

So, I, CSSN, Jeremiah Copeland, after being advised by me, that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into Articles 86 and 107, have been requested to

permitt a search of my backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices that we talked about.

And you telling us--essentially, like, you tell us what's okay for us to search and what's not.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

MS. BEA: Okay. I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made. This search may be conducted on today's date by NCIS, and I here grant my permission to remove any--and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes. I make this decision freely and voluntarily is made no--with no threats having been made or promises extended to me. All sound good? Okay.

So, if you could sign where it says sign.

CSSN COPELAND: When you say like, sign, like you say backpack, bedroom, and electronic devices.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: When is that going to be?

MS. BEA: Tonight. Like, right now. I'm tired too.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm just trying to go home.

MS. BEA: Yeah. No. I feel you. I'm tired too.

CSSN COPELAND: And you say--what'd you say? When you said, whenever I choose, right?

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: But if I'm putting this on paper for--you saying all three of those, then you have by--what by choice do you have? You're obligated to go through all three with me, sign that, right?

MS. BEA: I--yeah. If you want to be present for when we go through those things, you're welcome to be there because we're also trying to go.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But I'm just saying, like, let's say I don't want you going through a certain backpack, but I already signed you--you're obligated to go through my backpack.

MS. BEA: So, this means consent. So, if at any point you say, "No, I don't want you to search this specific thing," we cannot search in there.

Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Answer that question well enough?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. And then, I wanted to revisit the one we talked about with your phone. Are you still okay with that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I just--can we just--I'm just trying to go home.

MS. BEA: Understood. Okay. All right. So, let's make some moves to do that and we will make those coordination and we will get right back. Okay.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 03:02:09 and Ms. Bea returned to the room at timestamp 03:03:35.]

MS. BEA: Hey, Jeremiah. I'm just realizing that I didn't give you my phone in order to call your mom. You want to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: I'll just wait.

MS. BEA: You just wait. Okay. Cool. I don't want to deprive you that opportunity.

CSSN COPELAND: How--how long is this going to take?

MS. BEA: How long until we leave this office----

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: ----to get back to you? 10 minutes.

[Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 03:03:56.]

[SA Gokey returned to the room at timestamp 03:16:21.]

SA GOKEY: Okay, Jeremiah. You ready to go? Got your stuff.

[END OF PAGE]

TRANSCRIPTIONIST
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Angela Sharpe, certify that this written transcript is a true, accurate, and complete copy of the audio or other electronic recording of the NCIS interviews of CSSN Jeremiah Copeland, YN3 Sean Monoghan, Airman Recruit John Calisse, FCC Brad Parker, CSSN [redacted], HT3 Michael Gillespie, and ABHAN [redacted]

Angela Sharpe Digitally signed by Angela Sharpe Date: 2025.09.30 17:49:00 -04'00'

Angela Sharpe

29 September 2025
Date

CASE CRACKER ONYX

Interview Session Report

Exported By:	admin
Export Date:	06/13/25 12:50:43 EDT

Session Information

Case Number:	7m
Interviewer:	gokey
Subject:	copeland
Recording Start Time:	06/03/25 21:13:18 EDT
Recording Started By:	admin
Recording Stop Time:	06/04/25 00:30:26 EDT
Recording Stopped By:	admin
Interview Duration:	03:17:07
Facility Name:	Nrfa
Recording Room:	Room 1
Session ID:	Nrfa-20250604011304BKKcYzkb
Recording SW Version:	1.4.0-1-g572d5b6
Current Svr SW Version:	1.4.0-1-g572d5b6
Verification ID:	Mp4 File: PASSED SHA256: c7f6813ee285216a6845d8306feb5dbd2dd2ff09a4f057a1ae01e6dbf0808133

MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER

Place: NCIS - V-40

Date: 03 JUN 25

I JERMIAH COPELAND have been advised by SA JESSICA HOKEY

that I am suspected of: Art. 86 (unauthorized absence) 107 (false official)

I have also been advised that:

JTC (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

JTC (2) Any statement I make can be used against me in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceeding;

JTC (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

JTC (4) I have the right to have my retained lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

JTC (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

JTC I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me. JTC

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 03JUN25

Witnessed: [redacted]

SA B. Duffy [redacted]

NCIS 5580/20 (REV. 6-2021)

ENCLOSURE E

1 of 1

000320_COPELAND

ENCLOSURE B

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XXIX

114 of 121

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 03JUN25

I, ~~JERM~~ JERMIAH COPELAND, after being advised by SA JESSICA GIDLEY that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into ARTICLE 107, have been requested to permit a search of my IPHONE 15.

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on 03JUN25 by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

Signed: _____

_____
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

PII

_____
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

_____
Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

Start : _____ _____

End : _____ _____

ENCLOSURE F
1 of 1

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 04Jun25

I, CSSN Jermiah Copeland, after being advised by SA B Duffy that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into Articles 86 and 107, have been requested to permit a search of my backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on 04Jun25 by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

Signed: [redacted]

SA B Duffy
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

[redacted]
Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

Start : 04JUN25 1241

End : 04JUN25 1249

ENCLOSURE G
1 of 1

SUMMARY

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, Supervisory Digital Forensic Examiner (SDFE) John DAVISON, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic examination based on a verbal request on 04Jun25, and a written request dated 17Jun25, from Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, NCISRA Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of the following device based on the request:

    a. iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

2. The case agent request specified the analysis of the following specific activity
    a. Conduct a digital forensic examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

3. The examination of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND disclosed the artifacts:
    a. Communications from a phone number and social media accounts identified as belonging V/[redacted]
    b. Geolocation data from 28May25 to 02Jun25, to include location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    c. Route traveled on 02Jun25, by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    e. Screenshots of marked location from 02Jun25, near location where the remains of V[redacted] were recovered.
    d. Three large thumbnails of images of S/COPELAND with a black luggage
    d. Text messages and phone calls from 28May25 to 03Jun25.
    e. Timeline analysis for 29May25
    f. Voicemails and audio recordings
    g. Google searches conducted by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND
    h. Contact information
    i. User Account information

WARNING
THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE. CONTENTS MAY BE DISCLOSED ONLY TO PERSONS WHOSE OFFICIAL DUTIES REQUIRE ACCESS HERETO. CONTENTS MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO THE PARTY(S) CONCERNED WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

SEARCH AUTHORIZATION

1. On 04Jun25, Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) executed by S/COPELAND, dated 04Jun25.

Click for a copy of the PASS.

1. Between 05Jun25 and 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

1. Between 10Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 10Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

EVIDENCE

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 for examination from SA Caroline ROBINSON, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

2. DFE BUSH copied the GrayKey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to a Seagate hard drive with serial number Z9A4RSFN. On 12Jun25, DFE BUSH enter the hard drive into evidence under NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO K8J9D Item 8JY7H to the Temporary Evidence Locker, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

FORENSIC ACQUISITION AND VERIFICATION

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained a full file system extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Graykey Extraction Tool OS version 1.26.3.31482045, App Bundle: 6.3.1.31921520. SA ROBINSON provided DFE BUSH the Personal Identification Number (PIN) 980377 to access the device. The device was isolated from network connectivity via airplane mode and could not be write-protected due to established forensic processes. The digital forensic extraction was verified through established forensic processes.

WORKING COPY

1. On 05Jun25, SDFE DAVISON obtained a working copy of the Graykey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND from DFE BUSH for examination.

EXAMINATION DETAILS

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of an iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using Magnet Axiom Version 9.2.1.44383, Magnet Axiom Version 9.4.1.45125, Cellebrite Inseyets Physical Analyzer version 10.5.0.1027, and ILEAPP version 2.2.0. The Apple ID associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max listed as [redacted] and the Directory Services Identifier (DSID) listed as 17163425203. A DSID is a unique numerical value associated with an Apple ID account to ensure each account has a unique number in case a user changes an email address associated with an Apple account. The phone number associated with device is PII - [redacted] and the device phone name is listed as "Jermiah's iPhone." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot from the device information displayed in Axiom and took a screenshot of the Graykey Extraction report.

BACKGROUND: On 31May25, NCIS was contacted by Norfolk Police Department (NPD) in reference to a missing person's report. NPD relayed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was attempting to make a missing person's report regarding CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted]), USN, DDG 95. NCIS subsequently contacted Command who advised V[redacted] and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were in a status of Unauthorized Absence (UA) beginning on Thursday, 29May25. Command advised they believed V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND were involved romantically, but did not know to what extent. On 01Jun25, NCIS made contact with Naval Station Norfolk Base Police to conduct a welfare check on the rooms of S/COPELAND and V[redacted]. Base Police stated they found S/COPELAND in his barracks room; however, received no answer at V/[redacted]'s door when they knocked. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and was able to gain entry to V[redacted]'s barracks room, in which she was not located. Subsequently, NCIS' Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) initiated cell phone pings on V/[redacted]'s mobile phone, which yielded no location data due to the phone possibly being powered off. NCIS conducted an interview of S/COPELAND who stated V[redacted] came over to his barracks on Wednesday, 28May25. S/COPELAND stated V[redacted] stayed the night and the next day, 29May25, FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room because he failed to report for work. S/COPELAND stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle and drove V/[redacted] back to her barracks around 1000 on 29May25. During the interview of S/COPELAND, he signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellular device which was provided to NCIS Digital Forensic Examiners (DFE) for review. The DFE observed a screenshot on the device of S/COPELAND of a saved marked location near Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA. During the course of this investigation, NCIS would launch search teams near known phone pings and last locations of both V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND. On 09Jun25, subsequent to receiving the screenshot from the DFE, NCIS conducted a foot search of the area near the marked location and discovered a black duffel bag containing human remains, later identified through DNA as V/[redacted].

JURISDICTION AND ARRIVAL: At approximately 1700, NCIS arrived to the location of Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA, and conducted a foot search around the Broad Creek neighborhood and Richard Bowling Elementary School. Figure [1] is the screenshot of the marked location utilized by NCIS. At 1735, Reporting Agent (RA) received a phone call from Participating Agent (PA) Tiffany MARTINEZ stating a bag had been located off of a brush covered path behind a row of townhomes. Due to the location of the bag, at 1740, NCIS initiated contact with the Norfolk Police Department (NPD) who responded to the scene to assist. A copy of the NPD incident report detailing their response is appended as Enclosure (A).

SCENE SECURITY: Upon arrival to the scene, no other persons were present in the area but residents going about their daily routine. The area which was searched was not secured prior to arrival and was an open, wooded area, behind a school and residential community. NCIS participants divided into groups and ultimately located the bag by following the smell. Once the duffel bag was located, Andrew PISKE, CIV, K9 Handler, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), and K9 Kyra, Certified Human Remains Detection Dog, approached the bag where she presented a positive alert to PISKE. An aerial topography image of the area searched by PISKE and K9 Kyra is appended as Enclosure (B). NCIS partially unzipped the bag to verify its contents to which human remains were observed. NPD was immediately contacted, and all searching immediately ceased. Due to rain, at approximately 1755, to protect the duffel bag, PISKE placed a black tarp over the bag. Figure [2] is a photo of the overall brush area where the remains were located. Figure [3] is a photo of the duffel bag in place. Figure [4] is the approximate GPS location of the duffel bag after conducting the foot search with the assistance of CalTopo. Figure [5] is the confirmation of the human remains inside the bag.

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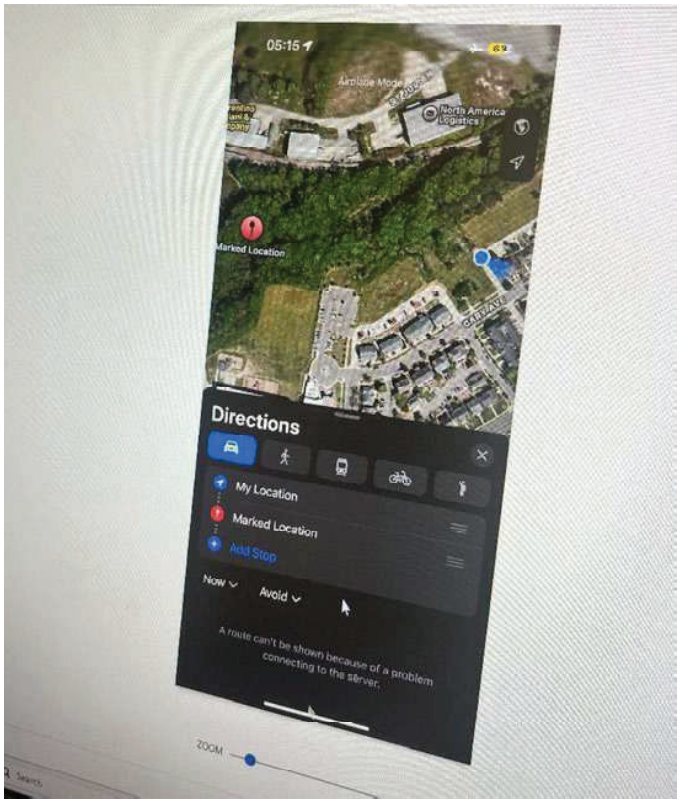


Figure [1]: Screenshot of the marked location (retrieved from phone of S/COPELAND)



Figure [2]: Overall photo of the brush topography (DSC_6939)

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **USN**	**DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL WITNESS PRODUCTION** **26 November 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 846, Article 46, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and Rule for Courts-Martial 703, as well as the Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the Defense moves this Court to compel production of CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN, Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez, and Dr. Nemanja Rodic as a necessary Defense witnesses at trial.

BURDEN

The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden of persuasion and the burden of proof on any factual issue the resolution of which is necessary to decide the motion by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. CSSN Copeland is charged, *inter alia*, with committing premeditated murder of CS3 A.R., in violation of Article 118, UCMJ. (Charge Sheet).

2. On 29 October 2025, the Defense requested the Government produce thirty-one (31) witnesses at CSSN Copeland's trial in accordance with the Trial Management Order. (Enclosure A).

3. On 5 November 2025, the Government denied two of the requested witnesses: CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN, and Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez. (Enclosure B).

4. In its response, the Government stated:

    a. CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN – Denied. You have not made the requisite showing under R.C.M. 703.
    b. Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez – Denied. You have not made the requisite showing under R.C.M. 703. (Enclosure B).

5. On 19 November 2025, the Defense submitted a supplemental request for the production three additional witnesses. (Enclosure C).

6. On 24 November 2025, the Government denied one witness: Dr. Nemanja Rodic. (Enclosure D).

7. In its response, the Government stated:

    a. Dr. Nemanja Rodic. Denied. You have not made the requisite showing under R.C.M. 703. Dr. Rodic did not designate a manner of death because his exam was limited by a variety of factors. Per BS #1790, Dr. Rodic advised that strangulation (asphyxiation) was a possible or probable method of death in this case. This finding is consistent with Dr. Lameira's conclusions (BS #1448). As such, any testimony from Dr. Rodic on that point would be cumulative and unnecessary. Moreover, Dr. Rodic's testimony is even less relevant than Dr. Lameira's as the body was further decomposed at the time of his autopsy. Of note, per BS #1646, BS #1663-64 is a voice to text transcription of a call that appears to contain numerous errors. This transcription was provided by Ms. Castle to the trial counsel via her VLC. (Enclosure D).

8. CSSN Miguel became very close friends with CS3 A.R., such that CS3 A.R. would refer to him as her brother. NCIS interviewed CSSN Miguel on 3 June 2025. (Enclosure E).

9. At times, CSSN Miguel has spent time with CS3 A.R. outside of work, even as friends inside her barracks room. (Enclosure E).

10. CSSN Miguel told NCIS that CS3 A.R. was a very emotional person with traumatic family past. He explained that she has had mental health episodes that would involve someone having to constantly talk to her to bring her back to reality. CSSN Miguel has personally witnessed CS3 A.R. have three of these episodes. (Enclosure E).

11. ET2 Daniel Rich, who was CS3 A.R.'s ex-boyfriend, received a phone call from CS3 A.R. at 0214 the day she went missing where he described her as frantic; experiencing one of her episodes that he has also witnessed personally in the past. (Enclosure F).

12. According to ET2 Rich, a trigger of CS3 A.R.'s panic attack episodes are sexual advances upon her. (Enclosure F).

13. In addition to CSSN Miguel's previous statements, he also mentioned that CS3 A.R. took medication but had to be closely monitored to avoid her overdosing. (Enclosure E).

14. CSSN Miguel is currently stationed on board USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). (Enclosure G).

15. On 13 June 2025, NCIS interviewed Mr. Teelez Mendez, who lives in Illinois. (Enclosure H).

16. On 20 May 2025, just nine days before CS3 A.R. went missing, CS3 A.R. sent Mr. Teelez Mendez Instagram messages that stated, "I just don't like my chain of command my division it's toxic as fuck." This was the last time Mr. Teelez Mendez heard from CS3 A.R. (Enclosure H).

17. Mr. Teelez Mendez provided screenshots of the Instagram messages to NCIS. (Enclosures H, I).

18. On 10 June 2025, an autopsy was performed on CS3 A.R.'s body. The results of that autopsy indicates that the manner and cause of CS3 A.R.'s death is undetermined. (Enclosure J).

19. On 28 June 2025, a second autopsy was performed on CS3 A.R.'s body by Dr. Rodic. (Enclosure K).

20. Dr. Rodic is a board certified pathologist located in Washington, D.C. In recorded notes, which were enclosed to his autopsy report, Dr. Rodic ruled out foul play and strangulation as probable causes of CS3 A.R.'s death. (Enclosure K).

LAW

The Sixth Amendment to the U.S Constitution provides that "[i]n all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right […] to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor." U.S. Const. amend. VI, cl. 7. This right is "well established in military law and has been guarded by [our highest Court]." *United States v. Hinton*, 21 M.J. 267, 269 (C.M.A. 1986) (citing *United States v. Carpenter*, 1 M.J. 384 (C.M.A. 1976; *United States v. Iturralde-Aponte*, 1 M.J. 196 (C.M.A. 1975)). Consistent with the constitutional mandate, the prosecution and the defense at a court-martial "shall have equal opportunity to obtain witnesses and evidence, including the benefit of compulsory process," R.C.M. 703(a), and "[e]ach party is entitled to the production of any witness whose testimony on a matter in issue on the merits or on an interlocutory question would be relevant and necessary." R.C.M. 703(b)(1).

Evidence is relevant when it has "any tendency to make the existence of any fact more probable or less probable than it would be without the evidence; and the fact is of consequence to the determination of the action." Mil. R. Evid. 401. Evidence is necessary when it is not cumulative and would contribute to a party's presentation of the case in some positive way on a matter in issue. R.C.M. 703(b)(1), Discussion, Manual for Courts-Martial, United States (2019 ed.); *see United States v. Williams*, 3 M.J. 239 (C.M.A. 1977). In determining whether a requested witness' testimony is cumulative of a witness whose appearance at trial is assured, the military judge should consider: whether the requested witness' credibility is greater than that of the attending witness; whether the testimony of the requested witness is relevant to the accused with respect to character traits or other evidence observed during a different time period from the attending witness; and whether there is any benefit to the accused from having an additional witness say the same thing other witnesses have said. *United States v. Jones*, 20 M.J. 919, 927 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 1985) (internal citations omitted). If the court determines that a defense witness is cumulative, the Defense is entitled to choose which of the cumulative witnesses it

desires to call. *United States v. Harmon*, 40 M.J. 107, 108 (C.A.A.F. 1994).

An accused's "right to present his own witnesses to establish a defense" is a "fundamental element of due process of law." *United States v. McAllister*, 64 M.J. 248, 249 (C.A.A.F. 2007) (quoting *Washington v. Texas*, 388 U.S. 14, 19 (1967)). Therefore, his "opportunity to obtain witness and other evidence" must be equal to the Government's. *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005) (internal quotation marks omitted).

The court-martial rules which implement these rights require that in order to obtain witnesses for trial, the defense must first submit a request to trial counsel. R.C.M. 703(c)(2). The request must include the witness' name, telephone number if known, and address or location of the witness "such that the witness can be found upon the exercise of due diligence." R.C.M. 703(c)(2)(B). It must also include a synopsis of the witness' expected testimony. *Id*. If the trial counsel contends that production is not required under the rule, the defense may submit the matter to the military judge. R.C.M. 703(c)(2)(D). If the military judge grants the motion, trial counsel "shall produce the witness or the proceedings shall be abated." *Id*. "Corroboration witnesses must be produced if unfairness in the court-martial process would result from their absence." *Id*. (citing *United States v. Williams*, 3 M.J. 239, 243 n.9 (C.M.A. 1977)).

ARGUMENT

I. CSSN Junrogel Miguel's testimony is relevant and necessary during the merits and presentencing phases of CSSN Copeland's court-martial.

The Defense has an equal right to evidence and witnesses to make an adequate defense against the charged allegations. The Government has charged CSSN Copeland with premeditated murder for killing CS3 A.R. by some act. CSSN Miguel has personal knowledge that CS3 A.R. suffered from mental health issues and had to be watched closely to prevent her from overdosing on the medication she took. Not only that, CS3 A.R. suffered from these mental health issues for quite some time, considering it more than likely stemmed from her traumatic family history. CSSN Miguel knows this because he had a very close friendship with CS3 A.R.

CSSN Miguel will testify that he witnessed CS3 A.R. have what he described as mental health "episodes". CSSN Miguel observed her have episodes on three occasions. This is relevant because the night CS3 A.R. was last seen, and was with CSSN Copeland, she called her ex-boyfriend, ET3 Rich to come pick her up. He explained that CS3 A.R. was having one of her panic attacks while he was on the phone with her. According to ET3 Rich one of the potential triggers of her panic attacks were sexual advances. CSSN Miguel describe how CS3 A.R. acted during her episodes and also what he has known to trigger her episodes, which was not a sexual advance.

The evidence CSSN Miguel will testify to leads to the possibility that CS3 A.R. died from suicide opposed to an act committed by CSSN Copeland. CSSN Copeland's defense has a right to present alternative theories to the trier of fact. The Government cannot prevent the Defense from exercising that right by denying the Defense its requested witnesses. Furthermore, CSSN Miguel is located here in Norfolk, VA, stationed on board USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS

(DDG-95). Producing him as a witness should be easy for the Government without the cost of any travel expenses. Even if the Government had to use travel expenses to produce this witness, that does not justify the Government denying to produce him or outweigh CSSN Copeland's right to have him present. As such, the Court should order the Government produce CSSN Miguel for trial.

II. Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez's testimony is relevant and necessary during the merits phase of CSSN Copeland's court-martial.

Mr. Teelez Mendez spoke with CS3 A.R. just nine days before she was last seen through social media. In CS3 A.R.'s messages to Mr. Teelez Mendez she expressed dissatisfaction with the chain of command on the ship she was attached to and described her working environment as toxic. This is how she felt in the days right before she died. The temporal proximity of the feelings she expressed in her messages make them relevant to the Defense's case. Similar to the Defense's request for CSSN Miguel, Mr. Teelez Mendez's testimony provides context to other evidence that ultimately leads to the possibility that CS3 A.R. may have committed suicide. As mentioned previously, CSSN Copeland's defense has a right to present alternative theories to the trier of fact and should not be precluded from doing so by the Government refusing to produce its witnesses. Importantly, Mr. Teelez Mendez is the only witness the messages CS3 A.R. sent can be admitted through, which makes his presence even more vital.

Mr. Teelez Mendez is located in Illinois, which means the Government has the ability to subpoena him. There are not any unduly cumbersome barriers that would warrant the Court not ordering the Government produce this witness. As such, the Government should be made to have him present.

III. Dr. Nemanja Rodic's testimony is relevant and necessary during the merits phase of CSSN Copeland's court-martial.

Dr. Rodic is a relevant and necessary witness to the Defense's case and should be produced. Dr. Rodic is the only other pathologist to have completed an autopsy of CS3 A.R.'s body, which was completed only 18 days after CS3 A.R.'s first autopsy done by the medical examiner for the Commonwealth of Virginia, at the request of CS3 A.R.'s mother. Similar to the first examiner, Dr. Rodic also made a finding that the manner of death was undetermined. Despite this being the same as the first examiner's conclusions, this is not cumulative *and unnecessary*, as the Government suggests in their response to the Defense's production request. In a case where the Government has refused to charge an act done by CSSN Copeland to allegedly cause CS3 A.R.'s death, yet chooses to argue strangulation through M.R.E. 404(b) from allegations of other alleged victims[1], this information is highly relevant and gives the factfinder concrete evidence in the results that a cause and manner of death could not be determined regardless of the examiner.

Dr. Rodic also made statements that are exculpatory to CSSN Copeland. In recorded notes, Dr. Rodic ruled out foul play and strangulation as probable causes of CS3 A.R.'s death. Although Dr. Rodic has made findings the Government may not like or agree with, that is

[1] *See* Defense Mot. to Exclude M.R.E. 404(b) Evidence.

grounds for cross-examination not denying the witness outright. The Government claims Dr. Rodic says asphyxiation was a possible cause of death, along with other possibilities, which proves strangulation occurred. Even if so, the Government fails to realize that asphyxiation does not automatically mean strangulation.[2]

Dr. Rodic is located in Washington, D.C., which means the Government has the ability to subpoena him and secure his travel for a relatively low cost—he is located less than 300 miles. There are not any unduly cumbersome barriers the Government has mentioned that would warrant the Court not ordering the Government produce this witness. As such, the Government should be made to have him present.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Defense respectfully requests that this Court compel the Government to produce CSSN Junrogel Miguel and Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez for trial, as their testimony on the merits is relevant and necessary.

EVIDENCE AND HEARING

In support of this motion, the defense offers the following enclosed exhibits.

- Enclosure (A): Defense Witness Request ltr of 29 Oct 25
- Enclosure (B): Government Response to Defense Initial Witness Request ltr of 5 Nov 25
- Enclosure (C): Defense Supplemental Witness Request ltr of 19 Nov 25
- Enclosure (D): Government Response to Defense Supplemental Witness Request ltr of 24 Nov 25
- Enclosure (E): Interview Summary of CSSN Junrogel Miguel
- Enclosure (F): Interview Summaries of ET3 Daniel Rich
- Enclosure (G): FLTMPS Information for CSSN Junrogel Miguel
- Enclosure (H): Interview Summary of Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez
- Enclosure (I): Instagram Messages between CS3 A.R. and Mr. Teelez Mendez
- Enclosure (J): CS3 A.R.'s Autopsy Report from 10 Jun 25
- Enclosure (K): CS3 A.R.'s Autopsy Report from 28 Jun 25

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

[2] Asphyxiation definition, "deprivation of oxygen that can result in unconsciousness and often death: an act of asphyxiating a person or animal or a state of asphyxia: suffocation", https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/asphyxiation (last visited Nov 25, 2025).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served a true copy of the above on the Court and Government Counsel on 26 November 2025.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**ENCLOSURES TO DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL WITNESS PRODUCTION** **26 November 2025**

- Enclosure (A): Defense Witness Request ltr of 29 Oct 25
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29 Oct 25

From: LCDR Clifton Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 703
(b) 10 USC § 846
(c) R.C.M 1001

1. Per references (a) through (c), the Defense requests that the government produce the following witnesses:

Witnesses for the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

a. **CSSN Jada Knight, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 126. CSSN Knight was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with S.S. and CSSN Copeland at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Knight can attest to appearance of CSSN S.S.'s intoxication, or lack thereof, the night of the alleged assault. Additionally, CSSN Knight provided exculpatory evidence to NCIS during her interview off CSSN S.S. drinking with her after the alleged sexual assault happened. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

b. **CSSN Kaylee Parks, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), ([redacted]). CSSN Parks was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Parks saw CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland interacting with each other while at the bar. She will testify to seeing CSSN S.S. walk unassisted to the bathroom along with CSSN Copeland and have conversations with people afterwards. CSSN Park is also aware that CSSN S.S. had a boyfriend on board the same ship when the alleged sexual assault happened, which goes to CSSN S.S.'s motive to fabricate. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

c. **CS2 Kirsten Click, USN**, Norfolk, VA, (VFA-11). CS2 Click was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CS2 Click saw CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland kissing each other's necks and touching all over each other. She observed CSSN S.S. both before and after the alleged sexual assault and can attest to appearance of CSSN S.S.'s intoxicated condition, or lack thereof. She is aware that CSSN S.S. had a boyfriend on board the same ship when the alleged sexual assault happened. Her testimony similar to CSSN Parks and provides a motive for CSSN S.S. to fabricate the allegation. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

d. **CS3 Shamel Eaddy, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75). CS3 Eaddy was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was CSSN S.S.'s boyfriend at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CS3 Eaddy was initially approached by CSSN Copeland about the fact that CSSN Copeland had sexual contact with his girlfriend, CSSN S.S., and learned of that fact from CSSN Copeland for the first time. After CS3 Eaddy's conversation with CSSN Copeland, he then confronted CSSN S.S. about the alleged sexual contact she had with CSSN Copeland. His testimony will provide a motive for CSSN S.S. to fabricate the allegation. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

e. **CSSN Jaelen Owenskemper, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), [redacted]. CSSN Owenskemper was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland the night of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Owenskemper will testify to seeing CSSN S.S. cuddled up with CSSN Copeland at the bar they were at. CSSN Owenskemper's testimony establishes the intimate nature of CSSN S.S.'s interactions with CSSN Copeland the same night of the alleged sexual assault. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

f. **CDR Brett Ballard, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC-11) ELEVEN. The night after the alleged sexual assault, CDR Ballard was serving as the Senior Shore Patrol representative and went to retrieve CSSN Copeland when he refused to return to the ship after experiencing a mental health decline upon becoming aware that he was being accused of sexually assaulting CSSN S.S. the night before. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

g. **CSSA McKenzie Saunders, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) [redacted]. CSSA Saunders was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was at the bar with CSSN S.S. at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSA Saunders noticed CSSN S.S. in the bathroom where her motor skills worked fine and observed her dancing with CSSN Copeland. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

h. **LSCM Ronnie Didier, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), ([redacted]. During the time of the alleged allegations, LSCM Didier served onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was CSSN S.S.'s Department Leading Chief Petty Officer. He supervised the complaining witness and will testify about her character for untruthfulness. This is relevant and necessary as it goes directly to CSSN S.S.'s credibility during the merits phase of the trial.

i. **CSCM Aneuric Robles, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), [redacted] During the time of the alleged allegations, CSCM Robles served onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was the Master Chief in charge of CSSN S.S.'s entire division. CSSN S.S. serving under his leadership, and he will testify about her character for untruthfulness. This is relevant and necessary as it goes directly to CSSN S.S.'s credibility during the merits phase of the trial.

j. **CS3 Raela Spratling, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), [redacted]. During the time of the alleged allegations, ENS White, served onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75). She worked directly with the complaining witness and had enough interactions with her to opine about her character for truthfulness. CS3 Spratling will testify that CSSN S.S. has a character for untruthfulness. This is relevant and necessary as it goes directly to CSSN S.S.'s credibility during the merits phase of the trial.

k. **CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69). CSSN Cousins was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was CSSN Copeland's liberty buddy the night after the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Cousins stated CSSN Copeland's demeanor when he told him about having sex with CSSN S.S. was happy. However, there was an immediate, drastic decline with CSSN Copeland's mental state when CSSN Copeland stepped away to take a call where he learned that a claim of sexual assault was about to be made against him. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

l. **Special Agent Bernadette Duffy, NCIS**, Norfolk, VA. SA Duffy interviewed CSSN Copeland twice in reference to the allegations involving CSSN S.S. CSSN Copeland chose to waive his right to remain silent, provided a statement, and also provided SA Duffy text messages sent between him and the alleged victim surrounding the night of the alleged incident. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

Witnesses for the allegations involving CSSN S.R.

m. **CS2 Joshua Bryant, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CS2 Bryant noticed a hickey on CSSN S.R.'s neck just days before the alleged incident where CSSN S.R. claims CSSN Copeland strangled her. CS2 Bryant's testimony provides alternatives reasons for a mark on CSSN S.R.'s neck. As such, his testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.R.

n. **Detective S. Gaston, CIV**, Norfolk, VA. Det. Gaston was one of the responding officers to the alleged assault involving CSSN S.R. and CSSN Copeland. Furthermore, Det. Gaston interviewed CSSN Copeland and other witnesses, whose interviews were not recorded but provides exculpatory evidence inculpating CSSN S.R. as the offender. Det. Gaston also obtained images of CSSN Copeland's personal property that corroborates CSSN Copeland's statement to police at the scene. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.R.

Witnesses for the allegations involving CSSN A.R.

o. **YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124. Monaghan was CSSN Copeland's roommate at the time of the alleged incident between CSSN S.R. and CSSN Copeland. He provides exculpatory evidence that proves CSSN Copeland did not assault CSSN S.R. In fact, Monaghan will provide testimony that CSSN S.R. assaulted CSSN Copeland and damaged his personal property. He also returned

to the room the night CS3 A.R. came to their barracks room and saw her alive. He can provide a general description that matches CS3 A.R. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.R. and CS3 A.R.

p. **FCC Brad Parker, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). FCC Parker went to CSSN Copeland's room the morning after CS3 A.R. spoke with her two ex-boyfriends on the phone and went missing. FCC Parker will testify that he saw CS3 A.R. in CSSN Copeland's bed, and she was alive; she acknowledge his presence, rolled over and went back to sleep in CSSN Copeland's bed. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

q. **CSSN Gladis Garcia-Barrera, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). Prior to CS3 A.R. going to CSSN Copeland's room later on 28 May 2025, CSSN Garcia-Barrera was with CS3 A.R. at Target together. CSSN Garcia-Barrera will testify that CS3 A.R. told her she was going to CSSN Copeland's room to make tacos and sent her pictures of the food. This corroborates statements that CSSN Copeland provided to NCIS as well. Additionally, CSSN Garcia-Barrera, as a friend of CS3 A.R., has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s mental health issues/struggles. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

r. **AR John Calisse, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124. AR Calisse was CSSN Copeland's suitemate at the time of the alleged death of CS3 A.R. AR Calisse saw CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R. the morning of 29 May 2025 laying together with CS3 A.R.'s breast exposed. CS3 A.R. stated that he observed them on their back while both appeared to be breathing, right before he left the room to go to work. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

s. **PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124. PSSN Gordillocruz, similar to AR Calisse, was CSSN Copeland's suitemate at the time of the alleged death of CS3 A.R. PSSN Gordillocruz also saw CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R. the morning of 29 May 2025 laying together on the floor in the common area with CS3 A.R.'s breast exposed. PSSN Gordillocruz testimony will corroborate the evidence provided by AR Calisse. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

t. **HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). HT3 Gillespie had previously dated CS3 A.R. He has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s history with mental health issues, her emotional state when having "episodes" and her overuse of medications. Additionally, the day CS3 A.R. went missing she had an argument with CS3 A.R. and expressed anger with him via a text message saying "fuck you". His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

u. **ET3 Daniel Rich, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Mid-Atlantic Regional Calibration Center. ET3 Rich had previously dated CS3 A.R. He has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s history with mental health issues, and her emotional state when having "episodes". Additionally, the day CS3 A.R. went missing she called ET3 Rich asking him to pick her up. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

v. **CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CSSN Miguel was close friends with CS3 A.R. and worked with her onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CSSN Miguel has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s relationship with HT3 Gillespie. Furthermore, CSSN Miguel has had his own experiences and personal knowledge with CS3 A.R. when she experienced "episodes" and also described having to closely monitor CS3 A.R. to prevent her from overdosing. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

w. **Special Agent Lisa Carroll, NCIS**, Norfolk, VA. SA Carroll was one of the agents that completed a search of HT3 Gillespie's barracks. During the search SA Carroll found and documented bottles of pills belonging to CS3 A.R. There will be evidence presented that HT3 Gillespie kept CS3 A.R.'s medications for her because of a potential fear she would overdose, based on her history with mental health issues and suicidal ideations. SA Carroll's testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

x. **LSC Robert Janson, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LSC Janson was CS3 A.R.'s Departmental Leading Chief Petty Officer onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). He can attest to her mental decline and stress before CS3 A.R. was admitted to NMC Portsmouth and after she returned (BS 1016, 1044). His testimony provides context to show the timeline of CS3 A.R.'s mental decline based on what he perceived on her at work. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

y. **LCDR Joseph McClelland, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LT McClelland was the Command Duty Officer onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) on 28 May – 29 May 2025, which is the night CS3 A.R. went to CSSN Copeland's room and the day she went missing BS 1069. LT McClelland received the reports of CS3 A.R. missing and spoke directly to ET3 Rich about his phone call with CS3 A.R. Depending on what ET3 Rich's testimony will be at trial, LT McClelland will serve a witness that could potentially provide evidence of prior inconsistent statements from ET3 Rich. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

z. **Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez, CIV**, Mr. Teelez Mendez was contacted by CS3 A.R. just nine (9) days before she went missing. CS3 A.R. contacted Mr. Teelez Mendez through social media where she complained about how toxic her division's chain of command was. Mr. Teelez Mendez provided a copy of these text messages to NCIS when interviewed (BS 1202). When put in context with her overall mental health issues and stress, this shows her negative perspective had not improved. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

aa. **PS1 Clarissa Impelidodayoan, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC-2) TWO. PS1 Impelidodayoan was one of the Sailors that came to CSSN Copeland's room and cleaned the room on 2 June 2025 to assist CSSN Copeland's suitemate, YN3 Monaghan, prepare for his room inspection (BS 1360). PS1 Impelidodayoan was even on CSSN Copeland's side of the room and stated she didn't see any unusual stains and only described the smell as vomit and alcohol (party room). This contradicts the Government's theory that CSSN Copeland stored a body in his room for days. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

bb. **LTJG Sean James, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LTJG James is relevant and necessary because he provides evidence of prior inconsistent statements of ET3 Rich, whom he supervises, in relation to when CS3 A.R. went missing. Furthermore, he has personal knowledge of CS3 A.R. and ET3 Rich having a "distressed" phone call close in time to CS3 A.R.'s death. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

cc. **NCC Lorenzo Carter, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74). NCC Carter was the other Sailors that came to CSSN Copeland's room and cleaned the room on 2 June 2025 to assist CSSN Copeland's suitemate, YN3 Monaghan, prepare for his room inspection (BS 1364). NCC Carter was also on CSSN Copeland's side of the room, similar to PS1 Impelidodayoan, and he stated that he didn't notice any unusual stains or smells in CSSN Copeland's room. This contradicts the Government's theory that CSSN Copeland stored a body in his room for days. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R. and corroborates PS1 Impelidodayoan's expected testimony.

Witnesses for Sentencing

dd. **Ms. Rochell Brown, CIV**, Oak Harbor, WA, [redacted] Ms. R. Brown is CSSN Copeland's mother. She will testify positively about CSSN Copeland's character as a father and son. Telephonic testimony is not sufficient, as CSSN Copeland is charged with premeditated murder. If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole. Based on the seriousness of the allegations and punitive exposure, he should be able to have all his witnesses present in-person. Her testimony is relevant during the pre-sentencing phase of trial.

ee. **Ms. Kathleen Brown, CIV**, Oak Harbor, WA, [redacted] Ms. K. Brown is CSSN Copeland's grandmother. She will testify positively about CSSN Copeland's character as a father and son. Similar to Ms. R. Brown, telephonic testimony is not sufficient, as CSSN Copeland is charged with premeditated murder. If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole. Based on the seriousness of the allegations and punitive exposure, he should be able to have all his witnesses present in-person. Additionally, Ms. K. Brown will be support for Ms. R. Brown. Her testimony is relevant during the pre-sentencing phase of trial.

Subj: REQUEST FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

2. The Defense reserves the right to request additional witnesses and will provide supplemental requests in a timely manner. Additionally, the defense reserves the right to call witnesses that appear on the government witness list.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III

5 Nov 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Office of Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Clifton Morgan, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: RESPONSE TO DEFENSE REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) Article 46
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024 ed).
(c) R.C.M. 1001(c) (MCM 2024 ed)
(d) Your letter dtd 29 Oct 25

1. In response to reference (d): The following witness requests are granted:

a. CSSN Jada Knight, USN
b. CSSN Kaylee Parks, USN
c. CS2 Kirsten Click, USN
d. CS3 Shamel Eaddy, USN
e. CSSN Jaelen Owenskemper, USN
f. CDR Brett Ballard, USN
g. CSSA McKenzie Saunders, USN
h. LSCM Ronnie Didier, USN
i. CSCM Aneuric Robles, USN
j. CS3 Raela Spratling, USN
k. CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN
l. Special Agent Bernadette Duffy, NCIS.
m. Detective S. Gaston, CIV
n. YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN
o. FCC Brad Parker, USN
p. CSSN Gladis Garcia-Barrera, USN
q. AR John Calisse, USN
r. PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN
s. HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN
t. ET3 Daniel Rich, USN
u. Special Agent Lisa Carroll, NCIS

v. LSC Robert Janson, USN,

w. LCDR Joseph McClelland, USN

x. PS1 Clarissa Impelidodayoan, USN

y. LTJG Sean James, USN

z. NCC Lorenzo Carter, USN

aa. Ms. Rochell Brown, CIV

bb. Ms. Kathleen Brown, CIV

cc. CS2 Joshua Bryant, USN

2. The following witness requests are denied:

a. CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN. Denied. You have not made the requisite showing under R.C.M. 703.

b. Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez, CIV. Denied. You have not made the requisite showing under R.C.M. 703.

[redacted]

L.A. MAYO [redacted]

19 Nov 25

From: LCDR Clifton Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 703
(b) 10 USC § 846
(c) R.C.M 1001

1. Per references (a) through (c), the Defense requests that the government produce the following witnesses:

a. **Dr. Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D, CIV**, Washington, D.C. [redacted]. Dr. Rodic is a board certified pathologist that performed a second autopsy on CS3 A.R.'s body at her mother, Ms. Esmerelda Castle's, request. Dr. Rodic performed the autopsy on 28 June 2025. In his notes, which were enclosed to his autopsy report, Dr. Rodic ruled out foul play and strangulation as probable causes of CS3 A.R.'s death (BS 1663-64). The Government alleges in its M.R.E. 404(b) notice sent on 5 November 2025 that the "evidence supports that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R." Dr. Rodic's testimony will contradict that theory. As such, his testimony is relevant and necessary during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

b. **LSSN Omeri Smoot, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69). LSSN Smoot was present during the alleged sexual assault of Y.J. Prior to CSSN Copeland allegedly having sex with Y.J. without her consent, LSSN Smoot had just had a threesome with Y.J. and CSSN John Bradford inside CSSN Copeland's room. Based on Y.J.'s statement, LSSN Smoot witnessed the sexual assault happened. As such, his testimony is relevant and necessary during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving Y.J.

c. **Mr. Brendon Doria, CIV**, Oak Harbor, WA [redacted]. Mr. Doria invited CSSN Copeland to his house while L.L. was present the day she was allegedly assaulted by CSSN Copeland. Based on the statements L.L. made, Mr. Doria was present to witness many interactions between her and CSSN Copeland. His testimony will provide context to the relationship between L.L. and CSSN Copeland. Additionally, Mr. Doria was able to witness L.L. immediately after the alleged sexual misconduct. The Government provided notice under M.R.E. 413 that it intended to use L.L.'s allegations as propensity evidence to prove Charge I, Specifications 1, 2, and 4. As such, Mr. Doria's testimony testimony is relevant and necessary during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving ABHAN C.R. and Y.J.

[redacted]
C. E. MORGAN III

ENCLOSURE C
1 of 1

24 Nov 25

From: LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Office of Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Clifton Morgan, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: RESPONSE TO DEFENSE SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) Article 46
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024 ed).
(c) R.C.M. 1001(c) (MCM 2024 ed)
(d) Your letter dtd 19 Nov 25

1. In response to reference (d): The following witness requests are granted:

a. LSSN Omeri Smoot, USN.

b. Mr. Brendon Johnson (formerly Doria), Civilian.

2. The following witness request is denied:

a. Dr. Nemanja Rodic. Denied. You have not made the requisite showing under R.C.M. 703. Dr. Rodic did not designate a manner of death because his exam was limited by a variety of factors. Per BS #1790, Dr. Rodic advised that strangulation (asphyxiation) was a possible or probable method of death in this case. This finding is consistent with Dr. Lameira's conclusions (BS #1448). As such, any testimony from Dr. Rodic on that point would be cumulative and unnecessary. Moreover, Dr. Rodic's testimony is even less relevant than Dr. Lameira's as the body was further decomposed at the time of his autopsy. Of note, per BS #1646, BS #1663-64 is a voice to text transcription of a call that appears to contain numerous errors. This transcription was provided by Ms. Castle to the trial counsel via her VLC.

[redacted]

C. B. DEMPSEY

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JUNROGEL MIGUEL, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and participating Agent (PA) Lisa CARROLL conducted an interview of CSSN Junrojel MIGUEL, USN, James E. Williams (DDG 95), in regard to the above caption investigation.

2. The interview of CSSN MIGUEL was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. CSSN Miguel stated he met CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted]), USN, DDG 95, while working in the galley. CSSN MIGUEL reported that he and V/[redacted] became very close friends in JAN25, to the extent V/[redacted] started referring to him as her brother. CSSN MIGUEL explained that he and V/[redacted] only socialize when he is not on restriction. When hanging out V/[redacted] would often invite CSSN MIGUEL and CSSN Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95, to her barracks room. CSSN MIGUEL stated V/[redacted] and CSSN GILLESPIE began dating in late MAY24, and their relationship ended in DEC24.

4. CSSN MIGUEL described the relationship between V/[redacted] and CSSN GILLESPIE as a being like soulmates. CSSN MIGUEL noted they understood each other deeply, shared similar emotions, and were extremely compatible. CSSN MIGUEL said the relationship between CSSN GILLESPIE and V/[redacted] because their personalities did not align. CSSN MIGUEL added that V/[redacted] initiated the breakup to focus on herself, which CSSN GILLESPIE agreed to. CSSN MIGUEL that he often served a bridge between the two. According to CSSN MIGUEL, V/[redacted] would sometimes states how she misses CSSN GILLESPIE during conversations.

5. CSSN MIGUEL described V/[redacted] as a very emotional person with a traumatic past. CSSN MIGUEL recalled that in MAY24, V/[redacted] went to the bar alone, became intoxicated and later mention having an "episode". When asked CSSN MIGUEL what he meant by "episodes" he clarified that V/[redacted] has had mental health episodes. CSSN MIGUEL stated V/[redacted] would occasionally have episodes where she seemed mentally detached or unresponsive. During these times, she would start looking around and stop replying to everyone. CSSN MIGUEL noted CSSN GILLESPIE would have to constantly talk to her to bring her back to reality. Since knowing her, CSSN MIGUEL stated he witnessed three such episodes. He confirmed that V/[redacted]

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

takes medication but have to be closely monitored to avoid her from overdosing. CSSN MIGUEL emphasizes V[redacted] has a traumatic family history, which could explain her mental health challenges.

6. CSSN MIGUEL stated while he was on restriction, V[redacted] failed to show up for work, when he was released from restriction and retrieved his phone back, he noticed a text message from V[redacted] thanking him for his support and friendship. Once off restriction, CSSN MIGUEL reconnected with CSSN GILLESPIE and was excited to see him. CSSN GILLESPIE told CSSN MIGUEL, V[redacted] was no longer communicating with him, possibly because she was unsure about continuing a relationship with either ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, or CSSN GILLESPIE. CSSN GILLESPIE advised CSSN MIGUEL he asked V/[redacted] about returning his motorcycle helmet. CSSN MIGUEL also reported CSSN GILLESPIE advised him V/[redacted] was missing. CSSN MIGUEL stated he was already aware of the information after overhearing a conversation at work. CSSN MIGUEL stated he overheard that V[redacted] had last been seen with CSSN Jeremiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, in his barracks room, as reported by command. CSSN GILLESPIE also told CSSN MIGUEL that V[redacted] had expressed a desire to leave the Navy, which CSSN MIGUEL initially took as a joke. However, CSSN MIGUEL began to feel that things he was hearing were not adding up. He concluded that if someone doesn't want to be found, as V[redacted] appeared to be, by not answering calls or texts, it is likely because they don't want to be found.

7. CSSN MIGUEL advised his last official conversation with V[redacted] was 24MAY25. At the conclusion of the interview CSSN MIGUEL signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure to obtain copies of the text messages between him and V/[redacted]; Enclosure (B) pertains. CSSN MIGUEL provided RA with five (5) screenshot photos of text messages between him and CSSN [redacted], all of which were placed on a CD-R; Enclosure (C) pertains. Five (5) photos were placed on a photo template; Enclosure (D) pertains.

8. There is nothing further to report.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) ONE (1) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF CCN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY CSSN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(C) CD-R: SCREENSHOTS PROVIDED BY CSSN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(D) PHOTO TEMPLATE; PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CSSN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of V/[redacted] As background, CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted]), USN, DDG 95 and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. ET3 RICH was identified as an ex-boyfriend of V/[redacted].

2. ET3 RICH stated he dated V/[redacted] for approximately three (3) weeks. ET3 RICH explained V/[redacted] ended their relationship approximately one (1) month prior, citing she had too much going on in her life. ET3 RICH stated that when he dated V/[redacted] she routinely shared here location with him and he could track her phone. ET3 RICH stated that on Wednesday, 28May25, into Thursday, 29May25, he and HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95, (another or V/[redacted]'s ex-boyfriends) went searching for V/[redacted] because they were worried about her when her phone seemed to power off. ET3 RICH stated he and HT3 GILLESPIE along with Naval Station Norfolk Base Security Forces went to CSSN COPELAND's barracks room in the early morning hours (approximately 0400) of 29May25 as that was the last location of her pone. ET3 RICH said they discovered neither V/[redacted] nor S/COPELAND present in the room. When asked about his relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE, ET3 RICH said he and GILLIESPIE get along fine even though they both dated V/[redacted] ET3 RICH said he was told from command V/[redacted] was located along with S/COPELAND after he and HT3 GILLESPIE looked for her Wednesday, 28May25 into Thursday, 29May25.

3. ET3 RICH explained V/[redacted]'s father is in prison for assaulting V/[redacted] when she was younger. ET3 stated V/[redacted] is very threatened by her father and is scared for when he is released from prison. ET3 RICH said V/[redacted] has a strained relationship with her mother and doesnot talk to her often. However, ET3 RICH said V/[redacted] speaks with her aunt often.

4. ET3 RICH said V/[redacted] suffers from some type of depression related issues as he would help her regulate her prescribed medication. ET3 RICH stated he was worried that she would take too much and hurt herself. When asked where V/[redacted] would go if she were to seek mental health treatment, ET3 RICH stated she would go to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA.

5. When asked about finances, ET3 RICH stated to his knowledge, V/[redacted]

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **01JUN25**

only banks with Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) and that she uses her phone's tap function to make purchases.

6. ET3 RICH stated V[redacted] always carries around a black and purple Hello Kitty backpack and she would not go anywhere without it. ET3 RICH stated to his knowledge, V[redacted] does not have any issues with anyone at work adding she loves her work team.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

PAGE 2 LAST EU V2 LNN

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**R.C.M. 701(a) DISCLOSURE**

On 5 September 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, in the presence of Ms. Marie Rendell and Special Agent Jessica Gokey, NCIS, at RLSO MIDLANT. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

ET3 Rich received a call from CS3 A.R. at 0214 on 29 May 2025 that woke him up. He stated she sounded was like she was having a panic attack. She was frantic and crying. She kept repeatedly stating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible. At some point, a male who he later assumed to be CSSN Copeland, took the phone and asked how far away he was. It was not clear if the phone was passed to him or taken from her. ET3 Rich told the male that he would be there in about 10 minutes. The male replied "all right" and CS3 A.R. was then put back on the phone. She continued to be frantic and repeatedly stated she needed to be picked up. She also told ET3 Rich that she loved him. ET3 Rich hung up after telling her he was on the way.

While the male was on the phone with ET3 Rich, his tone was frantic as well, although not as frantic as CS3 A.R.

CS3 A.R. has had panic attacks in ET3 Rich's presence before. ET3 Rich opined that one possible trigger for her panic attacks would be a sexual advance.

ET3 Rich stated he had previously speculated that CS3 A.R. was outside based solely on the location of her phone according to her shared location. He advised he only believed that he heard car noises in the background because of that belief and that the background noise he heard could very well have been something else.

ET3 Rich also advised he had learned only after speaking with CS3 A.R.'s roommate later on that CS3 A.R. had lost her room key. He did not recall CS3 A.R. mentioning anything to him about having lost her room key or being locked out of her room on the phone call. He only recalled her repeatedly stating that she needed to be picked up.

Electronic Training Jacket

For Official Use Only - Contains Privacy Act Data

Administrative Data

Name: CSSN MIGUEL JUNROJEL [redacted]

Current Activity: N23148 DDG 95 JAMES E WILLIAMS
Parent Activity: N23148 DDG 95 JAMES E WILLIAMS
Pending Activity: N/A

Received Onboard: 05/23/2022
Projected Rotation: 01/2027

[redacted]

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 13JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted]

RESULTS OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW OF BRIAN TEELEZ MENDEZ, CIV

1. On 13Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) telephonically interviewed Brian TEELEZ MENDEZ, CIV, regarding Instagram messages received from CSSN [redacted] ([redacted]), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). RA identified themself verbally. RA interviewed TEELEZ MENDEZ telephonically due to residing in Illinois.

2. TEELEZ MENDEZ stated in May 2025, he received Instagram messages from V/[redacted] stating, "I just don't like my chain of command my division it's toxic as fuck." TEELEZ MENDEZ stated he had not heard from V/[redacted] since 20May25. TEELEZ MENDEZ provided RA with two (2) screenshots of Instagram messages, which were subsequently placed onto a photograph template and appended as Enclosure (A). RA appended two (2) photographs of Instagram messages onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R); Enclosure (B) pertains.

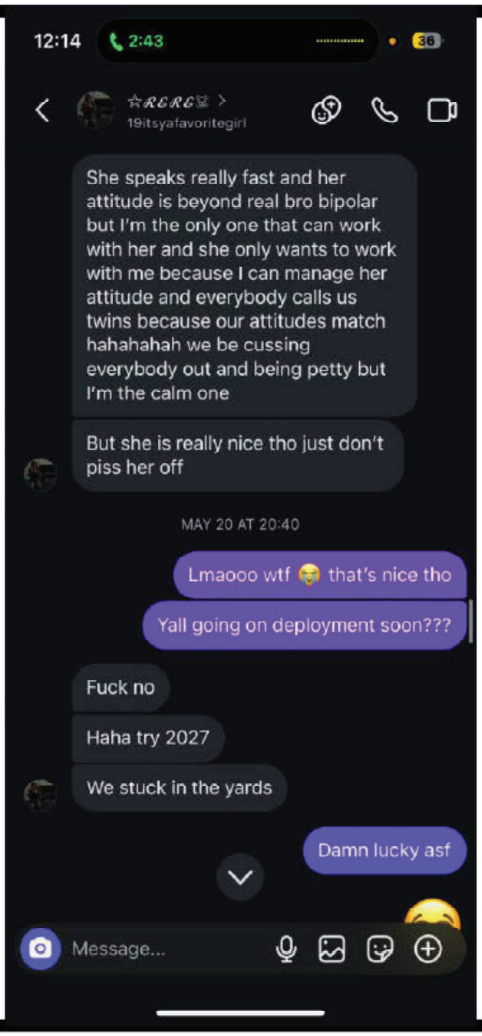
ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PHOTO TEMPLATE: TWO (2) PHOTOGRAPHS OF INSTAGRAM MESSAGES/13JUN25
(B) DVD-R: TWO (2) PHOTOGRAPHS OF INSTAGRAM MESSAGES/13JUN25

REPORTED BY: VICTORIA PADILLA-MARTINEZ, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 1 LAST DO V2 LNN

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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



1. OFFICE CODE:

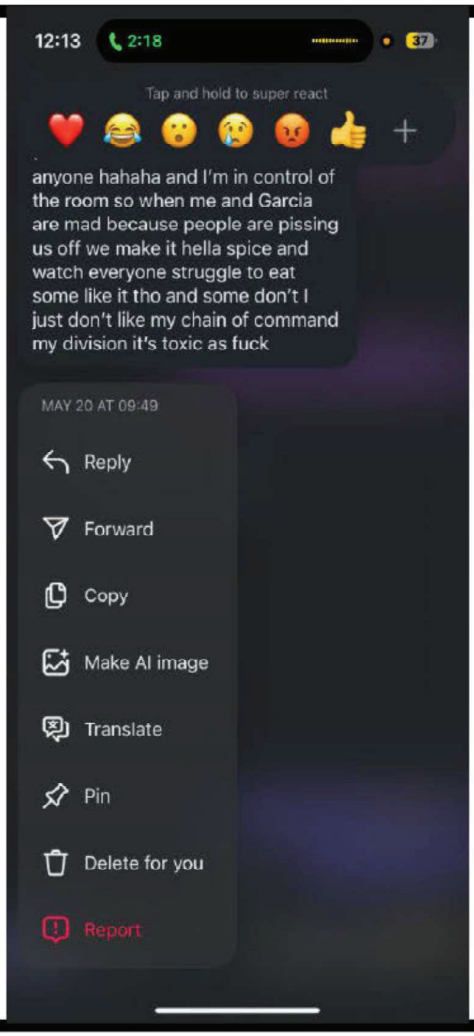
NFNF

2. TITLE:	**3. CCN:**	**4. AGENT'S NAME:**
V/[redacted] PETRA/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**VICTORIA PADILLA-MARTINEZ**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
PHOTOGRAPH DEPICTING INSTAGRAM MESSAGES BETWEEN V[redacted] AND BRIAN TELLEZ MENDEZ, CIV	**VICTORIA PADILLA-MARTINEZ 13JUN25**

NCIS 5580.91 (Rev 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



1. OFFICE CODE:

NFNF

2. TITLE:	**3. CCN:**	**4. AGENT'S NAME:**
V/[redacted] PETRA/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**VICTORIA PADILLA-MARTINEZ**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
PHOTOGRAPH DEPICTING INSTAGRAM MESSAGES BETWEEN V[redacted] AND BRIAN TELLEZ MENDEZ, CIV	**VICTORIA PADILLA-MARTINEZ 13JUN25**

NCIS 5580.91 (Rev 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

Name: [redacted] Case Number: T2025-00840	POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA	PAGE 1

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE, SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23510
(757) 683-8366

AUTOPSY NO: T- 246-25
DATE/DAY/TIME: Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 0830
DECEDENT: [redacted]
AUTOPSY AUTHORIZED BY: Dr. Lameira, acting Medical Examiner for Norfolk

Body Identified by: Tags on the body bag and suitcase. Definitive ID by fingerprint comparison.
Persons present at autopsy: Ms. Lacombe, Ms. Magruder, Ms. Sloulin, NCIS Danielle Ortiz, Morgan Currie, NPD John Murphy

Rigor: Absent **Livor:** Undetermined
Age: 21 **Race:** White **Sex:** F **Length:** 58" **Weight:**72 lbs. **Eyes:** No eyes
Hair: Black **Body Heat:** Refrigerated

GENERAL EXTERNAL EXAMINATION: [redacted]

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS: [redacted].

EXTERNAL WOUNDS: Examination limited by decomposition changes.

SCARS, TATTOOS: Tattoos on left arm and upper back,

MARKS OF THERAPY: None.

HISTORY: [redacted]

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES:

1. [redacted]
2. Additional findings: decomposition, advanced stage.

EXHIBIT 243

Cause of Death: Undetermined

The facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ENCLOSURE J
1 of 10

8/18/2025
Date Signed

OCME Norfolk, VA
Place of Autopsy

Fernanda Lameira
Signature of Pathologist
Fernanda Lameira, M.D

001610_COPELAND

GROSS DESCRIPTION: *Note: exam limited by decomposition changes.*

SKIN: Tattoos. Partially skeletonized.

SEROUS CAVITIES: No adhesions or fluid accumulation. The diaphragm is intact. The organs are in normal anatomic position.

NECK ORGANS: Layered dissection reveals unremarkable soft tissue of the anterior neck. The larynx and hyoid are intact. The thyroid gland has a normal size and shape.

HEART: 77 g. The coronary arteries arise normally and have a right dominant posterior circulation. There is no significant atherosclerosis. The valves are normally formed. The foramen ovale is closed. The great vessels are unremarkable and free of obvious injury.

AORTA: The aorta and its major branches are normally distributed, with no significant atherosclerosis.

LUNGS: Left 155 g, right 181 g. The pleural surfaces are unremarkable and cover red-purple, mildly edematous pulmonary parenchyma.

LIVER: 299 g. The liver capsule is smooth and glistening, covering red-purple congested parenchyma.

GALLBLADDER: No bile. No stones were identified.

SPLEEN: 80 g. The splenic capsule is smooth, glistening, and intact. There is unremarkable underlying red-purple parenchyma.

LYMPH NODES: No lymphadenopathy is appreciated.

PANCREAS: Unremarkable.

ADRENALS: Examination limited due to decomposition changes; no evident lesions present.

GI TRACT: The tongue is absent. The esophagus is lined by gray-white smooth mucosa and courses to the stomach without focal lesions. The stomach is empty. A small amount of yellow chyme is present in the small bowel, and soft brown stool in the large bowel. An unremarkable appendix is identified in the right lower quadrant.

KIDNEYS: Left 155 g, right 181 g. Smooth cortical surfaces. Well-circumscribed cortico-medullary junctions. No dilatation of the collecting system or ureters.

BLADDER: Contains no urine. Unremarkable mucosa and wall.

GENITALIA: Unremarkable uterus, fallopian tubes, and ovaries.

BRAIN AND MENINGES: 784 g. Complete loss of normal architecture. The brain is a brow/gray soft tissue.

SKULL: Intact.

MUSCULOSKELETAL: Aside from the postmortem changes, the bony framework, supporting musculature, and soft tissues are grossly unremarkable. The cervical spinal column is removed, visualized, and it is intact.

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:
Liver (Slide 2): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. No evidence of inflammation, steatosis, or necrosis.

Kidney (Slide 2): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. Well-distributed tubules and glomeruli with no histopathological abnormalities.

Lungs (Slide 1): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. Edema and no other significant histopathological changes were observed.

TOXICOLOGY:
Samples were submitted for toxicological analysis. See Certificate of Analysis.
Waiting for another toxicology analysis. Still pending.

DNA AND FINGERPRINTS:
Samples of blood and fingerprints were taken and retained.

POSTMORTEM PHOTOGRAPHY:
Postmortem photographs were taken and retained.

EVIDENCE:
Suitcase, personal effects, DNA card x2, patch from inside the suitcase, PERK kit (219M00468), round disk from inside the suitcase, possible string from inside the suitcase, paper from inside the suitcase, fingernails, CD with exam photos to law enforcement. Second CD with exam photos to law enforcement (Norfolk PD).

SUMMARY:
[redacted]

CAUSE OF DEATH: Undetermined

MANNER OF DEATH: Undetermined

BODY DIAGRAM



DECED T-246-25 T2025-00840
Name: BTB [redacted]
Height:
Weight: 6-10-2025
DR. LAMEIRA

ENCLOSURE J
4 of 10

MEDICAL EXAMINER:
Name: _____
Date: _____
Autopsy #: _____

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Rev. 11/21/03

0016 COPELAND

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Eastern Laboratory
830 Southampton Avenue
Suite 400
Norfolk, VA 23510

Tel. No.: (757) 683-8327
Fax: (757) 683-8830

June 10, 2025

TO: G. V. ROBINSON
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE
SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VA 23510-1046

FS Lab # T25-3510

RECEIVED
JUN 11 2025
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER

Your Case #: T2025-00840

Victim(s):

Alias: [redacted]

Suspect(s): - - -

Evidence Submitted By: G. V. Robinson

Date Received: 06/10/2025

Item 999 Copy of a fingerprint card bearing the name [redacted]
Item 1000 Postmortem Tape Lift From OCME Case Number T2025-00840

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

COMPARISON RESULTS OVERVIEW:

Name	Identification(s) (Total / Item)	Exclusion(s) (Total / Item)	Inconclusive(s) (Total / Item)
[redacted]	1 / Item 1000	---	---

PROCESSING AND EXAMINATION:

Item 1000 was visually examined. One fingerprint was digitally preserved and designated as 1000P1.

ANALYSIS:

Fingerprint 1000P1 was analyzed and determined to be of value for comparison.

EXEMPLARS:

The following exemplar, bearing the listed name, was visually examined, digitally preserved, and used for comparison:

Name	Obtained From	DOB	SID / FBI	Exemplar Type
[redacted]	Submitted - Item 999	---	95HPF5D5W	Fingerprint Card

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE J
5 of 10

001614_COPELAND
Rev. 7/05

EXHIBIT 244

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
FS Lab # T25-3510
Your Case # T2025-00840
June 10, 2025

COMPARISON RESULTS:

IDENTIFICATION(S):
Fingerprint 1000P1 was identified to the exemplar bearing the name [redacted]

TERMINUS STATEMENTS:

The only fingerprint of value for comparison has been identified.

Date(s) of Testing: 06/10/2025.

Supporting examination documentation is maintained in the case file.

The above listed methods are those approved for use at the time of analysis. Current methods can be found in the Latent Print Procedures Manual, which can be found at www.dfs.virginia.gov/documentation-publications/manuals/.

The evidence is being retained for personal pickup.

Attest:

I certify that I performed the above analysis or examination as an employee of the Department of Forensic Science and that the above is an accurate record of the results and interpretations of that analysis or examination.

[redacted]
Emily Vocu
Forensic Scientist

ABBREVIATION/DEFINITION KEY:
AFIS: Automated Fingerprint Identification System; generic term; applies to VA-AFIS and NGI at DFS.
DOB: Date of Birth
CCRE: Central Criminal Records Exchange
FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Database: Next Generation Identification (NGI) database
SID: State Identification Number
State Database: VA-AFIS database
Identification: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines there is sufficient observed data in agreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints originated from the same source.
Exclusion: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines that there is sufficient observed data in disagreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints did not originate from the same source.
Inconclusive: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines there is insufficient observed data in agreement or disagreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints did or did not originate from the same source. The insufficient observed data could be the result of absent or unreliable areas of the friction ridge print, the exemplars or both.

EV

CAC 06-10-2025

ENCLOSURE J
6 of 10
001615_COPELAND

Rev. 7/05

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Eastern Laboratory
830 Southampton Avenue
Suite 400
Norfolk, VA 23510

Tel. No.: (757) 683-8327
Fax: (757) 683-8830

July 14, 2025

TO: FERNANDA LAMEIRA, M.D.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE
SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VA 23510-1046

FS Lab # T25-3510

Your Case #: T2025-00840

Victim(s): [redacted]
Alias: BTB [redacted]

Suspect(s): - - -

Evidence Submitted By: Leena Sloulin

Date Received: 06/11/2025

Item TX1	One container of liver
Item TX2	One container of muscle
Item TX3	One container of spleen

RECEIVED
JUL 22 2025
[redacted]
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

Item TX1 Liver:
Ethanol 0.083 ± 0.004 % by weight by weight
Method: Alcohols by Headspace Gas Chromatography

No other drugs and/or drug classes were detected.

Item TX1 was screened for the following drugs, drug classes, and/or substances:
Ethanol, methanol, acetone, isopropanol, cocaine/benzoylecgonine, opiates, oxycodone/oxymorphone, methamphetamine/methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), phencyclidine, fentanyl, methadone, benzodiazepines.

Item TX2 Muscle:
Not Analyzed

Item TX3 Spleen:
Not Analyzed

Date(s) of Testing: 06/24/2025 - 07/11/2025

Supporting examination documentation is maintained in the case file. The above-listed methods are those approved for use at the time of analysis. Current methods can be found in the Toxicology Procedures Manual which can be found at www.dfs.virginia.gov/documentation-publications/manuals/. Measurement uncertainty is reported at a 95.45% level of confidence for all toxicological analyses except blood alcohol which is reported at a 99.73% level of confidence.

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
FS Lab # T25-3510
Your Case # T2025-00840
July 14, 2025

The evidence is being returned to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Attest:

I certify that I performed the above analysis or examination as an employee of the Department of Forensic Science and that the above is an accurate record of the results and interpretations of that analysis or examination.

[redacted]

Erica Sales
Forensic Scientist

ES
[redacted]
7.16.25

Decedent is
NON-RESIDENT
of City/ County of Death

Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Health
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
TIDEWATER DISTRICT
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510

Case Number:
T2025-00840

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Decedent [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
First Name | Middle Name | Last Name | Suffix Sr, Jr, III, etc

SSN [redacted] PII

Home Address [redacted] PII
Number and Street | City, State, Zip

Age 21 Yrs **DOB** [redacted] **Sex** FEMALE **Last Known Occupation** U.S. NAVY CS

Race WHITE **Hispanic?** YES **Marital Status** NEVER MARRIED

MEDICAL EXAMINER AUTHORITY VIOLENT OR UNNATURAL

Police Notified YES Investigator J. GOKEY Phone (757) 664-7000

Jurisdiction NAVAL CRIMINAL INV SERVICE

	DATE (MM/DD/YY)	TIME (24h)	LOCATION	CITY/ COUNTY	BY WHOM
LAST KNOWN ALIVE	5/29/2025	UNKNOWN			
EVENT/ INJURY ACUTE ILLNESS					
FOUND					
DEATH/ PRONOUNCED	6/9/2025	UNKNOWN	2800 BLOCK OF CARY AVENUE	NORFOLK, VA	UNKNOWN
EXAMINATION OF BODY	6/10/2025	0830	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER DISTRICT	NORFOLK , VA	LAMEIRA, FERNANDA

Cause of Death:
UNDETERMINED

Manner of Death: **UNDETERMINED**

Autopsy (Y/N): Y
Authorized by MEDICAL EXAMINER
Pathologist LAMEIRA, FERNANDA
Autopsy No T0246-25
Location TIDEWATER OCME

This case was reviewed by:

26-Aug-2025 1203 — Date/Time
FERNANDA LAMEIRA — Name of Assistant Chief Medical Examiner
[redacted] — Signature of Assistant Chief Medical Examiner

21-Aug-2025 1801 — Date/Time
CARNEY, SARAH — Name of Reviewing Medicolegal Death Investigator

ENCLOSURE J
9 of 10
001618 COPELAND
CME1_1E/ REV 10/09

EXHIBIT 246

MEDICAL HISTORY

☑none known ☐alcoholism ☐cirrhosis ☐hepatitis ☐drug abuse ☐asthma ☐bronchitis ☐emphysema

☐seizure disorder (cause) _____ ☐cancer _____ ☐diabetes ☐hypertension ☐atherosclerosis

☐stroke ☐psychiatric diagnosis (specify) _____ ☐depression ☐dementia (specify) _____

☐recent trauma (specify) _____ ☐hip fracture

☐acute infections (specify) _____ ☐HIV/AIDS ☐COPD ☐obesity ☐tobacco

☐other (specify):

Treating MD _____ **Phone#** _____

Hospitalizations (when/where)

Medications None reported

Tox requested: YES

Summary of Circumstances:

Angelina Resendiz was a 21-year-old woman, missing since May 29, who was found inside a suitcase in a wooded area on June 9. At autopsy, her body was partially skeletonized and relatively complete. No acute trauma was noted. Postmortem toxicology was only positive for ethanol. Ethanol may be postmortem, antemortem, or both. If antemortem, the low level would not explain the death. The degree of decomposition precluded a comprehensive assessment of soft tissue injuries or natural disease. Still, there was no indication that natural disease or drugs played a role in the death of this young woman. Suffocation cannot be ruled out at the autopsy. A definitive cause of death was not determined at autopsy.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 10SEP25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INDEPENDENT AUTOPSY PERFORMED

1. On 10SEP25, Reporting Agent (RA) received the results of the independent autopsy performed on CSSN [redacted] ([redacted]), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), which was provided by Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV; Enclosure (A) pertains.

2. Along with the autopsy report, RA received a voice to text document; Enclosure (B) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) AUTOPSY REPORT/10SEP25
(B) VOICE TO TEXT DOCUMENT/10SEP25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

PAGE 1 LAST EU V2 LNN

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EPIARX | Autopsy Services

The EPIARX Laboratory
4000 Albemarle Street NW
Suite 208
Washington DC, 20016

The Histopathology Laboratory
Institutions 600 N. Wolfe Street
Building 700
Baltimore, MD 21287

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

CASE NO. ED25-1195

Autopsy X

JURISDICTION: Routine adult clinical autopsy

NAME OF DECEASED: [redacted]

RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, VA 23505

AGE: 21 SEX: Female

DATE OF Birth: [redacted]

DATE OF Death: 6/09/2025 TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS OF INCIDENT: Wooded area at/near residence

PRONOUNCED DEAD: Unknown TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS/INSTITUTION: Sunset Funeral Home
657 Springmart Boulevard
Brownsville, TX 78526

DATE OF AUTOPSY: 6/28/2025 TIME: 0900 CDT

PERFORMED BY:
Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD.
Board Certified Pathologist

Significant condition(s):
(a) Habit-forming substances detected in bodily fluids

- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☒ Could Not Be Determined

An autopsy was performed on the body of [redacted] on the 28th day of June, 2025.

CONSENT FOR AUTOPSY

Consented and reviewed by Dr. Nemanja RODIC. Consenter was, Esmeralda CASTLE. The relationship of the individual, providing consent for autopsy, to the decedent is mother. Type of autopsy was complete, including brain.

PRIOR POSTMORTEM PROCEDURES

Following macroscopic examination there was **NO EVIDENCE** of organ donation. Following macroscopic examination there was **EVIDENCE** of prior autopsy.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body was that of a well-developed & well-nourished female. The body weighed about 120 pounds, was 4 feet 5 inches in height, and appeared compatible with the reported age of 21 years [calculated body mass index 20.6(1)]. There were no personal effects identified. The body was cold. The body was in state of late decomposition marked by skin discoloration, desquamation, and skeletonization. Rigor and lividity designation deferred. The scalp hair was black. The eye examination deferred. The nose examination deferred. The lips examination deferred. Some upper and lower teeth were present with good dental hygiene. Dentures were not present. The skin was free of any significant abrasions, bruises, lacerations, lymphadenopathy, or burns. Examination of the neck revealed no evidence of injury. No injury of the ribs or sternum was evident externally; negative for deformity and increased anterior-posterior diameter. The abdomen was grossly unremarkable. The extremities were grossly unremarkable. Leg circumference 10 cm from

medial malleolus were, 20 cm on the right, and 20 cm on the left. Negative for pitting edema. The fingernails examination deferred. Negative for palpable lymph nodes. Negative for joint deformity, abnormal mobility, and non-therapeutic punctures or needles track marks. The external genitalia were those of a normal adult female. The posterior torso was without note; negative for sacral decubitus ulcer. Negative for tenting of skin. Negative for sunken eyes.

EVIDENCE OF THERAPY:

ID band with decedent name and case number (T-246-25 T2025-00840) were identified on patient body bag and bilateral lower extremities. Negative for nasogastric tube, central venous line, intravenous line, PEG tube, endotracheal tube, and Foley catheter.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES:

The body was re-opened by the usual Y-shaped thoraco-abdominal incision and the chest plate was removed. No adhesions nor abnormal collections of fluid were present in any of the body cavities. The subcutaneous fat layer of the abdominal wall was less than 1" thick. There were no abnormalities of the omentum and mesenteries. There was no internal evidence of blunt force or penetrating injury to the thoraco-abdominal region.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

The head was normocephalic. External examination revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for dry surface of the galea. The dura showed no lesions. The leptomeninges showed no lesions. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical and showed no lesions. The brain base showed no

lesions. The cerebellum showed no lesions. The brainstem showed no lesions. The superior spinal cord showed no lesions. The eyes were not submitted for microscopic examination.

NECK:

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland and large vessels revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for trauma of the gingiva, lips, or oral mucosa.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The epicardial fat was mild. The coronary ostia were normally positioned. The foramen ovale was closed. The coronary arteries arose normally, followed the usual distribution and were free of grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis of the right coronary artery, left common/main coronary artery, left anterior descending artery, and circumflex artery. The chambers, valves, leaflets, and chordae tendinae exhibited the usual size-position relationship and were unremarkable. The myocardium was red-brown, firm and unremarkable; the atrial and ventricular septa were intact; negative for infarcts/lesions of the myocardium. The endocardium was smooth and thin; negative endocardial hemorrhages and endocardial discoloration. The aorta was fairly elastic and of even caliber throughout with its major branches distributed normally, followed the usual course and were widely patent. Negative for significant abdominal/thoracic aorta atherosclerosis. Negative for tortuosity or widening of the thoracic segment. Negative for dilation of the lower abdominal segment. Negative for aortic aneurysm. The venae cavae and their major tributaries returned to the heart in the usual distribution and were free of thrombi. No focal endocardial, valvular, and myocardial lesions were seen.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

Scant secretions were found in the lower bronchial and upper respiratory passages. The mucosa has pink-tan postmortem discoloration. The upper airway was clear of debris and foreign material; the mucosal surfaces were smooth,

yellow-tan and unremarkable. The pleural surfaces were smooth, glistening, well-expanded, and unremarkable bilaterally. Lungs were atelectatic and subcrepitant. The pulmonary parenchyma was red-purple in color, congested, and edematous. There was dependent congestion and postmortem softening. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions/scarring. The pulmonary arteries were normally developed The bronchi were patent with no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The lungs were cut fresh.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The hepatic capsule was smooth, glistening and intact, covering dark red-brown parenchyma with minimal congestion. Serial sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The extrahepatic biliary tree was patent, without evidence of calculi. The gallbladder was present and showed thin wall, velvety mucosa, and no calculi. The portal vein, hepatic arteries, and hepatic veins were patent.

ALIMENTARY TRACT:

The mucosa was pink-tan with normal mucosal folds. No tablets or capsules could be discerned in the stomach or the stomach contents. No residual medications were identified. The external and *in situ* appearance of the small intestine and colon were grossly and palpably unremarkable. The small intestine and colon were opened along the anti-mesenteric border to reveal soft liquid fecal material in the small bowel and soft semi-formed, thick green stool in the colon. The small bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The vermiform appendix was grossly and palpably unremarkable. The large bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan peri-circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The distal large bowel contents were stool. The superior mesenteric artery was free of grossly identifiable and palpable atherosclerosis. The pancreas occupied a normal position, had a

normal pink-tan lobulated parenchyma, and the ducts were patent, not ectatic. No parenchymal calcifications; negative for necrosis or trauma.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The red-brown surface of renal capsules were rough and uneven to touch. The ureters were patent. The renal arteries showed no grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis. The cortices were sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which were red-purple to tan and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves and ureters were unremarkable. The urinary bladder contained minimal urine; the mucosa was gray-tan and grossly unremarkable.

LYMPHORETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM:

The spleen had a smooth, intact capsule covering red-purple, moderately firm parenchyma; the lymphoid follicles were unremarkable. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The regional lymph nodes appeared normal. The bone marrow was dark red. The lymph nodes were not enlarged. The thymus was not identified.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid was symmetrical in appearance and sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The breast tissue was sectioned in the usual manner and contained small amount of white fibrous tissue; negative for significant abnormality.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The diaphragm was intact. Skeletal muscles were red-brown and firm. The calvarium was intact. The vertebral columns showed normal curvature. The ribs were negative for fractures. The vertebral bodies were negative for fractures. No bone or joint abnormalities were noted.

AUTOPSY PROCEDURES AND ANCILLARY TESTING

The approach to autopsy dissection was M. Letulle's Technique (*en bloc* from tongue to rectum). There were not special dissections performed. Tissue retained in stock jars until signout. Additional samples taken as follows, homogenized viscera. Ancillary testing, toxicology.

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3):

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3)

Trimmed from larger formalin-fixed blocks:

A. Head cutis ventral, multiple fragments;

B. Head cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;

C. Neck cutis ventral, multiple fragments;

D. Neck cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;

E. Thorax cutis ventral, multiple fragments;

F. Thorax cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;

G. Right upper extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;

H. Right upper extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;

I. Left upper extremity ventral, multiple fragments;

J. Left upper extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;

K. Right lower extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;

L. Right lower extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;

M. Left lower extremity ventral, multiple fragments;

N. Left lower extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;

O. Central nervous system, multiple fragments;

P. Viscera, multiple fragments; and

Q. Additional viscera, multiple fragments.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: Sections showed cardiac parenchyma and stroma free of significant interstitial-type fibrosis and nuclear & cytoplasmic hypertrophy, acute & chronic inflammation, hemorrhage, and necrosis. Sections of coronary arteries were free of significant cholesterol clefts and dystrophic calcifications within narrowed vascular walls. Sections of aorta were free of significant cholesterol clefts deposits. Negative for malignant cells.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: Bilateral sections of pulmonary parenchyma and stroma notable were free of significant congestion, variably sized & increased alveolar spaces, acute inflammation, chronic inflammation, fibrosis, hemorrhage, and hemosiderin-laden macrophages. Polarization and refraction failed to reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Sections of hilar lymph nodes showed benign primary follicles. Sections of larynx were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM: Sections showed hepatic parenchyma and stroma free of significant acute & chronic inflammation, macrosteatosis, glycogenated nuclei, and fibrosis. Negative for malignant cells.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: Sections showed bilateral renal parenchyma and stroma notable for medial hypertrophy of medium sized vessels and interstitial/subcapsular lymphocytic inflammation, but free of significant basement membrane thickening, hyaline change, thyroidization, and interstitial fibrosis. Section of urinary bladder were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Sections of genitourinary tract were histologically unremarkable. Polarization and refraction failed to

reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Negative for malignant cells.

ALIMENTARY TRACT: Sections showed histologically unremarkable pancreatobilliary and tubular gastrointestinal tract. Negative for malignant cells.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma, free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for malignant cells.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for adrenal hemorrhage. Negative for malignant cells.

MEDICAL RECORDS REVIEW

Accompanying medical information collected from pre-autopsy verbal report by _Esmeralda CASTLE, the mother of the decedent, was notable for following medical findings:

Past Medical History: negative for suicidal attempts; equivocal for prior past suicidal ideation (10/2024);

Surgical Procedures: none;

Medical Laboratory: antemortem COVID-19 negative test.

Additional Notes: Clinical symptoms/signs, not in acute distress (5/28/2025-5/29/2025), asymptomatic (interim). The decedent did not receive blood transfusions or lived in Europe prior to death. The decedent was vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to death. The decedent had been consuming alcoholic beverages (wine and liquor)/tobacco (vaped) prior to death. The decedent had not been consuming illegal habit-forming drugs prior to death. The decedent did not have history of cancer prior to death. External and macroscopic images taken for posterity. Examination limited by autolysis and tissue preservation. Preliminary diagnosis called to and confirmed by Esmeralda CASTLE on 7/3/2025 at 1615. See accompanying Axis 3327991 report. Final diagnosis called to and confirmed by family friend on 8/1/2025 at 1615.

OPINION:

Based collectively on my autopsy findings herein as well as my review of the accompanying submitted medical information, in the case of this 21-year-old female, [redacted], the manner of death is deferred (1,4-6,&9). I reserve the right to amend my opinion(s) upon the receipt of additional material (7).

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D.
Board-certified Pathologist

Date signed: 8/1/2025

References:

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Occasional errors in punctuation, grammar, and content occur.

Comment: "The following statement applies to tests, i.e. to dye(s), chemical solution stains, and Class I IHC reagents and kits. Dye(s), chemical solution stains are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations as "mixtures of synthetic or natural dyes or nondye chemicals in solutions used in staining cells and tissues for diagnostic histopathology, cytopathology, or hematology" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1850). This definition encompasses many of the common materials found in a conventional histopathology laboratory, such as routine hematoxylin and eosin stains, as well as special stains like trichrome, iron, and Grocott-Gömöri's methenamine silver, among others, and are considered Class I devices subject to general controls. Class I IHC reagents and kits are defined as those that "provide the pathologist with adjunctive diagnostic information that may be incorporated into the pathologist's report, but that is not ordinarily reported to the clinician as an independent finding," noting that "these IHC's are used after the primary diagnosis of tumor (neoplasm) has been made by conventional histopathology using nonimmunologic histochemical stains, such as hematoxylin and eosin" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). The 1998 final rule further describes these as "adjunctive tests [to conventional histopathologic diagnostic examination] and presenting a low risk to public health."37 An example of a Class I IHC specifically mentioned in the IHC reagents and kit regulation is keratin (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). Many other Class I IHC reagents and kits can be found by searching for the "NJT" product code on the FDA establishment registration and device listing database.47 These IVDs are exempt from premarket notification/510(k) submission, although they are still subject to FDA general controls and QS/CGMP requirements. Most IHC stains used by anatomic pathologists are considered diagnostic markers and therefore are categorized as Class I by the FDA. The tests herein have not been cleared or approved for the specific use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA does not require this test to go through premarket FDA review. These tests are used for clinical purposes. It should not be regarded as investigational or for research. This laboratory is certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments 1988 (CLIA) as qualified to perform high complexity clinical laboratory testing. All stains and tests are performed with general controls, i.e. positive and negative control reactions as necessary, and all controls show appropriate reactivity. However, stains and tests have not been validated on decalcified tissues. Results should be interpreted with caution given the likelihood of false negativity on decalcified specimens. Certain tests utilize Class I Analyte-Specific Reagents (ASR); these tests are developed, and their performance characteristics determined by this laboratory. ASRs used in this laboratory have been established and verified for accuracy and precision.(8)"

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AXIS
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Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Case Number: 3327991	**Subject's Name:** [redacted]
Client Account: 21028 / ED21028	**Agency Case #:** ED25-1195_APR
Report To: Epiarx Diagnostics ATTN: Epiarx Diagnostics 700 12th Street N.W. Suite 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20005	**Date of Death:** 07/08/2025 **Investigator:** NEMANJA RODIC MD PHD **Date Received:** 07/03/2025 **Date Reported:** 07/25/2025

Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Date Collected:** 06/25/2025 09:00
Container(s): 01:T Tissue,UNSPECIFIED **Test(s):** 70510T Comprehensive Drug Panel, Tissue

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
VOLATILES	POSITIVE					
Methanol	POSITIVE	0.586	0.02		mg/g	
Ethanol	POSITIVE	0.280	0.02		mg/g	
Acetone	Negative					
Isopropanol	Negative					
AMPHETAMINES	Negative					
ANALGESICS	Negative					
ANESTHETICS	Negative					
ANTICHOLINERGICS	Negative					
ANTICONVULSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDEPRESSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDIABETICS	Negative					
ANTIFUNGALS	Negative					
ANTIHISTAMINES	Negative					
ANTIPSYCHOTICS	Negative					
BARBITURATES	Negative					
BENZODIAZEPINES	Negative					
CANNABINOIDS	Negative					
CARDIOVASCULARS	Negative					
GASTROINTESTINALS	Negative					
HALLUCINOGENS	Negative					

ENCLOSURE K
16 of 19
APPELLATE EXHIBIT XXXI
47 of 50

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Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
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Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Continued..**

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
MISCELLANEOUS	Negative					
MUSCLE RELAXANTS	Negative					
OPIOID ANALGESICS	Negative					
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS	Negative					
STIMULANTS	Negative					
UROLOGICALS	Negative					

Specimens will be kept for at least one year from the date of initial report.

The Specimen identified by the Laboratory Specimen Number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Laboratory Director

Laureen J. Marinetti, PhD, F-ABFT

[redacted]

Laboratory Case #:3327991

Print Date/Time:07/25/2025, 15:01

Case Reviewer

AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Stuart Kurtz, M.S., D-ABFT -FT
This individual may not have performed any of the analytical work.

Unless otherwise noted, testing performed at 5780 W 71st Street, Indianapolis, IN 46278.

But again Please remember that what I like to do in order for the due diligence we observe is that after the military final autopsy document becomes available ask miss missus cancelled to submit it to our secure Dropbox shared folder and then send us an e-mail at sometime in the two-minute whenever the report is available maybe like 10 weeks from now or 16 weeks from now whenever OK and then I will review that and then either then or correct the report as needed OK so the so microscopic examination of multiple sections on this case showed no evidence of any blunt force trauma so that's something I think was important to rule in or out the toxicology studies were pertinently positive and there was a significant level of ethanol or alcohol there was detected and I think that is a significant finding now this upon microscopic examination on the organ systems there's no other changes either on microscope events or inflammation infection or cancer of any kind so I think the major other cause of that has been have been formally ruled out so this substance is detected in the bodily fluid I think is significant in the quantity and quality of it and I think that's something that informs the cause of death in this case um so in other words you know from our end we don't see any evidence of foul play as far as UM trauma to the remains and I think this is again let me just I'm careful what kind of language I'm using here I think this is suggestive of an accidental ingestion OK now um again what I'd like to do in order for all of the due diligence be observed is that once the the military is available I will review that material and then appropriately if I identify any additional diagnostic features that can help better classify the findings will attend the mandatory OK do you do you have any questions for me from your end yes so a couple questions um does the the findings or are there any other pending tests that that need to be deducted or awaiting results that will impact your final report the due diligence worked that I wanted to perform from our end is available is completed and but when and if the final autopsy documents from the first examination becomes available I'll be very happy to review that and again because you may be sometime in the future like a month two months maybe even six months depending on how complex this is on there and um whatever that is I just asked you and the family yeah we we did I I wanted to check we did open the Dropbox folder OK their e-mail maybe I should actually add you let me just add you on on that e-mail as well because you are you know the point of contact here and and then once you do that because it may be again sometime in the future just please drop me an e-mail OK and say something like hey doctor Aldrich dismiss cancel or miss poor yeah you're missus amber esmeralda I'm ibra so esmeralda is is miss castle and then my name is Debra I'm her colleague from law school yes her friend got it OK so let me see here then please just send me an e-mail that way I can see that it's in the archive that's the only problem with the Dropbox automatically not familiar it's there and then within about a week or two I will schedule us for follow up or attended or amend their correct report as needed OK the second question that I had was are any of the tests are able to indicate or any of the

anything that you were able to see and able to show whether there was any strangulation or any type of of anything of that nature I took very meticulous examination both externally of the remains and systematic microscopic examination to rule out even some small or difficult to detect ecchymosis or petechiae or other force or signs of one force trauma and I look very carefully there there's none so I and considered it formally ruled that out OK so sometimes by external examination you cannot see the you know the evidence of trauma but but this way that I performed it there's just simply no way of missing it because I'm looking at singular cells at that level right and if there's any kind of level of of change in I'm I'm I'm able to see it now there is that there has been formally considered and ruled out so I will add you to the to do a Dropbox share folder and let's then be communication whenever the report becomes available OK and once that report comes out we'll as well as I'll call her as me I'm sorry we'll miss castle get a copy of of your findings or will or will she get a copy of this additional report after I just feel like she's going to ask him no I'm gonna explain this to thank you so we're going to release our report automatically this is our standard operating procedure we're gonna release our reported automatically to to to her to Monday morning OK and then electronically and then they will mail her a hard copy those are typically dashed that same went Friday OK perfect and then once we reviewed the additional material we will follow the same sequence OK we'll release the report basically as if it's a new report one thing we have you know that's confirmed so that's fine but to confirm the address should we mail her report to [redacted] yes that's it OK wonderful thank you so much and lesbian communication then the first report OK thank you so much thank you bye bye

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **USN**	**DEFENSE MOTION TO SUPPRESS** **(3 and 6 June 2025 Statements)** **26 November 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 831(b), Rules for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 903(b)(3), and Military Rules of Evidence (M.R.E.) 304 and 305, the Defense moves this Court to suppress CSSN Copeland's statements made during his 3 June 2025 and 6 June 2025 NCIS interviews.

BURDEN

Upon motion by the Defense to suppress statements of the Accused under Mil. R. Evid. 304, the prosecution has the burden of establishing the admissibility of the statement. Mil. R. Evid. 304(f)(6). The military judge must find by a preponderance of the evidence that the Accused's statement was made voluntarily before the statement may be admitted into evidence. Mil. R. Evid. 304(f)(7).

FACTS

1. CSSN Copeland is charged, *inter alia*, with committing premeditated murder of CS3 A.R., in violation of Article 118, UCMJ. (Charge Sheet).

3 June Interview

2. On 3 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was interrogated by NCIS agents about the unauthorized absence and disappearance of CS3 A.R. (Enclosure A).

3. As soon as the recording of his interview starts, CSSN Copeland is seen with his head down on the desk resting it in his hands. (Enclosure B to Defense Mot. to Suppress Phone; timestamp 00:00:00).

4. In total, the duration of his time in the interview room was approximately 3 hours and 17 min, starting at 2113 EST and ending at 0030 EST. (Enclosure D to Defense Mot. to Suppress Phone).

5. After collecting biographical information but before reading CSSN Copeland his rights, NCIS provided CSSN Copeland his Article 31(b) rights, notifying him that he is suspected of committing only unauthorized absence and false official statement, in violation of Articles 86 and 107, UCMJ. There was no mention of Article 118, murder, or any offense that includes harm to CS3 A.R. (Enclosures B, E to Defense Mot. to Suppress Phone).

6. During the interrogation, one of the NCIS Agents stated NCIS' main purpose for interviewing CSSN Copeland stating, "Being UA is not a crime that NCIS investigates . . . we're really worried about [CS3 A.R.], which is why we want to talk to you." The agent proceeded to ask about CS3 A.R.'s mental state when he was last with her and where to find her. (Enclosure B to Defense Mot. to Suppress Phone; timestamp 01:12:00).

7. Earlier in the interview, NCIS informed CSSN Copeland that NCIS had been executing a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) of CSSN Copeland's barracks room that day, 3 June 2025, because it was CS3 A.R.'s last known location. (Enclosure B to Defense Mot. to Suppress Phone).

8. During the search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room on 3 June 2025, NCIS discovered what they identified as blood in CSSN Copeland's closet and on his bathroom sink. (Enclosure G to Defense Mot. to Suppress Search of Room).

9. Although it could easily be seen, CSSN Copeland expressed to agents several times throughout the entire interview that he was tired and wanted to go home. (Enclosure B to Defense Mot. to Suppress Phone).

6 June Interview

10. On 6 June 2025, NCIS brought CSSN Copeland back to their offices to take a polygraph examination and conduct another interview regarding CS3 A.R.'s disappearance. (Enclosures B, C; timestamp 05:30).

11. In trying to convince CSSN Copeland to take a polygraph examination, the NCIS agents stated, "If this goes well and they say, 'Hey, like we don't have to worry about him anymore. He's not on our, you know, interesting list of people anymore, not the most interesting man in the world.' Like, we can sort of put you on the back burner. That invasiveness will likely decrease a significant amount." (Enclosure D).

12. CSSN Copeland declined the polygraph examination and stated that he has not even had time to sleep; expressing concerns with his mental health "going downhill". In response to this, the NCIS agents proceeded with trying to convince CSSN Copeland to at least proceed with a second interrogation. (Enclosure D; pgs 7-11).

13. NCIS did not even mention the Article 31(b) Rights Advisement form until approximately 10 minutes into them speaking with CSSN Copeland. NCIS did not start going over the form with him until approximately 14 minutes into the interview. (Enclosure C).

14. Before NCIS went through his Article 31(b) rights, CSSN Copeland cut through their conversation and asked about the Article 31(b) rights form that was referenced earlier in the conversation but never gotten to. (Enclosure C).

15. The Article 31(b) rights form shows that NCIS notified CSSN Copeland that he is suspected of "making a false official statement and *knowledge* of the possible death of CSSN [A.R.]." Once again, there was no mention of Article 118, murder, or any offense that involved him harming CS3 A.R. (Enclosure E).

16. NCIS told CSSN Copeland that he was not specifically suspected of killing CS3 A.R.'s at minute 15:30 of the interview. (Enclosure C).

17. However, after reading CSSN Copeland his rights, the agents stated that people fear CS3 A.R. may be dead and directly asked CSSN Copeland, "Did you do that?" (Enclosure C; timestamp 19:00).

18. The agent even said at one point in the interview that all fingers seems to point to CSSN Copeland solely because he was the last person to see CS3 A.R. alive. (Enclosure C; timestamp 30:00).

19. Additionally, the interview summary the agents drafted states that CSSN Copeland is a "person of interest in the disappearance and death of [CS3 A.R.]." (Enclosure B).

20. Throughout the interview and before CSSN Copeland answered either of the NCIS agents' questions about CS3 A.R.'s disappearance or his prior statements, CSSN Copeland made it clear to the agents that he was extremely tired, was going through a lot of stressful personal situations, and thought it would be better to speak with them at a later date. (Enclosure C).

21. Between 4-5 June 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo, Chief, Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) were provided updates by NCIS. (Enclosure F).

LAW

Article 31 prohibits a person subject to the U.C.M.J. from interrogating or eliciting a statement from a servicemember accused or suspected of an offense without first (1) informing them of the nature of the accusation, (2) advising them that they have the right to remain silent, and (3) advising them that anything they say may be used against them later at court-martial. 10 U.S.C. §31(b). These rights warnings are required when (1) a person subject to the U.C.M.J. (2) interrogates or requests any statement (3) from an accused or person suspected of an offense, and (4) the statements pertain to the offense of which the person is suspected or accused. *United States v. Jones*, 73 M.J. 357, 361 (C.A.A.F. 2014). "No statement obtained from any person in violation of this Article […] may be received in evidence against him in a trial by court-martial." 10 U.S.C. § 831(d). Military Rules of Evidence 304 and 305 implement the Code's prescription.

a. Rights advisements pursuant to Article 31(b) must be provided by any person subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

For the purposes of Article 31 and Mil. R. Evid. 305, a "person subject to the code" means a "person subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice" and "includes […] a knowing agent of any such person or military unit." Mil. R. Evid. 305; see also 10 U.S.C. §31(b).

b. Military questioners must warn a servicemember who is suspected of or accused of an offense when the questioner is participating in an official law enforcement or disciplinary investigation or inquiry.

Military questioners are required to warn servicemembers under Article 31(b) if the servicemember is suspected of an offense and "the person conducting the questioning is participating in an official law enforcement or disciplinary investigation or inquiry." *Jones*, 73 M.J. at 361 (internal quotation marks omitted)(citations omitted). Whether a person is suspected of an offense is a question that "is answered by considering all the facts and circumstances at the time of the interview to determine whether the military questioner believed or reasonably should have believed that the servicemember questioned committed an offense." *United States v. Good*, 32 M.J. 105, 108 (C.A.A.F. 1991)(citations omitted).

Courts must consider "all the facts and circumstances at the time of the interview to determine whether the military questioner was acting or could reasonably be considered to be acting in an official law-enforcement or disciplinary capacity." *Id.* Where there is a mixed purpose for questioning "the matter must be resolved on a case- by-case basis, looking at the totality of the circumstances, including whether the questioning was designed to evade the accused's constitutional or codal rights." *United States v. Cohen*, 63 M.J. 45, 50 (C.A.A.F. 2006).

The purpose of the requirement to inform the accused of the nature of the accusation is to orient an accused as to allow him to intelligently weigh the consequences of responding to an investigator's questions. It is not necessary to spell out the details of the alleged misconduct, it suffices if the accused is made aware of the general nature of the allegations involved. *United States v. Reynolds*, 37 C.M.R. 23, 25 (C.M.A. 1966) (citations omitted).

c. A statement obtained in violation of Article 31 is involuntary and inadmissible against an Accused at court-martial pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 304 and 305.

Under Mil. R. Evid. 305, a "statement obtained from the accused in violation of an accused's rights under Article 31 is involuntary and is therefore inadmissible against the accused," subject to a handful of exceptions. Mil. R. Evid. 305(c)(1). The Government bears the burden to establish compliance with the rights warning requirements by a preponderance of the evidence. Mil. R. Evid. 304(e); *see also United States v. Simpson*, 54 M.J. 281, 283 (C.A.A.F. 2000).

Under M.R.E. 305(b)(2), an interrogation includes "any formal or informal questioning in which an incriminating response either is sought or is a reasonable consequence of such

questioning." Not all questions from law enforcement are found to constitute an "interrogation" that requires law enforcement officials to provide rights warnings to the accused. *See Rhode Island v. Innis*, 446 U.S. 291, 301 (1980); *United States v. Byers*, 26 M.J. 132, 134 (C.M.A. 1988). In *United States v. Eneliko,* the court instructed lower courts to consider how comments made prior to right's advisement can impact an accused's decision to waive his or her rights. No. 202400058, 2025 CCA LEXIS 410 *7 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. Aug. 28, 2025).

The voluntariness inquiry "involves an assessment of the totality of all the surrounding circumstances—both the characteristics of the accused and the details of the interrogation." *United States v. Bubonics*, 45 M.J. 93, 95 (C.A.A.F. 1996) (quoting *Schneckeckloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 226 (1961). There is no "talismanic definition of voluntariness" which is "mechanically applicable" to all statements. *Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. at 224 (citing *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 604-5 (1961)) (internal quotation marks omitted). Generally, our courts test for voluntariness by asking "whether the confession is the product of an essentially free and unconstrained choice by its maker." *Bubonics*, 45 M.J. at 95. "If, instead, the maker's will was overborne and his capacity for self-determination was critically impaired, use of his confession would offend due process." *Id.* (citing *Culombe*, 367 U.S. at 602).

An analysis of voluntariness includes several factors including age and education of the accused, nature of the questioning, the lack of advice regarding constitutional rights;[1] the mental condition, including psychological abnormality, and intelligence of the accused;[2] the length of the interrogation preceding the statement;[3] threats or inducements;[4] whether the accused had any prior experience with law enforcement questioning;[5] and use of lies, threats, or promises.[6] Again, a finding of voluntariness does not turn "on the presence or absence of a single controlling criterion," but "on a careful scrutiny on the surrounding circumstances."[7]

Coercion does not require physical violence, and words alone may suffice to overcome an accused's free will. "[T]he blood of the accused is not the only hallmark of an unconstitutional inquisition." *Arizona v. Fulminante*, 499 U.S. 279, 287 (1991). Coercion "need not depend upon actual violence by a government agent." *Id*. For example, in *Garrity v. New Jersey*, the Supreme Court rejected the voluntariness of a confession where the defendants, city police officers, were questioned concerning their alleged "fixing" of traffic tickets and advised by the state police that if they refused to answer questions, their employment could be terminated." 385 U.S. 493 (1967). The Court in *Garrity* reflected that the "option to lose their means of livelihood or pay the penalty of self-incrimination is the antithesis of free choice to

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[1] *E.g.*, *Davis v. North Carolina*, 384 U.S. 737 (1966).
[2] *E.g.*, *Fikes v. Alabama*, 352 U.S. 191, 197 (1968) (noting uneducated prisoner was "certainly of low mentality, if not mentally ill").
[3] *E.g.*, *Watts v. Indiana*, 388 U.S. 279, 285-86 (1949) ("Protracted, systematic and uncontrolled subjection of an accused to interrogation by the police for the purpose of eliciting disclosures or confessions is subversive of the accusatorial system").
[4] *E.g.*, *Lynumn v. Illinois*, 372 U.S. 528, 534 (1963).
[5] *Id.*
[6] *E.g.*, *United States v. Cobb*, No. 201700356, 2019 CCA LEXIS 220, *9 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. May 20, 2019) (citing *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 453-54 (C.A.A.F. 2008).
[7] *Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. at 226 (internal citations omitted).

speak out or to remain silent." *Id.* at 497.

ARGUMENT

I. NCIS was required to read CSSN Copeland his Article 31(b) rights during both his 3 June 2025 and 6 June 2025 interviews.

The persons that were asking CSSN Copeland questions were NCIS agents; this includes both his 3 June 2025 and 6 June 2025 interviews. Furthermore, each interview was conducted within the NCIS office spaces. The law is well-settled that known law enforcement personnel are required to provide rights advisements to any servicemember they suspect of committing a crime. In this case, CSSN Copeland was a servicemember and before both interviews they suspected him of having something to do with CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, along with other criminal offenses. Thus, they were required to read him his rights for all offenses known and suspected.

II. All statements CSSN Copeland made to NCIS during his 3 June 2025 and 6 June 2025 interviews should be suppressed.

a. 3 June 2025 Interview

The 3 June 2025 interview statements should be suppressed. Despite the fact the NCIS agents read CSSN Copeland his Article 31(b) rights after going over his biographical information, they did not notify him of all charges they suspected him of committing. The agents only notified CSSN Copeland of committing UA and false official statements. CSSN Copeland was never read his rights for any act that involved harm to CS3 A.R., including murder. However, the NCIS agents thought this to be a probability. At one point, the agents even admitted that they do not investigate UA allegations and solely wanted to know about CS3 A.R.'s disappearance. The moment the agents brought CSSN Copeland into the interrogation room, they suspected him of having some involvement into her disappearance. At this point, CS3 A.R. was missing for approximately six days. With no one hearing from CS3 A.R., including her friends and family throughout that entire duration of time, any reasonable person would believe that she was more than likely dead or, at a minimum, severely harmed. Moreover, at this time the agents knew that CSSN Copeland was the last person to see her alive, had already started to execute a search of his barracks room pursuant to a CASS, and CSSN Copeland already made statements the agents believed were inconsistent with facts they knew to be true. The agents did not read him his rights for potentially harming CS3 A.R. because they did not want CSSN Copeland to know they suspected him of the crime and wanted him to provide them with information. Despite NCIS' goals in obtaining facts, that does not absolve them of ensuring CSSN Copeland's rights are upheld.

CSSN Copeland's statements were not voluntarily made. The Court must look at the totality of the circumstances surrounding the interrogation and how the statements were elicited. CSSN Copeland was interrogated in the dead of night for a duration of time that went past midnight. At the same time CSSN Copeland was extremely tired and wanted to leave and go home. Not only was this evident by the mere fact he immediately went to sleep before the

interrogation and during every break in between, but CSSN Copeland also expressed this several times to the agents during the interrogation. Additionally, this interrogation was right on the hills of NCIS conducting a search of his barracks room for evidence pursuant to a search authorization. All of this the agents knew and acknowledged. Based on the circumstances surrounding this interrogation, nothing about it signaled that CSSN Copeland's statements were made voluntarily.

b. 6 June 2025 Interview

The 6 June 2025 interrogation statements should also be suppressed. Once again, CSSN Copeland was not provided Article 31(b) rights for any offense that involved harming CS3 A.R., including murder. Unlike prior to the interview on 3 June 2025, by this interview, NCIS had already searched CSSN Copeland's barracks room and found blood in his closet and on his bathroom sink. The blood in his barracks room, coupled with a person that has disappeared for now nine days, would make any reasonable person suspect CSSN Copeland of committing some offense that involved harming CS3 A.R. The NCIS agents suspected this but chose not to notify CSSN Copeland of such. The agents even at one point in the interrogation directly asked CSSN Copeland whether he caused CS3 A.R.'s death. The agent suggested that people will generally point the finger at CSSN Copeland because he was the last one to see CS3 A.R. alive. It is clear from the conversation prior to the NCIS agents reading CSSN Copeland his Article 31(b) rights that they valued getting information from him more than ensuring his rights were not violated because they chose not to notify him for what they truly suspected—CSSN Copeland killing CS3 A.R. Moreover, NCIS noted in its report that they had already notified trial counsel within the Office of the Special Trial Counsel (OSTC). This begs the question: Why would NCIS feel the need to notify OSTC prior to this interview, if they did not suspect a violation of a covered offense?

There is evidence that shows CSSN Copeland's statements during the 6 June 2025 interrogation were not made voluntarily. Similar to his 3 June 2025 interrogation, before CSSN Copeland answered any questions from the NCIS agents, he made it clear to them that he was extremely tired, that his mental health had been rapidly deteriorating, and that he did not want to be in the room with them at the time answering questions. Despite all these factors, the agents pressed forward with asking CSSN Copeland questions and even made the suggestion that by not answering questions he would in some way not care about them finding CS3 A.R. Coercion does not require physical violence. This was the NCIS agents' way of coercing CSSN Copeland into answering their questions, even if he did not want to. Furthermore, prior to CSSN Copeland being read his Article 31(b) rights, the NCIS agents had already asked him several incriminating questions, already suspecting him of the crimes they were asking questions about. CSSN Copeland interrupted the agents and inquired about the Article 31(b) rights form the agents referenced to several minutes prior that they never got around to giving him. CSSN Copeland's statements should be suppressed because the agents suspected CSSN Copeland of crimes but asked him questions that elicited incriminating statements without first providing him his rights. Like in *Eneliko*, those comments and questions were highly impactful, even coercive, in CSSN Copeland's decision to proceed with answering the agents' questions.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Defense respectfully requests this Court to suppress CSSN Copeland's statements made during his 3 June 2025 and 6 June 2025 NCIS interviews.

EVIDENCE AND HEARING

In support of this motion, the defense offers the following enclosed exhibits.

- Enclosure (A): Interview Summary of CSSN Copeland from 3 Jun 25
- Enclosure (B): Interview Summary of CSSN Copeland from 6 Jun 25
- Enclosure (C): CD of CSSN Copeland's Recorded Interview of 6 Jun 25
- Enclosure (D): Transcript of CSSN Copeland's Recorded Interview of 6 Jun 25
- Enclosure (E): Article 31(b) Rights Advisement from 6 Jun 25 Interview
- Enclosure (F): NCIS ROI Excerpt about Investigation Updates/Notifications

The Defense requests oral argument on this issue.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served a true copy of the above on the Court and Government Counsel on 26 November 2025.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**ENCLOSURES TO DEFENSE MOTION TO SUPPRESS** **(3 and 6 June 2025 Statements)** **26 November 2025**

- Enclosure (A): Interview Summary of CSSN Copeland from 3 Jun 25
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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Bernadette DUFFY conducted an interview of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to the Unauthorized Absence of CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted], USN, DDG-95 and himself.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of his Article 31(b) Rights by use of Military Suspect's Acknowledgement and Waiver of Rights form for an alleged violation of Article 86 (Absence without Leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements). S/COPELAND, with full understanding of his rights, elected to waive his right to remain silent; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. S/COPELAND was asked to recall the events on the night of 28JUN25 and what transpired the following days. S/COPELAND stated he and V/[redacted] were talking about food and making tacos. S/COPELAND continued saying, V/[redacted] was going to come over to his barracks, located at Building X-2, Willis Manor, Room 335, to make salsa and eat dinner. S/COPELAND explained he went to the Food Lion and bought the ingredients to make tacos and then he went back to X-2. S/COPELAND stated he then went and picked V/[redacted] up from her barracks, Miller Hall, and brought her back to his room. COPELAND explained later he utilized his roommates vehicle, later identified as a belonging to AR John CALISSE, USN, VAW-124 and being a white Jeep Compass, to pick up V/[redacted] S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] was wearing a black shirt, black pants, slip on Uggs, a bracelet, and a hair clip. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] was also carrying her purple backpack. S/COPELAND stated he could not recall what time he picked V/[redacted] up but after returning to the room they began to make tacos.

5. S/COPELAND stated after eating, him and V/[redacted] started listening to music and started talking. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] began talking about HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, and how she saw him with another girl on his motorcycle and how it had really upset V/[redacted] S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] then text HT3 GILLESPIE "Fuck you" and then called an ex-boyfriend (NFI) from Texas. S/COPELAND explained he was sitting on the

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

couch, and she was sitting on floor talking to the ex-boyfriend. S/COPELAND continued explaining how when V[redacted] ended the phone call with the ex-boyfriend, she started to call other people (NFI) and talk about how "GILLESPIE's not shit."

6. S/COPELAND explained he did not know much about the relationship between HT3 GILLESPIE and V[redacted], but S/COPELAND did recall V/[redacted] was mad about the amount of money she would spend on HT3 GILLESPIE. S/COPELAND provided the example of HT3 GILLESPIE needed a lawyer and V[redacted] gave him $500.00 to hire one even though HT3 GILLESPIE could have received a public defender. S/COPELAND did not believe HT3 GILLESPIE and V[redacted] were in any physical altercations or abusive relationship. S/COPELAND stated V[redacted] went on a "rampage" and was becoming "agitated." S/COPELAND stated after completing the phone calls V[redacted] was becoming "emotional" and "crying."

7. S/COPELAND stated one of the roommates, "the Mexican" later identified as PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124), walked into the common area of the room and asked if V[redacted] was okay. S/COPELAND stated he told PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ, V/[redacted] was fine and PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ proceeded to his room. S/COPELAND stated the night ended and they both went to sleep together in S/COPELAND's bed. S/COPELAND stated they did not have sexual intercourse. After going to sleep, S/COPELAND was awoken by FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, knocking on the door of his bedroom. S/COPELAND said he could not remember what time it was but knew the sun was up. S/COPELAND stated FCC PARKER asked if the person in his bed was V/[redacted], which S/COPELAND replied it was V[redacted]. S/COPELAND explained FCC PARKER told him to get to work and asked if he had a ride, which S/COPELAND stated he told FCC PARKER one of his roommates could give him a ride to work. S/COPELAND admitted though he did not go to work due to "one of his roommates" not coming home. S/COPELAND further explained, him being UA was a big misunderstanding because he had the weekend off and he did not realize if you are marked UA for one day, you are marked UA for the days you remain away from work.

8. S/COPELAND stated he was marked UA Thursday, 29JUN25 until Sunday, 01MAY25 when base security located him within his barracks room. When asked his whereabouts for Friday and Saturday, S/COPELAND responded, he stayed in the barracks both days but would move from lounge to lounge. S/COPELAND stated he mostly hung out in the 5th floor lounge and Ms. Mary (NFI) could vouch for his whereabouts during the time frame.

9. RA asked S/COPELAND about the morning of 29JUN25 and what had transpired after FCC PARKER left the room. S/COPELAND recalled him and V[redacted] woke up and cleaned the kitchen and V/[redacted] left in an Uber, later clarified to be a Z-Trip.

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10. RA asked S/COPELAND if he would sign a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellphone, S/COPELAND agreed to signing a PASS and provided his passcode, [redacted] PII [redacted]. Prior to signing the PASS, S/COPELAND requested to call his mother, and would not sign the PASS; Enclosure (C) pertains. PA asked S/COPELAND if he would be fine with answering further questions and call his mother later, S/COPELAND agreed.

11. RA had previously informed S/COPELAND NCIS was conducting a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) in his barracks room and the common area and began to ask questions about S/COPELAND's barracks room and his electronics. S/COPELAND stated he had an iPhone15 in his room and a PlayStation 5 in the common room.

12. RA inquired about V/[redacted]'s electronics to include her iPhone. S/COPELAND stated the only electronic V/[redacted] had with her was her iPhone15. S/COPELAND confirmed the Apple iWatch was also his, which was located in his barracks room.

13. RA asked S/COPELAND if the statement he gave was true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, which S/COPELAND stated this statement was the correct statement. RA then confronted S/COPELAND on the discretions between his previous statement, given on 01JUN25 and the statement he gave during this interview.

14. RA asked S/COPELAND about him and V/[redacted] being naked on the floor by the couch, S/COPELAND denied being on the floor naked with V/[redacted]. S/COPELAND stated he and V/[redacted] fell asleep in his bed, clothed.

15. RA asked S/COPELAND about him changing his story about dropping V/[redacted] off at her barracks, to V/[redacted] leaving on her own after cleaning, to which S/COPELAND stated he did not remember saying he had previously dropped V/[redacted] off at her barracks. RA asked S/COPELAND about how he knew V/[redacted] was taking a Z-Trip from his barracks versus walking from his barracks, and S/COPELAND stated he just assumed V/[redacted] had taken a Z-Trip back to her barracks.

16. RA inquired about S/COPELAND telling FCC PARKER he would wait for his roommate to get home to take S/COPELAND to work. RA asked about S/COPELAND's roommate's work schedule and why he would tell FCC PARKER the roommate would take him to work knowing his roommate does not get home until approximately 1600-1700. S/COPELAND stated he would not ask anyone else to take him to work. S/COPELAND stated he did not know when his roommate would be home due to a squadron's working hours being different from the ships work schedule.

17. PA conducted another PASS for a backpack, barracks room, and

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electronics, S/COPELAND signed the PASS; Enclosure (D) pertains.

18. Shortly after singing the PASS, RA, PA, and S/COPELAND left NCIS and travelled to S/COPELAND's barracks room to execute the PASS in his presence.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25
(B) MILITARY RIGHTS/03JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION UNSIGNED/03JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION SIGNED/03MAY25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND

1. On 06Jun25, Reporting Investigator (RA) Tyler Mann and Participating Agent (PA) David JARRELL, conducted a second interview of S/COPELAND. As background, S/COPELAND was identified as a person of interest in the disappearance and possible death of V/[redacted] as he was the last person known to have seen her prior to her disappearance.

2. On 06Jun25 at 0850, subsequent to the execution of a Military Rights Waiver, appended as Enclosure (A), CCSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, was interviewed regarding his knowledge of the possible death of CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted]), USN, DDG 95, and previously providing false statements regarding the captioned investigation. Upon waiving his Military Rights, the interview commenced. Additionally, during the interview S/COPELAND provided a handwritten timeline of events from 28May25 through 02Jun25, detailing his whereabouts for that time frame, along with his interactions with V/[redacted], Enclosure (B) pertains.

3. On 28May25, S/COPELAND invited V/[redacted] to his barracks room to cook dinner. Most of the evening she was communicating on her phone back and forth with a person referred to as Gil (possibly referring to Gillespie), a former boyfriend, whom had given her a bike helmet that he was now asking to be returned. This started an argument between V[redacted] and Gil which made her appear upset according to S/COPELAND. S/COPELAND asked her what the matter was, she provided the story about how Gil was trying to get the helmet back for another girl possibly, and she did not want to give it back. This led to V[redacted] calling another ex-boyfriend, who resides in Texas, to vent to him. V/[redacted] made additional phone calls to other friends and family to talk. S/COPELAND was unaware of who all she spoke to that evening. After listening to her story, hanging out and listening to music; S/COPELAND stated he was tired and told V[redacted] he was going to sleep; no exact time was provided for this series of events. He proceeded to go to bed and then awoke the next morning to his Chief, FCC Brad PARKER (FCC PARKER), USN, DDG 95, knocking on his door and V/[redacted] in his bed with him. S/COPELAND had on shorts and noted V[redacted] was wearing her pants, but had removed her top to sleep, he further stated they did not engage in any form of sexual activity. Upon opening the door, S/COPELAND was informed he was UA (Unauthorized Absence) and needed to report to work as soon as possible. FCC PARKER then departed and S/COPELAND started cleaning up his room and getting ready to go to work while waiting on his roommate to return to give him a ride. At some point, S/COPELAND noticed V/[redacted] woke up and he informed her FCC PARKER had stopped by and he needed to go to work. She began helping

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him clean up the room and upon finishing, exited the barracks on her own sometime that morning, while S/COPELAND sat on the couch watching TV and eventually fell asleep.

4. As background, during S/COPELAND's initial interview he previously stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle to drive V/[redacted] to her barracks. When questioned regarding his previous statement of borrowing his roommate's vehicle to drive V/[redacted], he said he was mistaken before and he could not have done so as his other roommate who owned the Jeep was not home, nor was his vehicle. At this time, S/COPELAND uttered a statement in which he said, "I needed to get my story straight." S/COPELAND related he woke up at around dinner time on 29May25 and realized his roommate was not home and could not take him to work. S/COPELAND stated dinner time on the ship was between approximately 15:00 and 17:30, which he was using as his time of reference. He then called FCC PARKER and told him he would not be at work because he did not have a ride or vehicle available. In addition to FCC PARKER coming to the barracks room the next morning, S/COPELAND stated his roommate, YN3 Sean MONAGHAN (YN3 MONAGHAN), USN, Helicopter Marine Squadron 12 (HM-12), was present during the night when he and V[redacted] were sleeping.

5. S/COPELAND then stated he spent the remainder of the weekend in the barracks going between his room and one of the various lounges in the building. He did not like to remain in his room due to his roommate being unclean and emanating an unpleasant odor. S/COPELAND related the Barracks Manager, Ms. Mary (NFI) saw him in the lounge at various times over the course of the weekend, along with another white male (NFI), who was instructed along with S/COPELAND to stay in the lounge by a crew in the building cleaning or polishing the floors. The white male, who S/COPELAND could not further identify, attempted to leave and return to his room multiple times, but was met by the crew and told to return until they advised he could walk down the hallway. This led to a conversation between S/COPELAND and the unidentified male that ended with S/COPELAND being offered and declining a bag of chips from the man before he left. Ms. Mary interacted with S/COPELAND both in the lounge and while he was using one of the public restrooms, she knocked on the door and he stated he was currently in the facilities using the toilet. These interactions may have happened between Friday and Saturday according to S/COPELAND.

6. In addition to interacting with the above captioned individuals, S/COPELAND stated he did in fact turn off his location services on his cellphone to his friends as one of them had apparently been spying on him via the Apple location services and he did not want to be bothered or hang out with anyone. S/COPELAND did confirm he used the phone application Life 360 and has his location constantly shared, for approximately the past year, with a female (NFI) from back home, who would often check the app to see where S/COPELAND was currently located. S/COPELAND denied leaving the barracks until Sunday. 01Jun25 in the morning when he reported to the shop

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **06JUN25**

Command Duty Officer after being informed by the base Military Police that he was UA. Upon a Master at Arms (MA) knocking on S/COPELAND's door that morning, he reported to the barge where he was order to undergo a urinalysis and was informed that he had officially been marked UA since the past Thursday morning, 28May25. After concluding all required tasks at the barge, S/COPELAND returned to his barracks until the next morning, 02JUN25, when he was ordered to report to work.

7. During the interview, S/COPELAND was questioned as to whether or not he knew V/[redacted]s current location and if he had any part in causing her disappearance or possible death to which he replied in the negative. When further questioned about what S/COPELAND would like the outcome of the investigation to be he made a statement hoping she was found. S/COPELAND expressed concerns with his own mental health at the time of the interview. Prior to the conclusion of the interview, S/COPELAND signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). Upon signing the PASS, the document was given to SA Lisa CARROLL, NCIS, and DNA samples were obtained from S/COPELAND by SA CARROLL which will be documented in a separate investigative action. Prior to ending the interview S/COPELAND was asked about access to vehicles regarding which, if any vehicles, he had access to use over the past week. S/COPELAND related he did not have access to a vehicle, other than on occasion his roommates Jeep when they were both home from work at the same time. S/COPELAND did not specify the roommate who owns the Jeep other than previously stating they reside in the same room.

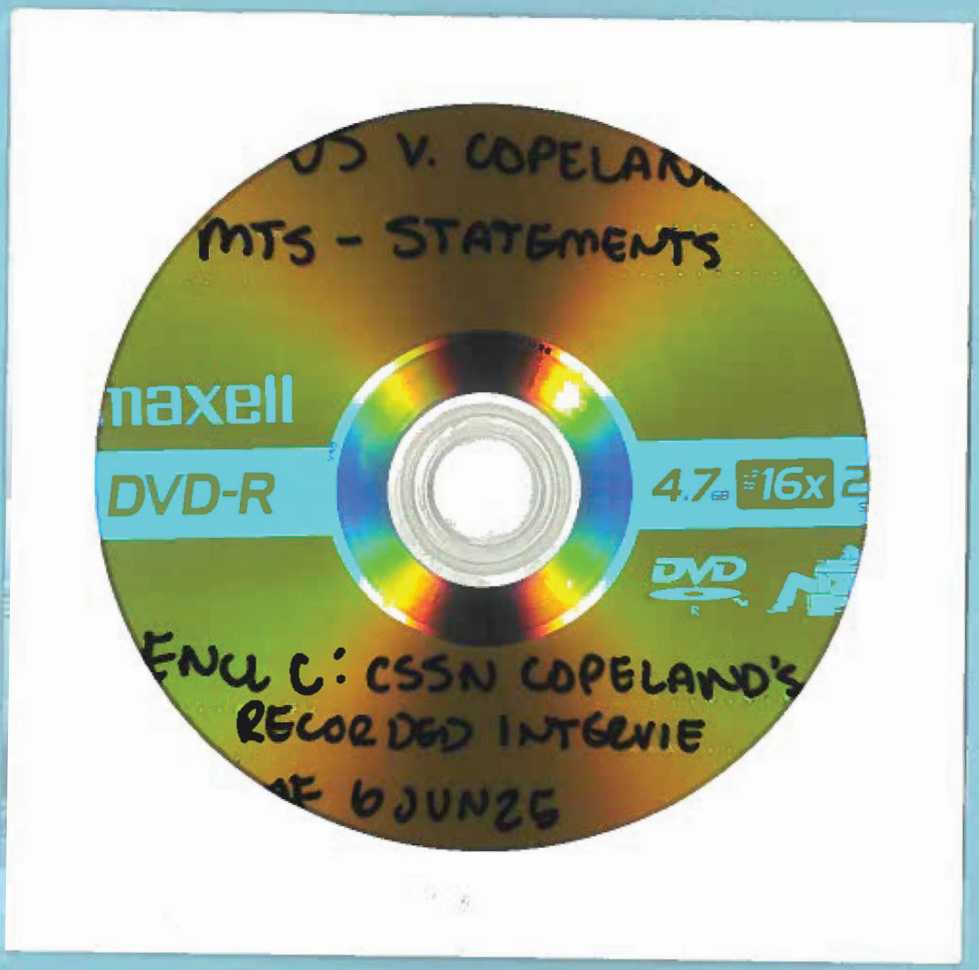
8. At 1148 on 06Jun25, S/COPELAND was released to FCC PARKER. An audio recording of this interview was captured and the original SD card containing the interview along with a copy of the audio on a CD/DVD were provided to the case agent for safekeeping with the file.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER/CSSN COPELAND/06JUN25
(B) CSSN COPELAND HANDWRITTEN TIMELINE/06JUN25

REPORTED BY: TYLER BRYAN MANN, Investigator
OFFICE: POLYGRAPH RESIDENT AGENCY MID-ATLANTIC

PAGE 3 LAST EU V2 LNN

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OF 6 JUN 26

NCIS INTERVIEW ICO CSSN JEREMIAH COPELAND

SA GEREL: Today's date is 6 June 2025, at the NCIS Norfolk U-40 office. Approximate time is 0842. Polygraph and interview to be administered by Tyler Mann and David Gerel under session approval number 2025-2121 in regards to the missing person and or possible death of Angelina [redacted] This interview is of Jeremiah Copeland, United States Navy, E-3.

[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland entered the room at timestamp 0:04:19.]

SA GEREL: All right, good morning. So, my name's David. I'm a part of the investigative team. I'm a special agent here at NCIS.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: This is my partner, Tyler Mann.

SA MANN: How are you?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm doing all right.

SA GEREL: We--we're part of the team, but also polygraph examiners.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, I'm going to check with you about the things that involving Angie [redacted] and her whereabouts and things like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we have been told that you had--had previously talked to and had been interested in taking a polygraph to confirm some of the stuff they asked you about.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's part of what we're here to do today. The--the main focus for the team, which includes us and--and I believe you as well, is to make sure that we can figure out where she's at and she's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. Do you have any questions about any of that so far?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. Very good. So, what they're doing, they've been working real hard, and--and they're trying to kind of take pieces of thoughts as to who might know as much as possible, and then, once they're done with it, put aside so they can focus on other stuff. So, you know, they talked to you--you still seem to be the last person that they can confirm actually had laid eyes on her.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: So, as you might imagine, you're pretty interesting to them as far as what, you know,

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we want to go ahead and--and take some of those big questions off the table with the polygraph so that they can move from you and then handle some other stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: How's that sound to you?

CSSN COPELAND: Do I have to take the polygraph?

SA GEREL: No, no, no, no. So, a couple things on that. And--and it's good for you to know this, and and--and involving yourself with--with NCIS for law enforcement, you never have to do anything. You're--you're--you're a grown man. You make decisions about your involvement. You definitely don't have to do this.

In fact, we need you to want to do this if you--if you want to be successful. It does not help us to offer you a test that you don't want to do or you feel uncomfortable with. So----

CSSN COPELAND: I want to--because I have stuff that I--I have to do today.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah. I gotcha. I would ask a favor for you, though.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Like, I--I'd like you to hear a bit about it before you make your full decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: And--and then, after you hear about it, kind of what we're interested in, what we're doing, then you can make a good decision about it. And--and, I can assure you that we can do pretty big things in terms of helping you with your day. So, if there's something in your day that you're concerned about, I'm pretty sure we can help you adjust that.

But I--I don't really know for sure. So, I'd want--want to hear what your--what your concern would be. So, does that make sense? So, I--I--you--you have the request that will you listen to us explain, kind of more about what the polygraph is and what we can do for you with it, before you make that decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Is that cool? Okay. Cool. So, okay, good. So, call me David. This is Tyler. Feel free to be first name with us. All right. What do you like me to call you?

CSSN COPELAND: You can just call me Cope or Jay.

SA GEREL: Cope or Jay,. Okay. Got it. All right. Which do you prefer?

CSSN COPELAND: Jay.

SA GEREL: Jay. Okay. All right, Jay. All right. So, the decision to take the polygraph is--is, you know, it's a big one. So, it's not something people, like, just say, "Yeah, I can't wait to take a polygraph." It's something that sometimes people will,

you know, think about and--and even go into a little apprehensiveness.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: It's very normal. It's also very normal for--for a case like this to--to--for it to be used multiple times.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And--and that's because, like, we're--we're getting information, we're confirming information, and then, keep moving on because our goal is to--to find her safely.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, if they're spending time thinking about you and they don't need to be, let's let them help them not by thinking about something else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: This is the concept. So, how a polygraph goes is we would go through a few forms. After we do the forms, we would, all the--the way through answering questions you have, we tell you what--what we know about the case, we share with you what you know about the case, make sure we're all on the same page with that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: And maybe we'll often find more details that we can push back to the main investigative team, and can help, and say that was

very helpful. And then, after that, we talk about the questions that we were considering asking you on polygraph.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: You would know what those questions are. You have a chance to talk about them, explain them, be comfortable with them. Once you're good and solidly comfortable with those questions, we explain how the test goes. We--we'd run the test and then, we would--we'd tell you how you did. And we'd tell the--the agents and the command how you did.

So, it gives people really quick information. And--and then, you know, if we--we'll talk all the--the way through. So, that's kind of the process.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: There's some significant talking upfront. I'd say probably at least an hour, sometimes a little bit more than that. That test itself is pretty quick. I mean, I say 15 minutes. After that, we talk through the results and see if there is any questions you have all the way through. We can--we treat you like you're a guest in our house, so if you need stuff like food, water, bathroom breaks, anything that would make you more comfortable, we'll do our best to accommodate that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: We want you to be as comfortable as you can through the process. You're in full control of the whole thing, all the way through.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: I gotcha.

SA GEREL: Is that something, hearing that, that you could be more interested in?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really. Like, I mean, I haven't even had, like, a normal time to even sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, every day they came and raided my room. You know, I got the chain of command talking about I got to come in. I got fucking Captain's Mast today.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, there's a whole bunch of stuff. And it's, like, my mental health, honestly, like, my mental health----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----going downhill.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Because it's just so much, like, you know, I'm trying to pretty much, like, you know, comprehend what's happening.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just every day it's something new. Something new. Something new.

SA GEREL: Okay. Well, your--your mental health is very important to us. So--so tell me--tell me more about that.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just something new every day.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know, it's not, even with this situation going on, I got family stuff going on. I got stuff in my life going on.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And it's--everything's just piling up. I'm getting--like, it's, like I'm getting stuck in a hole right now.

SA GEREL: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: So----

SA GEREL: All right. So, I hear you and--and what I'd like to do is the--the two forms that we typically do up front, where we will do the usual rights advisement, that you would get when anytime you talk to NCIS.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: I'm tempted--I'd like to--to offer you that, just to kind of make sure you kind of see the whole platform.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And--and then, that way we can talk, even a little bit more in-depth about how you're feeling and what we might be able to

do to help you feel a little bit better about that. But I don't want to do too much with that until we--we cover that first form because, your--your understanding of what--who we are and what we do is very important to me.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: And it should be important to you.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: So, with your permission, I'd like to go through that form with you, the first one. Just the rights advisement.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: And so, it's the--and you--you've been through it before. It's basically where we read you your rights. Like you have the right to remain silent and stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: I'd like to go through it with you. There's one that's a little--one piece of it's a little different on this form than what was talked about last time, and I want to have a chance to explain that to you. But, again, I--I--if you're telling me you don't want to do this, like, I'm not going to make you even do this part.

CSSN COPELAND: Because it's just like I haven't even had, like, a normal day where I can just try and rest.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: This whole week, the past week, it's just been hell for me.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, let's say I do it, then it's going to be more.
SA GEREL: Maybe.
CSSN COPELAND: Sign more papers. I got to come in and keep doing more stuff.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Maybe.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, it's just too much stuff going on from there.
SA GEREL: So--so maybe, maybe not. And that's what I wanted to spend a little more time talking to you about, because some of the stress and pressure that you're feeling might get dramatically decreased once this is over. Okay? But again, I--I feel--I don't feel perfectly comfortable getting into those details without at least making sure you understand your rights.
CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: But I would love to share with you how I think that might help you, if you're cool with that.
CSSN COPELAND: That's fine.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, before I do, Tyler, you--you got anything you--you want to say?
SA MANN: I mean, so can I--Jay, if you don't mind. Just with this, I know you're, like, my world is just spiraled. Right? And I get

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it. This is a whirlwind. But the only advocate portion I'm going to sort of pitch you is this. What this will theoretically do if it--if--if you're forthcoming with us and we get to talk about all these topics here momentarily and put that all behind you, that on paper is going to make a lot of this stop.

So, you're still going to have some command things to maybe deal with. Family stuff is family stuff. I feel you. We all got to deal with that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: But at least it'll get this--this piece. Like, the NCIS piece will more than likely go--minimize. I'm not going to make a promise that that's going to happen, but----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----if this goes well and they say, "Hey, like we don't have to worry about him anymore. He's not on our, you know, interesting list of people anymore, not the most interesting man in the world." Like, we can sort of put you on the back burner. That invasiveness will likely decrease a significant amount.

So, I know you're, like, I just want all this shit behind me, and I get it, dude. I would want the same, like, if I'm sitting in here seat, I'm, like, Jesus, just give me, like, a day to be myself. Like, I'm [redacted] years old. What in the world am I getting into? Right?

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So, that's why we're trying to do it is just to give you--you a little, hey, this--this can be an exit ramp for some of that baggage to go a separate way. And then, you can focus more on your family. You can focus more on you. Other things that are important.

And, you know, we can--whatever those are. If you're happy to share them, I'm happy to hear them. But, you know, I think that those are the things you should focus on, you know, family, obviously, first over everything. So, hopefully, we can take this off your plate by getting the polygraph out of the way. That's just my kind of piece from hearing what you're saying. And then, does that resonate? Am I on the right track with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Are we on the same page?

CSSN COPELAND: Gotcha. I appreciate you.

SA MANN: But yeah, I'll--I'll go back to that. That's kind of just the step we've got----

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

SA MANN: ----to go through.

SA GEREL: Cool. Are you--you comfortable just doing the first step and then talking a little bit more? We're not going to make you make a decision one way or the other.

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, what do you--what's the form?

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah.

So, it's the Military Rights Waiver form and you've--you've seen this one before, so the form itself isn't that different. The thing I wanted to make sure that I shared with you to get the chance I can explain it is--is this part right here.

Okay. So, this is the rights waiver form. We do this before every polygraph, also before we talk to people. That's me and my partner. This is where we're at. So--so we want to talk to you today about, again, I'll explain all this, but making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CCSN [redacted].

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. So, this--a couple things here. So, we don't really care about the things you've said so far. I--I know that we're telling you you're suspected of making some things--some statements that might not be accurate. I want to make sure you know, all the--the way from the beginning of the end, that is not our focus.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You're suspected of it because, and that means we've got to let you know----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: ----that we're going to talk about it. But nobody's been that worried about that. We--we--we are focusing on Angelina.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: All right. So, Angie. So--so we don't know if she's dead or not.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Right. But do--do you agree that that's everybody's fear?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. So, everybody's worried that she's been gone too long. She's usually pretty responsive. So, that's--that's what we're worried about. So, what we'd like to do is, although you're not specifically suspected of causing harm to her----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: ----we'd like to make sure you didn't. So they're making it seem. Like, okay, Copeland, maybe he--he is not perfect, but he didn't do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: That make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's the stuff we're going to talk about, and hopefully that polygraph help us figure out.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: All right. Does that make sense now?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: I just didn't want to drop this in your lap, and you're, like, what's that mean? I wanted to make sure I explained that. The rest of the form is exactly the same as the ones you've seen before. So, with knowing the topic that we're going to be focusing in on, here's some things to keep in mind.

You have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all. Any statement that you make can be used against you in--in--in trial or by court-martial or any other judicial administrative proceeding.

You have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by you at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as your counsel at no cost to you, or both. So, you can have a lawyer, and in multiple capacities.

You have the right to have any retained lawyer and or appointed lawyer present during the interview. And you may terminate the interview at any time for any reason.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
SA GEREL: These are all important. I like that. Really emphasize that last one because you are in full control of the conversation. You know, you can talk to us. You don't have to talk to us.

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: As long as you're professional and--and polite to us, we'll be the same to you.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: All the way through. Any questions about any of this so far?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: Are you cool to talk with us a little bit more?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, I'm going to read this part out loud.
CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: And--and just so you--you've heard it and--and make sure you agree with it. But what we'd like to make sure that you're cool with and understand is that you understand, or I'm going to read it out loud to you.

I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have described--I'm sorry, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me.

Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

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SA GEREL: Do you agree with that?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, if you--if you agree with it and want to talk to us, again, you're not deciding on the poly quite yet.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: You--you just want to get to us, you--you could initial for me beside each of these numbers. Sign that paragraph and then, sign for me there, please.
CSSN COPELAND: So, for each question, is it before and after or just----
SA GEREL: Just beside the number is fine. Yeah. Sorry, these things [inaudible 0:17:55]. There you go.
And then, just beside that paragraph as well.
CSSN COPELAND: This one?
SA GEREL: Yes, please. And then a full signature, there. But you--do you understand this and want to talk to us? Is that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. Thank you. All right, so the next thing we'll cover in a little bit more detail is the polygraph itself. The--the next form that we--that we may use is--is where we talk to you about what the polygraph is, and you say, "Okay. I'll start the process." So, that's where you can list, know definitively one or the other, but I'm not even going to get to that form quite yet.

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So, let's--do--do--what questions do you have for us that will help you understand kind of why we're here and--and what we want to do today?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I don't have really no questions.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right, so--so let me just make sure you kind of see it from their perspective and--and our--and our perspective. You--you--you--I think you've already acknowledged this, but, so the big fear is that Angie may be--may be dead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. Did you do that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. I know they already asked you that, and you said no.

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Do you--do you know where she's at?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Did you help anybody to abduct her or kill her or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: That's the focus today.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. What we'd like to do is take that off the table so they are not thinking Copeland could have had anything to do with that. Make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: And--and--and, if we're able to talk to you about that and you get confident--you're already confident. Whether you can even stay confident to the point where you take that test and show a--a positive result, then we're going to be able to take that back to the agents and to the Commander. Like, "Okay, good. Now let's find other ways to find, Angie." Make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Does that make you feel any different about doing this?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir. I mean, at the end of the day, like, this is just a lot of stuff for me to handle right now. At the end of the day, there's always something. On top of that, they still want me to come to work. They still want me to do this. They still want me to do that.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it is just a lot. They keep coming to my room every day.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, it's just, like, I--I don't have a break.

SA GEREL: What are they--what's the mast for today? The Captain's Mast?
CSSN COPELAND: Going UA.
SA GEREL: Okay. Well, who do you think about that?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, at the end of the day, like--like he said, I'm a grown man and so, I'm going to take full accountability. At the end of day, it was me being irresponsible, not getting work when I'm supposed to. So, at the end of the day, I'm going to just take the consequence.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Does it bother--does it scare you?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I mean, it's mast. I mean, at the end of the day.
SA GEREL: Okay. Does--have you been through that before?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. And do you know, people have been?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: What usually happens on something like that?
CSSN COPELAND: They put you on a restriction. I mean, in my offense, I can already see they're probably going to take a reduction--reduction rate, half a month's pay, and probably put me on restriction. For how long? I don't know.
SA GEREL: Okay. And--and how--how does that make you feel to know that might be coming?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really much. I mean, I just got to go with the flow at the end of the day. Like I said, I take full accountability for my actions.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Not making it to work when I'm supposed to be, so---

-

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah. The military's different that way, right? Because I mean, in civilian, like, I don't show up, nobody, like, is going to punish me for it typically.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, they might, you know, talk to you about it or something. But in the military, like you said, it is different, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. A little different. I--I--I--I like how you're kind of keeping that frame in your mind. I don't want to speak for you, but it feels like you kind of get the gravity of what that is. I mean, you should have been to work. You weren't. They're going to do something about it. Sounds like something you can take that lump and move right on.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: We kind of think that too. But I wanted to see how bad that was affecting your--your mental health because, we--we could ask for that to get pushed back. We--then I think it probably would. I can't speak for your command, but they might do that.

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CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I mean, the CO, he's trying to push it to where I get it done today

SA GEREL: And then, maybe you want that. I don't know. You want it done sooner or later?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, sooner. I mean, because obviously I don't want to stay on the barge. Like, I fucking hate the barge.

SA GEREL: It sounds like it would be a not a fun place.

SA MANN: I don't think you're alone in that. I've talked to many people at the barge.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't know who lied and said the barge was, like, smooth, but being in the shipyard in general.

SA GEREL: Yeah. One of the things that we would do would be to press on is just get to know you a little bit. I know some things about you, but I don't know as much as I want to to give you a polygraph. So, we--we get to know more about you, to include things like that. Like what--what ships you've been on and what you've--what you've been experiencing. I mean, you're young, so I--I would imagine probably not that much in the Navy quite yet.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, a little bit. I mean, I was on a carrier before I was on a DDG, so.

SA GEREL: What--what carrier were you on?

CSSN COPELAND: The Truman.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. All right.

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SA MANN: You guys had a hell of a deployment, huh?
SA GEREL: Did you just get back from the deployment?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I did half the deployment. I flew off during February. Like, the middle of February.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.] Okay. Tyler, you got any--any things you want to cover?
SA MANN: I mean, what can we do to help you today? Like what moves, what--what gives us some power to help you out? Because I don't know that we have it, but I'll sure as hell try.
CSSN COPELAND: Nothing really. I mean, at the end of the day, you guys are doing your job, so----
SA MANN: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: That's--then that's just nothing. It's nothing really to it. At the end of the day, I can't ask you guys to do something. Like, you guys are just trying to do your job, get down to the bottom of whatever you guys need to. At the end of the day. I'm just trying to live.
SA MANN: No. Yeah. Absolutely. But that's what I mean, like, if there's somewhere we can meet in the middle and you've got an existential issue right now that you're, like, "Hey, like, here's the biggest thing going on in my world. I need this handled." Maybe we can help out with that, and it'll help you feel a little more comfortable with what we'd like to do with you today.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just everything that I got because I already know, like, with mast coming up, I also got a court date coming up.
SA MANN: So, what's that for?
CSSN COPELAND: Speeding.
SA MANN: Okay. Do you know when?
CSSN COPELAND: That's the 21st of July, so----
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: ----by the time I get off restriction, I'm going to have to prepare for that. On top of that, I've been trying to get--reach out to my lawyer. Don't got a phone. They took it, so----
SA MANN: [Affirmative response.] About that court? The speeding thing?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I got to talk to--the judge granted me a public defender. Can't even reach out to my public defender because I--I don't have a phone, so.
SA MANN: Gotcha.
CSSN COPELAND: At this point, it's just, like, I'm--I'm fried.
SA GEREL: Yeah. That's a lot going on. We definitely get that. How much sleep would you--you think you got last night?
CSSN COPELAND: None. I had to prep doing my uniform for mast today, so.
SA GEREL: Okay. Like, your--your dress uniform?

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And then, how has that been over the last few days? How much sleep you getting?

CSSN COPELAND: None. Like, maybe an hour. I mean, the last time they came and got me, they didn't release me till, like, two, almost three o'clock. As soon as they released me, my Chief took me to my barracks. I had to get my uniform and go straight to work.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I had no sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So

SA GEREL: So, how about food? How you--how are you eating?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't have, like, an appetite to really eat at all, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Do you have some food this morning?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: You want some?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm good.

SA GEREL: How about some water? You want some water.

CSSN COPELAND: Water, yeah. I'll take some water.

SA GEREL: Okay. We'll go get that. We'll be back.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

[SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 0:25:30.]

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SA MANN: So--so, I mean, I know you got a--a storm growing. Right? What's going on in the family world?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I just got shit with my mom. I mean, on top of that, she doesn't even know anything that's happened. I mean, I--I understand she realized I went UA. She called my command and called the--the base.

SA MANN: She was worried about?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, I mean, other than that, I--I haven't really talked to her ever--ever since that. My dad's been in the hospital, so.

SA MANN: How's he doing?

CSSN COPELAND: Not that well.

SA MANN: Oh. Do you mind if I ask what's happening?

CSSN COPELAND: So, he got an infection, and that was--I found out about that when I was on deployment, and I--I think it was, like, around December.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I tried to put in leave. Like, emergency leave.

SA MANN: Sure.

CSSN COPELAND: My chain of command denied it.

SA MANN: Yeah. I--I know the Truman was going through----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----some stuff out there, so I'm sure that was tough.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. And he's been in the hospital ever since. My mom said he's basically lost, like, his--like, he can't walk. He can barely talk.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: His vision's going bad, too. So, I know on their part. I know it's, like, hard, on that, so.

SA MANN: Yeah. No, that's tough.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: When's the last time you got to see him?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm?

SA MANN: When was the last time you got to see him?

CSSN COPELAND: It's been almost a year since I last took leave.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, that's also another thing. It's, like, I haven't been home. I've been telling my chain of command for months now. Like I--I--I need to take leave.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Because with everything going on, it's fucking with my mental health.

SA MANN: I gotcha. That'd be tough. I know I'd be----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----feeling probably similar if I had a bunch of family that I wasn't getting to see that were sitting in the hospital with prior circumstances. So, no, I get it, man.

And again, I'm not--one way or another today. Like, what you decide to do, I want you--you to just be comfortable with your decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: You know, I know you said it. Like, I--I think, you know, spent some--some time I think with B on the ship. Obviously, she's the only agent that was there, but, that I know she has a pretty--I don't know how--what your interactions with her have--have been. But I know she's generally a pretty straight shooter. I don't think she sort of beats around the bush. She just says, "Hey, here's what we got to do. Let's do it." Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She--she keeps it a hundred, but I don't like the way that she does it.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, everybody that I've talked to, dealt with, even with police officers, like--like, yeah, they got one job to be doing, but they kept it professional. When, like, I don't know what her problem is, but I feel like with me and her interactions, she--I feel like she antagonizes me.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And I don't--I don't really appreciate that, like, when I was talking to the first--first detective, little short one, you know, it was her and another agent that came to my room.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And, I talked to them. Cool. And then, when they had came and raided my room, she was there just in the background. I could see her staring at me. At first, I was, like, there's no way that's her until the agent had called her over there. And I was, like, fuck. All right, cool. But it's, like, the whole time we were in the interrogation room, it's just, like, she was, like, irritating me.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It's, like, I--it's, like, some people I can stand, but it's just something about her I don't like.

SA MANN: No, that's fair. I--I, like, I don't like everybody I meet, too. Sometimes it's just people don't connect. It is what it is. What I would ask today, though, is if I make you feel that way, if David makes you feel that way----

CSSN COPELAND: No, you guys--you guys are totally, like, you know, respectful, and you guys are keeping it official.

SA MANN: Yep.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just the way that she carries herself, the way that the mentality she has.

SA MANN: Understood. But if--if you feel like that happens, I want you to stop and let us know. You can tell me I'm wrong. That's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA MANN: I'm not, same with him. We're not above making a mistake. So, if you feel like a line is crossed, let us know. We don't want to do that. We'll course-correct for you.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. Thank you.

SA MANN: Yeah, just again, if--if I'm going to be blunt with you--you can be blunt with me. Full--fully expect that. So--excuse me. Why I said that, and, you know, and I think David's sort of been kind of slowly talking through this with you is, again, everyone wants to know where Angie is. The longer she's gone, you know, I mean, you've probably seen an Netflix documentary. Right? Like, as time passes and these type of things, all you see on the news. Like, hey, the more time that somebody's missing, the higher the likelihood that the end result's not a good one. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: That's just--it's statistics, and we're hoping that by trying to expedite and move through these things, this takes a ton of resources. I mean, we've had people the second that we found out she was gone, people started coming from every office all around the

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country to try to serve and to give us bodies and manpower so we can dedicate more resources to trying to find her.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: You know, and I, again, unfortunately, you happen to be the last person that was with her----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----before either she went missing, she made the decision to do it, something bad happened to her, whatever that was. Whether it's fair or not, like, the fingers all kind of initially point at you just because you were that last one to be with her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And I hate to say it, but again, it's just like watching TV. If the last person that was with her was the last person that was with her, that's the easiest place to start. It's logical. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: Hey, you should at least have some semblance of an idea of what happened when she departed, where she went. You know, if she said anything to you about, "Hey, here's where I'm going to go, what I'm going to do."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: If you have any idea what that is, that's information we definitely want. The reason we kind of bring polygraph in the room

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is so we can get that clear result from you. Because as much as I sit here and I want to believe everybody I work with----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----I'd be foolish to do that, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Because some people aren't going to be straight shooters.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So, that's why we use polygraph as a tool to say, hey, if you knew something about, you know, let's hope not, but if she were to be dead at this point, if you had any knowledge of that, we'd want to know that. Because then we need to redirect resources elsewhere.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Also, if you have nothing to do with that, we want to prove that for you, too.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: Because then that allows us to take that spotlight that you feel is on you right now and shake it somewhere else.

CSSN COPELAND: It's not even about the spotlight. At the end of the day, it's life. Like, cool. But it is just more so, like, the shit I have going on now and then, this top on top of it. So, it's just, like, this right here is just a knocker.

SA MANN: Yeah. No, your--your glass is full.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: I feel you. So, what--what do you think we can accomplish today? What do you have the bandwidth for?
CSSN COPELAND: I just, like, if you guys got questions, cool. At the end of the day, I'm--I'm trying to--the biggest thing I'm trying to knock off is just seeing what the captain has to say. I just want to get one piece done. I'm just slowly trying to get things, you know. I'm just slowly trying to get things off of my plate. Because at the end of the day. Like, everything I have going on is going nowhere at this point.
SA GEREL: I gotcha. So, not to, I--I guess diminish what you're saying, like, that's important. And I think, you know, if I was sitting in your same shoes and I want that answer. Like, "Hey, just like--like you said, I'm going to own it. Tell me what I got to do to own it."

I think we're--we would miss an opportunity here to help get more off your plate if we didn't at least offer you this again. No one can sit here and say, "Hey, gun to your head, you got to sit down and do it." But I do think that this helps move some stuff off your plate. So, today, in theory, you could take this off your plate, and you can take the mast off your plate, and hopefully that's two things that help push you in a more positive direction.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But at the end of the day, you guys are still going to come for questions.

SA GEREL: I don't know. I--I mean, I--I----

CSSN COPELAND: It's still going nowhere.

SA MANN: They may. But, you know, as Dave they've kind of mentioned earlier, the question that we want to know is really, and--and I think, you know, we'll give this more poly. Like, if I were to give you some sort of polygraph, if I was going to say, "Hey, like--like here's what we need answered it," it'd be what he asked you the other day. Did you cause her death? Or did, you know, is she dead? Like, do--do you have actual intimate knowledge of that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Because then if you--if you're not a part of that, and you know, if--if maybe she is still alive out there somewhere, or if she is unfortunately deceased to this point, we know that you had nothing to do with it. So, then those questions about you, who you are, where you were, what you did, all of that. You know, it's an investigation like you said, people are going to look at everything thoroughly.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: But then there's other people that need to look at other things that they need to look at, you know. Was this, at some point, somebody else who did something malicious or foul? Did she

just run away? Maybe she just had enough of it. Would it be an unfortunate case? Maybe it was a suicide. We don't know. But that's why we're trying to work through, and you're not--I know you feel. Like, "Hey, the spotlight's on you." You're not the only person that people are trying to highlight and get answers for.

So, I won't sit here and say that no one's going to come knocking on your door and asking you a question. But I would highly anticipate that this puts a lot of those questions at bay, because everyone's going to go, "Hey, Copeland's not the bad guy that did something bad to Angie. You know, Jay's not that guy."

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day--at the end of the day, it's, like, you still got people looking at you. It doesn't matter, regardless.

SA MANN: What makes you think that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, for instance, I walk into work, you got people looking at me crazy. The CO, for example.

SA MANN: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just, like, it's not going to go anywhere. All right, cool. The situation gets done, and handled where people are still going to have their opinion not knowing the full facts and everything.

SA MANN: Yeah. The court of public opinion is damning, right? Like, unfortunately, we can't change that. What we will do. Like,

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David said, is we'll give results to everybody that matters. And I--I mean, I think, you know what the--the E-3 underground is alive and well. So, once somebody finds out that, "Hey. Like, Jay didn't do bad things. This was all just false accusations." If that is the case, that's going to resonate. People are going to hear that.

So, you know, are you going to ever going to be able to stop people looking at you for something? No, that's reality. Somebody's always going to have their opinion of you. Someone may love you, someone may hate you. It is what it is.

But, and--and I know that this is kind of a foreign concept in the sense of polygraph. Most people are. Like, yeah, I mean, I think I know what it is. I think I'd be willing to do it. And--and it's not that we want to sit here and slam you with a bunch of questions. What we want to do is give you an opportunity to, in theory, and or minimize those questions that are going to come about you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: At least from us. Right? Like, I can't control what somebody's opinion of you is going to be. All I can do is tell that person, "Hey, Jay didn't do the thing that you're saying he thinks he did. He's proven that." And you know, if they just want to keep that opinion because they don't like you, or if they, you know, do

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like you enough and they go, "Oh, well that's great to know. Like, I'm glad I can trust this guy. Like, he's not somebody."

So, you know, I--I think there are two sides to that coin. I just want to make sure that you've seen both.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: I know in your world right now, the easy side to go to is, like, this is all bad, and I--I get it, especially considering your family situation. Not being able to see your dad, but hopefully putting this piece behind it means that all you got to worry about is get through that mast. You know, take whatever punishment they decide to give you. Then, if this is all gone away and you're part--you're--you're not a part of it anymore, hopefully then they can see the need for you to go take some leave, see your family, you know, check in on dad, and go from there.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So.

SA GEREL: Yeah, investigations. Like, you know, there's--there's only a few things we can do to prove what we call proving a negative. Like, you can say all day long, I didn't do it. And people either have to believe that or not believe that. So, we're looking for evidence, but one thing that we can offer is, "I didn't do it, and I passed my polygraph."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know what I--I mean? So, then like they've got something else to. Like, "Well, dang, maybe you didn't do it." So, it definitely adds a lot to--it's something you can proactively do to give credence to what you're telling folks. So, I--Tyler may have already said that, but. You follow about that later or not yet? Did--does it give you any other thought on trying it today?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't feel like I can take that shit today. Like, it's just, I'm telling you. Like, I got too much shit going on.

SA GEREL: I gotcha. I gotcha. And--and--and frankly, I am concerned about your sleep and your food and--and your mental health. Like, those are things that would, even as you said, I'll take it and then, I--I heard that stuff. I might not want to give it to you today, any because--because those things would be important for me to know that you have--that you're coming in with a good day.

So, two of the things that could consider with you. Thing number one, you may not feel like today's a good day for it, but are you seeing that maybe sometime in the future it could be?

CSSN COPELAND: Most definitely.

SA GEREL: Okay. Cool. Love that. Okay. Next thing, there are some details that we maybe could capture that might help. The--some things you know. Because you you--you--as I told you, you're

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probably the last person that we know of that saw her. So, when we reviewed that first interview or the one that they brought you here to talk about, we watched it, and--and--and I appreciate you doing that, but there's a couple things that we were kind of curious about that might help us help them.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Are you cool--can you cover some of the details with this? Good with that? Okay. Good.

So, what's your--what--what's your hard timeframe? When--when do you--you want to be done with this today?

CSSN COPELAND: As fast as possible. Like, do you you--do you--you guys know what time it is?

SA GEREL: Yeah. It's 9:20.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I--I will tell you that, like, we're what--do you have a scheduled time for your mast?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't know if it's before or after lunch. Lunch starts at eleven o'clock, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I guess it's probably going to be done after.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I--I think that's more likely. They--they'll likely have no trouble waiting on you. Like, if we get a little

delayed, but I--I don't think we're going to have to delay you that long.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Anything that you needed to absolutely do before your mast?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really think so.

SA GEREL: Okay. I just want to take care of your time. I appreciate you--you working with us. You've got a lot of stressors, and I--I understand. Do you feel like any of those stressors are more important than finding Angie?

CSSN COPELAND: Can you say that again?

SA GEREL: Yeah. I know you've got a lot of things that are stressing you. You've got the traffic court. You've got the--the--the other---we haven't talked about this yet, but we know about the other investigations. We--we know you got some things that are kind of stressing you, but are--are any of those things more important to you than helping to find Angie?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: Okay. I didn't think so. I mean, if it feels like you didn't know her. Like, super well, but I think you knew her enough where you'd probably be concerned about her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And that's the vibe I'm getting. So, it's good to hear that because--because that--that makes me feel very comfortable with--with, you know.

CSSN COPELAND: And then at the end of the day, I'm answering questions, like you said, everybody else asks. If I wanted to leave, I could left at any given moment.

SA GEREL: Yeah. [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, I'm taking the time to talk to you guys, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. I--I figured, but I--I wanted to kind of check--check your thoughts on that. Okay. Good. All right. So, as--as--as best you can tell us about, like you--you, well, actually, let me even go before that. How did you meet Angie?

CSSN COPELAND: CSA school. We're the same rate?

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: We went to A-school together. When I checked into the command, it was her and another CS that I knew. Angie is, like, I didn't really go up and talk to her, but she is, like, you know, when you look at someone, they're, like, that person looks familiar, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: That's how I saw her. And then, my homeboy, JJ, walked up to me. I was, like, "Oh, shit." And from there, me and

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him were talking, and then, later down, it was, like, a couple days afterwards, that's when she came up to me and asked me if I--what class I was in in A-school.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there I was, like, "I knew you looked familiar," and then from there we were talking. I mean, there's been previous times before that where we've hungen out. We've gone out to eat. We've went to Dave and Busters. We've--yeah.

SA GEREL: So, how long ago was that A-school? When was that? Like, two year or so?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, almost two years ago.

SA GEREL: Two--two years ago. Okay. You've known her for a long time.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Were you all--where did--where did, after A-school, where did you--you serve with her at? Or were you on the same ship or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. After A-school, I went--that's when I was on the Truman, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, A-school, the Truman for, and then, you--did you work in your rate. Like, as--as a CS?

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CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. And then how--how much did you keep in contact with, [redacted]

CSSN COPELAND: I never had her contact until I got onto the--the DDG I'm on now.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, the barge.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What did you feel about the barge? What's that like?

CSSN COPELAND: It's ass.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I'm not going to say, like, the ship is ass, but it--it's ass.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Because, it's, like, being. Like, I guess it's just transitioning from--from the carrier life to a DDG.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't like it.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I've heard that before. I've done investigations on the barge, and I'm. Like, this doesn't feel like a very comfortable place.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. No.

SA GEREL: Do--do they make y'all sleep on the barge sometimes?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. People, I mean, if somebody has duty, they have a berthing for that. Or there's some people that don't have barracks.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: That way you getting a ride so they stay--they stay on the barge.

SA GEREL: Okay. I gotcha. All right, so--so got on the barge, kind of met back up with--with--with Angie. Tell me about that, like, when you first kind of came back in contact with her. What--what, what--what was your relationship like?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, just work. That's about it. I know we would come in. Like, "Morning, how you doing?" type of thing.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: You know, same thing with the whole watch. Just, you know, saying good morning to everybody, just talking.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And one thing about me is, like, if I work with you, I'm going to have to be obligated to talk to you. So, it's either. Like, you can either hate me or not. Cool. If not, I'm going to just still say good morning.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: If you choose not to talk to me, you choose not to. But towards me and Angie, it was acquaintances. Like, we were--we were good. Cordial.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Everything was cool.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. That's very good. Fast forward just a--a smidge because I'm momentarily curious about this. So, where do you think she's at?

CSSN COPELAND: If I--I couldn't tell you. I know when she left, she left. I know she was saying she was mad at Gil. I mean, the night of you know, she was mad as fuck. That's all. Sorry for cussing, but----

SA GEREL: No, no, that, that's----

CSSN COPELAND: You know, she was on a--calling a lot of people. I know she had called her ex, that lived in Texas.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And she was saying, like, how he fucked up, how he can't do this, can't do that. She's always spending money on him. Always sending him money. And I'm just sitting there. Like, cool. And, I had talked to the dude. He was pretty chill, pretty cool. And then, from there, that's when she just started calling other people.

SA GEREL: Why was she so mad at Gil?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, they got into an argument, so they got into an argument about a bike helmet that Gil had gave [redacted].

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And [redacted] said that she saw some dude, or not some dude, but some female getting on his bike when she went on a walk.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And the--the day that he picked the female up, I'm guessing he was asking for the bike helmet back, and [redacted] was asking, "Why specifically the bike helmet if you gave it to me?" And he was just, like, "Oh, it reminds me of all the times and all the places we could've gone together."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: "And things we could've done." So--so it's, like, he was basically saying it's more of like a--like a memory.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, she doesn't want to give--give him back the bike helmet. They was just going back and forth arguing, and that's when he said--he was just, like, "Fuck it, just keep the helmet." He's. Like, "You can just keep it. I don't want it anymore."

SA GEREL: Okay. So--so, what--what--what, I--I don't fully understand like why that made her so upset.
CSSN COPELAND: Because, obviously, she was--in her eyes, she thought that he was going to give it to another female to ride on his bike. Obviously, they've dated.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And, you know.
SA GEREL: Sounds like jealousy. Is that the right word for how she was feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, if that's how you want to put it. Yeah.
SA GEREL: Well, I don't know. I--I'm just trying to figure it out. But--but she--she was concerned with this other female and Gil.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: And. Like, whatever he was doing with her. But I don't want to put words in the--what--that's why I kind of want to know what your thoughts are as to why she was so mad.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's what I would think, obviously. Or she's mad because, obviously, I don't know if they're trying to fix the relationship or if they're still talking.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I knew they dated, you know, and she talked to another dude.
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, that's not my business. That's totally their business. I mean, cool. Like, y'all can do what y'all want to do. But I'm not going to get myself involved in their situation.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, you don't know where--where she's at. Did you see or ever hear anything from her that makes you think that she would just not go to work and disappear? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, I don't really text her. Like, usually when I leave people, I just be. Like, "If you need something, just call or text me," and I just leave it like that.

SA GEREL: Okay. Now I know that all of us can be tempted at times to cover for friends and family. Like, if they do something and they're, like, "Oh man, I'm gonna--I got your back." I--I don't know if that's happening here, but I--I would hope that, if there's something that you know of, something she may have wanted to do, you would let us know. Is anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I mean, the only person that I know that talks to her on daily is Gillespie and Rich.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Those are the two main people that she talks to at work.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, if you want more, you probably have to ask them or talk to them.

SA GEREL: Sure.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But those are the two people that she talks to. Like, pretty much on daily, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and they have and they--they will. Like, keep talking to them. But there are times--this is my thinking. You--you--you, of course, make your own thoughts, but, even though we may feel tempted to help other people, sometimes it's more important to actually not. You know, so in this case, you've got tons of people looking for her, including her family.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: And worried sick about her. In this instance, I--I would suggest that it's more important to, if there's something that you could feel tempted to hide on her behalf, that you wouldn't do that with us right now, even if you have already.

CSSN COPELAND: Fuck no. I mean, you see the situation I'm in. I'm not--like, at the end of the day, if somebody fuck up, that's on them.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. Okay. I appreciate you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: I--I got that vibe from you, but I wanted to make sure that we were seeing that in the same way. Because I mean, I definitely have been around some people, or maybe even myself sometimes been. Like, I'm not going to ever hurt that person, and-- and I'm not going to tell. The--the police or anybody about something that person did. Because I care that much, like a loyalty thing.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, you see how big it's getting. At the end of the day, I mean, I've told both of you what I have going on in my life.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm--I'm at this point, I'm not helping nobody put something like that.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: If they leave, I'm snitching, like yeah. This person left. I'm sorry, but I'm telling.

SA GEREL: Well, and I thank you. And I wouldn't even call it that. It's just, like, you care enough----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----about the person. Let's go ahead and get this squared away so someone, you know, doesn't get any extra smoke. That's good.

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All right, so let's unfortunately think about some possibilities for---well, let's--let's presume for a second that maybe something bad happened to her. Do you have, like, a list--we all have this list of angels and demons. People that are. Like, there's no way these people would've done anything bad to her. I'm not so sure about these people. The--the demons and I--we might want to be looking more at them.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Who--who--who is your angels and demons in terms of who could have--who--who--well, let's start with angels.

Who would you say, like, there's no way this person did anything bad to her?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I can't really determine that. I mean, I know there's people she talks to, but at the end of the day, I don't jurisdict everybody she hangs out with.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I don't--I couldn't honestly tell you that from a get go. I mean, I know the people that we work with, you know, she talks to, and the only two that I see her talk to when we're at work is Gillespie and Rich.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

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SA GEREL: And--and they give you a little, grace on this. Oh, I'm not going to hold your feet to the fire and say, like, "Oh, he said that they couldn't have done it, so, there's no way they did it." I--I mean, you're not God. You don't know all the things.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, but I--but I would--but sometimes those instincts are pretty important. Right? So--so you may feel. Like, I know Gil, I mean, he's not perfect, but, like, I would be shocked if he did anything bad like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Or you might say, like, Gil's suspicious. I mean, you might want to be looking at Gil.

W Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know what I mean? So, like, I'm not going to--we wouldn't let people know, like that Copeland said, "Look at Gil."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Or whomever. But--but your--your--everyone's instincts can be pretty darn important. So, like, if you have any instincts, good or bad, towards the people that have been mentioned around her, we'd appreciate to hear about it.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, at the end of the day, I don't really know those two like that. I mean, I know JJ is somebody we work with.

There's Garcia and Miguel, Buco. Like, when we're at work, we work. Cool. You know, time to time we joke around and bullshit.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: That's, you know, that's just our way. Like, theoretically for CS's to, you know, get through our day.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, we--we're the first people to walk on the ship, last people to leave, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: You know, that's just one way we get through work. As far as Gillespie and Mitch, I don't--Rich, I don't really know them like that, so.

SA GEREL: So, those dudes are CS's?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no, no, no. I don't know what their rate is.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, going into a DDG and they got, you know. Like, STGs and stuff like that. I don't know what those rates are.

SA GEREL: Okay. Gotcha. So, they don't work with y'all.

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no, no. I know. Like, they, you know, they come in the galley and they talked back--they be in the back talking to [redacted]

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

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CSSN COPELAND: You got. Like, CS1 or CS2 walk--walk in the galley, and they walk through and see them back there.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then, obviously, they asked--asked them to get out the galley.

SA GEREL: What was [redacted]s first ship? I mean, is it the one that you all are on, or is it a different ship?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it's the ship we're on now.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you mentioned JJ. Who--what--who's that? Say that full name again, please.

CSSN COPELAND: JJ?

SA GEREL: Yeah. Who's that?

CSSN COPELAND: He's somebody, a CS.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, all those names besides Rich and----

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: ----Gillespie, those are all CS's.

SA GEREL: Okay. I got you. You said a bunch names. I just want to make sure I'm understanding the--the same people or different people. So, do you know JJ's full name?

CSSN COPELAND: It's, like, Edison Jean Jaques or something like that.

SA GEREL: Jaques. Okay. All right. And who else did you mention?

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CSSN COPELAND: Buco.

SA GEREL: Buco. Okay. And is Buco a CS?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GEREL: And----

CSSN COPELAND: Garcia and Miguel.

SA GEREL: Garcia and Miguel. So--so these folks are people around you all?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GEREL: Do you categorize them as suspicious or not suspicious?

CSSN COPELAND: They're not suspicious.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right. Just kind of people you work with?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. Any suspicious people?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, it's limited in. Like, from my point of view.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know anybody around [redacted], you know, that's, like, aggressive or somebody that could hate [redacted].

SA GEREL: Okay. The--the--the girl with--with the bike helmet, do you know her name?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: You know, even. Like, a nickname, or, like, do you know anything about her at all?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I believe she is a civilian.

SA GEREL: A civilian.

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't know who she is, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I remember Gillespie telling me, like, his little portion on it, and then, when [redacted] came over and she was talking about it. That's--that's the only thing that I know about it.

SA GEREL: Okay. How does [redacted], how--how does [redacted] feel about that girl?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, she didn't really know the female, so she was just, like, categorizing her as a bitch?

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was, like, "Yeah, I can't believe he's trying to get my helmet for something. Like, for a bitch."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I was just, like, I mean, at the end of the day, that's how men are sometimes.

SA GEREL: Did--did--did you ever hear [redacted] talk about getting. Like, pestered by anybody? Like, blown up or, like, tons of messages or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. Nah. She's never mentioned anything like that. I mean, as far as her phone, she was on the phone with her ex from Texas.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's the only person I talked to, and then, from there, she was, like, just calling.

SA GEREL: So, it brings another curiosity about the Texas ex. Like, what--what the world prompted her to call him that night?

CSSN COPELAND: She was basically saying, like, you know, like everybody has their person they go to.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I guess that was her person that she goes to when things happen to her. You know, somebody she needs to talk to.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's what she said. She was, like, basically. Like, she's going to call--she was, like, "Copeland," she was, like, "This is my ex from Texas." And she was, like, basically. Like, that's her right-hand man.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, sounds like she wasn't mad at him.

CSSN COPELAND: No. No.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. Cool. Okay. So, she was kind of calming down and talking through her frustrations.

CSSN COPELAND: Venting, venting to him, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. I got it. All right. Well, I appreciate it. I-- I got sidetracked on a bunch of specific questions, so sorry about that.

CSSN COPELAND: You're fine.

SA GEREL: All right, so I think I'm going to have him start kind of talking more about those--the--the the weekend. But before I do that, did you have any questions about the stuff we've covered so far?

SA MANN: Just with, I guess, [redacted], like what was your guys, the extent of your--how would you. Like, describe your relationship? Like, what'd you guys?

CSSN COPELAND: We were just work people, like people that work together.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That's literally what I would describe it.

SA MANN: Oh. Do you guys ever get into. Like, the maybe want to date, hookup, connect scene?

CSSN COPELAND: Not even--not even thought about that.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: All right. I was curious, kind of what--how you guys were inter-weaved. Like, friends, dating, relationship. Kind of just, we hook up because can. Whatever it is.

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CSSN COPELAND: Like, she knows that, and I wouldn't do nothing with her. At the end of the day. Like, we work together.
SA MANN: Why's that?
CSSN COPELAND: Huh?
SA MANN: Why's that?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, me personally, I had a bad experience with a CS, and after that, like I--I told myself I can't get with a CS. Like, they're cool to hang out with, but physically dating with CS, I can't do that shit no more.
SA MANN: Can you tell me a little about that?
CSSN COPELAND: So, there was a female that was on the DDG that I'm on now.
SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: And we were talking for a little bit, and we started taking it a little more serious. And there it came to a time where she had a seizure on the barge. So, as soon as I got off work, I went and picked her up. And I was on my way home, and my--my tire blew up on the highway, and my rim cracked.

So, I called my homeboy to come pick me up, and I took--I called the towing company to tow the car to the nearest shop where I can get--get my tire fixed.

SA MANN: Yeah.

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CSSN COPELAND: So, basically, I was asking, do they have a spare tire? And they were saying they don't have spare tires. And--and able, for me to get a tire for my rim, I would have to have, like, a good rim because my rim split.

SA MANN: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was, like, fuck. So, my homebody took me to the junk yard. We went to the junk yard. I picked up a spare tire from there, and I called the dealership, I got my car from, and--and he gave me a number for a welder, and he welded the rim together, and then, from there, I ended up buying a tire from there, and I got it all fixed, same day and everything. Cool. And she was with--she was with us the--the whole time.

So, I get home, and she came home with me, and I laid down on the couch, like I fell asleep. And, you know, she's. Like, she wants--obviously wants attention. She's. Like, "Can you talk to me for a little bit?" This, that, and the third? And I was, like--I was, like, "Can you give me, like, just, like, 15 minutes? Like I'm--I'm tired as fuck. Like, you've seen everything I just did today."

So, she was like--like, "All right, cool." And, so, she sat down. I wake up and she's talking shit on the phone with her sister about me. So, I was, like, "All right, cool. Like, you are--are

just going to sit here and be disrespectful in my face. You can leave." She was, like, "All right, fuck you, then."

She left, realized she had nowhere to go, so she's sitting outside my door, banging on my door for, like, eight hours. I just told her, I was, like, "Goodnight. Like, you chose to leave. I'm not opening the door. And you left and did what you did. You blew up, projected, and did what you did. I'm not coming to open the door."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, she's talking about she's going to go get the RA to come open my door. This, that, and the third. I'm just, like, I just kept saying, "Goodnight, goodnight, goodnight." And it came about. Like, five, six o'clock. My roommate was going to go get breakfast, and she pushed my roommate out the way and bombarded my room with a knife in her hand.

SA MANN: Jeez.

CSSN COPELAND: She broke everything. Like, all my electronics in my room. She fucking destroyed my room. She tried to stab me. There was a whole shit show. And then, from there. I think it was, like, almost a week straight, she slashed my tires every day, and every day I had to fucking fix that shit.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

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CSSN COPELAND: On top of that, coming to work. So, on that part, it was a whole shit show. And after that, I'm. Like, I--I can't fuck with a CS no more.

SA GEREL: What's that girl's name?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GEREL: [redacted] Okay. She's on the barge?

CSSN COPELAND: No, not no more. They took her off the barge because she--she had a seizure, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She's in some command on base.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Yeah. It sounds. Like, yeah, it didn't sound good. Did she catch any charges from that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GEREL: Did you tell anybody?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, they had the MAs involved. I talked to NCIS on the, not this building, but it's a building, it was the precinct. That's what it was. They took me to the precinct.

SA GEREL: Oh, gotcha.

SA MANN: On base.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. And I talked to a detective from there.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Did she pay you back or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Not that I--not yet. I--I don't know how that----

SA MANN: How long ago was it?
CSSN COPELAND: This was a couple months ago.
SA MANN: Okay. Yeah.
SA GEREL: All right.
SA MANN: Yeah, I guess obviously that's a rough lesson to learn, but expensive one.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: But--but it is just kind of a, not, I guess for lack of better. Like, picking up things at work just didn't make sense anymore. Like, just try to keep work and life like that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: Personal life a little separate from a relationship perspective.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, on top of that, you know, when I was on the carrier, I talked to people, and I also talked to. Like, you know. Like, the higher-ups, first classes, and they always said never date a CS. At the end of the day----
SA MANN: Okay. So, what--how would you describe then the relationship you have with [redacted] Like, what would you guys say you are?
CSSN COPELAND: Just friends. I mean, we work together. Cool. You know, if we, you know, do something outside of work or, you know,

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like sometimes we go eat or just find something fun to do. Go bowling or something.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, that's what we did last time. Before this time, we hung out. It was me and two other CS's, but they weren't on our ship and----

SA MANN: This past weekend, or the----

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. Not this past weekend. It was months ago.

SA MANN: Oh, okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, when I first--when I got back from deployment.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: And, she--we went out and, my homeboy picked--no, my homegirl picked me up and my homeboy that I previously met that--that day, we all went out and we went to Dirty Buffalo and then, we went to Dave and Buster's. And there's been another time I think we went out and we were watching a football game, too.

So, it's been a couple times we hung out previous to her coming over, so we just work together. I do the same with everybody I work with. Like, if y'all want to pop out, do something for the weekend or something, just go find something chill to do, we can always do that.

SA MANN: Okay. Did you guys ever hook up at any point?

CSSN COPELAND: Never. Not one point.
SA MANN: Oh, would you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, I already told you, fucking with a CS--
--
SA MANN: No, I mean, like, CS aside. Like, did you, like--she a pretty girl. You're, like, "Hey, this is----"
CSSN COPELAND: I don't really look at her like that.
SA MANN: No. Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: So, I think I said this at the beginning, but just to kind of reiterate it, when you're talked to by people like us, police or authorities. Like, there's always going to be a little temptation to make sure you're, like, "Oh shit, this is kind of rough. I--I feel like I need to make sure I do--do what I can to protect myself." That's very normal, very natural.

So, with that being said, though. Like, particularly Tyler and I as polygraph examiners, when we talk to you today, we--we may use a lot of what we talk about if--when you come back, right? I love that you want to come back because I think that's a good way you can help yourself to relieve some of this stress.

So, but it's really crucially important that we get. Like, the best truth. The truth is the truth. Right? It is what it is.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

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SA GEREL: But sometimes when you get talked to by multiple people. Like, it's very normal for you to remember different things, to have things you want to add some clarifications. That's just normal stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: If you--I'd like to encourage you to do that with us today. So, if there's something that you know, you said before, and you're, like, "I know I said that, but I kind of wish I could have said it a little differently," you can. All right? You can say it differently.

We want--we want to help you the best way we can, and that's only we can do is working with the full truth.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, like, if there's something that might come in and feel like they may get mad about that, or it may come across as making me, like, dishonest, whatever, I don't want you to worry about that. It's--it's me asking you to be very strong and courageous to trust us like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But I'm only saying that because I'm an old dude and I talk to a lot of folks, and then--and that I'm also a human. So, like, I get that instinct to be cautious and careful with what you say. Because you--you don't want to get any further trouble. I get

it. You just have to trust us to know that we aren't worried about you, we're worried about her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, there might be some things that you could add more details to, and I just really encourage you to do that.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as what?

SA GEREL: Well, particularly about what we're going to get into, which is, like, I'd like you to walk us through. Like, the--the weekend. So, from--from the night that you all made arrangements to make the tacos and salsa----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----kind of start there and then, give us. Like, the best absolute account of--of what happened between then and when she went missing.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, because again, like we're seeing some things that we--we think could be important, but some of them may not even know it's important yet.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But because you spent a lot of time with her around then you prob--you almost a hundred percent know things that will help us find her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's why we're--we're going through it multiple times. You did a good job last time, but I'd like you just to have that--that comfort. Like, if you need to add or change a few of those details, please do.

CSSN COPELAND: Because everything I said from the last time they talked to me is pretty much the same.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and--and what--what I'd like--we--we have this thing that we do and--and we call it a timeline. And--and it comes in a little different, but it's very helpful because of the way the human brain works. It--it's part of a--a method that we call scientific interviewing. Sometimes it's helpful, sometimes it's not. But it--it, I think in this case you really might be able to find some more details that could help the case.

So, all it is--is we'll put a piece of paper right here. We'll get. Like, a beginning of the--the timeframe register and then the end of it. And we'd like you--did you bring sticky notes?

SA MANN: I think they're still in the car. We can find some here.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: I'll see if I can. S

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. Thank you. I'll keep explaining it.

[SA Mann departed the room at timestamp 1:05:00.]

SA GEREL: And--and so, how we do it is you just get these little yellow sticky notes and--and on the paper. Like, we'd like you to

write. Like, the memory you have and put it on the timeline. Like, where you think it goes in order.

And then, it doesn't have to be. Like, from, it doesn't have to be. Like, any particular way. Just as you think of stuff. Like, as you think of it, write it, put it down, and then go to the next thing. "Okay, I remember this." Write it down. Put it down where you think it goes in order, and--and just do that which will allow us to get the--a good picture of kind of how you remember the--the timeframe, with her that worked out.

CSSN COPELAND: So, like, I'm writing or, like, writing words.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Or I'm drawing,

SA GEREL: No, not drawing. Just words.

CSSN COPELAND: Oh.

SA GEREL: So, like, you know, I don't want to give too many examples because it's actually good for you to--to--to use your own words and thoughts. But as an example. Like, if you want to have--like, if you have a memory about the grocery store. Like, Food Lion or whatever it is, and--and then, put a Food Lion. And then, you see what I mean? And--and then, you can get--be as descriptive as you want, or you can be as general like that as you want. You can put "grocery store."

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And then, just kind of put it in the order of things are, and then, that'll help us to kind of probably develop some other questions that you can help us with.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Is that cool?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: He'll back with that in a second. I'll go and your space ready.

[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 1:06:22.]

SA MANN: All right. We got a few. We can probably find some more if we need to, for now.

SA GEREL: Nice. Good work.

SA MANN: I mean, it's not a ton, but we can hunt out some more. I'm sure that was just a quick ask.

You getting--you get a ride over here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: You have a car? I know you said. Like, you had one, but you do you still got it.

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. It's fucked up.

SA MANN: Oh. What's wrong now?

CSSN COPELAND: The head gasket.

SA GEREL: Oh, so it's not just a fixed tire anymore, huh? Okay. So, how you been getting around normally now?

CSSN COPELAND: Either my roommate drops me off, and my home boy will text me home.

SA MANN: Okay. Have you been driving at all?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA MANN: No? Okay. Do you have access to a car you can even drive?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I mean, like, my roommate, you know, sometimes my roommate, he'll let me drive his car if I need to go grab something to eat, or sometimes he'll take me there.

SA MANN: What's he got?

CSSN COPELAND: He drives a Jeep.

SA MANN: Okay. I--I might have a marker. No, I don't. All right.

SA GEREL: All right. So, kind of already explained to him the general idea. Let's kind of consider this the beginning of our timeframe. And when--when did you have that evening? Do you know when you were preparing the salsa?

CSSN COPELAND: Can you say that again?

SA GEREL: Yeah. When--when did you--what day did you----

SA MANN: When you were making tacos.

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SA GEREL: Yeah, when were you making tacos?
CSSN COPELAND: Thursday. I believe it was Wednesday transitioning to Thursday.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, Wednesday. I don't know if you think of it this way, but do you think of it in terms of. Like, calendar dates? Do you remember what date that was? If you don't, that's okay.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: Okay. So--so, let's just go ahead and call that Wednesday. All right. And then, as many details as you can provide from Wednesday through----
SA MANN: Let's say the entirety of that week?
SA GEREL: Yeah. The entire weekend. So, we'll--we'll cut the weekend off, like----
SA MANN: Monday morning.
SA GEREL: ----Monday morning. All right. So, Wednesday through Monday.
SA MANN: You went to work Monday after?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I went to work Sunday as well, so.
SA MANN: Okay. Gotcha.
CSSN COPELAND: Well, I just--I didn't work Monday or Sunday, but I had to check in.
SA MANN: Right.
CSSN COPELAND: I was still being marked UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. And, if you need more space, we'll make it, and we'll get more of these if you need it, but you can go ahead and get started, and, to--have the thought, put down something that helps us know what that thought is and just place it wherever you feel like you can go send into the week. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like, for instance. Like, the whole weekend. Like, I ain't do shit.

SA GEREL: I know.

CSSN COPELAND: I just stayed home, so.

SA GEREL: So, I know this might feel like Why do they even care about all that? Every little detail is--is important. I mean, some stuff that we may don't know, stuff that you don't know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So--so again, as much as you can put in there.

SA MANN: Sometimes memory, too, like you--you and Angie could have had a thousand conversations that weekend and then, there'll be something that just by writing this down, you go, "Oh man, I remember she mentioned whatever." And that'll help us find some directionality. So, we're just--I know it seems kind of goofy. We're. Like, "Hey, do all this." But it--it is truly--the brain is a powerhouse. Right?

It's a machine doing all kinds of things. This will help maybe pull up some of those things that we just don't feel are pertinent.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: So, that's why we're asking. It's not--I know that you're probably. Like, what in the world are these guys doing? But we're trying to help that brain find those little things that could help us pivot to figure out where she's at.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, for instance, me, like, I'm not, like, the type of person to--I don't know. Because. Like, when I talk----
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: ----that's what brings back memories. Like, me writing things down because I'm not, like, really the type of person--I don't like reading. I don't like books.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm. Like, more about outgoing person. Like, outdoors, like doing all this, like, it is cool, but it's, like, I don't think that'll refresh my memory.
SA MANN: How about this? If you talk it and we write it, and then, we'll just figure out where it goes timewise? Does that work for you?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, that's fine. I mean, I don't have--have a problem writing either, but I'm just letting you know that.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Let's let him give it a go. I--I mean, I appreciate you sharing that----

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CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I'm willing to do it.
SA GEREL: ----and--and we--we've got no--we've got nothing to lose about trying this.
CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
SA GEREL: So--so it may--it may help with your memory, it may not, but--but it--it is a good attempt and we thank you for giving it a go.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah.
SA MANN: And if you want, if it's easier, we can stick this on the wall, and you can write it out. I don't know. Whatever you----
CSSN COPELAND: It's fine.
SA MANN: Okay. Whatever will help you.
SA GEREL: Yeah. I'll get out of your way. So, let me go run and try to find some more of this.
SA MANN: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Where is it at in the car, by the way, just in case it as a last ditch effort.
SA MANN: They probably just floating around the truck somewhere, but----
SA GEREL: Okay.
SA MANN: Then, we'll make that--I just tossed them in there, so I-- I don't even know if they--actually, let me see if I have a-- sometimes I throw a sticky pad in here. Or not that one. This one.

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That'll work.

SA GEREL: Oh, that's good. Yeah. That's good. Perfect.

SA MANN: I forgot I had that in there. See, using it on me. Little memory keys. Right? We can even do it for this.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: A little big. But it's all right.

While you're doing this, too, is there something we can get you to eat? Snacks or something? Just kind of power. I know you brought some in your hat like that jerky.

CSSN COPELAND: No, I--I'm fine.

SA MANN: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't even know that was in my pocket.

SA MANN: Oh, well, there you go. Surprise.

SA GEREL: And, in this room, I can also offer you an apple and crackers, Captain's wafers.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

So, like, when you say, like, Wednesday through Monday. Like, this is what happened each day?

SA GEREL: Yeah. However, really want to kind of tackle it. But you--you can--yes, please. Just as you think through those several days, of--of your--of your memories, just put them down as you--as you recall. And it does not have to be in order. So, you can, if

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you think of something that happened Saturday, "Man, this happened right there."

SA MANN: So, it's easier. You can use these. They just--I don't know if that'll help, but I--I don't know if the stickers all messed up on those.

CSSN COPELAND: I--I just--yeah. Yeah. It is just, like, it's staggered weirdly.

SA MANN: Oh, okay. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

SA GEREL: I am sure that's not a rat.

SA MANN: Old buildings. If it makes you feel any better, this place probably isn't much better than a barge, and we're stuck here, so. SA GEREL: Hey, Copeland, you're doing a great job. We're going to give you the room for a minute, just to give you a little privacy. Here's your other pad if you if you run out the stickies. You can use these, too, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. Thank you.

SA GEREL: We'll come check on you in a few minutes. All right?

CSSN COPELAND: All right. Thank you. You mind if I--you mind just handing me the beef jerky stick?

SA GEREL: Of course, yeah. You--you want an apple or the Captain's wafers.

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SA MANN: No, no. We can get you. Like, chips, crackers, whatever.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm good. Thank you.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 1:19:40.]

[SA Mann and SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 1:45:20.]

SA GEREL: Hey Copeland. All right. Looks like you did some good work here. Work here. How you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm doing all right.

SA GEREL: Okay. Good. I'm going to let you put your head down. How you feeling?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm tired.

SA GEREL: So, you said you didn't get any--you didn't get any sleep at all last night? Like, did--did you try?

CSSN COPELAND: I sleep--I mean, on top of that, I have a roommate, so he's the game screaming so.

SA GEREL: Oh, man.

CSSN COPELAND: He doesn't--he doesn't like--so his schedule is a lot easier.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: He literally stays up gaming the whole night.

SA MANN: And you have to listen to it.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, he usually gets off the game around. Like, when he has to go to work.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, he goes to work and then sleeps the entire day.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, he stays up all night screaming, and I don't think I closed my eyes--it was maybe around. Like, three, four o'clock.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When I actually got into the bed, because I was setting up the whole entire time for my uniform.

SA GEREL: Yeah, uniform. Did you touch sleep at least and catch a few--few moments?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. All right.

SA MANN: Yeah. So, good work. It looks like. Talk--talk us through. What do--do you--what do you got here?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, from the start to finish, is everything got correlated each day of?

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I believe the first through the third one is Wednesday.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from the third to the fourth one is Thursday to Friday. And then, from there, each--I believe I have each day on.

SA GEREL: Okay. What's that one say? Cleanup and something Angie helped?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She helped me clean up, and then she left.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, this is, do you--you remember about this, like what time or approximately?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't.

SA GEREL: Like, morning, midday, afternoon.

CSSN COPELAND: I think it was sometime in the morning.

SA GEREL: Okay. What day was that?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday.

SA MANN: About--so it was the night after you guys had hung out?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. Can you--do you need more paper or space or anything? I don't want to limit it.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's pretty much. Like, everything that I could. Like, just write down like that. I mean, I--I obviously. Like, I was just keeping it. Like, limited. But as long as you have questions, I'll answer them.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. So--so if you thank you for that, it's really good detail. I really appreciate you doing

that. So, any other details you can add to the phone calls that she started having? Like, that--that Wednesday night,

CSSN COPELAND: I think the first phone call started off with her calling her--her ex from Texas.

SA GEREL: When--when--when that happened, how was she--was she I--I--what was her--what was her emotional state. Like, when she started calling her?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine. Like, before she even started talking. Like, she was, she was, like, checking in on him, seeing how he was doing, and then, from there, that's when she told me to come over and meet him, and she was basically saying, like, we kind of looked the same.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, we have, like, the same body build, complexion--like, skin complexion. And she was saying, like, if I--if I was to get to know him. Like, would be. Like, good friends or whatever.

SA GEREL: So, she said, come over and meet him. Like, was it FaceTime or something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They were----

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you saw him on the phone?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there. Like, I was, like, "What's good bro?" And he was, like, "What's good?" And then, I just introduced myself, and she introduced me to him. And he kept--we kept it pretty cordial and then, from there, that's when they started talking.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, help me understand a little before that, you said that she uses her ex as kind of. Like, her--her main go to. I might have misunderstood, but I--I was kind of under the impression she--she was upset before that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That's when we started talking about Gil.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like in his incident. Like, that's when we first started talking about it, and she was, like, "No fucking way." You know, and just talking. She was, like, "I got a call, so and so," whatever her ex's name is.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then, that's when she was, like, "Oh, this is my ex from Texas." And then, she hopped on FaceTime, and then, from there, she was, like, "Come over so you can meet him." And that's when I met him.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, the--the Gil stuff, how--how long would that conversation with Gil happen before that FaceTime with the ex?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably. Like, seven minutes.

SA GEREL: Okay. Before that seven minutes, how was she acting?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was cool. Like, we were listening to music, and then, from there, she was teaching me how to make the tacos. Like, it was, like, corn--corn tacos.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: Once she put oil in a pan.
SA GEREL: Nice.
CSSN COPELAND: And she would let the, like, the tortilla like--like when it started softening and then, I would fold it in half.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there, I would put it on a plate, and then, I would put cheese in there, the taco meat, and then, whatever condiments I wanted, and then, the salsa.
SA GEREL: Okay. Were they good?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was good. The salsa, that shit was spicy as fuck though. When you eat it. Like, it is good.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
SA MANN: It hurts later. Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. And then, like--like a couple of minutes later, you start feeling in your stomach, and that shit--that shit will hurt.
SA GEREL: Did she make it. Like, from scratch?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Oh, nice. All right. So, before that, she was acting cool. Sometimes, when someone goes from cool to not cool, something triggered it. Do you--do you know what triggered the cool to not cool?

CSSN COPELAND: The bike helmet. Like, when she was talking about the bike helmet, that's what triggered it.

SA GEREL: So, she heard--did--well, tell me about that bike helmet. How did she--how did the bike helmet come up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. She was, I guess, texting Gil or some shit, and she had mentioned something, and she was, like, "You want to hear something crazy?" I was, like, "What's up?" And then, that's when she started talking about the Gil thing. And I was, like--I was, like--well, I was, like, "I'm not really going to get y'all situation, but that's crazy. Because he had told me today about such and such."

And that's when I told her about the--the conversation that I had with him on the mess decks about the female that had his bike or that drove on his bike. And she was, like, that's--that, like, she was, like, "That's fucking crazy."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, "Come look at this. And she was, like, showing me the text of when he was asking for the bike helmet

back and shit. And then, from there, I'm guessing she just put two and two together.

SA GEREL: Oh. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's what caused her blow up about the bike helmet.

SA GEREL: Okay. Gotcha. All right. And so, after that phone call with the ex, what--how did the night go from there?

CSSN COPELAND: I was just cooling and I was just sitting on the couch, just listening to music while she's over there just calling everybody. Just left and right, just calling people. And then, I remember my roommate had walked in, and he walked in because he--I believe he came from the airport, from leave or some shit.

SA GEREL: Is it your actual roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Oh, no, no, no. It's the people from across the room. So, inside the room, there's four people per room.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: But not four people per room, but it's four people in the room. SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But two people per--per room.

SA GEREL: Gotcha. So, you can----

CSSN COPELAND: It was the dude that lives across.

SA GEREL: You know their names?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know his name. I think it's like--his name is, fuck, fuck, fuck. I think it's, like, something Cruz. I think his last name is Cruz.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he's--he's Mexican. And. Like, he walked in, he is like--he's. Like, "Yo, everything good?" He's like--he looked at her, he is, like, "She good?" I was, like, "Bro, just--just let her have a moment." I'm just sitting on the couch, just cooling. And he was, like, "All right, bro." He's. Like, "if something pop off or you need me, just come knock on the door. I was, like, "All right, cool."

From there, she just kept making other phone calls and shit, and I told her, "I--I--I'm going to just go ahead to sleep. So, if you--if you want to go to sleep, then go ahead," and from there, that's when I went to sleep. By the time I woke up, she was in the bed, and that's when Chief was on the door.

So, I thought it was my roommate. Because sometimes when I close the door or if the door closes, my roommate either knocks or he fiddles with the handle.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, I thought it was him. So, I was, like, "Hold on." And I opened the door, and it's my Chief and he's. Like, "What's going on?" And I was, like, "Morning, Chief." And then,

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obviously, I see it's daylight, so I'm. Like, "Fuck." And he was, like, "Yeah." He was, like, "Having a late start, huh? I was, like, "Yes, Chief," and then, from there, he just told me to clean up and then, find a way to work. He's. Like, "Do I got a way to work?" I was, like, "Yeah. Obviously, when my roommate gets here, he can take me."

But by the time my roommate got home, they were off work. So, that's when the bullshit on my behalf started. And I thought we had a blind turnover because last week we had a--a 96, so I was working that weekend. And how it worked, I would--the processes is if I was working, then I would--I would have to come in at 4:30. And if I wasn't. Like, a regular turnover.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Like, for instance, today I came in at 7:30 for turnover.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, I thought I didn't have to come in Friday. Cool. They didn't really say nothing. And then, Saturday hits, and they tell me I'm UA. I'm not, you know, me being a junior Sailor, not knowing the full details about being marked UA, so I'm not thinking it's a big deal. I was just, like, all right, cool. Like, they'll just see me Monday.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I'll explain what the fuck happened over the weekend. And then, Sunday hits, that's when more bullshit happens. You know, they had the MAs come get me out of my--my room, and they're basically asking me, like, I'm being marked UA. My command is looking for me and so on. So, I was, like, "All right, cool."

Then, after they left, I called my Chief, and I was, like, "Yo, Chief." I was, like, "Obviously, this is getting out of hand. You know, you guys marking UA and whatnot, whatnot." And my Chief was basically--he, you know, I'm not going to say because you know it, it's him and it's me, but he was telling me, "Go in Monday, because it--it is not really going to make a difference or whatever." But he was, like, "If you want to go in today, you--you know, it's your choice."

So, I was, like, "Yeah, I already got my uniform and shit on, so--so I'll just go in and, you know, see whatever they--they can do. Like, you know. And he was, like, "All right." But he was basically telling me, like, I didn't have to go in. Like he said, I still could waited until Monday, but----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----it would've made shit worse from--from what they said. But, you know, I went in, checked in with the CDO. The CDO was, like, yeah, my parents had called, and she called the command and she called the base. She was worried because I didn't answer

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her call. So, so. I was, like, "Yeah, I talked to her." She wasn't-- you know, she put belt to ass on me, so.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: From there, they made me do a urinalysis, and then, from urinalysis, I went back home. Well, after I had left, I--I went to Chipotle. It was me and my two roommates that's across the room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And they took me to Chick-fil-A. We went to Chick-fil-A. We all got something to eat, went back home, ate, and then, the morning comes, I wake up, you know, a little early, and I'm trying to book a Uber, trying to book a Z-trip. Nothing's popping up. Because obviously the--the Truman just got back. So----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----I'm guessing it's hella busy. So, I called--I called Chief Parker, and I was, like, "Morning, Chief." He's. Like, what's going on?" And I was, like, "Do you--you think it's possible--" I was, like, "Do you think, you know, you can give me a ride? Because I tried booking so, and so, and it's not working." But that's when I was, like, "I think it's just because the Truman's back."

So, he was, like, "Yeah." He was, like, "I'm almost at work." But he was, like, "You're fine, I'll come grab you." So, he came

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and grabbed me, and then, from there, I went to work. Chain of Command was just asking. Like, why was I UA, why I--I didn't answer calls and shit. And then, after that, finished work and then, I--I went home.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then as the days went by, that's when everything started getting serious. Like NCIS, and everybody started talking to me.

SA GEREL: Yeah. When did you start thinking that--that--that Angie might be part of that? Like, when did you, when did--did you start ever thinking about her as far as the UA thing?

CSSN COPELAND: When I got to work and they basically told me that the both of us has been marked UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, is that the first time that that came to mind?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. All right, so let's back up a little bit. On the--the night. So, you guys--Wednesday tonight, you guys are chilling. You watch her go through some stuff. You stayed calm. You--you room roommate comes in and--and says, "Everything cool?" And you're, like, "Yeah." He's. Like, "Let me know if you need help." Was that uncommon? Did he ever have that kind of comment to you before? Like, where he is asking you if, like, you know, the girl's okay or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I mean, at the end of the day. Like, he walked in and saw somebody crying.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like, if you were--I'm not saying like----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----you know, theoretically if you were, you know, my roommate and you walk in to see somebody, you know, just sitting there crying, you would ask is everything----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----okay?

SA GEREL: Is everything okay? No, I--I gotcha. All right. Was there--tell me about when she stopped crying. Was there a timeframe when she calmed down?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, yeah. Afterwards, when I told her. Like, "I'm about to. Like, go to sleep. I was, like, "It's getting late as fuck." I was, like, "I work." And--and she was, like, "Yeah, you're right." And from there, she had just sat down, and I was just, like, "If you need something, then I would just be in bed. Like, you come grab me."

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, around that time, like, she was still crying, but she was also, like, you know, I just told her. Like, "You--you got to chill. Because you know, I got people in the room."

SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: "And if you start making--like, you start getting louder and--and shit, obviously like they're going to wake up."
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: I was, like, "Just, like, if you need to go outside, go ahead." Cool. And I was, like, from there, "I'm go to sleep." And she was, like, "All right." And that's when I went to sleep.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. And what--what happened after you went to sleep with her? Or what else happened? Did she stay in the same place, or did she move, or what--what happened there?
CSSN COPELAND: She stayed--she went to bed and then, when I woke up, that's when Chief was knocking on the door.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there, he was just asking. Like, I need to get to work and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: That's when I told him. Like, "I'll get to work," but obviously, my roommate coming late as fuck, I couldn't, so.
SA GEREL: Gotcha. Gotcha. So--so we've heard, and read some accounts of like when--when you were first talked to by NCIS and kind of how you shared that stuff. And we watched the--the video of that--where the video, you talking to them this last time, which is more detailed.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: And then, this is very helpful too. So, a couple things, and this is normal, so don't worry, but there's a couple things that are just a little different in that. And so, we're trying to understand why. So--so one of the things that is a little different, and some of this is also compared to some of the people are saying that they saw. Some of your roommates and things like that.

But what--we have reason to think that somebody claims they saw you and her in the common room, at least in some portion of being unclothed. Help us understand that.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's what the female had said to me. She said my Chief walked in and saw both of us. Like, with no clothes on. And I was, like, that's not true because obviously my Chief knocked on the door.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And he was--he was, like, knocking on the door and shit and playing with the handle. I thought it was my roommate. I opened the door and I had a full conversation with him.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And--and like I was telling you, that's when the other detective. Like, that's when she, like--I felt like she was, like, antagonizing me. Like that's when she started playing her

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role, and she's sitting there. Like, basically trying to make it seem like I'm lying or some shit. "Oh, so you're just going to sit here and actually call your Chief a liar?"

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Well, I think maybe that could have been a misconception, too. Like that could have come from a roommate, not Chief, like somebody that was seeing you guys. Because my understanding, the first time you talked to everybody, you said you--you guys had been drinking that night?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She--she had, you know, a couple shots and then, I had about two shots of the buzz ball.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: From there, I was chilling.

SA MANN: Okay. What'd you guys do that night, though? Like, did you party hang out? Like, you're getting late into the hours?

CSSN COPELAND: We were just listening music and she was making her phone calls and shit and whoever she was on the phone with. As far as me, I told her. Like, "I'm--I'm chilling, I'm cooling. Because I--I got work," and she understood. I have work. Like, I mean, at the end of the day, we both work together. We're both CS's. Like, they know the fucking hours we work.

SA MANN: Well, why--I mean, I guess it's kind of. Like, that brings up what--a question of them. Like, why would somebody say

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that you two are partially or completely unclothed, laying on the floor in the living room area?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know who would've said that, but as far as when I woke up, when my Chief walked into the room, we were both----

SA MANN: I think you guys were in bed, obviously. Yeah. But, like, prior to that, any time throughout the night, were you guys out in the common area?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. We were in the common area the whole--pretty much the whole night until I basically told her I--I was going to sleep.

SA MANN: Did you guys ever take your clothes off?

CSSN COPELAND: I never did. I mean, I know----

SA MANN: Did she?

CSSN COPELAND: ---when I was in my room, I changed my clothes. I know she didn't either.

SA MANN: Okay. What was she--was she clothed when she was in bed with you, and no clothes?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. When she was in bed, she took her clothes off.

SA MANN: Okay. And. Like, what does that mean? Like everything? Did she have undergarments on. Like, bras and underwear?

CSSN COPELAND: No, she just took her top off, and she had her pants and everything on and her underwear. When I woke up, I just had my

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shirt--I just had my pants on, shirt off, because that's usually how I sleep. You can ask my roommate. It's either I sleep with--in my underwear, and just nothing. Well, just my underwear, or sometimes I'll sleep like with a tank top, shorts.

But for the respect of me having a female on my bed, I had shorts on, so.

SA GEREL: This might be a dumb question. It is a dumb question, but I'm going to ask it anyway. Was your roommate there? Like---

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: He was in the room that whole night?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. His name's Sean. Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, when she got in bed with you, did you know she got in bed with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I was dead asleep, and I didn't know until, obviously, I woke up and Chief was knocking on the door, and that's when I opened the door and, you know, we had our conversation.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. That's, I--I appreciate you sharing that. And then, that's you--you know--you you--you--you know probably why some of this might be suspicious to people.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You--you have a bit of a reputation as far as being a ladies' man. Like you--you girls like you. I don't know if that's true or not, but----

CSSN COPELAND: I just be chilling, man.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: If something happens, you know, sometimes it happens, man.

SA GEREL: Well, you--you know, you live your life----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----and then, the--the best you can and--and no criticism or judgment, and then, even maybe a jealousy on that. But--but, this is kind of the reputation you have. So--so with that perspective and to have, like, a--an attractive female who hops in bed with you, I think some people would presume that if you had a chance to have sex with her, you might would do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Most people probably would. If, you know, fully consensual and stuff like that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, I don't know if that's something that you'd be comfortable talking about, or maybe you've been uncomfortable talking about that. I actually do feel like you or--or have a--a--a

gentleman side of you too. So, you don't want to kiss and tell kind of stuff. And--and I respect that.

But again, it's a detail that if there's something like that that happened a bit more, it might make more sense. And--and if we have a--a person and not your Chief, but a person says that they saw you both unclothed in the common room and then, the Chief finds you unclothed in the bed, it kind of just becomes a little more understandable.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: It definitely doesn't mean anything more than you guys had consensual sex. You--you know, as far as that goes. But--but it would help us to understand that a little more. Is there--is there more you want to share about that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's as far as it went. I told her I was going to sleep and shit, and that's pretty much how it went. Obviously, when I woke up, Chief came in, told me, just make sure when I get to work, I--I get to work and shit. From there, I was, like, "All right, cool.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA MANN: Did Chief say anything to her?

CSSN COPELAND: He, obviously, he was, like, "Is [redacted] in there?" And I moved out the way I was, like, "Yeah, she's right there." He saw her laying down and then, he was, like, "All right, cool. Just

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make sure, you know, she gets home and then you get to work." He was just mainly worried about. Like, for me, getting to work. Because, obviously, I was supposed to be there at a certain time.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I'm not there. And then, obviously, I didn't go in the rest of the day, so now I'm being marked UA.

SA MANN: Gotcha. So, again, I know the--the sex piece is always a fun conversation. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Like, I surely want to go talk to NCIS about all my sexcapades.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: But, you know, it's not like we want to ask you, we have to. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: Like--like we're trying to let you have a private life, too. But it is important just to make sure, if something happened between you two sexually, that we're aware of that because that does explain things.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: So, and like I said, I know, you know, people have said you've got a little--little bit of game in the tank, so it sounds like you do all right, but----

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: ----all that said, you know, if she happened to be one of them. Like, you know, it--it one way or another don't matter whether you did--didn't, but we just want to make sure we have the--
--
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: ----factual status of it. Aside from that, so I kind of want to start working, I think we both do, towards like what now. Right? So, Chief's there. You're, like, well, I guess, I'm just, like, at this point, like you said, not knowing what you don't know, you're, like, "Does it matter if I go to work today or the next day? I--trouble's trouble."

So, Chief leaves. Walk us through the rest of that morning.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Chief left, and then, after that, she woke up. I was, like, "You just want to help me clean, so obviously. Like, I can get to work." She was, like, "Yeah, cool." So, she started helping me clean, and then, from there, I cleaned up my room and shit.

Picked up. Like, my shoes and shit. Put them up--put them up, and then, from there, she left. I was, like, "If you need something, just call or text me." Cool. Got you. She left, and then I called my roommate and I'm asking him. Like, "What time are you getting off?" And he was telling me he doesn't know yet because

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my--with his squadron, their shit is, it's a little different. Like, they have a day schedule, night schedule. Like, day schedule comes in at a certain time, leaves at a certain time. Night schedule--I don't know what time, but night schedule, and I don't know what schedule he was on.

So, by the time he got home, I just called Chief around dinner time when he told me to come in, I was, like, "I'm--I'm still waiting on my roommate." And he was, like, "All right, cool." So, I just sat down and I went to sleep until he got there. By the--the time he got there, I looked at the time I was, like, "Fuck." I was just, like, well, I'll just go in Monday and obviously tell them what happened.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't know, like if you don't show up to work one day, you have to, you know, go the next day and be. Like, I'm here.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I just--I was just, like, fuck it. I went to sleep and then, the weekend proceeds, and then, obviously, Sunday or Saturday, they tell me I'm UA. And then, Sunday the MAs come through and shit, and then, from there I go to the--the barge and then--go to the CDO and shit. Tell him, "I'm--I'm here."

And then, Monday hits the next thing that we both were UA, and I was, like, bro, what the fuck? And then, now that's all this.

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SA MANN: Yeah. How--how was she when you left, or I'm sorry, when she left, how--how was she acting?
CSSN COPELAND: She was good. Like, she was just like acting normal and shit. Like, how she usually does when she's at work or, like, you know, energetic and shit. And then, she--she was just, like, "Cool. If you need something, just call or text me, or some shit." And she was, like, "All right, bye." And then from there, I finished touching up. Like, putting the dishes in the dishwasher, and that's when I called my roommate asked him. Like, what time's he getting off and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay. How did she feel about the Chief seeing her in your bed?
CSSN COPELAND: At the time she was asleep, so--so I don't really think she cared that much. I mean, she--when she woke up and shit, I was, like, "Chief was in here," and she was, like, "All right." And I was, like, "Yeah. So, I got to start getting ready for work."
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, obviously, I don't think she cared that much.
SA GEREL: All right. I don't know the rules for your barracks. Is that something that's allowed?
CSSN COPELAND: What females?
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. You can have females in your room.
SA GEREL: All right. So, the fact that she's in your bed is not just an instant problem, it's a, you know--it's allowed is what you're saying?
Did you think the Chief was upset by that or should have--have been upset? Not should have been. But was he upset?
CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. He was just telling me, like, make sure I get to work and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. And how did she feel, or did she make any comment at all about the fact that she--she was in bed with you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. She didn't say anything. She just woke up and shit. But by the time she woke up. Like, I was already up like--like cleaning my room and shit because Chief just walked in.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, did--did you ever feel like interested in asking her what that was about? Like, why she just climbed in bed with you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, that's not--not the first time I slept with a female or had a female. Like, in my bed.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: There's been times where I had hella people in my room and, you know.
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, they want to sleep on the bed, all right, cool. And this was a female, she just want to sleep on it. Cool. Like, you go to sleep on the floor, you know. I--I usually sleep on the bed, I'll sleep on the floor, vice versa. Like, this is not the first female that I've had in my room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I've had many people. Like, groups of people in my room, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. Yeah. No, thank you for tolerating those questions. You--you--you, as I said, you know, kind of why they might be suspicious to some people.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And I know they're not easy question to answer, but it--it helped us to kind of get a better sense for that. All right. Now we're--we're also taking a little bit of a look at what--at least they thought they heard you say the first time they talked to you, which was not the time you came here, as far as when she left.

So--so, it feels. Like, I think you said, you drove her back to her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. I don't--I don't--I believe I could have said that too, but I was thinking I didn't obtain my roommate's car because my roommate always was at work, so,

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SA GEREL: Okay. Help--help me understand that. So, like, we definitely seem to have, like a strong perspective of what it was now. So, help me understand the difference here. Like, why you said that, that first time versus what you're saying now.

CSSN COPELAND: After I actually. Like, taking the time to actually process what happened as things got more serious, obviously, I had to get my story and timeline straight. So, obviously, my roommate didn't have his car.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or I didn't have my roommate's car because he was at work.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, when I knocked on the door, he was not in his room. He was gone, so.

SA GEREL: All right. All right. Okay. Is there any part of you that feels like that could have happened?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you--okay. Gotcha. So, you just had more time, and I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I'm just trying to make sure I'm understanding you right. So--so you're saying that you had time to think about it? Think about your story and timeline, and that's when you realized you didn't drive her?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Because my roommate wasn't home and I was, like, "Okay, why did I say I took her home? Obviously, if my roommate's not home."

SA GEREL: Okay. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, obviously, when I come in, I switched it up and you guys are going to think it's switched, but at the same time----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't have my roommate's car, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. No, again. You're reasonable. And you can kind of see why that might seem suspicious, but you're answering it and you're talking about it, so I appreciate that. I mean, sometimes that happens right when we remember something a little differently.

So, it is--it is a very important detail, in terms of, because that is the last moments, right, that you remember from her.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So--so that's always going to be an important topic when someone goes missing. What's the last thing we can figure out as far as someone sees her or talked to her? Like, that's why I keep asking how is she--how was she acting? All right.

SA MANN: I think kind of fast forwarding from that, so that--when's the last time you actually like eyes on her?

CSSN COPELAND: When she was leaving. Obviously, I was, like, "I'm getting ready for work and shit."

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And she walked out the door. I was just telling her before she left. Like, "If you need something, just call, text, and shit."

SA GEREL: Did she say anything about what she was doing when she left? Was there a conversation at all?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It was just, "Have a good day and shit." Like, you guys, all the people I hang out with, too. Like, if I'm leaving and shit, like I--I said the same thing. In the case you my boy, if you need something, just call, text me. Safety and if you need something. Like, I got you.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, can you kind of, then--just so she leaves. Can we start just kind of walking through your day a little bit, then? Like, step by step? And if you mess something up, miss something, go back, rewind, and add it in there because this is a great start. Right?

But now we want to kind of start filling in just to see maybe there's something that you're going to recall, remember that'll help point us in the right direction. So, like, she departs, what comes next for you that day?

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CSSN COPELAND: I--I finished cleaning, like I said. I was putting. Like, the rest of the dishes that was out into the dishwasher. Just wiping the counters and shit. Vacuuming, sweeping, and then, from there, I was waiting for my roommate.

SA GEREL: What'd you do while you waited?

CSSN COPELAND: I was just watching TV and then, from there, I laid down and then, by the time I woke up, I was, like, "Fuck." Because it was too fucking late. But I called my Chief around dinner time and I--I told him. Like, "I'm still waiting for my roommate." So, he was, like, all right, whenever he gets there, just let me know, whatever."

SA GEREL: What do--do you mean you say you. Like, woke up? Like, took a nap or?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, yeah.

SA GEREL: Not the--this isn't referring back to the morning. I just want to make sure I--I--I'm not confusing.

CSSN COPELAND: Oh, yeah. But yeah, I was just telling him. Like, I was waiting for my roommate----

SA GEREL: Just past time.

CSSN COPELAND: ----yeah. For the time waiting, I just went to sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay. And that was on the couch, you said?

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. By the time--no, no, no. It was in my room. Like on my bed.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: By the time he got back, it was too late.

SA MANN: What time was that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know.

SA MANN: Just----

CSSN COPELAND: Like, by the time I woke up, it was--dinner was done.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And by the time, like, dinner starts. Like, our chain of command leaves, so I already knew before----

SA MANN: Are you talking about. Like, on the ship, like when you guys would be preparing dinner?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Like, but the barge, so.

SA MANN: Or the barge, okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I called him to verify. I was telling him. Like, "I don't think I'm going to make it." I--I told him I was just waiting for my roommate, and he said, "Whenever he gets there, just show face."

SA MANN: What time does dinner room for you guys on the barge?

CSSN COPELAND: 15 and. Like, 1530. And it ends around 17. So, we usually get off around, depending on how fast we clean, like 1730, 1745.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, by the time I woke up, it was--it was--dinner was done.

SA GEREL: It was after that. Sometime after 5:30 that night. Conceivably?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. Was your roommate back at that point?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I just woke up late.

SA GEREL: Gotcha.

W2: And then, from there, I was just, like, it's no need to argue or nothing, shit. And I was just, like, "Fuck it." And I was, like, when Monday comes, I'll just explain to. Like, what happened. But, obviously, I couldn't because I was freaking UA.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: They waited to tell me Saturday

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So----

SA MANN: So, what then. Like, you wake up, it's too late to go to work. What do you do with your Friday night?

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CSSN COPELAND: I--I just stayed home, like in the building. I was, like, going to the--the lounge and shit. Just chilling on my phone, on TikTok and shit. Because I'm--I'm telling you. Like, my roommate is one--one hard person to deal with.

Like, it's--it's--it is like sad, like how certain people live, and he's just one of those people that is just like--like you worried for. It's, like, when I first checked into the room, I think. Like, that first week I slept on the couch.

SA GEREL: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Because he just--the way he lives is filthy.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: He uses the bathroom, doesn't flush the toilet. He's never taken a shower ever since I've been there. The only time he's taken a shower was the first day that I entered the room, and I--I don't even think he took a shower. He just had the water running. He gets off work as soon as he gets off work, he takes off his clothes in the bathroom, and puts on the same pair of clothes he's been wearing for I don't even know how long.

He doesn't wash his clothes. He doesn't clean anything. He just keeps using. Like, for instance, I'll go to the store or some shit. I'll buy some food, or I'll buy like cups of shit. He doesn't ask to use it. All right. It's, like, you know, it's a

couple things. A couple, you know, I'm not going to argue. You know? Cool. I'm going to just let him do him.

So, it's just, like, every day I walk in and it's, like, I go in the room and the room just fucking stinks. Like, every--someone I'm going to fucking Walmart getting hella Febreze, hella. Like, shit filter out the room and his fucking stink is overpowering that shit.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just, like, bro, I don't know what to do. So--so I just fucking sleep on the couch. Or sometimes I'll just go on the--the lounge or I'll have, like, my homeboys come pick me up and go out. Like, pretty much every weekend we're--we're outside or some shit.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or they would just come over and we'll chill.

SA GEREL: So, do you go out that weekend as well then?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I stayed home. Like some days, like----

SA MANN: On Friday, Saturday, obviously Sunday, you went to work?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But this weekend I stayed in. I wasn't trying to go outside. I--I remember last weekend I touched out for a little bit, but I mainly stayed inside at my homeboy's crib.

SA MANN: Where is that?

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CSSN COPELAND: The PPV off base. So, we just stayed there pretty much the whole weekend, just chilling.
SA MANN: Is--when you say PPV, I know that's, like, the private, but is it, is he in like--like a legitimate house-house or is he in kind of an apartment set up? Like, what's his----
CSSN COPELAND: It's just like my barracks.
SA GEREL: Oh, same thing, just off base.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Okay. And that's where you were, what, Saturday?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I'm saying, like, the--not this last week.
SA MANN: Oh, the weekend before. Okay. Well, what about that weekend? Like, that Saturday?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That whole weekend, I stayed in the building. While I was just chilling. Like, in the lounge room or some shit, like on TikTok and Instagram, and then, when Sunday hit and I was taking a shit, that's when the MAs came and they basically told me, like, I'm UA and I need to report to my command. But the whole weekend I literally stayed home.
SA MANN: So, who can kind of help us account for that time? Seeing you in the building, talking to you, interacting with you?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, one, I mean, whatever MAs were there, I'm not sure what MAs were there.
SA MANN: I know Sunday, but I mean, like, Friday, Saturday.

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CSSN COPELAND: You got Miss Mary, the front desk.
SA GEREL: Okay. She's there on the weekends as well.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure about the weekends. I--I mean, obviously, the Truman got back, so I'm guessing she had to come in because people needed barracks, but usually she's there Monday through Friday, and sometimes over the weekend. I don't know really how their schedule works.
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, I remember Chief was saying, I know they have like--like eight hour shifts and shit. That's. Like, their duty days or whatever, so.
SA GEREL: Did she see you? Did you talk to her?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. We physically--we physically talked.
SA GEREL: When was that?
CSSN COPELAND: I believe it was, like, almost every day of the week. I remember she walked in, and I was sitting there, and she was, like--she was, like, "Are you in this building?" I was, like, I was, like, "Yes, ma'am." I started smiling and she was, like--she was, like, "What room are you in?" I was, like, "335." And she started laughing. She was, like, "Oh." She was, like, "What are you doing?" I was, like, "I--I'm just chilling." And she already knows my story about my roommate. So, she already knows. Like, I don't really associate. Like, how my roommate lives. So, like, if

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it gets to a certain point or too bad, I just leave the room or I just stay on the couch.

SA GEREL: You guys, when did you have that conversation with her? I believe that was Friday or Saturday. It was one of the two. And then, I remember when I was taking the shit, I remember she tried to open the door. I was out by the lounge, and she opened the--she tried to open the door, and I was, like, I'm--I'm here using the--the restroom. And she was like--like, "Who's that?" And I--I said, "Copeland." And she was, like, "Oh, okay." And she--she kept walking. I believe that was--that was Sunday. So, I'm pretty sure she can account for me--seeing me during the weekends.

SA MANN: Okay. And where did you. Like, did you not go out and get food? Anything?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I got hella food in the house.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I rarely go out to eat. I got hella food at the house.

SA MANN: Did anyone have a conversation with you about Angie at any point that weekend?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't think so. Rather than when Chief and them text me saying that I need to report to the ship. Rather than that, you know, I had other people text me, like asking if I was good. I answered my phone. Like most people know. Like,

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especially my chain of command, when I'm off, I'm off. I--I don't associate work and all that shit.

So, when I--especially, you know, you can talk to CS2 about that too. Like, because even with the incident with the female trying to stab me and shit, and when--when they were calling me and shit, I don't answer my phone for them. Like, I don't really, I don't really like my chain of command. Like, my second classes, they're cool, but when it comes to my first class, I don't fuck with my first class.

So, like, even when my first class texts, I don't text him. So, yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. So, Friday was just filled with TikTok and Instagram.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Same with Saturday and then Sunday as well. That's literally how my whole weekend was. I was just stayed at home in the barracks. And then, obviously, Sunday, that's when the MA's came. So, a little halfway through my day, I was----

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----getting ready to leave.

SA GEREL: So, what's something you think that you can tell us that's going to help us figure out where Angie's at?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I got no clue. I mean, obviously, you guys are, I've done everything you could so far. You've questioned me. You

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fucking destroyed my whole fucking room. Damn near three days consecutive. And you guys got all my shit and so it's, like, at this point I--I--I got nothing else to offer. I--I don't know.

SA MANN: I think the biggest, obviously, you know. Like, gap points are the ones that we got to fill in. Right? So, like--like I said, just logically speaking through this to you to try and give you the best idea of what we've got to accomplish, it's a lot of time, but you just being on your own. Right?

And I'm not saying that you're making that up. Maybe you we're just hanging out in the lounge the whole time, but it leaves a lot of open doors. Right? Because, you know, so maybe somebody could see you for a minute or an hour. You know, there's some other things I think that are maybe important to that conversation that we want to have.

But ultimately, as we sit here right now, so you know, you look at Thursday morning when you guys wake up and it's Chief's there. Like, "Hey man, get to work." There's the entirety of Thursday, entirety of Friday, entirety Saturday, and partial of it a Sunday where it's tough to account for where you are. Right?

Because there's nothing, maybe other than a person at some point, maybe seeing you. So, we really want you to kind of think and go back and say, "Hey, where was I? Who was there? What--what helps lock in your version of what's happened?" which we want to be

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the truthful one. And--and we want to be able to verify that that helps. Right?

When you tell us something and we can go bounce it off something else, we go, great. That's what happened.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like I'm saying, I mean, miss Mary obviously, try this lady, she saw me. I remember--I can't recall if this was Saturday or Sunday, but I remember when I was sitting in the lounge, there was a--there was a white male that walked in. He offered me a bag of chips. I was, like, "Oh, I'm good." But they made him come into the lounge because they were waxing the floor.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, he tried to leave a couple times and they kept telling to come back and tell they're done waxing the floor. So, I had another encounterment with another male inside the lounge.

SA MANN: What day was that?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I said it was either Saturday or Sunday.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: bI couldn't recall which--which day it was. They also had hella--hella workers up there as well. So, they were waxing the floor. They obviously saw me. They--they told the both of us that we can leave now and then, I was, like, cool. I just walked down to my room.

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SA MANN: Okay. Walking this back a little bit, too, because you know, it's--it's not completely off the table. Right? But generally if somebody, and--and, you know, I'm not saying this happened, but if somebody were to harm themselves or just say, "Hey, I'm going to go off the radar, like I'm going to disappear," there's signs, right? It's hard to, especially for, you know, 20-year-old kid, 21-year-old girl, whatever she is at the--at this point, to really do all that without somebody kind of having some stamp. She's so, you know, just like you, it's that social media, you're always ingrained, you're on there.

So, it's--it's rare that somebody would just gone, right? Like without a trace. So, that's why we're asking a lot of these, probably to you, ambiguous, some kind of odd questions. It's because it's a, you know, there always a time for something to break from the norm, but more common is somebody ends up given some indicators, given some signs.

Something to provide a reason for, this is why I'm going to go do this, or this is why I'm going to disappear. This is why I feel like I need to go harm myself, or whatever it may be, if that's what happened. And I--I think at this point, you know, I know you have a special spot in your heart for family, and obviously that's what's eaten away at you a lot today.

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But having now seen, you know, Angie's mom and just the--the--the immense amount of pain that she seems to be in, having no idea, if nothing else, I think we all owe her just the best time talking through this, so we can to try and make sure that we're not missing any small stone to turnover.

Because for that hope that she has. Right? Like--like we're going to sit here and--and say, we--we need to do everything we can to try and find this girl.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: And, you know, that may unfortunately come down to alive or not.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: But, it gives a sense of closure, and I think that family piece is really going to be the motivator. Because, especially, you know, I can imagine if that happened to you, your mom was worried, but it was just a--a simple baby UA, but they still know where you are. And you guys, you alluded to that conversation happened.

And so, think about her mom now and how long has it been, you know, we're talking over a week and not having a single word of your daughter. You used to talk to her every day. Like, that's--that's tough. So, I know that family thing hits, and that's why we're just probably, it feels like bludgeon in you with a lot of questions that

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seem repetitive or redundant, but we're just trying to spark something.

Maybe it comes out a different way. Maybe you've got some detail that was buried before that it circles back. You're, like, "Oh, you know what?" And that's what we really want to do with you. That's what these kind of tools are for. That's why we do it. Because it's bigger than you. Bigger than me, bigger than him. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: You know, like let's say this was nefarious. Crime piece aside, if you could say something or do something that matters at this point. Like, that matters, but finding her matters more, right? So, I think that's--that's everybody's goal here. And I know you sort of said earlier. You have your own aspirations for----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----what's with her. But, you know, if you were able to send her a message now and maybe move the--move the needle or get her back or figure out where she was, what--what do you think you could say in that area that would help?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, not much. I mean, shit. Like I said, when she left, I told her if she needs something, just call or text me. I mean, I text her after Chief had said--after Chief had notified me

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that we both were UA. And I text, I was, like, "Bro. Like, you good? Like they marked fricking, both of us UA."

And--and at first I was, like, mad because I was, like, what the fuck?

SA GEREL: What do you mean?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I was mad because I was, like, "Why the fuck did like Chief Mark, both of us UA?" At that point, I was pissed. Honestly, I was more pissed at Chief. But at the end of the day. Like, I can't argue. At the end of the day, like----

SA GEREL: So, you sent her that text?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I was just, like, I--I text her. I was saying--I was, like, "Bro, is you good? Like, they're freaking marking us both UA."

SA MANN: What'd she say to that?

CSSN COPELAND: She didn't say anything.

SA MANN: Could you tell if she--she read it?

CSSN COPELAND: Hm?

SA MANN: You know, like you get the little things where it says hey, like if somebody read this or didn't read it?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Her shit was on Do Not Disturb.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just, like, all right, cool. And then, from there, that's when the days proceeded. And then, they ended up taking my phone and shit.

SA MANN: You say her hers was on Do Not Disturb. What do you mean? Like, the phone, the--like, entire. Like, you can see that on the message?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It says phone--her number was silenced.

SA MANN: Oh. So, you send somebody that text, it'll tell you. Like, they're not getting it.

CSSN COPELAND: No, it'll tell you. Like, for instance. Like, my phone stays on Do Not Disturb. And through the settings, you can either have it to allow you to have your phone. Like, show up. Like, on Do Not Disturb.

SA MANN: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: Or sometimes you could just receive the messages and it isn't. Like, you know, notify them back and your phone will not-

---

SA MANN: Oh, so you're saying her setting was set, so when you sent it----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----you immediately knew?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. When I sent on the message at the bottom, it was saying her--her shit was silences.

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SA MANN: Okay. Did you ever go back and look and see if she read it?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I just texted. I mean, at the end of the day, if somebody sends me a text and if you reply, you reply. If you don't----

SA MANN: No, I got it. You can't follow up on everything.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: All right.

SA GEREL: In terms of those phone settings, how do you keep your phone settings? I think you just said a little bit. You--you have yours on Do Not Disturb?

CSSN COPELAND: My phone stays on Do Not Disturb 24-7.

SA GEREL: Do you share your location with your--with your people?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I mean, like the group of people I used to hang out with, I would turn my settings. Like, I would share my location just for like going out and shit. So, we know where each other are. Like--like, for instance. Like, we'll go somewhere and then, we'll regroup or like go to a party.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: We go here just seeing what--what options are happening or, like, what's going on tonight, and then, we regroup and shit.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, it sounds like that's a setting you turn on, turn off depending on the circumstances.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, there's a female I talked to and my--my location stay on for her, but most of the--the time before that my location home was off.
SA MANN: Who's, who's that?
CSSN COPELAND: A female back at home.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Yeah. So, one of the things that we may have reason to understand is that your location settings turned off over the weekend, and it helps--help me understand that, like, why over the weekend you would've turned off your location sharing?
CSSN COPELAND: Because I mean, obviously, one thing about me is I don't like people getting in my business. I remember that somebody in the group chat said something of my location. Like, they stalked me and shit. I was, like, bro, so I turned that shit off.
SA MANN: When did they say that?
CSSN COPELAND: It was in a group chat, like, bro on the group chat.
SA MANN: Yeah. Yeah. But I mean, when did somebody say something about your location in the chat that made you turn it off?
CSSN COPELAND: During the weekend. Like, if I'm at home, why do they look at my location? Like, cool. I mean, it could have came

to the crib or some shit or texted me, like, I'm on the way to the crib. All right, cool.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But if you're just watching. Like, target watching where I'm at, that's--I find that a little suspect.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's not--that's not comfortable.

SA MANN: Oh, yeah. So, do you remember doing that, though? This weekend?

Okay. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: Location was on for like one--one or two people.

SA MANN: The whole weekend.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was, like, because we were out, so they had my location. It was, like, two people. Because we were hanging out with some people at my homeboy's crib, and I kept my location on. But that was not--not this previous weekend, but the weekend before that, like, when we were out and then, obviously, sometimes--usually I would turn it off. Or sometimes. Like, certain people, I share my location just for 24 hours, or sometimes I'll keep it indefinitely, or however you say that shit.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, eventually, I'll turn that shit off.

SA MANN: But the girl from back home always on.

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CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, ours is different. So, she has me on Life 360.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, on Snapchat. Like those--they just have my number. SA MANN: Do you still have Life 360 on there?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: And so, obviously that--you'd have to go and. Like, turn that off in the app separate to----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----kill it. So, would she--like, would that be on throughout that weekend? So, when they look at that phone data specifically, they're going to see. Like, here I am.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's why we're asking. It's very helpful. So, if we have people that can say, yeah, we saw Copeland here, here, here throughout the weekend. Of course, the helps a lot.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And we're working on that. The phone is great too because you know, if it--it'll show where it's at, so they'll able to see where the phone's at, which is also very helpful. That's why we're asking.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I gotcha.

SA GEREL: But we're--we're trying to help you the best we can on-- on those details. It sounds like sometimes you're not super good with names, so if you--if you could think of any other names like that. You said you--you ran into one white dude over the weekend who gave you a bag of chips. He--he offered.

CSSN COPELAND: He didn't give----

SA GEREL: Offered. Okay. Anything else you can tell us about that instance? That would be very helpful.

CSSN COPELAND: Shit, I've never seen the dude a day in my life, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Did he seem like a young guy? Like a----

CSSN COPELAND: He looked like--yeah, he looked like he was young. Like, anywhere from out of high school to, I'd say, like, 20 to 21.

SA GEREL: Like, a Sailor is what you----okay. So, you've never seen him before?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: So, what prompted him to offer you chips? Did you say anything in conversation or?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, the--they told him to go in there and then he walked in there and he was, like, "What's up?" I said, "What's good?" And then he sat down. He was just on his phone. And then he tried to leave, and he came back, and you could tell he was, like, catching an attitude. And I was, like, "You good?" He

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was, like, "Nah, they keep fucking turning me around," because he's trying to get to his room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But they keep turning him around. He was, like, "I almost slipped by, but he saw him in the corner."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I was, like, "Oh shit, bro." I started laughing. He was, like, "You want a bag of chips?" I was, like, "What--what kind of chips do you have?" And he started naming all the shit he had in there. I was, like, "Nah, I'm good." I was, like, "I--I usually like to eat hot. Like, hot chips and shit."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: He was, like, "Okay." I was, like, "Yeah." And from there, I think he tried to leave like one more time. They turned him around and then, after that, they allowed us to leave.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. In--in terms of your phone, and again, just to make sure you've, you've tested your memory as much as you can. If--if we were at see Ping in any other parts of Tidewater. Like, in another city over the weekend, any--any way we can--you can help us understand that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, the location and shit has been on for, on Life 360, so I'm sure you can look through the app and see----

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SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: ----where, what's been the whole weekend.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: As far as, like, my settings for Apple and shit, I don't know how that works for--I don't know how that shit works.
SA GEREL: But if it. Like, showed up like in Hampton or Suffolk or something, or downtown Norfolk. Like, did--did any--any chances you could remember. Like, being in a different place?
CSSN COPELAND: I've been home the whole weekend.
SA GEREL: Okay. I know you're trying hard to remember. I just wanted to give you a chance to give your thoughts on it.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm not really thinking, I just know.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: I was home the whole weekend.
SA GEREL: Okay.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Did you loan your phone to anybody?
CSSN COPELAND: Hmm.
SA GEREL: Did--did you loan your phone to anybody? Anybody have your phone but you?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I just had it.
SA GEREL: Okay.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X," as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 15 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 15 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE XXXIII (Page 140) through AE XLI).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

SA MANN: Was there any time you were. Like, away from your phone for a period of time?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, usually my phone stays with me.
SA MANN: Was there any break of that usual, like, that weekend where you maybe left it in your room for a while? Like, had to go charge it because it died, or you went and did something else?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, I mean, sometimes if it dies, then it just die, and then, whenever I get to charge it, then I charge it. I'm not, like, the type of person that's, like, "Oh, I need my phone." You know, if I don't have it, I don't have it.

But, like, I mean, sometimes there's, like, people I need to call or some shit, and I'll text him and shit. And other than that, I'm not like a type of person that's, like, "Oh, I'm going to die if I don't have my phone, so."

SA GEREL: All right. Do you have--do you have more than one phone? Did they understand that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I told them I had another phone, but it's broke. That's why I had bought a--sold the phone that I have now. The black one?
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: That's my phone. I had one before that, and it broke. So, through my AT&T, I basically got another phone through my insurance.

SA GEREL: Okay. And they were basically saying, like, I got 31 days to turn it in or else, basically, I got to charge my next bill.
SA MANN: When--when did it break the other phone?
CSSN COPELAND: A couple months ago.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, a while ago?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. It was a while ago.
SA GEREL: What--what happened to it? How did it break?
CSSN COPELAND: I dropped it. I mean, obviously, I don't have a case on my phone, so I dropped it and that's it. The whole front and the back----
SA MANN: That's a bad day.
CSSN COPELAND: ----completely shattered.
SA GEREL: That is a bad day.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: All right. Do you have more before I do a quick little transition?
SA MANN: No, I'm good.
SA GEREL: I want to make sure that we do take good care of your time and respectful like we talked about. So, you've been super cooperative and helpful, and we appreciate that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: How are are you feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

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SA GEREL: Okay. You need anything from us? You need more water or more food? You need a bathroom break?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Do you mind if I use the restroom?

SA GEREL: Of course. Let's take care of that. And then, we'll want to make sure it's cleared out? We have little game plan after that. And then, we'll get--we'll get you to the next thing. Any questions for me?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you're doing okay. Now, as far as, like, I--I know you were a little low asleep and just kind of stressed out. Do you feel like you're able to hear things, make decisions, recall things properly? Do you do you feel like you're--in your--like able to be as you normally are?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, tell--tell me if that changes. Okay. I--I want to talk to Copeland, you know, who's fully attentive and remembering and thinking. I--I don't want any other version where you're just, like, ah, you know, I don't feel good enough to actually talk or think about this stuff. Your mental health important to me.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Who do you talk to when you feel like you need a little talking to? Like, you need a boost.

002734_COPELAND

CSSN COPELAND: My homeboy's name's JJ, like the CS I work with you.
SA GEREL: You talked to JJ?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, that's my--my dude to go to.
SA GEREL: How about family, friends, anything like that?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean----
SA GEREL: Well, yeah, JJ's your friend. But any family or, like, parents or?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, family wise I go to my mom.
SA GEREL: All right.
SA MANN: Yeah. You're good. The door's just locked on this.
SA GEREL: That's okay.
SA GEREL: Run around and get her her open.
[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland departed the room at timestamp 2:43:40.]
[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland entered the room at timestamp 2:45:17.]
SA MANN: Need anything?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA MANN: I know, you know, there's a lot that we're talking through and going through. Our best interest at this point is your best interest in that we want to try to give you a chance to rule some things out, too. So, I think we've got some other steps that we

want to talk through here shortly about how we can get some things from you that'll help us do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: So, we're going to walk you through what that entails, probably as well.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. For sure. And again, thank you for helping us as much as you can.

W Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we're trying to get a couple of things, not that we need them right now, but we might need them pretty quickly in the future. One of those, when we start looking for, like DNA and things like that, we got to be able to exclude people that would naturally have DNA in certain places.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Do you mind giving us some of your DNA?

CSSN COPELAND: What do you--you mean by that?

SA GEREL: Just get a swab of your mouth. They have it on--on samples in case they need to compare anything.

CSSN COPELAND: When.

SA GEREL: Like, right now. Yeah. So, it is a simple process. So, if you said, "Yeah, I'm cool with that," the other agent would come

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in and take a little swab, get inside of your mouth, and then we have it for the case as it calls.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as my DNA for what?

SA MANN: So, it just rules you out. Right? Like, if so, if they find some DNA and they're, like, hey, we don't know whose this is. Like say there's a--a drop of blood, a tear or something, and we want to know, "Hey, was she here?" Well, if it's yours, we don't have your DNA that to run it against, right? So, we'll know it's yours. If it's hers, we--she's not here. Right? We can't get hers. So, we can at least say, "Hey, it isn't his, maybe it's hers," or something like that. So, it gives us just an idea of are we looking at the right places to try and find her?

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

SA GEREL: You cool with that?

SA MANN: That's sound good. I mean, it's just basically it's like--like a big Q-tip, but they just----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: It doesn't hurt anything.

SA MANN: No. It's just a cotton swab.

SA GEREL: It's even less intrusive than like the COVID test if you've had any of those.

SA MANN: Yeah. We're not shoving things into your brain to make sure you don't got COVID.

002737_COPELAND

SA GEREL: So, okay. Well, here's that form. So, this is--it's called Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure. All it is is they're getting it for the main concept of it if they have to look or compare things, in the search for Angie. Okay?

So, the thing that you're actually getting is--is DNA, and it's in that swab. Feel free to review of it if you're good with that, just give me a good signature right here.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm signing where?

SA GEREL: Right here. You got any questions about it?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. I'll give this to the--the lady and then, she'll be here to go grab that.

SA MANN: So, she's coming in. She's going to wear a mask. She's going to be like up in your junk. So, not that she's sick or anything, but just to make sure you

CSSN COPELAND: You want me to sit or stand?

SA: No, you're fine. You can just sit--sit right there.

SA MANN: It's just a long Q-tip.

SA: Yeah. I'm just going to get your cheek cells in there. So, shouldn't hurt at all, but if I do, just let me know. I'm just going to do basically four swabs total. Just two and two.

Okay. This open mouth. I'm just going to get all the corners here.

002738_COPELAND

SA MANN: Two down. Got a little cotton mouth like now.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Got water. Wash that down once you're done. Don't take a sip quite yet.

SA GEREL: Yeah, when she's done. Do you need more?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I got a little bit in there.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah, just get that cotton out of the mouth.

SA: But still not as bad as the dentist, I feel like.

SA MANN: Oh, no, it's not. We were talking COVID test like I disappears into your brain right there.

SA: Yep.

SA MANN: I--I think I literally----

SA: Perfect. Thank you.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

SA: Do you have the time--what time it is?

SA MANN: It is 1133.

SA: 1133. Thank you.

SA MANN: Yes, ma'am.

SA: Perfect. Thank you.

SA MANN: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All good, sir?

SA GEREL: Hold tight.

SA MANN: You got water out? No, I--I mean, technically yes, whenever you want. You can always say no. But, if you're willing to hang out for a little bit, I think we're want talk through a couple things, or if your good with that.

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. So, 1130 since you can't see time. So, what--what questions you got for us?

CSSN COPELAND: Nothing.

SA GEREL: Okay. We've covered some--some similar stuff you've already talked about, a couple of new things, and sometimes that will prompt a question or, like, if you--you want some clarification on what we know about what's happening? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. I appreciate that. I just want to, as I mentioned to you, make sure you--you know, that we're trying to be good hosts. So, I don't want to just bombard you with questions about giving you chance to talk a little bit, too. Free--free talk.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: What I think would be good if we have a few of the other agents that are involved in the case. It'd probably be good for Tyler and I to walk out and just kind of get our--our--our heads together as to make sure we've answered all the questions we can with you today.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: I--I think we getting real, real close. Do you have anything you want to ask him about before we do that?
SA MANN: No. I mean did were--were you hanging on to something there? Because I feel like there's kind of that pause, like, "Oh, maybe." Like you--you got anything that's sort of resonating?
CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I--I was just thinking, like, do I got any questions for y'all? I don't--there's not really much. At the end of the day, y'all are doing your jobs, so.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Yeah. We appreciate it much.
SA MANN: Perfect.
SA GEREL: Well, no, just thank you for understanding that. I mean, I hope even though it is part of us doing our jobs, hopefully you--you believe and feel that we treated you good. Certainly tried to, and you certainly treated us good. So, thank you for that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir. All right, well, give us a few minutes. You--you want some water while you're waiting on this?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, please.
SA GEREL: I don't think it'll be too long. I mean, I think it's probably going to be----

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SA MANN: Yeah, we'll get you some water.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Fifteen minutes or so, we're moving on to----

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, please.

SA GEREL: You want a minute or more food? Did you eat your beef stick?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 2:53:20.]

[SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 2:55:18.]

SA GEREL: Okay. I got you another water. Yeah, we only have a couple more questions. And so, your car is jacked up. Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Where's it at?

CSSN COPELAND: It's not my car, it's my homeboy's car, but I'm sure he has it now.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It was the--the head gasket was fucked up, but my car is totaled and so----

SA GEREL: Okay. The one that you consider your car, the totaled one?

CSSN COPELAND: No, my car, like, my actual car is totaled, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, it's like just gone.

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CSSN COPELAND: Gone, yeah.
SA GEREL: All right. How do you get around without your--your car?
CSSN COPELAND: Either my roommate takes me to work, and the days my roommate doesn't take me to work, then I have somebody within my ship come and pick me up.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 2:53:20.]
SA MANN: Come on in.
SA GEREL: So, Sean, your roommate takes you around?
CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no.
SA MANN: In case you want that.
CSSN COPELAND: Thank you. Not Sean. The African guy.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: With the car.
SA GEREL: Oh, okay. You ride with him a lot. Any other cars that you frequently use? Like, if you're just trying to go to the store or anything?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, whenever I need to go to the store or some shit, I--I use my roommate, like, I ask him. You know? Do you think you can take me to the store? Or can I use your car to go to the store?
SA GEREL: Okay. What kind of car does he drive?
CSSN COPELAND: A white Jeep.

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SA GEREL: Okay. All right. And then any other cars that you've been driving, like, in the last couple months?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. What, you mentioned the traffic thing? Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What--what kind of car were you involved with in the traffic thing?

CSSN COPELAND: A Dodge Challenger, and that was all the way back in February.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That is while back. What--what happened with that? I know I'm--it is nothing to do with what we're talking about, but I'm just curious what happened.

CSSN COPELAND: I was speeding.

SA GEREL: Okay. You got a--you got a public defender?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, I clearly can't talk to her because I don't have my phone.

SA GEREL: So, now people don't normally get public defenders for, like, a speeding, like did, were you drinking or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I got what I got--it was a reckless driving.

SA GEREL: Oh, reckless.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I was going 118 in a 55.

SA GEREL: What?

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SA MANN: Cruising.
SA GEREL: All right, well that's none of my business, but I hope that turns out okay for you. Well, can you borrow a friend's phone to call that attorney?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I don't, I--I, me personally, I don't know. Because I don't have--like, the attorney she called a couple of weeks ago.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: And I told her, I was, like, "Yeah, I'm at work right now." And she was, like, "Oh, I'm sorry. And she was asking me, like, "What's a good time?" And I was, like, "You can call the next day because I'm off."
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, "All right." I've never heard from her again.
SA GEREL: Yeah. They can be hard to get a hold of. Well, I encourage you to keep trying. Again, none of my business, but yeah. Keep trying. Ship phone, base phone, barracks phone. Whatever you can find.
But what questions do you have for us?
CSSN COPELAND: Nothing as of right now.
SA GEREL: And thank you for--for talking to us today. I'm going to give you last thoughts. I hope that we can talk again. I hope that

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we can get--get a chance to interact with you a day that you're feeling better, maybe a little less stressed, and maybe consider the polygraph.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: It is one of the few things out there that can say, like, "I didn't do it, and let me help you prove it." Like, that's one of the few things that actually does that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, again, like you're going to have people that are, you know, until--until we find her, you're going to have people that are speculating and saying stuff. You know the truth in your heart. You don't let them bother you anymore than it's going to bother you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: But you might be able to tell them one day, like, "I'm telling you, I--I didn't do it, plus I passed my polygraph." You know, that means a lot to some people. So, just kind of keep that in mind. And then, we are here for you. So, you can even, let--do you have contact information for NCIS? Do you have anybody's contact number from here?

CSSN COPELAND: I have the--the male that I talked to. Not the male, I think it was just the female.

SA GEREL: The shorter one.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

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SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. So, you can call her and you can say, whatever you want to say, but if you change your mind and say, like, "I'm ready, let them know that I'll take it." We will get to you soon as we can after you make that call, and we might check back in with you if it's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Just to see how you're feeling about whether you feel like you could be ready to do that. Obviously, if we find her, then--then that might not be--we may have to never do that. But if--while the--while the--the search is on, it could be very, you know, again, probably help you in people looking.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Any questions about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. Thank you for thinking about it. I--I really appreciate that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Tyler, you got anything?

SA MANN: I--I don't think so. I mean, if you hear something, let somebody know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: Like I--I guess, you know, I'd be remiss if I--I didn't ask, like, what would you--what--what do you want to, what do you think the perfect outcome here is?

CSSN COPELAND: Shit, I don't--I don't know. As much as you guys knows, that's as much as I know. So, I--I----

SA MANN: Oh no, but I mean, like, take all that off the table. How--how do you want to see this end?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, hopefully y'all find her and she's okay.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's the only thing that everybody's worried about right now. Because obviously nobody knows where her whereabouts are right now, so.

SA MANN: Sure. So, that's part of the--the reason we ask you to keep doing your part to make that happen. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: So, you know, if you hear something small, large, anywhere between, tell somebody, please.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: All right. Otherwise, I think you've got some things to tend this afternoon, unfortunately, but yeah. Good luck with that.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

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SA MANN: If you will give us some time to coordinate, you--somebody dropped you off here?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. My--I believe my lieutenant's out there.
SA MANN: Oh, is he still here?
CSSN COPELAND: I--I hope so, shit.
SA MANN: We have a phone, I think, if he's not. So we'll--let--give us a few minutes to get a hold of him. Are you good? Just hanging tight for a few minutes here?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: Okay. I mean, if you want to put your head down, take a nap. Like, we can, I'll get this out of the way.
CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.
SA MANN: Put it up here. All right. So, feel free to jump over there if you want to put your head down or something, but catch up on some of that sleep you've been missing.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
SA MANN: We'll be right back. Thank you.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, no problem.
[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 3:01:38.]
CSSN COPELAND: All right.
SA GEREL: That all right?
CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.
SA GEREL: No problem.

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[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 3:02:27.]
SA MANN: You're good, man. I'm just going to hang in here.
CSSN COPELAND: Is he out there or here, or is he on his way?
SA MANN: No, we just called him, though, so he should be on his way. I think they--we asked them to give him a ring before we came in, I know that. But we'll, I'm going to pull this so I can just make sure, because I need my phone. Hey man, what's happening? So, just give me a second.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA MANN: I'll be back with you here shortly. Okay?
CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
[SA Mann departed the room at timestamp 3:02:49.]
[SA Mann and SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 3:04:16.]
SA GEREL: All right. Your lieutenant's here. All right, last--last--last call. Any questions? You got anything we can help you with?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: How you feeling? I know other than what we already talked about. How you feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I mean, I'm just going with the flow. Just trying----
SA GEREL: Okay. So, you seem like you're under a little bit of stress, but you seem like you got it together. You seem strong.

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But I--I--I've been along before and I--I don't want to make any assumptions. So, you know, I--I care about your mental health.

Do you have any worries that you would--any worries about hurting yourself or anybody else?

CSSN COPELAND: Not nobody else. I mean, after that day, I feel like I'm straight. I mean, I'm holding it together, but----

SA GEREL: Okay. And you said you had no worries about anybody else. How about yourself?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I'm fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you you--you may or may not know, but, like, your command's got access to resources, like, if you need to talk. Like, I was asking you earlier who you talked to when you get--need to get stuff off your mind. Don't keep stuff bottled in. You know, if you need to go talk to a chaplain or a counselor, there's nothing wrong with that.

You--you--you've been through some things that would cause anybody to feel a certain kind of way. So, like, don't--don't be hero. You can talk to people if you need to. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: But you good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: You strong?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

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SA GEREL: All right. Let's go.

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

SA MANN: I said, let's get you on out of here. Got that water?

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: So, cover with all your stuff should be there. Make sure it's all there before you walk out.

[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland departed the room at timestamp 3:05:58.]

SA MANN: Concluded at 1148. Command--member released to command.

[End of interview.]

[END OF PAGE]

TRANSCRIPTIONIST
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Angela Sharpe, certify that this written transcript is a true, accurate, and complete copy of the audio or other electronic recording of the NCIS interviews of CSSN Jeremiah Copeland, YN3 Sean Monoghan, Airman Recruit John Calisse, FCC Brad Parker, CSSN [redacted], HT3 Michael Gillespie, and ABHAN [redacted].

Angela Sharpe
Digitally signed by Angela Sharpe
Date: 2025.09.30 17:49:00 -04'00'

Angela Sharpe

29 September 2025
Date

MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER

Place: NCIS Norfolk, U-40

Date: 6 June 2025

I Jermiah Taylor Copeland have been advised by David Jarrell & Tyler Mann

that I am suspected of: making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CSSN Angelina Resendiz.

I have also been advised that:

JTC (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

JTC (2) Any statement I make can be used against me in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceeding;

JTC (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

JTC (4) I have the right to have my retained lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

JTC (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

JTC I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me.

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 6 June 2025 / 0900

Witnessed: [redacted]

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **30JUN25**

36. On 05JUN25, NCIS received and reviewed the Command Managed Equal Opportunity (CMEO) complaint filed against V/[redacted] while aboard DDG-95; Exhibit (65) pertains.

37. On 05JUN25, NCIS contacted the National Insurance Crime Bureau to locate additional information pertaining to a Dodge Challenger, thought to be associated with S/COPELAND; Exhibit (66) pertains.

38. On 05JUN25, NCIS received a tip from the Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) reporting Ronald DAVENPORT, CIV, having information pertaining to the captioned investigation; Exhibit (67) pertains.

39. On 05JUN25, NCIS received and reviewed camera footage for the rear exterior of Building X2; Exhibit (68) pertains.

40. On 05JUN25, NCIS interviewed OSSN Briarnnia MEBANE, USN, Naval Station Norfolk; Exhibit (69) pertains.

41. On 05JUN25, NCIS interviewed CTT2 Kaytlyn JAMES, USN, DDG-95, who stated she had been concerned for the mental well-being of V/[redacted] because of harassment towards her on the ship; Exhibit (70) pertains.

42. On 05JUN25, NCIS conducted third floor area canvassing at Building X2; Exhibit (71) pertains.

43. On 05JUN25, NCIS contacted Greyhound and Amtrak to search their passenger manifest to see if V/[redacted] was onboard or purchased a ticket; Exhibit (72) pertains.

44. On 05JUN25, NCIS conducted area canvassing of Rockbridge Ave and Magnolia Ave where a series of knock and talks were conducted all yielding negative results; Exhibit (73) pertains.

45. On 05JUN25, NCIS conducted area canvassing of Old Dominion University (ODU) in search of relevant persons and vehicles pertaining to captioned investigation; Exhibit (74) pertains.

46. On 10JUN25, NCIS obtained results of the Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) Report pertaining to items of evidence submitted for examination to the US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL); Exhibit (75) pertains.

47. Between 04-05JUN25, CDR Lauren MAYO, JAGC, USN, Chief, Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC), LT Christopher DEMPSEY, JAGC, USN, Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic (RLSO-MA), and LT Patricia CANNADAY, JAGC, USN, OSTC, were provided updates.

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ENCLOSURE F
1 of 1

Message Date: 11/24/2025
NTMPS Application Access Change: NTMPS and its applications will soon be migrated to the Authoritative Data Environment (ADE). To enhance security, access to FLTMPS, ETJ, and OARS will soon require a Navy Network connection or NMCI VPN. Plan ahead: Ensure you have proper network/VPN access. Watch for the migration date announcement. Contact ntmps_support@us.navy.mil with questions.

ASVAB/BTB Scores

Name: CSSN COPELAND JERMIAH TAYLOR

Armed Forces Qual Test: 15

Nuclear Field Qual Test: N/A

Radio Code Aptitude: N/A

Electronics Tech: N/A

Sonar Pitch Memory: N/A

Defense Language Aptitude: N/A

CI ADM: N/A

CI ELE: N/A

CI COM: N/A

CI MCN: N/A

Classification/ASVAB Test ID: 06E

Classification/ASVAB Test Date: 08/07/2023

BTB	ASVAB Series 5-7	ASVAB Series 1-28 Before 2 Jan 2002	ASVAB Series 1-28 After 1 Jan 2002
Gen Class Test: --	**General Info:** --	**GS:** --	**GS:** 38
Arithmetic: --	**Numerical Ops:** --	**AR:** --	**AR:** 42
Mechanical: --	**Attn To Detail:** --	**WK:** --	**WK:** 37
Clerical Apt: --	**Word Knowledge:** --	**PC:** --	**PC:** 47
Shop: --	**Arith Reasoning:** --	**NO:** --	**AO:** 48
	Space Perception: --	**CS:** --	**CS:** 51
	Math Knowledge: --	**AS:** --	**AS:** 33
	Electronics Info: --	**MK:** --	**MK:** 40
	Mechanical Comp: --	**MC:** --	**MC:** 37
	General Science: --	**EI:** --	**EI:** 34
	Shop Info: --	**VE:** --	**VE:** 40
	Auto Info: --		

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 December 25**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 10 December 2025, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on10 December 2025, and AEs XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of December 2025.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 December 25**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 10 December 2025, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on10 December 2025, and AEs XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of December 2025.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **USN**	**DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF** **(SEVER CHARGES)** **26 NOV 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(b)(10), as well as the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution, the defense moves to sever the charges related to CS3 A.R. from the remainder of the charges. Specifically, the Defense seeks to sever Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), Specifications 2 and 3, Charge VI (False Official Statement), Specification 1 and 2; and Charge VII (Premeditated Murder); from the remainder of the charges in order to prevent a manifest injustice and to preserve CSSN Copeland's right to due process and the presumption of innocence.

SUMMARY

CSSN Copeland has been charged with a litany of offenses, including allegations of sexual assault and premeditated murder, among others. These offenses, while not elementally similar, encompass the most serious offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The Defense seeks severance of the murder charge and other charges related to the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance because there is no mechanism, bifurcation, instructions or otherwise, that would allow the members to separate these offenses and evaluate each independently. The evidence to be presented at trial on the murder allegation is likely to incite a guttural response from the members and they will not be able to separate that feeling from the fact that the Government has almost no evidence to offer in support of the allegations of sexual assault, indecent recording and broadcasting, domestic violence and assault. The result is inescapable and impermissible spillover that cannot be rectified and as such severance is the appropriate course of action to ensure fair trials for each of the charged offenses.

FACTS

1. On 26 July 2024, NCIS was notified of an alleged aggravated sexual contact and abusive sexual contact perpetrated upon ABHAN C.R. by CSSN Jermiah Copeland. The alleged conduct occurred on 23 July 2024 at 0200 aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75).[1] This complaint forms the basis for Charge 1, Specifications 1 and 2; and Charge II, sole specification.

[1] Enclosure A: Summary of ABHAN C.R. Allegation.

2. CSSN Copeland cooperated with and participated in the subsequent investigation into the allegation made by C.R.[2]

3. On 6 November 2024, NCIS was notified of an alleged sexual assault aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) that had allegedly occurred on 4 November 2024 at a port call in Oslo, Norway. The CSSN S.S. alleged that CSSN Jermiah Copeland was the perpetrator.[3] This complaint forms the basis of Charge I, Specification 4; Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2; and Charge IV, Specification 1.

4. CSSN Copeland spoke with investigators and cooperated in their investigation into CSSN S.S.'s allegation.[4]

5. On 11 April 2025, CS3 S.R. notified Naval Station Norfolk Security forces that she was allegedly assaulted by CSSN Copeland, a person she had been casually dating. She alleged that CSSN Copeland "choked" her.[5] Importantly, during this alleged incident, CS3 S.R. brandished a knife, burst into the room uninvited, and initiated the contact in question.[6] These allegations form the basis for Charge V, Specifications 1 and 2.

6. The initial investigation into this incident listed CS3 S.R. as the aggressor in the situation, and the subject of the investigation. Her allegations are unsupported by percipient witness statements taken from YN3 S.M. who was CSSN Copeland's roommate and in the room at the time of the alleged offenses by CSSN Copeland.[7]

7. CSSN Copeland participated in the investigation into these allegations.[8]

8. On 31 May 2025, NCIS was notified that CS3 A.R. was a missing person and they began their investigation into her whereabouts.[9]

9. YN3 S.M. has been interviewed as a witness to both the CS3 S.R. allegations and the investigation into the disappearance of CS3 A.R.[10]

10. On 9 June 2025, the remains of CS3 A.R. were found in a secluded area of Norfolk.[11]

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[2] Encl B of Def MIL M.R.E. 412 Motion: Results of CSSN Copeland's Interrogation re S.R.
[3] Encl B: Summary of CSSN S.S. Allegation.
[4] Encl C of Def MTC Expert (Fight or Flight and Memory) Motion: Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland re S.S..
[5] Encl C: ABHAN S.R. Interviews and Statements at 7.
[6] *Id.*at 8-9.
[7] *Id.*at 3-29.
[8] *Id.* at 3.
[9] Encl D: Executive Summary re CS3 A.R.
[10] Encl E: Results of Secondary Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan re CS3 A.R.; *See also* Enclosure C.
[11] Encl J of Def MTC Expert Consultant in Memory and Human Reaction: Dr. Lameira Autopsy Report; Encl A to Def MTC (Expert Consultant in Pathology): Dr. Lameira R.C.M. 701 Disclosure.

11. On 10 June 2025 at 0200, CSSN Copeland was placed in pretrial confinement upon suspicion of having violated Article 118 (Murder), UCMJ.[12]

12. On 20 June 2025 CSSN Copeland was publicly identified as the suspect in custody for the disappearance and death of CS3 A.R.[13]

13. On 24 June 2025, NCIS searched CSSN Copeland's phone and located a phone number they believed belonged to a minor "based off inferences" related to the content of the messages.[14]

14. When NCIS called the number, they determined Y.J. was not a minor, though they asked her what she knew about CSSN Copeland. At that time Y.J. stated that CSSN Copeland had sexually assaulted her in his barracks room in April or May 2025.[15] These allegations form the basis for Specification 4 of Charge I.

15. When she was initially contacted by NCIS, Y.J. stated that she had not spoken to CSSN Copeland recently, but she had discussed the missing "sailor girl" and CSSN Copeland with the two sailors she was with on the night of the alleged assault- LSSA Omeri Smoot and AEAN Jdyn Bradford.[16]

16. Y.J. didn't recall the exact conversation but she knew the two sailors had "stopped being friends with [CSSN Copeland] due to "[CS3 A.R.] missing."[17]

17. Y.J. has been reluctant to participate in the investigation, failing to show up for scheduled interviews and citing concerns that her father might find out what she had been doing in the room prior to the alleged assault by CSSN Copeland.[18]

18. Y.J. has a past family history of at least one documented domestic violence incident with her father.[19]

19. Y.J. went to CSSN Copeland's room on the night of the alleged assault with LSSA Omeri Smoot and AEAN Jdyn Bradford to engage in consensual group sex. CSSN Copeland came home shortly after the group finished having sex. [20]

20. NCIS interviewed LSSA Omeri Smoot and AEAN Jdyn Bradford related to the allegations made by Y.J. as well as the disappearance of CS3 A.R.[21]

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[12] Encl A of def MFAR (Change of Venue): Confinement Order of 9 Jun 25.
[13] Andy Fox, *New information on Norfolk sailor's death, name of suspect revealed*, June 20, 2025. https://myfox8.com/news/virginia/new-information-on-norfolk-sailors-death-name-of-suspect-revealed/
[14] Encl F: Y.J. ROI's at 1
[15] *Id.*
[16] *Id.* at 5.
[17] *Id.*
[18] *Id*. at 11-14.
[19] *Id.*
[20] *Id*. at 13-14; *See also* Defense Motion to Admit Evidence Pursuant to M.R.E. 412.
[21] Encl G: Results of Interview of LSSA Omeri Smoot re CS3 A.R.; Encl F at 6-7.

21. Regarding Y.J.'s allegations against CSSN Copeland, Y.J. alleges the non-consensual penile penetration of her vagina happened in the bedroom behind a closed door; LSSA Omeri Smoot stated that CSSN Copeland and Y.J. were never actually in the bedroom and he prevented them from going there; and AEAN Jdyn Brandford says that he and LSSA Omeri Smoot were outside the room behind a locked door but when CSSN Copeland opened the door, Y.J. had her pants on. AEAN Jdyn Brandford states that Y.J. told him on the ride home that CSSN Copeland tried to have her perform oral sex on him, there was no mention of vaginal penetration.[22]

22. The remaining charges and specifications on the charge sheet stem from circumstances surrounding the subsequent investigations into each of the allegations of sexual assault and murder.

BURDEN

23. Pursuant to RCM 905(c) and 906(b)(10), the defense, as the moving party, bears the burden to establish that a manifest injustice will result from the continued joint trial of charges.[23] The burden of proof on any factual issues the resolution of which are necessary to decide the motion is by a preponderance of the evidence.[24]

LAW

24. Appellate courts review a Military Judge's ruling on a motion to sever charges for an abuse of discretion.[25] However, upon a showing that manifest injustice will result by joint trial of charges, the military judge does not only have the discretion to grant a timely motion to sever, he has a duty to do so.[26] In the event the charges are referred capital, the military judge may sever the capital charges from non-capital charges if it *appears* to prejudice the accused.[27]

25. CSSN Copeland is entitled to the presumption of innocence on each offense charged. A service member accused at court-martial is entitled to the presumption of innocence.[28] He may be convicted only on relevant evidence, properly admitted against him with respect to any specification.[29] It is, in fact, "one of the most basic precepts of American jurisprudence that an accused must be convicted based on evidence of the crime before the court, not on evidence of a general criminal disposition."[30] Where offenses are totally dissimilar, spillover is less likely.[31] "Where the criminal intent is similar (although the offenses themselves are unrelated) […] there is a serious danger that overwhelming proof on one will "spill over" and prejudice a legitimate defense to another.[32]

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[22] Encl G.
[23] *See also United States v. Duncan*, 53 M.J. 494, 497 (C.A.A.F. 2000).
[24] R.C.M. 905(c)(1).
[25] *United States v. Curry*, 31 M.J. 359, 375 (C.M.A. 1990).
[26] *United States v. Giles*, 59 M.J. 374, 378 (C.A.A.F. 2004).
[27] R.C.M. 906(b)(10)
[28] *See United States v. Kaiser*, 58 M.J. 146, 150 (C.A.A.F. 2003).
[29] 10 U.S.C. § 851 (c)(1).
[30] *United States v. Hogan*, 20 M.J. 71, 73 (C.M.A. 1985).
[31] *See United States v. Haye*, 29 M.J. 213, 215 (C.M.A. 1989).
[32] *Id.*

26. Manifest injustice is not otherwise defined, but Appellate Courts assess a Military Judge's severance determination based on the three-factored *Southworth* test. While our Appellate Courts have not devised a ready definition of manifest injustice, on appeal, these courts conduct a three-factored analysis of a military judge's decision on a motion to sever.[33] The three factors to be considered are: 1) Whether the evidence of one offense would have been admissible to prove the other; 2) Whether the military judge provided a proper limiting instruction, and; 3) Whether the findings reflect an impermissible cross-over.[34]

27. Manifest injustice occurs when one is tried for an offense on which the evidence was strong and which results in a conviction of an offense on which the evidence is relatively weak.[35]

28. Due to the retrospective nature of the second and third factors, the Defense cannot apply them directly—no instructions have been given and no verdict rendered. As a result, the Court is limited to evaluating instead the potential for impermissible spillover given the facts of this case and available prophylactic measures. Despite "proper instruction to prevent the 'spillover effect,' there may be circumstances where it would be impossible for a rational factfinder to separate the evidence relating to different charges."[36]

29. Evidence of a crime, wrong, or other act is not admissible to prove a person's character in order to show that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with the character.[37] This evidence may be admissible for another purpose, such as proving motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake, or lack of accident. On request by the accused, the prosecution must provide reasonable notice of the general nature of any such evidence that the prosecution intends to offer at trial.[38]

ARGUMENT

30. **Trial of the alleged murder and sexual assaults together will result in manifest injustice because the inflammatory nature of the alleged murder will undoubtedly cause the members to give undue weight to the exceptionally weak evidence the Government has to support the sexual offenses.**

CSSN Copeland cannot be convicted of any offense premised on a general predisposition. This is common knowledge and something the Court must guard against in order to ensure due process and the presumption of innocence remain intact for CSSN Copeland. It is clear in this case that the Government wholly intends to tie the evidence from the sexual assault and strangulation allegations to the unrelated murder charge *in the absence* of similar evidence related to that murder charge.[39] The Government also intends to argue that the accused's

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[33] *United States v. Southworth*, 50 M.J. 74, 77 (C.A.A.F 1999).
[34] *Id.*
[35] *See United States v. Shabazz*, 52 M.J. 585, 589 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. 1999) (citing *United States v. Silvis*, 31 M.J. 707, 709 (N-M.C.M.R. 1990)); *United States v. Hogan*, 20 M.J. 71 (C.M.A. 1985).
[36] *United States v. Palacios*, 37 M.J. 366, 369 (C.M.A. 1993); *see also Haye*, 29 M.J. at 214.
[37] MIL. R. EVID. 404(b)(1).
[38] MIL. R. EVID. 404(b)(2).
[39] Government 404(b) notice; Govt Art 32 Remarks

participation in the sexual assault allegations is tied to the allegations related to the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s murder.[40] Despite the offenses being factually dissimilar from one another, the Government seeks to tie them together, argue them together, and use them to support one another. This will result in the evidence of one offense being used to bolster the other charges that are unsupported by any actual evidence.

In *United States v. Haye*, the accused was alleged to have committed fraternization and adultery with two separate individuals.[41] At trial, the Government "piggy-backed" the evidence of different offenses together.[42] The military judge provided an instruction as to the proper usage of the evidence.[43] However, the C.M.A. held that despite this instruction they were not convinced that evidence of one allegation had not effected his conviction for the other.[44]

As it relates to CSSN Copeland, the Government has no reservations about arguing the connectedness of the offenses, despite them being dissimilar on an elemental level. Similar to *Haye*, an instruction from the military judge, in light of the way the Government seeks to argue their case, cannot protect CSSN Copeland from the threat of impermissible propensity evidence from being used to convict him of offenses for which there is little to no physical evidence.

In *United States v. Palacios*, the C.M.A. noted that "there may be circumstances where it would be impossible for a rational factfinder to separate the evidence relating to different charges."[45] Here, the Government contends that evidence of the alleged sexual assaults is, in fact, admissible as proof of the alleged murder of CS3 A.R. The offenses have different elements, but the Government's commingling of proof makes the possibility of impermissible spillover between the offenses a certainty.

Because the Government intends to connect these offenses and evidence to prove up all the charged offenses, they are inextricably intertwined making impermissible spillover unavoidable. The allegations related to CS3 A.R. must be severed from the alleged sexual assaults in order to prevent manifest injustice- CSSN Copeland will lose the presumption of innocence, his due process rights will be violated, and he faces conviction based on a criminal disposition as opposed to legal and competent evidence. Severance is required.

31. **The Government's exceedingly weak evidence related to the alleged sexual offenses will be impermissibly bolstered if tried in conjunction with the alleged murder charge.**

It would be impossible to prevent inevitable impermissible spillover in this case. The inclusion of the various and different alleged offenses will invite the members to opine on CSSN Copeland's general predisposition to commit violations of the UCMJ and to solicit undue weight to be given to the Government's evidence.

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[40] *Id.*
[41] *Haye*, 29 M.J. at 215.
[42] *Id.*
[43] *Id.*
[44] *Id.*
[45] *Palacios*, 37 M.J. at 369.

Importantly, the evidence supporting the alleged sexual offenses is based not upon physical evidence, but solely upon the testimony of the complaining witnesses.[46] CSSN S.S. was in a dating, and soon to be marital and familial, relationship with another shipmate at the time she had sexual intercourse with CSSN Copeland, and when that is coupled with conflicting percipient witness testimony, this evidence standing alone would not result in conviction at trial. This allegation would not have been charged but for the Government's desire to tie the circumstances surrounding the investigation into CSSN S.S.'s allegations (hiding a phone, "half-truths," etc.) to the circumstances surrounding the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s murder.

Similarly, CSSN C.R., was in a relationship at the time of the alleged offense, there are no witnesses, and there is no physical evidence to support her allegations. This allegation would not, and had not, been charged until the Government tied her allegation to the alleged murder of CS3 A.R.

CS3 S.R. made her allegations against CSSN Copeland during an investigation into *her own misconduct*. Her allegations are unsupported by physical evidence and contradicted by other percipient witnesses. These allegations would not have been charged, but for the Government's desire to tie an allegation of CSSN Copeland "choking" her to the alleged murder of CS3 A.R.

The allegations made by Y.J. were only uncovered during the investigation into CS3 A.R. She never reported a sexual assault until NCIS approached her. Additionally, her account is not supported by any physical evidence and the percipient witnesses give conflicting statements about what happened to include what Y.J. herself reported to them. Coupled with Y.J.'s reluctance to participate and her motive to fabricate (past domestic violence incident with her father), the Government would not have charged this incident. However, the Government now wants to tie the circumstances surrounding Y.J.'s allegation to support "knowledge and intent" as it relates to the alleged murder of CS3 A.R.

Surely the accused cannot ask for severance simply because it improves his odds of acquittal, but here, where the Government has expressed a decided interest in tying together what are fundamentally different offenses, the likelihood of impermissible spillover cannot be removed through an instruction nor bifurcation. Importantly there are witnesses to the alleged misconduct who will be giving testimony regarding the different allegations on the charge sheet. The members will be left to conclude that CSSN Copeland has a predisposition to commit criminal acts and this will spillover to the consideration of the evidence and the weight to be afforded.

32. **Though not referred as capital, the alleged murder of CS3 A.R. carries the possibility of conviction and a mandatory sentence of life without parole, making this tantamount to a capital case.**

While the case is not referred as capital, R.C.M. 906(B)(10)(B) is persuasive. Offenses for which the death penalty is authorized, carry a different level of scrutiny when considering severance of offenses. In capital cases, if it ***appears*** to prejudice the accused the military judge

[46] *See* Defense Motion to Exclude Evidence Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) for a discussion of the evidence the Government seeks to introduce.

may sever the offenses. The Government has made the choice to charge this as a non-capital offense thereby raising the bar for severance of the charges. The Government should not be allowed to charge offenses in such a manner as to remove procedural safeguards, tie together wholly unrelated offenses, and then argue that they are somehow all evidence of one another. This alone is manifest injustice, not simply ***appearing*** prejudicial to the accused.

RELIEF REQUESTED

33. The defense moves this Court to sever Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), Specifications 2 and 3, Charge VI (False Official Statement), Specification 1 and 2; and Charge VII (Premeditated Murder); from the remainder of the charges in order to prevent a manifest injustice and to preserve CSSN Copeland's right to due process and the presumption of innocence.

34. If this motion is opposed by the government, and pursuant to R.C.M. 905(h), the defense requests an Article 39(a), UCMJ, hearing to present additional evidence and argument on this motion.

EVIDENCE AND HEARING

35. The defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this motion:

a. Enclosure A: Summary of ABHAN C.R. Allegation
b. Enclosure B: Summary of CSSN S.S. Allegation
c. Enclosure C: ABHAN S.R. Interviews and Statements
d. Enclosure D: Executive Summary re CS3 A.R.
e. Enclosure E: Results of Secondary Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan re CS3 A.R.
f. Enclosure F: Y.J. ROI's
g. Enclosure G: Results of Interview of LSSA Omeri Smoot of 5Jun25

MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL.[redacted]
Digitally signed by MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL.[redacted]
Date: 2025.11.25 14:59:31 -05'00'

Respectfully submitted,
T. M. MIHILL
LCDR, USCG
Defense Counsel

36. I certify that I have served a true copy (via e-mail) of the above on this Court and the trial counsel on 26 November 2025.

MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL[redacted]
Digitally signed by MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL[redacted]
Date: 2025.11.25 14:59:47 -05'00'

T. M. MIHILL
LCDR, USCG
Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF** **(SEVER CHARGES)** **26 November 2025**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure A: Summary of ABHAN C.R. Allegation
b. Enclosure B: Summary of CSSN S.S. Allegation
c. Enclosure C: ABHAN S.R. Interviews and Statements
d. Enclosure D: Executive Summary re CS3 A.R.
e. Enclosure E: Results of Secondary Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan re CS3 A.R.
f. Enclosure F: Y.J. ROI's
g. Enclosure G: Results of Interview of LSSA Omeri Smoot of 5Jun25

The Defense cites the following enclosures from other defense motions:

a. Enclosure A of Def MTC (Discovery): Transcript of HA Caluna's Interrogation
b. Enclosure B of Def MIL M.R.E. (412): Results of CSSN Copeland's Interrogation re S.R.
c. Enclosure C of Def MTC (Expert Fight or Flight and Memory) Motion: Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland re S.S.
d. Enclosure J of Def MTC (Expert Consultant in Memory and Human Reaction): Dr. Lameira Autopsy Report
e. Enclosure A to Def MTC (Expert Consultant in Pathology): Dr. Lameira R.C.M. 701 Disclosure
f. Enclosure A of Def MFAR (Change of Venue): Confinement Order of 9 Jun 25

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 22OCT24

SEXUAL CONTACT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted PII]
V/R[redacted], C[redacted] [redacted]/SN USN
[redacted PII]

COMMAND/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)/21853

MADE AT/NFXQ/RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)/BERNADETTE DUFFY, SPECIAL AGENT

EXHIBIT(S)
(1) IA: RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF CSSN FERNANDO CUESTABRAVO, USN/26JUL24
(2) IA: RESULTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA CHECKS/29JUL24
(3) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF V/[redacted]/06AUG24
(4) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JAELEN OWENS, USN/16AUG24
(5) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN FERNANDO CUESTABRAVO, USN/16AUG24
(6) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSC GREGORY SIMMONS, USN/16AUG24
(7) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA DEONTAE WILLIAMS, USN/16AUG24
(8) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND/16AUG24

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 26Jul24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), of an unrestricted report of sexual assault wherein ABHAN C[redacted] T[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, CVN 75, stated she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, while aboard the ship in port on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. During her interview on 06Aug24, V/[redacted] stated S/COPELAND grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe. Multiple witnesses were interviewed in reference to the offense. During his interview on 16Aug24, subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights, S/COPELAND denied the allegations. A Military Protective Order (MPO) was requested. All investigative actions completed, this case is hereby pending administrative and/or judicial action.

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive criminal investigation pertains to a suspected violation of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

2. On 26Jul24, MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, forwarded the voluntary statement of CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, CVN 75, related to the assault; Exhibit (1) pertains.

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THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE CONTENTS MAY BE DISCLOSED ONLY TO PERSONS WHOSE OFFICIAL DUTIES REQUIRE ACCESS HERETO. CONTENTS MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO THE PARTY(S) CONCERNED WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **22OCT24**

3. On 29Jul24, Participating Representative Wynter EDWARDS conducted social media checks in reference to the investigation; Exhibit (2) pertains.

4. On 06Aug24, V/[redacted] was interviewed in reference to the offense by Reporting Agent (RA) while aboard the ship at sea. V/[redacted] stated S/COPELAND grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe; Exhibit (3) pertains.

5. On 16Aug24, RA interviewed CSSN Jaelen OWENS, USN, CVN 75, in reference to the offense. CSSN OWENS stated he was approached by S/COPELAND approximately two (2) months prior to the interview and CSSN CUESTABRAVO informed S/COPELAND told him V/[redacted] had "put a case on" him (S/COPELAND) for an incident with CSSN CUESTABRAVO's girlfriend; Exhibit (4) pertains.

6. On 16Aug24, RA interviewed CSSN CUESTABRAVO in reference to the offense. CSSN CUESTABRAVO recalled at approximately 0200 hours on 24Jul24, he received text messages from V/[redacted] indicating something bad had happened. Later that morning, CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated V/[redacted] disclosed S/COPELAND had strangled her, grabbed her, and "touched her everywhere"; Exhibit (5) pertains.

7. On 16Aug24, RA interviewed CSC Gregory SIMMONS, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), in reference to the offense. CSC SIMMONS related CSSN CUESTABRAVO approached him and stated S/COPELAND "assaulted" V/[redacted] Exhibit (6) pertains.

8. On 16Aug24, RA interviewed CSSA Deontae WILLIAMS, USN, CVN 75, in reference to the offense. recalled S/COPELAND told him CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, "put a case on [S/COPELAND]" because S/COPELAND was talking to V/[redacted] on SnapChat; Exhibit (7) pertains.

9. On 16Aug24, RA and MAC Adam NORMAN, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), interviewed S/COPELAND in reference to the offense. Subsequently to waiving his Article 31b Rights, S/COPELAND denied the allegations; Exhibit (8) pertains.

10. The generation of this reporting was delayed due to connectivity at sea and operational tempo.

11. On 21Oct24, CAPT Michael SNOWDEN, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), CVN 75; and LCDR Nora LOPOPOLO, JAGC, USN, Command Judge Advocate (CJA), CVN 75, were apprised of the status of this investigation.

12. All investigative actions completed, this case is hereby pending

WARNING:
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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **22OCT24**

administrative and/or judicial action.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:023E
INFO :NFFO/NFXQ/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) (LCDR Nora
LOPOPOLO, JAGC, USN, Command Judge Advocate (CJA), USS HARRY
S TRUMAN (CVN 75)(LEGAL_DEPT@CVN75.NAVY.MIL)) (E)/OSTC
Norfolk (trialcounseldutyemail@us.navy.mil) (E)

PAGE 3 LAST JL V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 19MAR25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII
V/[redacted] MONIQUE/SN USN
[redacted] PII

COMMAND/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)/21853

MADE AT/NFXQ/RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)/BERNADETTE DUFFY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE/ S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/ CCN:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

EXHIBIT(S)
(1) IA: RESULTS OF PRELIMINARY INTERVIEW OF V/[redacted]/06NOV24
(2) IA: RESULTS OF ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE CELLULAR TELEPHONE/06NOV24
(3) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CS2 DAMARKO SINGLETARY, USN/06NOV24
(4) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA JACQUELINE BITA, USN/06NOV24
(5) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CDR BRETT BALLARD, USN/06NOV24
(6) IA: RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE (PASS)/06NOV24
(7) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN KAULISE COUSINS, USN/06NOV24
(8) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF V/[redacted]/07NOV24
(9) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN SHAMEL EADDY, USN/08NOV24
(10) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN ALEXIS RODGERS, USN/08NOV24
(11) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA JAKOBIE GANT, USN/08NOV24
(12) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA NICHOLAS SPIVEY, USN/08NOV24
(13) IA: RECEIPT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATION (SAFE) KIT/10NOV24
(14) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JADA KNIGHT, USN/18NOV24
(15) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND/18NOV24
(16) IA: RESULTS OF SECOND INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND/20DEC24
(17) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN KAYLEE PARKS, USN/18MAR25
(18) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CS2 KIRSTEN CLICK, USN/18MAR25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein CSSN [redacted] [redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. V/[redacted] underwent a Sexual Assault Forensic

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **19MAR25**

Examination (SAFE) aboard the ship. During her interview on 07Nov24, V/[redacted] stated she was intoxicated and did not remember sexual contact with S/COPELAND, but other sailors approached her the following day and indicated S/COPELAND showed multiple sailors a video on his cellular telephone of his sexual contact with her. Multiple witness interviews were conducted corroborating the existence of a video and sexual encounter. S/COPELAND was interviewed on 18Nov24 and 20Dec24 and subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights stated the sexual contact with V/[redacted] was consensual and admitted to producing a video recording during the sexual encounter. A Military Protective Order (MPO) was requested. This investigation remains open pending forensic analysis of the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) kit and any other investigative actions deemed necessary.

NARRATIVE

1. This reactive criminal investigation pertains to a suspected violation of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

2. Reference (A) documents a prior abusive sexual assault allegation wherein S/COPELAND is the subject.

3. On 06Nov24, a preliminary interview with V/[redacted] was conducted wherein she stated she learned of a video circulated by S/COPELAND that depicted sexual intercourse. V/[redacted] stated she was intoxicated at the time the video was taken and was too intoxicated to consent; Exhibit (1) pertains.

4. On 06Nov24, Reporting Agent (RA) made attempts to locate the cellular telephone belonging to S/COPELAND via verbal consent of S/COPELAND's person and the person of CSSN Kaulise COUSINS, USN, CVN 75. The cellular telephone was not located; Exhibit (2) pertains.

5. On 06Nov24, CS2 Demarko SINGLETARY, USN, CVN 75, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CS2 SINGLETARY stated V/[redacted] disclosed the assault to him and indicated the names of other sailors who had purportedly seen the video of the sexual encounter; Exhibit (3) pertains.

6. On 06Nov24, CSSA Jacqueline BITA, USN, CVN 75, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSA BITA stated S/COPELAND showed her a video of him having sexual intercourse with V/[redacted] on the night of the offense; Exhibit (4) pertains.

7. On 06Nov24, CDR Brett BALLARD, USN, Executive Officer (XO), HSC 11, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CDR BALLARD recalled his involvement in assisting S/COPELAND back to the ship as the Senior Shore

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **19MAR25**

Patrol Representative the day following the offense; Exhibit (5) pertains.

8. On 06Nov24, RA made further attempts to locate the cellular telephone belonging to S/COPELAND via Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS). The berthing, rack, and personal spaces belonging to S/COPELAND aboard the ship were searched with negative results; Exhibit (6) pertains.

9. On 06Nov24, CSSN COUSINS was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSN COUSINS denied ever having possession of S/COPELAND's cellular telephone or disposing of the cellular telephone for S/COPELAND; Exhibit (7) pertains.

10. On 07Nov24, V/[redacted] was interviewed in reference to the investigation. V/[redacted] stated she did not remember having sexual intercourse with S/COPELAND due to alcohol consumption. V/[redacted] stated she subsequently heard rumors of S/COPELAND circulating a video of them having sexual intercourse and confronted S/COPELAND about it via telephone, at which time S/COPELAND made a statement of denial; Exhibit (8) pertains.

11. On 07Nov24, CSSN Shamel EADDY, USN, CVN 75, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSN EADDY provided RA with a video of V/[redacted] confronting S/COPELAND telephonically; Exhibit (9) pertains.

12. On 08Nov24, CSSN Alexis RODGERS, USN, HSC 11, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSN RODGERS recalled accompanying V/[redacted] on liberty on 04Nov24; Exhibit (10) pertains.

13. On 08Nov24, CSSA Jakobie GANT, USN, CVN 75, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSA GANT related on 05Nov24, he was approached by S/COPELAND, who stated he had sexual intercourse with V/[redacted] and seemed excited about it. CSSA GANT related S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] kissed S/COPELAND's neck and had sexual intercourse; Exhibit (11) pertains.

14. On 08Nov24, CSSA Nicholas SPIVEY, USN, CVN 75, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSA SPIVEY had no personal knowledge of the event, but provided V/[redacted] S/COPELAND's telephone number so she could call him and confront S/COPELAND about the rumors; Exhibit (12) pertains.

15. On 10Nov24, RA received the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Kit pertaining to V/[redacted] from LT Rasheda DIA, USN, CVN 75; Exhibit (13) pertains.

16. On 18Nov24, CSSN Jada KNIGHT, USN, VAW 126, was interviewed in reference to the investigation. CSSN KNIGHT recalled S/COPELAND showing her a video of

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CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **19MAR25**

him having sexual intercourse with V/[redacted] the night of 04Nov24 and provided RA with a separate video of V/[redacted] during the same evening following the assault of V/[redacted] drinking alcohol; Exhibit (14) pertains.

17. On 18Nov24, S/COPELAND was interviewed in reference to the investigation. Subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights, S/COPELAND admitted to taking a video of him having sexual intercourse with V/[redacted] in a bathroom stall of the bar but stated the sexual intercourse was consensual. S/COPELAND stated he lost his cellular telephone prior to returning back to the ship on 05Nov24. S/COPELAND provided a sample of his DNA via PASS; Exhibit (15) pertains.

18. On 20Dec24, a secondary interview of S/COPELAND was conducted per his request. Subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights, S/COPELAND provided RA with photographs and videos of the evening from his newly purchased cellular telephone, but stated he no longer possessed the video of him having sexual intercourse with V/[redacted] Exhibit (16) pertains.

19. On 18Mar25, CSSN Kaylee PARKS, USN, CVN 75, was interviewed and recalled her observations of V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND at Heidi's Bier Bar in Oslo, Norway; Exhibit (17) pertains.

20. On 19Mar25, CS2 Kirsten CLICK, USN, Strike Fighter Squadron 11 (VFA-11), was interviewed and recalled events that took place at Heidi's Bier Bar in Oslo, Norway; Exhibit (18) pertains.

21. On 28Feb25, CDR Michelle MATTHEWS, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was notified concerning the status of the investigation.

22. This investigation remains open pending forensic analysis of the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) kit and any other investigative actions deemed necessary.

23. The generation of this reporting was delayed due to connectivity at sea and operational tempo aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75).

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:023E
INFO :USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) (CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95)(timothy.winters@ddg95.navy.mil)) (E)/NFFO/NFXQ/ COMNAVSURFLANT (LT George KUNTHARA, JAGC, USN, Staff Judge Advocate (CJA), COMNAVSURFLANT(george.kunthara.mil@us.navy.mil)) (E)/OSTC Norfolk (trialcounseldutyemail.mil@us.navy.mil) (E)

PAGE 4 LAST JL V2 LNN

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From: Sheppard, Elizabeth L CIV USN NAVSTA NORFOLK VA (USA)
To: Wheeler-Scott, Hannah K LT USN (USA); Rojas-Brady, Michelle LT USN (USA)
Subject: FW: (CUI) 25-00197
Date: Friday, April 18, 2025 2:12:31 PM
Attachments: (1) DD Form 5580 2 Voluntary Statement ICO Copeland, J..pdf
(2) DD Form 5580 2 Voluntary Statement ICO Copeland, J..pdf
5580 2 Voluntary Statement ICO CS2 Bryant, J..pdf
5580 2 Voluntary Statment ICO Monoghan, Sean.pdf
5580 3 Continuation Statement ICO [redacted] S..pdf
5580 3 Military Acknowledgement Of Rights ICO Copeland, J..pdf
5580 3 Military Acknowledgement Of Rights ICO [redacted] S..pdf
5580 16 Permissive Search and Seizure ICO [redacted] S..pdf
Automotive Repair Receipts ICO Copeland J.pdf
DD Form 2708 Prisoner Custody Receipt ICO Copeland, J..pdf
DD Form 2708 Prisoner Custody Reciept ICO [redacted] S.pdf
INCIDENT REPORT.docx
Photo Log Pictures ICO [redacted] S..pdf
Property Photo Log ICO Copeland J..pdf
Similar Photo of Knife.pdf

Good Morning,

Final product.

v/r

Police Lt. Col. Elizabeth L. Sheppard
Chief of Police/Precinct Commander
Hiring Manager
Naval Station Norfolk Security Department
1957 Taussig Blvd BLDG. CEP-161
Norfolk, VA 23511
Desk # 757-341-9957
Work Cell# [redacted]
Elizabeth.l.sheppard.civ@us.navy.mil

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. PLACE: X-2

2. DATE: 14APR25

I, COPELAND, JERMIAH, T., make the following free and voluntary statement to _____, whom I know to be _____.

I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement is given concerning my knowledge of ON FRIDAY APR 11 AT APPROXIMATELY 0430 ~~AM~~ I WAS GOING TO MY CAR TO GO TO WORK WHEN I NOTICED MY TIRE WAS SLASHED IT WAS AN ON GOING PROBLEM THATS BEEN GOING ON OVER THE WEEKEND I KNOW THIS WAS B[redacted] DUE TO TEXT MESSAGES SHE SENT TO ME, FRIDAY I GOT MY TIRE FIXED AND ON APR 12 SHE SLASHED MY TIRES AGAIN I EVEN TRIED TO PARK MY CAR AWAY FROM WHERE I USUALLY PARK AND SHE STILL MANAGED TO FIND MY CAR AND ~~SLASH~~ THE TIRE, THIS HAS BEEN STRESSFUL KNOWING SHE KEEPS DAMAGING MY CAR EVERY CHANCE SHE GETS AND IM SPENDING MY MONEY ON ~~EVERY~~ GETTING A NEW TIRE FOR THOSE 2 DAYS

[redacted] END OF STATEMENT 14APR25 1022

OPNAV 5527/2 (DEC 1982)

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. PLACE: CEP161

2. DATE:

I, COPELAND, JERMIAH, make the following free and voluntary statement to DET GASTON, whom I know to be NSNSD CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR/DETECTIVE.

I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement is given concerning my knowledge of ON APR 11,25 AROUND 1400 I WAS RELEASED FROM THE PRICINCT, MY CS2 BRYANT TOLD ME I HAD TO REPORT TO WORK. I WAS DROPPED OFF TO MY BARRACKS AS I WAS APPROACHING MY CAR I NOTICED SHE SLASHED MY TIRE I KNOW THIS WAS SR [redacted] ~~HER~~ DUE TO TEXT MESSAGES SHE SENT ME, 12 APR 25 AROUND 0430 I HAD WORK AND NOTICED MY TIRE WAS SLASHED AGAIN, MY ROOMATE DROVE ME TO WORK, AT 1230 I WAS ABLE TO LEAVE TO GO GET MY TIRE FIXED WENT TO WALMART AND THE NEX TO GRAB A REPAIR KIT AND A TIRE INFLATER TOOK MY TIRE TO GET FIXED AGAIN I HAVE ALL RECEIPT'S FOR THE DAMAGES SHE CAUSED THAT I HAD TO PAY FOR, R [redacted] ALSO BROKE MY 700 DOLLAR PS5 ALONG WITH MY GAMING TERROBITE THAT WAS 80 DOLLARS THAT WAS ON 11APR 25 I HAVE A VIDEO OF THE DAMAGES SHE DID AS WELL

[redacted] 12 APR 25 1129

000103_COPELAND

OPNAV 5527/2 (12-82)

SN [illegible] 0102-LF-052-7010

*U.S. Government Printing Office: 1990-704-010/04011 2-1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. PLACE: DDG 75 SHIP BARGE USS JAMES E WILLIAMS
2. DATE: 4/8/25

I. JOSHUA BRYANT (CS2/USS James E Williams/[redacted]), make the following free and voluntary statement to Det. Gaston.

whom I know to be Police Detectives.

I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement is given concerning my knowledge of

ON TUESDAY APRIL 8TH 2025 I NOTICED A HICKEY ON CSSN [redacted] NECK. I PULLED HER ASIDE AND TOLD HER SHE AND CSSN COPELAND NEED TO BE MORE DISCREET AND NOT LEAVE PASSION MARKS ON EACHOTHER.. SHE LAUGHED IT OFF AND SAID SHE DIDNT KNOW WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT. BUT SHE SAID SHE UNDERSTOOD ACKNOWLEDGING THE HICKEY. AFTER SPEAKING TO HER I WENT TO THE GALLEY TO SPEAK TO CSSN COPELAND AND TELL HIM THE SAME THING. HE UNDERSTOOD AND ACKNOWLEDGED IT AS WELL.

END OF STATEMENT

[redacted]

11APR25 1300

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000104_COPELAND

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. PLACE: NSNSD CID 1957 Taussig Blvd Nor Va

2. DATE/TIME: 11APR25

I, MONAGHAN SEAN M., make the following free and voluntary statement to Det. S. Gaston, whom I know to be Police Detective,

I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement is given concerning my knowledge of: ON NAPR 25 AT 530AM A BLACK FEMALE BARGED PAST ME INTO THE ROOM I THEN FOLLOWED AFTER HER AND SAW A MULTI TOOL KNIFE IN HER HAND WITH A HAMMAR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE UNFOLDED BLADE THAT WAS HELD IN HER RIGHT HAND. SHE ~~PROCEED~~ THEN YELLED AT MY ROOMATE WHILE HE ASK HER TO LEAVE MANY TIMES. SHE SAT IN THE COMMON AREA AND REFUSED TO LEAVE DEMANDING AN RA WHILE GETTING IN MY ROOMATES FACE WHEN ASK IF SHE WAS GOING TO STAB HIM SHE SAID "DAMN RIGHT". SHE THEN DURING THE NEXT THREE HOURS BEFORE SHE LEFT SHE WOULD LOOK THROUGH HIS BELONGINGS BREAK HIS PSS BY SMASHING IT ON THE GROUND WAVE THE KNFE AT HIM IN AN ATTEMPT TO STAB HIM. AT 50 MINITES IN SHE DROPPED HER KNIFE WHICH I TOOK AND PUT ON MY DESK WHICH SHE TOOK BACK 30 MINS PRIOR TO LEAVING. DURING HER FIRST SIT DOWN IN THE COMMON AREA SHE STOOD FROM HER CHAIR AND PUNCHED MY ROOMATE IN THE CHEST. THIS WAS AFTER SHE HAD DROPPED THE KNIFE.

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STATEMENT OF MONAGHAN SEAN M. CONTINUED
(Rate Name SSN Command)

WHEN SHE LEFT MY ROOMATE AND I HAD LEFT THE ROOM WATCHING HER LEAVE AS WE RAN TO THE FRONT DESK WHO CALLED 911 AFTER WHICH SHE LEFT IN ANOTHER MALE'S CAR. WHEN SHE PUNCHED HIM IN THE CHEST OR WHEN SHE BROKE HIS PSS I NEVER SAW MY ROOMATE LAY HANDS ON HER. WHILE SHE WAS IN OUR ROOM APPRX. 3 HOURS.

The above statement consist of 2 page (s) written by me and submitted to Det. Gaston as we have discussed the contents. I have read this statement and it is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I had the opportunity to make any changes and to correct and initial any and all errors and changes.

Subscribed and sworn to before me at

NSN SD CID
Location/Date, Time

[redacted]
Signature of Military Policeman

Signature: [redacted]

Det S. Gaston
Printed Name of Military Policeman

Date: 11APR25 Time: 12:31

Page 2 of 2

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1 PLACE: NAVAL STATION NORFOLK
X-2 335 3RD FLOOR
2 DATE: 11 APRIL 2025

MASN MONTGOMERY
R[redacted], S[redacted], CS/E-2/USS. JAMES E WILLIAMS

11 APRIL 2025
04:00

I WAS IN COPELANDS BARRACKS ROOM AND WE WERE SITTING IN THE SHARED LIVING SPACE TALKING HE FELL ASLEEP AND HIS GIRLFRIEND CALLED ME ASKING IF I WAS WITH COPELAND BECAUSE SHE HAD A SUSPICION THAT HE WAS DOING SOMETHING SNEAKY. I ASKED HER WAS THEY STILL DATING CAUSE A COUPLE DAYS AGO HE TOLD ME SHE'S JUST CRAZY AND STALKING MY SOCIAL MEDIA CAUSE I'M HIS "NEW GIRLFRIEND" SO I WOKE COPELAND UP I TOLD HIM I WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE AT FIRST I DIDN'T TELL HIM WHY BUT I BURSTED IT OUT OF ANGER THAT I KNOW HE LIED ABOUT NOT BEING WITH HER, HE STARTED SMILING SAYING "THAT BITCH IS FUCKING DELUSIONAL, DON'T BELIEVE HER" I THEN STARTED GOING BACK AND FOURTH WITH HIM HE GOT UP AND CHOKED ME THEN STARTED LAUGHING SAYING HE WAS JUST PLAYING AND THAT I SHOULD STAY AND TALK ABOUT IT, SO I LEFT OUT THE DOOR AND WENT HOME TALKING TO THE GIRLFRIEND ON THE PHONE, SHE TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD TRY TO MANIPULATE ME TO BELIEVE HIM.. I PUT BACK ON MY CLOTHES AND WALKED BACK TO HIS BARRACKS HE WOULDN'T OPEN THE DOOR SO I WAITED TILL HIS ROOMATE CAME OUT AND I CAME IN. I STATED "SO I'M LYING TRYING TO RUIN YOUR LIFE?" HE SAID "YES" AND THERE WAS ARGUING FOR A WHILE HIS ROOMATE TRIED TO GET THE R.A. BUT COPELAND TOLD HIM NO. I ASKED FOR MY SHOES AND FELDER AND HE ACTED CLUELESS, WHILE I WAS ON THE PHONE WITH CS2 TAYLOR COPELAND SNATCHED MY PHONE AND THAT TRIGGERED ME IN SELF-DEFENSE AND I PUNCHED HIM IN HIS CHEST AND SLAMMED HIS DOG THEN LEFT.

SCE [redacted] 2025 PII

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000107_COPELAND

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MILITARY SUSPECT'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Place: NSNSD CED 1957 Taussig Blvd Norfolk VA 23511 1154

I. Copeland, Jermiah Taylor

have been advised by Det. Gaston

that I am suspected of Assault & Battery, Disorderly Conduct

I have also been advised that:

JTC (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

JTC (2) Any statement I do make can be used against me in a trail by court-martial or other judicial or administrative Proceeding;

JTC (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

JTC (4) I have the right to have my retained civilian lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

JTC (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

JTC I understand my rights as related to me and as set for above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me JTC

Signature: [redacted]

Date & Time: 11APR25 1159

Witnessed: [redacted] 1159

Date &Time 11APR25 1159

At this time, I, JERMIAH COPELAND desire to make the following voluntary statement. This statement is made with an understanding of my rights as set forth above. It is made with no treats or promises having been extended to me.

SEE Attached Statement

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S/N: 0107-LF-981-6000

000108_COPELAND

Continued on next page (If statement provided)

Understanding my rights under U.C.M.J. Article 31, I wish to make the following statement:

AROUND MIDNIGHT R[redacted] LEFT MY ROOM UPSET THAT I WASN'T GIVING HER ATTENTION, SHE LATER COMES BACK TRYING TO GET BACK IN MY ROOM AND I WAS IGNORING HER, AROUND [redacted] MY ROOMATE WAS LEAVING THE ROOM AND R[redacted] PUSHED MY ROOMATE OUT THE WAY TO GET INTO MY ROOM, THEN SHE PROCEEDS TO WALK IN MY ROOM WHILE IM IN BED, ~~ARGUING~~ ETC TO START ARGUING WE WALK INTO THE LIVING-ROOM STILL ARGUING THEN SHE PULLS A LIL KNIFE OUT HER POCKET AND CHARGED AT ME WHILE MY ROOMATE IS STILL HERE WATCHING THEN SHE SAYS YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND IS GONNA LOVE TO HEAR YOU LIKE PUTTING YOUR HANDS ON FEMALES, I LOOK AT MY ROOMATE IN DISBELIFE ASKING WHEN DID I PUT MY HANDS ON YOU AND SHE SAYS BEFORE SHE LEFT, SHE THEN PROCEEDS TO SAY WHERE IS MY CROCS AND BLUE ~~CROCS~~ FOLDER AND I SAY YOUR CROCS ARE IN THE ROOM AND WHAT FOLDER ARE YOU ASKING FOR, SHE STARTS MOVING ALL MY THINGS AROUND LOOKING FOR A BLUE FOLDER, I GRAB MY VALUBIGS TO PUT IN MY CLOSET SHE GRABS MY PS5 AND THROWS IT ON THE GROUND AND COMPLETELY BREAKS IT, IVE ASKED HER MANY TIMES TO EXIT MY ROOM AND SHE NEVER LEFT UNTIL I CLOSED MY ROOM DOOR AND SHE HAD LEFT MY ROOM.

Q. Did you choke Ms R[redacted] by placing you hands around her neck? I NEVER ONCE PUT MY HANDS ON HER IT WAS A HICKEY AND MY CS^2 CAN VERIFY THAT ITS A HICKEY CAUSE IT WAS ON HER NECK DAYS BEFORE AND HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT IT CS^2 BRYANT TOLD ME TO BE MORE DISCRET AND CAUTIOUS ON WHAT ME AND R[redacted] ARE DOING CAUSE HE SEES THE HICKEYS ON R[redacted] NECK

Q. Can you describe the knife?
A MULTITOOL KIT HAS A HAMMER WRENCH AND 3 ~~KNIVES~~ KNIFES ON IT.

[redacted] 11APR25
1320

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MILITARY SUSPECT'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Place: 1957 W. TAUSSIG BLVD NORFOLK VA
23511 BLDG CEP-161

I. R[redacted], S[redacted], C. | CSAA | USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS | 9252 [redacted PII]

have been advised by MASN MONTGOMERY, JAHNAE

that I am suspected of UCMJ ARTICLE 92 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT

I have also been advised that:

SCR (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;
SCR (2) Any statement I do make can be used against me in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative Proceeding;
SCR (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;
SCR (4) I have the right to have my retained civilian lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and
SCR (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

I understand my rights as related to me and as set for above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me.

Signature: [redacted]

Date & Time: 11APR25 0905

Witnessed: [redacted] 11APR25 0905

MASN CLERVEAUXJEAN, ZACHARY

Date &Time 11APR25 0905

At this time, I, R[redacted], S[redacted] | I DO desire to make the following voluntary statement. This statement is made with an understanding of my rights as set forth above. It is made with no treats or promises having been extended to me.

OPNAV 5580/3 (Rev. 11/2006) PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY *(When filled in)*

000110_COPELAND

S/N 0107-LF-981-6000

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MILITARY SUSPECT'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Place: NSNSD CID 1957 Taussig Blvd
Norfolk VA 23511
1025

I, R[redacted] S[redacted] C[redacted]

have been advised by Det. S. Gaston,

that I am suspected of Destruction of Personal Property (3) counts, Illegal entry, Brandishing a weapon, Failure to obey order or regulation, Assault & Battery.

I have also been advised that:

SCR (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

SCR (2) Any statement I do make can be used against me in a trail by court-martial or other judicial or administrative Proceeding;

SCR (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

SCR (4) I have the right to have my retained civilian lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

SCR (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

SCR I understand my rights as related to me and as set for above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me. SCR

Signature: [redacted]

Date & Time: 14APRIL2025 10:28

Witnessed: [redacted] 4/14/2025 1029

Date &Time 14APR25 1029 HRS

At this time, I, _____

desire to make the following voluntary statement. This statement is made with an understanding of my rights as set forth above. It is made with no treats or promises having been extended to me.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MILITARY SUSPECT'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Place: NSWSA CID 1957 Taussig Blvd
Norfolk, VA 23511 1919

I, R[redacted] S[redacted] C[redacted]

have been advised by Det. Gaston

that I am suspected of Disorderly Conduct

I have also been advised that:

SCR (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

SCR (2) Any statement I do make can be used against me in a trail by court-martial or other judicial or administrative Proceeding;

SCR (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

SCR (4) I have the right to have my retained civilian lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

SCR (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

SCR I understand my rights as related to me and as set for above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me. SCR

Signature: [redacted]

Date & Time: 11 APRIL 2025 10:22

Witnessed: [redacted] 10:22

Date &Time 11APR25 1022 HOURS

At this time, I, _____

desire to make the following voluntary statement. This statement is made with an understanding of my rights as set forth above. It is made with no treats or promises having been extended to me.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

1. ADVISORY

I, *(full name)* S [redacted] C [redacted] R [redacted]

after being advised by Det. GASTON

that the NSNSD

is conducting an investigation into the offense(s) of Brandishing A weapon (Knife)

Willful destruction of Personal Property

have been requested to permit a search of my Barracks room Bldg R-161 room

228 (B) Naval Station Norfolk.

2. CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

3. PERMISSION

This search may be conducted on *(date)* April 4, 2025

by MASN CLERVEAUX JEAN, ZACHARY

and I hereby give him/her/them my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

4. FREE DECISION

I make this decision freely and voluntarily and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

a. Date

14 APRIL 2025

[redacted]

5. WITNESSES

[redacted] MASN MONTOR

[redacted] MA2 JONES COURTNAY

6. TIMES OF SEARCH

a. Start

1508

b. End

1527

OPNAV 5527/16 (12-82)

Advance Auto Parts
ADVANCE YOUR AUTO

Store # 06392
8215 Hampton Boulevard
Norfolk VA 23505-1005 (757) 489-1125
04/12/25 17:56 REG 03 TRN# 7536 JD L

ITEM	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
GORILLA BLACK TAPE 1 EA 12454321			
105636	1	$9.99	$9.99
Military Discount			$-1.00
Sub Total			$8.99
T1 Tax @		6.0000%	$0.54
Total			$9.53

$9.53 PURCHASE @ 5:57 PM
Visa **********4274 CHIP CONTACTLESS
AUTH 523053 APPROVED REF 639203753801
ENV CARD I MERCH 315329 I TERM 3
Issuer ARQC 2C28FFEE1A101184
ONLINE PIN VERIFIED for AID A0000000980840

Get $5 off your next $20 purchase
when you sign up for Speed Perks.
Text SIGNUP to 77333 to join today.
Get 10 points for every $1 spent
500 points = $5 Perks Bucks

CUSTOMER: Copeland, Jermiah

Z2R251DLDWIJLW

ENTER TO WIN A $200 GAS CARD!
Complete a brief survey
about your visit
advanceautoparts.com/survey
Enter code:639203 07536 5102
Sweepstakes ends 12/31/2025

JOIN OUR TEAM! NOW HIRING!
www.advanceautoparts.jobs

Buy Online, Pick Up Today at
www.AdvanceAutoParts.com

NEX

NORF MAIN
NAVAL BASE BLDG CD13 1560 MALL DRIVE
NORFOLK, VA 23511
United States
757-440-2000

Store: 10 Register: 604
Date: 4/12/25 Time: 1:23 PM
Ticket: 69839

Salesperson:
1
Cashier: 1

****
Loyalty Information
****

Loyalty Card #:
0165145722149990
Program Name: NEXt Level Rewards
Points Earned Today: 23
Total Earned Points: 52

Item	Qty	Price	Amount
Slime 8 oz Rubber Cement			
14693405	1 ea	6.99	6.99
UPC: 716281210501			
COLOR: 000 NO COLOR			
ONE SIZE FITS ALL/NO SIZE: 0000			
Red Bull Sea Blue Juneberry Edition 12oz			
14697533	1 ea	3.49	3.49
UPC: 611269001648			
COLOR: 000 NO COLOR			
ONE SIZE FITS ALL/NO SIZE: 0000			
THRU-CORE EMERGENCY TIRE SEALANT 14 OZ.			
13548500	1 ea	12.79	12.79
UPC: 716281510007			
COLOR: 000 NO COLOR			
SIZE: 0000			

Subtotal	23.27
Surcharge	0.00
Total	23.27
Debit Card	23.27

**********4274
Auth #: 001308
Transaction Type: Sale
Auth Time: 1:24 PM
Currency: 840
Entry Method: Contactless
AID: A0000000980840
Verification: None
Authorization Mode: Issuer

Change 0.00

Sign up for NEXt Level Rewards today.
Get even more benefits, savings &
value on top of our everyday low prices.

At Checkout, just let your cashier know
you'd like to signup.
myNavyExchange.com/NEXtLevelRewards

Experience comfort and warmth this holiday

000114_COPELAND

TIRE INFLATOR

Give us feedback @ survey.walmart.com
Thank you! ID #:7VP02M1XF70S

Walmart

WM Supercenter
757-480-0587 Mgr:BRITTNIE
7530 TIDEWATER DR
NORFOLK VA 23505
ST# 05488 OP# 000247 TE# 95 TR# 01773
ITEMS SOLD 1
TC# 6848 8191 7753 2332 2254

SLM DLX INF	071628151139	46.77 X
	SUBTOTAL	46.77
TAX 1	6.000 %	2.81
	TOTAL	49.58
	DEBIT TEND	49.58
	CHANGE DUE	0.00

EFT DEBIT
PAY FROM PRIMARY
49.58 TOTAL PURCHASE
US DEBIT **** **** **** 4274 I O
REF # 510200266948
NETWORK ID. 0056 APPR CODE 000537
US DEBIT
AID A0000000980840
AAC 174CD4E7987D97CA
*Pin Verified
TERMINAL # SC010776
04/12/25 12:13:18

Get free delivery from this store with Walmart+

Scan for 30-day free trial.

04/12/25 12:13:23

Granby Tire

2906 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23504

757-227-4168

RECEIPT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL WARRANTY WORK

NO REFUNDS • WARRANTY • NO REFUNDS

Sold To	Emp [illegible]	Date 4/12/25
PF DF	PR DR	

Quantity	Size	Type		Amount
255	45	J0		
[ ] Front and/or Rear End Needs Aligment or Repair				
[ ] Lug Nuts & Studs Defective				
Customer Informed Prior to Installation				
(COMPANY NOT RESPONSIBLE)				
Passenger Front [ ] Rear [ ] Driver Front [ ] Rear [ ] Carry Off				80.00

OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK LUG NUTS AFTER 15 MILES!

AIR PRESSURE MUST BE MAINTAINED AT MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS
PROPER TIRE MAINTENANCE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER!

30 Day Warranty. Warranty does not cover owners abuse, or nonstandards installation. Warranty does not cover over inflation, mechanical defects resulting in tire failure (example: front or rear end alignment, stripped lug nuts or studs, bent rims, defective valve stems.) Warranty does not cover tires used on commercial vehicles. Defective tires are covered up to two (2) days after purchase (holes in tires!) After the two days it is owner's responsibility! Not responsible for damage due to blow outs or tread peeling off. Seller warrants that the tires hereby sold will or will not pass inspection at the time of sale. Faulty tires will be replaced. THERE IS NO HAZARD WARRANTY. NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE. THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ANY AND ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED. SELLER DOES NOT WARRANT THAT THE GOODS ARE MERCHANTABLE OR FIT FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE. NEW TIRES: MANUFACTURER WARRANT ONLY.

RECEIPT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL WARRANT WORK.

CUSTOMER [illegible] DATE 4/12/25

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

RECEIPT FOR PRETRIAL/POST-TRIAL PRISONER OR DETAINED PERSON

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record when a prisoner (pretrial or post-trial) is transferred or temporarily released during confinement or when an individual is detained in custody. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 OAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. RECEIVED FROM

a. UNIT/AGENCY *(Annotate Unit/Agency releasing custody)*	b. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*	c. TIME
NS NORFOLK SECURITY DEPARTMENT	20250411	1336

d. PRISONER NAME *(Last, First, Middle)*	e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER *(Last 4 only)*	f. PRISONER REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JERMIAH, TAYLOR	PII	N/A

g. GRADE	h. BRANCH	i. INSTALLATION	j. DUTY STATION
CSSN/E3	NAVY	NAVAL STATION NORFOLK	USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS DDG-95

2. TYPE OF CONFINEMENT *(X all that apply)* ☐ PRETRIAL ☐ POST-TRIAL ☒ UNDER CUSTODY

3. OFFENSES/CHARGES OR UCMJ ARTICLES VIOLATED *(Annotate the Article Number(s) and the specific charge(s) associated with each one.)*

N/A

4. PURPOSE OF TRANSFER OR TEMPORARY RELEASE

RELEASED TO CHAIN OF COMMAND.

5. STATUS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY *(Annotate where the prisoner's personal property is located, i.e., unit supply room, personal storage facility, mailed to Home of Record, etc.)*

COMMON ACCESS CARD WITH DOD # ENDING IN PII, WASHINGTON (WA) DRIVER'S LICENSE ENDING PII ROOM KEY TO ~~ROOM~~ BLDG X-2 ROOM 335

6. REMARKS *(Annotate noteworthy information/comments about the prisoner's health, behavior, etc., that will assist in the successful completion of the Temporary Release or Transfer.)*

CALM AND COMPLIANT

7. RECEIPT FOR PERSON/PRISONER *(Identification/verification required on the person receiving custody of this prisoner.)*

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE *(Type or print)*	b. SSN *(Last 4 only)*	c. GRADE
PARKER, BRAD E7 LCPO	PII	E7

d. UNIT/AGENCY	f. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*
USS JAMES E WILLIAMS DDG 95 [redacted]	20250411

DD FORM 2708, NOV 2022

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI (when filled in)

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

000117_COPELAND

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

RECEIPT FOR PRETRIAL/POST-TRIAL PRISONER OR DETAINED PERSON

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record when a prisoner (pretrial or post-trial) is transferred or temporarily released during confinement or when an individual is detained in custody. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. RECEIVED FROM

a. UNIT/AGENCY *(Annotate Unit/Agency releasing custody)*	b. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*	c. TIME
NS NORFOLK SECURITY DEPARTMENT	20250411	1131 HOURS

d. PRISONER NAME *(Last, First, Middle)*	e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER *(Last 4 only)*	f. PRISONER REGISTRATION NUMBER
[redacted]	PII	N/A

g. GRADE	h. BRANCH	i. INSTALLATION	j. DUTY STATION
CSSA/E2	NAVY	NAVAL STATION NORFOLK	USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS DDG-95 (UH TAD)

2. TYPE OF CONFINEMENT *(X all that apply)* ☐ PRETRIAL ☐ POST-TRIAL ☒ UNDER CUSTODY

3. OFFENSES/CHARGES OR UCMJ ARTICLES VIOLATED *(Annotate the Article Number(s) and the specific charge(s) associated with each one.)*

N/A

4. PURPOSE OF TRANSFER OR TEMPORARY RELEASE

TRANSFER TO CHAIN OF COMMAND, AS DIRECTED.

5. STATUS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY *(Annotate where the prisoner's personal property is located, i.e., unit supply room, personal storage facility, mailed to Home of Record, etc.)*

N/A

6. REMARKS *(Annotate noteworthy information/comments about the prisoner's health, behavior, etc., that will assist in the successful completion of the Temporary Release or Transfer.)*

CALM AND COMPLIANT

7. RECEIPT FOR PERSON/PRISONER *(Identification/verification required on the person receiving custody of this prisoner.)*

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE *(Type or print)*	b. SSN *(Last 4 only)*	c. GRADE
PEARSON, WILLIE | CMC	PII	E-9
d. UNIT/AGENCY		f. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*
NAVSTA NORFOLK UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING	[redacted]	20250411

DD FORM 2708, NOV 2022

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI (when filled in)

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

000118_COPELAND

RECEIPT FOR PRETRIAL/POST-TRIAL PRISONER OR DETAINED PERSON

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record when a prisoner (pretrial or post-trial) is transferred or temporarily released during confinement or when an individual is detained in custody. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. RECEIVED FROM

a. UNIT/AGENCY *(Annotate Unit/Agency releasing custody)*	b. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*	c. TIME
NS NORFOLK SECURITY DEPARTMENT	20250414	1320 HOURS

d. PRISONER NAME *(Last, First, Middle)*	e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER *(Last 4 only)*	f. PRISONER REGISTRATION NUMBER
R[redacted], S[redacted]	PII	N/A

g. GRADE	h. BRANCH	i. INSTALLATION	j. DUTY STATION
CSSA	NAVY	NAVSTA NORFOLK	USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS DDG-95

2. TYPE OF CONFINEMENT *(X all that apply)* ☐ PRETRIAL ☐ POST-TRIAL ☒ UNDER CUSTODY

3. OFFENSES/CHARGES OR UCMJ ARTICLES VIOLATED *(Annotate the Article Number(s) and the specific charge(s) associated with each one.)*

UCMJ - Article 92 - Failure to obey order or regulation
UCMJ - Article 109 - Property other than military property of the U.S. - waste, spoilage, or destruction (on or after January 1, 2019)
UCMJ - Article 134 - Unlawful entry (prior to January 1, 2019)

4. PURPOSE OF TRANSFER OR TEMPORARY RELEASE

TRANSFER CUSTODY TO CHAIN OF COMMAND AS DIRECTED.

5. STATUS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY *(Annotate where the prisoner's personal property is located, i.e., unit supply room, personal storage facility, mailed to Home of Record, etc.)*

COMMON ACCESS CARD ENDING IN PII

6. REMARKS *(Annotate noteworthy information/comments about the prisoner's health, behavior, etc., that will assist in the successful completion of the Temporary Release or Transfer.)*

CALM AND COMPLIANT. LPO WAS IN PLACE OF CMC PEARSON, WILLIE.

7. RECEIPT FOR PERSON/PRISONER *(Identification/verification required on the person receiving custody of this prisoner.)*

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE *(Type or print)*	b. SSN *(Last 4 only)*	c. GRADE
CSI ROBLES, ADRIANA	PII	E6
d. UNIT/AGENCY		f. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*
USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS DDG-95		20250414

INCIDENT REPORT	INCIDENT NUMBER	REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TYPE
	254752300197	254752300197 REVISION 1	INITIAL

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; 10 U.S.C. 5031; 44 U.S.C. 3103 and EO 9397
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Used to record information and details of criminal activity which may require investigative action by commanding officers, supervisors, security police, NCIS special agents, etc. Used to provide information to the appropriate individuals within DoD organizations who ensure that proper legal and administrative action is taken.
ROUTINE USES: Information may be disclosed to local, county, state and federal law enforcement or investigatory authorities for investigation and possible criminal prosecution or civil court action. Information extracted from this form may be used in other related criminal and/or civil proceedings.
DISCLOSURE IS VOLUNTARY: SSN is used to positively identify the individual making the statement and as a conduit to check past criminal activity records.

SECTION I. ADMINISTRATIVE

Incident Subject : DISORDERLY CONDUCT (DOMESTIC)

Date Received	Time Received	Incident Received	Start Date / Time of Incident	End Date / Time of Incident
11-APR-2025	0648	By Radio	11-APR-2025 0530	11-APR-2025 0630

Weather : Clear
Lighting : Daylight

SECTION II. COMPLAINANT(S)

SECTION III. OFFENSE(S)

OFFENSE

Offense : UCMJ - Article 92 - Failure to obey order or regulation | **Statutory Basis** : UCMJ | **On Base** : YES | **Offense Status** : COMPLETED

Location : BLDG X-2 ROOM 335 (B) NORFOLK, Virginia
Location Type : Residence-BOQ/BEQ

Bias Motivation : No Bias

Offender Used :
Type Weapon / Force Used :

Type of Criminal Activity :

OFFENSE

Offense : UCMJ - Article 128 - Assault | **Statutory Basis** : UCMJ | **On Base** : YES | **Offense Status** : COMPLETED

Location : BLDG. X-2 ROOM 335 (B) NORFOLK, Virginia
Location Type : Residence-BOQ/BEQ

Bias Motivation : No Bias

Offender Used :
Type Weapon / Force Used : Bodily Force

Type of Criminal Activity : None/Unknown

OFFENSE

Offense : UCMJ - Article 134 - Weapon: concealed, carrying (prior to January 1, 2019) | **Statutory Basis** : UCMJ | **On Base** : YES | **Offense Status** : COMPLETED

Location : X-2 ROOM 335 (B) NORFOLK, Virginia
Location Type : Residence-BOQ/BEQ

Bias Motivation : No Bias

Offender Used :
Type Weapon / Force Used : Knife/Cutting Tool

Type of Criminal Activity : Possessing/Concealing

OFFENSE

Offense : UCMJ - Article 109 - Property other than military property of the U.S. - waste, spoilage, or destruction (on or after January 1, 2019) | **Statutory Basis** : UCMJ | **On Base** : YES | **Offense Status** : COMPLETED

Location : X-2 ROOM 335 (B) NORFOLK, Virginia
Location Type : Residence-BOQ/BEQ

Bias Motivation : No Bias

Offender Used :
Type Weapon / Force Used :

Type of Criminal Activity :

OFFENSE

Offense : UCMJ - Article 134 - Unlawful entry (prior to January 1, 2019) | **Statutory Basis** : UCMJ | **On Base** : YES | **Offense Status** : COMPLETED

Location : X-2 ROOM 335 (B) NORFOLK, Virginia | **Location Type** : Residence-BOQ/BEQ

Bias Motivation : No Bias

Offender Used : | **Type Weapon / Force Used** :

Type of Criminal Activity :

BURGLARY / BREAKING AND ENTERING INFORMATION

Force Used : Yes | **# of Premises Entered** : 1 | **Condition of Premise(s)** : Occupied

Method(s) of Entry : Bodily Force | **Tool(s) Used** : Bodily Force

SECTION IV. PROPERTY

PROPERTY ITEM | **Property Type** : Game Console

Type of Property Loss	Quantity	Value	Secured
Damaged/Destroyed/Vandalized		500	

Make / Model	Size	Color	Serial Number
PLAY STATION 5			

Description

Disposition of Property	Ownership Type
Destroyed	Private/Personal

PROPERTY ITEM | **Property Type** : Automobiles

Type of Property Loss	Quantity	Value	Secured
Damaged/Destroyed/Vandalized		700	

Make / Model	Size	Color	Serial Number

Description tire

Disposition of Property	Ownership Type
Destroyed	Private/Personal

SECTION IV. PROPERTY - NARCOTIC(S)

SECTION IV. PROPERTY - VEHICLE(S)

SECTION V. VICTIMS(S)

VICTIM | **Victim Type** Individual | **DD2701 Issued**

Name COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR | **ID Num** SSN / PII | **Rank** Seaman

Branch of Service	Personnel Type	Status	Date of Birth	Place of Birth
Navy	MILITARY	Regular (Active)	PII	DURHAM NC, United States

Sex : Male | **Race** : Black or African American | **Ethnicity** : Unknown | **Resident of Jurisdiction** :

Address

, ,

Organization USS JAMES E WILLIAMS | **UIC / RUC** | **Work Telephone**

ADDITIONAL VICTIM INFORMATION

Offense(s) Committed Against This Victim : 2 - UCMJ - Article 128 - Assault , 4 - UCMJ - Article 109 - Property other than military property of the U.S. - waste, spoilage, or destruction (on or after January 1, 2019) , 5 - UCMJ - Article 134 - Unlawful entry (prior to January 1, 2019)

Relationship of Victim to Suspect(s) :

[redacted] - Victim Was Ex-Relationship (Ex-boy/girlfriend)

Aggravated Assault Circumstances :

Injury Type(s):

VICTIM			Victim Type: Society	DD2701 Issued
Name: SOCIETY,			ID Num: / UNKNOWN	Rank
Branch of Service	Personnel Type: UNKNOWN	Status: CIVILIAN	Date of Birth	Place of Birth
Sex :	Race :	Ethnicity :		Resident of Jurisdiction :
Address: . .				
Organization			UIC / RUC	Work Telephone

ADDITIONAL VICTIM INFORMATION

Offense(s) Committed Against This Victim : 3 - UCMJ - Article 134 - Weapon: concealed, carrying (prior to January 1, 2019)

Relationship of Victim to Suspect(s) :

Aggravated Assault Circumstances :

Injury Type(s):

SECTION VI. WITNESS/SPONSOR - WITNESS(S)

WITNESS			DD2701 Issued :
Name: BRYANT, JOSHUA TIMOTHY		ID Num: SSN / PII	Rank: Petty Officer Second Class
Branch of Service: Navy	Personnel Type: MILITARY	Status: Regular (Active)	Date of Birth: PII
Address: PII			Place of Birth: GOOSECREEK SC, United States
Organization: USS JOHN E. WILLIAMS		UIC / RUC	Work Telephone

WITNESS			DD2701 Issued :
Name: MONAGHAN, SEAN MICHAEL		ID Num: PII	Rank: Seaman
Branch of Service: Navy	Personnel Type: MILITARY	Status: Regular (Active)	Date of Birth: PII
Address: PII			Place of Birth: PA, United States
Organization: HM-12		UIC / RUC	Work Telephone

SECTION VI. WITNESS/SPONSOR - SPONSOR(S)

SECTION VII. SUSPECT(S) / ARRESTEE(S)

SUSPECT

Name: RI[redacted] S[redacted] C[redacted]			ID Num: SSN / PII	Rank: Seaman Apprentice
Branch of Service: Navy	Personnel Type: MILITARY	Status: Regular (Active)	Date of Birth: PII	Place of Birth: BELLVILLE IL, United States
Address: PII				
Organization: UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING			UIC / RUC	Work Telephone

Known Alias :

ADDITIONAL SUSPECT / ARRESTEE INFORMATION

Offense(s) Committed by This Suspect/Arrestee:

UCMJ - Article 92 - Failure to obey order or regulation - Principal , UCMJ - Article 128 - Assault - Principal , UCMJ - Article 134 - Weapon: concealed, carrying (prior to January 1, 2019) - Principal , UCMJ - Article 109 - Property other than military property of the U.S. - waste, spoilage, or destruction (on or after January 1, 2019) - Principal , UCMJ - Article 134 - Unlawful entry (prior to January 1, 2019) - Principal

SUSPECT / ARRESTEE DESCRIPTION

Sex: Female	Race: Black or African American	Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino	Resident of Jurisdiction

Hair Color	Eye Color	Height (Inches)	Weight (lbs.)	Body Build	Dexterity
Black	Brown	65	139	Thin	Right-Handed

Hair Type(s): Long **HairStyle(s):** Cornrow **Facial Hair :**

Complexion : Clear **Appearance :** Neat

Attire : Athletic Attire **Speech :** Mumbles **Demeanor :** Calm

IDENTIFYING MARKS

Type	Location	Description
Tattoo	Right Wrist	BLACK SCORPION
Tattoo	Right Hand	1/2 DOZEN ROSES AND PSALM 46:5
Tattoo	Right Lower Arm	RED IN COLOR HEART SHAPED SPIDER WEB
Tattoo	Right Upper Arm	FISH WITH CHINESE LETTERING
Tattoo	Left Shoulder	BUTTERFLY
Tattoo	Right Lower Arm	"WAYS"
Tattoo	Right Lower Arm	"444"
Tattoo	Right Lower Arm	BIBLE VERSE/JEREMIAH 29:11

ARRESTEE INFO

Date Arrested : **Type of Arrest :**

Multiple Clearance : **Disposition of Juvenile :**

Suspect Was Armed With :

SECTION VIII. ADDITIONAL POLICE OFFICERS

POLICE OFFICER

Name		Rank
MONTGOMERY, JAHNAE		

Branch of Service	Personnel Type	Status	Organization
	UNKNOWN	CIVILIAN	

SECTION IX. NARRATIVE

On 11APR25, at Approximately 0648 Hours, MASN Clerveauxjean and MASN Montgomery were dispatched to Building X-2 located at [redacted] Virginia Ave, Norfolk, VA 23511 in reference to a report of Disorderly Conduct.

Upon Arrival, Officers met with CSSN Copeland, Jermiah (Victim/USS James E. Williams) who stated at around 0530 Hours his Former Partner known to be [redacted] (Suspect/USS James E. Williams/LIMDU) Barged into his Room (335) while Brandishing a Tan in Color Multi-tool Knife shoved passed his roommate Monagan, Sean (Witness/HM-12/YNSN) and into room AB where V/Copeland was laying down.

Further Investigation revealed that S/Richardson then proceeded to Kick and destroyed his PlayStation 5. S/[redacted] also threatened to stab victim then proceeded to Punch Him according to W/Monoghan who witnessed the entire altercation. V/Copeland asked the Suspect to leave several times which to after an hour the Suspect requested to see a Residential Assistant. S/[redacted] eventually fled the scene just prior to Police Arrival in a White in Color Nissan Altima with Unknown Virgina Tags.

At Approximately 0720 Hours, the Chief of the Guard located S/Richardson at Pier 1 and shortly after MASN Montgomery Apprehended S/[redacted] and transported to CEP-161.

MASN Clerveauxjean took a statement from W/Monoghan and took pictures of Damages completed to Personal Property of V/Copeland. V/Copeland property damages total estimated to be $700 USD.

At Approximately, 0722 Hours, MASN Clerveauxjean conducted a Personnel Search and Detained V/Copeland with Double-Locking Handcuff restraints. V/Copeland was transported for further investigation with starting Mileage 39217 ending in the same mileage arriving at 0815 Hours.

At Approximately 0730 Hours, Both Parties Commands Representatives were notified of the incident. CDO Chief Jones, Steven mediated the notification.

At Approximately 0905 hours, The Suspect was advised of 31B via Military Suspects Acknowledgment and Waiver of Rights (OPNAV 5580/3) by MASN Montgomery and decided to make a statement.

At Approximately 1130 Hours, [redacted] was released to CMC Pearson, Willie via DD Form 2708 without incident.

At Approximately 1159 Hours, V/Copeland was advised of 31B Rights via Military Suspects Acknowledgment and Waiver of Rights (OPNAV

5580/3) by Detective Gaston and decided to make a statement.

At Approximately 1330 Hours, V/ Copeland was released to Chief Parker, Brad via DD Form 2708 without incident.

Following the Release of Both Individuals, CID Detective Gaston consumed the case in the pursuit of additional charges per UCMJ. The investigation would resume to Monday due to Health Conditions of S/[redacted]

At Approximately 0915 Hours on 14APR25, S/[redacted] was Detained for further investigation.

At the Direction of Detective Gaston with a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure via DD Form 5580/16 signed by Suspect, MASN Clerveauxjean conducted a Search of S/[redacted]s Living Quarters Located at Schamberger Hall Building R-61 Room 228, Located at 1353 Gilbert St, Norfolk, VA 23511. Witnesses present were MASN Montgomery and MA2 Jones. The Search Commenced at 1058 Hours and Completed at 1127 Hours, yielding Negative Results in search for the Tan in Color Multi-Tool Knife.

At Approximately 1150 Hours, on 14APR25, S/[redacted] DNA was collected pursuant to DOD Instruction 5505.14, the DNA Collection Kit Number is #0404885. The DNA was mailed to: CODIS Laboratory, US Army Criminal Investigation LAB, 4930 N. 31st Street, Forest Park, GA 30297-9864.

At Approximately 1215 Hours, on 14APR25, S/[redacted] was fingerprinted pursuant to DOD Instruction 5505.11 via Livescan, the Transaction Control Number is #NOR1012025041425059 by MASN Clerveauxjean.

At Approximately 1320 Hours on14APR25, S/R[redacted] was released to her Chain of Command Representative via DD Form 2708 without Incident following Processing.

There are no further Witnesses at this Time.

ENCLOSURE(S)

ENCL #	DESCRIPTION
1	5580/2 Voluntary Statment | ICO: Monoghan, Sean
2	5580/3 Military Acknowledgement Of Rights | ICO: [redacted] S.
3	DD Form 2708 Prisoner Custody Reciept | ICO: [redacted] S
4	Photo Log/Pictures ICO: [redacted] S.
5	5580/16 Permissive Search and Seizure | ICO: [redacted] S.
6	DD Form 5580/2 | ICO: Copeland, J.
7	DD Form 2708 Prisoner Custody Receipt | ICO: Copeland Jermiah
8	Photo Log | ICO: Copeland J.
9	5580/2 Voluntary Statement | ICO: CS2 Bryant, J.

SECTION X. REPORTING/APPROVING OFFICIALS

Reporting Official	Date	Approving Official	Date
CLERVEAUXJEAN, ZACHARY Seaman	15-APR-2025 APPROVED ON 11-APR-2025	BALLESTEROS, CRIS GS08 Watch Commander	15-APR-2025 FINAL APPROVED ON 15-APR-2025

SECTION XI. ADMINISTRATIVE DISPOSITION

Victim/Witness Notification		Incident Status	Date Cleared
0 Victims Notified	0 Witnesses Notified		

Referred To/Assumed By :

Distribution :

PHOTO LOG



Photograph 1.

Description: S/R[redacted]
Tattoo Right Arm Rear



Photograph 2.

Description: S/[redacted]
Tattoo Right Front



Photograph 3.

Description: S/R[redacted]
Tattoo Left Arm

Photograph 4.

Description:

ENCLOSURE: 4

CCN: 254752300197





PHOTO LOG



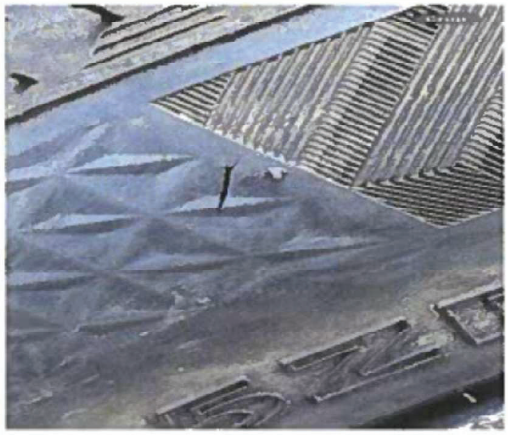
Photograph 1.

Description: Damaged Playstation 5



Photograph 2.

Description: Punctured Tire



Photograph 3.

Description: Slashed Tire Marking

Photograph 4.

Description:



U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 17JUN25

DEATH (II) CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII
V/R[redacted], A[redacted] PETRA/SN USN
[redacted] PII

COMMAND/USS JAMES E WILLIAMS/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCIS NORFOLK, VA/USS HARRY S TRUMAN/S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA/26JUL24
(B) NCIS NORFOLK, VA/USS HARRY S TRUMAN/S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA/06NOV24

EXHIBIT(S)
(1) IA: RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH NORFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT/01JUN25
(2) IA: RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH COMMAND, MTAC, AND ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN ON 31MAY25/01JUN25
(3) IA: RESULTS OF EXECUTION OF BOLO FOR CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted], USN/01JUN25
(4) IA: RESULTS OF EMERGENCY CELLULAR PHONE PINGS(V/[redacted]/01JUN25
(5) IA: RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/01JUN25
(6) IA: RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH FCC BRAD PARKER, USN/01JUN25
(7) IA: RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/01JUN25
(8) IA: RESULTS OF CONTACT WITH NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER PORTSMOUTH, VA/01JUN25
(9) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF ESMERALDA CASTLE, CIV/01JUN25
(10) IA: RESULTS OF INITIAL SEARCH OF CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted]'S BARRACKS ROOM/01JUN25
(11) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF MA3 JESSICA GOUGE, USN/01JUN25
(12) IA: RESULTS OF BACKGROUND CHECKS OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/02JUN25
(13) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/02JUN25
(14) IA: RESULTS OF NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION SUBPOENA FOR V/R[redacted] ACCOUNT/02JUN25
(15) IA: RESULTS OF HOTEL INQUIRIES TO LOCATE V/[redacted]/02JUN25
(16) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA, USN/02JUN25
(17) IA: RESULTS OF SURVEILLANCE VIDEO REVIEW FROM TARGET/03JUN25

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(18) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN/03JUN25
(19) IA: RESULTS OF CONTACT WITH EMERGENCY ROOM RECORDS CUSTODIAN/03JUN25
(20) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF PSSN IRBIN GORDILLOCRUZ, USN/03JUN25
(21) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN EDDYSON JEAN JACQUES, USN/03JUN25
(22) IA: RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE FROM CSSN EDDYSSON JEAN JACQUES, USN/03JUN25
(23) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25
(24) IA: RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE REGARDING HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE'S IPHONE/03JUN25
(25) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JUNROGEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(26) IA: RESULTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA CHECKS/03JUN25
(27) IA: RESULTS OF CONTACT OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/03JUN25
(28) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN/03JUN25
(29) IA: RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE FROM FCC BRAD PARKER, USN/03JUN25
(30) IA: RESULTS OF CONTACT OF CSSN SARAH COOK, USN/03JUN25
(31) SCENE OBSERVATION DOCUMENT/03JUN25
(32) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN /03JUN25
(33) IA: RESULTS OF NCIS ENTRY AND CRITICAL MISSING ALERT ISSUANCE FOR V/[redacted]/03JUN25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 31MAY25, NCIS received a report of a missing person, CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), who was marked as Unauthorized Absent by DDG-95 along with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95. On 01JUN25, base security was able to locate S/COPELAND, however, V/[redacted] was still missing. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and began conducting field interviews of friends and family members of V/[redacted] NCIS also spoke with S/COPELAND who stated, he along with one of his roommates dropped V/[redacted] off at her barracks, Miller Hall, on the morning on 29MAY25, and he had not seen or spoken to V/[redacted] since. Throughout the course of the investigation, it was determined S/COPELAND was the last person to see V/[redacted] and he had not been truthful about V/[redacted] whereabouts nor his actions through 29MAY25 until 01JUN25. NCIS was able to seize S/COPELAND's cellphone and conducted a forensic review of the cellphone, which lead NCIS to a neighborhood in Norfolk, VA where V/[redacted] body was located inside a black duffel bag. After the discovery, NCIS detained S/COPELAND and attempted to interview him. S/COPELAND requested a lawyer be present for the interview and the interview was terminated. S/COPELAND was then remanded to Pre-Trial Confinement, pending charges. This investigation continues pending

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **17JUN25**

forensics, interviews, and evidence evaluation.

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive investigation pertains to the suspected violations of Article 107 (False Official Statements), Article 118 (Murder) and Article 131b (Obstruction of Justice) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS is the lead investigating Agency.

2. Reference's (A) and (B) document previous NCIS cases with S/COPELAND.

3. On 31MAY25, NCIS received a phone call from Norfolk Police Department (NPD) Officer James STALCUP, CIV, who stated he had received notification about V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND being missing. Officer STALCUP stated he attempted to make contact with V/[redacted] but was unsuccessful; Exhibit (1) pertains.

4. On 31MAY25, NCIS made initial contact with multiple individuals to include V/[redacted] Command, in an attempt to locate V/[redacted] NCIS attempted to conduct a phone ping on V/[redacted] phone, however, MTAC denied the request, as at the time there was no suspected suicidal ideations or suspected harm. NCIS spoke with LTJG David DEZMURE, USN, Legal Officer DDG-95, who stated he was aware of both sailors being UA but expressed no safety concerns for V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND; Exhibit (2) pertains.

5. On 01JUN25, NCIS executed a "Be on the Lookout" (BOLO) for CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, JAMES E. WILLAIMS (DDG-95); Exhibit (3) pertains.

6. On 01JUN25, NCIS conducted Emergency Cellular Phone Pings via MTAC on V/[redacted] cellphone; Exhibit (4) pertains.

7. On 01JUN25, NCIS conducted a field interview of S/COPELAND in the lounge area of Building X-2. S/COPELAND stated he borrowed his roommates vehicle and drove V/[redacted] to her barracks at approximately 1000 on 29MAY25; Exhibit (5) pertains.

8. On 01JUN25, NCIS conducted an initial interview of FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, who stated he had made contact with both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] on 29MAY25 at approximately 0900; Exhibit (6) pertains.

9. On 01JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG-95, who stated he had become concerned about V/[redacted] after her location data, which was shared with ET3 RICH, had stopped showing her location. ET3 RICH stated he and HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, along with base Security Forces searched the surrounding area of X-2 for V/[redacted] ET3 RICH also stated he and Security Forces went to V/[redacted] barracks to see if she

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was there, which she was not; Exhibit (7) pertains.

10. On 01JUN25, NCIS made contact with Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Charge Nurse who determined V/[redacted] was not currently checked into the hospital; Exhibit (8) pertains.

11. On 01JUN25, NCIS contacted Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV, mother of V/[redacted] via telephone to inquire on the whereabouts of V/[redacted] Exhibit (9) pertains.

12. On 01JUN25, NCIS conducted an initial search of V/[redacted] barracks room; Exhibit (10) pertains.

13. On 01JUN25, NCIS conducted an initial interview of MA3 Jessica GOUGE, USN, USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN-77), who was identified as the roommate of V/[redacted] Exhibit (11) pertains.

14. On 02JUN25, NCIS conducted background checks for S/COPELAND which revealed he is the subject of two NCIS investigations; Exhibit (12) pertains.

15. On 02JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview with YN3 Sean MONGHAN, USN, HELICOPTER MINE COUNTERMEASURES SQUADRON (HM-12). YN3 MONGHAN was identified as being the roommate of S/COPELAND; Exhibit (13) pertains.

16. On 02JUN25, NCIS submitted a Navy Federal Credit Union Subpoena for V/[redacted] checking account for the timeframe of 02MAY25-01JUN25; Exhibit (14) pertains.

17. On 02JUN25, NCIS conducted a phone ping for V/[redacted];s cellphone. Once supplied with the information from the service provider, NCIS was able to see a low confidence data ping in the area of two hotels. NCIS contacted those hotels and was met with negative results; Exhibit (15) pertains.

18. On 02JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview with CSSN Gladys GARCIA-BARBERA, USN, DDG-95, who was identified as being friends with V/[redacted] and going to Target with her on 28MAY25; Exhibit (16) pertains.

19. On 03JUN25, NCIS obtained surveillance footage from Target, located at 1245 N. Military Highway, Norfolk VA, showing CSSN GARCIA-BARBERA and V/[redacted] shopping; Exhibit (17) pertains.

20. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview with AR John CALISSE, USN, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW-124), who was identified as being a roommate of S/COPELAND's; Exhibit (18) pertains.

21. On 03JUN25, NCIS made contact with the emergency rooms and intakes from

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Sentara Health, Bon Secours Mercy Health and Riverside Health to conduct searches of their systems for V/[redacted] Exhibit (19) pertains.

22. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, VAW-124, who was identified as being a roommate of S/COPELAND; Exhibit (20) pertains.

23. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of CSSN Eddyson JEAN-JACQUES, USN, DDG-95, who was identified as receiving text messages from V/[redacted] on 28MAY25 and received phone calls from HT3 GILLESPIE; Exhibit (21) pertains.

24. On 03JUN25, NCIS executed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) on CSSN JEAN-JACQUES' cellphone, who provided screenshots of messages between himself and V/[redacted] Exhibit (22) pertains.

25. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of HT3 GILLESPIE, who was identified as being one of the sailors who attempted to locate V/[redacted] on the morning of 29MAY25; Exhibit (23) pertains.

26. On 03JUN25, NCIS executed a PASS on HT3 GILLESPIE's cellphone, which revealed the last text message from V/[redacted] was received at 23:22 hours on Wednesday, 28MAY25. NCIS also seized a video of HT3 GILLESPIE confronting S/COPELAND about the disappearance of V/[redacted] Exhibit (24) pertains.

27. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of CSSN Junrojel MIGUEL, USN, DDG-95, who was determined to be a close friend of V/[redacted] and gave insight into the relationship between V/[redacted] and HT3 GILLESPIE; Exhibit (25) pertains.

28. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted Social Media Checks from S/COPELAND; Exhibit (26) pertains.

29. On 03JUN25, NCIS made secondary contact with YN3 MONAGHAN, S/COPELAND's roommate during the execution of the Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) for S/COPELAND's barracks room; Exhibit (27) pertains.

30. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of FCC PARKER, who was determined to be the Command Representative sent to find S/COPELAND on 29MAY25, after he was marked as Unauthorized Absent (UA); Exhibit (28) pertains.

31. On 03JUN25, NCIS executed a PASS on FCC PARKER's cellphone, who provided 12 images of text messages between himself and LSC Robert JANSEN, USN, DDG-95, in regard to the interactions with S/COPELAND; Exhibit (29) pertains.

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32. On 03JUN25, NCIS interviewed CSSN Sarah COOK, USH, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-77), who was located inside S/COPELAND's barracks room during the execution of a CASS for S/COPELAND's barracks room; Exhibit (30) pertains.

33. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted a CASS on S/COPELANDS barracks room and documented a crime scene examination, collecting several pieces of evidence; Exhibit (31) pertains.

34. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of S/COPELAND. S/COPELAND stated he and V/[redacted] hung out on Wednesday, 28MAY25. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] left his barracks room in the morning on Thursday, 29MAY25 presumably by Z-Trip. S/COPELAND denied hurting V/[redacted] or knowing her location; Exhibit (32) pertains.

35. On 03JUN25, NCIS issued a Critical Missing Persons Alert and NCIC entry for V/[redacted] via Virginia State Police (VSP); Exhibit (33) pertains.

36. Between 01JUN25-03JUN25, LTJG David DEMAZURE, USN, DDG-95 Legal Officer, were updated on the status of this investigation.

37. Between 01JUN25-03JUN25, NCIS made contact with Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV, mother of V/[redacted] and provided daily updates.

38. Between 01JUN25-03JUN25, CDR Lauren MAYO, LT Christopher DEMPSEY and LT Patricia CANNADAY, USN, OSTC, were provided updates.

39. This ROI (INTERIM) documents the completed investigative actions from the initiation of the investigation through 03JUN25. Due to the numerous and extensive investigative activities completed since the start of this investigation, subsequent ROI (INTERIM)'s will be generated to document all additional investigative steps in chronological order of date completed.

40. This investigation continues pending forensics, interviews, and evidence evaluation.

ACTION
R.DFNF: Please provide forensic support in captioned investigation. Please contact SA Jessica Gokey at 757-513-1377 or jessica.gokey@ncis.navy.mil

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **17JUN25**

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 09JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF SECONDARY INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN

1. On 09Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) Tyler MANN conducted an interview of YN3 Sean MONAGHAN, USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 12 (HM 12), pursuant to the missing person investigation involving CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of YN3 MONAGHAN was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. As background, YN3 MONAGHAN is the roommate of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, who was the last known individual to see V/[redacted] before she went missing. It is believed V/[redacted] was last seen in the room shared by S/COPELAND and YN3 MONAGHAN.

4. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Wednesday, 28May25, he arrived at his barracks room around 1900 from traveling back home to New Jersey. YN3 MONAGHAN stated when he arrived, he did not see anyone in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN continued S/COPELAND got home that night around 2200; however, YN3 MONAGHAN stated he had watch early the next morning, so he was already half asleep. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he does remember seeing a lighter-skinned female with short hair; however, he did not recognize her, nor did he know who she was. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Thursday, 29May25, he woke up around 0500 to get ready for work, and he noticed no one was in his room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he walked out into their common space at approximately 0640 and observed S/COPELAND asleep on the floor of the living room in his underwear with a girl he did not recognize. Of note, YN3 MONAGHAN was shown a picture of V/[redacted] by PA; however, he relayed he did not get a good enough look at the individual on the floor to positively identify her as V/[redacted] YN3 MONAGHAN stated he returned from work around 1300, and no one was in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, around 2000, he saw S/COPELAND and asked him if him and the female from that morning had been naked, to which S/COPELAND relayed they had been in their underwear. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he saw S/COPELAND again that night in the common space around 2200 when he went to make food. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND did sleep in their room that night.

5. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Friday, 30May25, he woke up around 0600 when

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **09JUN25**

S/COPELAND left and then woke up again around 0900 when a representative (NFI) from S/COPELAND's Command came looking for him; however, he was not in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated the next time he saw S/COPELAND was when he returned to the room around 2200-2300. YN3 MONAGHAN confirmed S/COPELAND slept in their room that night.

6. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Saturday, 31May25, he noticed S/COPELAND left early in the morning again, although he was not sure what time. YN3 MONAGHAN continued he was woken up at approximately 1200, when the Masters-at-Arms (MAs) came looking for S/COPELAND and again, he was not in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND returned to the room late at night again; however, he was not sure of the exact time.

7. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Sunday, 01Jun25, S/COPELAND received a call from his command around 1000, needing him to come in to work. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he was unsure how S/COPELAND got to work that day. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND returned to the room at approximately 2200-2300.

8. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Monday, 02Jun25, he was questioned by the "homicide unit" while at work and on Tuesday, 03Jun25, NCIS "raided" their barracks room and took S/COPELAND. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, following the "raid" by NCIS, he asked S/COPELAND what NCIS was looking for, to which S/COPELAND responded, "I don't know, they're tripping." YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Monday he noticed S/COPELAND was very skittish. YN3 MONAGHAN explained he walked into their room and when he opened the door, S/COPELAND looked startled and stated, "Oh, you scared me."

9. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND does have a car; however, it gets repairs done to it a lot. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND's "crazy ex slashed the tires." YN3 MONAGHAN described the car as being small, rectangular, and black with four doors. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he drives a 2011 Toyota Camry with a New Jersey license plate number PII . YN3 MONAGHAN stated he has never let S/COPELAND borrow his car nor has he ever given him permission to use his car for any reason. YN3 MONAGHAN revealed he does leave his keys in places S/COPELAND could access them, usually on his desk in their room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on 03Jun25, he did believe his car had moved parking spots and was so suspicious about the incident he texted his mom.

10. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he did see S/COPELAND with a rolling suitcase a couple months ago. YN3 MONAGHAN described the suitcase as one that came up to his thigh, black, and had a handle for wheeling around. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND usually kept this suitcase locked in his closet; however, stated he had not seen it in "awhile."

11. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he has not noticed anything in their room being out of place. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he deep cleaned their room on Monday, 02Jun25, where he noticed the bathmat in front of the toilet had a stain in one

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **09JUN25**

corner, he believed to be blood. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed this was not unusual to him because S/COPELAND had female friends over who would often leave tampons in their bathroom, and blood sometimes got on the floor. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, because he thought nothing of this, he placed the bathmat in the washing machine to be cleaned. YN3 MONAGHAN provided a hand drawn sketch of the bathmat to depict where he observed the blood; Enclosure (B) pertains. YN3 MONAGHAN also provided a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to enter his barracks room and collect the bathmat which will be documented under separate cover.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/09JUN25
(B) HAND DRAWN SKETCH BY YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN, OF STAIN
LOCATED ON BATHMAT/09JUN25

REPORTED BY: ASHLEY ULLOM, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 22SEP25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]NC
V/J[redacted] YI[redacted]/CIV
F/B/[redacted]

COMMAND/USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE:S/COPELAND, JERMIAH, TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE:S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA

EXHIBIT(S)
(1) IA: INTERIVEW OF YI[redacted] J[redacted], CIV/24JUL25
(2) IA: INTERVIEW OF LSSA OMERI SMOOT, USN/04AUG25
(3) IA: INTERIVEW OF AEAN JDYN BRADFORD, USN/05AUG25
(4) IA: ATTEMPTS TO INTERVIEW YI[redacted] J[redacted], CIV/09AUG25
(5) IA: RESULTS OF ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/13AUG25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 24JUN25, NCIS conducted a cold call to a phone number "757-217-7057," which was located during a review of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND's (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) cellphone while investigating Reference (C). During the search of the cellphone, the phone number was thought to be a minor child based off the inference of the text messages between S/COPELAND and the phone number. NCIS ran the phone number which determined it was a VoIP number. NCIS then cold called the phone number and identified the person who answered to be Ye[redacted] J[redacted] (V/J[redacted] CIV, who was determined to be an 18-year-old female. NCIS identified themselves and asked V/[redacted] what information, if any, did she know about S/COPELAND. V/[redacted] then stated S/COPELAND had sexually assaulted her in April or May 2025. NCIS

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POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **22SEP25**

asked V/[redacted] to come into the office for a formal interview, V/[redacted] declined however, she did agree to a telephonic interview. V/[redacted] gave two witness names during the interview. V/[redacted] declined to participate in the investigation. NCIS interviewed the two witnesses identified by V/[redacted] NCIS re-approached V/[redacted] to see if she would participate. V/[redacted] stated she would participate, and an interview was scheduled for 09AUG25 at a Virginia Beach Police Station near her residence. On 08AUG25, NCIS made contact and confirmed the interview with V/[redacted] On 09AUG25, NCIS attempted to make contact with V/[redacted] with negative results. NCIS passed V/[redacted] information to the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) so they may conduct their VWAP interview. This investigation continues pending the collection of fingerprints and DNA of S/COPELAND

NARRATIVE

1. This reactive investigation is being initiated due to the alleged violation of Article 120 (Rape and Sexual Assault Generally) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS is the lead investigating agency.

2. On 24JUL25, NCIS telephonically interviewed V/[redacted] who stated she was sexually assaulted by S/COPELAND in his barracks room in April or May 2025; Exhibit (1) pertains.

3. On 04AUG25, NCIS interviewed LSSA Omeri SMOOT, USN, USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN-69). LSSA SMOOT was present during the sexual assault; Exhibit (2) pertains.

4. On 05AUG25, NCIS interviewed AEAN Jdyn BRADFORD, USN, CVN-69. AEAN BRADFORD was present during the sexual assault; Exhibit (3) pertains.

5. Between 05AUG-25AUG25, NCIS made multiple attempts to contact and formally interview V/[redacted] with negative results; Exhibit (4) pertains.

6. On 13AUG25, NCIS contacted LCDR Amanda SERFESS, USN, Defense counsel, and asked to interview S/COPELAND. LCDR SERFESS contacted S/COPELAND who chose to remain silent; Exhibit (5) pertains.

6. On 22AUG25, charges were preferred for the sexual assault without consent of V/[redacted]

7. On 28AUG25, LCDR Lauren MAYO, USN, OSTC, was updated on the status of this investigation.

8. This investigation continues pending the collection of fingerprints and DNA of S/COPELAND.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 24JUL25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]

INTERIVEW OF Y[redacted] J[redacted], CIV

1. On 24JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) conducted a cold call in an attempt to identify the owner of the phone number "757-217-7057", who was thought to have been a minor child engaged in sexual activity with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

2. Ye[redacted] (V/[redacted] CIV, was identified as being a 19 year old dependent who was sexually assaulted by S/COPELAND. V/[redacted] explained she was not comfortable having a formal interview conducted at that time, however, she would tell RA what happened over the phone.

3. During the phone call, V/[redacted] stated she knew S/COPELAND and had a one-night stand with him sometime in the beginning of the summer in 2025. V/[redacted] described S/COPELAND as giving off "weird vibes" and he would constantly ask her to come over.

4. V/[redacted] explained on the night of the sexual assault, she had been picked up by two other males, Omar (NFI) and Jaden (NFI). After being picked up by them, V/[redacted] said they drove her back to S/COPELAND's barracks room located on Naval Station Norfolk and they engaged in a consensual 3-way. V/[redacted] explained S/COPELAND was not present however, he did return to his barracks room sometime between 0500-0600. V/[redacted] stated the 3-way was over and she was very tired. However, when S/COPELAND arrived at his barracks room, V/[redacted] said he grabbed her by the arm and pulled her into his room. V/[redacted] stated S/COPELAND wanted her to give him "head" or oral sex, and V/[redacted] said she told S/COPELAND "no" and that she was "tired." V/[redacted] explained S/COPELAND then attempted to penetrate her vagina and she stated it was painful and hurt when S/COPELAND penetrated her. V/[redacted] said she told S/COPELAND to "stop." V/[redacted] explained Omar was at the door and could hear her telling S/COPELAND to stop. V/[redacted] further explained Omar entered the room and was able to get V/[redacted] out of the situation. V/[redacted] said she told Omar "thankyou" and left the barracks room.

5. V/[redacted] stated she had not spoken to S/COPELAND since the sexual

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EXHIBIT (1)

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CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **24JUL25**

assault occurred but when the "sailor girl" further clarified as CSSN Ar[redacted] [redacted] USN, DDG-95, went missing she spoke to Omar and Jaden in person, and they had discussed the circumstances around her disappearance. V/[redacted] could not give details as to what they exactly talked about, however, V/[redacted] explained both Omar and Jaden stopped being friends with S/COPELAND due to V/RE[redacted] missing.

6. At the conclusion of the interview, RA asked V/[redacted] if she would be willing to participate in the investigation. V/[redacted] stated she was not sure if she wanted to participate.

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OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04AUG25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted]

INTERVIEW OF LSSA OMERI SMOOT, USN

1. On 04AUG25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Nick ZWIESLER conducted an interview of LSSA Omeri SMOOT, USN, USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN-69) in regard to the captioned investigation.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. LSSA SMOOT stated approximately 3-4 months ago Ye[redacted] J[redacted] (V/[redacted] CIV, AEAN Jdyn BRADFORD, USN, CVN-69, and himself were in the barracks room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LSSA SMOOT stated S/COPELAND had entered the barracks room and grabbed V/[redacted] by the arm and was pulling her into his bedroom. LSSA SMOOT stated V/[redacted] was telling S/COPELAND "no" and that she was "tired". LSSA SMOOT stated he stopped S/COPELAND from taking V/[redacted] into the bedroom.

4. LSSA SMOOT did not elaborate further on the activities that occurred the night of the assault.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/04AUG25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
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EXHIBIT (2)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05AUG25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]

INTERIVEW OF AEAN JDYN BRADFORD, USN

1. On 05AUG25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Lisa CARROLL conducted an interview of AEAN Jdyn BRADFORD, USN, USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN-69) in regard to the captioned investigation.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. AEAN BRADFORD stated LSSA Omeri SMOOT, USN, CVN-69, and Ye[redacted] JIM[redacted] (V/[redacted] CIV were all hanging out in CSSN Jermiah COPELAND's (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95) barracks room on 25MAY25. AEAN BRADFORD explained S/COPELAND was not in the barracks room but returned around 0300-0400. AEAN BRADFORD stated when S/COPELAND entered the barracks room he went right to V/[redacted] and gave her a hug. AEAN BRADFORD stated the next thing he realized, as he was on a phone call, S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] were in S/COPELAND's bedroom and the door was locked. AEAN BRADFORD stated he could hear V/[redacted] say "no" and that she was "tired". AEAN BRADFORD explained he and LSSA SMOOT kept telling S/COPELAND to stop, and eventually S/COPELAND opened the door. AEAN BRADFORD observed V/[redacted] on the floor of S/COPELAND's room in what was described as someone who may have "rag dolled" onto the floor. AEAN BRADFORD explained V/[redacted] did not have a shirt on but did have a bra and pants on. AEAN BRADFORD stated S/COPELAND told everyone to get out of the barracks room due to him having to go to work. AEAN BRADFORD explained he took V/[redacted] home and on the way home V/[redacted] told him S/COPELAND attempted to make her perform oral sex on S/COPELAND.

4. AEAN BRADFORD expressed his concerns for V/[redacted] AEAN BRADFORD further clarified he was not going to let V/[redacted] stay there as he was concerned what S/COPELAND might do to her if left alone with her. AEAN BRADFORD stated he never confronted S/COPELAND about the assault and did not speak to him

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EXHIBIT (3)

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CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **05AUG25**

again until after he had gone missing and was found.

5. RA continued the interview of AEAN BRADFORD however, the rest of the interview conducted surrounded the events leading up to the disappearance and death of CSSN Ar[redacted] R[redacted], USN, DDG-95 and will be documented under that investigation.

6. RA asked AEAN BRADFORD to provide a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for a screenshot of the conversation between himself and V/[redacted] showing the time and date of the incident; Enclosure (B) pertains.

7. AEAN BRADFORD provided the screen shot which confirmed the day he picked up V/[redacted] being 24MAY25 at approximately 2341. This screenshot has been placed on a template and appended as Enclosure (C).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC OF INTERVIEW/05AUG25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE/05AUG25
(C) PHOTO TEMPLATE/05AUG25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 05AUG25

I, JDYN BRADFORD, after being advised by Special Agent Jessica Gorley & Lisa Carroll that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into SEXUAL ASSAULT, have been requested to permit a search of my IPHONE.

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search *in* the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on 05AUG25 by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

Signed: [redacted]

[redacted]ice

LISA CARROLL
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

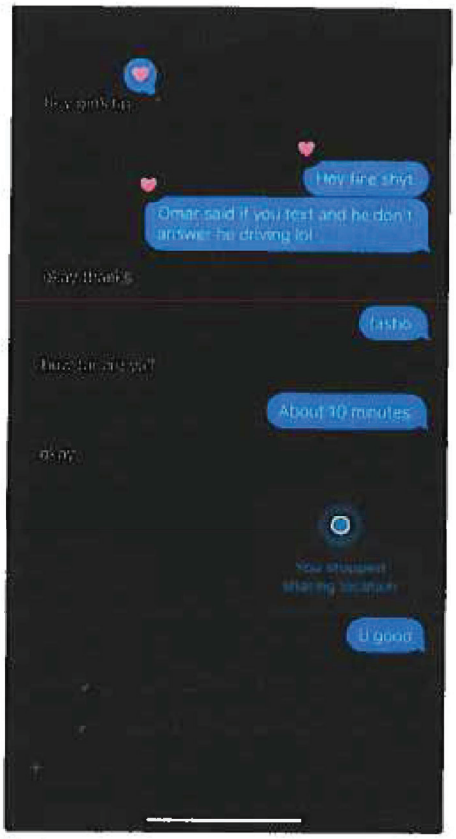
Start : ≈1000 05AUG25

End : 1004 05AUG25

ENCLOSURE (B)

NCIS 5580/21 (Rev. 12-2008)

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE:		
NFNF		
2. TITLE:	**3. CCN:**	**4. DATE RECIEVED:**
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA	05AUG25
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:		**6. PHOTOGRAPHER:**
Screenshot provided by AEAN Jdyn BRADFORD, USN, showing the time and date of picking up V/J[redacted]		AEAN JDYN BRADFORD, USN

NCIS 5580/91 (Rev 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (1) OF (1) **ENCLOSURE (C)**

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 09AUG25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted]

ATTEMPTS TO INTERVIEW Y[redacted] J[redacted], CIV

1. On 05AUG25, Reporting Agent (RA) made contact with Ye[redacted], J[redacted] (V/[redacted] CIV who stated she would be willing to have a formal interview conducted on 09AUG25.

2. On 08AUG25, RA contacted V/[redacted] and confirmed she is still willing to participate and have an interview conducted. V/[redacted] agreed, and a pickup time of 1145 was confirmed.

3. On 09AUG25, RA attempted to contact V/[redacted] to confirm address for pickup and transport to Virginia Beach Police Station to conduct an interview. No acknowledgment was received from V/[redacted]

4. It appears RA was blocked by V/[redacted] as phone calls do not connect nor to text messages say "delivered."

5. RA passed V/[redacted] information to LT Patricia CANNADAY, USN, Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) for VWAP purposes.

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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EXHIBIT (4)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 13AUG25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]

RESULTS OF ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 13AUG25, Reporting Agent (RA) contacted LCDR Amanda SERFESS, USN, DEFENSE COUNCEL, for CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in an attempt to interview S/COPELAND.

2. LCDR SERFESS, after speaking with S/COPELAND, stated S/COPELAND would like to remain silent.

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EXHIBIT (5)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (OPEN) 28JUL25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted]
V/[redacted]/CIV
F/B/USXX/[redacted]

COMMAND/USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLKF, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive investigation is being initiated due to the alleged violation of Article 120 (Rape and Sexual Assault Generally) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS is the lead investigating agency.

2. As background, NCIS is conducting an investigation into CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) for his alleged involvement in the death of CSSN Ar[redacted] R[redacted], USN, DDG-95. As such, while reviewing the information gathered in that investigation, NCIS obtained the phone number "757-217-7057", identified as belonging to Ye[redacted] [redacted] (V/[redacted] CIV. It appeared V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND engaged in a sexual relationship and NCIS wanted to conduct an interview of V/[redacted] NCIS asked V/[redacted] to come in and be formally interviewed however, V/[redacted] declined, but agreed to speak to NCIS via telephone.

3. On 24JUL25, NCIS conducted a telephonic interview of V/[redacted] V/[redacted] stated she was sexually assaulted by S/COPELAND in April or May of 2025 while in his barracks room, Building X-2 located on Naval Station Norfolk.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **28JUL25**

V/[redacted] said she was picked up by two (2) sailors, who she could only identify as "Omar" and "Jaden", and she was taken to S/COPELAND's barracks room. V/[redacted] said Omar, Jaden and herself engaged in consensual sexual activities and stated she was sore and tired from the experience. V/[redacted] continued explaining, S/COPELAND had not been present during the consensual sexual activities between the other two males, however, S/COPELAND arrived at his barracks room between 0500-0600 and wanted to have intercourse with V/[redacted] V/[redacted] stated she told S/COPELAND she did not want to due to her being sore and tired. V/[redacted] continued explaining, S/COPELAND grabbed her by the arm and forced her into his bedroom. V/[redacted] stated Omar and Jaden where present when S/COPELAND grabbed her and forced her into his bedroom. V/[redacted] explained she continued to tell S/COPELAND "no", but S/COPELAND attempted to force V/[redacted] to perform oral sex on him. V/[redacted] stated she did not perform oral sex on S/COPELAND however, S/COPELAND did force his penis inside her vagina, when again V/[redacted] said "no" and to "stop" due to the pain. V/[redacted] stated Omar was banging on the door and eventually made his way into the bedroom and stopped S/COPELAND by taking V/[redacted] away from S/COPELAND and taking her out of the barracks. V/[redacted] she was unsure if she wanted to participate in this investigation because she did not want her father (NFI) to find out what she had done prior to the sexual assault and of her fear of S/COPELAND.

4. DATABASE AND BACKGROUND CHECKS: On 25JUL25, NCIS conducted database and background checks for V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND utilizing the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), Consolidated Law Enforcement Operations Center (CLEOC), NCIS Knowledge Network (K-NET), Department of Defense Law Enforcement Defense Data Exchange (D-DEX), Defense Central Index of Investigations (DCII), Defense Personnel Records Information Retrieval System (DPRIS), Official Military Personnel File (OMPF), and Defense Information System for Security (DISS) databases.

5. RESULTS FOR V/[redacted] All checks were negative except DDEX shows V/[redacted] was also the victim of a domestic incident between herself and her father, Yeri [redacted] CIV.

6. RESULTS FOR S/COPELAND: CLEOC, NCIC, KNET, DCII, and DDEX show S/COPELAND is the suspect in multiple NCIS investigations, References A-D pertain. DISS shows a Secret clearance. CLEOC shows two active Military Protective Orders (MPO). A review of S/COPELAND's OMPF shows no pertinent information.

7. This investigation continues pending the identification and interviews of Omar and Jaden and any other investigative steps deemed necessary.

SEXUAL ASSAULT DATA POINTS

Offense/Statute: UCMJ Article 120 (Sexual assault; threat or fear)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **28JUL25**

Offense Location: NORFOLK, VA, USA

Offense Date and Time: Unknown

Subject Suspected of Using: Alcohol: No, Drugs: No, Drug Type: None

Victim Suspected of Using: Alcohol: No, Drugs: No, Drug Type: None

Victim SAFE Conducted: No, LATE DISCLOSURE

Victim DD2701 (VWAP) Issued: No, WILL BE ISSUED PENDING FORMAL INTERVIEW

Victim Command Notification: V IS A CIVILIAN

Subject Command Notification: 24JUL25, CDR TIMOTHY WINTERS, COMMANDING OFFICER, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)

MPO Issued: No, S IS IN PTC

SPECIAL VICTIM INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION NOTIFICATIONS

SVIP 24-Hour Notification
24JUL25 Trial Counsel/Prosecutor: PATRICIA CANNADAY, LT, OSTC
24JUL25 SARC/FAP Manager: DENIKQUA MERRITT, CIV, SARC
24JUL25 SAPR VA/DAVA: NOT REQUESTED
24JUL25 Victims' Legal Counsel: NOT REQUESTED

SVIP 2-Day Collaboration
25JUL25 Trial Counsel/Prosecutor: PATRICIA CANNADAY, LT, OSTC
25JUL25 SARC/FAP Manager: CHRISTOPHER REIGHARD, CIV, SARC
25JUL25 SAPR VA/DAVA: NOT REQUESTED
25JUL25 Victims' Legal Counsel: NOT REQUESTED

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF LSSA OMERI SMOOT, USN

1. On 05JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) Cotie WILSON interviewed LSSA Omeri SMOOT, USN, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69), regarding the whereabouts of CCSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LSSA SMOOT was identified as a friend of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95.

2. The interview of LSSA SMOOT was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. LSSA SMOOT was identified in a previous interview as the person who said S/COPELAND told him he was in jail over the weekend of 31MAY25-01JUN25.

4. LSSA SMOOT denied ever being told by S/COPELAND he was in jail during that weekend. LSSA SMOOT said this theory came from people in the group chat throwing out ideas to explain why S/COPELAND was counted as Unauthorized Absence (UA). LSSA SMOOT stated he picked up S/COPELAND on 02JUN25 and took him over to their friends' barracks in Portsmouth to hang out. During this car ride, LSSA SMOOT asked S/COPELAND what happened and why he was unaccounted for Friday. LSSA SMOOT stated S/COPELAND told him the Command would not let him on the ship. LSSA SMOOT also said S/COPELAND told him V/[redacted] was sad and she was having possible boyfriend issues when he last saw her. LSSA SMOOT did not press or ask any further questions as he did not want the car ride to be awkward.

5. LSSA SMOOT stated S/COPELAND stayed at this friends barracks in Portsmouth overnight and he drove him to work the next morning which was 03JUN25.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF LSSA OMERI SMOOT, USN/05JUN25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **05JUN25**

REPORTED BY: NICHOLAS E ZWIESLER, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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From: Doherty, Matthew C LT USN (USA)
To: "Canning, Brad T - GOV"
Subject: Contact Information for Victims in Copeland (1) and (2)
Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025 1:54:00 PM

Brad,

I'm in need of your certain set of skills...can you look up contact information for the following victims?

- ABHAN C[redacted] R[redacted]
- CSSN S[redacted] S[redacted]

Thanks, man!

V/R,
Matt

Matthew C. Doherty
LT, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Detachment Norfolk
9620 Maryland Ave, Ste. 201
Norfolk, VA 23511
757-341-4511

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POC: LT Matthew C. Doherty, matthew.c.doherty2.mil@us.navy.mil

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS** **(FAILURE TO STATE AN OFFENSE)** **26 November 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Court-Martial (RCM) 907(b)(2)(E), the defense moves this Court to dismiss Charge VII and the sole specification because the charge and specification thereunder fail to state an offense.

BURDEN

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of evidence. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. In Charge VII and the sole specification thereunder, CSSN Copeland is charged with violating Article 118 (Premeditated Murder):

> In that Culinary Specialist Seaman Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 29 May 2025, with premeditation, murder CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, by means of an act of the Accused. (Charge Sheet).

2. On 15 October 2025, the defense requested a bill of particulars. (Enclosure (A): Request for Bill of Particulars ltr of 15 Oct 25).

3. On 5 November 2025, the government provided a response to the defense's request. (Enclosure (B): Bill of Particulars). In the government's bill of particulars, its states that it does not have to prove a specific act, but that "as provided in [its] 5 November 404(b) notice, the Government will present evidence that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation by the Accused."

4. As of this filing, the defense has not been provided any direct evidence that CSSN Copeland strangled CS3 A.R. nor has it been provided any evidence of CS3 A.R.'s cause of death. Further, on 28 June 2025, an autopsy was performed by a Dr. Nemanja Rodic. This autopsy concluded

that the manner of death is "deferred." (Enclosure (C): Autopsy Report). Dr. Rodic did not see any evidence of foul play, nor did he note any signs commonly associated with strangulation, he "considered it formally ruled [] out." (Enclosure (D): Voice Note Transcript provided with Autopsy Report).

5. In the government's bill of particulars, it reminds the defense that a bill of particulars does not restrict the government's proof at trial and that it can amend the bill of particulars.

6. On 5 November 2025, the government provided the defense notice pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b). In this notice the government states that it intends to use evidence that ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. described being strangled as evidence of CSSN Copeland's "common scheme of controlling women to get them to comply." The government includes the "Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R." as part of that common scheme. (Enclosure (A) of Def MIL M.R.E. 413 Motion: Government Notice Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) of 5 Nov 25).

LAW

7. The Sixth Amendment provides that an accused shall "be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation" against him. Further, the Fifth Amendment provides that no person shall be "deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law," and no person shall be "subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy." Thus, when an accused Service Member is charged with an offense at court-martial, each specification will be found constitutionally sufficient only if it alleges, "either expressly or by necessary implication," "every element" of the offense, "so as to give the accused notice [of the charge against which he must defend] and protect him against double jeopardy."[1]

8. "A specification is sufficient if it first, contain[s] the elements of the offense charged and fairly inform[s] a defendant of the charge against which he must defend, and, second, enable[s] him to plead an acquittal or conviction in bar of future prosecutions for the same offense."[2] "If a specific intent, knowledge, or state of mind is an element of the offense, it must be alleged."[3]

9. The sufficiency requirement "ensures that a defendant understands what he must defend against."[4] "Indeed, '[n]o principle of procedural due process is more clearly established than . . . notice of the specific charge, and a chance to be heard in a trial of the issues raised by that charge.'"[5]

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[1] *United States v. Dear*, 40 M.J. 196, 197 (C.M.A. 1994) (citations and internal quotations omitted).
[2] *United States v. Fosler*, 70 M.J. 225, 229 (C.A.A.F. 2011) (citations and internal quotations omitted); *see also United States v. Sutton*, 68 M.J. 455, 457 (C.A.A.F. 2010); *United States v. Crafter*, 64 M.J. 209, 211 (C.A.A.F. 2006).
[3] R.C.M. 307(c)(3), Discussion (G)(i).
[4] *Fosler*, 70 M.J. at 229.
[5] *Id*. (quoting *Cole v. Arkansas*, 333 U.S. 196, 201 (1948)); *see also United States v. Amazaki*, 67 M.J. 666, 669-70 (A. Ct. Crim. App. 2009) (distinguishing between "failure to state an offense" as "concerned with pleading and double jeopardy," and "void for vagueness" as "based upon the Due Process clause of

10. "If a specification fails to state an offense, the appropriate remedy is dismissal of that specification unless the Government can demonstrate that this constitutional error was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt."[6]

11. Merely reciting an element without alleging central facts or circumstances can deprive an accused of constitutionally required notice.[7] According to the Supreme Court the mere recitation of a statute's elements is insufficient unless they "apprise the defendant 'with reasonable certainty, of the nature of the accusation against him.'"[8] "Undoubtedly, the language of a statute may be used in the general description of an offense, but it must be accompanied with such a statement of the facts and circumstances as will inform the accused of the specific offense, coming under the general description, with which he is charged."[9] A vague charge "requires the defendant to go to trial with the chief issue undefined. It enables his conviction to rest on one point and the affirmance of the conviction to rest on another. It gives the prosecution free hand on appeal to fill in the gaps of proof by surmise or conjecture."[10]

12. The elements the government must prove here for a violation of Article 118 (Premeditated Murder) are:

(1) That CS3 A.R. is dead;
(2) That the death resulted from the act or omission of CSSN Copeland;
(3) That the killing by the accused was unlawful; and
(4) That at the time of the killing, CSSN Copeland had a premeditated design to kill.

13. The Manual for Courts-Martial sample specification for the charged offense of murder reads, in relevant part, that the accused did "murder _____ by means of (shooting (him) (her) with a rifle ( ))."

14. A bill of particulars cannot be used to repair a specification which is otherwise not legally sufficient.[11]

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the Fifth Amendment").
[6] *United States v. Fosler*, 70 M.J. 225, 230 (C.A.A.F. 2011).
[7] *United States v. Richard*, 84 M.J. 586, 590 (C.G. Ct. Crim. App. 2024) (citing *Russell v. United States*, 369 U.S. 749 (1962)).
[8] Russell, 369 U.S. at 765 (quoting *United States v. Simmons*, 96 U.S. 360, 362 (1877)).
[9] *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Hess*, 124 U.S. 483, 487 (1888)).
[10] *Id.* at 766.
[11] R.C.M. 906(6), Discussion.

ARGUMENT

15. **The government failed to allege what act (or omission) by CSSN Copeland caused CS3 A.R.'s death. In doing so, it has deprived CSSN Copeland of the constitutionally required notice.**

Here, the government merely recited the elements without alleging the central fact – the act on the part of the accused that caused a death. In doing so, the government deprived CSSN Copeland of the constitutionally required notice. It is clear from the sample specification for the charged offense of murder that more is required to be alleged in a charge for murder. The government failed to allege a means or a cause of death. "The model specification calls for alleging that the accused murdered someone by *doing a specific thing*—like "by means of shooting him with a rifle."[12] Here, the government failed to do so. The Military Judges' Benchbook advises instructing that the "death resulted from the (act) (omission) of the accused in (*state the act or failure to act alleged*)." Together, these are guidelines for the government that it must state an actual act or omission which resulted in a death.[13] The government failed to do so here; therefore, Charge VII should be dismissed.

In the government's bill of particulars, it attempts to persuade the defense that the government does not need to prove "the act that caused the death but rather need only prove *corpus delicti*" citing *United States v. Elmore*, 31 M.J. 678, 683 (N-M. Ct. M. R. 1990). Nowhere in *Elmore* does the court make such a finding. Further, *Elmore* is a case about, among other issues, factual and legal sufficiency – there is little mention of the actual charge and there is no appeal based on failure to state an offense or lack of notice. In *Elmore,* the N-MCMR held that the government has no requirement to produce a body to sustain a conviction for murder.[14] What we do know about the charges in *Elmore* is that the government acknowledged in the murder charge that it accomplished by "an unknown act of violence or force."[15] Here, the government fails to do even that. Therefore, the violation of Article 118 in this case fails to state an offense.

While *United States v. Richard* is not binding on this Court, it should be very persuasive as the Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals (CGCCA) analyzes the very same issue of whether the government must allege a specific act to put an accused on notice of what he must defend against – it must. As the government points out in its bill of particulars, it is important to note that the court in *Richard* was analyzing the sufficiency of a charge of murder to place an accused on notice of the lesser included offense of involuntary manslaughter. However, the analysis regarding the absence of specificity regarding the actual act alleged is the same. Here, the government also failed to state a specific act.

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[12] *Richard*, at 590 (citing Manual for Courts-Martial at ¶56.e).
[13] *Id.*
[14] *United States v. Elmore*, 31 M.J. 678, 1990 CMR LEXIS 749 (N-M.C.M.R. Aug. 1, 1990), *review or reh'g granted*, 32 M.J. 487, 1991 CMA LEXIS 703 (C.M.A. Apr. 11, 1991*), review or reh'g granted*, 33 M.J. 165, 1991 CMA LEXIS 988 (C.M.A. May 15, 1991), *aff'd*, 33 M.J. 387, 1991 CMA LEXIS 1324 (C.M.A. Sept. 30, 1991), *cert. denied*, 504 U.S. 909 (1992).
[15] *Id.* at 689.

Importantly, in this case, the government provided a bill of particulars, however announces that it could change – requiring CSSN Copeland to change his defense strategy – does he defend against a strangulation or some other unknown act? Further, much of the evidence the government wishes to elicit and have the court instruct the members on pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) will not be relevant if there is a different "act" that the government wishes to allege is the means of murder. Here, the government decided not to charge CSSN Copeland with a means of murder but still intends to elicit evidence of prior acts of strangulation to prove a common plan or scheme for an uncharged means of murder – strangulation. Then, the government can introduce evidence of prior alleged strangulations and have this Court instruct the members that they can consider these prior acts as evidence of a common scheme to strangle CS3 A.R., all while not actually being required to prove strangulation. This Court cannot allow that. A specific act must be alleged. Here, it was not; therefore, Charge VII must be dismissed for failing to state an offense.

RELIEF REQUESTED

16. Pursuant to Rule for Court-Martial (RCM) 907(b)(2)(E), the defense moves this Court to dismiss Charge VII and the sole specification because the charge and specification thereunder fail to state an offense.

17. Unless the government concedes the motion or this Court grants the relief on the basis of pleadings alone, the defense requests a hearing to present evidence and argument on this matter.

EVIDENCE

18. The defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this Motion:

A. Enclosure (A): Request for Bill of Particulars ltr of 15 Oct 25
B. Enclosure (B): Bill of Particulars
C. Enclosure (C): Autopsy Report
D. Enclosure (D): Voice Note Transcript provided with Autopsy Report

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 26 November 2025, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION TO DISMISS** **(Failure to State an Offense)** **26 November 2025**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Request for Bill of Particulars ltr of 15 Oct 25
b. Enclosure (B): Bill of Particulars
c. Enclosure (C): Autopsy Report
d. Enclosure (D): Voice Note Transcript provided with Autopsy Report

The Defense cites the following enclosures from other defense motions:

a. Enclosure (A) of Def MIL M.R.E. (413): Government Notice Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) of 5 Nov 25

15 Oct 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN Detailed Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR BILL OF PARTICULARS ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 906(b)(6), discussion
(b) Art. 30(b), UCMJ
(c) R.C.M. 307(c)(3)
(d) Glasser v. United States, 315 U.S. 60 (1942)

1. "The purposes of a bill of particulars are to inform the accused of the nature of the charge with sufficient precision to enable the accused to prepare for trial, to avoid or minimize the danger of surprise at the time of trial, and to enable the accused to plead the acquittal or conviction in bar of another prosecution for the same offense when the specification itself is too vague and indefinite for such purposes." Reference (a).

2. In the sole specification of charge VII, the Government charged CSSN Copeland with premeditated murder by means of "an act of the the Accused." The defense requests notice the actual "act" by which the govenrment alleges that CSSN Copeland caused CS3 A.R.'s death.

3. This request is made so that the accused may be precisely informed as to the nature of the charges. References (b) and (c) recognize that the pleading procedures currently utilized in the military provide only a succinct recitation of the manner and means alleged to have perpetrated the crime. Accordingly, this specification is inadequate in providing the accused with the essential facts constituting the offenses. Reference (d) recognizes the basic right of the accused to be aware, in some specificity, of the facts the government will attempt to prove.

4. I request a response within 10 days. If no response is received within that period, I will consider it a denial of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil or 850-452-5572 with questions.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

Enclosure A

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **USN**	**BILL OF PARTICULARS** **5 NOV 2025**

1. The Government provides the following bill of particulars pursuant to R.C.M. 906(b)(6) with respect to the charges against CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, USN, as requested by the Defense on 15 October 2025.

2. The purpose of this bill of particulars is to inform the accused of the nature of the charges with sufficient precision to enable the Accused to prepare for trial and to avoid or minimize the danger of surprise at the time of trial.

3. To prove a violation of premeditated murder under Article 118, UCMJ, the Government must show:

a. That a certain named or described person is dead;

b. That the death resulted from the act or omission of the accused;

c. That the killing was unlawful; and

d. That, at the time of the killing, the accused had a premeditated design to kill.

4. The Government is not required to prove a specific act caused CS3 A.R's death. Instead, the Government must only prove that *an* act of the Accused caused the death.[1] While the Government will argue that position at trial, as provided in our 5 November 2025 404(b) notice, the Government will present evidence that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation by the Accused.

1. *See United States v. Elmore*, 31 M.J. 678, 683 (N-M. Ct. M. R. 1990) (explaining that when evaluating the sufficiency of a murder conviction that in a case involving no body or only traces of a body, the Government need not prove the act that caused the death but rather need only prove *corpus delecti*); *United States v. Richard*, 84 M.J. 586, 591 (C.G.C.C.A. 2022) (articulating the distinguishable notice required in pleading for involuntary manslaughter vice intentional murder).

5. A bill of particulars does not restrict the Government's proof at trial. Pursuant to RCM 906(b)(6), this bill of particulars may be amended at any time, subject to such conditions as justice permits.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

EPIARX | Autopsy Services

The EPIARX Laboratory
4000 Albemarle Street NW
Suite 208
Washington DC, 20016

The Histopathology Laboratory
Institutions 600 N. Wolfe Street
Building 700
Baltimore, MD 21287

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

CASE NO. ED25-1195

Autopsy X

JURISDICTION: Routine adult clinical autopsy

NAME OF DECEASED: A[redacted] [redacted] R[redacted]

RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, VA 23505

AGE: 21 SEX: Female

DATE OF Birth: PII

DATE OF Death: 6/09/2025 TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS OF INCIDENT: Wooded area at/near residence

PRONOUNCED DEAD: Unknown TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS/INSTITUTION: Sunset Funeral Home
657 Springmart Boulevard
Brownsville, TX 78526

DATE OF AUTOPSY: 6/28/2025 TIME: 0900 CDT

PERFORMED BY:

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD.
Board Certified Pathologist

Significant condition(s):

(a) Habit-forming substances detected in bodily fluids

- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☒ Could Not Be Determined

New Protocol, Reporting Protocol for the Examination of Gross Autopsy of Adult Decedents
Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP
Protocol Implementation: December 2024

An autopsy was performed on the body of An[redacted] [redacted] R[redacted] on the 28th day of June, 2025.

CONSENT FOR AUTOPSY

Consented and reviewed by Dr. Nemanja RODIC. Consenter was, Esmeralda CASTLE. The relationship of the individual, providing consent for autopsy, to the decedent is mother. Type of autopsy was complete, including brain.

PRIOR POSTMORTEM PROCEDURES

Following macroscopic examination there was **NO EVIDENCE** of organ donation. Following macroscopic examination there was **EVIDENCE** of prior autopsy.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body was that of a well-developed & well-nourished female. The body weighed about 120 pounds, was 4 feet 5 inches in height, and appeared compatible with the reported age of 21 years [calculated body mass index 20.6(1)]. There were no personal effects identified. The body was cold. The body was in state of late decomposition marked by skin discoloration, desquamation, and skeletonization. Rigor and lividity designation deferred. The scalp hair was black. The eye examination deferred. The nose examination deferred. The lips examination deferred. Some upper and lower teeth were present with good dental hygiene. Dentures were not present. The skin was free of any significant abrasions, bruises, lacerations, lymphadenopathy, or burns. Examination of the neck revealed no evidence of injury. No injury of the ribs or sternum was evident externally; negative for deformity and increased anterior-posterior diameter. The abdomen was grossly unremarkable. The extremities were grossly unremarkable. Leg circumference 10 cm from

medial malleolus were, 20 cm on the right, and 20 cm on the left. Negative for pitting edema. The fingernails examination deferred. Negative for palpable lymph nodes. Negative for joint deformity, abnormal mobility, and non-therapeutic punctures or needles track marks. The external genitalia were those of a normal adult female. The posterior torso was without note; negative for sacral decubitus ulcer. Negative for tenting of skin. Negative for sunken eyes.

EVIDENCE OF THERAPY:

ID band with decedent name and case number (T-246-25 T2025-00840) were identified on patient body bag and bilateral lower extremities. Negative for nasogastric tube, central venous line, intravenous line, PEG tube, endotracheal tube, and Foley catheter.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES:

The body was re-opened by the usual Y-shaped thoraco-abdominal incision and the chest plate was removed. No adhesions nor abnormal collections of fluid were present in any of the body cavities. The subcutaneous fat layer of the abdominal wall was less than 1" thick. There were no abnormalities of the omentum and mesenteries. There was no internal evidence of blunt force or penetrating injury to the thoraco-abdominal region.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

The head was normocephalic. External examination revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for dry surface of the galea. The dura showed no lesions. The leptomeninges showed no lesions. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical and showed no lesions. The brain base showed no

lesions. The cerebellum showed no lesions. The brainstem showed no lesions. The superior spinal cord showed no lesions. The eyes were not submitted for microscopic examination.

NECK:

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland and large vessels revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for trauma of the gingiva, lips, or oral mucosa.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The epicardial fat was mild. The coronary ostia were normally positioned. The foramen ovale was closed. The coronary arteries arose normally, followed the usual distribution and were free of grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis of the right coronary artery, left common/main coronary artery, left anterior descending artery, and circumflex artery. The chambers, valves, leaflets, and chordae tendinae exhibited the usual size-position relationship and were unremarkable. The myocardium was red-brown, firm and unremarkable; the atrial and ventricular septa were intact; negative for infarcts/lesions of the myocardium. The endocardium was smooth and thin; negative endocardial hemorrhages and endocardial discoloration. The aorta was fairly elastic and of even caliber throughout with its major branches distributed normally, followed the usual course and were widely patent. Negative for significant abdominal/thoracic aorta atherosclerosis. Negative for tortuosity or widening of the thoracic segment. Negative for dilation of the lower abdominal segment. Negative for aortic aneurysm. The venae cavae and their major tributaries returned to the heart in the usual distribution and were free of thrombi. No focal endocardial, valvular, and myocardial lesions were seen.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

Scant secretions were found in the lower bronchial and upper respiratory passages. The mucosa has pink-tan postmortem discoloration. The upper airway was clear of debris and foreign material; the mucosal surfaces were smooth,

yellow-tan and unremarkable. The pleural surfaces were smooth, glistening, well-expanded, and unremarkable bilaterally. Lungs were atelectatic and subcrepitant. The pulmonary parenchyma was red-purple in color, congested, and edematous. There was dependent congestion and postmortem softening. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions/scarring. The pulmonary arteries were normally developed The bronchi were patent with no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The lungs were cut fresh.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The hepatic capsule was smooth, glistening and intact, covering dark red-brown parenchyma with minimal congestion. Serial sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The extrahepatic biliary tree was patent, without evidence of calculi. The gallbladder was present and showed thin wall, velvety mucosa, and no calculi. The portal vein, hepatic arteries, and hepatic veins were patent.

ALIMENTARY TRACT:

The mucosa was pink-tan with normal mucosal folds. No tablets or capsules could be discerned in the stomach or the stomach contents. No residual medications were identified. The external and *in situ* appearance of the small intestine and colon were grossly and palpably unremarkable. The small intestine and colon were opened along the anti-mesenteric border to reveal soft liquid fecal material in the small bowel and soft semi-formed, thick green stool in the colon. The small bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The vermiform appendix was grossly and palpably unremarkable. The large bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan peri-circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The distal large bowel contents were stool. The superior mesenteric artery was free of grossly identifiable and palpable atherosclerosis. The pancreas occupied a normal position, had a

normal pink-tan lobulated parenchyma, and the ducts were patent, not ectatic. No parenchymal calcifications; negative for necrosis or trauma.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The red-brown surface of renal capsules were rough and uneven to touch. The ureters were patent. The renal arteries showed no grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis. The cortices were sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which were red-purple to tan and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves and ureters were unremarkable. The urinary bladder contained minimal urine; the mucosa was gray-tan and grossly unremarkable.

LYMPHORETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM:

The spleen had a smooth, intact capsule covering red-purple, moderately firm parenchyma; the lymphoid follicles were unremarkable. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The regional lymph nodes appeared normal. The bone marrow was dark red. The lymph nodes were not enlarged. The thymus was not identified.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid was symmetrical in appearance and sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The breast tissue was sectioned in the usual manner and contained small amount of white fibrous tissue; negative for significant abnormality.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The diaphragm was intact. Skeletal muscles were red-brown and firm. The calvarium was intact. The vertebral columns showed normal curvature. The ribs were negative for fractures. The vertebral bodies were negative for fractures. No bone or joint abnormalities were noted.

AUTOPSY PROCEDURES AND ANCILLARY TESTING

The approach to autopsy dissection was M. Letulle's Technique (*en bloc* from tongue to rectum). There were not special dissections performed. Tissue retained in stock jars until signout. Additional samples taken as follows, homogenized viscera. Ancillary testing, toxicology.

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3):

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3)

Trimmed from larger formalin-fixed blocks:

A. Head cutis ventral, multiple fragments;
B. Head cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;
C. Neck cutis ventral, multiple fragments;
D. Neck cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;
E. Thorax cutis ventral, multiple fragments;
F. Thorax cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;
G. Right upper extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;
H. Right upper extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;
I. Left upper extremity ventral, multiple fragments;
J. Left upper extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;
K. Right lower extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;
L. Right lower extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;
M. Left lower extremity ventral, multiple fragments;
N. Left lower extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;
O. Central nervous system, multiple fragments;
P. Viscera, multiple fragments; and
Q. Additional viscera, multiple fragments.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: Sections showed cardiac parenchyma and stroma free of significant interstitial-type fibrosis and nuclear & cytoplasmic hypertrophy, acute & chronic inflammation, hemorrhage, and necrosis. Sections of coronary arteries were free of significant cholesterol clefts and dystrophic calcifications within narrowed vascular walls. Sections of aorta were free of significant cholesterol clefts deposits. Negative for malignant cells.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: Bilateral sections of pulmonary parenchyma and stroma notable were free of significant congestion, variably sized & increased alveolar spaces, acute inflammation, chronic inflammation, fibrosis, hemorrhage, and hemosiderin-laden macrophages. Polarization and refraction failed to reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Sections of hilar lymph nodes showed benign primary follicles. Sections of larynx were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM: Sections showed hepatic parenchyma and stroma free of significant acute & chronic inflammation, macrosteatosis, glycogenated nuclei, and fibrosis. Negative for malignant cells.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: Sections showed bilateral renal parenchyma and stroma notable for medial hypertrophy of medium sized vessels and interstitial/subcapsular lymphocytic inflammation, but free of significant basement membrane thickening, hyaline change, thyroidization, and interstitial fibrosis. Section of urinary bladder were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Sections of genitourinary tract were histologically unremarkable. Polarization and refraction failed to

reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Negative for malignant cells.

ALIMENTARY TRACT: Sections showed histologically unremarkable pancreatobilliary and tubular gastrointestinal tract. Negative for malignant cells.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma, free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for malignant cells.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for adrenal hemorrhage. Negative for malignant cells.

MEDICAL RECORDS REVIEW

Accompanying medical information collected from pre-autopsy verbal report by _Esmeralda CASTLE, the mother of the decedent, was notable for following medical findings:

Past Medical History: negative for suicidal attempts; equivocal for prior past suicidal ideation (10/2024);

Surgical Procedures: none;

Medical Laboratory: antemortem COVID-19 negative test.

Additional Notes: Clinical symptoms/signs, not in acute distress (5/28/2025-5/29/2025), asymptomatic (interim). The decedent did not receive blood transfusions or lived in Europe prior to death. The decedent was vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to death. The decedent had been consuming alcoholic beverages (wine and liquor)/tobacco (vaped) prior to death. The decedent had not been consuming illegal habit-forming drugs prior to death. The decedent did not have history of cancer prior to death. External and macroscopic images taken for posterity. Examination limited by autolysis and tissue preservation. Preliminary diagnosis called to and confirmed by Esmeralda CASTLE on 7/3/2025 at 1615. See accompanying Axis 3327991 report. Final diagnosis called to and confirmed by family friend on 8/1/2025 at 1615.

OPINION:

Based collectively on my autopsy findings herein as well as my review of the accompanying submitted medical information, in the case of this 21-year-old female, A[redacted] [redacted] R[redacted], the manner of death is deferred (1,4-6,&9). I reserve the right to amend my opinion(s) upon the receipt of additional material (7).

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D.
Board-certified Pathologist

Date signed: 8/1/2025

References:

1. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose_wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm
2. ISBN-13: 978-1941096321, pages 105-108.
3. PMCID: PMC8817622.
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6. https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/solutions/uptodate/roles/patients-caregivers
7. https://documents.cap.org/protocols/Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP.pdf
8. PMID: 39912823
9. https://www.rcpath.org/static/33b81f4a-89f3-42bd-bc33bdd67879f008/G171-The-decomposing-cadaverfor-publication.pdf

Occasional errors in punctuation, grammar, and content occur.

Comment: "The following statement applies to tests, i.e. to dye(s), chemical solution stains, and Class I IHC reagents and kits. Dye(s), chemical solution stains are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations as "mixtures of synthetic or natural dyes or nondye chemicals in solutions used in staining cells and tissues for diagnostic histopathology, cytopathology, or hematology" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1850). This definition encompasses many of the common materials found in a conventional histopathology laboratory, such as routine hematoxylin and eosin stains, as well as special stains like trichrome, iron, and Grocott-Gömöri's methenamine silver, among others, and are considered Class I devices subject to general controls. Class I IHC reagents and kits are defined as those that "provide the pathologist with adjunctive diagnostic information that may be incorporated into the pathologist's report, but that is not ordinarily reported to the clinician as an independent finding," noting that "these IHC's are used after the primary diagnosis of tumor (neoplasm) has been made by conventional histopathology using nonimmunologic histochemical stains, such as hematoxylin and eosin" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). The 1998 final rule further describes these as "adjunctive tests [to conventional histopathologic diagnostic examination] and presenting a low risk to public health."37 An example of a Class I IHC specifically mentioned in the IHC reagents and kit regulation is keratin (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). Many other Class I IHC reagents and kits can be found by searching for the "NJT" product code on the FDA establishment registration and device listing database.47 These IVDs are exempt from premarket notification/510(k) submission, although they are still subject to FDA general controls and QS/CGMP requirements. Most IHC stains used by anatomic pathologists are considered diagnostic markers and therefore are categorized as Class I by the FDA. The tests herein have not been cleared or approved for the specific use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA does not require this test to go through premarket FDA review. These tests are used for clinical purposes. It should not be regarded as investigational or for research. This laboratory is certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments 1988 (CLIA) as qualified to perform high complexity clinical laboratory testing. All stains and tests are performed with general controls, i.e. positive and negative control reactions as necessary, and all controls show appropriate reactivity. However, stains and tests have not been validated on decalcified tissues. Results should be interpreted with caution given the likelihood of false negativity on decalcified specimens. Certain tests utilize Class I Analyte-Specific Reagents (ASR); these tests are developed, and their performance characteristics determined by this laboratory. ASRs used in this laboratory have been established and verified for accuracy and precision.(8)"

AXIS
FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

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AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Case Number: 3327991	**Subject's Name:** R[redacted] A[redacted] P
Client Account: 21028 / ED21028	**Agency Case #:** ED25-1195_APR
Report To: Epiarx Diagnostics ATTN: Epiarx Diagnostics 700 12th Street N.W. Suite 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20005	**Date of Death:** 07/08/2025 **Investigator:** NEMANJA RODIC MD PHD **Date Received:** 07/03/2025 **Date Reported:** 07/25/2025

Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Date Collected:** 06/25/2025 09:00
Container(s): 01:T Tissue,UNSPECIFIED **Test(s):** 70510T Comprehensive Drug Panel, Tissue

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
VOLATILES	POSITIVE					
Methanol	POSITIVE	0.580	0.02		mg/g	
Ethanol	POSITIVE	0.280	0.02		mg/g	
Acetone	Negative					
Isopropanol	Negative					
AMPHETAMINES	Negative					
ANALGESICS	Negative					
ANESTHETICS	Negative					
ANTICHOLINERGICS	Negative					
ANTICONVULSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDEPRESSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDIABETICS	Negative					
ANTIFUNGALS	Negative					
ANTIHISTAMINES	Negative					
ANTIPSYCHOTICS	Negative					
BARBITURATES	Negative					
BENZODIAZEPINES	Negative					
CANNABINOIDS	Negative					
CARDIOVASCULARS	Negative					
GASTROINTESTINALS	Negative					
HALLUCINOGENS	Negative					

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Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Continued..**

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
MISCELLANEOUS	Negative					
MUSCLE RELAXANTS	Negative					
OPIOID ANALGESICS	Negative					
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS	Negative					
STIMULANTS	Negative					
UROLOGICALS	Negative					

Specimens will be kept for at least one year from the date of initial report.

The Specimen identified by the Laboratory Specimen Number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Laboratory Director

Laureen J. Marinetti, PhD, F-ABFT

RESENDIZ, ANGELINA P
Laboratory Case #:3327991
Print Date/Time:07/25/2025, 15:01
Page 2 of 2

Case Reviewer

AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY
Stuart Kurtz, M.S., D-ABFT -FT
This individual may not have performed any of the analytical work.

But again Please remember that what I like to do in order for the due diligence we observe is that after the military final autopsy document becomes available ask miss missus cancelled to submit it to our secure Dropbox shared folder and then send us an e-mail at sometime in the two-minute whenever the report is available maybe like 10 weeks from now or 16 weeks from now whenever OK and then I will review that and then either then or correct the report as needed OK so the so microscopic examination of multiple sections on this case showed no evidence of any blunt force trauma so that's something I think was important to rule in or out the toxicology studies were pertinently positive and there was a significant level of ethanol or alcohol there was detected and I think that is a significant finding now this upon microscopic examination on the organ systems there's no other changes either on microscope events or inflammation infection or cancer of any kind so I think the major other cause of that has been have been formally ruled out so this substance is detected in the bodily fluid I think is significant in the quantity and quality of it and I think that's something that informs the cause of death in this case um so in other words you know from our end we don't see any evidence of foul play as far as UM trauma to the remains and I think this is again let me just I'm careful what kind of language I'm using here I think this is suggestive of an accidental ingestion OK now um again what I'd like to do in order for all of the due diligence be observed is that once the the military is available I will review that material and then appropriately if I identify any additional diagnostic features that can help better classify the findings will attend the mandatory OK do you do you have any questions for me from your end yes so a couple questions um does the the findings or are there any other pending tests that that need to be deducted or awaiting results that will impact your final report the due diligence worked that I wanted to perform from our end is available is completed and but when and if the final autopsy documents from the first examination becomes available I'll be very happy to review that and again because you may be sometime in the future like a month two months maybe even six months depending on how complex this is on there and um whatever that is I just asked you and the family yeah we we did I I wanted to check we did open the Dropbox folder OK their e-mail maybe I should actually add you let me just add you on on that e-mail as well because you are you know the point of contact here and and then once you do that because it may be again sometime in the future just please drop me an e-mail OK and say something like hey doctor Aldrich dismiss cancel or miss poor yeah you're missus amber esmeralda I'm ibra so esmeralda is is miss castle and then my name is Debra I'm her colleague from law school yes her friend got it OK so let me see here then please just send me an e-mail that way I can see that it's in the archive that's the only problem with the Dropbox automatically not familiar it's there and then within about a week or two I will schedule us for follow up or attended or amend their correct report as needed OK the second question that I had was are any of the tests are able to indicate or any of the

anything that you were able to see and able to show whether there was any strangulation or any type of of anything of that nature I took very meticulous examination both externally of the remains and systematic microscopic examination to rule out even some small or difficult to detect ecchymosis or petechiae or other force or signs of one force trauma and I look very carefully there there's none so I and considered it formally ruled that out OK so sometimes by external examination you cannot see the you know the evidence of trauma but but this way that I performed it there's just simply no way of missing it because I'm looking at singular cells at that level right and if there's any kind of level of of change in I'm I'm I'm able to see it now there is that there has been formally considered and ruled out so I will add you to the to do a Dropbox share folder and let's then be communication whenever the report becomes available OK and once that report comes out we'll as well as I'll call her as me I'm sorry we'll miss castle get a copy of of your findings or will or will she get a copy of this additional report after I just feel like she's going to ask him no I'm gonna explain this to thank you so we're going to release our report automatically this is our standard operating procedure we're gonna release our reported automatically to to to her to Monday morning OK and then electronically and then they will mail her a hard copy those are typically dashed that same went Friday OK perfect and then once we reviewed the additional material we will follow the same sequence OK we'll release the report basically as if it's a new report one thing we have you know that's confirmed so that's fine but to confirm the address should we mail her report to [redacted] yes that's it OK wonderful thank you so much and lesbian communication then the first report OK thank you so much thank you bye bye

But again Please remember that what I like to do in order for the due diligence we observe is that after the military final autopsy document becomes available ask miss missus cancelled to submit it to our secure Dropbox shared folder and then send us an e-mail at sometime in the two-minute whenever the report is available maybe like 10 weeks from now or 16 weeks from now whenever OK and then I will review that and then either then or correct the report as needed OK so the so microscopic examination of multiple sections on this case showed no evidence of any blunt force trauma so that's something I think was important to rule in or out the toxicology studies were pertinently positive and there was a significant level of ethanol or alcohol there was detected and I think that is a significant finding now this upon microscopic examination on the organ systems there's no other changes either on microscope events or inflammation infection or cancer of any kind so I think the major other cause of that has been have been formally ruled out so this substance is detected in the bodily fluid I think is significant in the quantity and quality of it and I think that's something that informs the cause of death in this case um so in other words you know from our end we don't see any evidence of foul play as far as UM trauma to the remains and I think this is again let me just I'm careful what kind of language I'm using here I think this is suggestive of an accidental ingestion OK now um again what I'd like to do in order for all of the due diligence be observed is that once the the military is available I will review that material and then appropriately if I identify any additional diagnostic features that can help better classify the findings will attend the mandatory OK do you do you have any questions for me from your end yes so a couple questions um does the the findings or are there any other pending tests that that need to be deducted or awaiting results that will impact your final report the due diligence worked that I wanted to perform from our end is available is completed and but when and if the final autopsy documents from the first examination becomes available I'll be very happy to review that and again because you may be sometime in the future like a month two months maybe even six months depending on how complex this is on there and um whatever that is I just asked you and the family yeah we we did I I wanted to check we did open the Dropbox folder OK their e-mail maybe I should actually add you let me just add you on on that e-mail as well because you are you know the point of contact here and and then once you do that because it may be again sometime in the future just please drop me an e-mail OK and say something like hey doctor Aldrich dismiss cancel or miss poor yeah you're missus amber esmeralda I'm ibra so esmeralda is is miss castle and then my name is Debra I'm her colleague from law school yes her friend got it OK so let me see here then please just send me an e-mail that way I can see that it's in the archive that's the only problem with the Dropbox automatically not familiar it's there and then within about a week or two I will schedule us for follow up or attended or amend their correct report as needed OK the second question that I had was are any of the tests are able to indicate or any of the

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE MOTION TO SUPPRESS** **(THE 3 JUNE 2025 SEARCH OF CSSN COPELAND'S BARRACKS ROOM)** **26 November 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 311, and Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(b)(3), the defense respectfully moves this Court to suppress all evidence obtained and derived from the unlawful search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room – namely the blood found in his room and closet.

SUMMARY

On 3 June 2025, NCIS searched CSSN Copeland's room pursuant to a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS). This CASS stated that it permitted the search of CSSN Copeland's room for evidence of a violation of Article 86 (Absence without leave). Specifically, the CASS purported to authorize the search of CSSN Copeland's room for items containing DNA, blood, or bodily fluids, or other evidence, instrumentalities, or fruits of the alleged offense of absence without leave. This CASS was invalid as it was overly broad without particularity. If there was any particularity, the blood on the floor was outside the scope of the CASS, and there was no probable cause to believe that CSSN Copeland was absent without leave or that there would be any evidence of that crime in his room or closet. Therefore, this court should suppress all evidence derived from the 3 June 2025 search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room.

BURDEN

"[T]he prosecution has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the evidence was not obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure" or that some valid exception applies.[1]

[1] MIL. R. EVID. 311(d)(5)(A).

FACTS

1. In the early morning hours of 29 May 2025, CS3 A.R. called her ex-boyfriend, ET3 Rich. She was upset and wanted to be picked up. She did not mention CSSN Copeland, being in danger, or concern for her safety. (Enclosure (A): Results of Initial Contact with ET3 Rich of 31 May 25 [138-139]).

2. On 29 May 2025, CSSN Copeland did not go to work. Therefore, at around 0930 on 29 May 2025, FCC Parker, his LCPO, knocked on CSSN Copeland's barracks room door. CSSN Copeland was in his room. He answered the door. CS3 A.R. was in CSSN Copeland's room, in his bed. CS3 A.R. was alive. She waved to FCC Parker, who was also her LCPO. CS3 A.R. did not go to work that day because it was her day off. (Enclosure (B): Results of Initial Contact with FCC Parker of 1 Jun 25 [163]; Enclosure (C) Text message from FCC Parker to LSC Janson of 29 May 25 [279]).

3. CSSN Copeland was marked unauthorized absent (UA) for 29-May to 1 June 2025. CS3 A.R. did not go to work 30 May to 1 June 2025 although she was scheduled to do so.

4. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CS3 A.R.'s mother and she told NCIS that her daughter has attempted suicide and suffers from mental illnesses that require medication. (Enclosure (D): Results of Contact with Esmeralda Castle of 1 Jun 25 [168-169]).

5. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CSSN Copeland. (Enclosure (E): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 1 Jun 25).

6. On 3 June 2025, CSSN Copeland reported to work and he was interrogated by NCIS. (Enclosure (F): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 3 Jun 25).

7. On 3 June 2025, the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk (NSN), signed a CASS for Room 335B of the X-2 Barracks onboard NSN. The CASS was signed in the case of United States v. CSSN A[] Copeland. (Enclosure (G): Results of Scene Examination of 3 June 25 at 8).

8. The CASS permitted the seizure of the items in attachment B, which included bed linens, sheets, towels, blanket, and pillows, used condoms, clothing belonging to a female, items containing or could reasonably contain DNA or bodily fluid, and "other evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense." (*Id.* at 14). The purpose of the CASS was to look for evidence of a violation of Article 86 (Absence without leave). (*Id.* at 1). The affidavit was signed in the case of the United States v. CSSN A.R. (*Id.* at 9).

9. On 3 June 2025, NCIS executed a search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room – they incorrectly believed that they were permitted to search CSSN Copeland's barracks room in an effort to locate anything belonging to CS3 A.R. (*Id*. at 1).

10. At 2004, NCIS arrived with several special agents along with dogs who were trained to find electronic storage and cadavers. (*Id*.). NCIS used these dogs to search CSSN Copeland's room. (*Id.* at 3).

11. Bluestar was also used in support of the search of CSSN Copeland's room. (*Id.*)

12. CSSN Copeland's closet was locked with a padlock which had to be cut in order for NCIS to search it. (Enclosure (H): Photograph of CSSN Copeland's closet door).

13. On 22 August 2025, the government preferred charges in this case.

LAW

The Fourth Amendment's Purpose

14. The Fourth Amendment provides: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and *particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized*."[2] The "purpose of the Fourth Amendment was to prevent the use of 'governmental force' to search a man's house, his person, his papers or his effects and to prevent their seizure against his will."[3] The Fourth Amendment was "the founding generation's response to the reviled 'general warrants' of the colonial era, which allowed British officers to rummage through homes in an unrestrained search for evidence of criminal activity."[4]

15. The military rules of evidence have codified the bulk of the Fourth Amendment precedent in M.R.E. 311, 314, and 315. Under M.R.E. 311, absent certain exceptions, "evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure made by a person acting in a government capacity is inadmissible against the accused."[5] Under M.R.E. 315, probable cause is required for "evidence obtained from reasonable searches conducted pursuant to a search warrant or search authorization.[6] Under M.R.E. 314, several types of searches which do not require probable cause are outlined, including consent searches.[7]

Reasonable Expectation of Privacy

16. The Fourth Amendment 'protects people, not places,"[8] and this protection includes people's expectations of privacy that "society is prepared to recognize as reasonable."[9]

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[2] US CONST. amend. IV. (emphasis added).
[3] *Love v. United States*, 170 F.2d 32, 33 (4th Cir. 1948), *cert. denied*, 336 U.S. 912 (1949).
[4] *Riley v. California*, 573 U.S. 373, 403 (2014).
[5] MIL. R. EVID. 311.
[6] MIL. R. EVID. 315.
[7] MIL. R. EVID. 314.
[8] *Carpenter v. United States*, 138 S. Ct. 2206, 2213 (2018) (citing Katz v. United States, 289 U.S. 347, 351 (1967)).
[9] *Id.* at 2213 (quoting *Smith v. Maryland*, 442 U.S. 735, 740 (1979).

17. The Supreme Court held that government employees had a limited privacy interest in the workplace.[10] However, a plurality recognized that the scope of this expectation of privacy depended in part on the demands of the workplace and its openness to employees and the public.[11] Normally a person does not have a reasonable expectation of privacy in government property that is not issued for personal use.[12]

18. There is a rebuttable presumption of no expectation of privacy in government property not issued for personal use.[13]Wall and floor lockers are normally issued for personal use and have a rebuttable presumption of an expectation of privacy.[14]However, whether or not government property was issued for personal use "depends on the facts and circumstances at the time of the search."[15]

Probable cause determination

19. Where an expectation of privacy exists the Fourth Amendment requires a warrant or, in the military, a search authorization.[16] An authorizing Commander (in place of an unbiased magistrate) must be able to determine from the face of the search authorization application and attached affidavits or relied upon oaths, that there is a "fair probability that … evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place."[17] To be constitutionally valid, a search authorization can only be issued "when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a common-sense judgment would lead to the conclusion that there is a fair probability that evidence of a crime will be found at the identified location."[18] Normally searches pursuant to prior authorization are given deference, but upon review of a Commander's search authorization, a military judge "may conclude that the commander's probable cause determination "reflected an improper analysis of the totality of the circumstances."[19]

20. A commander must make an independent determination of probable cause and "his action cannot be a mere ratification of the bare conclusions of others."[20] Bare conclusions include conclusory allegations and factually unsupported statements by the affiant that the search is likely to yield evidence or fruits of crime.[21] Probable cause for searching a particular place exists in an affidavit only when the affidavit sets forth facts constituting a substantial basis for

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[10] *United States v. Battles*, 25 M.J. 58, 60 (C.M.A. 1987).
[11] *Id.* (quoting *O'Connor v. Ortega*, 107 S. Ct. 1492, 1498 (1987).
[12] *United States v. Weshenfelder*, 43 C.M.R. 256 (1971).
[13] MIL. R. EVID. 314(d) and analysis contained in Manual for Courts Martial 2016 ed.
[14] *Id.*
[15] *Id.*
[16] MIL. R. EVID. 311.
[17] *Illinois v. Gates*, 462 U.S. 213, 238 (1983).
[18] *United States v. Perkins*, 78 M.J. 550, 553 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. 2018).
[19] *Id.*
[20] *Id.*
[21] *Gates*, 462 U.S. at 239.

finding a fair probability that first, a crime has been committed, and second, the particular place may contain the fruits, instrumentalities or evidence of the crime committed.[22]

21. Probable cause requires a sufficient nexus between the alleged crime and the item to be seized.[23] The question of nexus focuses on whether there was a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place.[24]

22. The search authority must have "a substantial basis for concluding probable cause exist[s]."[25] "A substantial basis exists 'when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a common-sense judgment would lead to the conclusion that there is a fair probability that evidence of a crime will be found at the identified location."[26] To establish probable cause, a sufficient nexus must be shown to exist between the alleged criminal activity, the things to be seized, and the place to be searched.[27] Such a nexus "may be inferred from the facts and circumstances of a particular case, including the type of crime, the nature of the items sought, and reasonable inferences about where evidence is likely to be kept."[28] In evaluating the issuing search authority's probable cause finding, the court must examine: 1) the facts known to the authority when he issued the warrant and 2) the manner in which he came to know these facts.[29]

Particularity Requirement: General Searches Prohibited

23. When warrants are issued upon probable cause, the Fourth Amendment, by its terms, requires particularity in the warrant—not in the supporting documents.[30] The "manifest purpose of [the] particularity requirement was to prevent general searches."[31] "The Fourth Amendment requires that a search warrant describe the things to be seized with sufficient particularity to prevent a general exploratory rummaging in a person's belongings."[32]

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[22] *See id.* at 236, 238-239.
[23] *United States v. Nieto*, 76 M.J. 101, 106 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (citing *United States v. Rogers*, 67 M.J. 162, 166 (C.A.A.F. 2009); *United States v. Gallo*, 55 M.J. 418, 412 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[24] *Id.* (citing *United States v. Clayton*, 68 M.J. 419, 424 (C.A.A.F. 2010)).
[25] *Nieto*, 76 M.J. at 105 (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *United States v. Rogers*, 67 M.J. 162, 164-65 (C.A.A.F. 2009)).
[26] *Id.* (quoting *Illinois v. Gates,* 462 U.S. 213, 238 (1983)).
[27] *United States v. Eppes*, 77 M.J. 339, 345 (C.A.A.F. 2018) (citing 2 Wayne R. LaFave, *Search and Seizure: A Treatise on the Fourth Amendment* § 3.7(d), at 518 (5th ed. 2012)).
[28] *Nieto*, 76 M.J. at 106 (internal quotation marks omitted) (citations omitted).
[29] *Id.* at 214.
[30] *Groh v. Ramirez*, 540 U.S. 551, 557 (2004); *see also Massachusetts v. Sheppard*, 468 U.S. 981, 988n.5 (1984) ("[A] warrant that fails to conform to the particularity requirement of the Fourth Amendment is unconstitutional"); *United States v. Stefonek*, 179 F.3d 1030, 1033 (CA7 1999) ("The Fourth Amendment requires that the warrant particularly describe the things to be seized, not the papers presented to the judicial officer . . . asked to issue the warrant").
[31] *United States v. Richards*, 76 M.J. 365, 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017) *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 2701 (2018) (citing *Maryland v. Garrison*, 480 U.S. 79, 84 (1987)).
[32] *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (quoting *United States v. Carey*, 172 F.3d 1268, 1272 (10th Cir. 1999)).

Plain View

24. In order for the plan view exception to apply: (1) the officer must not violate the Fourth Amendment in arriving at the spot from which the incriminating materials can be plainly viewed; (2) the incriminating character of the materials must be immediately apparent; and (3) the officer must have lawful access to the object itself.[33]

Scope

25. "The scope of a lawful search is 'defined by the object of the search and the places in which there is probable cause to believe that it may be found. Just as probable cause to believe that a stolen lawnmower may be found in a garage will not support a warrant to search an upstairs bedroom, probable cause to believe that undocumented aliens are being transported in a van will not justify a warrantless search of a suitcase.'"[34]

Exclusionary Rule as the Remedy for Unlawful Searches and Seizures

26. M.R.E. 311 codifies the Fourth Amendment's exclusionary rule as follows: Evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure made by a person acting in a governmental capacity is inadmissible against the accused if (1) the accused makes a timely motion to suppress or an objection to the evidence under this rule; (2) the accused had a reasonable expectation of privacy in the person, place, or property searched; [. . .] and (3) exclusion of the evidence results in appreciable deterrence of future unlawful searches or seizures and the benefits of such deterrence outweigh the costs to the justice system.[35]

Inevitable Discovery

27. M.R.E. 311 codifies the inevitable discovery exception to the exclusionary rule as follows: "Evidence that was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure may be used when the evidence would have been obtained even if such unlawful search or seizure had not been made."[36] The inevitable discovery doctrine does not apply unless the government establishes by a preponderance of the evidence "that when the illegality occurred, the government agents possessed, or were actively pursuing, evidence or leads that would have inevitably led to the discovery of the evidence in a lawful manner."[37]

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[33] *Horton v. California*, 496 U.S. 128, 136-37 (1990).
[34] *Maryland v. Garrison*, 480 U.S. 79, 84-85 (1987) (citing *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 824 (1982).
[35] MIL. R. EVID. 311(a).
[36] MIL. R. EVID. 311(c)(2).
[37] *United States v. Eppes*, 77 M.J. 339, 347 (C.A.A.F. 2018) (quoting *United States v. Wicks*, 73 M.J. 93, 103 (C.A.A.F. 2014)).

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Doctrine

28. "Evidence derivative of an unlawful search, seizure, or interrogation is commonly referred to as the 'fruit of the poisonous tree' and is generally not admissible at trial."[38]

ARGUMENT

29. **The 3 June 2025 search of CSSN Copeland's X-2 barracks room violated his rights under the Fourth Amendment and the Military Rules of Evidence.**

All evidence obtained and derived from the 3 June 2025 search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room should be suppressed because the search violated CSSN Copeland's rights under the Fourth Amendment and the Military Rules of Evidence and the exclusionary rule is necessary to deter the unreasonable investigative practices used in this case.

This search should be suppressed because it violated CSSN Copeland's rights under the Fourth Amendment and the Military Rules of Evidence for at least two reasons: (1) the CASS was invalid, (2) the blood found on the floor of his room and closet were found outside the scope of the CASS, and (3) the CASS was not supported by probable cause.

30. **The CASS was invalid.**

The 3 June CASS lacked even nominal attempts at particularity and, therefore, was an unconstitutional general search limitless in scope by any measure. The Supreme Court has made clear that particularity is required on the face of the warrant, or the warrant must properly incorporate the supporting documents.[39] Here, the CASS permits the search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room for the items contained in attachment B. However, attachment B allows the search of "items containing or could contain [DNA], blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence" and "[o]ther evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense." The alleged offense is a violation of Article 86 (absence without leave). Items that could contain DNA? That essentially turns this into a limitless search of anything and everything. This is clear as NCIS believed, despite these "limits" that they were searching CSSN Copeland's room "for anything belonging to CS3 A.R." despite there being no mention of CS3 A.R. in the items to be seized listed in attachment B.[40]

This CASS fails CAAF's requirement that there be, at least, some affirmative limitation of the scope of a search to limit the search to evidence of a specific federal crime or specific types

[38] *United States v. Conklin*, 63 M.J. 333, 334 (C.A.A.F. 2006).
[39] *Groh v. Ramirez*, 540 U.S. 551, 557 (2004); *United States v. McGrew*, 122 F.3d 847, 849-50 (9th Cir. 1997).
[40] Enclosure (G): Results of Scene Examination of 3 Jun 25 at 1.

of material[41]—no such limits (or even a facial reference to such limits) are contained in this CASS. Therefore, the CASS is facially and constitutionally deficient.[42]

31. **If this Court finds that there were proper limits in the CASS, then the blood found in CSSN Copeland's room was found outside of the scope of the CASS.**

The NCIS agents in this case exceeded that scope on 3 June 2025 when they searched CSSN Copeland's floor, including the closet floor, for blood. NCIS used dogs and Bluestar reagent,[43] neither of which was authorized by the 3 June 2025 CASS. There may have been a good faith basis to seize the bedding and towels, but the use of blacklights and swabbing the floor for blood was outside the scope of any limits of the CASS.

32. **There was no probable cause to search CSSN Copeland's room for evidence of a violation of Article 86 and the items listed in Attachment B were not evidence of a violation of Article 86 (absence without leave).**

The government, which has the burden for this motion, cannot prove that the 3 June 2025 CASS was supported by probable cause to search for blood on the floor of CSSN Copeland's room and closet. First, at the time the CASS was signed, CSSN Copeland was not absent without leave and no one suspected him of being absent. He was in NCIS custody. Second, none of the items sought in Attachment B of the CASS were evidence or instrumentalities of absence without leave. For instance, there is no correlation between a "used condom" and being absent without leave. Third, and more importantly, there was no probable cause to believe blood would be in CSSN Copeland's room or how that would be evidence of absence without leave. The last time there was evidence that CS3 A.R. was in CSSN Copeland's room, she was alive and there was no reason to believe that she was bleeding in his room. The facts in the affidavit to support the CASS support one thing – CS3 A.R. was at one time in CSSN Copeland's room. That is not probable cause to believe that a crime was committed or that there was evidence of a crime in the room – certainly not absence without leave when the Commanding Officer and NCIS knew precisely where CSSN Copeland was located.

33. **All evidence obtained and derived from NCIS's unlawful searches of CSSN Copeland's property should be suppressed because the exclusionary rule is necessary to deter the unreasonable investigative practices used in this case.**

By its terms, M.R.E. 311(a)'s exclusionary rule is fundamentally a balancing test between the benefits of deterring Fourth Amendment violations and the costs to the justice system associated with the suppression of evidence. In this case, the benefits of deterring the violations of CSSN Copeland's Fourth Amendment rights far outweigh the costs to the justice system. Suppression

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[41] *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 370.
[42] *See Ramirez*, 540 U.S. at 557 (2004); *see also Massachusetts v. Sheppard*, 468 U.S. 981, 988 n.5 (1984); *United States v. Stefonek*, 179 F.3d 1030, 1033 (7th Cir. 1999).
[43] A luminal based formula that reveals bloodstains invisible to the naked yet. BLUESTAR UNIQUE FORENSIC, https://www.bluestar-forensic.com/ (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

of the blood found in CSSN Copeland's room is minor, but the deterrence of practices such as this – looking for evidence of a crime the accused did not commit - is high and to the benefit of society.

34. **The Government cannot prove that the unlawfully obtained property would have been inevitably discovered in a lawful manner.**[44]

RELIEF REQUESTED

Pursuant to the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 311, and Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(b)(3), the defense respectfully moves this Court to suppress all evidence obtained and derived from the unlawful search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room – namely the blood found in his room and closet.

EVIDENCE & HEARING

35. The defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this Motion:

A. Enclosure (A): Results of Initial Contact with ET3 Rich of 31 May 25
B. Enclosure (B): Results of Initial Contact with FCC Parker of 1 Jun 25
C. Enclosure (C) Text message from FCC Parker to LSC Janson of 29 May 25
D. Enclosure (D): Results of Contact with Esmeralda Castle of 1 Jun 25
E. Enclosure (E): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 1 Jun 25
F. Enclosure (F): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 3 Jun 25
G. Enclosure (G): Results of Scene Examination of 3 June 25
H. Enclosure (H): Photograph of CSSN Copeland's closet door

36. Unless the government concedes the motion or this Court grants the relief on the basis of pleadings alone, the defense requests a hearing to present evidence and argument on this matter.

[redacted]
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LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

[44] Defense Motion to Suppress the search of CSSN Copeland's property pursuant to an involuntary PASS.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 26 November 2025, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]

LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION TO SUPRESS** **(The 3 June 2025 Search of CSSN Copeland's Barracks Room)** **26 November 2025**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Results of Initial Contact with ET3 Rich of 31 May 25
b. Enclosure (B): Results of Initial Contact with FCC Parker of 1 Jun 25
c. Enclosure (C) Text message from FCC Parker to LSC Janson of 29 May 25
d. Enclosure (D): Results of Contact with Esmeralda Castle of 1 Jun 25
e. Enclosure (E): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 1 Jun 25
f. Enclosure (F): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 3 Jun 25
g. Enclosure (G): Results of Scene Examination of 3 June 25
h. Enclosure (H): Photograph of CSSN Copeland's closet door

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH COMMAND, MTAC, AND ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN ON 31MAY25

1. On 31MAY25, Reporting Agent (RA) received a duty notification at 1637 hours, from Special Agent Jordan KENNEDY, in reference to missing persons concerns involving two sailors assigned to USS James E. Williams (DDG 95). SA KENNEDY reported receiving information from Norfolk Police Department (NPD) that ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95 was attempting to file a missing person's report for CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted], USN, DDG 95. SA KENNEDY informed RA that ET3 RICH stated V/RESENDIZ was last seen with CSSN Jerimiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95. Additionally, SA KENNEDY stated he had already spoken with LTJG David DEZMURE, USN, Legal Officer, DDG-95, who confirmed awareness of two sailors missing after not reporting for duty. SA KENNEDY further advised his attempts were unsuccessful to contact both V/R[redacted] and S/COPELAND. At 1635 hours, RA informed the Duty Supervisor, Special Agent (SSA) Matthew MILLER, with the information received from SA KENNEDY.

2. At approximately 1728 hours, RA made contact with the Multi Threat Assessment Center (MTAC) to request assistance in pinging V/[redacted]'s cellphone. RA spoke with Janice BAILEY, MTAC, who noted that without V/[redacted] experiencing immediate suicidal ideations or in harm, she would not be able to conduct a ping for S/[redacted]s cellphone. RA re-connected with LTJG DEMAZURE via telephone [redacted] PII), who reiterated his awareness of V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND not showing up for duty. LTJG DEMAZURE stated that V/R[redacted] last reported on 28MAY25. He also confirmed contact was made with S/COPELAND on 29MAY25. S/COPELAND was instructed to report to duty, but S/COPELAND never reported to work. LTJG DEZMURE acknowledged about being informed about ET3 RICH filing the missing person's report for V/R[redacted]. LTLG DEMAZURE did not indicate command had any safety concerns surrounding V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND.

3. ON 31MAY25, RA made contact with ET3 RICH via telephone [redacted] PII) in reference to the captioned investigation. ET3 RICH stated he last communicated with V/[redacted] around 0230 hours, on 29MAY25. ET3 RICH stated V/[redacted] was crying and made a comment about needing his help. ET3 RICH attempted to track V/[redacted] cellphone location which led him to the Willis Hall, X2 Barracks, located on Norfolk Naval Station (NOB). ET3 RICH advised he was able to track V/[redacted] location until approximately 0430 hours, at which time he stated V/[redacted]s phone powered down. ET3 RICH advised after speaking with V/[redacted]s friends (NFI), the last person V/[redacted] was in contact with was S/COPELAND on 29MAY25. ET3 RICH advised he requested a

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **01JUN25**

welfare check through NOB Police, who accessed V/R[redacted] barracks room and found her room untouched and empty. ET3 RICH also tried to contact V/R[redacted] mother, who confirmed she had not heard from V/[redacted] since 28MAY25.

4. On 01JUN25, RA followed back up with LTJG DEMAZURE to determine if any updates were available. LTJG DEMAZURE confirmed there were no new updates regarding V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND. RA contacted S/COPELAND's mother, Rochell BROWN, CIV via telephone [redacted PII]. BROWN confirmed she had not had any contact with S/COPELAND since 28MAY25. BROWN expressed significant concern over the lack of communication with her son and noted there was no bank account activity for S/COPELAND since 28MAY25. On 01Jun25, RA received notification from LTJG DEMAZURE vis telephone, at approximately 1341 hours, advising that S/COPELAND was located in his barracks room on NOB after receiving a call from BROWN requesting to a welfare check be conducted. RA contacted LTJG DEMAZURE at approximately 1346 hours, inquiring on updated information for V/[redacted] LTJG DEZMURE stated there were no updates on making contact with V/[redacted]

REPORTED BY: CARRIE C JOHNSON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 01un25, Reporting Agent (RA) made contact with FCC Brad PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), to glean information pertaining to both CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95 and CSSN A[redacted]s (V/[redacted], USN, DDG 95 Unauthorized Absence (UA) status. As background, V/[redacted], USN, DDG 95 and S/COPELAND, were placed into an UA status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, Rochell BROWN, CIV, NCIS and BROWN contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted]. The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms on NOB, Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at V/[redacted]s door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

2. FCC PARKER was identified as being V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND's supervisor on DDG 95 and making positive contact with both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] on Thursday, 29May25 at approximately 0900 hours.

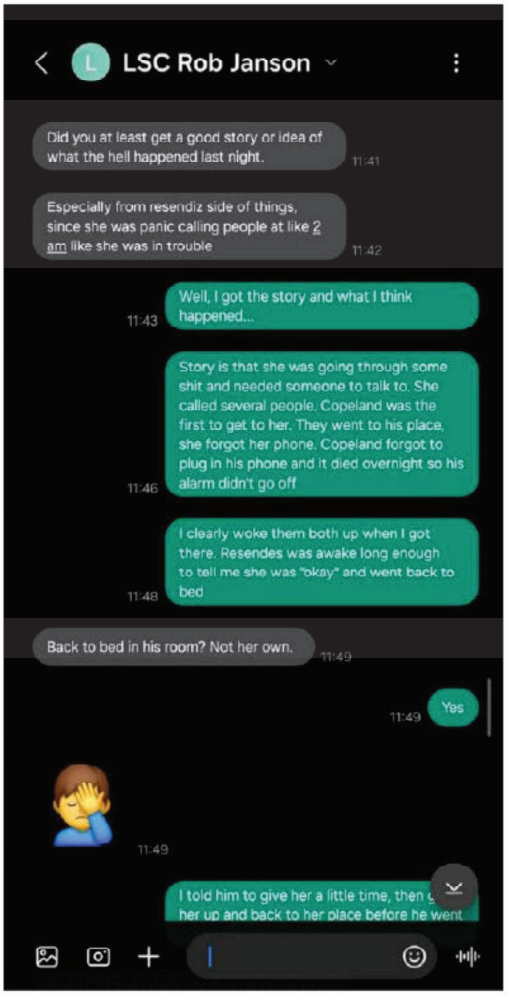
3. FCC PARKER recalled that on 29May25, he went to S/COPELAND's barracks room, Naval Station Norfolk, Willis Manor, and woke him up because he did not show for work in the morning. FCC PARKER recalled it was obvious he had woke S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] up due to their grogginess. FCC PARKER stated he physically observed V/[redacted] in S/COPELAND's barracks, she acknowledged his presence, rolled over, and appeared to go back to sleep. FCC PARKER said he instructed S/COPELAND to report to work after he tended to V/[redacted] and took her home. FCC PARKER said S/COPELAND told him V/[redacted] was having some personal issues and came to his barracks room Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss.

4. FCC PARKER said S/COPELAND was supposed to only work Thursday and have the weekend off.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent

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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



1. OFFICE CODE:

NFNF

2. TITLE:	**3. CCN:**	**4. AGENT'S NAME:**
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND LSC ROBERT JANSON, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

NCIS 5580.91 (Rev 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

ENCLOSURE (C)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF CONTACT WITH ESMERALDA CASTLE, CIV

1. On 01JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) made initial contact with Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV, mother of CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to her daughter's missing status.

2. This contact was conducted via cellphone and not recorded.

3. RA attempted to contact CASTLE two times via phone call and followed up with a text message, with no response. After speaking with ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG-95 and learning he was in contact with CASTLE, RA instructed ET3 RICH to ask CASTLE to call RA.

4. RA asked CASTLE when the last time she spoke with V/[redacted] and CASTLE stated she had not spoken with V/[redacted] in approximately a week, however, V/[redacted] did attempt a Facetime call Wednesday 28MAY25, but CASTLE did not [redacted] CASTLE stated V/[redacted] most likely called her younger sister after she did not answer, but CASTLE was not certain. RA gathered contact information for the 3 siblings of V/[redacted] to contact.

5. RA asked CASTLE if she had access to V/[redacted] banking records, which CASTLE stated she did not.

6. RA asked CASTLE if she would be concerned about V/[redacted] mental health or concerned V/[redacted] may commit suicide, which CASTLE stated she did not think V/[redacted] would have committed suicide. However, CASTLE did disclose V/[redacted] had gone into mental health treatment sometime in the last year for inpatient treatment. RA followed up asking if CASTLE knew the reasoning for the inpatient treatment, which CASTLE responded, V/[redacted] was under a lot of pressure at work due to them being short staffed and V/[redacted] was also having problems with sexual harassment onboard DDG-95. RA followed up asking if CASTLE knew who was sexually harassing V/[redacted] which CASTLE stated an older white male.

7. RA asked CASTLE what, if anything had she been told about V/[redacted] missing. CASTLE stated she had been contacted by ET3 RICH, and he was concerned about V/[redacted] missing and to "not trust the command." RA asked CASTLE to explain further about not trusting the command. CASTLE stated ET3 RICH said they had lied to CASTLE and V/[redacted] was not found in a room, and she had not returned to work on Friday. CASTLE continued saying she called the Quarterdeck of DDG-95 and spoke to a Chief PARKER, who was identified as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95. CASTLE stated FCC PARKER told

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her V/[redacted] was located and words to the effect of the situation being dramatized or blown out of proportion. CASTLE explained she told FCC PARKER it was very unlike V/[redacted] to miss work as she was terrified of missing work.

8. RA asked CASTLE if she knew where V/[redacted] might be or where she may have gone, which CASTLE could not provide any further information into where V/[redacted] may have gone. RA explained to CASTLE that NCIS would be conducting an investigation into V/[redacted];s missing status and would contact her immediately with any significant updates. No further information was gathered from this interview.

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of V/[redacted] The interview took place in the lounge area on third floor of building X2, Willis Manor, located on Naval Station Norfolk (NOB), and was not recorded.

2. As background, V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, NCIS and S/COPELAND's mother contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security [redacted] located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms in Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at V/[redacted] door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

3. During his interview, S/COPELAND described his relationship with V/[redacted] as co-workers. S/COPELAND stated he texted with V/[redacted] on Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss recipes and ingredients for tacos. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] came over to his barracks room, made tacos and they both consumed alcohol. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] gradually became more upset as the night progressed and they spoke about her current and past romantic relationships. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] spoke on the phone to two (2) ex-boyfriends, both of which were confrontational calls. One call was with an ex-boyfriend he still believed was located in Texas (NFI) and the other call was with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95.

4. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] and HT3 GILLESPIE argued over returning a motorcycle helmet and that HT3 GILLESPIE wanted it back. S/COPELAND said V/[redacted] explained her relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE was toxic and described her most recent ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, as at first being a sweetheart and then he wasn't. S/COPELAND said ET3 RICH and HT3 GILLESPIE do not get along, that they have issues with each other, and opined it was due to their relationships with V/[redacted] S/COPELAND said HT3 GILLESPIE has come to the galley on the ship a lot, which sometimes caused issues. S/COPELAND said he did not know of any instances of HT3 GILLESPIE being violent toward V/[redacted] and that HT3 GILLESPIE was more of a topic of conversation than ET3 RICH was during their evening together.

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S/COPELAND described his role during the evening as a sounding board for V/[redacted]

5. S/COPELAND recalled one of his roommates walked into the barracks suite (common area) and asked if V/[redacted] was okay as she was upset, which he (S/COPELAND) responded yes.

6. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] spent the night in his barracks room and they did not have sexual intercourse. S/COPELAND said he was supposed to work on Thursday 29May25, however, he woke up late as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room at approximately 0900 and woke he and V/[redacted] S/COPELAND said he misunderstood FCC PARKER and did not report to work. S/COPELAND said he borrow his roommate's vehicle and drove V/[redacted] back to her barracks at approximately 1000 hours. S/COPELAND said this was the last time he saw V/[redacted]

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Bernadette DUFFY conducted an interview of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to the Unauthorized Absence of CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/R[redacted]), USN, DDG-95 and himself.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of his Article 31(b) Rights by use of Military Suspect's Acknowledgement and Waiver of Rights form for an alleged violation of Article 86 (Absence without Leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements). S/COPELAND, with full understanding of his rights, elected to waive his right to remain silent; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. S/COPELAND was asked to recall the events on the night of 28JUN25 and what transpired the following days. S/COPELAND stated he and V/R[redacted] were talking about food and making tacos. S/COPELAND continued saying, V/R[redacted] was going to come over to his barracks, located at Building X-2, Willis Manor, Room 335, to make salsa and eat dinner. S/COPELAND explained he went to the Food Lion and bought the ingredients to make tacos and then he went back to X-2. S/COPELAND stated he then went and picked V/R[redacted] up from her barracks, Miller Hall, and brought her back to his room. COPELAND explained later he utilized his roommates vehicle, later identified as a belonging to AR John CALISSE, USN, VAW-124 and being a white Jeep Compass, to pick up V/R[redacted] S/COPELAND stated V/R[redacted] was wearing a black shirt, black pants, slip on Uggs, a bracelet, and a hair clip. S/COPELAND stated V/R[redacted] was also carrying her purple backpack. S/COPELAND stated he could not recall what time he picked V/R[redacted] up but after returning to the room they began to make tacos.

5. S/COPELAND stated after eating, him and V/R[redacted] started listening to music and started talking. S/COPELAND explained V/R[redacted] began talking about HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, and how she saw him with another girl on his motorcycle and how it had really upset V/R[redacted] S/COPELAND stated V/R[redacted] then text HT3 GILLESPIE "Fuck you" and then called an ex-boyfriend (NFI) from Texas. S/COPELAND explained he was sitting on the

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couch, and she was sitting on floor talking to the ex-boyfriend. S/COPELAND continued explaining how when V/[redacted] ended the phone call with the ex-boyfriend, she started to call other people (NFI) and talk about how "GILLESPIE's not shit."

6. S/COPELAND explained he did not know much about the relationship between HT3 GILLESPIE and V/[redacted] but S/COPELAND did recall V/[redacted] was mad about the amount of money she would spend on HT3 GILLESPIE. S/COPELAND provided the example of HT3 GILLESPIE needed a lawyer and V/[redacted] gave him $500.00 to hire one even though HT3 GILLESPIE could have received a public defender. S/COPELAND did not believe HT3 GILLESPIE and V/[redacted] were in any physical altercations or abusive relationship. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] went on a "rampage" and was becoming "agitated." S/COPELAND stated after completing the phone calls V/[redacted] was becoming "emotional" and "crying."

7. S/COPELAND stated one of the roommates, "the Mexican" later identified as PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124), walked into the common area of the room and asked if V/[redacted] was okay. S/COPELAND stated he told PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ, V/[redacted] was fine and PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ proceeded to his room. S/COPELAND stated the night ended and they both went to sleep together in S/COPELAND's bed. S/COPELAND stated they did not have sexual intercourse. After going to sleep, S/COPELAND was awoken by FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, knocking on the door of his bedroom. S/COPELAND said he could not remember what time it was but knew the sun was up. S/COPELAND stated FCC PARKER asked if the person in his bed was V/[redacted] which S/COPELAND replied it was V/[redacted] S/COPELAND explained FCC PARKER told him to get to work and asked if he had a ride, which S/COPELAND stated he told FCC PARKER one of his roommates could give him a ride to work. S/COPELAND admitted though he did not go to work due to "one of his roommates" not coming home. S/COPELAND further explained, him being UA was a big misunderstanding because he had the weekend off and he did not realize if you are marked UA for one day, you are marked UA for the days you remain away from work.

8. S/COPELAND stated he was marked UA Thursday, 29JUN25 until Sunday, 01MAY25 when base security located him within his barracks room. When asked his whereabouts for Friday and Saturday, S/COPELAND responded, he stayed in the barracks both days but would move from lounge to lounge. S/COPELAND stated he mostly hung out in the 5th floor lounge and Ms. Mary (NFI) could vouch for his whereabouts during the time frame.

9. RA asked S/COPELAND about the morning of 29JUN25 and what had transpired after FCC PARKER left the room. S/COPELAND recalled him and V/[redacted] woke up and cleaned the kitchen and V/[redacted] left in an Uber, later clarified to be a Z-Trip.

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10. RA asked S/COPELAND if he would sign a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellphone, S/COPELAND agreed to signing a PASS and provided his passcode, [redacted]. Prior to signing the PASS, S/COPELAND requested to call his mother, and would not sign the PASS; Enclosure (C) pertains. PA asked S/COPELAND if he would be fine with answering further questions and call his mother later, S/COPELAND agreed.

11. RA had previously informed S/COPELAND NCIS was conducting a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) in his barracks room and the common area and began to ask questions about S/COPELAND's barracks room and his electronics. S/COPELAND stated he had an iPhone15 in his room and a PlayStation 5 in the common room.

12. RA inquired about V/[redacted] electronics to include her iPhone. S/COPELAND stated the only electronic V/[redacted] had with her was her iPhone15. S/COPELAND confirmed the Apple iWatch was also his, which was located in his barracks room.

13. RA asked S/COPELAND if the statement he gave was true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, which S/COPELAND stated this statement was the correct statement. RA then confronted S/COPELAND on the discretions between his previous statement, given on 01JUN25 and the statement he gave during this interview.

14. RA asked S/COPELAND about him and V/[redacted] being naked on the floor by the couch, S/COPELAND denied being on the floor naked with V/[redacted] S/COPELAND stated he and V/[redacted] fell asleep in his bed, clothed.

15. RA asked S/COPELAND about him changing his story about dropping V/[redacted] off at her barracks, to V/[redacted] leaving on her own after cleaning, to which S/COPELAND stated he did not remember saying he had previously dropped V/[redacted] off at her barracks. RA asked S/COPELAND about how he knew V/[redacted] was taking a Z-Trip from his barracks versus walking from his barracks, and S/COPELAND stated he just assumed V/[redacted] had taken a Z-Trip back to her barracks.

16. RA inquired about S/COPELAND telling FCC PARKER he would wait for his roommate to get home to take S/COPELAND to work. RA asked about S/COPELAND's roommate's work schedule and why he would tell FCC PARKER the roommate would take him to work knowing his roommate does not get home until approximately 1600-1700. S/COPELAND stated he would not ask anyone else to take him to work. S/COPELAND stated he did not know when his roommate would be home due to a squadron's working hours being different from the ships work schedule.

17. PA conducted another PASS for a backpack, barracks room, and

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

electronics, S/COPELAND signed the PASS; Enclosure (D) pertains.

18. Shortly after singing the PASS, RA, PA, and S/COPELAND left NCIS and travelled to S/COPELAND's barracks room to execute the PASS in his presence.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25
(B) MILITARY RIGHTS/03JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION UNSIGNED/03JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION SIGNED/03MAY25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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1. **BACKGROUND:** On 31May25, NCIS was contacted by Norfolk Police Department (NPD) in reference to a missing person report. NPD relayed that ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was attempting to make a missing person report regarding CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V[redacted] USN, DDG 95. NCIS subsequently contacted DDG 95 Command, and they advised V/[redacted] and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were in a status of Unauthorized Absence (UA) beginning on Thursday, 29May25. DDG 95 Command advised they believed V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND were involved romantically, but did not know to what extent. On 01Jun25, NCIS made contact with Naval Station Norfolk Base Police to conduct a welfare check on S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] rooms. Base Police stated they found S/COPELAND in his barracks room; however, they received no answer at V/[redacted] door when they knocked. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and was able to gain entry to V/[redacted] barracks room, in which V/[redacted] was not located. Subsequently, NCIS' Multi-Threat Action Center (MTAC) initiated cell phone pings on V/[redacted] mobile phone, which yielded no location data due to the phone possibly being powered off. NCIS conducted an interview of S/COPELAND who stated V/[redacted] came over to his barracks on Wednesday, 28May25. S/COPELAND said V/[redacted] stayed the night and the next day, 29May25, FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room because he failed to report for work. S/COPELAND stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle and drove V/[redacted] back to her barracks room around 1000 hours on 29May25. ET3 RICH was interviewed and stated he attempted to file a missing person report due to V/[redacted] not responding to friends and family correspondence in conjunction with V/[redacted] phone being turned off. On 01Jun25, an emergency subpoena was served to Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) regarding V/[redacted] bank account, and the last reported activity was 28May25. On 03Jun25, The NCISRA Norfolk Major Case Response Team (MCRT) was activated to conduct a scene examination of S/COPELAND's barracks room, as this was the last confirmed location of V/[redacted] S/COPELAND resided in room 335 inside Willis Manor, Building X2, aboard Naval Station Norfolk.

2. **JURISDICTION AND SEARCH AUTHORIZATION:** Willis Manor, Building X2 is located aboard Naval Station Norfolk and is located within concurrent jurisdiction with Norfolk Police Department; however, NCIS retains primary investigative jurisdiction due to V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND'S status as USN service members. A Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) was signed by CAPT Matthew SCHLARMANN, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), Naval Station Norfolk, to authorize the search of S/COPELAND's barracks room in an effort to locate anything belonging to V/[redacted] A copy of the CASS is appended as Enclosure (A).

3. **ARRIVAL AND SCENE SECURITY:** The scene was not secured prior to NCIS' arrival. At approximately 2004, on 03Jun25, the following members of MCRT arrived on scene: Reporting Agent (RA), SA Joy NAROWSKI, SA Alison FOX, SA Brandon MOORE, Forensic Consultant (FC) Morgan CURRIE, and Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Danielle ORTIZ. At approximately 2058, the room was cleared, and the scene was secured by SA Kenneth MASON, SA Ryan GARDNER, and SA Steve CONLON. SA David LAWHORN with Electronic Storage Detection (ESD) K9 Jill, Andrew PISKE, CIV, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) with Cadaver K9 Kyra, SA Salvatore MURGOLO, SA Cheyenne SIMMONS, SA Tiffany MARTINEZ, SA Caroline ROBINSON, SA Lauryn GODETTE, SA Morgan JOHNS, INV Jesse CLAAR, and INV Nick BURROWES were also on scene.

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4. **EXTERIOR OBSERVATIONS:** Willis Manor, Building X2 is a military barracks located aboard Naval Station Norfolk. Willis Manor, Building X2 is a five story building with a parking lot located in front and to the side. The building is located between Maryland Ave and Virginia Ave. Figure [1] is a Google Earth image of Willis Manor, Building X2 depicting its relationship and orientation to the surrounding buildings. Figure [2] is a stock photo of the exterior of Willis Manor.

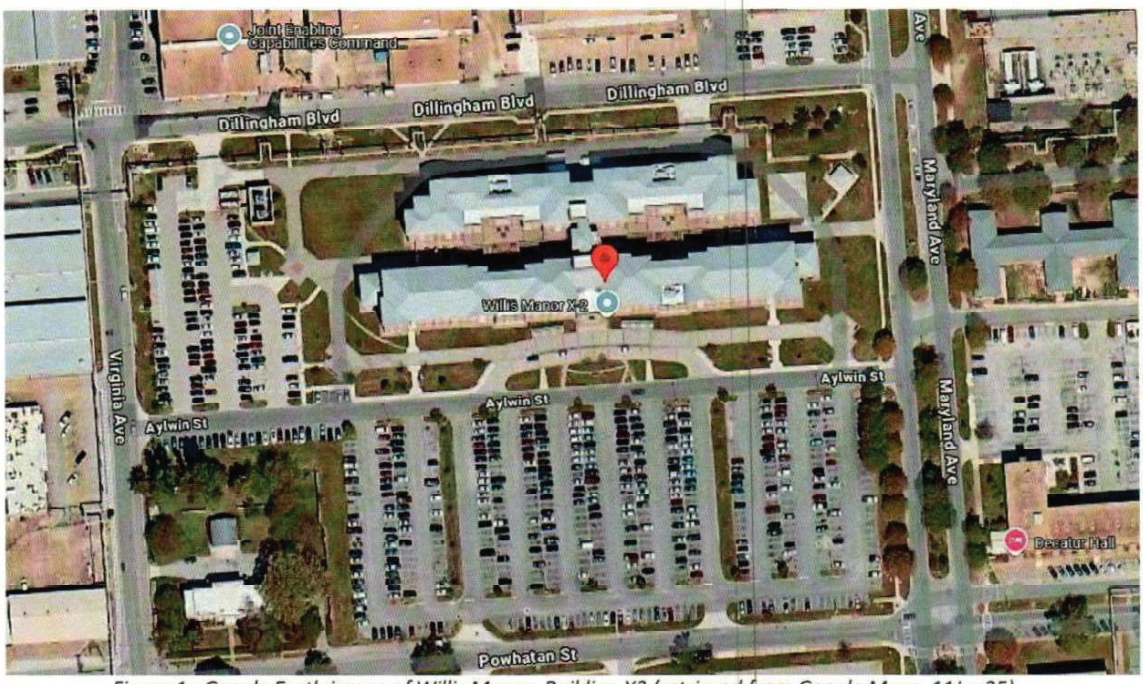


Figure 1 - Google Earth image of Willis Manor, Building X2 (retrieved from Google Maps, 11Jun25)



Figure 2 – Stock photograph of the exterior of Willis Manor, Building X2

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5. **INTERIOR OBSERVATIONS:** Upon arrival at the scene, at approximately 2117, RA, FC CURRIE, and SSA ORTIZ conducted an initial walk-through of room 335. After the initial walk-through was completed, RA completed photographic coverage of the room. RA a completed digital sketch of the scene which depicts associated items of evidence described throughout the remainder of the report. Figure [3] depicts the overall scene sketch with associated measurements and legend. The sketch has also been appended as Enclosure (B). Upon entering the room, a closet was located to the left and a washing and drying machine were located to the right. Continuing into the room, a kitchen was on the right and then the area proceeded to open up into a common space that contained a couch, two chairs, a coffee table, a smaller table, and a TV. Along the left wall was another doorway which led into the "B" side of the room, in which S/COPELAND resided with a roommate. Across the common space, "A" side was located, in which two other roommates resided. Inside the "B" side, there were two beds, each up against a wall. S/COPELAND's bed, desk, closet, sink, and belongings were on the side labeled "BA," located along the northeast wall. Once inside "B" side of room 335, a bathroom with a toilet and shower could be located along the northwest wall, past the closets and sinks. Side "A" was not entered by NCIS as it did not pertain to the captioned investigation; therefore, it was not covered in the CASS. At approximately 2203, SA LAWHORN and ESD K9 Jill searched room 335 side B and the common space for electronics belonging to V/[redacted] and found nothing pertinent. At approximately 2234, PISKE and Cadaver K9 Kyra searched room 335 side B and the common space for indications of human remains, to which Cadaver K9 Kyra alerted to a grey backpack located on S/COPELAND's side of suite B. This backpack was collected as evidence item (A). Figure [4] depicts the door and entryway into room 335. Figure [5] depicts the common area located within room 335. Figure [6] depicts S/COPELAND'S bed and desk located against the northeast wall. Figure [7] depicts a positive presumptive test for blood using a Hemastix with a swab taken from a "sticker" located on the floor of S/COPELAND's closet. Figure [8] depicts a positive presumptive test for blood using a Hemastix with a swab taken from the counter next to S/COPELAND's sink. In addition, Bluestar was completed by FC CURRIE and will be documented under a separate report.

OVERALL SKETCH OF ROOM 335 IN WILLIS MANOR, BUILDING X2

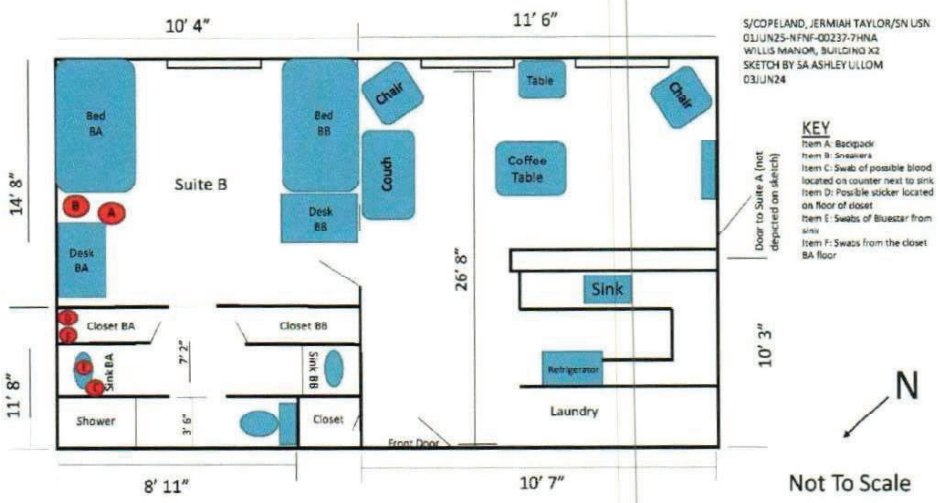


Figure 3 – Overall Sketch of room 335 in Willis Manor, Building X2, which depicts the locations of items of evidence (created with Microsoft PowerPoint; 03Jun25)

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Figure 4 – Door and entrance to room 335 (DSC_0008.JPG)

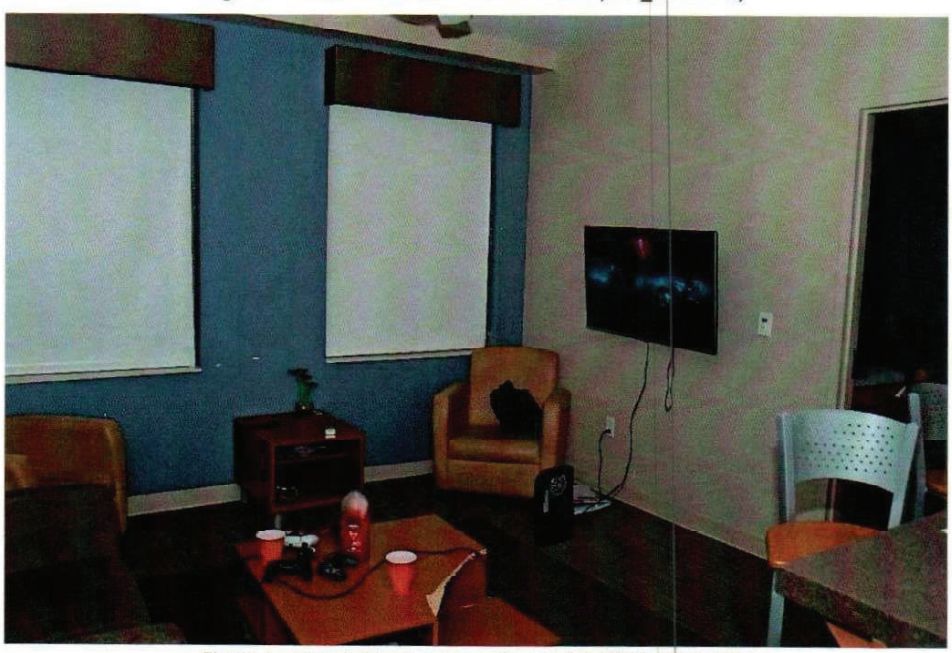


Figure 5 – Common room area of room 335 (DSC_0018.JPG)

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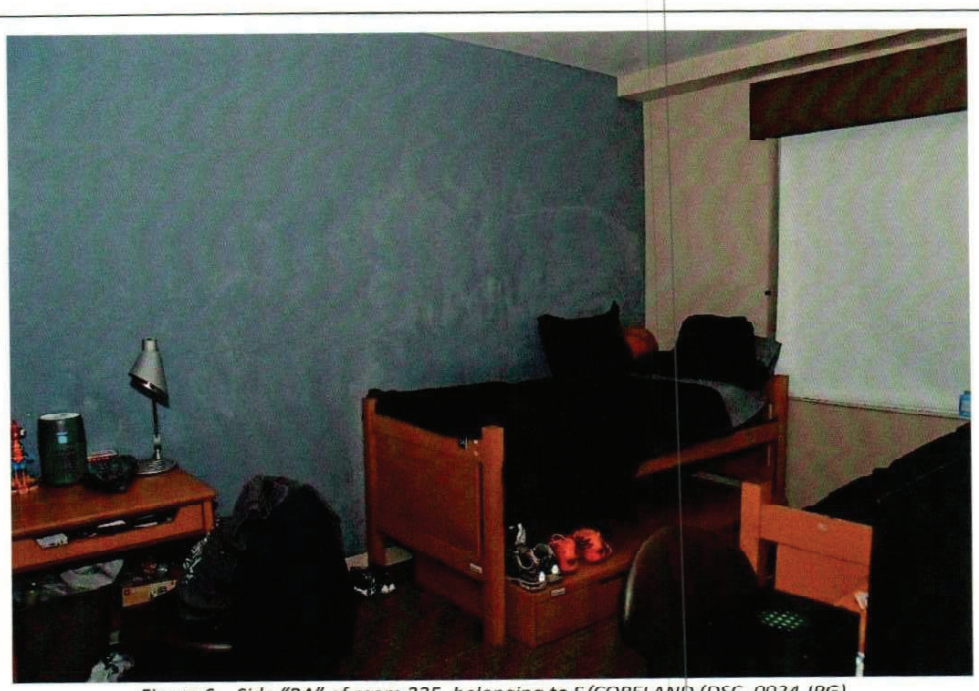


Figure 6 – Side "BA" of room 335, belonging to S/COPELAND (DSC_0024.JPG)

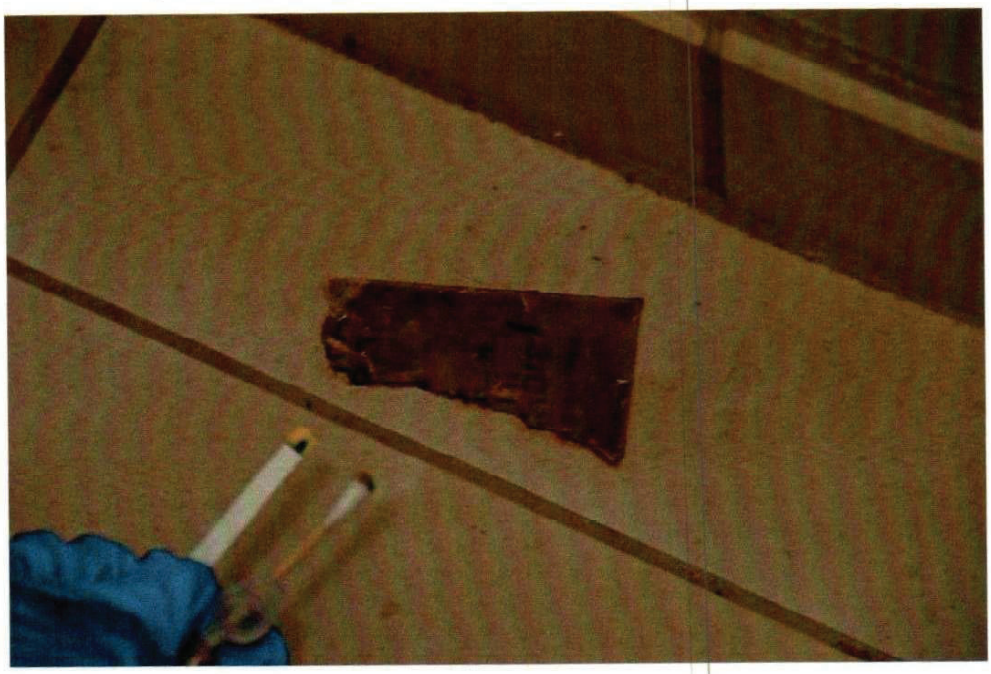


Figure 7 – Hemastix test depicting positive result for presumptive blood on a "sticker" located on the floor of S/COPELAND'S closet (DSC_0210.JPG)

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Figure 8 – Hemastix test depicting positive result for presumptive blood on the counter next to S/COPELAND'S sink (DSC_0223.JPG)

6. **SCENE PROCESSING:** RA completed photographic coverage of the scene utilizing a Nikon D 3000 digital camera. A total of 254 digital photographs were captured, all of which were burned to a DVD-R and appended as Enclosure (C).

7. **EVIDENCE SEIZURE:** The following items of evidence were seized from the residence and entered into the NCISRA Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility under Evidence Log Number JQNT4:

Item (A): Gray backpack containing miscellaneous items; ID WGAM0
Item (B): Pair of gray/white Jordan sneakers; ID FML8B
Item (C): One (1) Swab taken from corner of wall above bathroom sink containing suspected blood; ID NY112
Item (D): Sticker collected from closet floor containing suspected blood; ID TJY67
Item (E): One (1) Swab taken from inside bathroom sink bowl containing suspected blood; ID NAH9K
Item (F): Three (3) swabs taken from left rear corner of closet floor containing suspected blood; ID 4DT6A

8. **SCENE RELEASE:** At approximately 0138 on 04Jun25, MCRT released room 335 back to S/COPELAND and his three roommates.

PARTICIPANT(S)

Ashley ULLOM, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Brandon MOORE, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Kenneth MASON, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Ryan GARDNER, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA

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Salvatore MURGOLO, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Cheyenne SIMMONS, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Tiffany MARTINEZ, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Caroline ROBINSON, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Lauryn GODETTE, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Morgan JOHNS, Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Jesse CLAAR, Investigator, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Nick BURROWES, Investigator, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Danielle ORTIZ, Supervisory Special Agent, NCISRA Norfolk, VA
Joy NAROWSKI, Special Agent, NCISRA Yorktown, VA
Alison FOX, Special Agent, NCISRA Yorktown, VA
Steve CONLON, Special Agent, NCIS REACT - Norfolk
Morgan CURRIE, Forensic Consultant, NCIS Office of Forensic Support – Norfolk

ENCLOSURES

(A) COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE (CASS)
(B) OVERALL SKETCH OF ROOM 335 IN WILLIS MANOR, BUILDING X2
(C) DVD-R: PHOTOGRAPHS OF ROOM 335 IN WILLIS MANOR, BUILDING X2

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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.

CSSN [redacted] COPELAND, USN

TO: Special Agent Jessica Gokey and other NCIS Agents

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by Special Agent Jessica Gokey

That there is reason to believe that on the person of and/or on the premises known as:
X2 Barracks Room 335B and the common area located on Naval Station Norfolk

which is/are under my jurisdiction, there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See attachment B

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person and/or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of a command authorized search exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH the person and/or place named for the property specified and if the property is found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this authorization and receipt for the property taken. You will provide a signed receipt to this command, containing a full description of every item seized.

Any assistance desired in conducting this search will be furnished by this command.

Dated this 3 day of June, 2025.

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.03 15:49:44 -04'00'

Signature of Person Authorizing Search

CAPT, USN, Commanding Officer
Rank, Service, Title

NAVSTA Norfolk
Command

ENCLOSURE (A)

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] USN

BEFORE the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia

The undersigned, being duly sworn, requests authority to search:
The barracks room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND, USN, located at Barracks X-2, Room 335B and the common area,Naval Station Norfolk, as described in Attachment (A).

Believing that there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
Evidence pertaining to Article 86 (Absense without leave) of the UCMJ, more particularl described in Attachment (B).

The request for authorization to search and seize is made in connection with an investigation into the offense(s) of :
Article 86 (Absense without leave) of the UCMJ.

The facts and circumstances known to me tending to establish the foregoing grounds for authorization to search and seize, including comments demonstrating the reliability of the information and/or informant, are as follows:
See Affidavit, incorporated herein by reference.

[redacted]

Signature of Affiant
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 3rd day of June, 2025.

[redacted]

Signature of Person Administering Oath

LT, USN, STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Rank, Service, Title

NCIS 5580/1 (1/2001) (Formerly NCISFORM 023/08-92)

AFFIDAVIT

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted], USN

1. I, Jessica Gokey, am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. The following facts and information are known to your Affiant based upon information gained from the conduct of this investigation, witness observations, training and experience, and/or through information relayed through other law enforcement officers.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure to search the residence belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND as annotated in Attachment A.

4. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure, your Affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your Affiant has set forth the facts believed necessary to establish probable cause to believe that evidence of violations of Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 86 (Absence without leave).

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

5. This United States is investigating violations of Article 86 (Absence without leave).

6. On May 28, 2025, CSSN A[redacted]R[redacted] was known to be in the barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, who is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

7. According to COPELAND, R[redacted] came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

8. COPELAND stated [redacted] called a "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, [redacted] became emotional and began to cry.

9. COPELAND stated the relationship with [redacted] was platonic and he is a friend from work and no sexual acts have happened between them.

10. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on 29 May 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

11. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see [redacted] breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on [redacted] stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if [redacted] was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

12. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell [redacted] was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

13. COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of 29 May 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND and [redacted] were in a state of undress and [redacted] waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

14. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and [redacted] to [redacted] residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

15. COPELAND's movements after dropping [redacted]IZ off at Miller Hall. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29-31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025.

16. On 02 June 2025, NCIS spoke to FCC PARKER to verify [redacted] work schedule. FCC PARKER stated [redacted] was scheduled to work day shift Friday, May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 1, 2025 with a report time of 0500-0530 hours. FCC PARKER stated [redacted] failed to report all three (3) days.

17. NCIS interview all remaining roommates of COPELAND who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and [redacted] on the morning of 29 May 2025.

18. The whereabouts of [redacted] are still unknown. Her cellphone last pinged on 31 May 2025 for last known location. The last known was approximately Latitude 36.896558 Longitude -76.435536, which appears to be located in Suffolk, VA.

19. Additionally, NCIS spoke with her mother in Texas and she conveyed [redacted] has attempted suicide in the past and suffers from depression, for which she is prescribed medication. Emergency Room's, psychology departments, morgues, and jails were all negative for her presence when called.

CONCLUSION

20. Based upon the information, your Affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe items in COPELAND's barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A and the common room area onboard Naval Station Norfolk may constitute evidence of Article 86 (Absence without leave) of the UCMJ.

21. Your affiant respectfully requests a CASS be issued, authorizing NCIS Agents, forensic examiners tasked by NCIS, and other law enforcement entities and their forensic components to search and retain evidence as described above.

[redacted]

Jessica Gokey, Special Agent
Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of June, 2025

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted]PII
Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted]PII
Date: 2025.06.03 19:50:32 -04'00'

CAPT
Commanding Officer

ATTACHMENT A: PLACES TO BE SEARCHED

X-2 room 335B Rack A and the common area onboard Naval Station Norfolk.

ATTACHMENT B: PARTICULAR ITEMS TO BE SEIZED

1. Bed linens, sheets, towels, blankets, pillows that appear to have been used or were recently used.
2. Used condoms and condom wrappers
3. Any clothing appearing to belong to a female
4. Items containing or could reasonably contain Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA), blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence
5. Other evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense.


Enclosure H

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 16 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 16 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE XLII through AE XLIX(c)).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 December 25**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 10 December 2025, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on10 December 2025, and AEs XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of December 2025.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 December 25**

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[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO SEVER** **5 December 2025**

MOTION

1. Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(b)(10), the Government respectfully requests that the Court deny Defense's Motion to Sever.

2. "Offenses may be severed, but only to prevent manifest injustice."[1] In fact, "[j]oinder or minor and major offenses, or of unrelated offenses, is not alone a sufficient ground to sever offenses."[2] There is no "manifest injustice" in denying the Defense's motion here, where the evidence and manner of proof for each charge is intertwined and there is no reason to suggest that limiting instructions would be insufficient.[3]

FACTS

3. The Government adopts its facts from its Response to the Defense's Motion in Limine (M.R.E. 404(b) and 413) dated 5 December 2025.

BURDEN OF PROOF

4. Pursuant to RCM 905(c) and 906(b)(10), the Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden to establish that a manifest injustice will result from the continued joint trial of charge. The burden of proof on any factual issues the resolution of which are necessary to decide the motion is by a preponderance of the evidence.[4]

LAW

5. "Upon a motion, offenses may be severed, but only to prevent a 'manifest injustice.'"[5] Historically, "courts have been concerned with preventing impermissible spillover in various

1. R.C.M. 906(b)(10)(A)
2. R.C.M. 906(b)(10) (Discussion).
3. R.C.M. 906(b)(10)(A).
4. R.C.M. 905(c)(1)-(2); 906(b)(10.
5. R.C.M. 906(b)(10)(A).

ways from the proof of one offense into the trial of another."[6] But "joinder of offenses at court-martial is more permissive than joinder in federal district courts."[7] While in limited cases severance may be required to ensure the accused receives a fair trial, a better opportunity for an acquittal at separate trials is not enough to cause a "manifest injustice."[8]

6. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) outlined in *United States v. Southworth* the three factors to consider on appeal when determining whether a military judge has abused their discretion when denying a motion to sever:

> (1) whether the evidence of one offense would be admissible proof of the other;
>
> (2) whether the military judge has provided a proper limiting instruction; and
>
> (3) whether the findings reflect an impermissible crossover.[9]

7. "No single factor, or the absence of a single factor, controls the ultimate conclusion of whether manifest injustice has been avoided."[10]

8. A military judge may take other preventative measures aside from severance.[11] These measures include instructing the members to consider the offenses separately and bifurcating the presentation of evidence by the Government to avoid the risk of impermissible spillover.[12]

ARGUMENT

9. The Defense's request to sever some charges from others simply because they involve separate victims must be denied. Indeed, "[j]oinder or minor and major offenses, or of unrelated offenses, is not alone a sufficient ground to sever offenses."[13] The *Southworth* factors favor a denial of the Defense's motion—the Accused will receive a fair trial.

10. First, the evidence of each offense is admissible in some capacity as proof of each other offense.

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6. *United States v. Duncan*, 53 M.J. 494, 498 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (citing *Southworth*, 50 M.J. at 76; *United States v. Foutz*, 540 F.2d 733, 736 (4th Cir. 1976)).
7. *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 497 (citing *Southworth*, 50 M.J. at 76).
8. *United States v. Simpson*, 56 M.J. 462, 464-65 (C.A.A.F. 2002) (citing *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 497-98).
9. *Southworth*, 50 M.J. at 76-77 (citing *United States v. Curtis*, 44 M.J. 106, 128 (C.A.A.F. 1996)).
10. *United States v. Marco A. Rodriguez*, No. 200602455, 2007 CCA LEXIS 247, at *5 (N.M.C.C.A. July 18, 2007) (citing *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 498) (finding no manifest injustice where military judge found evidence of one sex offense was not admissible to establish another sex offense because military judge ensured bifurcation of evidence and gave limiting instructions).
11. See *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 497.
12. *Id*. at 498.
13. R.C.M. 906(b)(10) (Discussion).

a. While there is overlap in the evidence and method of proof as discussed below, each offense is also independently "[]supported by . . . actual evidence,"[14] to include physical evidence, forensic evidence, and eyewitness testimony—not to mention the strong accounts of each victim. Regardless, a better opportunity for an acquittal at separate trials is not enough to cause a "manifest injustice."[15] And as the CAAF noted in *United States v. Buhl,*[16] the question is not whether offenses involve different victims or different offenses but whether joinder would deprive the Accused of a fair trial. It would not.

b. As provided in detail in the Government's Response to the Defense's Motion in Limine under M.R.E. 404(b) and 413, there are several extremely probative evidentiary links between these cases that favor joinder. As the Defense notes, the evidence underlying these offenses are "inextricably intertwined."[17] In *United States v. Gurfein*, despite two unrelated incidents occurring years apart with different child victims, the military judge denied severance because each incident would have been admissible as M.R.E. 404(b) evidence in a separate trial.[18] The Defense cites *United States v. Haye* for the proposition that severance is appropriate, but fails to cite the court's additional analysis that the key test for evaluating potential spillover is whether the evidence in one case "would be independently admissible" in the trial of the other under M.R.E. 401, 402, and 404(b).[19] This logic applies equally here: where evidence is cross-admissible, severance serves no purpose.

c. To sever the charges would not only subject the Accused to multiple courts-martial, but also run counter to any attempt to preserve judicial economy as the same evidence (including many of the same witnesses) would be presented multiple times in multiple courts-martial.

10. Second, a limiting instruction can mitigate any risk of prejudice. "Absent evidence to the contrary [a court] may presume that members follow a military judge's instructions."[20]

a. In *Gurfein*, the military judge issued tailored spillover and M.R.E. 404(b) limiting instructions, and the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals held they were sufficient to prevent prejudice.[21] The military judge can provide appropriate instructions here as well. Members are presumed to follow the instructions they are given, including directions to consider each specification separately and to use M.R.E. 404(b) evidence only for its limited, permissible purpose. This satisfies the second *Southworth* factor. *Haye* similarly noted that with proper instructions, even dissimilar offenses can be tried together without undue prejudice.[22]

---

14. Def. Mot. to Sever at 6.
15. *United States v. Simpson*, 56 M.J. at 464-65 (citing *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 497-98).
16. 84 M.J. 501, 503 (C.A.A.F. 2024).
17. Def. Mot. to Sever at 6.
18. *Gurfein*, *33–34
19. *United States v. Haye*, 29 M.J. 213, 215 (C.M.A. 1989)
20. *United States v. Stewart*, 71 M.J. 38, 43 (C.A.A.F. 2012) (quoting *United States v. Taylor*, 53 M.J. 195, 198 (C.A.A.F. 2000)).
21. *Gurfein*, 2019 CCA LEXIS 201 at *35–36.
22. *Haye*, 29 M.J. at 215.

b. And even if this Court finds that each request for an M.R.E. 404(b) instruction is inappropriate, there is still no risk of manifest injustice with a proper limiting instruction. The Defense's argument that members could not possibly follow a common spillover instruction is baseless and contrary to the central legal principle that "[a]bsent evidence to the contrary [a court] may presume that members follow a military judge's instructions."[23]

11. And finally, the third prong of the test is aimed at appellate review, but the evidence does not suggest that there will be an impermissible cross-over in the findings if appropriate limiting instructions are given.[24]

12. The defense bears the burden under R.C.M. 905(c) to prove such injustice by a preponderance of the evidence. They have not done so. Considering the permissibility of M.R.E. 404(b) cross-admissibility, the availability of limiting instructions, the ability of members to compartmentalize evidence, and the strong presumption in favor of joinder under R.C.M. 601(e)(2), the defense has failed to demonstrate any prejudice—let alone the "manifest injustice" required for severance. Consistent with *Southworth, Curtis, Buhl, Gurfein*, and even *Haye*, severance is not warranted and should be denied.

RELIEF REQUESTED

13. The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to sever.

ORAL ARGUMENT

14. The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

23. *Stewart*, 71 M.J. at 43 (quoting *Taylor*, 53 M.J. at 198).
24. *See Simpson*, 56 M.J. at 465.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY** **5 December 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 701, Government respectfully requests that the Court grant in part and deny in part Defense's Motion to Compel Discovery.

FACTS

1. On 14 November 2025, Defense submitted a Second Supplemental Discovery Request.

2. In this Second Supplemental Discovery Request, Defense requested in part:

> "Disclosures of any statements any witness made to the trial counsel in this case along with any notes taken by any paralegal who was present during any interview with any potential witness in this case. This includes, for example, CSC Simmons and OSSN Owenskemper. This information is in the possession of the Government and relevant to the Defense's preparation. For one, a witness's credibility is imperative, therefore, whether the statement was consistent or not, it is relevant for the Defense. Further, this information goes directly to a witness's bias (i.e., are particular witnesses talking to the trial counsel but refusing to speak to the Defense?)."

3. On 20 November 2025, the Government responded in part,

> " Denied. A synopsis of expected testimony is not required pursuant to R.C.M. 701(a)(3). The Government will comply with its obligations under *United States v. Brady*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and *United States v. Giglio*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972). Any sworn or signed statements will be produced. Notes are not subject to discovery under R.C.M. 701(f). At this time, the Government is not aware of any discoverable material related to CSC Simmons or OSSN Owenskemper and the Government does not intend to call either as a witness at this time."

BURDEN OF PROOF

The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden of persuasion and the burden of proof on any factual issue, the resolution of which is necessary to decide the motion, by a preponderance of

the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c)(1)-(2).

LAW

R.C.M. 701(a)(2) mandates discovery of documents "*if* the item is within the possession, custody, or control of the military authorities *and* (i) the item is relevant to Defense preparation; (ii) the Government intends to use the item in the case-in-chief at trial; (iii) the Government anticipates using the item in rebuttal, or (iv) the item was obtained from or belongs to the accused."

R.C.M 701(f) states: "*Information not subject to disclosure.* Nothing in this rule shall be construed to require the disclosure of information protected from disclosure by the Military Rules of Evidence. Nothing in this rule shall require the disclosure or production of notes, memoranda, or similar working papers prepared by counsel and counsel's assistants and representatives."

ARGUMENT

The Defense Seeks Material That Is Not Discoverable Under R.C.M. 701. The Government is not required to produce paralegal notes or Government witness-meeting information.

The Defense seeks: **(1)** "any statements any witness made to trial counsel," **(2)** "any notes taken by any paralegal present during any interview," and **(3)** information regarding whether witnesses "are talking to trial counsel but refusing to speak to the Defense." This request must be denied because it seeks material that is not discoverable, misstates the Government's disclosure obligations, and improperly intrudes upon privileged work product.

A. Paralegal Notes and other Government Interview Notes Are Not Discoverable

Defense's request for "any notes taken by any paralegal" squarely targets protected Government work product. Such notes do not constitute statements unless they are:
(1) signed, adopted, or approved by the witness, or (2) a substantially verbatim contemporaneous recording of the witness's oral statement.[1] The notes at issue meet neither requirement. The Government has reviewed its files and confirms that no paralegal notes have been adopted by any Government witness in this case. Accordingly, nothing responsive is discoverable.

B. Witness Statements to Trial Counsel Are Already Governed by R.C.M. 701(a)(1)(F) and 701(a)(6);

Any qualifying witness statements—as defined by the rule, or evidence favorable to the Accused have been or will be disclosed if they meet the standard.

[1] R.C.M. 914(f)(1) and (2).

C. Information About Whether Witnesses Speak With Trial Counsel vs. Defense Is Not Discoverable

The Defense also seeks information regarding whether "particular witnesses [are] talking to trial counsel but refusing to speak to the Defense." This request is improper for multiple reasons. The Government has no obligation under any applicable rule to disclose when, how often, or under what circumstances it meets with witnesses. Witnesses are free to speak with either party or with neither. A witness's decision not to speak with Defense does not transform Government trial-preparation or other administrative activities into discoverable material. The Government does not—and is not required to—track or maintain records for the purpose of revealing which witnesses choose to engage with Defense counsel. If the Defense is concerned about witness access, their remedy is to request assistance through the appropriate channels, not to compel Government work-product to include, administrative scheduling information.

4. The Government will continue to meet all *Brady* and *Giglio* Obligations

The Government remains fully compliant with its duty to disclose *Brady* and *Giglio* material, including any information that tends to impeach a Government witness. Should the Government become aware of any information that "adversely affects the credibility of a prosecution witness," it will promptly disclose it.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to compel discovery as discussed above.

ORAL ARGUMENT

The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 5th day of December 2025.

[redacted]

L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **United States Navy**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER R.C.M. 707 AND ARTICLE 10** **5 Dec 25**

RESPONSE

1. The Government moves the military judge to deny the Defense motion to dismiss. It only took **122 days** (46 when considering excludable delay) from the day that CSSN Jermiah Copeland was put into pretrial confinement until he was brought to arraignment on the charge of murdering CS3 A.R. That period is facially reasonable for a charge of murder in a case that required extensive investigation and forensic testing and thus does not trigger any further analysis beyond the first factor in *Barker v. Wingo*.[1] Similarly, the R.C.M. 707 requirement was not violated because the Convening Authority did not abuse his discretion in approving excludable delay in this case. No violation of the right to speedy trial exists in this case.

BURDEN

2. "Under Article 10, the Government has the burden to show that the prosecution moved forward with reasonable diligence in response to a motion to dismiss."[2]

FACTS

3. The following provides the procedural posture of this case from CSSN Copeland's placement into pretrial confinement until his arraignment:

DATE	EVENT	ENCLOSURES
9 Jun 2025	Using a screenshot of a saved location on CSSN Copeland's cell phone, NCIS located a duffel bag in the woods containing unidentified human remains.	Encl. 1 at 6; Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 3

1. 407 U.S. 514, 530 (1972)
2. *United States v. Mizgala*, 61 M.J. 122, 125 (C.A.A.F. 2005).

	CSSN Copeland was apprehended, interviewed, and ordered into pretrial confinement. NCIS conducted a FARO 3D Laser Scan Data of 2856 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA. Trial counsel began preparing for the IRO hearing.	Encl. 1 at 5.
10 Jun 2025	NCIS interviewed thirteen witnesses as part of its investigation in this case. NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) for the berthing aboard DDG-95 and their associated barge for the personal belongings of the accused, as well as for his barracks room.	Encl. 1 at 4-5 Encl. 1 at 5.
11 Jun 2025	NCIS submitted a 2703(d) Court Order to Uber for a victim's account. NCIS submitted a subpoena to Navy Federal Credit Union for the accused's account. NCIS received the supplemental checks of the Defense Biometric Identification System. NCIS executed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for the search of the barracks room of HT3 Michael Gillispie, USN. Trial counsel conducted a VWAP interview with the CS3 A.R.'s mother.	Encl. 1 at 7. Encl. 1 at 7. Encl. 1 at 7. Encl. 1 at 7. Encl. 2.
12 Jun 2025	NCIS submitted a second subpoena for the NFCU account belonging to the victim (which was previously submitted on 11 June 2025).	Encl. 1 at 7.
13 Jun 2025	NCIS interviewed three witnesses. NCIS obtained a PASS for screenshots associated with a group chat in which the accused was reported to have discussed the victim's death. NCIS obtained Ring camera footage from 2820 Cary Ave., Norfolk, VA 23504 from a civilian witness. NCIS executed an additional command authorized search of the accused's barracks room.	Encl. 1 at 7-8. Encl. 1 at 8. Encl. 1 at 8. Encl. 1 at 8.
14 Jun 2025	NCIS received the results of a 18 USC section 2703(d) order served to Apple for the accused's account.	Encl. 1 at 8.

16 Jun 2025	IRO hearing was held, keeping CSSN Copeland in pretrial confinement. An investigatory subpoena to Cash App was submitted to NCIS. NCIS conducted a Scene Observation Document for a vehicle. **Defense demanded speedy trial.**	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 2.
17 Jun 2025	NCIS served the Cash App subpoena. NCIS received the results of a 2703(d) Court Order for the T-Mobile and Apple accounts belonging to the deceased victim. NCIS obtained drone footage from Norfolk Police Department (NPD) for the area where CS3 A.R. was located. The trial counsel met with Special Agent Martinez to discuss pending investigatory steps.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 2.
20 June 2025	Trial Counsel contacted other victims in the case: contacted CSSN S.S. via SJA and CSSN S.R. Attempted contact of ABHAN C.R., but did not get a response.	Encl. 2.
24 Jun 2025	Witness interview recordings were submitted to the trial counsel via NCIS. The trial counsel began reviewing these recordings. NCIS received the results from a Search Warrant served on the AT&T account belonging to CSSN Copeland. NCIS interviewed a victim who reported that she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Copeland.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 1 at 9.
25 Jun 2025	The trial counsel obtained and reviewed jail calls.	Encl. 2.
27 Jun 2025	First interim ROI for CS3 A.R. is published.	Encl. 2; Encl. 1 at 18.
28 Jun 2025	An autopsy was conducted by Dr. Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD., Pathologist.	Encl. 1 at 12.
30 Jun 2025	NCIS reported that it was waiting on completion and receipt of USACIL DNA reports, a forensic report of CSSN Copeland's cellular phone, an interview of another victim—CSSN S.R., review of gate security footage, and the autopsy report.	Encl. 2.
1 Jul 2025	The Government requested excludable delay for the pending investigatory actions.	Encl. 2.

	The trial counsel received the initial ROI and reviewed it. NCIS received DFAS records for CSSN Copeland and the deceased victim. NCIS obtained a copy of CSSN Copeland's barracks sign-in book. NCIS reviewed CSSN Copeland and the victim's OMPF files. NCIS visited an address located on a box in the accused's barracks.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 1 at 9. Encl. 1 at 10.
2 Jul 2025	USACIL estimated that it would likely take 30-45 days to finalize its DNA analysis. Its division chief created a priority list of evidence to ensure timely review and coordinated weekly meetings with the trial counsel and its team. The trial counsel visited an evidence facility to ascertain the scope of evidence collection, processing, and testing.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2.
8 Jul 2025	The trial counsel conducted a crime scene visit of a stairwell and building and attended NCIS roundtable sync. NCIS published ROI for allegations involving ABHAN C.R. (pending disposition). NCIS drafted an interim ROI for publication for CSSN S.S.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 1-2. Encl. 1 at 16.
10 Jul 2025	The trial counsel received video interview evidence and began reviewing them. NCIS interviewed a witness. An interim ROI for CS3 A.R. is published.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 10. Encl. 1 at 18.
11 Jul 2025	The trial counsel received CSSN Copeland's cell phone extraction and additional jail calls and began reviewing them.	Encl. 2.
14 Jul 2025	The trial counsel noted that the phone extraction shows that CSSN Copeland paused his vehicle at a specific location en route to disposing the body. The trial counsel highlighted this to NCIS to investigate.	Encl. 2.
16 Jul 2025	NCIS searched 2409 Bowdens Ferry Rd, Norfolk, VA, which was determined to be location CSSN Copeland had driven by. A pair of black shorts, black pants, and miscellaneous items were located.	Encl. 1 at 10. Encl. 1 at 10.

	NCIS requested security footage from FR8 House Coffee, located at 2330 Bowdens Ferry RD, Norfolk, VA.	
17 Jul 2025	Trace evidence reports received from USACIL. DNA reports still pending. USACIL received additional carpet and fingernail swabs. Those items were in-processed and delivered to examiners for analysis. An additional search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room was executed: items were seized and photographs were taken.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 2.
22 Jul 2025	The trial counsel received a list of seized evidence and reviewed additional witness interviews. The trial counsel asked NCIS for contact information for Norfolk Medical Examiner and Tennessee Body Farm. A trace evidence evaluation report and a latent print report was released by USACIL. USACIL estimated that its DNA report remained pending completion, estimated completion by mid-August. NCIS completed its report of evidence collected from CSSN Copeland's barracks room. NCIS completed its report for the Collection FARO 3D Laser Scan Data of 2856 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA. NCIS received the results from a 2703(d) Court Order for a T-Mobile account	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 10. Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 5. Encl. 1 at 5. Encl. 1 at 10.
23 Jul 2025	The trial counsel organized a meeting with the Norfolk Medical Examiner. NCIS reviewed the footage obtained from Gate 2 of Naval Station Norfolk	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 10.
24 Jul 2025	The trial counsel separately met with DOJ and NCIS to discuss steps ahead. NCIS obtained the security camera footage from IP Configure for FR8 House Coffee located at 2330 Bowdens Ferry RD, Norfolk, VA 23508.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 10.
25 Jul 2025	The trial counsel received additional brig calls and began reviewing them. NCIS interviewed two witnesses. An interim ROI for CS3 A.R. is published.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 11. Encl. 1 at 18.

27 Jul 2025	The trial counsel conducted legal research, identifying in-part the specificity needed to charge a murder act.	Encl. 2.
29 Jul 2025	The trial counsel met with the Norfolk Medical Examiner's office about this case. NCIS reviewed financial records of CSSN Copeland and determined that he may have stopped and purchased food from a McDonald's located on Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA, shortly after the disposal of the victim's body. NCIS received and reviewed a warrant from Google for CSSN Copeland's account. Trial counsel drafted a CASS and iCloud warrant.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 11. Encl. 1 at 11. Encl. 2.
30 Jul 2025	The trial counsel finalized review of the current brig calls received on 25 Jul 2025, and conducted introductory interviews with witnesses in the CSSN S.S. case. The trial counsel conducted additional legal research. The Defense submitted an initial discovery request. USACIL estimated completion of the DNA report by 15 August.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 2.
31 Jul 2025	OSTC East was briefed on the status of the Copeland investigation and discussed preparing charges. The trial counsel researched the voluntary intoxication defense as it relates to Article 118, UCMJ. NCIS obtained two Oak Harbor Police Reports via a request through their public records.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 11.
1 Aug 2025	The secondary autopsy report was signed by Dr. Rodic. NCIS completed its report for processing a vehicle belonging to a witness. NCIS sync conducted.	Encl. 1 at 13. Encl. 1 at 11. Encl. 2.
5 Aug 2025	A CASS was submitted to an agent for review.	Encl. 2.
6 Aug 2025	An iCloud warrant was submitted to the military judge and then to Apple, Inc. An updated CASS for CSSN Copeland's phone was finalized by the trial counsel.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2.

	The trial counsel analyzed the received USACIL reports and prepared questions for USACIL. NCIS received and reviewed the Outlook accounts from DDG-95 for CSSN Copeland and the deceased victim. An interim ROI for CS3 A.R. is published.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 11. Encl. 1 at 18.
7 Aug 2025	A subpoena was submitted to the military judge for Oak Harbor Records.	Encl. 2.
8 Aug 2025	Discovery was prepared by burning discs. The trial counsel requested excludable delay for the pending investigatory actions. NCIS received a DNA report from USACIL.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 11.
11 Aug 2025	Trial counsel received and reviewed a warrant return from Google. The trial counsel requested the military judge sign warrants to Meta and AT&T. The trial counsel drafted charges.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 2.
12 Aug 2025	Trial counsel received the final draft digital forensic examination report, but it was still pending peer review. NCIS completed the Results of Findings for a laptop seized from a witness.	Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 14.
13 Aug 2025	Trial counsel contacted a potential insect/entomology expert witness. Trial counsel met with USACIL about the pending DNA report. Trial counsel submitted to the military judge a draft warrant to Sony.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 2.
14 Aug 2025	Trial counsel submitted a warrant for Meta, Inc. for review.	Encl. 2.
15 Aug 2025	The military judge signed a subpoena to Reddit. The trial counsel forwarded it to NCIS. The Norfolk Medical Examiner reported that its test for escitalopram will take an additional 60 days. NCIS received a second DNA report from USACIL.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 1 at 11.

	DNA reports were sent to the trial counsel. Trial counsel continued review of brig calls.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2.
18 Aug 2025	NCIS executed an updated CASS for the Accused's phone.	Encl. 1 at 11. .
19 Aug 2025	NCIS received and reviewed Virginia's Island County Sheriff's Office Incident Report pertaining to CSSN Copeland. The report documented how CSSN Copeland had tampered with evidence at age 17.	Encl. 1 at 11.
21 Aug 2025	A CASS to search for additional carpet squares was drafted by the trial counsel.	Encl. 2.
22 Aug 2025	Trial counsel discussed charging decisions with team from 20-22 August. Charges preferred. The accused was informed of the charges. NCIS conducted a second search of the personal belongings of CSSN Copeland which were located onboard DDG-95. Additional items were seized as evidence. NCIS received and reviewed a warrant from AT&T for CSSN Copeland's cellphone.	Encl. 2. Charge sheet. Charge sheet. Encl. 1. at 14. Encl. 1. at 14.
25 Aug 2025	Three T-Mobile warrants were drafted and forwarded to NCIS for review. The summary court-martial convening authority received the charges. NCIS attempted to interview civilian witnesses.	Encl. 2. Charge sheet Encl. 1. at 14.
26 Aug 2025	The military judge signed an Equifax subpoena, which was forwarded to NCIS. NCIS executed an additional search of CSSN Copeland's room, seizing more carpet squares. Found presumptive blood underneath couch in common area. NCIS interviewed a witness.	Encl. 2. Encl. 2. Encl. 1. at 14.
27 Aug 2025	NCIS received the iCloud warrant results from Apple and forwarded them for review by a digital forensics expert. The Government requested appointment of a PHO for the Article 32 hearing.	Encl. 1. at 14. Encl. 3.

28 Aug 2025	NCIS received the Subpoena results from Reddit, giving an email address for a person who is believed to be a victim.	Encl. 1. at 14.
2 Sep 2025	PHO confirmed and Article 32 hearing scheduled for 18 September 2025.	Encl. 2.
3 Sep 2025	NCIS received and reviewed the Subpoena results from Equifax, showing that CSSN Copeland only had one bank account.	Encl. 1. at 14-15.
4 Sep 2025	NCIS received the final Autopsy results from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME). NCIS received the Certificate of Analysis from 14JUL25 for the showing the results from testing for Ethanol NCIS received the Certificate of Analysis from 10JUN25 for the fingerprint card belonging to CS3 A.R. NCIS drafted an interim ROI for publication for CSSN S.S.	Encl. 1 at 15. Encl. 1 at 15. Encl. 1 at 15. Encl. 1 at 17.
5 Sep 2025	Trial counsel had initial interview with ET3 Daniel Rich, USN and HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN.	Encl. 2.
8 Sep 2025	NCIS received the results from Meta for the account of CSSN Copeland. NCIS drafted an interim ROI for publication for CSSN S.R.	Encl. 1 at 15. Encl. 1 at 17.
10 Sep 2025	NCIS received the results from an independent Autopsy performed on CS3 A.R. 10SEP25, NCIS provided a report of examination to OSTC for the Article 32 hearing.	Encl. 1 at 15. Encl. 1 at 15.
11 Sep 2025	NCIS reviewed the footage from the X2 Micro Market, no pertinent information was gleaned from the review.	Encl. 1 at 15.
15 Sep 2025	NCIS received USACIL report 25-ATL-00931 which tested the envelope which contained suspected Psilocybin aka mushrooms which was located in S/COPELAND's room	Encl. 1 at 15.
16 Sep 2025	An interim ROI for CS3 A.R. is published.	Encl. 1 at 18.
17 Sep 2025	Trial counsel spoke with ABHAN C.R. and provided update. Received brig calls through 17 SEP 25.	Encl. 2.
18 Sep 2025	Article 32 hearing held.	PHO report.
19 Sep 2025	Additional matters were submitted to the PHO.	PHO report.

22 Sep 2025	Trial counsel inquired about status of 3D scanning model of crime scenes.	Encl. 2.
26 Sep 2025	Review of brig calls ongoing. Received additional calls through 26 September.	Encl. 2.
28 Sep 2025	PHO submitted Article 32 report.	PHO report.
30 Sep 2025	Received a latent print report from USACIL.	Encl. 2.
1 Oct 2025	Charges referred.	Charge sheet.
3 Oct 2025	Accused served copy of charge sheet	Charge sheet.
3 Oct 2024	The Government moved to docket this case with the Court. Also received a trace evidence report from USACIL.	Encl. 4.
8 Oct 2025	Received brig calls though 8 October and began review.	Encl. 2.
9 Oct 2025	Accused arraigned.	Record of Trial.

2. In addition to the above investigative steps, if not otherwise noted, there were an abundance of subpoenas, warrants, and court orders requested and obtained in this case.[3] The above log also does not account for the daily work that was occurring on this case, including reviewing evidence, analyzing it, and discussing case/investigative strategy.[4]

3. A request for excludable delay was submitted on 1 July 2025 (approximately 22 days after CS3 A.R.'s body was recovered) for the period of 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025.[5] This request detailed outstanding steps including "receipt and analysis of digital evidence, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, and interviews of several witnesses."[6] This request was approved on 9 July 2025.[7]

4. A second request for excludable delay was submitted on 8 August 2025 for the period of 25 July 2025 through 15 August 2025.[8] It was approved on 27 August 2025.[9] This request provided specific details on why the excludable delay was being requested, stating:

3. Appellate Exhibit III. These include subpoenas, warrants, and orders issued on 10, 12, 16, 20 June, 10, 18, 21 July, 11, 12 13, 18, 26 August, and 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 30 September. Appellate Exhibit III.
4. Encl 2 at 1.
5. Encl. 5.
6. Encl 5.
7. Encl. 6.
8. Encl 7.
9. Encl. 8.

> First, as to the allegation of murder, outstanding steps include receipt of the final reports of investigation, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, a finalized toxicology report, and interviews of several witnesses. The Government is also waiting on returns from various providers relating to UCMJ Article 30a matters, and it is unclear when those results will be in the Government's possession. Second, regarding the sexual assault allegations, NCIS recently acquired information concerning pre-service incidents and a fifth post-service allegation, which may provide evidence regarding the current charges, or could constitute further charges. NCIS requires time to pursue these leads by interviewing witnesses, gathering court documents, and reviewing digital evidence.[10]

5. On 3 October, Trial Counsel asked the Defense when they were available the following week for arraignment.[11] The Defense replied "the earliest we could arraign him is Wednesday [9 October]."[12]

6. When discussing dates for a joint Trial Management Order, the Defense declined the Trial Counsel's requested February trial dates.[13] Instead, the Defense stated "I was thinking trial in May/June/July" and suggested "mid-June."[14]

7. The final DNA report confirming the presence of CS3 A.R.'s blood at the crime scene was not received until 20 October 2025.[15] The final DFE report was not received until 24 November 2025.[16] Several substantial investigative steps remain outstanding at the time of the filing of this motion, including substantive witness interviews, processing of additional forensic evidence, and analysis of digital evidence.[17]

LAW

A. General law on Article 10, UCMJ and R.C.M. 707

8. Article 10 and Sixth Amendment rights to speedy trial trigger when an accused is placed in pretrial confinement.[18] Because Article 10 requires the Government to act with "reasonable diligence[,]" a "more exacting" standard than under the Sixth Amendment, the Government can comply with the Sixth Amendment while violating Article 10, UCMJ.[19] "Article 10 [thus]

10. Encl. 7.
11. Encl. 9.
12. Encl. 9.
13. Encl. 10.
14. Encl. 10.
15. Encl. 11. There is still ongoing forensic and DNA testing.
16. Encl. 12.
17. Encl. 2 at 1.
18. *United States v. Danylo*, 73 M.J. 183, 186 (C.A.A.F. 2014); *United States v. Mizgala*, 61 M.J. 122, 124 (C.A.A.F. 2005).
19. *Mizgala* 61 M.J. at 125; *United States v. Birge*, 52 M.J. 209, 211 (C.A.A.F. 1999).

provides a more stringent speedy trial requirement than the Sixth Amendment[.]"[20] Both speedy trial requirements apply until trial.[21] If Article 10 or Sixth Amendment rights to speedy trial are violated, dismissal with prejudice is "the only possible remedy."[22]

9. Under R.C.M. 707, "[t]he accused shall be brought to trial within 120 days after the earlier of: (1) Preferral of charges; (2) The imposition of restraint under R.C.M. 304(a)(2)-(4) [restriction, arrest, confinement]; or (3) Entry on active duty under R.C.M. 204."[23] An Accused is "brought to trial" for purposes of RCM 707 at arraignment.[24] Before referral, a Convening Authority can approve exclusions of pretrial delays, and such decision is within their sole discretion.[25] Approved delays are reviewed for an abuse of discretion.[26] In providing examples of reasonable bases to grant delay, the discussion of R.C.M. 707 includes "time to enable counsel to prepare for trial in complex cases" and "time to secure the availability of . . . evidence."[27]

10. "In [military] speedy trial jurisprudence, we break down the periods of delay, analyze the reasons for each, and may express concern with some but not other periods of delay[.]"[28] "As the touch stone for measurement of compliance with the provisions of the Uniform Code is not constant motion, but reasonable diligence in bringing the charges to trial. Brief periods of inactivity in an otherwise active prosecution are not unreasonable or oppressive."[29] "A conclusion of unreasonable diligence may arise from a number of different causes and need not rise to the level of gross neglect to support a violation."[30] An Article 10 motion properly applies where "the Government could readily have gone to trial much sooner than some arbitrarily selected time demarcation but negligently or spitefully chose not to."[31]

11. "In determining reasonable diligence for the purposes of Article 10, UCMJ, courts must conduct a four-factor analysis articulated in *Barker* [*v. Wingo.*]"[32] The *Barker* factors derive from Sixth Amendment analyses.[33] None of the four Barker factors alone are a "necessary or sufficient condition to the finding of a deprivation of the right of speedy trial."[34]

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20. *Id*. at 212.
21. *Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 189; *United States v. Cooper*, 58 M.J. 54, 60 (C.A.A.F. 2003).
22. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 522; *United States v. Kossman*, 38 M.J. 258, 262 (C.A.A.F. 1993).
23. RCM 707(a).
24. RCM 707(b)(1).
25. RCM 707(c).
26. *United States v. Sharp*, 38 M.J. 33, 37 (C.M.A. 1993).
27. RCM 707(c)(1) discussion.
28. *Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 190 (analyzing Sixth Amendment speedy trial and citing *United States v. Wilson*, 72 M.J. 347, 357 (C.A.A.F. 2013) (analyzing Article 10 speedy trial)).
29. *United States v. Kossman*, 38 M.J. 258, 262 (C.A.A.F. 1993).
30. *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129.
31. *Kossman*, 38 M.J. at 261.
32. *United States v. Cooley*, 75 M.J. 247, 259 (C.A.A.F. 2016) (citing *Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 523 (1972).
33. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 523.
34. *Cooley*, 75 M.J. at 259 (citing *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 533).

1. The *Barker* factors

12. The four *Barker* factors are:

(1) Length of delay;

(2) Reasonableness of delay;

(3) Whether the accused demanded speedy trial; and

(4) Actual prejudice.[35]

A. Lenth of Delay.

13. The first factor, length of delay, "is to some extent a triggering mechanism, and unless there is a period of delay that appears, on its face, to be unreasonable under the circumstances, there is no necessity for inquiry into the other factors that go into the balance."[36] Arraignment does not necessarily terminate the Government's Article 10 speedy trial obligations, as the Government's obligation of reasonable diligence remains.[37] The reasonableness of the delay necessarily depends on the specific facts and circumstances of any given case.[38]

B. Reasonableness of Delay

14. In applying the second factor, reasonableness of delay, military judges consider "the reason the government assigns to justify the delay."[39] "[D]ifferent weights should be assigned to different reasons."[40] In applying such weight, it is important to keep in mind that prosecution procedures are "designed to move at a deliberate pace."[41] "The right of a speedy trial is necessarily relative. It is consistent with delays and depends upon circumstances. It secures rights to a defendant. It does not preclude the rights of public justice."[42] "[A] valid reason [for delay], such as a missing witness, should serve to justify appropriate delay."[43] In contrast, "official bad faith in causing delay will be weighed heavily against the government[.]"[44] "Official negligence" occupies a "middle ground" between diligent prosecution and bad-faith delay.[45] "While not compelling relief in every case where bad-faith delay would make relief virtually automatic, neither is negligence automatically tolerable simply because the accused cannot demonstrate exactly how it has

35. *United States v. Cossio*, 64 M.J. 254, 257 (C.A.A.F. 2007).
36. *Cossio*, 64 M.J. at 257 (internal quotations omitted).
37. *Cooper*, 58 M.J. at 54.
38. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 531.
39. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 531.
40. *Id*.
41. *United States v. Ewell*, 383 U.S. 116, 120 (1966); *see also Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 190 (applying *Ewell* in the military context).
42. *Beavers v. Haubert*, 198 U.S. 77, 87 (1905).
43. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 531.
44. *Doggett v. United States*, 505 U.S. 647, 656 (1992).
45. *Id*. at 656-57.

prejudiced him."[46] "[T]o warrant granting relief, negligence unaccompanied by particularized trial prejudice must have lasted longer than negligence demonstrably causing such prejudice."[47] "'Whether delay in completing a prosecution . . . amounts to an unconstitutional deprivation of rights depends upon the circumstances. . . . The delay must not be purposeful or oppressive[.]'"[48] "The essential ingredient is orderly expedition and not mere speed."[49]

C. Whether the accused demanded speedy trial

15. Considering the third factor, "[w]hether and how a defendant asserts his right is closely related to the other factors[.]"[50] "The more serious the deprivation, the more likely a defendant is to complain."[51] "The defendant's assertion of his speedy trial right . . . is entitled to strong evidentiary weight in determining whether the defendant is being deprived of the right."[52]

D. Actual prejudice

16. The fourth factor, prejudice, is assessed in light of three interests of the accused:

> (i) to prevent oppressive pretrial incarceration;
>
> (ii) to minimize anxiety and concern of the accused; and
>
> (iii) to limit the possibility that the defense will be impaired, to include the possibility that a convicted person's grounds for appeal might be impaired.[53]

17. For the first interest of the accused to be prejudicially impaired, pretrial incarceration must be "oppressive."[54] In *Barker*, the Supreme Court held that ten months of pretrial confinement was not prejudicial because "there was no adverse impact on the defendant's ability to present a defense."[55] Indeed, the NMCCA has stated as recently as 2023 that "[n]either this Court, nor our Superior Court has ever 'held that the mere fact of pretrial confinement constitutes prejudice.'"[56]

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46. *Id*. at 657.
47. *Id*.
48. *Ewell*, 383 U.S. 116, 120 (quoting *Pollard v. United States*, 352 U.S. 354, 361(1957)).
49. *Smith v. United States*, 360 U.S. 1, 10.
50. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 531.
51. *United States v. Johnson*, 17 M.J. 255, 259 (C.M.A. 1984).
52. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 531-32.
53. *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129 (internal quotations omitted) (quoting *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 532); *United States v. Harrington*, 81 M.J. 184, 189 (C.A.A.F. 2021).
54. *Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 188.
55. *Id*. (discussing *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 534).
56. *United States v. Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *21 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. Feb. 23, 2023) (unpublished) (quoting *United States v. Cooley*, 75 M.J. 247, 262 (C.A.A.F. 2016)).

18. In considering the second interest of the accused, it is important to keep in mind that pretrial confinement—in any case—"necessarily involves some anxiety and stress."[57] There must be more than the typical "anxiety and concern" one would find in any other lawful case of pretrial confinement for this second interest to be prejudicially impaired.[58] "[T]he conditions of that confinement [must be] harsh or oppressive"[59]

19. The third interest, whether the accused's ability to present a defense or have grounds for appeal may be impaired, is "the most serious" form of prejudice "because the inability of a defendant adequately to prepare his case skews the fairness of the entire system."[60] This interest can be impaired "by dimming memories and loss of exculpatory evidence."[61] "[A]ffirmative proof of particularized prejudice is not essential to every speedy trial claim . . . [such as in cases of] excessive delay [which] presumptively compromises the reliability of a trial in ways that neither party can prove or, for that matter, identify."[62]

20. While there is no affirmative requirement for an accused to prove prejudice, courts have denied Sixth Amendment and Article 10 claims in-part due to the failure of an accused to show sufficient prejudice.[63]

2. *United States v. Castanedamanzo* provides a helpful point of comparison

21. In *United States v. Castanedamanzo*, the NMCCA found that Article 10, UCMJ was not violated after trial was delayed for 259 days with an accused in pretrial confinement.[64] There, the victim reported an abusive sexual contact on 30 August 2020.[65] The following day, the accused violated an order not to contact the victim and was placed in confinement.[66] The Government spent the following five months completing its investigation and preferring a total of six charge sheets.[67] On 1 September, a trial counsel was assigned.[68] On 4 September, a confinement hearing was held.[69] On 11 September, the Government preferred three charges—none of which involved

57. *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129.
58. *Id.*
59. *Id*.
60. *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129; *Harrington*, 81 M.J. at 189.
61. *Doggett*, 505 U.S. at 654.
62. *Id*. at 655.
63. *Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 189 ("Appellant has not shown sufficient prejudice for a Sixth Amendment violation . . . [such] would be disproportionate to any prejudice her did suffer"); *United States v. Thompson*, 68 M.J. 308, 314 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (noting "[a]ppellant's failure to demonstrate prejudice"); *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *21 ("While Appellant's pretrial confinement [of 259 days] was relatively lengthy, he fails to articulate how "the conditions of that confinement were harsh or oppressive.'").
64. *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *21.
65. *Id*.
66. *Id*.
67. *Id*.
68. *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *3-4.
69. *Id*. at *4.

the abusive sexual contact.[70] Over the course of September and October, NCIS interviewed over thirty witnesses.[71] On 30 October, NCIS received the results of a DNA analysis.[72] On 24 November, and without explanation for the nearly month-long delay other than that NCIS would issue an ROI in December which would not contain substantial information, the Government preferred two specifications under Article 120, UCMJ.[73] On 14 December, the accused demanded speedy trial.[74] On 15 December, the Government—for the first time and without explanation as to why it had done nothing for twenty-one days—"*began coordination* with the Defense *to schedule* the Article 32 preliminary hearing."[75] The preliminary hearing took place on 29 December.[76] The PHO report was issued on 8 January and two weeks later (on 20 and 21 January the Government preferred two additional charges.[77] Another week later, on 28 January (and without explanation), another charge was preferred.[78] The Government referred charges and presented them to the accused the same day.[79] The Government waited three days to request to docket the case, and the Government requested an arraignment to occur another three days later.[80] By arraignment on 3 February, the accused had been in pretrial confinement for 157 days.[81]

22. On appeal, the *Castanedamanzo* Court looked at the length of the delay and found that 259 days triggered analysis of the remaining three *Barker* factors.[82] Similarly, the Court found that the "demand for speedy trial" factor weighed in favor of the accused because he demanded speedy trial upon learning that the Government sought excludable delay for a fifty day period.[83] Considering the reasons for delay, the NMCCA noted that the Government's charging timeline and its repeated preferral of six total charge sheets were reasonable.[84] It found as much despite that "the bulk of the evidence behind the charged offenses was known by November 2020 and was rooted in offenses that took place in August 2020[.]"[85] Ultimately, the reasonableness of delay factor favored the Government because "[v]iewing the entire period of delay . . . there was no bad act by the Government, nor any intent to delay the trial. The pace of the Government's actions was

70. *Id*.
71. *Id*.
72. *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *5.
73. *Id*. at *6; *see id*. at *18 n.31.
74. *Id*. at *7.
75. *Id*. (italics added).
76. *Id*.
77. *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *8.
78. *Id*.
79. *Id*.
80. *Id*.
81. *Id*.
82. *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *13.
83. *Id*. at *20.
84. *Id*. at *18 n.31 ("the preferral of multiple additional charges—inexplicably done in three separate charge sheets preferred on 20, 21, and 28 January 2021 . . . do not alter our analysis with respect to Appellant's claim that his speedy trial rights under Article 10 were violated").
85. *Id*.

not for the purpose of delaying trial or increasing the amount of time Appellant spent in pretrial confinement, but rather dictated by . . . administrative burden[.]"[86]

23. Finally, considering prejudice, the *Castanedamanzo* Court noted that the accused's allegation that his pretrial incarceration was oppressive to be "circular" because merely being in pretrial confinement, even for a lengthy period, does not on its own constitute prejudice—and there was no evidence that "the conditions of that confinement were harsh or oppressive."[87] The accused did not offer "any meaningful argument, apart from generalized claims, that his period of pretrial confinement impaired his defense . . . At no point did he raise concerns about lacking the ability to effectively communicate with his civilian defense counsel or his detailed defense counsel . . . [and there was] nothing to suggest he lacked the ability to effectively prepare his defense."[88] For these reasons the NMCCA found that the prejudice factor weighed in favor of the Government, and the accused's Article 10 speedy trial rights were not violated.[89]

ARGUMENT

I. The length of delay is not facially unreasonable. All periods of delay are extremely reasonable. The inquiry should end here.

24. This is not a simple case. It involves murder, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, sexual assault, strangulation, indecent recording, indecent broadcasting, obstruction of justice, and false official statements. There are seven charges, fifteen specifications, and five victims on the charge sheet. Even without the many additional offenses, premeditated murder is an extremely complex offense to investigate. From discovering the corpse, it took seventy-four days to investigate the murder charge prior to preferral: a number that is not facially unreasonable. And it took forty-eight days to bring the case from preferral to arraignment: a number that is likewise not facially unreasonable. Indeed, the Government preferred the charges while the investigation was still pending—major investigative efforts such as receipt of the autopsy, DNA, and digital forensic reports were still pending when the charges were preferred—because the Government took CSSN Copeland's demand for speedy trial seriously. As it stands, many substantial investigative steps *are still pending*. The first *Barker* factor weighs in favor of the Government—there should be no further inquiry.[90]

25. Regardless, "break[ing] down the periods of delay[to] analyze the reasons for each" while "consider[ing] the specific facts and circumstances" demonstrates that no period of delay is unreasonable.[91] The Defense omits from its motion the numerous investigatory acts taken between

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86. *Id*. at *19-20.
87. *Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *21.
88. *Id*. at *23.
89. *Id*. at *23-24.
90. If the military judge agrees and finds that additional analysis is not triggered by the length of delay, the Government respectfully requests that the military judge make findings of fact pertaining to the remaining *Barker* factors. *See Castanedamanzo*, 2023 CCA LEXIS 85, at *12 ("In conducting our review, we give substantial deference to the military judge's findings of fact, reversing only if they are clearly erroneous").
91. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 531; *Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 190.

CSSN Copeland's placement into pretrial confinement and his arraignment, and review of those steps show that the Government progressed its investigation on a near-daily basis. Indeed, the trial counsel met with investigators, created an investigatory plan prioritizing items of the highest necessity, and did not wait until completion of investigation to prefer charges. The factual timeline of the investigation shows that the periods of excludable delay were not, as the Defense argues, "rubberstamped . . . blanket exclusion[s] of time."[92] And the Government leaned forward to obtain evidence in draft form and only waited on the most critical evidence to charge rather than wait on all pending investigatory steps. For example, instead of waiting for a final autopsy report to be done, the trial counsel met with the medical examiner while it was still being drafted and preferred charges prior to its completion. Such is diligence and reasonableness.

26. Prosecution procedures are "designed to move at a deliberate pace" and "[b]rief periods of inactivity in an otherwise active prosecution are not unreasonable or oppressive."[93] Here, there are no noteworthy periods of inactivity because the Government did not wait on a completed investigation to charge but rather diligently progressed an investigation with near-daily steps, moved forward as soon as ready, scheduled the Article 32 hearing with sufficient time for the PHO to review the large amount of evidence presented in this complicated case, and quickly brought this case to arraignment after the PHO report was received. "The right of a speedy trial is necessarily relative. It is consistent with delays and depends upon circumstances . . . It does not preclude the rights of public justice."[94] Collecting necessary evidence and allocating sufficient time to review evidence, research the law, and thoughtfully prefer charges ensures that "the rights of public justice" are protected.[95]

27. This case is a stronger example of diligence than *Castandamanzo*, in which the Government was held to be reasonably diligent. In *Castandamanzo*, the Government preferred charges one month and again three months after completion of investigation; whereas here, the Government preferred charges while the investigation remained pending. In *Castandamanzo*, the Government waited twenty-one days to begin coordination with the Defense to schedule an Article 32 hearing; but here, the Article 32 hearing was requested the very same day charges were preferred. In *Castandamanzo*, arraignment did not occur until one month after the PHO report was received; but here, arraignment occurred the following week.

28. Nothing supports the Defense's insinuation that the Government must charge offenses in a piecemeal approach—preferring offenses one after another rather than finalize major investigatory steps and then prefer all known offenses together. Indeed, the Court in *Castandamanzo*, despite finding that the Government acted reasonably, did not champion the piecemeal approach there but rather referred to it as "inexplicabl[e]."[96] *Castandamanzo* underscores the problem with such a piecemeal approach: expecting the Government to prefer charges, schedule 32 hearings, and subsequently re-work the charge sheet can exacerbate timelines rather than expedite them. It is contrary to the notion of a speedy trial for all known offenses.

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92. App. Ex. XX at 8.
93. *Ewell*, 383 U.S. at 120; *Kossman*, 38 M.J. at 262.
94. *Beavers*, 198 U.S. at 87.
95. *Id*.
96. *Castandamanzo*, at *18 n.31.

29. "The delay must not be purposeful or oppressive[.]'"[97] There is no evidence of purposeful or oppressive delay but rather purposeful *movement* towards trial. Considering the timeline at hand, the Government's legitimate bases for each period of delay, and the short lapse of time in each period of delay, this case was reasonably and expeditiously brought to trial, and the Convening Authority did not abuse their discretion in granting the two periods of excludable delay, as discussed below.

II. The Defense Request for trial dates in June 2026 vice the proposed February 2026 trial dates from the Government undercuts the Defense argument.

30. The Defense writes, "CSSN Copeland and the Defense have not requested any delays throughout this case" and it argues that "Even worse . . . by the time CSSN Copeland will have gone to trial, he will have served 360 days."[98] But the Defense requested that trial be docketed in June 2026 rather than the February 2026 dates initially offered by the Government. Thus, the Defense is using their own request for delay in trial dates as both a shield and a sword. The Defense cannot have it both ways—their request for speedy trial is undermined by their subsequent requests delayed trial dates. Accordingly, the third *Barker* factor, the demand for speedy trial, weighs against the Defense.

III. There is no prejudice.

31. The pretrial incarceration has not been oppressive. CSSN Copeland has never been denied access to his defense counsel. The Defense argument that, "it was not until 6 October 2025 when the Government finally allowed for in-person attorney-client communications in the same room. Prior to this time, CSSN Copeland did not have the ability to have a private, privileged conversation with his defense counsel" is not factually correct.[99] As outlined in the Government's response to the Defense's motion to dismiss under Article 13, UCMJ, CSSN Copeland's classification as a MAX prisoner is not unduly harsh and furthers a legitimate, non-punitive Government interest.

32. Furthermore, there is no impact to his ability to prepare his defense. The time at issue here has not prejudiced the ability to present a Defense, and in fact, as noted above, the Defense has requested later trial dates than the Government.

33. CSSN Copeland has not suffered any prejudice, and the Government has reasonably and diligently progressed this case to trial.

IV. The Government met it's R.C.M. 707 requirement as the Convening Authority did not abuse his discretion in granting excludable delay.

34. Considering the approved delay, CSSN Copeland was arraigned on **day 46**. Both approved delay requests involved allowing "time to enable counsel to prepare for trial in complex cases"

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97. *Ewell*, 383 U.S. at 120 (quoting *Pollard*, 352 U.S. at 361(1957)).
98. App. Ex. XX at 10
99. *Compare* App. Ex. XX at 11 *with* Gov. Resp. to Def. Mot. to Dismiss under Art. 13, UCMJ (5 December 2025).

and "time to secure the availability of . . . evidence."[100] They specifically included requests for delay based on investigative actions, review of evidence, and pending receipt of critical evidence. They were legitimate and appropriate. In both cases, the convening authority determined the "request is reasonable in both length and rationale . . . ."[101] There is no evidence to suggest that the Convening Authority abused his discretion.

RELIEF REQUESTED

35. The military judge should deny the Defense motion.

EVIDENCE

28. The Government presents the following enclosures in support of this motion.

1. Various Excerpts of Investigative Activities.
2. Trial Counsel Log and Affidavit of Ms. Shelley Crossley.
3. E-mail dated 27 Aug 2025.
4. Motion for Docketing dated 3 October 2025.
5. Government Request for excludable Delay dated 1 July 2025.
6. Approval of Government Request for excludable Delay dated 9 July 2025.
7. Second Government Request for excludable Delay dated 8 August 2025.
8. Approval of Second Government Request for excludable Delay dated 27 August 2025.
9. 3 October E-mail of LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC ,USN.
10. 6 October E-mail of LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC ,USN.
11. Final DNA report dated 20 Augst 2025.
12. Final DFE Report Received 24 November 2025.

ORAL ARGUMENT

36. The Government does not oppose the Defense request for oral argument.

100. RCM 707(c)(1) discussion.
101. Encls. 6, 8.

Respectfully submitted.

[redacted]

C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 08JUL25

SEXUAL CONTACT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]
V/C.R.
[redacted]

COMMAND/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)/21853

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JOHN M KOWALSKI, INVESTIGATOR

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) ROI (INTERIM)(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-8)/06JAN25

EXHIBIT(S)
(9) IA: RESULTS OF FINGERPRINTS, MUG SHOTS, AND DNA COLLECTION FROM CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/01JUL25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 26JUL24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), of an unrestricted report of sexual assault wherein [redacted], USN, CVN 75, stated she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, while aboard the ship in port on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. During her interview on 06Aug24, [redacted] stated S/COPELAND grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe. NCIS interviewed multiple witnesses in reference to the offense. During his interview on 16AUG24, subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights, S/COPELAND denied the allegations of sexual assault. A Military Protective Order (MPO) was requested. On 27JUN25, NCIS conducted the administrative criminal offender processing of S/COPELAND for violation of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and collected his fingerprints, mug shot photographs, and DNA sample. All investigative actions completed, this case is hereby pending administrative and/or judicial action.

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive criminal investigation pertains to suspected violations of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

2. Reference (A) documents all previous investigative activity conducted under this heading.

3. 24JUN25, this investigation was re-assigned to Inv. John KOWALSKI due to the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) return to Norfolk.

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4. On 27JUN25, NCIS conducted the administrative criminal offender processing of S/COPELAND for violation of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the UCMJ and collected his fingerprints, mug shot photographs, and a DNA sample for CODIS; Exhibit (9) pertains.

6. On 08JUL25, CAPT Christopher HILL, USN, Commanding Officer, CVN 75, and LCDR Nora LOPOPOLO, JAGC, USN, Command Judge Advocate (CJA), CVN 75 were notified of the status of this investigation.

7. All investigative actions completed, this case is hereby pending administrative and/or judicial action.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:023E
INFO :OSTC Norfolk (CDR MAYO (lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil)) (E)/NFNF/NFXQ/NFFO/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) (LCDR Nora LOPOPOLO, JAGC, USN, Command Judge Advocate (CJA), USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)(LEGAL_DEPT@CVN75.NAVY.MIL)) (E)

PAGE 2 LAST JL V2 LNN

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interviews. At 2019, the remains were removed from the location and taken into the custody of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME); Exhibit (145) pertains.

74. On 09JUN25, NCIS conducted canvassing interviews with Norfolk Police Department (NPD) Detective David TODD; Exhibit (146) pertains.

75. On 09JUN25, NCIS conducted canvassing interviews with NPD Detective Kyle AUSTIN; Exhibit (147) pertains.

76. On 09JUN25, NCIS conducted canvassing interviews in the Cary Ave and Godfrey Ave neighborhoods, Norfolk, VA; Exhibit (148) pertains.

77. On 09JUN25, NCIS conducted canvassing interviews in the 2800 block of Cary Ave, Norfolk, VA; Exhibit (149) pertains.

78. On 09JUN25, NCIS conducted canvassing interviews in the neighborhood of Cary Ave and East Princess Anne Road, Norfolk, VA; Exhibit (150) pertains.

79. On 09JUN25, NCIS interviewed Brittany MYRICK, CIV, a potential witness identified while canvassing in the 2800 block of Cary Ave, Norfolk, VA; Exhibit (151) pertains.

80. On 09JUN25, NCIS apprehended S/COPELAND; Exhibit (152) pertains.

81. On 09JUN25, NCIS attempted to interview S/COPELAND, however S/COPELAND elected to invoke his right to counsel. S/COPELAND was taken into Pre-trial Confinement; Exhibit (153) pertains.

82. On 09JUN25, NCIS obtained a verbal Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) to photograph S/COPELAND for injuries; Exhibit (154) pertains.

83. On 09JUN25, NCIS conducted an examination and documentation of S/COPELAND to ascertain if there were any injuries; Exhibit (155) pertains.

84. On 10JUN25, NCIS attended the autopsy of the remains, which was identified as belonging to V/A.R. based off of fingerprints taken; Exhibit (156) pertains.

85. On 10JUN25, NCIS made contact with HT3 GILLESPIE to issue a Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) pamphlet; Exhibit (157) pertains.

86. On 10JUN25, NCIS continued to execute screening questionnaires aboard DDG-95; Exhibit (158) pertains.

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87. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed LSC Robert JANSON, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (159) pertains.

88. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed LTJG Geoffrey SCHMID, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (160) pertains.

89. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed OS3 Aaliyah JORDAN, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (161) pertains.

90. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed ET3 Joseph TOMLINSON, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (162) pertains.

91. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed OS2 Gannon BIUTCH, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (163) pertains.

92. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed QMSA Jariel ALVAREZ BAUTISTA, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (164) pertains.

93. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed LSSN Vincent STALLONE, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (165) pertains.

94. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed LT Alia CARTWRIGHT, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (166) pertains.

95. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed ENS Jacob MANKO, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (167) pertains.

96. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed LT Joseph MCCLELLAND, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (168) pertains.

97. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed CSSN Gladis GARCIABARRERA, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (169) pertains.

98. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed CSSN Terrell GREEN, CIV, who was identified as the person who was harassing ET3 RICH online and a friend of V/ A. R. Exhibit (170) pertains.

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99. On 10JUN25, NCIS interviewed LTJG Sean JAMES, USN, DDG-95, subsequent to screening questionnaires conducted onboard DDG-95; Exhibit (171) pertains.

100. On 10JUN25, NCIS executed a CASS for the berthing aboard DDG-95 and their associated barge for the personnel belonging of S/COPELAND; Exhibit (172) pertains.

101. On 10JUN25, NCIS executed a CASS for the barracks room belonging to S/COPELAND; Exhibit (173) pertains.

102. On 22JUL25, NCIS completed the Documentation and Collection of Evidence report for 03JUN25 of S/COPELAND's barracks room; Exhibit (174) pertains.

103. On 22JUL25, NCIS completed the report for the Collection FARO 3D Laser Scan Data of 2856 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA, conducted on 09JUN25; Exhibit (175) pertains.

104. On 22JUL25, NCIS completed the Collection FARO 3D Laser Scan Data of Willis Manor, conducted on 10JUN25; Exhibit (176) pertains.

105. Between 06-10JUN25, CDR Lauren MAYO, JAGC, USN, Chief, Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC), LT Christopher DEMPSEY, JAGC, USN, Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic (RLSO-MA), and LT Patricia CANNADAY, JAGC, USN, OSTC, were provided updates.

106. This ROI (INTERIM) documents the completed investigative actions through 06JUN25-10JUN25 and documents up to the location of V/ A. R. and her autopsy. The remaining IA's will be documented routinely.

107. This investigation is pending evidence analysis, interviews, cellular data findings, and any additional investigative steps deemed appropriate.

ACTION
R.TSTF: Please provide video/audio clarification in support of this investigation.

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ACTION:TSTF

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BACKGROUND: On 31May25, NCIS was contacted by Norfolk Police Department (NPD) in reference to a missing person's report. NPD relayed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was attempting to make a missing person's report regarding V/ A. R. (V/ A. R. USN, DDG 95. NCIS subsequently contacted Command who advised V/ A. R. and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were in a status of Unauthorized Absence (UA) beginning on Thursday, 29May25. Command advised they believed V/ A. R. and S/COPELAND were involved romantically, but did not know to what extent. On 01Jun25, NCIS made contact with Naval Station Norfolk Base Police to conduct a welfare check on the rooms of S/COPELAND and V/ A. R. Base Police stated they found S/COPELAND in his barracks room; however, received no answer at V/ A. R. 's door when they knocked. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and was able to gain entry to V/ A. R. 's barracks room, in which she was not located. Subsequently, NCIS' Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) initiated cell phone pings on V/ A. R. 's mobile phone, which yielded no location data due to the phone possibly being powered off. NCIS conducted an interview of S/COPELAND who stated V/ A. R. came over to his barracks on Wednesday, 28May25. S/COPELAND stated V/ A. R. stayed the night and the next day, 29May25, FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room because he failed to report for work. S/COPELAND stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle and drove V/ A. R. back to her barracks around 1000 on 29May25. During the interview of S/COPELAND, he signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellular device which was provided to NCIS Digital Forensic Examiners (DFE) for review. The DFE observed a screenshot on the device of S/COPELAND of a saved marked location near Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA. During the course of this investigation, NCIS would launch search teams near known phone pings and last locations of both V/ A. R. and S/COPELAND. On 09Jun25, subsequent to receiving the screenshot from the DFE, NCIS conducted a foot search of the area near the marked location and discovered a black duffel bag containing human remains, later identified through DNA as V/ A. R.

JURISDICTION AND ARRIVAL: At approximately 1700, NCIS arrived to the location of Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA, and conducted a foot search around the Broad Creek neighborhood and Richard Bowling Elementary School. Figure [1] is the screenshot of the marked location utilized by NCIS. At 1735, Reporting Agent (RA) received a phone call from Participating Agent (PA) Tiffany MARTINEZ stating a bag had been located off of a brush covered path behind a row of townhomes. Due to the location of the bag, at 1740, NCIS initiated contact with the Norfolk Police Department (NPD) who responded to the scene to assist. A copy of the NPD incident report detailing their response is appended as Enclosure (A).

SCENE SECURITY: Upon arrival to the scene, no other persons were present in the area but residents going about their daily routine. The area which was searched was not secured prior to arrival and was an open, wooded area, behind a school and residential community. NCIS participants divided into groups and ultimately located the bag by following the smell. Once the duffel bag was located, Andrew PISKE, CIV, K9 Handler, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), and K9 Kyra, Certified Human Remains Detection Dog, approached the bag where she presented a positive alert to PISKE. An aerial topography image of the area searched by PISKE and K9 Kyra is appended as Enclosure (B). NCIS partially unzipped the bag to verify its contents to which human remains were observed. NPD was immediately contacted, and all searching immediately ceased. Due to rain, at approximately 1755, to protect the duffel bag, PISKE placed a black tarp over the bag. Figure [2] is a photo of the overall brush area where the remains were located. Figure [3] is a photo of the duffel bag in place. Figure [4] is the approximate GPS location of the duffel bag after conducting the foot search with the assistance of CalTopo. Figure [5] is the confirmation of the human remains inside the bag.

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APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLVII
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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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2. References (A-D) document additional NCIS cases wherein CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) was identified as the subject of the investigations.

3. References (E-G) documents all previous investigative activity to date.

4. On 11JUN25, NCIS submitted a 2703(d) Court Order to Uber for V/A.R.'s account; Exhibit (177) pertains.

5. On 11JUN25, NCIS submitted a subpoena to Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) for S/COPELAND's account; Exhibit (178) pertains.

6. On 11JUN25, NCIS received the supplemental checks of the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS); Exhibit (179) pertains.

7. On 11JUN25, NCIS executed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for the search of the barracks room of HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95; Exhibit (180) pertains.

8. On 12JUN25, NCIS submitted a second subpoena for the NFCU account belonging to V/A.R. Exhibit (181) pertains.

9. On 12JUN25, NCIS reviewed the video footage obtained from Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic (NCTAMS LANT). No pertinent information was gleaned from the review; Exhibit (182) pertains.

10. On 12JUN25, NCIS canvassed the area around Langley Federal Credit Union in an attempt to locate camera footage from establishments on Hampton Boulevard in Norfolk, VA; Exhibit (183) pertains.

11. On 13JUN25, NCIS interviewed Stephen PARSLOW, CIV, who stated his niece may have information pertaining to the command climate aboard DDG-95; Exhibit (184) pertains.

12. On 13JUN25, NCIS interviewed AR Amy GARVIN, USN, USS GERALD R. FORD (CVN-78), who reported her friends were discussing who killed V/A.R. Exhibit (185) pertains.

13. On 13JUN25, NCIS interviewed AN Leslly CASTELLON, USN, CVN-78, who was reported as being in the conversation with AR GARVIN and overheard others discussing V/A.R.'s death; Exhibit (186) pertains.

14. On 13JUN25, NCIS interviewed ABHAR Markell HARRIS, USN, CVN-78, who was reported to have been in a group chat with several other people including

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S/COPELAND wherein they were discussing the death of V/A.R. Exhibit (187) pertains.

15. On 13JUN25, NCIS obtained a PASS for screenshots associated with the group chat reported by ABHAR HARRIS; Exhibit (188) pertains.

16. On 13JUN25, NCIS interviewed Brian MENDEZ, CIV, who stated he had spoken with V/A.R. in May 2025, wherein she was complaining about the toxicity of DDG-95; Exhibit (189) pertains.

17. On 13JUN25, NCIS obtained Ring camera footage from PII PII from Banita COFIELD, CIV. No pertinent information was gleaned from this review; Exhibit (190) pertains.

18. On 13JUN25, NCIS conducted an additional Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) for the barracks room of S/COPELAND; Exhibit (191) pertains.

19. On 14JUN25, NCIS received the results for the 2703(d) served to Apple for S/COPELAND's account; Exhibit (192) pertains.

20. Between 11-14JUN25, CDR Lauren MAYO, JAGC, USN, Chief, Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC), LT Christopher DEMPSEY, JAGC, USN, Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic (RLSO-MA), and LT Patricia CANNADAY, JAGC, USN, OSTC, were provided updates.

21. This ROI (INTERIM) documents the completed investigative actions through 11JUN25-14JUN25. The remaining Investigative Actions (IA) will be documented routinely.

22. This investigation is pending evidence analysis, interviews, cellular data findings, and any additional investigative steps deemed appropriate.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:23B2
INFO :NFFO/NFNF/OSTC (CDR Lauren MAYO, JAGC, USN
(LAUREN.A.MAYO2.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL)) (E)

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **20AUG25**

the subject of the investigations.

3. Reference (E-H) documents all previous investigative activity to date.

4. On 03JUN25, NCIS conducted a search of S/COPELAND's barracks room with Electronic Storage Detection (ESD) K9 Jill; Exhibit (193) pertains.

5. On 04JUN25, NCIS conducted a search in the area of 7025 Harbour View Blvd., Suffolk, VA with ESD Jill; Exhibit (194) pertains.

6. On 04JUN25, NCIS conducted a search of V/A.R. 's barracks room with ESD Jill; Exhibit (195) pertains.

7. On 10JUN25, NCIS cancelled the Critical Missing Alert for V/A.R. Exhibit (196) pertains.

8. On 16JUN25, NCIS conducted a Scene Observation Document for the vehicle belonging to ARSN John CALISSE, USN, VAW-124; Exhibit (197) pertains.

9. On 17JUN25, NCIS received the results of a 2703(d) Court Order for the T-Mobile account belonging to V/A.R. Exhibit (198) pertains.

10. On 17JUN25, NCIS received the results of a 2703(d) Court Order and Search Warrant for V/A.R. 's Apple account; Exhibit (199) pertains.

11. On 17JUN25, NCIS obtained drone footage from Norfolk Police Department (NPD) for the area where V/A.R. was located; Exhibit (200) pertains.

12. On 24JUN25, NCIS received the results from a Search Warrant served on the AT&T account belonging to S/COPELAND; Exhibit (201) pertains.

13. On 24JUN25, NCIS conducted an interview of V/Y.J. , CIV, who stated she was sexually assaulted by S/COPELAND; Exhibit (202) pertains.

14. On 27JUN25, all Tips associated to this investigation have been followed up on and closed; Exhibit (203) pertains.

15. On 01JUL25, NCIS received DFAS records for S/COPELAND and V/A.R. Exhibit (204) pertains.

16. On 01JUL25, NCIS obtained a copy of the X-2 barracks Command sign in book; exhibit (205) pertains.

17. On 01JUL25, NCIS conducted a review of the Official Military Personnel

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **20AUG25**

File (OMPF) for S/COPELAND and [V/A. R.] Exhibit (206) pertains.

18. On 01JUL25, NCIS conducted a check on an address that was located on a box found in S/COPELAND's barracks; Exhibit (207) pertains.

19. On 10JUL25, NCIS conducted an interview of CPL Samantha ANDA, USA, who was identified as being the Aunt of [V/A. R.] Exhibit (208) pertains.

20. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted a search in the area of 2330 Bowdens Ferry Rd., Norfolk, VA with ESD Jill; Exhibit (209) pertains.

21. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted a canvass at 120 College Plaza, Norfolk, VA, which was determined to be a location S/COPELAND was near on 02JUN25; Exhibit (210) pertains.

22. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted a canvass at 2409 Bowdens Ferry Rd, Norfolk, VA, which was determined to be location S/COPELAND had driven by on 02JUN25; Exhibit (211) pertains.

23. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted a canvass at [PII] which was determined to be a location S/COPELAND had driven by on 02JUN25. A pair of black shorts, black pants, and miscellaneous items were located. However, after reviewing security footage, it was determined these items are not part of this investigation; Exhibit (212) pertains.

24. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted a canvass at 1269 26th Street, Norfolk, VA, which was determined to be a location S/COPELAND had driven by on 02JUN25; Exhibit (213) pertains.

25. On 16JUL25, NCIS made a request to obtain the security footage from FR8 House Coffee, located at 2330 Bowdens Ferry RD, Norfolk, VA; Exhibit (214) pertains.

26. On 22JUL25, NCIS received the results from a 2703(d) Court Order for the T-Mobile account belonging to YN3 Sean MONAGHAN, USN, HELICOPTER MINE COUNTERMEASURES SQUADRON (HM-12); Exhibit (215) pertains.

27. On 22JUL25, NCIS received the Trace Evidence report from USACIL; Exhibit (216) pertains.

28. On 23JUL25, NCIS reviewed the footage obtained from Gate 2 of Naval Station Norfolk; Exhibit (217) pertains.

29. On 24JUL25, NCIS obtained the security camera footage from IP Configure for FR8 House Coffee located at 2330 Bowdens Ferry RD, Norfolk, VA 23508; Exhibit (218) pertains.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **20AUG25**

30. On 25JUL25, NCIS interviewed PS1 Clarissa IMPELIDODAYOAN, USN, HM-12. PS1 IMPELIDODAYOAN was identified as one of the persons who helped YN3 MONAGHAN cleaned the barracks room; Exhibit (219) pertains.

31. On 25JUL25, NCIS interviewed NCC Lorenzo CARTER, USN, HM-12, who was identified as one of the persons who helped YN3 MONAGHAN cleaned the barracks room; Exhibit (220) pertains.

32. On 29JUL25, NCIS reviewed the financial records from Navy Federal Credit Union, which was previously reported in an Investigative Action (IA). However, after reviewing the cellphone belonging to S/COPELAND, it was determined S/COPELAND may have stopped and purchased food from a McDonald's located on Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA, shortly after the disposal of V/A.R. Exhibit (221) pertains.

33. On 29JUL25, NCIS received and reviewed the Google warrant for S/COPELAND; Exhibit (222) pertains.

34. On 31JUL25, NCIS obtained two (2) Oak Harbor Police Reports via a request through their public records; Exhibit (223) pertains.

35. On 01AUG25, NCIS completed the report for processing the vehicle belonging to ARSN CALISSE; Exhibit (224) pertains.

36. On 05AUG25, NCIS conducted an administrative review of Exhibit (174); Exhibit (225) pertains.

37. On 06AUG25, NCIS received the results from the 2703(d) Court Order for S/COPELAND's Uber Technologies account. No trips were noted during the targeted timeframe; Exhibit (226) pertains.

38. On 07AUG25, NCIS received and reviewed the Outlook accounts from DDG-95 for S/COPELAND and V/A.R. Exhibit (227) pertains.

39. On 08AUG25, NCIS received the DNA report from USACIL; Exhibit (228) pertains.

40. On 15AUG25, NCIS received the second DNA report from USACIL; Exhibit (229) pertains.

41. On 18AUG25, NCIS executed a CASS for all the devices belonging to S/COPELAND in NCIS custody for additional charges; Exhibit (230) pertains.

42. On 19AUG25, NCIS received and reviewed the Island County Sheriff's Office Incident Report #22-I06902; Exhibit (231) pertains.

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EPIARX Autopsy Services

The EPIARX Laboratory
4000 Albemarle Street NW
Suite 208
Washington DC, 20016

The Histopathology Laboratory
Institutions 600 N. Wolfe Street
Building 700
Baltimore, MD 21287

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

CASE NO. ED25-1195

Autopsy X

JURISDICTION: Routine adult clinical autopsy

NAME OF DECEASED: [redacted] V/ A. R.

RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, VA 23505

AGE: [redacted] PII SEX: Female

DATE OF Birth: [redacted] PII

DATE OF Death: 6/09/2025 TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS OF INCIDENT: Wooded area at/near residence

PRONOUNCED DEAD: Unknown TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS/INSTITUTION: Sunset Funeral Home
657 Springmart Boulevard
Brownsville, TX 78526

DATE OF AUTOPSY: 6/28/2025 TIME: 0900 CDT

PERFORMED BY:

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD.
Board Certified Pathologist

Significant condition(s):

(a) Habit-forming substances detected in bodily fluids

- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☒ Could Not Be Determined

New Protocol, Reporting Protocol for the Examination of Gross Autopsy of Adult Decedents
Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP
Protocol Implementation: December 2024

OPINION:

Based collectively on my autopsy findings herein as well as my review of the accompanying submitted medical information, in the case of this PII-year-old female, V/ A. R., the manner of death is deferred (1,4-6,&9). I reserve the right to amend my opinion(s) upon the receipt of additional material (7).

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D.
Board-certified Pathologist

Date signed: 8/1/2025

References:

1. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose_wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm
2. ISBN-13: 978-1941096321, pages 105-108.
3. PMCID: PMC8817622.
4. https://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/topic_search_results?topic_status=P
5. https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/vitalrecords/physician-me/docs/capcodbook.pdf
6. https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/solutions/uptodate/roles/patients-caregivers
7. https://documents.cap.org/protocols/Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP.pdf
8. PMID: 39912823
9. https://www.rcpath.org/static/33b81f4a-89f3-42bd-bc33bdd67879f008/G171-The-decomposing-cadaverfor-publication.pdf

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **16SEP25**

1. This reactive investigation pertains to the suspected violations of Article 107 (False Official Statements), Article 118 (Murder) and Article 131b (Obstruction of Justice) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS maintains primary jurisdiction.

2. References (A-D) document additional NCIS cases wherein CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) was identified as the subject of the investigations.

3. Reference (E-I) documents all previous investigative activity to date.

4. On 12AUG25, NCIS completed the Results of Findings for the MSI Laptop seized from ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG-95; Exhibit (232) pertains.

5. On 22AUG25, NCIS made attempts to clarify video footage from Norfolk Naval Station Gate 2, which shows S/COPELAND entering the installation on 02JUN25. The video was not able to be clarified; Exhibit (233) pertains.

6. On 22AUG25, NCIS conducted a second search of the personal belongings of S/COPELAND which were located onboard DDG-95. Additional items were seized as evidence in this investigation; Exhibit (234) pertains.

7. On 22AUG25, charges against S/COPELAND were preferred; Exhibit (235) pertains.

8. On 22AUG25, NCIS received and reviewed the warrant for AT&T for S/COPELAND's cellphone; Exhibit (236) pertains.

9. On 25AUG25, NCIS made multiple attempts to interview the remaining family members of V/ A. R. however, those attempts where met with negative results; Exhibit (237) pertains.

10. On 26AUG25, NCIS was able to locate and interview Desiclalia RAMIREZ-VASQUEZ, CIV, who was determined to be an ex-girlfriend of S/COPELAND; Exhibit (238) pertains.

11. On 27AUG25, NCIS received the iCloud warrant results from Apple. The results will be analyzed further by a Digital Forensics Expert; Exhibit (239) pertains.

12. On 28AUG25, NCIS received the Subpoena results from Reddit, giving an email address for a person who is believed to be a victim of S/COPELAND's; Exhibit (240) pertains.

13. On 03SEP25, NCIS received and reviewed the Subpoena results from

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Equifax, which showed S/COPELAND only had one bank account which was Navy Federal Credit Union; Exhibit (241) pertains.

14. On 03SEP25, NCIS received and reviewed the Subpoena results from Oak Harbor School District for S/COPELAND. The results show multiple disciplinary actions taken against S/COPELAND; Exhibit (242) pertains.

15. On 04SEP25, NCIS received the Autopsy results from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME); Exhibit (243) pertains.

16. On 04SEP25, NCIS received the Certificate of Analysis from 10JUN25 for the fingerprint card belonging to V/A.R. Exhibit (244) pertains.

17. On 04SEP25, NCIS received the Certificate of Analysis from 14JUL25 for the showing the results from testing for Ethanol; Exhibit (245) pertains.

18. On 04SEP25, NCIS received the Report of Investigation from the OCME; Exhibit (246) pertains.

19. On 08SEP25, NCIS received the results from Meta for the account of S/COPELAND; Exhibit (247) pertains.

20. On 09SEP25, NCIS received the results from Coupeville School District, showing they have no disciplinary records pertaining to S/COPELAND; Exhibit (248) pertains.

21. On 10SEP25, NCIS received the results from an independent Autopsy performed on V/A.R. along with a voice to text PDF containing a conversation with Esmerelda CASTLE, CIV, and an unknown person; Exhibit (249) pertains.

22. On 10SEP25, NCIS provided a report of examination to OSTC for the Article 32 hearing against S/COPELAND; Exhibit (250) pertains.

23. On 11SEP25, NCIS reviewed the footage from the X2 Micro Market, no pertinent information was gleaned from the review; Exhibit (251) pertains.

24. On 15SEP25, NCIS received USACIL report 25-ATL-00931 which tested the envelope which contained suspected Psilocybin aka mushrooms which was located in S/COPELAND's room. The results were negative for any residue; Exhibit (252) pertains.

25. On 15SEP25, NCIS received the report from Suffolk Fire and Rescue which shows their response to the request to help search for V/A.R. Exhibit (253) pertains.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 08JUL25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]
[redacted V/S.S.]
F/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

COMMAND/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)/21853

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JOHN M KOWALSKI, INVESTIGATOR

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE/S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE/S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00029-7HNA
(C) NCISRU USS HARY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) ROI (INTERIM)(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-18)/19MAR25

EXHIBIT(S)
(19) IA: RESULTS OF FINGERPRINTS, MUG SHOTS, AND DNA COLLECTION FROM CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/03JUL25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted V/S.S.]), USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. [redacted V/S.S.] underwent a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) aboard the ship. During her interview on 07Nov24, [redacted V/S.S.] stated she was intoxicated and did not remember sexual contact with S/COPELAND, but other sailors approached her the following day and indicated S/COPELAND showed multiple sailors a video on his cellular telephone of his sexual contact with her. Multiple witness interviews were conducted corroborating the existence of a video and sexual encounter. S/COPELAND was interviewed on 18Nov24 and 20Dec24 and subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights stated the sexual contact with [redacted V/S.S.] was consensual and admitted to producing a video recording during the sexual encounter. A Military Protective Order (MPO) was requested. On 27JUN25, NCIS conducted the administrative criminal offender processing of S/COPELAND for violation of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and collected his fingerprints, mug shot photographs, and DNA sample. This investigation remains open pending forensic analysis of the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) kit and any other investigative actions deemed necessary.

NARRATIVE

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 04SEP25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]
[redacted V/S. S.]
F/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

COMMAND/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)/21853

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JOHN M KOWALSKI, INVESTIGATOR

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/ CCN:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA
(E) NCISRU USS HARY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) ROI (INTERIM)(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-18)/19MAR25
(F) NCISRA NORFOLK VA ROI (INTERIM) (CONTAINS EXHIBIT 19)/08JUL25

EXHIBIT(S)
(20) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA MCKENZIE SANDERS, USN/19NOV24
(21) MILITARY PROTECTIVE ORDER/07NOV24
(22) IA: RESULTS OF SECOND INTERVIEW OF CSSA MCKENZIE SANDERS, USN/26AUG25
(23) IA: RESULTS OF REVIEW OF META PLATFORMS INC SUBPOENA/28AUG25
(24) IA: RESULTS OF RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF USACIL DNA REPORT /04SEP25
(25) CHARGE SHEET S/COPELANT/22AUG25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted V/S. S.]), USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75,

Controlled By: NFXQ - RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)
CUI Categories: INV, SCV
POC: JOHN M KOWALSKI, Investigator

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 10NOV25

DEATH (II) CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]
PII
V/ A. R.
PII

COMMAND/USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE:/S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA
(E) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-33)/27JUN25
(F) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 34-75)/10JUL25
(G) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 76-176)/25JUL25
(H) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 177-192)/06AUG25
(I) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 193-231)/20AUG25
(J) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 232-253)/16SEP25
(K) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 254-265)/16OCT25

EXHIBIT(S)
(266) REPORT OF FINDINGS FOR THE CELLPHONE BELONGING TO GARCIA-BARRERRA/24JUN25
(267) IA: RESULTS OF SUPOENA TO BLOCK, INC. FOR S/COPELAND/16OCT25
(268) IA: RESULTS OF SUBPOENA TO BLOCK, INC. FOR

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: LEI
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**AFFIDAVIT OF MS. SHELLEY CROSSLEY** **4 December 2025**

1. I, Ms. Shelley Crossley, am currently employed as a paralegal with the Office of Special Trial Counsel in Norfolk, Virginia.

2. I have assisted in the prosecution of the United States v. CSSN Jermiah Copeland. Attached to this affidavit is a case activity log from the trial counsel in this case. This log is not all-encompassing and does not reflect the daily discussion, analysis, and review that this case has undergone.

3. Additionally, it should be noted that several investigative steps remain outstanding, including substantive witness interviews, processing of additional forensic evidence, and analysis of digital evidence.

4. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

4 December 2025

CROSSLEY.SHELLEY.L.PII Digitally signed by CROSSLEY.SHELLEY.L.PII Date: 2025.12.04 15:47:22 -05'00'

Ms. Shelley Crossley

Enclosure (1): Trial Counsel Log – United States v. CSSN Copeland – 09 June 2025 though 9 October 2025.

Entry	Event Date
NCIS discovered human remains in wooded area of Norfolk. Began preparation for IRO.	6/9/2025
Conducted VWAP interview with the victim's mother.	6/11/2025
IRO complete; Accused remains in confinement. Provided update to victim's mother, command, and NCIS. Submitted Inv. Sub. for Cash App. The Defense requested a demand for speedy trial.	6/16/2025
Received Fee schedule from civilian DFE; drafted excludable delay request; SA Martinez served CashApp subpoena; reviewed demand for speedy trial. Met with SA Martinez to discuss any developments in the investigation. Followed up on SAFE Kit for CSSN S.S.	6/17/2025
Contacted CSSN S.S. via SJA and CSSN S.R. to inform them that the Accused's name had been made public. E-mailed CSSN S.R. as a follow-up and asked to set up a meeting with her the following week. Attempted contact of ABHAN C.R., but did not get a response.	6/20/2025
Contacted by SA Gokey to discuss case developments. Began review of evidence from NCIS, including recorded witness interviews.	6/24/2025
Obtained and reviewed jail calls.	6/25/2025
Evidence review is pending search warrant returns. Received update from SSA - Items outstanding - USACIL results on various pieces of physical evidence, final forensic report on Accused's phone, interview of 128b victim (CSSN S.R.), review of gate security footage is ongoing, results from autopsy not expected for 3 - 6 months. First interim published on 27 June. Awaiting distro; Drafting excludable delay request. Defense emailed regarding brig search of Accused's cell. Accused's cell searched and autopsy photos found (IRO evidence). Defense directed to speak with brig and NCIS.	6/30/2025
Requested excludable delay from 10 June 2025 - 25 July 2025. SJA in receipt. Will not meet with CA until 9 Jul. Defense filing objection today. Received and 17Jun25 (intial) ROI. Visited NCIS to review evidence. Conducted one crime scene visit (Suspect Barracks); Received multiple CDs with interviews and scene pictures.	7/1/2025
Received the following update regarding forensic testing: Division Chief Matthew Graves, USACIL's Forensic Case Management Division (FCMB), has consulted with the DNA Division Chief and the DNA examiner and they are estimating it will be completed in 30-45 days of receipt of the evidence, barring any unforeseen circumstances that would cause delays. Some evidence has already been received and analyzed/examined. On Monday, SA/FC Currie had a teleconference with the DNA Division Chief, the FCMB case manager and the DNA examiner and they developed the priority list of evidence that would be sent to the lab next. This evidence should be arriving to the lab on Monday, 07Jul25, and the 30-45 day estimated time of completion will begin once those items are received. An additional item of evidence will soon follow that shipment. Visited evidence facility to ascertain scope of evidence collection, processing, and testing.	7/2/2025
Conducted NCIS sync with Admiral Stephens at U-40. Toured X-2 with SA Gokey to review building and stairwell (did not access room).	7/8/2025
Reviewed video interviews and began noting summaries. Submitted 2703(d) drafts to SA Gokey for review for all three of Copeland's roommates.	7/10/2025
Obtained full cell phone rip and downloaded it to a portable hard drive. Obtained Jail calls from 25 June - 11 July and began review.	7/11/2025
Reviewed Phone data on 13 and 14 July. Identified route near FR8 House Coffee located in Norfolk where Accused paused vehicle for a period of less than one minute. Notified NCIS of discovery. Received next ROI.	7/14/2025
NCIS executed search at location off Hampton Blvd. Cell phone data indicated S/ may have stopped and exited vehicle while en route to dispose of the body on 2 June. Dark and pants and	7/16/2025

shorts were recovered by a small bridge. Camera footage from a nearby business was requested. Conducted site visit.	
USACIL Update: Completed - Trace Evidence (TE): One Trace Evidence Collections report was released on 11 July 2025. Pending - DNA: One report pending completion. Latent Prints (LP): One Latent Print report pending completion. Trace Evidence (TE): One Trace Evidence Evaluation report pending completion. On target to meet the initial 30-45 days for DNA results as initially estimated. Additional Search of S/Copeland barracks room executed. Several Items seized to include mattress cover (s/Copeland's bed); X/Monoghan's mattress topper, S/Copeland's additional sneakers, brown bag w/"Penis Envy", condom wrappers recovered from trash and from under S/Copeland's bed, and PS5. Photographs taken of scene. X/Monoghan's mattress contained multiple stains and smelled of urine. Advised NCIS to obtain X/Monoghan's blanket & pillow which he took with him to his new room. Picked up CDs from U-40.	7/17/2025
2703(d) Orders for roommates approved and executed by NCIS.	7/21/2025
Received itemized list of evidence taken into NCIS custody thus far. Review of video interviews ongoing. Reviewed videos of YN3 Monoghan and ET3 Rich. E-mailed NCIS for contact for Norfolk ME and set up appt for 29 July. Also requested contact info for Tennessee Body Farm.	7/22/2025
Received update on trace evidence/DNA. Expecting report to be done by mid-August. Organized meeting with Norfolk Medical Examiner for Tuesday, 29 July. USACIL received the additional carpet and fingernail swabs as expected on 17 July 2025. Those items have been in-processed and delivered to examiners for analysis. Completed: Trace Evidence (TE): One Trace Evidence Evaluation report was released on 22 July 2025. Update from USACIL: Latent Prints (LP): One Latent Print report was released on 22 July 2025. Pending: DNA: One report pending completion. DNA report completed NLT the middle of August barring any unforeseen circumstances. Copeland Team Meeting held to discuss strategy and next steps.	7/23/2025
Call with DOJ attorneys to discuss prosecution strategies for no-body homicides. Conducted investigative sync over e-mail with SA Gokey	7/24/2025
Copeland status meeting. Obtained Brig Calls from 11 JUL-24 July and began review.	7/25/2025
Conducted a variety of legal research, including specificity needed for charging a murder "Act'	7/27/2025
Met with the Norfolk Medical Examiner's Office. Drafted updated CASS and iCloud Warrant for review prior to submission for signature. Pending review.	7/29/2025
Discussed case status and worked on proof matrix. Finished review of brig calls through 24 July 2025. Interviewed various witnesses involved in CSSN S.S. investigation. Conducted research and discussed charging strategy. Received initial discovery request from Defense. Received update on DNA Report. The report is expected 15 August.	7/30/2025
Received two investigative reports from Oak Harbor into Copeland before he was in the Navy and reviewed. Researched impact of voluntary intoxication on Article 118. OSTC East Brief on status of Copeland investigation to prepare for charging and final investigative steps necessary before doing so.	7/31/2025
Conducted sync on actions needed for week of 4 August, including ongoing legal processes and evidentiary review and prep.	8/1/2025
Finalized CASS and sent to agent for review and execution.	8/5/2025
Submitted iCloud warrant to Court. Finalized updated CASS for iPhone 15 belonging to COPELAND. Submitted Apple warrant. Analyzed USACIL report and prepared questions for USACIL.	8/6/2025

Completed and submitted subpoena for Oak Harbor Records. Reddit subpoena re-submitted to court.	8/7/2025
Submitted request for excludable delay. Prepared digital evidence for discovery by burning discs.	8/8/2025
Oak harbor subpoena approved and returned to agent for action. Received and reviewed Google warrant return. Submitted Meta warrant request. Submitted AT&T warrant. Drafted charges.	8/11/2025
Received draft final DFE report and began review (peer review ongoing).	8/12/2025
Contacted Dr. Ed Mondor and Dr. Lindsay Trammell regarding potential insect/entomology testimony. Submitted warrant for Sony. Met with USACIL and discussed evidence in case.	8/13/2025
Submitted warrant for Meta	8/14/2025
Met with entomologist. Reddit subpeona approved and forwarded to agent for action. Norfolk ME advised test for escitalopram will take an additional 60 days. Received 15 Aug USACIL report. Review of brig calls ongoing. Reviewed 113 calls from 25 Jun through present (15 Aug). Discussed charging strategy.	8/15/2025
Drafted and reviewed updated CASS to search room of Accused for additional carpet squares.	8/21/2025
August 20-22 discussed various charging decisions, form of charges, and support for charges. Charges ultimately preferred after significant analysis and discussion on 22 August.	8/22/2025
Spoke with Marshall Griffin IRT charging. Informed VLC. Provided defense with a copy of the charge sheet. Defense provided their availability in mid-September.	8/22/2025
Met with CSSN S.S. for first time - provided VWAP information. Met with CSSA S.R. - provided VWAP information and informed her of the charging and the specifications that pertained to her. Drafted three warrants for T-Mobile for Copeland's roommates and forwarded to NCIS for review.	8/25/2025
Received signed Equifax subpoena and provided to NCIS for service. NCIS executed additional search of the room. Seized more carpet squares. While pushing the couch aside to obtain the squares - they found a large stain the under mesh of the couch. Some portion tested presumptive positive for blood. NCIS removed under portion of the couch for further testing. Defense filed motion to release from PTC based on inability to communicate privately with client (reviewed motion). Spoke with VLC for CS3 A.R.'s mother, discussed scheduling 32. Recieved 12 AUG 25 ROI.	8/26/2025
Spoke with various interested parties and submitted PHO request for 17 Sep; Alternate dates 18 & 19 Sep - requested MJ. MJ set hearing date for 30a motion 15 SEP at 1300; Gov't response (if any) due on 8 SEP.	8/27/2025
Recived confirmation of Article 32 pending for 18 September. CAPT John Butler appointed as PHO. Received brig calls for 26 AUG-Present.	9/2/2025
VWAP'd W/Rich and W/Gillespie on this date with trial counsel. Emailed both DD 2701 and DD 2702 Forms.	9/5/2025
Received input regarding the 30a proceeding from Ms. Castle, S.S. (via VLC) and S.R.	9/11/2025
Spoke w/ ABHAN C.R. - provided update. Received brig calls through 17 SEP 25.	9/17/2025
Art. 32 held on 18 SEP. Additional matters submitted 19 SEP. Pending PHO report.	9/19/2025
Updated CSSN S.R.	9/19/2025
Inquired about status of 3D rendering of building and woods (ongoing). Received 18 SEP 25 ROI.	9/22/2025
Review of brig calls ongoing. Received additional calls through 26 September.	9/26/2025
PHO report received. Contacted blood spatter expert for potential consultation.	9/28/2025
PHO report forwarded to CNRMA. Received 22 SEP 25 ROI.	9/29/2025
Received report for Latent Print Analysis 25-ATL-00931 0004_0005.	9/30/2025

Charges referred 1 October. Pending service.	10/1/2025
Scheduling of Art. 32 discussed with Defense counsel. Defense requested 9 October 2025. Charges served on CSSN Copeland. Received report for Trace Evidence Evaluation 25-ATL-00931 0004_0006_0002. Several items still pending testing and examination by NCIS/USACIL.	10/3/2025
Received brig calls though 8 October and began review.	10/8/2025
Draft Article 6(b) victim representative designation.	10/8/2025
Accused arraigned.	10/9/2025

From:	Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
To:	Crum, Lynn N CDR USN (USA); Gerding, G Glenn CAPT USN NAVMARJUDIC DC (USA); Larsen, Hayes C CAPT USN NAVMARJUDIC DC (USA); Lewis, Courtney Elizabeth CDR USN (USA); Long, Robert E Jr CDR USN CNO (USA); Miller, Robert J CDR USN (USA)
Cc:	Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject:	PHO Request ICO CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, USN
Date:	Wednesday, August 27, 2025 5:48:52 PM
Attachments:	CSSN Copeland Charges JWS Signed.pdf PHO Request Form - CSSN Copeland.pdf

Sir/Ma'am,

Please find a request for appointment of a PHO ICO United States v. CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, USN.

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3 USN**	**APPLICATION FOR DOCKETING** **3 OCT 25**

1. The Government respectfully requests the titled case be docketed for arraignment. The Government would like to propose Thursday, 9 October 2025 at 1300 EST. The Defense is available at that time. Of note, the Defense has requested a speedy trial in this case.

2. The Government will upload proposed Trial Management Order dates into NCORS prior to the date of the arraignment.

3. Detailed Trial Counsel is CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN. Detailed Defense Counsel is LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN and LCDR Clifton Morgan, JAGC, USN.

4. The Charge Sheet, Convening Order, and Risk Assessment have been submitted via NCORS.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY
LT, JAGC, USN
Trial Counsel

1 Jul 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
Via: Staff Judge Advocate, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 707 (2024 ed.)

1. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government respectfully requests excludable delay for the period beginning on 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025.

2. On 10 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was placed in pre-trial confinement. Per reference (a), this event requires CSSN Copeland be brought to trial within 120 days of the imposition of restraint. CSSN Copeland is under investigation for violating Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 107 (False official statement), Article 117a (Wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images), Article 118 (Murder), Article 120 (Rape and sexual assault), Article 128 (Assault), and Article 128b (Domestic Violence). These alleged violations primarily span four separate, complex alleged incidents and investigation remains ongoing into each.

3. Taken alone, any of one of these offenses is extremely complex and several lengthy investigative steps remain. Specific to the allegation of murder, these steps include receipt and analysis of digital evidence, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, and interviews of several witnesses. NCIS and counsel for the Government are working on this case daily to further the investigation and move with reasonable diligence toward trial. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government may receive excludable delay to thoroughly investigate a case and prepare for trial. Therefore, the Government respectfully requests the time beginning on 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025 be excluded.

4. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact me via e-mail at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or via phone at (757) 341-4598.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO[redacted]

Copy to:
Detailed Defense Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC
1510 GILBERT STREET
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737

5810
Ser N00J/412
9 July 25

From: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY REQUEST ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) Your ltr dated 01 Jul 25
(b) LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel ltr of 1 Jul 25

1. Pursuant to Rules of Courts-Martial 707, the Government's request for excludable delay, reference (a), from 10 June 2025 to 25 July 2025 is hereby approved. In response to that request, I received reference (b), Defense Counsel's objection to the Government's request.

2. In weighing the Government's request against Defense's objection, I have determined that the Government's request is reasonable in both length and rational based on the Government's stated basis.

3. My point of contact for this matter is Staff Judge Advocate, CDR Beasley-Ledet, JAGC, USN (757) 322-2936, or via email at ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]

C. A. LAHTI

Copy to:
Detailed Defense Counsel
File

08 Aug 25

From: LT Patricia Cannaday, JAGC, USN, Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 707 (2024 ed.)

1. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government respectfully requests excludable delay for the period beginning on 25 July 2025 through 15 August 2025.

2. On 10 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was placed in pre-trial confinement. Per reference (a), this event requires CSSN Copeland be brought to trial within 120 days of the imposition of restraint. On 1 July 2025, the Government requested excludable delay from 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025. This request was granted 9 July 2025.

3. CSSN Copeland is under investigation for violating Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 107 (False official statement), Article 117a (Wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images), Article 118 (Murder), Article 120 (Rape and sexual assault), Article 128 (Assault), and Article 128b (Domestic Violence). These alleged violations primarily span four separate, complex alleged incidents and investigation remains ongoing into each.

4. Although NCIS and the Government have exercised all expedience in this case, several lengthy investigative steps remain. First, as to the allegation of murder, outstanding steps include receipt of the final reports of investigation, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, a finalized toxicology report, and interviews of several witnesses. The Government is also waiting on returns from various providers relating to UCMJ Article 30a matters, and it is unclear when those results will be in the Government's possession. Second, regarding the sexual assault allegations, NCIS recently acquired information concerning pre-service incidents and a fifth post-service allegation, which may provide evidence regarding the current charges, or could constitute further charges. NCIS requires time to pursue these leads by interviewing witnesses, gathering court documents, and reviewing digital evidence.

5. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government may receive excludable delay to thoroughly investigate a case and prepare for trial. Accordingly, the Government respectfully requests the time beginning on 25 July 2025 through 15 August 2025 be excluded.

6. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact me via e-mail at patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil or via phone at (757) 341-4509.

[redacted]
P. T. CANNADAY

Copy to: Detailed defense counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC
1510 GILBERT STREET
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737

5810
Ser N00J/499
27 Aug 25

From: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT'S SECOND REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) Your ltr dated 8 Aug 25
(b) LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel ltr of 11 Aug 25

1. Pursuant to Rules of Courts-Martial 707, the Government's request for excludable delay, reference (a), from 25 July 2025 to 15 August 2025 is hereby approved. I have reviewed reference (b), and have determined that the Government's request is reasonable in both length and rationale based on the Government's stated basis.

2. My point of contact for this matter is Staff Judge Advocate, CDR Beasley-Ledet, JAGC, USN (757) 322-2936, or via email at ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
C. A. LAHTI

Copy to:
Detailed Defense Counsel
File

From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Subject: RE: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland
Date: Friday, October 3, 2025 11:52:00 AM

CDR Mayo,

If he was served yesterday, the earliest we could arraign him is Wednesday. LCDR Morgan has a 39(a) in the coast guard court room so Thursday is probably best. If CSSN is willing to waive the 5-day waiting period, we could do Tuesday if that works for yall. We will ask him. Do you have a draft TMO?

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Officer in Charge
Defense Service Office Southeast
Detachment Pensacola, Florida
850-452-5572
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 9:11 AM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

LCDR Serfess,

Charges have been referred. I am awaiting confirmation that CSSN Copeland has been served. We are available to arraign any day next week. Is there a day that works best for you given your travel?

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 9:53 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Subject: RE: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Have the charges been referred? Is the government trying to schedule the arraignment for next week. I am available. However, my travel must be approved by a 3 or 4 star. I am happy to reach out to region if we have a date.

V/r

Amanda Serfess

LCDR, JAGC, USN

Officer in Charge

Defense Service Office Southeast

Detachment Pensacola, Florida

850-452-5572

amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 9:14 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Other than the holiday weekend, I am available.

We plan to litigate the same motion at the arraignment now that the court has jurisdiction.

The plea offer contemplates a significant amount of confinement and a proffer. We cannot do that in the no contact room. The case law is pretty clear that to adequately prepare for trial, an attorney must be in the same room as the client – who has absolutely no incident's of misconduct since he has been in the brig. If the government really would like negotiate a plea agreement, we need to be able to speak with our client in-person. The brig is clear – the command can bring him to A-50 so that we can talk to him. The fact that you were able to prepare your clients for a plea agreement or for a trial in the no contact room, is not evidence that I can. I cannot competently prepare CSSN Copeland (a person with a 15 AFQT score) for this type of complex plea agreement or trial without being able to meet with him in person with papers and a computer.

V/r

Amanda Serfess

LCDR, JAGC, USN

Officer in Charge

Defense Service Office Southeast

Detachment Pensacola, Florida

850-452-5572

amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 9:05 AM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

LCDR Serfess,

I understand your position. However, the brig and the command have made their position clear. As outlined in our response to your motion, I also do not believe the current brig accommodations are insufficient for private meetings with your client. I say this also as someone who has spent a lot of time in the no contact room at this brig.

For planning purposes, I expect referral will happen shortly - what is your schedule like over the next two weeks for an arraignment?

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 2:35 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

My suggestion would be for us to be able to talk to him a day or two before the arraignment.

Please and thank you

V/r

Amanda Serfess

LCDR, JAGC, USN

Officer in Charge

Defense Service Office Southeast

Detachment Pensacola, Florida

850-452-5572

amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 6:53 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Received. Is there any way that we can have a face-to-face meeting with our client to discuss this?

V/r

Amanda Serfess

LCDR, JAGC, USN

Officer in Charge

Defense Service Office Southeast

Detachment Pensacola, Florida

850-452-5572

amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 4:47 PM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Pre-Arraignment Plea Offer ICO CSSN Copeland

Defense,

Attached please find a pre-arraignment plea offer ICO CSSN Copeland.

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

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From:	Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
To:	Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc:	Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)
Subject:	RE: Proposed TMO ICO CSSN Copeland
Date:	Monday, October 6, 2025 1:50:06 PM

CDR Mayo,

I was thinking trial in May/June/July. I seriously doubt we can get all the experts we will need ready by February. Also, I am not available 18-20 February. Is the government available mid-June?

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Officer in Charge
Defense Service Office Southeast
Detachment Pensacola, Florida
850-452-5572
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 12:41 PM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Proposed TMO ICO CSSN Copeland

Defense,

Attached please find the proposed TMO ICO CSSN Copeland.

V/r,

LAM

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

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U.S. ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION LABORATORY
4930 N 31ST STREET, FOREST PARK, GA 30297

DNA Report

USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Request: 0004_0006

To SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
NFFO NCIS NORFOLK FIELD OFFICE
1329 BELLINGER BLVD
BLDG U-40
Norfolk, VA 23511

Date of Report: 20 October 2025
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237
Service: DNA

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

The following results are opinions and interpretations formed using accepted scientific and professional practices. Only those exhibits below were examined for this report. Selection of the item(s) and the examination(s) conducted were based on the information available at the time of the request. If the investigative needs change, please contact USACIL at USACILCM@army.mil or 404-469-5150.

1. This report references the previous DNA Reports dated 10 June 2025, 05 August 2025 and 15 August 2025.

2. Blood was identified on the following Exhibits:

Exhibit 28 (swab Placard B/SCENE-STAIRWELL)
Exhibit 29 (swab Placard G/SCENE-STAIRWELL)
Exhibit 34 (swab Placard F/SCENE-STAIRWELL)
Exhibit 74 (swabs stain on bottom of couch/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS).

3. A chemical indication of blood was identified on Exhibit 59.2 (Monster can/COPELAND); however, no confirmatory test was conducted due to limited sample.

4. A chemical indication of blood was identified on Exhibit 63.1.2 (swab of necklace/ V/ A. R.); however, the presence of blood could not be confirmed.

5. No blood was identified on the following Exhibits:

Exhibit 59 (backpack/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.1 (balaclava/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.4 (lotion/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.8 (nail clippers/COPELAND)
Exhibit 62 (Bissell cleaner/SCENE-COPELAND KITCHEN)
Exhibit 64 (strings/ V/ A. R.)
Exhibit 65 (swabs steering wheel/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 66 (swabs front passenger door window crank handle/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 67 (swabs front passenger right side air vent/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 68 (swabs front passenger door lock/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)

ANAB ANSI National Accreditation Board ACCREDITED ISO/IEC 17025 FORENSIC TESTING LABORATORY

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Controlled by: CIDD-CIL
CUI Category: LEI/PRVCY
Limited Dissemination Control: FEDCON
POC: Records Custodian, 404-469-5150

Exhibit 69 (swabs right rear door on driver side/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 70 (swabs center radio display/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 71 (swabs right rear door lock/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 72 (swabs bottom cushion of rear middle seat/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 73 (swabs front driver side interior surface of sun visor/SCENE-CALISSE VEHICLE)
Exhibit 79 (carpet tile F/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 80 (carpet tile G/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 83 (carpet tile J/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 85 (carpet tile L/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 87 (carpet tile N/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS).

6. No stains indicative of blood were observed on the following Exhibits:

Exhibit 59.3 (deodorant/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.5 (hair pick/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.6 (bottle cap/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.7 (strings/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.9 (vape/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.10 (meat and cheese stick/COPELAND)
Exhibit 59.11 (battery/COPELAND)
Exhibit 60 (bathmat/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 76 (carpet tile C/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 77 (carpet tile D/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 78 (carpet tile E/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 81 (carpet tile H/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 82 (carpet tile I/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 84 (carpet tile K/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 86 (carpet tile M/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS).

7. No semen was identified on the following Exhibits:

Exhibit 62 (Bissell cleaner/SCENE-COPELAND KITCHEN)
Exhibit 78 (carpet tile E/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 85 (carpet tile L/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 87 (carpet tile N/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS).

8. No stains of apparent evidentiary value were observed on the following Exhibits:

Exhibit 76 (carpet tile C/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 77 (carpet tile D/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 79 (carpet tile F/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 80 (carpet tile G/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 81 (carpet tile H/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 82 (carpet tile I/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 83 (carpet tile J/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 84 (carpet tile K/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 86 (carpet tile M/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS).

9. Collection and/or preservation techniques were conducted on Exhibits 63.2 and 63.3 resulting

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in Exhibits 63.2.2 and 63.3.1.

10. DNA extraction procedures were performed on the following:

Exhibit 28 (swab Placard B/SCENE-STAIRWELL)
Exhibit 29 (swab Placard G/SCENE-STAIRWELL)
Exhibit 34 (swab Placard F/SCENE-STAIRWELL)
Exhibit 59.2.1 (swab of Monster can/COPELAND)
Exhibit 63.1.2 (swab of necklace/ V/ A. R.
Exhibit 64 (strings/ V/ A. R.)
Exhibit 74 (swabs stain on bottom of couch/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS).

11. Based on an insufficient DNA target amount per laboratory protocol, no further testing was performed on the following:

swab of Monster can/COPELAND
swab of necklace/ V/ A. R.
strings/ V/ A. R. .

12. The DNA profile detected from the swabs stain on bottom of couch/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS originates from UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL #1 that genetically types as male. V/ A. R. is excluded as a contributor to this profile.

13. The DNA profiles detected from the swab Placard G/SCENE-STAIRWELL and the swab Placard F/SCENE-STAIRWELL match V/ A. R. .

a. These DNA profiles are at least 1.0 quintillion times more likely if they originated from V/ A. R. than if they originated from an unknown individual.

b. UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL #1 is excluded as a contributor to the DNA profiles detected.

14. The partial DNA profile detected from the swab Placard B/SCENE-STAIRWELL is consistent with V/ A. R. .

a. This DNA profile is at least 1.0 quintillion times more likely if it originated from V/ A. R. than if it originated from an unknown individual.

b. UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL #1 is excluded as a contributor to the DNA profile detected.

15. UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL #1 is excluded as a contributor to any previously detected interpretable profiles.

16. MONAGHAN, WILLIAMS, GORDILLOCRUZ, CALISSE, RICH, GILLESPIE and COPELAND are excluded as contributors to these interpretable profiles.

17. Y-STR (Y-chromosome short tandem repeat) analysis was conducted on the swab Placard B/SCENE-STAIRWELL.

18. No Y-STR DNA results were detected from the swab Placard B/SCENE-STAIRWELL due to

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degraded and/or an insufficient amount of male DNA detected.

19. If necessary, these DNA results may be compared to other potential DNA contributors when suitable standards for comparison and/or elimination are submitted to the laboratory.

20. No DNA profiles were eligible for submission to CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

TECHNICAL NOTES

1. DNA profiles were detected using PCR (polymerase chain reaction) technology on twenty-one autosomal STR (short tandem repeat) loci, two Y-chromosome loci (DYS391, Y-indel) and a gender identification locus from the Applied Biosystems GlobalFiler kit.

2. DNA profiles were detected using PCR (polymerase chain reaction) technology on twenty-seven Y-STR (Y-chromosome short tandem repeat) loci from the Applied Biosystems Yfiler Plus kit.

3. Match will be used when complete genotypes are obtained at all loci included in the amplification kit, and all of the detected alleles are the same as those in the reference being compared.

Consistent with will be used when genetic information is missing at one or more loci included in the amplification kit (a partial profile), but all of the detected alleles are the same as those in the reference being compared.

4. The autosomal STR statistical calculations in this report were generated using STRmix™ software which calculates a fully continuous probabilistic likelihood ratio (LR). Unless otherwise noted, the most conservative LR was reported using the lower bound 99% credible interval from unrelated individuals in the U.S. Caucasian, Black, and Hispanic population groups. The population allele frequencies were obtained from the NIST 1036 U.S. Population Dataset.

A likelihood ratio is a measure of the strength of support that particular findings give to one proposition against a stated alternative, given certain conditioning information. For these reported likelihood ratios, the propositions and conditioning information were based on data from these results and current case circumstances. If any aspects of the case should change or new information is provided regarding these propositions and conditioning information, then the evaluation of these results to include the likelihood ratio may change. This will be the subject of a separate report.

The reported statistical calculation for an association will be capped at 1.0 quintillion. The actual calculated value may be higher, but not less than this number, which is equivalent to the laboratory's minimum statistical threshold.

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USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237

Request: 0004_0006
Date of Report: 20 October 2025

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE

Unless otherwise noted, evidence received in this case will be returned according to laboratory policy. Items may have been altered to take samples required for examination or to recover materials from the item. If recovered evidence was collected and preserved during laboratory examinations, the material is being returned with the item from which it originated.

[redacted]

KERRY MAYNARD
Forensic Biologist
Office: (404) 469-4776
kerry.l.maynard.civ@army.mil

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USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237

Request: 0004_0006
Date of Report: 20 October 2025

DNA Exhibit List		
Exhibit #	**Description**	**ECD/Item**
028	Swab(s)	3F1W2
029	Swab(s)	5CA0T
034	Swab(s)	MXQ1N
059	Miscellaneous item(s)	WGAM0
059.001	Clothing - balaclava mask	
059.002	Miscellaneous item(s) - Monster energy drink	
059.002.001	Swab of Monster can	
059.003	Miscellaneous item(s) - deodorant	
059.004	Miscellaneous item(s) - lotion	
059.005	Miscellaneous item(s) - hair pick	
059.006	Miscellaneous item(s) - bottle cap	
059.007	Miscellaneous item(s) - string	
059.008	Miscellaneous item(s) - nail clippers	
059.009	Miscellaneous item(s) - vape	
059.010	Miscellaneous item(s) - meat and cheese stick	
059.011	Miscellaneous item(s) - battery	
060	Textile material(s)	2YBG1
062	Miscellaneous item(s)	928WF

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063	Jewelry	MUXQ4
063.001	Jewelry - necklace/pendant	
063.001.002	Swab - necklace	
063.002	Jewelry - earrings	
063.002.002	Swab - earrings	
063.003	Jewelry - earring bar	
063.003.001	Swab - earring bar	
064	Textile material(s)	P6LTT
065	Swab(s)	0H1X0
066	Swab(s)	23D6C
067	Swab(s)	AYB87
068	Swab(s)	C0B4A
069	Swab(s)	MJ9U1
070	Swab(s)	NRX6U
071	Swab(s)	WMLT8
072	Swab(s)	WR14T
073	Swab(s)	WXKA6
074	Swab(s)	EG42R
075	Textile material(s)	FYRQ5
076	Carpet(s)	LY0W1

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077	Carpet(s)	6EP9G
078	Carpet(s)	KUP5L
079	Carpet(s)	7XDTT
080	Carpet(s)	NCMH4
081	Carpet(s)	Q9TC6
082	Carpet(s)	HK2TM
083	Carpet(s)	RG500
084	Carpet(s)	N1A7C
085	Carpet(s)	W8N7W
086	Carpet(s)	XJCF9
087	Carpet(s)	XBTG9

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From: Davison, John - GOV
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA)
Subject: S/COPELAND REPORT OF FINDINGS
Date: Monday, November 24, 2025 7:27:08 AM

All
I have completed the Report of Findings for S/COPELAND's iPhone. I put the Report of Findings on the FINDINGS MEDIA which is a DVD. I would like to drop the DVD off this morning to whoever is available.

Thanks JD

John Davison
Supervisory Digital Forensics Examiner
NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk
160 Main Road, Building 686
Naval Weapons Station
Yorktown, VA 23691
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **United States Navy**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS UNDER R.C.M. 707 AND ARTICLE 10** **ADDITIONAL ENCLOSURES** **15 Dec 25**

1. The Government presents the following additional enclosures in support of this motion.

13. CS3 A.R. 14 October 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions.

14. CS3 A.R. 10 November 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions.

15. CS3 A.R. 8 December 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions (Investigation Ongoing).

16. CSSN S.S. 4 September 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions (Investigation Pending Adjudication).

17. CSSN S.R. 8 September 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions (Investigation Pending Adjudication).

18. Y.J. 22 September 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions.

19. Y.J. 24 November 2025 Summary of Investigative Actions (Investigation Pending Adjudication).

20. 16 October 2025 Evidence List.

21. Results of Toxicology Email.

22. USACIL Report dated 9 December 2025.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 14OCT25

DEATH (II) CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

COMMAND/USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE:/S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA
(E) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-33)/27JUN25
(F) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 34-75)/10JUL25
(G) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 76-176)/25JUL25
(H) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 177-192)/06AUG25
(I) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 193-231)/20AUG25
(J) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 232-253)/16SEP25

EXHIBIT(S)
(254) DOCUMENTATION OF EVIDENCE COLLECTION/27AUG25
(255) IA: RESULTS OF [redacted] APPLE WARRANT RETURN PROCESSING/03SEP25
(256) IA: RESULTS OF CSSN JEREMIAH COPELAND, USN APPLE COURT ORDER RETURN PROCESSING/03SEP25
(257) CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS/09SEP25
(258) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF AA AMONTE THOMPSON,

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **14OCT25**

USN/17SEP25
(259) IA: RESULTS OF SUBPOENA RETURN FROM GOOGLE LLC/18SEP25
(260) USACIL RESULTS FOR TEXTILE TESTING/18SEP25
(261) USACIL REPORT FOR HAIR COMPARRISON/23SEP25
(262) USACIL REPORT ON LATENT PRINT EXAMINATION/30SEP25
(263) USACIL REPORT FOR SECOND ROUND OF TRACE EVIDENCE EXAMINATION/03OST25
(264) IA: RESULTS OF T-MOBILE RETURNS/07OCT25
(265) REPORT OF FINDINGS FOR HT3 GILLESPIE'S CELLPHONE/14OCT25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. On 31MAY25, NCIS received a report of a missing person, CSSN V/A.R. (V/A.R. USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), who was marked as Unauthorized Absent by DDG-95 along with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95. On 01JUN25, base security was able to locate S/COPELAND, however, V/A.R. was still missing. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and began conducting field interviews of friends and family members of V/A.R. NCIS also spoke with S/COPELAND who stated, he along with one of his roommates dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks, Miller Hall, on the morning on 29MAY25, and he had not seen or spoken to V/A.R. since. Throughout the course of the investigation, NCIS conducted exhaustive efforts yielding S/COPELAND was the last person to see V/A.R. and he was not truthful about her whereabouts or his actions from 29MAY25 through 01JUN25. These efforts included submission and execution of legal process, interviews, foot canvasses, collaborative search efforts, and the utilization of digital forensics. NCIS seized the cellular device of S/COPELAND and conducted a forensic review, which led NCIS to a neighborhood where V/ V/A.R. 's body was located inside a black duffel bag. After the discovery, NCIS detained S/COPELAND and attempted to conduct an interview; however, he requested counsel and the interview was terminated. Subsequently, S/COPELAND was placed into pre-trial confinement pending charges. On 09OCT25, S/COPELAND was arraigned on all charges and General Court Martial is set for 03JUN26-26JUN26. This investigation is pending evidence analysis, interviews, cellular data findings, and any additional investigative steps deemed appropriate.

NARRATIVE

1. This reactive investigation pertains to the suspected violations of Article 107 (False Official Statements), Article 118 (Murder) and Article 131b (Obstruction of Justice) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS maintains primary jurisdiction.

2. References (A-D) document additional NCIS cases wherein CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) was identified as the subject of the investigations.

3. Reference (E-J) documents all previous investigative activity to

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 10NOV25

DEATH (II) CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN

[redacted]/SN USN

COMMAND/USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE:/S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA
(E) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-33)/27JUN25
(F) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 34-75)/10JUL25
(G) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 76-176)/25JUL25
(H) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 177-192)/06AUG25
(I) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 193-231)/20AUG25
(J) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 232-253)/16SEP25
(K) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 254-265)/16OCT25

EXHIBIT(S)
(266) REPORT OF FINDINGS FOR THE CELLPHONE BELONGING TO GARCIA-BARRERRA/24JUN25
(267) IA: RESULTS OF SUPOENA TO BLOCK, INC. FOR S/COPELAND/16OCT25
(268) IA: RESULTS OF SUBPOENA TO BLOCK, INC. FOR

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: LEI
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **10NOV25**

V/A.R. 21OCT25
(269) USACIL REPORT FOR DNA/20OCT25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 31MAY25, NCIS received a report of a missing person, CSSN V/A.R. (V/A.R. USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), who was marked as Unauthorized Absent by DDG-95 along with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95. On 01JUN25, base security was able to locate S/COPELAND, however, V/A.R. was still missing. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and began conducting field interviews of friends and family members of V/A.R. NCIS also spoke with S/COPELAND who stated, he along with one of his roommates dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks, Miller Hall, on the morning on 29MAY25, and he had not seen or spoken to V/A.R. since. Throughout the course of the investigation, NCIS conducted exhaustive efforts yielding S/COPELAND was the last person to see V/A.R. and he was not truthful about her whereabouts or his actions from 29MAY25 through 01JUN25. These efforts included submission and execution of legal process, interviews, foot canvasses, collaborative search efforts, and the utilization of digital forensics. NCIS seized the cellular device of S/COPELAND and conducted a forensic review, which led NCIS to a neighborhood where V/ V/A.R. s body was located inside a black duffel bag. After the discovery, NCIS detained S/COPELAND and attempted to conduct an interview; however, he requested counsel and the interview was terminated. Charges were preferred for S/COPELAND and a General Court Martial is set for 03JUn26. This investigation is pending evidence analysis, interviews, cellular data findings, and any additional investigative steps deemed appropriate.

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive investigation pertains to the suspected violations of Article 107 (False Official Statements), Article 118 (Murder) and Article 131b (Obstruction of Justice) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS maintains primary jurisdiction.

2. References (A-D) document additional NCIS cases wherein CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) was identified as the subject of the investigations.

3. Reference (E-K) documents all previous investigative activity to date.

4. On 24JUN25, Digital Forensics Examiner Rhett NORMAN began the Report of Findings for the cellphone belonging to CSSN Gladis GARCIA-BARRERRA, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), which was published and provided to NCIS; Exhibit (266) pertains.

5. On 16OCT25, NCIS received the results from Block, Inc. regarding S/COPELAND's account; Exhibit (267) pertains.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 08DEC25

DEATH (II) CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
PII NC
V/A.R. /SN USN
PII TX

COMMAND/USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE:/S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA
(E) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-33)/27JUN25
(F) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 34-75)/10JUL25
(G) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 76-176)/25JUL25
(H) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 177-192)/06AUG25
(I) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 193-231)/20AUG25
(J) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 232-253)/16SEP25
(K) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 254-265)/16OCT25
(L) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI (INTERIM)/(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 266-269)/10NOV25

EXHIBIT(S)
(270) IA: RESULTS OF EVIDENCE INVENTORY FOR LABORATORY SUBMISSION/10NOV25
(271) IA: RESULTS OF EVIDENCE REPACKAGING FOR LABORATORY

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: LEI, SCV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **08DEC25**

ANALYSIS /17NOV25
(272) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF LAUREN LOPEZ, CIV/17NOV25
(273) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF KAYLA BODENHAFER, CIV/20NOV25
(274) REPORT OF FINDINGS NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQP3/21NOV25
(275) USACIL DNA REPORT/09DEC25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 31MAY25, NCIS received a report of a missing person, CSSN V/A.R. (V/A.R. USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), who was marked as Unauthorized Absent by DDG-95 along with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95. On 01JUN25, base security was able to locate S/COPELAND, however, V/A.R. was still missing. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and began conducting field interviews of friends and family members of V/A.R. NCIS also spoke with S/COPELAND who stated, he along with one of his roommates dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks, Miller Hall, on the morning on 29MAY25, and he had not seen or spoken to V/A.R. since. Throughout the course of the investigation, NCIS conducted exhaustive efforts yielding S/COPELAND was the last person to see V/A.R. and he was not truthful about her whereabouts or his actions from 29MAY25 through 01JUN25. These efforts included submission and execution of legal process, interviews, foot canvasses, collaborative search efforts, and the utilization of digital forensics. NCIS seized the cellular device of S/COPELAND and conducted a forensic review, which led NCIS to a neighborhood where V V/A.R. body was located inside a black duffel bag. After the discovery, NCIS detained S/COPELAND and attempted to conduct an interview; however, he requested counsel and the interview was terminated. Subsequently, S/COPELAND was placed into pre-trial confinement pending charges. This investigation is pending evidence analysis, interviews, cellular data findings, and any additional investigative steps deemed appropriate.

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive investigation pertains to the suspected violations of Article 107 (False Official Statements), Article 118 (Murder) and Article 131b (Obstruction of Justice) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS maintains primary jurisdiction.

2. References (A-D) document additional NCIS cases wherein CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) was identified as the subject of the investigations.

3. Reference (E-L) documents all previous investigative activity to date.

4. On 10NOV25, NCIS conducted an inventory of evidence for submission to the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL) for analysis; Exhibit (270) pertains.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **08DEC25**

5. On 17NOV25, NCIS packaged evidence for submission to USACIL for analysis and to document changes to the descriptions and to separate items previously packaged together, as requested by USACIL; Exhibit (271) pertains.

6. On 17NOV25, NCIS interviewed Lauren LOPEZ, CIV, who was identified as being the victim in a sexual assault wherein S/COPELAND was named as the subject of the investigation with Oak Harbor Police Department; Exhibit (272) pertains.

7. On 20NOV25, NCIS interviewed Kayla BODENHAFER, CIV, who was identified as being the victim in a sexual assault wherein S/COPELAND was named as the subject of the investigation with Oak Harbor Police Department; Exhibit (273) pertains.

8. On 21NOV25, NCIS Supervisory Digital Forensic Examiner John DAVISON, published the report pertaining to the iPhone 15 cellphone belonging to S/COPELAND; Exhibit (274) pertains.

9. On 09DEC25, NCIS received a DNA report from USACIL in regard to additional evidence sent; Exhibit (275) pertains.

9. On 10DEC25, LCDR Lauren MAYO and LT Christopher DEMPSEY, USN, OSTC were updated on the status of this investigation.

10. This investigation is pending evidence analysis, interviews, cellular data findings, and any additional investigative steps deemed appropriate.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:23B2
INFO :OSTC (CHRISTOPHER.B.DEMPSEY2.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL) (E)/NFNF/
NFFO

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 04SEP25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/ PII
V/S.S. USN
F/B/NEE3/ PII

COMMAND/USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75)/21853

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JOHN M KOWALSKI, INVESTIGATOR

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/ CCN:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMAIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA
(E) NCISRU USS HARY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) ROI (INTERIM)(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-18)/19MAR25
(F) NCISRA NORFOLK VA ROI (INTERIM) (CONTAINS EXHIBIT 19)/08JUL25

EXHIBIT(S)
(20) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA MCKENZIE SANDERS, USN/19NOV24
(21) MILITARY PROTECTIVE ORDER/07NOV24
(22) IA: RESULTS OF SECOND INTERVIEW OF CSSA MCKENZIE SANDERS, USN/26AUG25
(23) IA: RESULTS OF REVIEW OF META PLATFORMS INC SUBPOENA/28AUG25
(24) IA: RESULTS OF RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF USACIL DNA REPORT /04SEP25
(25) CHARGE SHEET S/COPELANT/22AUG25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein CSSN V/S.S. (V/ V/S.S.), USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75,

Controlled By: NFXQ - RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)
CUI Categories: INV, SCV
POC: JOHN M KOWALSKI, Investigator

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **04SEP25**

in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. V/[redacted] underwent a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) aboard the ship. During her interview on 07Nov24, V/[redacted] stated she was intoxicated and did not remember sexual contact with S/COPELAND, but other sailors approached her the following day and indicated S/COPELAND showed multiple sailors a video on his cellular telephone of his sexual contact with her. Multiple witness interviews were conducted corroborating the existence of a video and sexual encounter. S/COPELAND was interviewed on 18Nov24 and 20Dec24 and subsequent to waiving his Article 31b Rights stated the sexual contact with [redacted] was consensual and admitted to producing a video recording during the sexual encounter. Forensic analysis of the SAFE was completed and identified S/COPELAND as a contributor of sperm cell DNA located on the crotch area of [redacted] clothing collected during the SAFE. Active investigation is complete. This case is pending judicial/administrative action.

NARRATIVE

1. This reactive criminal investigation pertains to a suspected violation of Article 120 (Sexual Assault) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

2. References (A) through (D) document other NCIS controlled investigations wherein S/COPELAND is the subject. References (E) and (F) document all previous investigative activity conducted under this heading. References (E) and (F) also document under paragraph 1 of the Narrative section that this "investigation pertains to a suspected violation of Article 120 (Abusive Sexual Contact) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice" in error. It should state "This investigation pertains to a suspected violation of Article 120 (Sexual Assault) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice". Reference (F) erroneously reports in the Executive Summary that S/COPELAND was apprehended for abusive sexual assault in this investigation; however, he was apprehended for sexual assault. Reference (F) erroneously identifies Reference (B) as having control number 00029; that should be corrected to 00237.

3. On 19Nov24, CSSA McKenzie SAUNDERS, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was interviewed in reference to the offense. The interview was not appended to Reference (A) due to administrative oversight. CSSA SAUNDERS recalled interacting with [redacted] in the bathroom of the bar prior to liberty expiration, and opined [redacted] did not appear intoxicated until exiting the bathroom to return to the ship; Exhibit (20) pertains.

4. On 31Jul25, NCIS obtained a copy of the Military Protective Order issued to S/COPELAND in reference to this investigation. The MPO requires no contact between S/COPELAND and [redacted] This order is effective until rescinded; Exhibit (21) pertains.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **04SEP25**

5. On 26Aug25, CSSA SAUNDERS was re-interviewed in reference to the offense. CSSA SAUNDERS provided amplifying information pertaining to the investigation; Exhibit (22) pertains.

6. On 15JUL25, Meta Platforms Inc provided the results of the subpoena. The subpoena results revealed the account holder had an associated name of "Jermiah" was associated with Instagram account 23jcopeland and Gmail account jeremiahcopeland7@gmail.com. The Registration Date of the account is listed as 27JUN2017 and is listed as "active". The results also include multiple dates/times of Logins utilizing assorted IP addresses; Exhibit (23) pertains.

7. NCIS received and reviewed the DNA Report pertaining to captioned investigation from the United States Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL). The DNA Report received identified an F2 DNA (sperm cell DNA) mixture was present on the inside crotch of the sweatpants belonging to V/S.S. S/COPELAND was identified as a contributor to this DNA mixture; Exhibit (24) pertains.

8. As if relates to this investigation, on 22Aug25, S/COPELAND was charged with violating UCMJ Article 120 (Sexual Assault - Incapable of Consenting), Article 117a (Wrongful Broadcast), Article 120c (Indecent Recording) and (Indecent Broadcasting). He was also charged with violating Article 131b (Obstruction of Justice); Exhibit (25) pertains.

9. On 28Aug25, CDR Michelle MATTHEWS, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was updated on the status of the investigation.

10. Active investigation complete. This case is pending judicial/administrative action. Any additional investigative steps required through judicial/administrative review will be documented as appropriate; however, routine reporting is hereby suspended.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:023E
INFO :NFNF/NFFO/NFXQ/USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) (CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95)(timothy.winters@ddg95.navy.mil)) (E)/ COMNAVSURFLANT (LT George KUNTHARA, JAGC, USN, Staff Judge Advocate (CJA), COMNAVSURFLANT (george.kunthara.mil@us.navy.mil)) (E)/OSTC (CDR Lauren MAYO, TC, USN (lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil)) (E)

PAGE 3 LAST JL V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 08SEP25

DOMESTIC - ASSAULT (II) CONTROL: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]
DUSTA: USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)
[redacted] SA USN
[redacted]

COMMAND/NAVAL STATION NORFOLK /62688

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/FRITZNER PHILEMON, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

EXHIBIT(S)
(1) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN [redacted] USN/07JUL25
(2) IA: RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF NAVY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION REPORT/07JUL25
(3) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/16JUL25
(4) IA: RESULTS OF TELEPHONIC CONTACT WITH LCDR AMANDA SERFESS, USN/20AUG25
(5) IA: RESULTS OF FINGERPRINTS, MUG SHOTS, AND DNA COLLECTION FROM CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/21AUG25
(6) PREFERRED CHARGES FOR CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/22AUG25
(7) IA: RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CS2 JOSHUA BRYANT, USN/25AUG25
(8) IA: RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF MEDIA FILE FROM CS2 JOSHUA BRYANT, USN/25AUG25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. Investigation was initiated on 07JUL25, subsequent to the interview of [redacted] ([redacted] USN, Naval Station (NAVSTA NORFOLK), Norfolk, VA, regarding her prior relationship with S/COPELAND in connection with an ongoing investigation; reference (C) pertains. [redacted] stated on 11APR25, S/COPELAND assaulted her by strangling her for approximately

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: LEI
POC: FRITZNER PHILEMON, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA **08SEP25**

four to five (4-5) seconds. On 07JUL25, NCIS obtained and reviewed Navy Criminal Investigation Division (CID) police report #2547523001, pertaining to the reported domestic violence incident involving S/COPELAND and V/S.R. The report identified V/S.R. as the suspect and S/COPELAND as the victim, and documented Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) violations, voluntary statements, a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS), and related photographic evidence. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted the interview of YN3 Sean MONGHAN, USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 12 (HM-12). YN3 MONAGHAN reported hearing arguments between S/COPELAND and V/S.R. from the evening of 10APR25 into the early morning of 11APR25. On 19AUG25, NCIS telephonically contacted LCDR Amanda SERFESS, USN, JAGC, Defense Counsel, to inquire if she represents S/COPELAND. LCDR SERFESS stated she represents S/COPELAND and relayed he does not wish to speak to NCIS regarding the captioned investigation. On 21AUG25, NCIS conducted the administrative criminal offender processing of S/COPELAND for the offense of Article 128b (Domestic Violence) of the UCMJ. On 22AUG25, NCIS received a charge sheet from the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) indicating charges for Article 128b, UCMJ, had been preferred against S/COPELAND. On 25AUG25, NCIS conducted the interview of CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG-95. CS2 BRYANT reported S/COPELAND and V/S.R. were romantically involved circa JAN25 and lasted approximately three to four (3-4) months. CS2 BRYANT stated S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] V/A.R. 's relationship ended when V/S.R. was transferred following the aforementioned domestic violence incident. This investigation is complete and is pending judicial/administrative action. Any additional investigative steps required through judicial or administrative review will be documented as appropriate; however, routine reporting is hereby suspended.

NARRATIVE

1. This investigation was initiated pursuant to the suspected violation(s) of Article 128b (Domestic Violence) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS maintains jurisdiction of captioned investigation.

2. References A-C are active criminal investigations into CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

3. On 07JUL25, NCIS conducted an interview of CSSN V/S.R. (V/S.R. USN, Naval Station Norfolk (NAVSTA NORFOLK), Norfolk, VA, regarding her prior relationship with S/COPELAND. V/S.R. stated on 11APR25, S/COPELAND strangled her during an argument in his barracks room; Exhibit (1) pertains.

4. On 07JUL25, NCIS obtained and reviewed Navy Criminal Investigation Division (CID) police report #2547523001, regarding the reported domestic violence incident involving S/COPELAND and V/S.R. The report identified V/S.R. as the suspect and S/COPELAND as the victim, and documented UCMJ violations, voluntary statements, a Permissive Authorization

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA **08SEP25**

for Search and Seizure (PASS), and related photographic evidence; Exhibit (2) pertains.

5. On 16JUL25, NCIS conducted an interview of YN3 Sean MONAGHAN, USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 12 (HM-12), regarding the reported domestic violence incident involving S/COPELAND and V/S.R. YN3 MONAGHAN reported hearing arguments between S/COPELAND and V/S.R. from the evening of 10APR25 into the early morning of 11APR25. YN3 MONAGHAN stated V/S.R. later reentered the barracks room, damaged S/COPELAND's property, and slapped him; Exhibit (3) pertains.

6. On 19AUG25, NCIS telephonically contacted LCDR Amanda SERFESS, USN, JAGC, Defense Counsel, to inquire if she represents S/COPELAND. LCDR SERFESS stated she represents S/COPELAND and relayed he does not wish to speak to NCIS regarding the captioned investigation; Exhibit (4) pertains.

7. On 21AUG25, NCIS conducted the administrative criminal offender processing of S/COPELAND for the offense of Article 128b of the UCMJ; Exhibit (5) pertains.

8. On 22AUG25, NCIS received a charge sheet from the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) indicating charges for Article 128b, UCMJ, had been preferred against S/COPELAND; Exhibit (6) pertains.

9. On 25AUG25, NCIS conducted the interview of CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG-95. CS2 BRYANT reported S/COPELAND and V/S.R. were romantically involved circa JAN25 and lasted approximately three to four (3-4) months. CS2 BRYANT stated S/COPELAND and V/S.R.'s relationship ended when V/S.R. was transferred following the aforementioned domestic violence incident. In addition, CS2 BRYANT provided media files to NCIS documenting messages between him and V/S.R. regarding the reported domestic violence incident; Exhibit (7-8) pertains.

10. On 08SEP25, CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN, Commanding Officer (CO), DDG-95, and CDR Lauren MAYO, JAGC, USN, Trial Counsel (TC), Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC), were updated on the status of this investigation.

11. This investigation is complete and is pending judicial/administrative action.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:23B2
INFO :CO, DDG-95 (CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN (timothy.m.winters3.mil@us.navy.mil)) (E)/TC, OSTC (CDR Lauren MAYO, JAGC, USN (lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil)) (E)/ 002A/NFFO/NFNF

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 22SEP25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]
[redacted] CIV
[redacted]

COMMAND/USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE:S/COPELAND, JERMIAH, TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE:S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA

EXHIBIT(S)
(1) IA: INTERIVEW OF [redacted] CIV/24JUL25
(2) IA: INTERVIEW OF LSSA OMERI SMOOT, USN/04AUG25
(3) IA: INTERIVEW OF AEAN JDYN BRADFORD, USN/05AUG25
(4) IA: ATTEMPTS TO INTERVIEW [redacted] CIV/09AUG25
(5) IA: RESULTS OF ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/13AUG25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 24JUN25, NCIS conducted a cold call to a phone number "[redacted]," which was located during a review of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND's (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) cellphone while investigating Reference (C). During the search of the cellphone, the phone number was thought to be a minor child based off the inference of the text messages between S/COPELAND and the phone number. NCIS ran the phone number which determined it was a VoIP number. NCIS then cold called the phone number and identified the person who answered to be [redacted] ([redacted] CIV, who was determined to be an 18-year-old female. NCIS identified themselves and asked [redacted] what information, if any, did she know about S/COPELAND. [redacted] then stated S/COPELAND had sexually assaulted her in April or May 2025. NCIS

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CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (INTERIM) 24NOV25

SEXUAL ASSAULT - ADULT (II) CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]
[redacted] CIV
[redacted]

COMMAND/USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95)/23148

MADE AT/NFNF/RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK/JESSICA R GOKEY, SPECIAL AGENT

REFERENCE(S)
(A) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE:S/COPELAND, JERMIAH, TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA
(B) NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA
(C) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA
(D) NCISRA NORFOLK, VA CASE FILE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN/CCN: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA
(E) NCIS NORFOLK, VA ROI(INTERIM)(CONTAINS EXHIBITS 1-5)/22SEP25

EXHIBIT(S)
(6) IA: RESULTS OF FINGERPRINTS, MUG SHOTS, AND DNA COLLECTION FROM CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN/24NOV25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. On 24JUN25, NCIS conducted a cold call to a phone number "7[redacted]," which was located during a review of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND's (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) cellphone while investigating Reference (C). During the search of the cellphone, the phone number was thought to be a minor child based off the inference of the text messages between S/COPELAND and the phone number. NCIS ran the phone number which determined it was a VoIP number. NCIS then cold called the phone number and identified the person who answered to be [redacted] ([redacted] CIV, who was determined to be an 18-year-old female. NCIS identified themselves and asked [redacted] what information, if any, did she know about S/COPELAND. [redacted] then stated S/COPELAND had sexually assaulted her in April or May 2025. NCIS asked [redacted] to come into the office for a formal interview, [redacted] declined however, she did agree to a telephonic interview. [redacted] gave two witness names during the interview. [redacted] declined to participate in

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CUI Categories: LEI, SCV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **24NOV25**

the investigation. NCIS interviewed the two witnesses identified by V/Y.J. NCIS re-approached V/Y.J. to see if she would participate. V/Y.J. stated she would participate, and an interview was scheduled for 09AUG25 at a Virginia Beach Police Station near her residence. On 08AUG25, NCIS made contact and confirmed the interview with V/Y.J. On 09AUG25, NCIS attempted to make contact with V/Y.J. with negative results. NCIS passed V/[redacted] information to the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) so they may conduct their VWAP interview. On 24NOV25, NCIS fingerprinted and collected CODIS information from S/COPELAND. This investigation is being placed into pending adjudication.

NARRATIVE
1. This reactive investigation is being initiated due to the alleged violation of Article 120 (Rape and Sexual Assault Generally) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). NCIS is the lead investigating agency.

2. On 24NOV25, NCIS collected fingerprints, CODIS, and biometrics for S/COPELAND in relation to this investigation; Exhibit (6) pertains.

3. On 24NOV25, LCDR Christopher DEMPSEY, USN, OSTC, was updated on the status of this investigation.

4. This investigation is complete and is being placed into pending adjudication.

DISTRIBUTION
NCISHQ:023E
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ECD#	Collection Name	Collection Date	Item ID	Evidence Name	Evidence Description	Current Facility	Submitted By:	Collection Search Location
TE1TF	Michael Gillespie 1st Interview	6/3/2025	64E4E	Interview Disc	One Manilla Folder Containing One DVD-R Containing the First Interview of HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN	NFFO	Nigal Tuft-Williams	NCISRA Portsmouth VA
TE1TF	Michael Gillespie 1st Interview	6/3/2025	QWM54	Media Disc	One DVD-R Containin g 25 Photos and 1 Video From HT3 Michael Gillespie's, USN, Mobile Device	NFFO	Nigal Tuft-Williams	NCISRA Portsmouth, VA
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	0TXF0	FARO BLU-RAY	ONE (1) BLU-RAY DISC CONTAINING (41) RAW SCAN FILES OF WILLIS MANOR X-2	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2, #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	4DT6A	SWABS	THREE (3) SWABS TAKEN FROM LEFT REAR CORNER OF CLOSET FOR SUSPECTED BLOOD.	USACIL	Brandon Moore	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2 #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	FML8B	JORDAN SNEAKERS	ONE (1) PAIR OF GRAY/WHITE JORDAN SNEAKERS	USACIL	Brandon Moore	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2 #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	NAH9K	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB TAKEN FROM IINSIDE BATHROOM SINK BOWL CONTAINING SUSPECTED BLOOD.	USACIL	Brandon Moore	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2 #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	NY112	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB TAKEN FROM CORNER OF WALL ABOVE BATHROOM SINK CONTAINING SUSPECTED BLOOD.	USACIL	Brandon Moore	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2, #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	TJY67	STICKER	ONE (1) STICKER COLLECTED FROM CLOSET CONTAINING SUSPECTED BLOOD	USACIL	Brandon Moore	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2 #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/3/2025	WGAM0	GRAY BACKPACK	ONE (1) GRAY BACKPACK CONTAINING MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS	USACIL	Brandon Moore	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2 #335B
3Y9L	COPELAND	6/3/2025	FE9FH	SWABS	One (1) brown paper bag containing four (4) buccal swabs from Jermiah COPELAND. Sealed and marked for identification.	USACIL	Lisa Carroll	His person.
3Y9L	COPELAND	6/3/2025	XUQP3	PHONE (BLACK)	IPHONE BLACK , NO CASE, A GLOBE AS THE SCREENSAVER, 3 CAMERA LENS ON BACK.	NFFO	Brandon Moore	Hisperson.
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	134B8	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5 NEAR DOOR, LEVEL 2, PLACARD (J)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	1K3RH	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEK FLOORS TWO (2) AND ONE (1) PLACARD H	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	1L7PW	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVEL 2 AND 3, PLACARD (C)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	27UCQ	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5 NEAR DOOR, LEVEL 2, PLACARD (K)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	2KKCX	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, LEVEL 2, READ DOOR TO THE STAIRWELL , PLACARD (I)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	3F1W2	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVEL 2 AND 3, PLACARD (B)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	5CA0T	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVELS 2 AND 3, PLACARD (G)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	9K1GU	SWABS	TWO (2) SWABS OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVEL 2 AND 3, PLACARD (E)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	D6QNN	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVEL 2 AND 3, PLACARD (E)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	DRD3B	SWAB	TWO (2) SWABS OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, LEVEL 3, PLACARD (A)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	GCL7Y	SWABS	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVELS 2 AND 3, PLACARD (D)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	GTRC2	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, LEVEL 3, PLACARD (A)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	HNRF1	SWABS	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVEL 1 AND 2, PLACARD (H)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	JHXR7	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVEL 2 AND 3, PLACARD (D)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	MEFC2	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, LEVEL 1, PLACARD (L)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	MXQ1N	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, BETWEEN LEVELS 2 AND 3, PLACARD (F)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
TKNM8	COPELAND Barracks building	6/4/2025	NPRY1	SWABS	TWO (2) SWABS OF REDDISH BROWN STAIN FROM STAIRWELL 5, LEVEL 1, PLACARD (L)	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2
K8J9D	COPELAND Phone Extraction	6/4/2025	8JY7H	Copeland iPhone	One (1) Seagate Hard Drive, SN: Z9A4RSFN, containing the Graykey extraction of ECD 13y9L, Item XUQP3 (COPELAND's iPhone).	NFFO	Sam Bush	NCIS NFNF Annex
52NYD	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	070W5	IPHONE	IPHONE BLACK IN COLOR IN GREEN CASE, PLACARD (A)	NFFO	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52NYD	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	7A4YA	TOOTHBRUSH	ONE (1) ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH WITH BATTERY FROM DESK , PLACARD (B)	USACIL	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52NYD	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	7JPAU	GLASSES	ONE (1) BLACK RIMMED GLASSES RECOVERED FROM CLOSET *Note- this item should have been entered under the Copeland room search on 04Jun25. It was inadvertently entered in EMP under the wron g collection.	USACIL	Alison Fox	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52N	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	KECQ8	WATER BOTTLE	ONE (1) PURPLE IN COLOR WATER BOTTLE FROM DESK, PLACARD (G)	USACIL	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52N	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	L7RGN	RING	ONE (1) OURA RING, BLACK, SIZE 7, FROM DESK IN BEDROOM, PLACARD (F)	NFFO	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52N	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	NK009	BOOK	ONE (1) BOOK WITH ADDRESSES FROM DESK , PLACARD (E)	NFFO	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52N	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	P0Y8D	TONGUE SCRAPER	ONE (1) TONGUE SCRAPER FROM DESK , PLACARD (D)	USACIL	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52N	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	Q27UP	WATER	WATER FROM INSIDE OF PURPLE WATER BOTTLE ON DESK	NFFO	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
52N	V/A R Barracks RM	6/4/2025	WH6GR	HAIRBRUSH	ONE (1) HAIRBRUSH FROM DESK , PLACARD (C)	NFFO	Dara Elk	Miller Hall Room 1083 Norfolk VA
QY2A4	WILLIAMS VEHICLE PASS	6/6/2025	RLFX9	DUCT TAPE ROLL	ONE (1) ROLL OF DUCT TAPE W/ SUSPECTED HAIR AFFIXED (SEIZED FROM TRUNK OF VEHICLE)	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	PIER 14, DECATUR AVE, NORFOLK, VA 23508 36.95764 N, 76.32571 W
C07TR	FAMILIAL DNA (MOM)	6/5/2025	3N718	MOM SWAB	TWO (2) BUCCAL SWABS TAKEN FROM ESMERALDA CASTLE	USACIL	Jessica Gokey	1544 PIERSEY STREET, NORFOLK, VA 23511, TRALER #4
C07TR	FAMILIAL DNA (MOM)	6/5/2025	JRYT3	MOM SWAB	TWO (2) BUCCAL SWABS TAKEN FROM ESMERALDA CASTLE	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	1544 PIERSEY STREET, NORFOLK, VA 23511, TRALER #4
C07TR	FAMILIAL DNA (MOM)	6/5/2025	PTCC4	MOM SWAB	TWO (2) BUCCAL SWABS TAKEN FROM ESMERALDA CASTLE	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	1544 PIERSEY STREET, NORFOLK, VA 23511, TRALER #4
KU91	WILLIAMS SWABS	6/6/2025	049PN	WILLIAMS SWABS	One (1) brown paper bag containing four (4) buccal swabs from Deontae Terrell Williams (Collected from SA Hunter Triplett). Sealed and marked for identification.	USACIL	Hunter Triplett	
2QG7G	Monaghan DNA SWABS	6/6/2025	R17G4	DNA Buccal Swab	(2) DNA buccal swabs from the inside of the cheeks collected from Sean Monaghan Roomate #335A	USACIL	Cheyenne Simmons	9712 Viginia Ave X2 Barracks 335B
YWLQ2	DNA Swab	6/6/2025	33N9K	. Gordillocruz	DNA Swab	USACIL	Jessica Gokey	Irbin Gordillocruz
E413A	CASTLE SWABS	6/6/2025	B4LUL	CASTLE SWABS	One (1) brown paper bag containing four (4) buccal swabs from Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV. Sealed and marked for identification.	NFFO	Lisa Carroll	
4NXY9	Medical Records	6/6/2025	LRA76	Medical Records	One (1) envelope containing a DVD with V/A R s medical records. Sealed and marked for identification.	NFFO	Lisa Carroll	
7WTNR	FAMILIAL DNA (MOM 2ND COLLECTION)	6/6/2025	49CW3	BUCCAL SWAB	TWO (2) BUCCAL SWABS TAKEN FROM ESMERALDA CASTLE	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1900 POWHATAN ST- MILLER HALL BUILDING
7WTNR	FAMILIAL DNA (MOM 2ND COLLECTION)	6/6/2025	WEJT3	BUCCAL SWAB	TWO (2) BUCCAL SWABS TAKEN FROM ESMERALDA CASTLE	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1900 POWHATAN ST- MILLER HALL BUILDING
68MUG	DNA Swabs	6/6/2025	5JKTA	John Calisse	DNA swabs	USACIL	Jessica Gokey	J. CALISSE
292N	7-11 Video Surveillance	6/6/2025	ECMW6	Thumb Drive	1- Gigastone USB Thumb Drive containing video surveillance from 7-11, 2220 Pleasure House Rd., Va Beach VA	NFFO	Jesse Claar	7-11, 2220 Pleasure House Rd., Va Beach VA
D3C5	PASS Buccal Swabs RICH	6/7/2025	X1F2U	Buccal swabs	Buccal swabs from Daniel RICH	USACIL	Danielle Ortiz	NCISRA Norfolk Annex
KADA	PASS RICH Residence	6/7/2025	1P7T6	Med Bottle	One (1) paper bag containing medication bottle labeled with name [redacted] containing unknown amount of pills	NFFO	Joy Narowski	8100 Diven Arch Norfolk, VA Room 2117B
KADA	PASS RICH Residence	6/7/2025	ECM8H	Duct Tape	One (1) paper bag containing a roll of gray duct tape	NFFO	Joy Narowski	8100 Diven Arch Norfolk, VA Room 2117B
KADA	PASS RICH Residence	6/7/2025	GRH85	Key Cards	One (1) paper bag containing Best Western key cards and a barracks X-1 key card found in dresser	NFFO	Joy Narowski	8100 Diven Arch Norfolk, VA Room 2117B
HA9UT	GILLESPIE DNA	6/8/2025	455TC	BUCCAL SWABS	TWO (2) BUCCAL SWABS TAKEN FROM MICHAEL GILLESPIE	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1544 PIERSEY STREET, NORFOLK, VA 23511, TRALER #4
K9TQ4	MICHAEL GILLESPIE'S VEHICLE	6/8/2025	2KPYA	shotshell	One Cleanshot shotshell recovered from passenger door pocket	NFFO	Morgan Currie	PARKING LOT OF GILLESPIE S BARRACKS - BLUE FORD MUSTANG (2004) VIA A PASS
K9TQ4	MICHAEL GILLESPIE'S VEHICLE	6/8/2025	FDED1	KNIFE	One Ozark Trail silver toned knife with black grip handle with a black knife sheath, blade is serrated and smooth, blade was presumptive positive for blood, recovered from driver's door pocket	USACIL	Joy Narowski	PARKING LOT OF GILLESPIE S BARRACKS - BLUE FORD MUSTANG(2004) VIA A PASS
K9TQ4	MICHAEL GILLESPIE'S VEHICLE	6/8/2025	P6XN9	metal knuckles	One metal knuckles with enclosed knife recovered from driver's door pocket	NFFO	Joy Narowski	PARKING LOT OF GILLESPIE S BARRACKS - BLUE FORD MUSTANG (2004) VIA A PASS
GRGH3	COPELAND BATHMAT	6/9/2025	2YBG1	BATHMAT	ONE BATHMAT COLLECTED FROM ROOM 335 BUILDING X2, BATHROOM SHARED BY COPELAND AND MONAGHAN	NFFO	Morgan Currie	BUILDING X2 ROOM 335
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/9/2025	67PXR	Vehicle Key	1- Ke y for 2014 Jeep	NFFO	ANTHONY JONES	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/9/2025	ARBT1	Jeep	2014 Jee p Compass, White, VA Tag# TCE-1173, VIN# 1C4NJDBB1ED696201	NFFO	Karl Morrisette	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
N9X7L	MONAGHAN VEHICLE	6/9/2025	EBP3F	SWAB	ONE (1) SWAB OF RED STAIN TAKEN FROM RADIO DISPLAY (ITEM #2)	USACIL	Ashley Ullom	1544 PIERSEY STREET, NORFOLK, VA 23511
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	4HH1Y	Photographs	DVD-R of scene photographs, captured on 10JUN25	NFFO	Joy Narowski	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	5MW8J	9. Grout Dust	1- Druggist fold containing grout dust ground from around tile section of floor in closet in Room 335B ; package includes drill bit, swab and scalpel used in collection.	NFFO	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	7CW1Y	3. Carpet	2- Carpet Squares, gray, (labeled as P & Q) removed from under table in living room area. *Note- No Bluestar applied; Presumptive positive using Siemen Hemastix-Lot# 40 1050	USACIL	Ashley Ullom	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	7TKAG	8. Liquid	1- Jar containing a sample of liquid removed from the tank of the Bissell Floor Machine (Item 7)	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	928WF	7. Floor Machin	1- Bissell, floor finishing machine recovered from kitchen closet in Room 335. Presumptive positive using Hemastix, Lot #40 1050	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	9E00B	5. Swabs	4- Swabs taken from tile floor in closet, Room 335B. Note* treated with Blue Star	NFFO	Alison Fox	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	9YYR7	6. Carpet	1-Piece of carpet, labeled R, recovered from living room, Room 335B, near kitchen counter. Presumptive test positive using Siemens Hemastix, Lot # 40 1050. No Blue Star	USACIL	Ashley Ullom	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	FUXA0	1. Boxer Shorts	1-Pair of Men's Boxer Shorts, Blue in color, Size Small	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA

5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	KDG1K	2. Jeans	1- Pair of ripped jeans with white belt," True Indigo" brand, size unknown	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	M0YEF	4. Carpet	15 Car pet Squares, labeled A-O, multicolor brown/tan. Note* treated with Blue Star	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5MAWP	Examination-Room 335B, Bldg X-2	6/10/2025	1ETWK	10. Vacuum	1- "Task Vac" commercial vacuum cleaner. Recovered with a PASS from MONAGHAN's closet	USACIL	Alison Fox	1900 Powhatan Ave, Bldg X-2 Room 335B Norfolk VA
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	2BNLX	SWEATSHIRT	ONE BLACK AND YELLOW SWEATSHIRT.	USACIL	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	5X5MD	SHORTS	ONE PAIR OF LIGHT BLUE ATHLETIC SHORTS WITH THE LETTERS "LA" ON THEM.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	6YAFP	GRAY SWEATPANTS	ONE PAIR OF GRAY SWEATPANTS.	USACIL	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	9BG9H	WATCH/CHARGER	ONE APPLE WATCH WITH WHITE BAND AND ONE APPLE WATCH CHARGER.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	A6C99	SHORTS	ONE PAIR OF BLACK AND WHITE ATHLETIC SHORTS.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	L4PG3	PERFUME	ONE BOTTLE OF VANILLA MUSK PERFUME.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	PG5MC	SHIRT	ONE DRESS WHITE JUMPER.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	U7KJQ	HAIR	ONE HAIR, DARK IN COLOR, COLLECTED FROM BLACK AND YELLOW SWEATSHIRT, AND PLACED IN A PLASTIC BAG.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
5X6X4	CASS - BERTHING/RACK	6/10/2025	W4FJR	PHOTOGRAPHS	One (1) Envelope containing one (1) DVD of CASS Photography from COPELAND'S barge berthin g/rack spaces. Sealed and marked for identification.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	Berthing Rack
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	37GL9	DNA BLOOD CARDS	TWO (2) DNA BLOOD CARDS OBTAINED FROM REMAINS	USACIL	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	EY0F3	FINGERS	ONE (1) ENVELOPE CONTAINING FINGERS AND FINGERNAILS REMOVED FROM REMAINS DURING AUTOPSY	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100, NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	JKB9F	PERK KIT	ONE (1) OCME PHYSICAL EVIDENCE RECOVERY KIT #219700468 CONTAINING HEAD HAIR, ORAL SWAB , ANORECTAL SWAB, BLOOD FROM SPLEEN	USACIL	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	MUXQ4	JEWELRY	ONE (1) ENVELOPE CONTAINING JEWELRY REMOVED FROM REMAINS WHICH INCLUDES NECKLACE W / PENDANT, TWO EARRINGS, AND A LARGER EARING BAR	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	P6LTT	STRING	ONE (1) ENVELOPE CONTAINING POSSIBLE STRING FOUND INSIDE SUITCASE CONTAINING REMAINS	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100, NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	Q4TFJ	ROUND DISC	ONE (1) ROUND DISC FOUND IN SUITCASE CONTAINING REMAINS	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	RH5FX	AUTOPSY CD	ONE (1) CD-R CONTAINING OCME AUTOPSY PHOTOS	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	RUHA1	SUITCASE	ONE (1) BLACK WHEELED SUITCASE WITH FOAM INSERT (REMAINS WERE REMOVED FROM INSIDE DURING AUTOPSY)	USACIL	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100, NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	TJLU3	PAPER	ONE (1) ENVELOPE CONTAINING PAPER FOUND INSIDE SUITCASE CONTAINING REMAINS	NFFO	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
6NUM9W	V/A R/ AUTOPSY	6/10/2025	WPDB0	UNIFORM PATCH	ONE (1) UNIFROM PATCH FOUND INSIDE SUITCASE W/ REMAINS	USACIL	Danielle Ortiz	OCME TIDEWATER, 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVE, SUITE 100 NORFOLK, VA 23510
YJG0U	PASS-GILLESPIE BARRACKS	6/11/2025	2HJWF	MEDICATION	One (1) brown paper bag containing one (1) pill bottle with twenty (20) white pills prescribed to V/A R/ for Naproxen 500mg and one (1) pill bottle with seven (7) white pills prescribed to V/A R/ for Escitalopram 10mg. Sealed/marked for ID.	NFFO	Lisa Carroll	Naval Station Norfolk, Building U20, Room 228B
YJG0U	PASS-GILLESPIE BARRACKS	6/11/2025	3DYGM	PHOTOGRAPHS	One (1) envelope containing one (1) DVD with PASS photography from the search of HT3 GILLESPIE's barracks room. Sealed and marked for identification.	NFFO	Lisa Carroll	Naval Station Norfolk, Building U20, Room 228B
YJG0U	PASS-GILLESPIE BARRACKS	6/11/2025	6CP7X	DOCUMENTS	One (1) brown paper bag containing various documents o [redacted] including a birth certificate, dental records, and discharge safety plan documents. Sealed and marked for identification.	NFFO	Lisa Carroll	Naval Station Norfolk, Building U20, Room 228B
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	20HW8	DVD-R	Photographs of dumpsters at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth near the Emergency Department (DSC_6809 thru DSC_6845 taken by Fox, Alison and IMG_2334 thru IMG_2439 taken b y Moore, Brandon on 09Jun25	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	2U9UG	DVD-R	Photographs of [redacted] room located at Miller Hall, Room 1083 (photos by Fox, Alison on 04Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	361YJ	CD-R	Photographs of vehicle, blue Ford Mustang bearing VA tag TNR-3350, belonging to HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN, on board Naval Station Norfolk (photos by Fox, Alison on 08Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	3DGPA	CD-R	Photographs of S/COPELAND's room (335B) at Willis Manor X-2 (photos by Watkins, Lauren on 04Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	4FCEG	CD-R	Photographs of vehicle, black BMW sedan bearing VA tag TTG 3796, belonging to ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, taken on board Naval Station Norfolk at NCISRA Norfolk (photos by Fox, Alison on 07Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	5YW3L	DVD-R	Photographs of vehicle, white Taurus sedan bearing NJ tag B23 SBH, belonging to YN3 Sean MONAGHAN, USN, located on board Naval Station Norfolk, at NCISRA Norfolk (photos by Fox, Alison on 09Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	FUJF2	CD-R	Photographs of motorcycle, bearing NC tag 9L1298, belonging to HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, taken on board Naval Station Norfolk at NCISRA Norfolk (photos by Fox, Alison on 08Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	RRDQ6	DVD-R	Photo graphs of Willis Manor X-2, Staircase 5, (photos taken by SA Watkins, Lauren on 04Jun25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
EDAC7	SCENE PHOTOGRAPHS	6/13/2025	T413A	DVD-R	Photographs of wooded area behind 2852 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA where [redacted] was recovered (Photos by Fox, Alison on 09Sep25)	NFFO	Alison Fox	VARIOUS
QTXJ4	Phone Extractions	6/13/2025	3QDBW	GILLESPIE iPhon	One (1) Seagate Hard Drive, SN: 5QE3MS0Z, containing the Graykey extraction of the iPhone belon ging to Michael GILLESPIE.	NFFO	Sam Bush	NFNF Annex
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/13/2025	0HEHJ	WOMENS BRA	ONE (1) BLACK BRA (FOUND INSIDE LEFT DRAWER UNDER BED BA) PHOTO PLACARD A	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2, #335B
QNT4	COPELAND Barracks RM	6/13/2025	CT0GF	INSPECTION FORM	ONE (1) HOUSING ROOM INSPECTION FORM (FOUND INSIDE ROOM 335B)	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1900 POWHATAN, NORFOLK, VA 23511, WILLIS MANOR BUILDING X2, #335B
QTXJ4	Phone Extractions	6/13/2025	HMYH1	BARRERA iPhone	One (1) Western Digital Hard Drive, SN: WCAYV0965377, containing the Graykey extraction of the iPhone belon ging to Gladis Garcia BARRERA.	NFFO	Sam Bush	NFNF Annex
D988C	NCTAMS LANT	6/15/2025	BK9LM	Video	One Seagate Hard Drive, SN: W4Z3XQVN, containing video footage from NTAMS LANT security cameras	NFFO	Sam Bush	NFNF Annex
LFQA0	RICH Electronics	6/16/2025	L6AJA	RICH Extraction	One (1) Seagate hard drive, SN: Z1Y2XMD0, containing the digital extraction of an iPhone and laptop computer belonging to ET3 Daniel RICH, USN.	NFFO	Sam Bush	NFNF Annex
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	0H1X0	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM STEERING WHEEL CONTAINING RADIO CONTROL BUTTONS PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD P)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	23D6C	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM FRONT PASSENGER DOOR WINDOW CRANK HANDLE PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD U)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	54CW7	FABRIC CUTTING	ONE (1) CUTTING OF FABRIC FROM DRIVER SIDE REAR PASSENGER SEAT TAKEN FROM BACK OF SEAT (PLACARD F)	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	78UAG	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM REAR DRIVER SIDE DOOR FRAME ON LEFT SIDE PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD V)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	9RAL2	MAT DRI FR LEFT	ONE (1) BLACK RUBBER FLOOR MAT FROM FRONT/LEFT DRIVER SIDE (PLACARD E)	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	AYB87	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM FRONT PASSENGER RIGHT SIDE AIR VENT PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD R)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	C0B4A	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM FRONT PASSENGER DOOR LOCK PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD T)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	CH8AQ	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM INTERIOR TRUNK TAILGATE ON LEFT/DRIVERS SIDE PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD DD)	USACIL	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	CW048	TRUNK COVER	ONE (1) BLACK TRUNK COVER REMOVED FROM TRUNK (PLACARD A)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	DPCW9	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM TRUNK BUMPER GUARD AND SEAL ON RIGHT SIDE PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD BB)	USACIL	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	F33TR	FABRIC CUTTING	ONE (1) CUTTING OF FABRIC FROM LEFT REAR SIDE OF DRIVER SEAT (PLACARD G)	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	GCR22	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM FRONT DRIVER SIDE DOOR PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD N)	USACIL	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	GNCQ5	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM BACK CUSHION OF REAR MIDDLE SEAT PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD Y)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	HWTC6	MAT PAS REAR RI	ONE (1) BLACK RUBBER FLOOR MAT FROM PASSENGER REAR RIGHT SIDE (PLACARD C)	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	MJ9U1	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM RIGHT REAR DOOR ON DRIVER SIDE NEAR DOOR LOCK & HANDLE INTERIOR SIDE PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD W)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	MLJT8	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM DOOR FRAME BETWEEN DRIVER & PASSENGER DOOR PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD O)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	NRX6U	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM CENTER RADIO DISPLAY & BUTTONS PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD Q)	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	Q4T1P	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM FRONT PASSENGER DOOR FRAME PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD S)	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	RYJ8Y	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM ROOF RAIL EXTERIOR ABOVE REAR RIGHT PASSENGER DOOR PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD AA)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	W1K0J	MAT DR REAR LE	ONE (1) BLACK RUBBER FLOOR MAT FROM DRIVER SIDE REAR LEFT (PLACARD B)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	WMLT8	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM REAR RIGHT PASSENGER DOOR LOCK PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD Z)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	WR14T	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM BOTTOM CUSHION OF REAR MIDDLE SEAT PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD X)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	WXKA6	BLUESTAR SWAB	TWO (2) CAPSHURE SWABS TAKEN FROM FRONT DRIVER SIDE INTERIOR SURFACE OF SUN VISOR ON RIGHT SIDE PROCESSED W BLUESTAR POSITIVE REACTION (PLACARD CC)	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	YELP9	MAT PASS FR RI	ONE (1) BLACK RUBBER FLOOR MAT FROM PASSENGER FRONT RIGHT SIDE (PLACARD D)	NFFO	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
UT0GE	Vehicle Seizure- Jeep	6/16/2025	YFDP5	TAPE LIFTS	ONE (1) PAPER BAG CONTAINING (15) TAPE LIFTS AFFIXED TO DOCUMENT SHEETS TAKEN FROM JEEP (PLACARDS H-M)	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1801 Powhatan Ave Barracks X-2 Norfolk VA
Z7C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	2CUD9	DVD-R	ONE DVD-R CONTAINING PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT S/COPELAND S BARRACKS ON 03JUN25.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	

27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	3P1DL	CD ETC SCHIANO	(1) CD containing the audio recording of the interview of ETC Michael SCHIANO	NFFO	Salvatore Mugolo	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	3WF1P	CD-R	ONE CD-R CONTAINING IMAGES PROVIDED BY CSSN EDDYSSON JEAN JACQUES ON 03JUN25.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	52T3C	CD CS1 THOMPSON	(1) CD containing the audio recording of the interview of CS1 Drevon THOMPSON	NFFO	Salvatore Mugolo	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	6J3A0	FARO SCENE DVD	ONE (1) DVD-R CONTAINING (4) RAW SCAN FILES OF DEATH SCENE	NFFO	Morgan Currie	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	6XYFP	DVD-R	(1) DVD-R containing footage from Hampton Police Department's Fort Monroe Camera	NFFO	Salvatore Mugolo	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	FMPSD	CD-R	ONE CD-R CONTAINING IMAGES PROVIDED BY FCC BRAD PARKER ON 03JUN25.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	G0W36	OPTICAL DISCS	FOUR OPTICAL DISCS CONTAINING INTERVIEW RECORDINGS WITH FCC BRAD PARKER FROM 03JUN25 AND 05JUN25.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	TH8T0	DVD-R	ONE DVD-R CONTAINING RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND CONDUCTED ON 03JUN25.	NFFO	Caroline Robinson	
27C4G	Optical Discs	6/17/2025	X75WA	DVD-R EMAILS	(1) DVD-R containing the USN emails of Deontae WILLIAMS	NFFO	Salvatore Mugolo	
Q7E0U	Swabs from Fingers	7/15/2025	J3BLP	Scrappings	TWO (2) SWABS TAKEN FROM FINGERNAILS OF V/A R.	USACIL	Morgan Currie	1650 Gilbert St., Norfolk VA (Consolidated Evidence Facility)
B2CQR	Items from Woods	7/16/2025	J9FLB	Shorts	ONE PAIR OF BLACK SHORTS	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	WOODED AREA NEAR BOWDENS FERRY ROAD
B2CQR	Items from Woods	7/16/2025	K9X31	Pants	ONE PAIR OF BLACK PANTS	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	WOODED AREA NEAR BOWDENS FERRY ROAD
B2CQR	Items from Woods	7/16/2025	XQ9NK	Miscellaneous	ONE DOVE DEODORANT STICK AND ONE BOTTLE OF CASTOR OIL	NFFO	Ashley Ullom	WOODED AREA NEAR BOWDENS FERRY ROAD
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	JC9HL	Shoes	ONE PAIR OF GREY ASICS TENNIS SHOES	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	CYD3R	Bedding	TOP SHEET, PILLOW CASE, BLACK BLANKET, 3 PILLOWS, MATTRESS TOPPER	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	8BJTD	Shoes	1 PAIR OF BLUE AIR JORDANS	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	1U9DE	Wrapper	OPEN CONDOM WRAPPER FOUND BEHIND BED	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	0QWN7	Liquid	ONE LIQUID CONTAINER HOLDING THE WATER FROM INSIDE THE P-TRAP.	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	R06GQ	Game System	PLAYSTATION 5 WITH SIDES BROKEN OFF. 4 CONTROLLERS, TWO POWER CORDS.	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	MQUE5	Plumbing	METAL P TRAP TAKEN FROM S/COPELAND'S SINK	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	WKQ8E	Mattress Cover	BLUE MATTRESS COVER REMOVED FROM ROOMMATES BED	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	LWQL4	Shoes	ONE PAIR OF WHITE IN COLOR NIKE AIR FORCE ONES	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	N06DK	Shoes	ONE PAIR OF BLACK IN COLOR AIR JORDANS	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	76GLLD	Envelope	MANILLA ENVELOPE LABELED "PENIS ENVY" WITH "7G". EMPTY INSIDE	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	XC7R4	Bedding	BEDDING FOUND INSIDE THE DRAWER OF S/COPELAND S DESK.	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	FN25T	Material	CUTTING FROM ROOMMATE MATTRESS.	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	EUBX9	Shoes	ONE PAIR OF ORANGE IN COLOR PUMA SHOES	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
FLRW4	COPELAND's BARRACKS	7/17/2025	YAUY2	Wrappers	3- MAGNUM CONDOM WRAPPERS, OPENED	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	Powhatan Ave, Barracks X-2 Room 335
1XKPP	DNA SWABS	7/25/2025	L23R4	DNA Swabs	Buccal Swabs from CLARISSA IMPELIDODAYOAN	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	
1XKPP	DNA SWABS	7/25/2025	N51G1	DNA Swabs	Buccal Swabs from Lorenzo Carter	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	
ERLE9	Gate 2 Footage	8/12/2025	A8TF4	Hard Drive	Seagate hard drives containing footage from Gate 2 Norfolk Naval Station. S/N: NT17H59R	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	
ERLE9	Gate 2 Footage	8/12/2025	W57U4	Hard Drive	SEAGATE HARD DRIVE WITH GATE 2 FOOTAGE FROM NAVAL STATION NORFOLK S/N: NT17HK4C	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	
35BRO	Berthing	8/22/2025	HLJA7	Envelope	Blank Envelope with a reddish brown stain	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	USS James E. Williams
35BRO	Berthing	8/22/2025	4Y070	Garment Bag	Blue Mercur y garment bag	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	USS James E. Williams
35BRO	Berthing	8/22/2025	R6FQF	Nike Pants	Black Nike sweat pants	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	USS James E. Williams
35BRO	Berthing	8/22/2025	6PY38	Pillow	White pillow with blue stripes	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	USS James E. Williams
35BRO	Berthing	8/22/2025	4QLQ3	Pillow Case	Black pillow case with stain	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	USS James E. Williams
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-2	8/26/2025	EG42R	Swabs	2- SWABS of Stain Found on Bottom of Couch	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-3	8/26/2025	FYRQ5	FABRIC	1- Piece of Black Felt Fabric Removed from Bottom of Couch ;	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-4	8/26/2025	LY0W1	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-5	8/26/2025	6EP9G	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-6	8/26/2025	KUP5L	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-7	8/26/2025	7XDTT	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-8	8/26/2025	NCMH4	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-2	8/26/2025	Q9TC6	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-3	8/26/2025	HK2TM	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-4	8/26/2025	RG500	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-5	8/26/2025	N1A7C	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-6	8/26/2025	W8N7W	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-7	8/26/2025	XJCF9	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-8	8/26/2025	XBTG9	Carpet	1- Brownish /Gray Section of Carpet Removed from Living Room Area	USACIL	Karl Morrisette	1900 Powhatan St. Building X-2 Norfolk VA 23511
XXXR6	Additional Examination Room 335 BLDG X-2	8/26/2025	1MAUG	CD	CD Containing Photos Taken During Examination of Room 335 on 26Aug25	NFFO	Morgan Currie	
4HE48	Cloud Warrant	9/11/2025	1LFP6	Hard Drive	dell hard drive S /N S8J5K1L5F9NF	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	
J7TJN	SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE X2 MICRO MARKET	9/11/2025	UG0FE	Hard Drive	HARD DRIVE CONTAINING SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE FROM BLDG X2 NEX MICROMARKET	NFFO	Jessica Gokey	

From: Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Gunther, Wendy (VDH)
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: List of Prescription Medication
Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:35:50 AM

No drugs. Negative.
This case was signed out in September.

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 11:48 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH); Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning Dr. Gunther,

I am just following up on this. Was there a result for the escitalopram?

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 9:24 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning – thank you! We are good on waiting. I just wasn't sure what the timeline might be for tracking purposes. I appreciate all of your help!

V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 8:34 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

Well, it's going to take the lab quite a while to do the escitalopram, particularly since Dr. Lameira pointed out to me that we don't have blood, just liver and muscle. I'm not sure the expensive, fast lab (NMS) will even do naproxen on liver and muscle; I think they only work on blood. So you're looking at 60 days if you want to wait for the escitalopram.

If you don't, then there is a much shorter timeline; I'll leave it up to Dr. Lameira to estimate it for you.

WG

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 4:13 PM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)

<Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon –

Are you able to provide an estimated timeline on when the autopsy report will be finalized? Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)

<shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

We can definitely ask for escitalopram, and if we have to we can send out for naproxen, but we can't do Cefpodoxime, the antibiotic.

I kind of think naproxen isn't indicated; if it's going to kill you, it does it by internal bleeding, and that wasn't part of the findings, right, Dr. Lameira?

How about if we ask our lab for escitalopram, and if it's positive, we don't do naproxen? If it's negative, the expense of outside lab can do naproxen within a couple of weeks.

Dr. Gunther

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 3:34 PM
To: Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <fernanda.lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>; Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <rob.robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon Dr. Lameira and Dr. Gunther,

Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with us on Tuesday. I apologize for the delay in getting back to you, but it took some time for us to track down the specific prescriptions we'd like to have the sample tested for (if that has not already been done). They are:

- Escitalopram/Lexapro
- Cefpodoxime
- Naproxen

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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U.S. ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION LABORATORY
4930 N 31ST STREET, FOREST PARK, GA 30297

DNA Report

USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Request: 0007_0003

To SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
NFFO NCIS NORFOLK FIELD OFFICE
1329 BELLINGER BLVD
BLDG U-40
Norfolk, VA 23511

Date of Report: 09 December 2025
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237
Service: DNA

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

The following results are opinions and interpretations formed using accepted scientific and professional practices. Only those exhibits below were examined for this report. Selection of the item(s) and the examination(s) conducted were based on the information available at the time of the request. If the investigative needs change, please contact USACIL at USACILCM@army.mil or 404-469-5150.

1. This report references the previous DNA Reports dated:

   10 June 2025
   05 August 2025
   15 August 2025
   20 October 2025.

2. No blood was identified on the following Exhibits:

   Exhibit 89 (Apple watch/COPELAND)
   Exhibit 90.1 (flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK)
   Exhibit 91.1 (mattress cover/SCENE-COPELAND BED)
   Exhibit 91.2 (fitted sheet/SCENE-COPELAND BED).

3. No stains indicative of blood were observed on Exhibit 91.3 (blanket/SCENE-COPELAND BED) or Exhibit 92 (mattress cover/SCENE-MONAGHAN BED).

4. Trace evidence was collected and preserved from Exhibit 91.2 by a trained individual resulting in Exhibit 91.2.1. Trace evidence, including but not limited to hairs, fibers, and other miscellaneous debris, may be present within the collected material.

5. DNA extraction procedures were performed on the following:

   Exhibit 89.1 (swab of Apple watch/COPELAND)
   Exhibit 90.1 (stain 2 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK)
   Exhibit 90.1 (stain 4 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK).

6. A DNA mixture was detected from the swab of Apple watch/COPELAND.

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Controlled by: USACIL
Controlled by: CIDD-CIL
CUI Category: LEI/PRVCY
Limited Dissemination Control: FEDCON
POC: Records Custodian, 404-469-5150

a. The mixture is interpreted as originating from three individuals.

b. Assuming COPELAND, V/A.R. is included as a contributor to the mixture.

c. This mixed DNA profile is at least 1.0 quintillion times more likely if it originated from COPELAND, V/A.R. and an unknown individual than if it originated from COPELAND and two unknown individuals.

d. The remaining partial minor contributor cannot be conclusively interpreted due to an insufficient amount of DNA detected.

e. CALISSE, GILLESPIE, GORDILLOCRUZ, MONAGHAN, RICH and WILLIAMS are excluded from the interpretable results from this mixture.

7. No DNA profile foreign to COPELAND was detected from stain 2 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK or stain 4 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK.

8. No DNA profiles were eligible for submission to CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

TECHNICAL NOTES

1. DNA profiles were detected using PCR (polymerase chain reaction) technology on twenty-one autosomal STR (short tandem repeat) loci, two Y-chromosome loci (DYS391, Y-indel) and a gender identification locus from the Applied Biosystems GlobalFiler kit.

2. The autosomal STR statistical calculations in this report were generated using STRmix™ software which calculates a fully continuous probabilistic likelihood ratio (LR). Unless otherwise noted, the most conservative LR was reported using the lower bound 99% credible interval from unrelated individuals in the U.S. Caucasian, Black, and Hispanic population groups. The population allele frequencies were obtained from the NIST 1036 U.S. Population Dataset.

A likelihood ratio is a measure of the strength of support that particular findings give to one proposition against a stated alternative, given certain conditioning information. For these reported likelihood ratios, the propositions and conditioning information were based on data from these results and current case circumstances. If any aspects of the case should change or new information is provided regarding these propositions and conditioning information, then the evaluation of these results to include the likelihood ratio may change. This will be the subject of a separate report.

The reported statistical calculation for an association will be capped at 1.0 quintillion. The actual calculated value may be higher, but not less than this number, which is equivalent to the laboratory's minimum statistical threshold.

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All information related to this matter is controlled unclassified information (law enforcement sensitive) and should be restricted. Any premature release of case-sensitive information could jeopardize the investigation and affect successful prosecution. This information is protected by the Privacy Act. By law and regulation, it may not be disclosed to any person or organization outside the Department of Defense without the individual's authorization and prior approval of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division.

USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237

Request: 0007_0003
Date of Report: 09 December 2025

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE

Unless otherwise noted, evidence received in this case will be returned according to laboratory policy. Items may have been altered to take samples required for examination or to recover materials from the item. If recovered evidence was collected and preserved during laboratory examinations, the material is being returned with the item from which it originated.

[redacted]

KERRY MAYNARD
Forensic Biologist
Office: (404) 469-4776
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USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237

Request: 0007_0003
Date of Report: 09 December 2025

DNA Exhibit List		
Exhibit #	**Description**	**ECD/Item**
089	Electronic accessory	9BG9H
089.001	Swab(s) - Apple watch	
089.002	Electronic accessory - Apple watch charger	
090	Miscellaneous item(s)	XC7R4
090.001	Flat sheet(s)	
090.002	Miscellaneous item(s) - fabric bag	
091	Bedding	RG76Y
091.001	Bedding - mattress cover	
091.002	Fitted sheet(s)	
091.002.001	Trace evidence collection	
091.003	Blanket(s)	
092	Bedding	WKQ8E
093	Bedding	FN25T

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF: ARTICLE 13, UCMJ** **5 DECEMBER 2025**

RESPONSE

1. The Accused's maximum confinement (MAX) status is appropriate and does not violate Article 13, UCMJ, or the Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The Accused's confinement is not unduly harsh, inflexible, or arbitrary and does not unlawfully interfere with private pretrial preparation with his Defense counsel. It is also due to a legitimate, non-punitive government interest.

2. Any interference with the attorney-client relationship is also outweighed by legitimate penological interests and is constitutional. Since 6 October 2025, the Brig has explicitly permitted contact visitation between the Accused and his counsel. It is not clear why the Defense has not availed themselves of that opportunity more regularly, but the Government is not at fault. The Government's regulations regarding contact visits between the Accused and his counsel are "reasonably related to legitimate penological interests."[1]

3. No credit beyond the day for day credit warranted under *United States v. Allen*[2] is appropriate.

FACTS

4. The Accused was ordered into confinement at the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston Detachment Chesapeake (the Brig) on 9 June 2025.[3]

5. The Accused is classified as a MAX prisoner and has been since the start of his confinement.[4] MAX is defined as "[p]risoners requiring special custody supervision because of the high probability of escape or are potentially violent or dangerous, and whose escape would cause concern of a threat to life, property, or national security."[5]

1. *Turner v. Safley*, 482 U.S. 78, 89 (1987).
2. *United States v. Allen*, 17 M.J. 126 (C.M.A. 1984).
3. Def. Encl. A.
4. Encl. 1.
5. Encl. 2 at 4-5 and 4-6.

6. Initially, the Accused spent 22 hours a day in his cell. As of 11 August 2025, his status was stepped down and he now spends 21 hours a day in his cell but is still in a MAX status.[6]

7. The Accused's step-down on 11 August provides him an additional hour a day outside of his cell to clean.[7] This was done to allow him an additional opportunity to prove that his behavior is improving and that re-classification may one day be appropriate.[8]

8. Approximately every 30 days, his classification is reviewed.[9] The board considers a range of factors from SECNAV M-1540.1, such as his behavior at the brig, the prisoners' civilian and military record, the seriousness of the offenses alleged, and the potential length of confinement awarded if found guilty in calculating a certain amount of points.[10] If a certain threshold is met, the recommendation for classification is reduced.[11] The OIC of Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake, CDR Flanagan, can "override" the classification status recommendation for an accused in pretrial confinement to increase or decrease their custody classification.[12]

9. On 11 August 2025, the C&A board recommended that the Accused remain in a MAX status, but begin the above-described step-down program.[13] The Accused then completed coursework that reduced his point total before the C&A board and the board recommended on 14 October 2025 that the Accused be reclassified to MDI status.[14] CDR Flanagan overrode that recommendation as well as a recommendation on 17 November 2025 to keep him on MAX status.[15]

10. In accordance with SECNAV policy, CDR Flanagan has overridden the classification status of the Accused because of the severity of his offenses, the potential confinement time he is facing, the nature of the offenses as violent crimes, and because of limited safety protocols at the Brig, a Level I confinement facility.[16] CDR Flanagan does not give any significant weight to a couple of minor disciplinary infractions that have occurred.[17] CDR Flanagan has no intent to punish the Accused and is trying to balance MAX status by also offering him opportunities to get out of his cell, such as the step-down program mentioned above.[18] CDR Flanagan is not aware of an appeal from the Accused regarding his classification status.[19]

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6. Encl. 1.
7. Encl. 1.
8. Encl. 1, 6, 7.
9. Encls. 1, 3 at 5, 7.
10. Encl. 1; *see also* Encl. 2 at 4-10 to 4-13; Encl. 3 at 8-9.
11. Encl. 1.
12. Encl. 1.
13. Encl. 7 at 29.
14. Encl. 7 at 8.
15. Encl. 6, 7.
16. Encl. 6.
17. Encl. 6, 7.
18. Encl. 6.
19. Encl. 6.

11. Prior to 6 October 2025, while in MAX, the Accused was allowed visitation with his defense counsel in a no-contact booth.[20] The no-contact booth was only occupied by the attorneys and the Accused, has plexiglass in the middle with slots to pass documents between client and attorney, allows for videos to be seen by the client, and can have white noise machines placed outside of the booth to avoid conversations being overheard by anyone outside of the attorney-client conversation.[21]

12. On 2 October 2025, the Office of Special Trial Counsel made a request to CDR Flanagan for a "narrowly tailored exception" for authorized contact visitations between the Accused and his defense attorneys.[22] On 6 October 2025, CDR Flanagan approved that request.[23] This approval remains in effect. The Defense asserts a "lack of communication" has prevented meetings after 29 October 2025, but does so without citation.[24] It is unclear why the Defense has not availed themselves of this opportunity since that date.

13. Throughout the Accused's pretrial confinement, it has been possible for private phone calls with attorneys to be accommodated at any time as long as the request is made during business hours (0730-1530).[25]

14. Charges were preferred against the Accused on 22 August 2025.[26] These charges include allegations of premediated murder and violent sexual misconduct.[27] These allegations span five victims in a less than one-year period.[28]

15. Both during and after the commission of the alleged offenses, but before the imposition of pretrial confinement, the Accused searched for options to escape.[29] Specifically, he searched for directions to "Bermuda" on 29 May 2025, the date of the alleged murder, and conducted searches for "norfolk airport" and "virginia airport" in the following days.[30]

BURDEN

16. In this motion for appropriate relief, the Defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence and the burden of persuasion as the moving party.[31]

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20. Encl. 1.
21. Encl. 2.
22. Encl. 5.
23. Encl. 4.
24. Def. Mot. For App. Rel. at 4.
25. Encl. 1.
26. Charge Sheet.
27. Charge Sheet; *see* Gov. Resp. to Def. Mot. in Lim. (M.R.E. 404(b) and 412) dtd 5 December 2025.
28. Charge Sheet.
29. Encl. 8.
30. Encl. 8.
31. R.C.M. 905(c)(1) & (2).

LAW

17. Article 13, UCMJ, provides that:

> No person, while being held for trial, may be subjected to punishment or penalty other than arrest or confinement upon charges pending against him, not shall the arrest or confinement imposed upon him be any more rigorous than the circumstances require to insure his presence, but he may be subjected to minor punishment during that period for infractions of discipline.

18. Article 13 only "prohibits two types of activities: (1) the intentional imposition of punishment on an accused prior to trial, i.e., illegal pretrial punishment; and (2) pretrial confinement conditions that are more rigorous than necessary to ensure the accused's present at trial, i.e., illegal pretrial confinement."[32] If there is no intent to punish, the court must then decide whether government action furthered a legitimate, non-punitive government interest.[33]

19. SECNAV M 1640.1, Chapter 4 (Enclosure 2), permits an override by a Brig OIC of the C&A board's classification recommendation based on alleged offenses, potential length of future sentence, and a sentence that exceeds the designated length of confinement at that particular facility, among other factors.

20. While in pretrial confinement, MAX status can be appropriate for purposes of Article 13 **even if the sole reason for placement in that status is because of the seriousness of his or her offenses**.[34] Indeed, "the nature and seriousness of the offenses and the corresponding length of potential confinement are relevant facts that brig officials may consider in determining whether to place a detainee in special quarters."[35] In *United States v. Mosby*, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces considered if pretrial confinement in MAX status was appropriate for an accused pending a murder allegation.[36] The CAAF held the military judge did not abuse his discretion in ruling no Article 13, UCMJ violation occurred even though that confinement was based **only** on the alleged offense of murder.[37]

21. Somewhat separately, an accused in pretrial confinement is entitled to the appointment of military counsel regardless of status.[38] This right, particularly as it applies to this case, is guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution.[39]

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32 *United States v. Fischer*, 61 M.J. 415, 418 (C.A.A.F. 2005).
33. *United States v. Howell*, 75 M.J. 386, 393-94 (C.A.A.F. 2016).
34. *United States v. Felicies*, NMCCA 9900206, 2005 CCA LEXIS 124, *21 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. Apr. 27, 2005) (citing *United States v. Mosby*, 56 M.J. 309, 310-11 (C.A.A.F. 2002))
35. *Id*. (citing *United States v. Anderson*, 49 M.J. 575, 577 (NMCCA 1998)).
36. *Mosby*, 56 M.J. at 310-11.
37. *Id*.
38. R.C.M. 305(e), (g).
39. *Rothgery v. Gillespie Cty., Tex.,* 554 U.S. 191, 194 (2008).

22. However, that right to counsel is not absolute for prisoners in pretrial confinement. "Prison regulations that impede an inmate's constitutional rights will . . . be upheld if the regulation 'is reasonably related to legitimate penological interests.'"[40] The Supreme Court held in *United States v. Turner* that there are four factors to consider when assessing the reasonableness of a prison regulation:

> (1) Whether there is a valid, rational connection between the prison regulation and the legitimate governmental interest put forward to justify it,
>
> (2) whether there are alternative means of exercising the right that remain open to prison inmates,
>
> (3) the impact the asserted constitutional right will have on guards and other inmates, and on the allocation of prison resources, and
>
> (4) the existence of obvious, easy alternatives may be evidence that the regulation is not reasonable, but is an exaggerated response to prison concerns.[41]

23. All four factors are not always "equally useful nor need be applied with equal value, depending on the circumstances of the case and the regulation that is challenged."[42] This test has been applied in military courts in a variety of cases.[43]

24. In evaluating the first *Turner* factor, a court should only strike down a regulation when a logical connection between the regulation and asserted goal does not exist or is "so remote as to render the policy arbitrary or irrational."[44] "[An Accused's] complaint may not be plausible unless it contains specific factual allegations demonstrating why the government's justifications do not have a rational connection to the challenged restrictions."[45]

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40. *United States v. Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470, *24 (D. Alaska 2021) (quoting *Turner*, 482 U.S.at 89).
41. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89-90 (cleaned up).
42. *United States v. Green*, ACM 36664, 2007 CCA LEXIS 475, at *8-9 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 12, 2007) (citing *Beard v. Banks*, 548 U.S. 521 (2006)).
43. *See e.g.*, *United States v. Guinn*, Army 20170500, 2021 CCA LEXIS 423 (A.C.C.A. Aug. 20, 2021) (considering the Frist Amendment right to familial association); *United States v. Frantz*, ACM 39657, 2020 CCA ELXIS 404 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 10, 2020) (considering policy restricting contact with son); *United States v. Arnold*, Army 20180418, 2019 CCA LEXIS 516 (A. Ct. Crim. App. Dec. 17, 2019) (considering a policy against minor visitors); *United States v. Green*, ACM 36664, 2007 CCA LEXIS 475 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 12, 2007) (considering a policy against sex offenders meeting with minors), *Felicies*, 2005 CCA LEXIS 124 (considering a policy against material and conversation that was in a foreign language).
44. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89-90.
45. *Crawford v. Garland*, 2025 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 36440, *17 (D. Colo. Feb. 5, 2025) (citing *Gee v. Pacheco*, 627 F.3d 1178, 1185 (10th Cir. 2010).

25. In considering the second *Turner* factor, the existence of alternative means to exercise a constitutional right means a regulation is less likely to violate the Constitution.[46] Some deference is owed corrections officials in assessing the validity of a regulation.[47] "Alternatives are interpreted broadly; if a prisoner can still exercise the asserted right in a similar, though not identical way, the prisoner's constitutional rights are preserved."[48]

26. In assessing the third *Turner* factor, "the right of the prisoner is weighed against the rights of other prisoners and prison employees, and where 'the right in question can be exercised only at the cost of significantly less liberty and safety for everyone else, guards and other prisoners alike, we should defer to the informed discretion of corrections officials."[49] "Deference to prison administrators is due '[w]hen allocation of resources and the ability of administrators to protect staff and detainees at the facility are at issue.'"[50] Prisons do not need to use the least-restrictive available options.[51] "The *Turner* analysis . . . does not invalidate a policy just because it restricts one of many forms of legal assistance.:[52]

27. And last, in reviewing the fourth factor, "if an inmate claimant can point to an alternative that fully accommodates the prisoner's rights at de minims cost to valid penological interests," the regulation may be unreasonable. "[T]he burden is on the inmate 'to point to an alternative that accommodates their rights at de minimis cost to security."[53]

28. In *United States v. Moi*, the United States District Court for Alaska found a difference in the adequacy of representation that occurred between a private contact visit and a visit conducted behind a plexiglass wall and that difference was an unreasonable interference on the right to counsel for inmates at a specific facility.[54] In *Moi*, the plexiglass barrier prevented the ability to physically exchange material and the room contained other people, including prison visitors.[55] This ruling did not specifically contemplate potentially dangerous prisoners and was instead a review of the prison's COVID protocols.[56]

ARGUMENT

29. The Brig's classification of the Accused as a MAX prisoner is not unduly harsh and is furthers a legitimate, non-punitive Government interest.

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46. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 90.
47. *Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470, *24 (citing *Turner* at 89-90).
48. *Id*. at *25 (citing *Mauro v. Arpaio*, 188 F.3d 1054, 1061 (9th Cir. 1999)).
49. *Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470 at *26 (citing *Mauro*, 188 F.3d at 1062).
50. *Id*. at *26 (quoting *Bull v. City & Cty. Of San Francisco*, 595 F.3d 964, 976 (9th Cir.)).
51. *Thornburgh v. Abbott*, 490 U.S. 401, 411 (1989); *Hammer v. Ashcroft*, 570 F.3d 798, 801 (7th Cir. 2009).
52. *Sebolt v. Samuels*, 749 Fed. Appx. 458, 461 (7th Cir. 2018) (citing *Shaw v. Murphy*, 532 U.S. 223, 230 (2001)).
53. *Id*. (quoting *Casey v. Lewis*, 4 F.3d 1516, 1523 (9th Cir, 1993).
54. *Id*. at *24-27
55. *Id*.
56. *Id*.

30. The Defense has not provided any evidence of an intent to punish. CDR Flanagan's override of the C&A board's recommendation is based on legitimate, non-punitive factors and procedures in SECNAV M-1640.1 and is lawful under *Mosby*. It is therefore related to a legitimate, non-punitive government interest. Moreover, MAX status is not more rigorous than necessary in this case.

31. The Defense boldly asserts "there is absolutely no individualized demonstration of cause warranting CSSN Copeland's continued classification as maximum custody."[57] But the Accused is charged with the most violent offense in the UCMJ and demonstrated a repeated pattern of violent, impulsive behavior spanning across five victims in the months leading up to his confinement.[58] And even then, CDR Flanagan has individually altered that MAX status for the Accused's benefit on two occasions: the step-down program and contact meetings with his attorneys. The Accused's classification as MAX is both individualized and related to a legitimate non-punitive interest.[59]

32. The Defense's citation to two trial-level rulings proves insightful here.[60] Unlike in *United States v. Pate*, the Accused was not reclassified after initially being classified as a different status.[61] And unlike in *United States v. Reimonenq IV,* the accused was not accused of physically violent, impulsive offenses. While CDR Flanagan similarly never intends to reduce the Accused's status, his basis for doing so here is based on legitimate, non-punitive government interests. The court in *Reimonenq IV* selectively quotes the SECNAVINST to say "[c]lassification systems must follow established, but flexible, procedures."[62] But that paragraph is about ensuring prison resources are not "waste[d]" on a large amount of MAX custody prisoners, not to ensure a specific prisoners' reduction in status.[63] And while the SECNAVINST directs that classification be reduced when "warranted," that determination is plainly that of the OICs based on the criteria the SECNAVINST goes on to list immediately thereafter.[64] Nothing in the SECNAVINST says that the brig has to allow even the most objectively dangerous offenders into general population after a period of time. And there is good reason for that. CDR Flanagan permitted a step-down on 11 August and contact visits with his counsel on 6 October to be as "flexible" as is warranted while balancing his responsibilities for the safety of the Accused, his staff, and the other prisoners at his facility. He is best positioned to make this decision and the SECNAVINST permits him to do so for legitimate, non-punitive reasons. He did here in a manner that is not more rigorous than necessary.

33. The facts here more closely mirror the CAAF's opinion in *Mosby* that found no Article 13, UCMJ violation occurred when a pretrial confinee was kept in a MAX status based solely on his

57. Def. Mot. For App. Rel. at 8.
58. *See* Gov. Resp. to Def. Mot. in Lim. (M.R.E. 404(b) and 412) dtd 5 December 2025.
59. *Cf. United States v. King*, 61 M.J. 225 (C.A.A.F. 2005) (finding space constraints an inappropriate justification for segregation of a pretrial prisoner as not "individualized.").
60. Def. Mot. For App. Rel. at 2.
61. Def. Encl. A. at 14.
62. Encl. 3 at 4-10.
63. Encl. 3 at 4-10.
64. Encl. 3 at 4-10 to 4-12.

pending murder allegation. Here, there is similarly no intent to punish and there are legitimate, non-punitive reasons for keeping a suspected highly violent offender in MAX status.

34. Additionally, there is minimal, if any, interference with the Accused's right to counsel because of that status. And any interference is outweighed by the factors in *Turner* and is not unduly harsh. The options available to the Defense for in-person meetings with the Accused (including restrained contact visitation) while he remains in that status are "reasonably related to legitimate penological interests."[65] All four *Turner* factors favor the Government.[66]

35. First, even prior to permitting in-person contact meetings the *Turner* factors favored the Government.

a. There was a valid, rational connection for not allowing contact visits between the Accused and his counsel. The Accused is charged with extreme instances of violent behavior, including murder and violent sexual offenses. And after he had committed his most egregious offenses, he sought to escape. MAX classification, including a limitation on contact visitation, ensured the safety of the staff and other persons and also worked to prevent any escape opportunities. The Accused was also kept in this status for only a reasonable period of time.

b. There were alternative means of exercising the Accused's right to confer with his counsel in private. In addition to phone calls, the Brig was willing to facilitate meetings behind plexiglass that still allow for the transfer of documentation and full privacy, unlike in *Moi*. The Brig was also willing to provide white noise outside of the room to ensure no communications were overheard. While not identical to a contact meeting, any interference with the attorney-client relationship was minimal and should not overcome the discretion given to prison officials.

c. "Deference to prison administrators is due '[w]hen allocation of resources and the ability of administrators to protect staff and detainees at the facility are at issue.'[67] Unlike in *Moi*, the Accused is an alleged highly violent offender and requires additional security measures for a contact visit. Deference should be given to prison administration officials for their justified delay in permitting an exception to this policy.

d. Contact visits were not an easy alternative for the same safety concerns noted above.

36. In summary, any differences between a non-contact visit under these circumstances and a contact visit were minimal. That minimal difference was vastly outweighed when considering the *Tucker* factors. The restrictions in place were also "reasonably related to legitimate penological interests" and are not intended to punish.[68] As such, there was no constitutional violation or violation of Article 13, UCMJ.

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65. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89.
66. *Id*.
67. *Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470 at *26.
68. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89.

37. Second, the *Turner* factors only continue to favor the Government after the Brig made an exception to policy to permit in-person, restrained contact meetings on 6 October 2025.

a. There is a valid, rational connection for not allowing unrestrained contact visits between the Accused and his counsel. The Accused is charged with extreme instances of violent behavior, including murder and violent sexual offenses. And after he had committed his most egregious offenses, he sought to escape. Permitting only restrained contact visitation ensures the safety of the staff and other persons and also works to prevent any escape opportunities.

b. There are alternative means of exercising the Accused's right to confer with his counsel in private. In addition to phone calls, the Brig is willing to facilitate private contact meetings as long as the Accused remains restrained. The Brig is also willing to provide white noise outside of the room to ensure no communications are overheard. Any interference with the attorney-client relationship for a meeting of this type is minimal and should not overcome the discretion given to prison officials. It is not clear why the Defense has not met with their client since 29 October 2025, but this is not due to Government action.

c. "Deference to prison administrators is due '[w]hen allocation of resources and the ability of administrators to protect staff and detainees at the facility are at issue.'[69] The Accused is an alleged highly violent offender and would require additional security measures for an unrestrained contact visit. Deference should be given to prison administration officials here.

d. Unrestrained contact visits are not an easy alternative to the permitted restrained contact visits that have been approved for the same safety concerns noted above. This is not an exaggerated response.

38. In summary, any differences between a restrained contact visit under these circumstances and an unrestrained contact visit are infinitely minimal. That minimal difference is vastly outweighed when considering the *Tucker* factors. The restrictions in place are "reasonably related to legitimate penological interests" and are not intended to punish.[70] There is no violation of the Constitution or Article 13, UCMJ occurring.

39. Neither the pre-6 October 2025 nor post-6 October 2025 limitations on attorney-client meetings were unduly harsh. There is no evidence of an intent to punish and the Accused's MAX status is in furtherance of legitimate, non-punitive penological interests.

REQUESTED RELIEF

40. The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion for appropriate relief.

ENCLOSURES

69. *Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470 at *26.
70. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89.

41. The Government provides the following enclosures in support of this motion:

1. R.C.M. 701 Summary of Interview with CDR Brian Flanagan, USN, dated 2 September 2025.
2. SECNAV M 1640.1, Chapter 4.
3. NAVCONBRIG CHASN SOP 401 dated 14 Jan 2025.
4. Response to Request for a Contact Visit with Counsel ICO CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland dtd 6 Oct 2025.
5. Request for a Contact Visit with Counsel ICO CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland dtd 2 Oct 2025.
6. R.C.M. 701 Summary of Interview with CDR Brian Flanagan, USN, dated 3 December 2025 and Related E-mails.
7. Custody Classification Documentation.
8. Internet Search History of the Accused.

ORAL ARGUMENT

42. The Government requests oral argument if the Court finds jurisdiction to hear this motion.

[redacted]

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**GOVERNMENT SUPPLEMTNAL RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF: ARTICLE 13, UCMJ** **29 MAY 2026**

RESPONSE

1. The Accused's maximum confinement (MAX) status is appropriate and does not violate Article 13, UCMJ. No credit beyond the day for day credit warranted under *United States v. Allen*[1] is appropriate.

2. Critically, the CAAF held in *United States v. Mosby*[2] that solitary pretrial confinement can be appropriate based on a charge for murder alone. There is no reason to deviate from this binding precedent, particularly as in this case where the allegations are more egregious and the Accused has demonstrated insubordinate and alarming behavior while in pretrial confinement. As this Court ruled previously in considering contact visits between the Accused and his counsel, "the Government demonstrated a sufficient connection between the restrictions placed upon the Accused and the legitimate security and safety concerns the Brig leadership has" in making those decisions.[3] This finding should be applied again to Defense's now renewed request for relief from the brig's lawful security decision making. The Accused's pretrial confinement is not punitive and is related to legitimate, nonpunitive government objective. As such, there is no violation of Article 13.

FACTS

3. This filing adopts the facts from the Government's previous filing on this issue and related issues.[4]

4. The Defense's assertion that the Brig OIC has only continued to override reclassification boards is incorrect.[5] The 26 March 2026 C&A Board elevated the point total for the Accused

1. *United States v. Allen*, 17 M.J. 126 (C.M.A. 1984).
2. *United States v. Mosby*, 56 M.J. 309, 310-11 (C.A.A.F. 2002).
3. App. Ex. XCII at 4.
4. App. Exs. XLVIII, XC, and XCII
5. Def. Supp. Mot. Under Art. 13 at 2.

and recommended continued MAX confinement.[6] This increase in points occurred because of disciplinary issues and below average work performance, detailed below and in Appellate Exhibit XC.[7] The same result occurred at the 29 April 2026 C&A Board.[8] Because of these findings, no override of the points system was necessary to maintain a MAX custody classification.

5. On 5 March 2026, brig staff observed bloody tissues on the sink that's located in the front right section of the cell.[9]

6. On 22 March 2026, blood was again found in CSSN Copeland's cell. CSSN Copeland provided it had come from his hands.[10]

7. On 14 April 2026, two separate pools of blood were discovered at the bottom of the door frame of CSSN Copeland's cell.[11]

8. On 22 April, CSSN Copeland stated he had not been going to recreation call or doing personal time because "it feels like an inconvenience."[12]

BURDEN

9. In this motion for appropriate relief, the Defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence and the burden of persuasion as the moving party.[13]

LAW

10. The Government adopts the law from Appellate Exhibits XLVIII and XC.

11. In assessing Article 13, "the question of whether particular conditions amount to punishment before trial is a matter of intent, which is determined by examining the purposes served by the restriction or condition, and whether such purposes are 'reasonably related to a legitimate governmental objective.' [I]n the absence of a showing of intent to punish, a court must look to see if a particular restriction or condition, which may on its face appear to be punishment, is instead but an incident of a legitimate nonpunitive governmental objective."[14]

12. In *United States v. Mosby*, the CAAF held that placement in pretrial solitary confinement did not warrant additional confinement credit even when the sole reason for that confinement was

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6. Encl. 1 at 2.
7. Encl. 1 at 2.
8. Encl. 1 at 3.
9. Encl. 2.
10. Encl. 3.
11. Encl. 4.
12. Encl. 5.
13. R.C.M. 905(c)(1) & (2).
14. *United Staes v. Guardado*, 79 M.J. 301 (C.A.A.F. 2020) (citing *Howell v. United States*, 75 M.J. 386 (C.A.A.F. 2016) (internal citations omitted).

the Accused's alleged misconduct. In *Mosby*, the Accused was placed in pretrial confinement after he was alleged to have "lost his temper and struck his 5 week-old baby's head against a coffee table and against his own knee."[15] There was also evidence "indicating a possible prior assault on the child" as well as evidence that "the confinee has trouble controlling his temper."[16] During his time in pretrial confinement, the accused was in solitary confinement. The military judge limited his decision to not award pretrial confinement credit for that solitary confinement to these facts.[17]

13. The CAAF held that the military judge's ruling was not an abuse of direction.[18] Specifically, the CAAF found that the military judge's decision to not award credit under Article 13 when the only evidence of intent to punish was placement in pretrial solitary confinement based on the alleged offenses alone was not an abuse of discretion.[19] The CAAF also found that the confinement officials' decision on this point was also appropriate.[20]

ARGUMENT

14. The Accused is not entitled to additional pretrial confinement credit as there is no evidence of an intent to punish and the Accused's placement in MAX furthers a legitimate, non-punitive Government interest.

15. Primarily, there is no evidence of an intent to punish the Accused by placing him in a MAX status. In *Mosby*, the CAAF found no abuse of discretion when the accused was placed into pretrial solitary confinement based solely on his alleged misconduct. Here, the Accused's misconduct is more severe than that in *Mosby*. Not only did the Accused murder another adult Sailor, he demonstrated a history over the 11 months prior to that murder of escalating, impulsive, violent misconduct, including two separate allegations of strangulation prior to the murder.

16. As in *Mosby*, the Accused's placement in MAX due to his alleged misconduct is not evidence of intent to punish. As the CAAF held in *Mosby* (and contrary to the assertions of the Defense), MAX classification based on an allegation of murder is entirely appropriate.[21] The Defense's repeated assertions otherwise should not be persuasive—they have failed to distinguish this precedent (and have failed to mention it at all).[22]

17. And even despite this lawful basis for solitary confinement, CDR Flanagan has demonstrated flexibility throughout the Accused's pretrial confinement. He has allowed the Accused additional

15. *Mosby*, 56 M.J. at 310.
16. *Id*.
17. *Id*. at 310-11.
18. *Id*.
19. *Id*.
20. *Mosby*, 56 M.J. at 310-11.
21. *Id*.
22. *See* App. Ex. XLVIII at 7 (explaining why the cases cited by the Defense are distinguishable).

time out of his cell and allowed contact visits with his attorneys and experts when appropriate—even in the face of documented misconduct by the Accused since he has been confined.

18. There is also no basis to believe CDR Flanagan is punishing the Accused because of the actions of his counsel as suggested by the Defense. Any statements from CDR Flanagan in properly educating defense counsel on the law and his authority as the Brig OIC are entirely appropriate. Simply because Defense did not get from the brig what they demanded, does not equate to a personal animus against defense counsel. CDR Flanagan, as the OIC, is tasked with the safety and security of all personnel under his authority. He makes fact-specific individualized risk assessments for pretrial prisoners and these decisions are not related to punishment. As this Court recently ruled, the Brig's actions towards the Accused specific to his meetings with counsel have been lawful. Repeated attempts by defense counsel to personally challenge CDR Flanagan's authority on these matters are both incorrect and inappropriate, but are not cause for animus against their client.

19. Of note, the Accused has proven the precautions taken by CDR Flanagan and authorized by the CAAF in *Mosby* to be fortuitous. Since being confined, the Accused has harmed himself and been insubordinate. He also has stated he could create a weapon and threatened that he would "lose it" eventually.[23] MAX status is completely appropriate.

20. Moreover, the Brig's classification of the Accused as a MAX prisoner furthers a legitimate, non-punitive Government interest. As this Court ruled in a related motion specific to the Brig's restrictions on the Accused meeting with his counsel in a contact setting, "the Government demonstrated a sufficient connection between the restrictions placed upon the Accused and the legitimate security and safety concerns the Brig leadership has" in making those decisions.[24] The Brigs legitimate concerns are not limited to only his interactions with counsel, but all personnel in the Brig. As such, there should be no doubt these MAX restrictions as a whole are appropriate and advance a legitimate, non-punitive government interest.

21. In conclusion, if the Accused was confined and placed in solitary pretrial confinement based on allegation of jaywalking, there would be a basis to suggest Article 13 has been violated. But the Accused is in pretrial confinement for a horrific murder that served as the exclamation point on an escalating series of impulsive, violent, and life-threatening actions. Even more so than in *Mosby*, the Accused's continued MAX status based on these allegations—let alone his behavior while in the brig— is not a violation of Article 13. These restrictions are instead merely the product of "legitimate security and safety concerns the Brig leadership has."[25]

REQUESTED RELIEF

22. The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion for appropriate relief. The Accused is entitled to 366 days on confinement credit for his time in pretrial confinement.

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23. App. Ex. XC, Encl. 8 at 1-2.
24. App. Ex. XCII at 4.
25. App. Ex. XCII at 4.

ENCLOSURES

23. The Government provides the following enclosures in support of this motion:

9. C&A Board Results for Jan-Apr 2026.
10. 05 MAR 26 – Observation Report
11. 22 MAR 26 – Observation Report
12. 14 APR 26 – Observation Report
13. 22 APR 26 – Status Report

ORAL ARGUMENT

24. The Government requests oral argument.

[redacted]

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JEREMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**R.C.M. 701(a) DISCLOSURE**

On 2 September 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed CDR Brian Flanagan, USN, in the presence of Ms. Sharell Welch, RSC(AW) Amanda Cole, USN and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN at RLSO MIDLANT. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

CDR Flanagan explained that CSSN COPELAND is currently in a maximum security confinement status (MAX), with some special conditions. As such, COPELAND is permitted to be out of his cell for three hours a day; one hour to clean the p-way and showers, one hour for personal time, and one hour for recreation. The hour to clean is a recent addition and is considered a "step down" from his full MAX status and is permitted without supervision. This began on 11 August 2025. Prior to 11 August, he spent 22 hours a day in his cell.

While in MAX, he is allowed phone calls and visitation by his defense counsel in a no-contact booth in addition to the three hours he is normally allowed out of his cell. The no-contact room is private, has plexi-glass with slots to allow the parties to pass documents between client and attorney, allows for videos to be seen by the client, and can have white noise machines placed outside of the room to further ensure conversations cannot be overheard by anyone outside of the attorney-client privilege relationship. Any phone call requests made by the defense attorney during business hours (between 0730 and 1530) will be accommodated, even if the requested call time is outside of business hours.

In accordance with the Chesapeake Brig Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and the SECNAVMAN-1640.1, contact visits between COPELAND and defense counsel would not be permitted while he is in a MAX status. Every 30 days, COPELAND may participate in a C&A Board that evaluates his security risk as a prisoner, and makes recommendations to the OIC, CDR Flanagan, as to any changes to COPELAND's security status. COPELAND has participated in the last two C&A Boards, and was informed that he has the right to appeal the determination of the C&A Board. COPELAND has not appealed any of the determinations of the C&A Board (which have kept him in a MAX status).

CDR Flanagan reported that there have not been any behavioral issues with COPELAND and

that he has attended at least one class while at the Brig. In addition to his behavior at the brig, the C&A Board must consider factors such as the prisoners' civilian and military record, the seriousness of the offenses alleged, and the potential length of confinement awarded if found guilty in calculating a certain amount of points. Once a certain point threshold is met, the classification status can change. CDR Flanagan can override the decision of the C&A Board under limited circumstances. CDR Flanagan did not foreclose the opportunity that COPELAND may be able to leave MAX at some point based on consideration of these factors even with the charges he is facing. However, he acknowledge reclassification is unlikely. He explained that the opportunity for an hour to clean the p-way and his shower was a recent step down to allow COPELAND an opportunity to prove his good behavior. A recommendation from the trial counsel would not influence the brig's decision on classification.

CDR Flanagan expressed a separate concern that the general population of the Chesapeake Brig has been exposed to the local news and he has some concern for COPELAND's safety if COPELAND were to be moved to general population based on the news coverage his case has attracted.

To date, Defense Counsel has not requested to use a white noise machine during visits with COPELAND at the brig. The email sent by Defense Counsel that asked about having COPELAND attend a meeting at the Defense Service Office was responded to with a logistical explanation of such a movement, as well as what accommodations were available within the Brig for a meeting that ensured attorney-client privilege. If the command decided that such a meeting was appropriate, the Brig would not be able to prevent the command from taking COPELAND to meet with his counsel at a separate location.

/s/
K. E. Vanetti
LN1, USN, Trial Paralegal

Chapter 4: Control, Security, and Emergencies

Section 1. Prisoner Accountability System

4101. Master Control Center Function

1. The control center is the focal point for all military correctional facility (MCF) security and control operations. The control center must be utilized for 24-hour continuously staffed monitoring and coordinating of the MCF's security, life, safety, and communications systems. It is here that all prisoner movements are directed, controlled, and accounted for; that all active keys are controlled and accounted for; where the entry and exit of all prisoners, staff, and visitors are controlled; and where emergency equipment may be stored. Main communications terminals, both regular and emergency, are located in the control center. Outside telephone switchboards will not be operated from the control center during normal daytime working hours. Master count records and the brig log are maintained in the control center and the reports of daily counts are prepared and verified there.

2. The control center must be manned and its security integrity maintained at all times. Access to the control center will be limited to only authorized personnel designated in writing by the brig officer. Prisoners must not be allowed access to the control center under any circumstances.

4102. Control Center Accountability Systems

1. Certain basic information must be maintained and controlled to ensure adequate accountability of prisoners at all times. Accountability systems will be controlled and maintained in the control center. The extent of these systems will be tailored to meet local needs. Many required accountability forms and reports, required per reference (z) and this manual, can be generated and accessed by utilizing the Correctional Management Information System (CORMIS) or its electronic equivalent.

2. Accountability System Elements

a. DD 2707 Confinement Order. A copy of the confinement order will be delivered to the control center by the Receiving and Release (R&R) supervisor immediately upon receipt of a new

prisoner. The control center supervisor will make necessary adjustments to count records and the brig log.

b. Prisoner Identification Badge. Four prisoner identification badges will be created by R&R upon arrival of a new prisoner. A badge is given to the prisoner. A badge is forwarded to the supervisor responsible for records management for inclusion in the prisoner's individual confinement record. A badge is forwarded to the control center for inclusion in the control center's master file. A badge is forwarded to the prisoner's quarters supervisor. The control center will maintain their copies of prisoner identification badges in alphabetical order and in a readily visible file in the control center. New badges will be added only when new prisoners are received and those on file will be removed from the master file only upon receipt of an updated prisoner badge or an executed DD 2718 Prisoner Release Order. Removed badges will be forwarded to the supervisor responsible for records management.

c. Quarters Assignment Record. This record will follow the living quarters configuration of the MCF and show where each prisoner is specifically assigned (rack or cell). This billeting information will also be maintained in CORMIS or its electronic equivalent.

d. Work Assignment Record. This record is established to accommodate local work assignments for quick verification of work detail and location of the prisoner. Work assignment information will also be maintained in CORMIS or its electronic equivalent.

e. Out-Count Record. Format may be a wall chart or a log that, at a minimum, has the prisoner's name, status, custody, destination, and departure time.

f. Daily Change Sheet (DCS). Initiated by the classification and adjustment (C&A) board, a listing of all authorized changes of status, custody, program, billeting, and work assignments must be prepared each workday. The DCS must be authenticated by the brig officer's signature and distributed to applicable posts. All housing moves, except emergencies, must be accomplished in conjunction with the DCS.

g. Daily Appointment Sheet. A daily appointment sheet will be prepared listing all authorized prisoner appointments for the following workday (e.g.; medical appointments, legal appointments, etc.) and distributed to all applicable posts. The daily appointment sheet will list prisoner name, date and time of the appointment, appointment location, and any other relevant information (e.g.; escorts' names for outside agency escorts, uniform, fasting required for medical). This may be generated by CORMIS or its electronic equivalent from data previously entered.

h. DD 2718 Prisoner Release Order. A copy of an executed release order will be delivered to the control center for verification, log entries, and updating the count log.

i. Brig Log. The brig log is the permanent record of daily and historical events and other significant events of the operation of the MCF. It will be maintained in the control center and reviewed and countersigned by the command duty officer (CDO) or duty brig supervisor (DBS) at the conclusion of each shift. An accurate running count must be included in this log. Refer to section 8104 of this manual for other pertinent information to be logged in the brig log. Where authorized by Bureau of Naval Personnel Corrections and Programs Office (BUPERS-00D) and Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps (Plans, Policies, and Operations (DC PPO)), an electronic brig log may be maintained.

4103. Counts

1. A minimum of three formal scheduled prisoner counts must be made daily (reveille, end of workday, and taps). More frequent and informal counts may be required depending on prisoner population and physical characteristics of the MCF; however, the frequency of counts will not unduly interfere with normal workday activity. In addition to scheduled counts, work supervisors and quarters supervisors shall be required to make irregular but frequent checks of all prisoners under their supervision, the frequency of checks shall not exceed one hour. There must be periodic bed checks of all prisoners during the night; however, prisoners must not be awakened for this purpose and silent counts will be used. Routine formal counts will be scheduled at times that will not interfere with work, training, sleep, or recreation schedules. Results and times of all counts

(i.e.; scheduled, unscheduled, or others directed by local policy) must be entered into the brig log.

2. Brig officers will develop, publish, and train staff to conduct count.

3. Under no circumstances will prisoners assist staff with count.

4. Unscheduled counts may be conducted whenever deemed necessary.

5. The control center will verify prisoner accountability, by telephone, the presence of all overnight temporary absences during regularly scheduled counts.

4104. Prisoner Movement

1. Activities and movements of prisoners must be controlled, orderly, punctual, and well supervised.

2. Prisoner passes or electronic prisoner tracking systems (e.g., biometrics) will be used in MCFs to control unescorted prisoner movements (exceptions may be made for installation custody prisoners). Either system will be used for instances which require prisoners to leave their regular details. Strict control of either system must be maintained. All staff and prisoners must be instructed in the operation of the MCF prisoner movement system and procedures.

3. In lieu of an Armed Forces identification card, installation custody prisoners will carry a DD 512 Installation Custody Agreement describing their status and limits of movement when outside of the security perimeter of the MCF.

4105. Sally Port Operations

1. A sally port is basic to the secure operation of any MCF. Used properly, it affords security and control over entry to and exit from the MCF.

2. The following procedures must be followed in sally port operations:

a. Provisions will be made to prevent two doors or gates from being inadvertently opened at the same time;

b. If sally port doors or gates are electrically operated, the controls will be located inside the control center or within a secure post that has an unobstructed view of the sally port; and

c. If the sally port is used primarily for vehicles, it must be constructed so the largest vehicle entering can be contained inside with both gates closed. Ensure that any prisoners accompanying a vehicle have been properly logged out of the MCF by the control center supervisor. All vehicles entering and exiting a sally port must be searched for contraband and prisoner escape attempts.

Section 2. Prisoner Custody Classification

4201. Purpose and Definitions

1. Purpose. Custody classifications establish the degree of supervision and restraint needed for control of individual prisoners. Custody classification allows for and supports graduated release through a systematic decrease in supervision and a corresponding increase in prisoner responsibility as part of the classification program. Custody classifications provide guidance for supervision of prisoners and permit establishment of security measures consistent with requirements of the individual. Where there is fair and impartial treatment, prisoners generally present no serious disciplinary problems. There are some prisoners, however, who can be uncooperative or aggressive. Efforts must be made to identify all special cases and control measures instituted to ensure the safe and orderly administration of the MCF. An objective-based custody classification process that addresses the characteristics of the prisoners must be used per reference (z) and this manual. CORMIS, which incorporates the objective-based classification process, or CORMIS' electronic equivalent, will be employed.

2. Classification Definitions. Every prisoner must be assigned one of the following custody classifications:

a. Maximum Custody (MAX). Prisoners requiring special custodial supervision because of the high probability of escape

or are potentially violent or dangerous, and whose escape would cause concern of a threat to life, property, or national security. Ordinarily, only a small percentage of prisoners will be classified as MAX.

(1) Supervision. When inside their cell, observation checks by MCF staff will be at irregular intervals not to exceed 15 minutes. DD 509 Inspection Record of Prisoner in Segregation must be posted outside the cell door and appropriate entries made at least every 15 minutes. Two or more staff members must be present when MAX prisoners are out of their cell or the cell door is opened, and supervision must be immediate (e.g., near at hand or close proximity) and continuous (e.g., without loss or interval of time) unless physical plant design negates this requirement. Camera cells may be utilized for constant observation but do not replace the requirement for staff to physically view the prisoner in the prisoner's cell.

(2) Work. MAX prisoners will not be assigned to work details outside of their cell.

(3) Quarters. MAX prisoners must be assigned to the restricted housing unit (RHU).

(4) Restraints and Escorts

(a) MAX prisoners must wear hand-irons when outside of their cells in the RHU, unless the facility's design supports security and control, negating this requirement.

(b) Max prisoners must wear full restraints (hand irons, transport belt, and leg irons) and be escorted by a minimum of two escorts at all times when outside the RHU area. Exceptions may only be made for exigent circumstances (fire or safety) or on a case-by-case basis (court appearance or military judge ordered). The brig officer or designee will be notified of any request to remove restraints.

b. Medium Custody In (MDI). Prisoners who present security risks not warranting MAX.

(1) Supervision. Direct supervision within the security perimeter, and immediate and continuous when outside the security perimeter.

(2) Work. MDI prisoners must not be assigned to work details outside the security perimeter.

(3) Quarters. MDI prisoners will normally be assigned to general population housing where direct supervision is required.

(4) Restraints and Escorts

(a) MDI prisoners will not normally wear restraints inside the security perimeter. Any MDI prisoner required to wear restraints inside the security perimeter will be assigned to the RHU.

(b) MDI prisoners must wear hand irons and a transport belt at a minimum when outside the security perimeter unless the brig officer or designee directs otherwise. Escorts will carry leg irons.

(c) MDI prisoners must be escorted by at least two escorts at all times outside the security perimeter. When transporting multiple MDI prisoners, the brig officer or designee may direct only one escort be required for each additional MDI prisoner. Exceptions may only be made for exigent circumstances (fire or safety) or on a case-by-case basis (court appearance or military judge ordered). The brig officer or designee (senior security personnel) will be notified of any request to remove restraints.

c. Medium Custody Out (MDO). Prisoners who present security risks not warranting MDI.

(1) Supervision. Direct supervision within the security perimeter, and immediate and continuous when outside the security perimeter.

(2) Work. MDO prisoners may be assigned to work details inside or outside the security perimeter.

(3) Quarters. MDO prisoners will normally be assigned to general population housing where direct supervision is required.

(4) Restraints and Escorts

(a) MDO prisoners are not required to wear restraints while inside or outside the security perimeter. Escorts will carry hand irons when escorting MDO prisoners outside of the security perimeter.

(b) MDO prisoners require at least one escort when outside the security perimeter. Working party and other escort ratios will be determined by the brig officer or designee when escorted by MCF staff. Escort ratios for command escorts must be no less than one escort per five MDO prisoners.

d. Minimum Custody (MIN). Prisoners who present security risks not warranting higher classifications.

(1) Supervision. Will be occasional (periodic, situational dependent, and accountable as necessary by supervisory staff) within the security perimeter or outside the security perimeter.

(2) Work. MIN prisoners are normally assigned work outside the security perimeter.

(3) Quarters. MIN prisoners will normally be assigned to general population housing.

(4) Restraints and Escorts

(a) MIN prisoners are not required to wear restraints while inside or outside the security perimeter. Escorts will carry hand irons when escorting MIN prisoners outside of the security perimeter.

(b) MIN prisoners will require at least one escort when outside the security perimeter. Working party and other escort ratios will be determined by the brig officer or designee when escorted by MCF staff. Escort ratios for command escorts must be no less than 1 escort per 10 MIN prisoners.

e. Installation Custody (IC). Prisoners who present minimal security risks not warranting higher classifications.

(1) Supervision. Require only limited supervision. They may work and move about much the same as individuals in normal duty status.

(2) Work. IC prisoners are normally assigned work outside the security perimeter.

(3) Quarters. IC prisoners normally will be assigned to general population housing but may be housed outside the security perimeter.

(4) Restraints and Escorts

(a) IC prisoners are not required to wear restraints while inside or outside the security perimeter.

(b) IC prisoners normally will not require escorts when outside the security perimeter.

(5) Selection Criteria for IC

(a) Have completed at least one half of the confinement adjudged or the convening authority has taken action, whichever occurs first.

(b) Not more than 12 months from adjusted minimum release date or approved supervised release date.

(c) Consideration must be taken into account as to the nature of offense and applicable Federal, State, and local laws concerning unsupervised release for work and recreation into local geographical areas (especially those areas with schools, daycare centers, housing, etc.).

(d) Have not been removed previously from this custody for cause.

(e) IC prisoners must sign DD 512 Installation Custody Agreement and carry it with them at all times when outside the MCF's security perimeter. A locally prepared agreement listing the limitations on movement outside the MCF must be agreed to, signed by IC prisoners, and countersigned by the MCF commanding officer (CO). The DD 512 will be turned in and checked out from the R&R supervisor as required.

Assignments will depend on the ability to handle responsibility and, whenever possible, be commensurate to the prisoner's previous training, skill, needs of the Service, and potential training value to the prisoner.

(6) Additional Privileges. Additional privileges such as attending the installation theater, library, sports events or similar activities, and messing sequence may be authorized by the MCF CO.

4202. Classification Criteria

1. Custody classification will be based on the amount of supervision and restraint each prisoner requires.

2. All new prisoners, except those specifically deemed serious management problems, must be assigned an MDI custody classification during the reception phase. Pretrial prisoners must not be assigned any custody classification except MDI or MAX.

3. Ultra-conservative custody classification results in a waste of prisoner and staff manpower. A large number of MAX and MDI prisoners reduces the number of staff available for supervision of the kinds of productive work available to lower custody classifications. Classification systems must follow established, but flexible, procedures.

4. Prisoners will be placed in a lower custody classification as soon as practical and as warranted.

5. Override of the Objective-Based Screening Decision

a. The below factors, though not all-inclusive, are considered in assessing whether to override the objective-based classification system to increase a prisoner’s custody:

(1) Assaultive behavior;

(2) Disruptive behavior;

(3) Serious drug abuse;

(4) Serious civil or military criminal record (convicted or alleged);

(5) Low tolerance of frustration;

(6) Intensive acting out or dislike of the military;

(7) History of previous escape(s);

(8) Pending civil charges or detainers filed;

(9) Serving a sentence that the individual considers unjust or severe;

(10) Poor home conditions or family relationships;

(11) Emotional or mental instability;

(12) Indication of unwillingness to accept responsibility for personal actions, past and present;

(13) Demonstrated pattern of poor judgment;

(14) Length, or potential length, of sentence;

(15) Gang affiliation or ties with disruptive organizations;

(16) Awaiting transfer;

(17) A sentence length exceeding the designated length of confinement authorized at the MCF; and

(18) Refusal to accept or participate in recommended treatment or education programs.

b. The below factors, though not all-inclusive, are considered in assessing whether to override the objective-based classification system to decrease a prisoner's custody:

(1) Clear military record, aside from present offense;

(2) Close family ties - good home conditions;

(3) The offense(s) charged is not serious;

(4) Emotional and mental stability;

(5) Comparatively short sentence to confinement; however, length of sentence will not be a sole overriding factor;

(6) Behavior during confinement, and

(7) Successful completion of, or active participation in, offense-related treatment programs or groups.

c. The factors mentioned above are only indicators, not ironclad rules; therefore, the brig officer will consider objective-based overrides where applicable. An evaluation of all phases of the prisoner's performance will be made prior to each custody change. By following the criteria and concepts outlined in this chapter, the brig officer should be able to make more efficient use of staff and provide an atmosphere in which rehabilitative efforts will be more effective.

6. Adult Internal Management System (AIMS). An AIMS classification will be determined for each prisoner confined in level II MCFs. This is a five-level classification of prisoners based on aggressiveness of personality and methods of problem management used by an individual. AIMS is never used for custody or incentive determination but is very useful for housing and programming prisoners together in order to maximize their opportunities to succeed and to utilize programs offered. Each C&A Board will consider (but not be bound by) a prisoner's AIMS classification in assignment of berthing, program, and work assignment. AIMS classification is applicable only to male prisoners. AIMS is integrated within CORMIS or its electronic equivalent.

4203. Evaluation of Prisoners

1. All members supervising prisoners will be responsible for evaluating prisoners and must submit periodic written reports on their performance. Quarters supervisors and work supervisors will complete a prisoner evaluation, no less than monthly, to show levels of performance on a continuing basis. The evaluation must be submitted on DD 2712 Prisoner Evaluation.

2. A prisoner program plan must be developed for each post-trial prisoner to identify and prioritize all required and recommended correctional programs. The program plan will serve as the central source for documenting program progress and completion. The prisoner program plan should take into account the prisoner's sentence length, confining offense(s), needs, and program sequence.

3. Each staff member has responsibility for communicating information concerning prisoners to the proper authority in the MCF. The behavior and attitude of the prisoner in living quarters, at work, in recreation, and in a classroom provides a good overall indicator of problem areas and adjustment progress. Continuous documented staff evaluation of each prisoner cannot be overemphasized.

4204. C&A Board and Unit Team Management (UTM)

1. The C&A board will establish a prisoner's custody classification using objective-based classification or reclassification procedures. When the C&A Board convenes to develop prisoner classification and assignment, it will be composed of the brig officer, or designated representative, and members from varying departments of the MCF as appointed in writing by the MCF CO. At a minimum, the C&A Board must be comprised of a chairperson and no fewer than two additional members to ensure a multi-disciplinary perspective. See article 6401 of this manual for program functions of the C&A Board.

2. UTM. Level II MCFs may utilize UTM principles in the operation of their C&A boards. Unit teams oversee prisoner program plans, custody classification, incentive levels, and counseling on a routine basis. Unit teams are comprised, at a minimum, of a unit manager, case manager or counselor, leading chief petty officer or leading petty officer (or Military Service equivalent), and quarters supervisor(s).

4205. Quarters

1. General Population Quarters

a. To the largest extent that design and staffing allow, newly confined prisoners generally will be housed in an orientation quarters, that may be located in the RHU, and

administered separately from post-orientation prisoners. During reception processing and orientation, prisoners will be objectively evaluated and a custody classification assigned prior to transfer to the general population.

b. Although preferred, there is no requirement that prisoners of different legal status (pretrial or post-trial) be berthed separately. Separation of prisoners may be by custody or AIMS classification or both (see article 4202.6 of this manual). Optimum situations permit housing different custody classification prisoners in different and separate areas. In many MCFs, practicality dictates commingling of prisoners in the same quarters; however, every effort will be made to maintain separate berthing where possible and when staffing allows. Direct supervision is required in general population housing.

2. RHU

a. The RHU provides living conditions similar to those of the general population; all exceptions will be clearly documented. RHU cells will be designed to permit prisoners to converse with and be observed by staff members. Prisoners are assigned to the RHU by the brig officer or designee and will not have normal privileges restricted unless privileges must be withheld for reasons of security or prisoner safety. In these cases, all restrictions must be documented on a special handling letter and signed by the brig officer or designee.

b. Definitions of Segregation Categories. Abbreviated segregation statuses listed below align with those in CORMIS or its electronic equivalent.

(1) Administrative Segregation (AS). A form of separation from the general population when the presence of the prisoner in general population poses a serious threat to life, property, self, staff, or other prisoners, or to the good order and discipline of the MCF. This segregation category is administrative in nature and may be for relatively extensive periods of time. Sub-categories of AS coincide with housing assignments in CORMIS or its electronic equivalent. Assignment to and removal from AS is authorized by the brig officer or designee.

(a) Medical Segregation (MED). MED is utilized for medical reasons.

(b) Prevention of Injury (POI). POI may be recommended by clinical, medical, CDO or DBS.

(c) Suicide Risk (SR)

1. Prisoners who are considered suicidal must be immediately referred to the medical department, clinical services, or mental health department for further evaluation and appropriate action, which may include hospitalization. References (aa) and (ab) provide guidelines in cases involving emergencies, specialized treatment or evaluation, or psychiatric treatment that cannot be deferred.

2. Such prisoners are normally hospitalized, but if not, the prisoner must be placed in the status of "SR" for continuous observation.

3. SR prisoners must be under continuous observation. Direct physical observation must be by a staff member and considered a primary duty. For documentation purposes, a logbook must be maintained by the staff observer (prisoner's name, date, observer, time the observer took over and ended the shift to include relief, and behavioral remarks as applicable). Annotation on the prisoner's DD 509 Inspection Record of Prisoner in Segregation will be made every 5 minutes. Supplemental (physical) sighting of and visit to suicide risk prisoners will be officially recorded on DD 509 and include date, time, name of visitor, and any appropriate remarks.

4. At levels II and III MCFs, a suicide watch companion program may be authorized by BUPERS-00D or DC PPO.

5. The brig officer or designee may direct removal of a prisoner's clothing and replacement with a suicide protection smock or privacy gown, or approved suicide blanket when deemed necessary by medical, clinical, or the CDO or DBS.

6. When no longer considered to be a suicide risk by medical officers, psychiatrists, doctoral-level clinical psychologists, or doctoral-level clinical social workers with

clinical practice privileges, prisoners will be returned or stepped-down to POI or placed back in appropriate quarters.

(d) Escape Risk (ER). ER may be recommended by CDO or DBS or by the C&A Board due to seriousness of offense, misconduct while in confinement, or confinement capabilities.

(e) Potentially Violent or Dangerous (PVD). PVD may be recommended by CDO or DBS or by the C&A Board due to seriousness of offense, confinement capabilities, or dangerous conduct previously in general population.

(f) Pending Investigation (PI). PI may be recommended if the prisoner cannot be left in general population during an investigation.

(g) Loss of Privileges (LOP). LOP is used only when necessary to enforce loss of certain privileges requiring the prisoner to be housed in the RHU. LOP can also be served in general population based on the magnitude of the lost privileges.

(h) Awaiting Transfer (AT). A prisoner may be placed in AT when waiting to transfer to another facility.

(i) Protective Custody (PC). PC is a form of separation from the general population for prisoners requesting or requiring protection from other prisoners for reasons of health and safety. Admission to PC, to include rationale, must be fully documented with a consent form signed by the prisoner. Assignment to and removal from PC may be authorized by the brig officer or designee.

(j) Indoctrination (INDOC). Newly arriving prisoners assigned to the orientation program will normally be berthed in RHU on INDOC status until medically and clinically cleared to join general population.

(2) Disciplinary Segregation (DS). A form of separation from the general population directed by the approving authority after due process, in which prisoners committing violations of conduct, considered serious from an institutional standpoint, are housed within the RHU.

3. Procedures

a. Assignment to the RHU is not a punitive measure, except for DS, and must not be used as such. Prisoners must be aware of the reason they are assigned to the RHU and acknowledge in writing the limitations of their assigned status. All authorized special handling instructions that impact prisoners in the RHU must be annotated on a special handling letter.

b. When a prisoner is transferred to the RHU, health care staff will be informed immediately and will provide a screening and review as indicated by the protocols established by the health authority. Unless medical attention is needed more frequently, each prisoner in the RHU will receive a daily visit from a qualified health care professional. The visit ensures that offenders have access to the health care system. The presence of a health care provider in the RHU will be recorded on DD 509. The frequency of physician visits to the RHU is determined by the health authority.

c. All prisoners in the RHU will be under direct supervision. They will be sighted at least once every 15 minutes by a staff member and will be visited daily by members of the programs staff and the brig officer or designee. In addition, it is highly desirable that prisoners in the RHU be visited daily by a chaplain. Prisoners who are violent or who demonstrate unusual behavior may receive observation that is more frequent. The DD 509 must be used to document each sighting and visit to any RHU prisoner. Documentation of visits will include date, time, name of visitor, and any appropriate remarks.

d. Prisoners in the RHU must have the opportunity to be outside of their cell for at least 2 hours daily. The 2 hours may be comprised of opportunities for sunshine, recreation, exercise call, education, clinically appropriate treatment therapies, skill-building, and social interaction with staff and other prisoners. The amount of time and type of opportunity will depend on the prisoner's status; however, at a minimum, all prisoners residing in the RHU who are not designated as on a specific restricted housing reportable status must receive 2 hours outside of their cell daily. If a prisoner is a safety or security concern and cannot receive 2 hours outside of their

cell daily, they will be classified as a specific RH-reportable status and will be handled per article 4206 of this manual.

e. Alternative meal service may be provided to a prisoner in the RHU who uses food or feeding utensils in a manner that is hazardous to self, staff, or other prisoners. Alternative meal service will be on an individual basis, based on health or safety considerations only, meets basic nutritional requirements, and occurs with the written approval of the brig officer or designee, or responsible health authority. The substitution period must not exceed 7 days.

f. Prisoners in the RHU can write and receive letters on the same basis as prisoners in general population.

g. Prisoners in the RHU have opportunities for visitation unless there are substantial reasons for withholding such privileges. These restrictions must be documented on a special handling letter.

h. Prisoners in the RHU are allowed telephone privileges, unless restricted for cause or under investigation concerning the abuse of telephone privileges. Prisoners on DS are allowed limited telephone privileges. Regardless of status, prisoners in the RHU will have unlimited access to telephone calls related specifically to their attorney of record.

i. Prisoners in the RHU, regardless of status, must have access to legal materials, available legal reference materials, allowed access to legal counsel, access to courts, and access to reading or library materials.

j. Prisoners in the RHU will have access (which may or may not include attendance) to programs and services that include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Educational services;

(2) Commissary services;

(3) Library services;

(4) Social services;

(5) Counseling services;

(6) Religious guidance; and

(7) Recreational programs

4. Review of Segregated Prisoners

a. 72-Hour Review. The status of each prisoner placed in the RHU must be reviewed by the C&A Board within 72 hours of assignment of the RHU status. A prisoner placed in the RHU under PI status must be reviewed within 24-hours. This PI review may be accomplished through means other than the C&A Board as dictated through local policy.

b. 7-Day Review. A review of the status for prisoners in the RHU by the C&A Board must be conducted at least every 7 days for the first 60 days and every 30 days thereafter.

c. 30-Day Review

(1) A credentialed mental health provider must personally interview and provide a written report on any prisoner remaining in the RHU over 30 days. If segregation continues beyond 30 days, a credentialed mental health provider must make an assessment at least every 3 months, or more frequently if prescribed by the MCF medical officer, psychiatrist, or clinical services director. Prisoners in the RHU may develop symptoms of acute anxiety or other mental problems; regular psychological assessment helps ensure the mental health of anyone in the RHU for over 30 days.

(2) DS. A review of the status for prisoners in DS for more than 30 days must be reviewed and approved by the MCF CO. If a prisoner is in DS over 60 days, the prisoner must be provided the same program services and privileges as prisoners in AS (security and safety concerns permitting).

4206. Restrictive Housing (RH). Reference (ac) details RH policy for use within MCFs. RH-reportable status must only be utilized in extreme situations when no other corrections alternative is available.

1. Definition. Any type of detention or segregation that involves all three of these basic elements triggers an RH-reportable status:

a. Removal from the general prisoner population, whether voluntary or involuntary

b. Placement in a locked room or cell, whether alone or with another prisoner

c. Inability to leave the room or cell for the vast majority of the day, typically more than 22 hours.

2. Placement in RH-Reportable Status

a. Prisoners will be housed in the least restrictive setting necessary to ensure their own safety, as well as the safety of staff, other prisoners, and the public. Assignment of a prisoner to the RHU does not necessarily mean the prisoner is in an RH-reportable status. RH-reportable status may only be used for a prisoner in the RHU if there is no safer alternative. To administer the corrections mission safely, a prisoner in the RHU may meet the definitional parameters in paragraph 4206.1 of this manual.

b. MCFs must strive to limit the use of RH-reportable statuses whenever possible, and to the extent used, to limit the length of a prisoner's stay and to identify services including group, educational, and therapeutic services that the prisoner can safely participate in while in an RH-reportable status.

c. A RH-reportable status must always serve a specific correctional purpose. In each instance, MCFs must clearly articulate and document the specific reason(s) for a prisoner's placement and retention in an RH-reportable status. CORMIS or its electronic equivalent is the primary method for documenting all prisoner record entries. The reason(s) and duration for use of an RH-reportable status must be supported by objective-based rationale and factual statements. Prisoners will remain in the RH-reportable status for no longer than necessary to address the specific reason(s) for their placement.

d. A prisoner's initial placement in an RH-reportable status will be reviewed by the C&A Board the next business day

and ongoing placement in an RH-reportable status will be reviewed by the C&A Board every business day in an attempt to remove the prisoner from the RH-reportable status as soon as possible. This review will include not only security and housing staff but also medical and mental health professionals and be endorsed by the MCF CO.

e. All correctional staff will be trained annually on RH policies (inclusive of pre-service and in-service training). Correctional supervisors must ensure compliance with RH policies and training standards. This training will be reflected in staff training records. Emphasis must be placed on the difference of being housed in the RHU vice actually being in an RH-reportable status.

f. MCFs will formally establish a RH committee, consisting of command and department-level correctional staff to regularly (i.e., not less than semi-annually) evaluate existing RH policy, develop safe and effective alternatives to the use of RH, and craft special handling letters and step-down plan strategies.

4207. Management of Mixed-Gender Prisoners and Staff Supervision of Opposite-Gender Prisoners

1. Background. Confinement of both male and female prisoners in a MCF manned by both male and female staff present significant correctional challenges and requires a gender-relevant approach to ensure safety, security, and meet identified privacy needs.

2. Definitions

a. Commingled Mixed-Gender Prisoners. Male and female prisoners mixed in the same space or area at the same time.

b. Opposite-Gender Supervision. MCF staff supervising a prisoner of the opposite gender.

3. Management and Supervision of Commingled Mixed-Gender Prisoner Policy

a. There must be no prisoners of the opposite gender confined in the same space at the same time. For the purposes of this manual, the term “space” refers to quarters, to include

cells and open-bays. At no time will male and female prisoners be commingled in any space during the period between taps and reveille; or at any time or location without direct staff supervision.

b. MCFs must ensure visual and acoustic berthing separation of males and females confined, if simultaneous confinement of male and female Service members is authorized. For the purposes of this manual, "acoustic separation" is defined as out of range of normal conversation.

c. For operational planning purposes, the plan of the day must distinctly identify authorized commingled, mixed-gender events and times for general population prisoners. Adequate supervision and communication requirements must be in place prior to the commencement of the activity.

d. To the greatest extent possible, male and female prisoners will not be assigned simultaneously in the same program or work areas, while ensuring both have full access to a full range of programming opportunities. If assignment to the same work site simultaneously is unavoidable to ensure the same programming opportunities, the supervisor must provide direct supervision continuously and enforce prisoner rules that restrict mixed-gender communication to only that required to carry out the assigned work or task.

e. Mixed-gender prisoner working parties are not authorized outside the MCF security perimeter without specific authority of the brig officer or designee.

f. At no time will commingled male and female prisoners be unsupervised without a staff member being directly present in the program, workroom, or immediate area.

g. Staff members will permit no integration between opposite-gender prisoners except for verbal greetings and authorized exchanges during supervised activities (e.g.; work details, religious activities; morale, welfare, and recreation activities such as holiday functions; assigned group therapy sessions, etc.).

4. Staff Supervision of Opposite-Gender Prisoners

a. Staff must not be assigned duties that require supervision of prisoners of the opposite sex at times when routine nudity occurs.

b. Prisoners must be informed during reception that they are subject to observation by staff, to include staff members of the opposite sex. During the use of the toilet, showering, changing clothes, and similar periods of undress and nudity, mitigation efforts must be employed by the MCF to protect prisoner privacy. Efforts (temporary or otherwise) may include staff replacements to ensure observation by only staff members of same sex, privacy screens or partitions for each head area or shower area, etc. Nudity must not be permitted in common areas.

c. When both male and female prisoners are simultaneously confined in the MCF, at least one male and one female staff member must be on duty at all times and be positioned in a manner to support same-gender supervision requirements.

d. Accommodations must be in place to ensure camera monitoring by staff ensures adequate mixed-gender privacy (e.g.; during use of the toilet, showering, changing clothes, and similar periods of undress and nudity). Where necessary, staff augmentation will be employed to mitigate security and supervision concerns. For RHU prisoners in a camera cell, specialized clothing may be used to provide privacy from camera view. Such clothing will provide sufficient coverage of the body when seated on a toilet (i.e., longer than a standard uniform shirt).

e. MCF staff, volunteers, and all visitors who interact with prisoners of the opposite gender must always be under the continuous observation of correctional staff, at all locations. While direct observation is desired, frequent indirect observation such as camera or observation through a window is authorized.

f. Correctional staff must not conduct mixed-gender frisk searches, except as necessary in the event of an emergency affecting MCF safety and security. Such searches must be documented with an incident or information report and notated in the brig log.

g. Opposite-gender strip searches or opposite-gender visual body cavity searches (meaning a search of the anal or genital opening) are prohibited. These searches may only be performed by medical practitioners.

(1) MCF staff must not search or physically examine a transgender, intersex, or gender non-conforming prisoner for the sole purpose of determining the prisoner's genital status. Upon initial receipt and prior to search, if the prisoner's genital status is unknown, it may be determined during conversations with the prisoner, by reviewing medical records, or, if necessary, by learning that information as part of a broader medical examination conducted in private by a medical officer.

(2) Transgender, intersex, or gender non-conforming prisoners who do not feel comfortable being frisk-searched or stripped-searched by a staff member of the same sex will be searched by medical personnel.

h. Where mixed-gender correctional activities are authorized, there will be direct communication (radio) between the correctional staff and the control center. The CDO or DBS must pre-authorize and acknowledge mixed-gender presence, ensuring supervision requirements are in place prior to commencing the activity.

i. Male staff must not be permitted to enter places where females are housed, including a visual control center, unless they are accompanied by female staff or female staff are present, and only when entry is justified. The area must first be visually clear of prisoners who may be clothed inappropriately for the presence of male staff, and prior to entry, "male on deck" must be sounded loud enough to be heard. When female staff members enter a male area, the same procedures are followed and "female on deck" must be sounded. Justification for entry includes:

(1) Assist a prisoner;

(2) Restrain a prisoner;

(3) Accompany medical personnel; and

(4) Conduct official business.

j. Prisoner rules and regulations must be published at each MCF that:

(1) Identify mitigation efforts that provide privacy such as screens or partitions for each head area or shower area, etc., and the prisoner's obligation to use available protocols and procedures to avoid compromising themselves or undermining the staff

(2) Advise prisoners that they must not initiate or involve themselves in unduly familiar relationships with staff, volunteers, or other prisoners (e.g.; knowingly expose themselves in a state of undress where not authorized, conduct conversations of an intimate nature, or engage in sexual contact of any nature).

Section 3. Security Systems

4301. Responsibilities for Security

1. The primary purpose of a MCF is custody and control of prisoners. Control of prisoners requires impartial enforcement of reasonable rules and regulations that are necessary for the safe and orderly operation of the MCF. Custody and control measures must be adequate to maintain good order and discipline and to protect staff and prisoners.

2. An effective system of security, custody, and control must be established in each MCF. Every staff member must be aware that custody and security do not stand-alone but are interdependent with all other portions of the operation. Each staff member is responsible for security, custody, and control, regardless of duty assignment.

3. Fixed posts must be maintained to ensure all traffic is channeled with authorized access permitted to enter or leave only upon suitable identification and inspection. Use of armed staff within the security perimeter is not authorized. When necessary to post staff external to the security perimeter, staff must be located in a manner to ensure an unobstructed view of the observation area.

4. Security measures inside the MCF are the day-to-day control and supervision procedures designed to facilitate the movement

of prisoners, to assure control of their whereabouts, to guard against violation of rules, and to promote good order and discipline. Posts must be established at key points such as in quarters and at entrances to work and recreation areas to afford control and direct supervision. Provisions must also be made for direct supervision during meals and plan-of-the-day activities.

5. Persons not assigned to duty at the MCF will not be allowed to enter the MCF except on official business or as authorized visitor. Authorized visitors shall wear a visitor's badge on the front of their outside garment, above the waist.

4302. Contraband and Searches

1. Contraband

a. Contraband is anything not specifically authorized by proper authority to be in a prisoner's possession, or any item authorized for use by a prisoner that has been modified for a use other than originally intended. Contraband can be controlled through close supervision and frequent searches.

(1) Unscheduled searches of prisoners, cells, visiting rooms, recreation areas, library, heads, dining facility, work areas, vehicles, deliveries, shipments, etc., are essential. Personal property and items of clothing that accompany new prisoners must also be closely searched to prevent the introduction of contraband.

(2) Staff will be provided sufficient furnishings, implements, and materials to conduct their duties. Introduction of unnecessary items into the secure area of the MCF must be strictly limited. Staff briefcases, purses, carrying bags, offices, and work areas are subject to search, along with all other areas of the MCF where prisoners may access for any reason. Regular and random searches of MCF staff should be conducted by the operations officer.

b. When contraband is discovered, a written report must be made listing the items and covering precisely the circumstances of discovery. The contraband items, along with the report, will be submitted to appropriate staff per local policy. It is essential that a strict chain of custody be maintained of any

evidence that may be used in disciplinary action. OPNAV 5580/22 Evidence/Property Custody Receipt must be used.

2. Searches. Prisoners will be instructed that all persons, quarters, and work areas are subject to search at any time while confined. There are two types of searches, of a person and of an area. Searches are conducted to control contraband or recover missing or stolen property; use of non-intrusive methods (scanners) or other techniques instead of body searches should be used whenever feasible. Where random frisk or area searches are authorized, an objective-based method will be used; on-the-spot selection by staff is not an acceptable method. Random strip searches are not authorized. Searches are described below and will be used as the situation requires.

a. Search of the Person. Searches must be conducted by staff members of the same sex as the prisoner, absent emergency circumstances.

(1) Frisk Search. The prisoner's body, clothing, and possessions will be searched by the staff member. Requirements for prisoners to assume exaggerated positions are not authorized. Unnecessary force is prohibited. A quick, careless search is useless.

(2) Strip Search. A strip search must be conducted on prisoners being newly confined, entering or leaving the MCF on a temporary release, after visitation call, before and after transfer, or initially assigned to the RHU. Unnecessary strip searches must be avoided. Other than instances already stated, strip searches may be conducted only when specifically authorized by the brig officer or designee and there is reasonable belief that the prisoner may be in possession of an item of contraband or a good opportunity for concealment of contraband has occurred (e.g.; reliable information that the prisoner possesses contraband, the discovery of contraband in the prisoner’s living space, a serious incident in which the prisoner was involved or where the prisoner was present, refusal to be frisk searched, or breaks in custody). In these searches, prisoners must remove their shoes and all clothing. Clothing and personal effects must be physically searched. The prisoner’s body will be visibly searched. No contact is authorized. Strip searches must be made in privacy with only one prisoner at a time present and the searcher must have

another staff member present as a witness. Both staff must be of the same sex as the prisoner. Strip searches must be documented in a log with date, time, prisoner name, staff, and reason for search.

(3) Body Cavity Search. Internal examination of body orifices may be conducted only by qualified medical personnel, when authorized by the MCF CO or designee, and only when there is a reasonable belief that prisoners are concealing contraband in or on their person. The use of body cavity searches must be extremely limited and fully documented.

b. Area Search. All areas will be subjected to a thorough search at random times and on an unscheduled basis. Visiting areas, including visitor-parking areas, must be searched by staff before and after all visits and must be completed prior to any further access by prisoners. Area searches will be conducted in an organized orderly manner (zone search). Prisoners must not be present during the search nor be permitted to see how the search is conducted. If prisoners are occupying the area to be searched, they will be escorted out of the area, each being frisk-searched upon leaving. All authorized articles will be handled carefully and replaced as neatly as possible when the search is completed. Care will be exercised to avoid any undue disturbance of the prisoners' personal effects.

4303. Key Control

1. Control of keys is a major element of security. Key control procedures must be rigidly enforced. A key control system must include routine (at least monthly) inspections to ensure the authorized number of keys are available and will operate their corresponding locks. The key control system must identify each key or ring of keys and give its location at all times. No key will be marked to indicate its function; however, keys to emergency exits must be properly controlled and distinctly marked. Locks and keys for fire escapes and emergency doors must be checked frequently to ensure their operation.

2. There must be three identical sets of keys and all keys will be stored in lockable security containers. All three sets of keys must be rotated regularly (at least every 6 months) to ensure proper function and even wear of keys.

a. Active keys will be located in the control center unless an electronic key watch system is approved by BUPERS-00D or DC PPO; however, emergency keys must always be kept in the control center. Emergency keys must be readily identifiable and stored in such a way that provides accessibility in case of emergencies.

b. The second set of keys will be located on the premises of the MCF but outside the security perimeter.

c. The third set of keys will be located outside of the MCF and at a secure location providing 24-hour access.

3. The active key set must be inventoried daily for accountability and inspected monthly for functionality. All three sets of keys must be inventoried quarterly for accountability, and rotated at a minimum of every 6 months to ensure even wear. Results of inspections, inventories, and verification of rotation of keys will be documented and maintained on file locally for 3 years.

4. Only authorized staff members on duty will have MCF keys in their possession and then only during the performance of duties requiring the use of those keys. A sentry within a locked area must have only the keys to a locked sub-area (such as keys to cells within a unit). Keys, except permanently issued keys, must not be taken from the MCF. Staff members authorized to draw keys or key rings will use a metal tag, logbook, or personal identification number system for each key or key ring drawn and returned. An accurate inventory showing the number of each key, trade name of lock and its location, and number and location of keys for that lock must be maintained in a secure location. Each key or ring of keys will have its own hook on a lockable key panel board or key watcher location. All keys must be accounted for at all times.

5. In the event of lost, misplaced, or stolen keys, an investigation must be conducted immediately; thereafter, a determination to replace affected locks or cores must be made by the brig officer or designee. Any lock, core, or key replacement deemed necessary must be accomplished immediately. Replacement or reserve locks, cores, and keys must be secured to preclude access by unauthorized individuals.

6. A system for the control of MCF staff and visitors' personal keys must be implemented.

7. A key custodian and alternate key custodian must be appointed in writing by the MCF CO to administer the key control program.

4304. Tool Control. All MCFs must have a formal tool control plan that includes culinary, barber, and medical and dental instruments and supplies. Tools must be etched or tagged for identification and closely controlled. Where tools or equipment are kept in a MCF, a secure and lockable tool crib equipped with shadow boards, ladder racks, and garden tool storage racks will be provided. Ladders, ropes, cords, and hoses, as well as other equipment that can be used for escape purposes or for weapons, must be included in the tool control plan and highly supervised.

1. Restricted and hazardous tools must be easily identifiable, used only under supervision, and secured in a double-locked environment. A list of restricted tools (not all-inclusive) follows:

a. Workshops. Files, hacksaws, blades, welding torches, and pipe or bolt cutters;

b. Culinary. Kitchen knives, meat saws, cleavers, ice picks;

c. Medical and Dental Instruments and Supplies. Syringes, needles, and other sharps; and

d. Miscellaneous. Barber instruments

2. Procedures

a. A record of all tools, including life-cycle, must be maintained and monitored, tracking each item from the time it enters the MCF until the date it is removed from the MCF.

b. Keep tools to a minimum and maintain an accurate up-to-date inventory.

c. Utilize a shadow-board with outlines for tools where feasible.

d. Restricted and hazardous tools such as hacksaw blades, knives, culinary instruments, files and tips for cutting torches, and welding equipment must be specially marked, placed in identifiable containers and double-locked.

e. Account for all tools daily.

f. Maintain a tool log to include identification number of the tool, name of personnel or prisoner in possession, date and time issued and returned, and the issuing personnel.

g. Frequently verify location of all tools. Restricted tools and hazardous must only be used by prisoners under continuous staff supervision.

h. Tools allocated to various departments within the MCF will be distinctly marked or etched for ready identification and to determine which department has responsibility.

i. Prisoner utensils and culinary tools must be inventoried after each meal .

j. Broken, damaged, or worn tools must be turned in to the responsible supervisor for disposal. The responsible supervisor must account for all pieces and parts of a broken tool prior to its disposal.

k. Missing or lost tools must be reported immediately to the CDO or DBS. In the event of lost, misplaced, or stolen tools, an investigation must be conducted immediately and a search must be conducted in an effort to locate the missing tool(s). A report of the lost, missing, or stolen tool(s) will be forwarded to the brig officer or designee as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the shift in which the tool(s) were noted missing.

4305. Vehicle and Equipment Control

1. Authorization for entry of any vehicle into the MCF compound is contingent upon consent to search. No personal vehicles are authorized within the security perimeter. All vehicles entering

or leaving the security perimeter must be carefully searched. A staff member will remain with the vehicle the entire time it is in the security perimeter unless the compound is clear of all prisoners. Containers entering the compound must be searched unless they were banded or sealed at a point of shipment and have not since been opened. Laundry, trash, and other containers must be searched before leaving the compound. All vehicles that remain in the security perimeter overnight must be disabled with security safeguards implemented per local policy.

2. Vehicles parked in the MCF staff or visitor parking area must be locked, keys removed, and windows fully closed.

4306. Flammable, Toxic, and Caustic Substance Control. Supplies, which may be dangerous, must be stored and secured per applicable Navy or Marine Corps policy, Navy Occupational Safety and Health standards, and reference (h).

1. Definitions

a. Flammable or Combustible. Flammable materials, liquids with a flash point below 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

b. Toxic. Materials or substances that through chemical reactions or mixture can produce possible injury or harm to the body by entering through the skin, digestive tract, or respiratory tract (e.g.; zinc, chromate paint, ammonia, chlorine, antifreeze, herbicides, and pesticides).

c. Caustic. Materials or substances that can destroy or eat away by chemical reaction (e.g.; lye, caustic soda, sulfuric acid).

d. Medical Supplies. Everything containing a narcotic or alcohol requires special handling and accounting. Refer to chapter 10 of this manual for further information on medical supplies.

e. Flavoring Extracts, Spices, and Food. When the MCF operates its own dining facility, close supervision by dining facility personnel must be maintained to prevent theft of material for making alcoholic beverages or weapons.

2. Control

a. Handling. If a material or substance possesses more than one of the above definition properties, the safety requirements for all applicable properties should be considered. Prisoners must never possess such items unless they are under the close supervision of qualified staff. Substances that do not contain one or more of the above properties but that are labeled "Keep Out of the Reach of Children" or "May Be Harmful If Swallowed" is not prohibited; their use and control, however, will be addressed in local policies. Safety data sheets must be maintained as applicable. Personnel handling flammable, toxic, or caustic materials must use appropriate personal protective equipment and be trained in their proper use.

b. Storage. All flammable, toxic, and caustic materials must be stored in secured areas that are inaccessible to prisoners and a prescribed system must be used to account for their distribution. Fuel (e.g.; gasoline or diesel) will be stored outside the MCF. If stored within the security fence line perimeter, hazardous material (HAZMAT) must be stored in locked authorized HAZMAT containers. HAZMAT items must only be brought into the security perimeter when necessary and then only in the amounts needed for the immediate work on hand and managed under staff supervision.

c. Safeguards. Staff will not introduce any form of unauthorized flammable, toxic, caustic material or substance into the security perimeter.

4307. Weapons. Immediate medical examination and treatment is required in all instances involving the use of a weapon. A written report detailing the use of force involved, detailing prisoners, staff, or others involved, and to describe the nature of the offense must be submitted to the MCF CO or designee no later than the conclusion of the tour of duty when any weapon or chemical agent is used. If injury or adverse public reaction occurs, an interim telephonic report must be made immediately to BUPERS-00D or DC PPO with follow-up reports as soon as additional information becomes known.

1. Restrictions. The MCF CO must ensure proper training of staff prior to employment of any weapons within the MCF. Firearms, ammunition, non-lethal, or chemical riot control

equipment will only be allowed inside the security perimeter of the MCF when specifically authorized by the MCF CO, or higher authority, and then only to prevent or stop a riot or major disturbance. The officer authorizing such use will ordinarily be physically present during the period of authorized use.

2. Firearms. Use of firearms must be authorized by the MCF CO, or higher authority, only as a last resort. The MCF CO must ensure all MCF personnel authorized to use firearms receive appropriate training and demonstrate competency in their use before being assigned to a post involving the possible use of such weapons. Weapon competency will be renewed at least annually (each 12-month period rather than calendar year). Firearms training should be conducted using a systematic curriculum and be appropriately documented. Firearms must be used only to prevent serious injury, loss of life, or to protect staff or prisoners who are held as hostages. Persons must not be fired upon to prevent their escape unless in their efforts to escape, they harm or threaten to harm others seriously, or in any other way endanger the lives of others. Orders to halt will be given first. Warning shots will not be fired. Firearms must be used only by personnel qualified in their use.

3. Batons. Batons of any type (e.g., riot batons, asps, Monadnock PR-24, etc.) may be considered deadly weapons if used improperly. The MCF CO, or higher authority, may authorize their use only when the degree of force that can be applied by hand is inadequate to quell violence or control unruly prisoners. When authorized, the minimum force necessary to control the situation will be applied. Specific training and annual certification is required.

4. Non-Lethal. Use of non-lethal weapons may be authorized by the MCF CO or higher authority. The Marine Corps has been designated as the executive agent for the DoD Joint Non-Lethal Weapons (JNLW) Program for the responsibility in providing program recommendations and for estimating and coordinating JNLW requirements. Due to the array of applications available and unique scenarios appropriate for their use, pre-selection of such weapons or munitions is required. Purchase of non-lethal weapons for use by MCFs must first be authorized by BUPERS-00D or DC PPO. The MCF CO must publish policy governing training requirements and application consistent with JNLW Program guidelines.

5. Arms Locker. An arms locker must be provided outside the security perimeter for the storage of weapons carried by personnel who visit the MCF. An arms clearing trap must be provided outside the security perimeter to safely clear all weapons prior to storage in the arms locker. Instructions on the safe loading and unloading of common types of firearms utilized must be posted to assist personnel in the safe loading and clearing of their firearms.

4308. Chemical Agents. Chemical agents may be used only upon order of the MCF CO, or higher authority, and only by a person trained in its use. All personnel authorized to use chemical agents must receive thorough training in their use and in the treatment of individuals exposed to a chemical agent. A special training curriculum will be established that includes both individual and group instruction by competent authorities. A trained riot force of the MCF must be utilized. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) and Ortho-Chlorobenzylidene Malonitrile (CS) gas may be used in all MCFs, with the exception of overseas facilities where OC or CS gas is prohibited by the status-of-forces agreement with the host nation. OC and CS gas must be inventoried and weighed at least monthly and after each use to determine condition, amounts available, and expiration dates. A record must be maintained on the use of OC or CS gas during disturbance control, training, or accidental release to monitor the number of individuals exposed and any attributed adverse outcomes. Immediate medical examination and treatment is required in all instances involving the use of a chemical weapon. A written report detailing use of force involved, detailing prisoners, staff, or others involved, and to describe the nature of the offense must be submitted to the MCF CO or designee no later than the conclusion of the tour of duty when any chemical agent is used. If injury or adverse public reaction occurs, an interim telephonic report must be made immediately to BUPERS-00D or DC PPO with follow-up reports as soon as additional information becomes known. Additional restrictions and responsibilities are provided below.

1. OC Spray. Exposure to OC spray may cause respiratory failure in susceptible individuals. If the situation and time allow, medical records will be reviewed to determine at-risk prisoners prior to deployment of OC. Ensure MCF staff members are appropriately trained in basic life support procedures before using OC spray.

2. CS Gas. CS gas may be used when there is a large number of rioters so situated that their removal would be hazardous to other prisoners or staff members. CS gas will not be authorized in conjunction with any other chemical agent.

a. Sufficient CS gas must be used at the first attempt to quickly break-up all resistance. Minimum effective amounts and maximum amounts that can be safely used in any given area must be computed in advance and be maintained as part of the riot control plan.

b. Provisions for equipment and personnel must be made for a follow-up action. CS gas will likely break the resistance, but prisoners may have to be forcibly removed. A follow-up squad equipped with gas masks must be ready to enter the affected area.

c. CS gas must be permitted to develop fully but not to dissipate before sending in follow-up squad(s).

4309. Instruments of Restraint. Instruments of restraint are never applied as punishment, discipline, coercion, convenience, or retaliation by staff and are applied only with the approval of the MCF CO or designee. Instruments of restraint should be used only as a precaution to prevent escape during transfer, for medical reasons if directed by the medical officer, or to prevent self-injury, injury to others, or property damage. Restraints should not be applied for more time than is necessary.

1. Definitions

a. Ambulatory Restraints. Corrections-related restraint equipment (as opposed to medical-related) that limits movement of body extremities without preventing the prisoner from moving about an area (also referred to as "walking restraints"). Ambulatory restraints generally allow the prisoner to eat, drink, move, and take care of basic human needs with no or minimum staff intervention.

b. Authorized Restraints. Restraints authorized by BUPERS-00D or DC PPO include steel handcuffs, leg irons, and waist chains (referred to as "hard restraints"), transportation

or restraining belts, "body cuff universal restraint system," and other restraints (referred to as "soft restraints").

c. Full Restraints. Full restraints include the collective use of steel handcuffs, leg irons, and transportation or restraining belts.

d. Progressive Restraint. Use of the least restrictive restraints deemed necessary to control the prisoner (e.g.; first use hand irons, then leg irons, then transportation or restraining belts, etc.). When MCF design supports single cells within the general population quarters, progressive restraint may also include de-escalation interventions such as staff directing a disruptive prisoner to return to his or her cell for a "cool down" period. Based on the prisoner's behavior, more or less-restrictive restraints and transportation belts may be used.

e. Soft Restraints. Soft restraints are made of material such as Velcro, vinyl, plastic or leather and designed to prevent excessive movement of the prisoner's body part to which they are attached in order to prevent the prisoner from Self-harm. Select soft restraints may also be considered "authorized restraints" when specifically authorized for use by BUPERS-00D or DC PPO.

f. Therapeutic Restraints. Therapeutic restraints include restraint equipment directed by a medical officer, most often a psychiatrist. Therapeutic restraints may include, but are not limited to, ambulatory soft restraints and immobilizing restraints such as "four-point" or "five-point" restraints, or a restraining chair. Immobilizing restraints secure the prisoner in such a way that the prisoner is prevented from self-rising, using toilet facilities, drinking, or eating. The use of four-point or five-point restraints is not authorized in MCFs but may be utilized during hospitalizations as prescribed by health care authorities. Medical, vice correctional, policy and regulation applies for use of therapeutic restraints. Neither the MCF CO nor staff have the authority to authorize the use of these restraints within MCFs.

2. Procedure

a. The MCF CO or designee is responsible for implementation

of all aspects of prisoner ambulatory restraint policy and management with one exception. A military judge may direct restraints to be removed from a prisoner in the courtroom (and that the prisoner remain unrestrained while in the courtroom) if, in the judge's opinion, such restraint is deemed unnecessary.

(1) This exception does not extend to legal visits such as prisoner and attorney meetings occurring outside of court-martial proceedings.

(2) The MCF CO or designee is the approving authority (with exception to military judges as noted above) for any request to remove restraints outside of the MCF's security perimeter.

(3) Upon conclusion of court-martial, pretrial prisoners may be awarded "time served" or found "not guilty" resulting in pending release from confinement. In these instances, prisoners should be properly restrained based on their custody classification and returned to the MCF for out-processing and permanent release.

b. The MCF CO may delegate restraint authority to security personnel. MCF CO's will employ use of progressive restraint consistent with governing policy and guidance herein.

c. Restraint policy and guidance associated with prisoner custody classification is found in article 4201.2 of this manual.

d. The use of restraints on female prisoners during the active labor and delivery of a child is prohibited. Any deviation from this policy requires approval by, guidance on, and methodology from, the medical officer directing use of restraints and is based on serious security risks.

(1) The medical officer will provide guidance on the use of restraints on a pregnant prisoner prior to active labor and delivery.

(2) Restraints used on pregnant prisoners prior to active labor and delivery should not put the pregnant prisoner nor the fetus at risk.

e. Restraint equipment will be applied only for appropriate purposes and per applicable procedures. Staff and prisoner escorts must be specifically trained to each type of locally available authorized restraint.

f. Restraints may be authorized when regaining control during a disorder or when a prisoner is violent or escape-minded. If restraints are used because of a disorder or on a violent or disruptive prisoner, the brig officer will be notified immediately. The brig officer or designated senior security personnel will make an immediate on-site visit to observe that the use of restraints is appropriate and, where warranted, will report that use to their immediate superior in command. An incident report, a use of force statement, voluntary statements (including medical), and an updated scars and marks form must be submitted by the end of shift in all cases where restraints are applied in a non-routine use. In any case, senior security personnel will ensure restraints are removed as soon as practical.

g. Care will be taken not to unnecessarily display restrained prisoners to the public during transportation.

h. Staff may apply restraints to a prisoner who continues to resist after staff achieves physical control of that prisoner and may apply restraints to any prisoner who is placed under control by use of force (e.g., forced cell move). If a prisoner in a forcible restraint situation refuses to move to another area on his or her own, staff may physically move that prisoner by carefully lifting and carrying the prisoner to the appropriate destination. Staff members must not use the restraints for lifting or carrying a prisoner.

i. In circumstances when immediate use of restraints is required for control of the prisoner, the MCF CO or designee may require a prisoner to be restrained while in a cell or authorize restraints to remain on a prisoner once placed in a cell. Leaving prisoners restrained and unattended in a cell by themselves must not be authorized. Use of restraints on a prisoner in a cell must not be used unless a staff member directly and continually monitors the prisoner face-to-face. Staff must be cautioned and trained regarding the potential of injury to prisoners who are in restraints while in a cell by

themselves. Injury can result from situations where prisoners fall and are not able to protect themselves from harm because of restricted movement.

j. Restraint equipment or devices must be used as designed and may not be used in any of the following ways:

(1) About a prisoner's neck or face or in any manner that restricts blood circulation or obstructs the prisoner's airway. Binding must never be placed around a prisoner's mouth, nose, and neck, or so tight to a limb that circulation is restricted. Staff protective gear generally provides sufficient insulation from a prisoner's spitting or biting; therefore, no effort should be made by use of towels, sheets, blankets, hosiery, masks or any other devices to prevent a prisoner from spitting or biting. However, when endorsed by a medical officer and approved by the MCF CO, the use of a medical mask may be authorized on a prisoner.

(2) In a manner that causes unnecessary physical pain or extreme discomfort and:

(a) Staff in general and supervisory personnel in particular must ensure that unnecessary pressure is not placed on a prisoner's body in applying restraints (e.g.; the prisoner's chest, back, or neck). While the proper application of restraints may result in some discomfort, examples of prohibited uses of restraints would include, but are not limited to: "hog-tying;" unnecessarily tight restraints; improperly applied restraints; or unauthorized restraints. Soft restraints, when specifically authorized by a medical officer, should only be used when all lesser measures to prevent the prisoner from harming him or herself are not working or such use is in the interest of safety. Helmets may also be considered as protective devices. Videotaping the application of restraints during a forced-cell move or for self-injurious prisoners is a good practice. Having medical personnel observe and examine the prisoner after application is also good practice.

(b) Restraints will be administered in a natural body position. If restrained in a supine position (face up), head should be free to rotate from side to side and, when possible, elevate head of bed to prevent risk of aspiration. Always avoid use of prone position (face down) due to

possibility of a prisoner's airway becoming obstructed and lung expansion being restricted.

(4) To secure a prisoner to a fixed object, such as a cell door, cell grill, or vehicle component

k. De-escalation Interventions

(1) The effective handling of aggressive prisoners is one of the most demanding aspects of working in corrections. It is an area where good interaction and communication skills are required. The majority of situations, where there is a potential for violence, can be handled through effective communication. Staff must be trained to recognize the signs of aggression (e.g.; standing tall, red faced, raised voice, rapid breathing, direct prolonged eye contact, exaggerated gestures) and reasons for aggression (e.g.; frustration, unfairness, humiliation, immaturity, excitement, learned behavior, reputation, means to an end, decoy).

(2) Staff faced with aggressive prisoners should seek to defuse the situation as they continually assess the risk of violence. Staff should be cautious to do nothing to further escalate the situation, yet maintain control of the situation. Training must be provided to staff in methods to: appear confident; display calmness; create some space; speak slowly, gently, and clearly; lower their voice; avoid staring; avoid arguing and confrontation; show that they are listening; and calm the prisoner. Staff should adopt a non-threatening body posture: use a calm, open posture (sitting or standing); reduce direct eye contact (as it may be taken as a confrontation); allow the prisoner adequate personal space; keep both hands visible; avoid sudden movements that may startle or be perceived as an attack; avoid audiences, as an audience may escalate the situation.

(3) When MCF design supports single cells within the general population quarters, progressive restraint may also include de-escalation interventions such as staff directing a disruptive prisoner or prisoners to return to their cell for a "cool down" period. Such periods cannot exceed 30 minutes and all cases will be reported immediately to the CDO or DBS, be documented in the quarters supervisor’s log, and be brought to the attention of senior security personnel. Where warranted,

the CDO or DBS can extend the cool down period by an additional 30 minutes.

l. Staff and prisoner escorts should be thoroughly trained in the use of locally authorized restraints. Restraints can be cumbersome to apply and harmful to a prisoner if proper training is not provided. In the rare cases where restraint is required for pregnant prisoners, an approved vinyl or leather restraint belt should be used instead of a metal waist chain, whenever possible, to prevent injury to the prisoner or fetus. Where a metal waist chain is directed for use on a pregnant prisoner, where possible, medical personnel should check for proper application.

m. All prisoners in restraints, internal or external of the MCF, must be under direct and continuous observation, supervision and, if under movement, assisted control.

n. To support prisoner escorts, restraint guidance for use on a specific prisoner must be indicated in the "Remarks" field (block 6) of DD 2708 Receipt for Pretrial/Post-Trial Prisoner or Detained Person.

o. Requests for use for other than traditional "hard restraints" must be forwarded to BUPERS-00D or DC PPO with pictures, design intent, technical specifications, application procedures, and training curriculum. For audit purposes, authorizations must be retained locally and readily available for review.

3. Staff Training

a. Brig officers will ensure all correctional staff, to include support staff and prisoner escorts, are thoroughly trained in the policy, application, and use of available authorized restraint equipment and such training will be inclusive within pre-service and in-service training programs and documented within staff training records.

b. At a minimum, restraint-related training should include such issues as: restraint terminology; types of restraints; staff authorized to direct restraints; proper procedures for applying and removing restraints; de-escalation interventions; communication skills; role of the medical officer; terminology,

physiology, and medical risks associated with the application and the use of restraints; procedures for lifting or carrying a restrained prisoner; supervision, movement, and monitoring prisoners in restraints; measures to reduce the risk for asphyxia and death; and legal implications and liability.

Section 4. Disturbances and Emergencies

4401. Prevention of Disturbances

1. There are causes for all disturbances. Trouble may be indicated when prisoners become restless and flare-up easily or when they avoid contact with staff members. Excessive numbers of disciplinary reports, requests for work or housing changes, and suicide attempts are indications of potential trouble and must be investigated. To eliminate incidents that could result in a riot or disorder, staff should be able to observe and detect tensions and unrest among prisoners and report them promptly. Frequent causes of disturbances are mistreatment, untrained staff, failure to separate problem prisoners, and improperly prepared or served food.

2. When an incident or disturbance occurs, staff members must identify individual prisoners involved and report their actions. Immediate identification and isolation of leaders may prevent development of a major disturbance. Staff members will be trained in the exercise of patience in the control of troublesome groups. Unnecessary use of force or arbitrary actions may precipitate a disturbance.

3. Each MCF must implement adequate disturbance and emergency plans, and all MCF staff must be trained in their implementation. Work stoppage and riot or disturbance plans are communicated only to appropriate supervisory or other personnel directly involved in the implementation of those plans. An annual review of all disturbance and emergency plans must be an essential element of staff pre-service and in-service training. New staff must be thoroughly familiar with all disturbance and emergency plans prior to their permanent post assignment.

4. The principles of Incident Command System for Corrections (ICS-C) will be followed in the development and implementation of emergency bills. The ICS-C is based upon the National Incident Management System (NIMS) protocols, which identify

steps for improved coordination in response to incidents that impact correctional operations. The result of the basic protocols is emergency management and incident response systems that provide a common operating picture, to include common incident response procedures, communication and language spoken, and universal priorities which applies across the spectrum of response agencies and departments whether Federal, State, local, or tribal governments. NIMS protocols directly relate to corrections and detention settings.

4402. Controlling Disturbances

1. Staff personnel must avoid use of force where the assigned responsibilities can be effectively discharged without its use. If security cannot be accomplished without the use of force, personnel will use the minimum amount of force necessary to control the situation.

2. When deciding a course of action, consideration must be given to general public safety, safety and welfare of hostages (if any), prevention of loss of life or injury to other personnel, prisoner welfare, and protection of property.

4403. Priorities of Force. Use of physical force is restricted to instances of justifiable self-defense, protection of others, protection of property, prevention of escapes, and to maintain or regain control, then only as a last resort per this manual. When use of force is necessary, it will be exercised according to priorities of force and limited to the minimum degree necessary under the particular circumstances. All instances requiring the use of force must be fully documented. Use of firepower is justified only when ordered by the MCF CO or higher authority, under conditions of extreme necessity as a last resort, and when all lesser means have failed or cannot be reasonably employed. Examples of such circumstances are stated in article 4404 of this manual. The application of any or all of the priorities of force listed or the application of a higher priority of force without first employing a lower priority of force will depend on and be consistent with the situation encountered during any particular disorder. Priorities of force and who may order them are as follows:

Priority of Force	**Who May Order (billet)**
An order	Any staff member
Show of force (condition or code)	Any staff member
Show of force (organized)	Brig officer or authorized representative
Use of physical force (individual)	Staff member in self-defense or CDO or DBS
Use of physical force (organized)	Brig officer or authorized Representative (if immediate action is required; otherwise CO
Chemical agents (OC spray)	CO
Use of batons	CO
Non-lethal munitions or use use of high pressure water water	CO
Fire by selected marksmen or full firepower	CO

4404. Deadly Force. Deadly force is defined as that force which is used with the purpose of causing, or which a person knows or should know would cause, a substantial risk of death or serious bodily harm.

1. The following are examples of extreme situations where use of deadly force may be directed:

a. To protect citizens, staff personnel, or hostages when a reasonable belief exists that they are in imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm; or

b. To prevent the commission of a serious offense involving violence and the threatened death or serious bodily harm to another prisoner

2. The CO must verify that all elements of intent, capability, and opportunity are in place prior to application of deadly force.

a. Intent. Threat or will of a person to cause injury to another

b. Capability. A means to carry out the threat; i.e., a weapon of some sort

c. Opportunity. Space in which a subject is in to complete the threat. Subjects with knives cannot injure individuals 50 yards away; however, if they had pistols the situation changes.

4405. Emergency Response Plan. The MCF emergency response plan will be prepared to ensure the safety of staff and prisoners in the event of an emergency and reviewed annually. At a minimum, the MCF must publish the following required bills; fire, escape, riot, hostage, natural disaster, work stoppage, hunger strike, and bomb threat. MCF staff must be trained in the implementation of written emergency response plans during pre-service and in-service training. Emergency response plans will specify the means for immediate release of prisoners from locked areas in case of an emergency requiring evacuation and provide for a back-up system in case the primary system fails. These plans must be safeguarded to ensure prisoners do not have access.

1. Fire Bill. Fire bills will provide for the following:

a. Secure and prompt evacuation of all personnel to a pre-selected control point and the means for the immediate release of prisoners from locked areas in case of emergency and provide for a back-up system of release;

b. Availability of efficient firefighting equipment at all times;

c. Modern, portable fire extinguishers in close proximity to all living quarters and at other strategic locations, as determined by the fire marshal;

d. Keys to emergency exits properly controlled and distinctly marked;

e. Availability of portable floodlight equipment;

f. Prisoners will be trained in fire evacuation procedures;

g. Prominent posting of primary and alternate evacuation routes and use of exit signs and directional arrows for traffic flow as information to staff and prisoners in quarters and administrative spaces;

h. Fire drills to be conducted at least monthly and recorded in the brig log;

i. All fire bills must be coordinated with and approved by the installation fire department. Fire bills must be reviewed annually, updated if necessary, and re-approved by the installation fire department; and

j. Detailed plan of building(s) for fire department only.

2. Escape Bill. All precautions must be taken to prevent the escape of prisoners. Reasonable precautions include proper custody classification of prisoners, adequate instruction and supervision of staff, alertness of all staff members, a system of security inspections, and issuance of an adequate escape bill. All staff members and prisoner escorts from other activities or units must be familiar with procedures to be followed in the case of an escape or attempted escape. In the event of an escape, or attempted escape, action as outlined below must be taken.

a. Attempted Escape from a MCF. If a prisoner attempts to escape from inside the MCF, take action in the following order:

(1) Command the prisoner to “halt” and repeat the command one time, if necessary.

(2) If unsuccessful using the command "halt," prevent the escape by physical pursuit and restraint as may be necessary under the circumstances.

(3) An escape, whether successful or unsuccessful, will tend to cause unrest and could lead to a disturbance. Care must be taken to ensure a proper count is conducted and the daily routine is resumed as soon as possible; and

(4) If the prisoner is injured when captured, request medical assistance immediately.

b. Attempted Escape from an Escort. If a prisoner tries to escape from an escort outside the MCF or if the person refuses to obey an order to remain with the detail, the escort will attempt to restrain the prisoner with any effective means at hand, provided it can be done without jeopardizing control over the remaining prisoners in the detail. If the prisoner successfully escapes, the escort will move the remaining prisoners to the nearest means of communication, report the incident to the MCF and request instructions.

c. Escape Bill Requirements. Specific procedures that can be used quickly when an escape occurs should be made available to all staff. Procedures must include the following: prompt reporting of the escape to the MCF CO; mobilizing of staff; implementing of a predetermined search plan; notify base security or provost marshal's office; higher headquarters; public affairs office; preparing of escape circulars for distribution and mailing; and, after apprehension of the escapee, promptly notify all who were previously alerted to the escape. Additional considerations include:

(1) Procedures for reporting absence of a prisoner and sounding the alarm without loss of time;

(2) Maintenance of an up-to-date list of all staff members with addresses and telephone numbers so they can be recalled when needed (emergency recall bill). The recall roster must be safeguarded to ensure compliance with personally identifiable information requirements and tested every quarter, at a minimum, to verify accuracy of recall numbers and response time of staff members;

(3) A listing of escape posts to be manned while the search is in progress. These may be divided into groups that provide for coverage according to areas and known circumstances;

(4) Escape post-specific instructions will be provided for each staff member assigned to an escape post. Instructions will include post number, location of nearest law enforcement agency, and any other information that will assist staff members when they arrive on the post. Portable communication will be issued for each escape post;

(5) Provisions for notification of military and civil law enforcement agencies in the area when an escape has occurred and their notification upon apprehension. The applicable Service Deserter Information Point (DIP) will be notified immediately via telephone with a message to follow the next working day, and DD 553 Deserter/Absentee Wanted by the Armed Forces will be completed and forwarded to the Service DIP by the most expeditious means available. The below points of contact are provided:

(a) USN: Toll free (877) 663-6772
Commercial (901) 874-2522

(b) USMC: Commercial (703) 604-0395, 6666

(c) USA: Commercial (502) 626-3711

(d) USAF: Toll free (800) 433-0048
Commercial (210) 565-3727

(6) Provisions for picking-up personnel assigned to outlying posts and for turn-in of equipment;

(7) Provisions for not disrupting unrelated activities of the installation or station; and

(8) Provisions for securing and preserving any evidence of, or related to, the escape.

3. Riot Control Bill

a. Personnel assigned to riot control response units must be properly equipped and trained in local riot control measures.

b. Each team must be given specific instructions in the course(s) of action to be followed.

c. An assessment of the situation must be made before committing personnel to a condition that could result in a hostage-taking situation. Reinforcements must be called as necessary to handle the situation and they will be assembled as soon as they arrive. This delay can be used to plan the operation and determine immediate objectives. Outer perimeter must be secured.

d. Chemical agents may be used as directed by article 4308 of this manual.

e. Prior arrangements must be made for appropriate emergency response units, not assigned to the MCF, to secure the outside perimeter of the MCF to prevent escape during the period of time spent in forming and briefing the MCF riot squad. Practice drills must be held on a periodic basis. Kind and amount of force used will be directed by the situation. A standby reaction force will be employed as required.

f. Riot control bills must provide for the following:

(1) Sounding the alarm;

(2) Basic procedures for dealing with riots in the mess hall, recreation area, auditorium, or any place where large numbers of prisoners normally gather; and

(3) Instructions for identifying, separating, and housing agitators and ringleaders

g. Provisions for notifying the MCF CO; security, fire, and utilities departments; public affairs; and staff members (emergency recall bill) who may be needed in controlling the riot

h. Safety measures for staff and prisoners who are not participants

i. Provisions for the protection of property

j. Taking immediate steps to close the security perimeter to any avenue of escape or breaching

k. Procedures for localizing the disturbance

l. Procedures to be followed in the event of a hostage-taking situation

m. Procedures for permitting withdrawal from the affected area by prisoners not wishing to participate

n. Provisions made for securing communications facilities, heat, water, and main electrical controls

o. Cause of the disturbance will be ascertained if possible. Rioters may be conferred with, but no promises will be made regarding any demands other than they will have a fair hearing. Use of a formally trained negotiator must be provided for in the emergency bill, but senior decision-making personnel must not become directly involved in negotiations with prisoners.

p. Personnel will be instructed to closely observe actions of the prisoners in order to provide future evidence concerning the agitators and ringleaders.

q. Use of cameras and video recording is encouraged during disturbances as they can serve as a deterrent, as well as providing graphic evidence in the case of future disciplinary hearings. A bullhorn, video camera, and tape recorder are practical equipment to have available for disturbances.

r. Detailed plan of building(s) (blueprint or video)

s. Steps must be taken as soon as the disturbance is under control to ensure no one has escaped and that the physical plant of the MCF is secure.

(1) Segregate all prisoner participants of the riot and assign sufficient supervision to prevent a recurrence of the disturbance.

(2) Account for all prisoners and involved staff.

(3) Provide extra supervisory personnel in all quarters and mess hall until it is certain the disorder is completely subdued.

(4) Segregate all prisoner leaders and agitators in the RHU pending investigation.

(5) Curtail all work and recreation activities, if necessary, and rearrange dining schedules so it is possible to provide adequate supervision for small groups of prisoners.

(6) Conduct a thorough investigation of the incident.

(7) Photograph all damaged areas and destruction before making repairs.

(8) Arrange for repair of damage to the MCF's physical plant and equipment.

(9) Debrief staff members.

(10) Evaluate use of traumatic stress teams.

4. Hostage Bill. Proper training of all staff members and specialized training of hostage reaction teams is imperative. A person, regardless of grade, held hostage has no authority. All orders received from an individual under duress or being held hostage will be referred to the applicable (non-hostage) staff member in the chain of command before being acted upon.

5. Natural Disaster Bill

a. If a MCF is not secure enough to withstand natural disasters, prisoners and staff may be evacuated prior to the final alert stage or condition. Pre-planning and coordination must be made with BUPERS-00D or DC PPO as appropriate.

b. Disaster bills must include the following:

(1) A secure area or structure must be predetermined for the security and prompt evacuation of all personnel

(2) Evacuation routes must be carefully predetermined for security and prompt evacuation of all personnel and take into account natural and manufactured barriers along the route

(3) Emergency food, water, first-aid supplies, fuel, and communications planned for either evacuation site or remain-in-place operations (3-day supply)

(4) If time permits, individual prisoner records will accompany personnel to the evacuation site.

(5) MCFs will be secured once evacuation is complete.

(6) Medical assistance must be provided for injured personnel.

(7) Procedures to account for all personnel and a plan to effect the orderly return to the MCF; and

(8) Working parties will be formed as necessary to repair damage and clear debris.

6. Civilian Work Stoppage Bill. A work stoppage occurs when civilian staff members actively demonstrate dissatisfaction by striking, calling in sick, and or creating work slowdowns or substandard performance.

a. Procedure. At a minimum, each MCF must maintain a work stoppage bill that includes:

(1) Continuity of operations based on the length of the adverse action(s);

(2) Security and safety;

(3) Communications with employees;

(4) Communication with the public affairs office; and

(5) Documentation of employee actions during adverse job actions.

b. After Action. At a minimum, upon resolution of a work stoppage, the MCF must:

(1) Devise a plan to release temporary assigned personnel from other commands;

(2) Resume normal MCF operations as soon as possible;

(3) Analyze cause of the action; and

(4) Analyze lessons learned for improvements.

7. Hunger Strike Bill. MCFs must publish a hunger strike bill consistent with the provisions contained within article 10201.6 of this manual.

8. Bomb Threat Bill. MCFs must prepare a bomb threat bill to react to bomb threats or explosions. Any type of bomb threat must be treated seriously and never ignored. All threats must be investigated before making a declaration that the threat is a hoax. The bomb threat bill must contain the following procedures:

a. Bomb threat by phone (bomb threat checklist);

b. Bomb threat by mail;

c. Suspicious items;

d. Event of an explosion;

e. Threat evaluation;

f. Bomb search procedures;

g. Bomb search techniques;

h. Evacuation;

i. Reporting or notification requirements; and

j. After action reports

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL CONSOLIDATED BRIG CHARLESTON
1050 REMOUNT RD, BLDG 3107
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UNITED STATES NAVAL
CONSOLIDATED BRIG CHARLESTON
CODE: 20
DATE: 14 JAN 2025

SOP: 401
SUBJECT: CLASSIFICATION
TITLE: CUSTODY CLASSIFICATION

Ref: (a) SECNAV M-1640.1
(b) ACA Standards **5-ACI-2B-02, 5-ACI-2B-03, 5-ACI-5B-01, 5-ACI-5B-02, 5-ACI-5B-03, 5-ACI-5B-04, 5-ACI-5B-05, 5-ACI-5B-06, 5-ACI-5B-07, 5-ACI-5B-08, 5-ACI-5B-09, 5-ACI-5B-11, 5-ACI-5B-12, 5-ACI-5F-03, 5-ACI-7A-09**
(c) NAVCONBRIG CHASN SOP 633
(d) NAVCONBRIG CHASN SOP 635
(e) NAVCONBRIG CHASN SOP 431

Encl: (1) 48 Hour Notice of Classification Form

Cancellation. NAVCONBRIGCHASNSOP 401 of 28 Jun 2023.

Effective date. Twenty-four hours after issue.

1. Purpose. To set forth policies and procedures governing objective classification for prisoner custody level.

2. Applicability. To all staff and prisoners.

3. Definitions

a. Classification. A process for objectively determining the level of security and program requirements for prisoners based upon existing resources.

b. Custody. The degree of supervision each prisoner requires.

c. Prisoner. An individual in naval confinement. This includes individuals in pretrial confinement.

d. Unit Team. The Unit Teams are appointed by the Commanding Officer and comprised, at a minimum, of a Unit Manager, Unit Counselor, and Quarters Supervisor (s).

e. Security Perimeter. That area within the confines of the facility walls and/or the dual twelve-foot fence.

4. Policy

a. Staff will determine the degree of supervision, restraint and control needed for individual prisoners. This will be based on individual interviews and a review of all available records as from intake, orientation, program plan development, and evaluation by staff. Initial classification actions will be completed by the Command Duty Officer (CDO). Reclassification actions will be completed by the Unit Team and Classification and Adjustment Board (C&A Board) and approved by the Brig Officer or designee.

b. A written policy, procedure, and practice provide for a written prisoner classification plan. The plan specifies the objectives of the classification system and methods for achieving them, and provides a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to determine whether the objectives are being met **(5-ACI-5B-01)**.

c. The classification system will specify the level of custody required and provides for a regular review of each classification **(5-ACI-5B-02)**.

d. The classification plan will provide for maximum involvement of representatives of relevant institutional programs and the prisoner concerned in classification reviews **(5-ACI-5B-03)**.

e. The institution or parent agency solicits and uses pre-institutional assessment information regarding the prisoner's progress and adjustment **(5-ACI-5B-04)**.

f. At initial classification, each prisoner will be assigned to a staff member to ensure supervision and personal contact; a unit team may perform this function **(5-ACI-5B-05)**.

g. The written plan for each prisoner classification status will be reviewed at least every 12 months **(5-ACI-5B-06)**.

h. The classification plan specifies criteria and procedures for determining and changing a prisoner's program status; the plan includes at least one level of appeal **(5-ACI-5B-07)**.

i. Unless precluded for security or other substantial reasons, all prisoners appear at their classification hearing and are given notice 48 hours prior to the hearing; such notice may be waived by the prisoner in writing **(5-ACI-5B-08)**.

j. Prisoners may initiate a review of their progress and program status by submitting a request to their unit team **(5-ACI-5B-09)**.

k. Special needs prisoners will be identified by receiving personnel, clinical, medical, or unit team staff or other qualified personnel **(5-ACI-5B-11)**.

l. Adjudicated delinquent offenders and youths charged with offenses that would not be crimes if committed by adults will not reside in the brig **(5-ACI-5B-12)**.

m. The maximum size of a single management unit is variable and is based upon the characteristics of its prisoner population but does not exceed 80 prisoners. The exact size of each management unit is determined by (1) the security classification of the prisoner occupants (higher security levels require smaller unit size), and (2) the ability of staff to complete regular security checks, maintain visual and auditory contact, maintain personal contact and interaction with prisoners, and be aware of unit conditions **(5-ACI-2B-03).** The Brig rated capacity is 175 which is designated by PERS-00D.

n. Security and program determinations necessary for any individual to be eligible for industries work are made by the unit team and the C&A Board, as outlined in ref (d) **(5-ACI-7A-09)**.

o. Graduated release through a systematic decrease in supervision and corresponding increase in prisoner responsibility will be considered during the classification process **(5-ACI-5F-03)**.

p. Staff and prisoner interaction are encouraged. Brig staff, particularly Unit Teams, follow the unit management system which provides staff with the authority to make decisions, and the ability to make recommendations regarding security, classification, services, and programs for prisoners as out lined in ref (c) **(5-ACI-2B-02)**.

q. A graduated release through a systematic decrease in supervision and corresponding increase in prisoners responsibility is part of the classification program **(5-ACI-5F-03)**.

r. The security and program determinations necessary for any individual to be eligible for industries work are made by the Classification and Assignment Board **(5-ACI-7A-09)**.

5. Procedures

a. Initial Custody Classification. The initial custody classification is conducted during the reception process by the CDO using pre-institutional assessment regarding progress and adjustment **(5-ACI-5B-05)**. The facility solicits and uses pre-institutional assessment information regarding the prisoner's progress and adjustment **(5-ACI-5B-04)**. The CDO shall ensure the following are completed:

(1) Complete Prisoner Background Summary DD Form 2710.

(2) Complete Initial Custody Classification Form DD Form 2711.

(3) Determine prisoner level of custody and identify any special needs or problems **(5-ACI-5B-11)**.

(4) An initial custody classification of MDI will be assigned to all pre-trial and post-trial prisoners, except when MAX is required due to special circumstances. Under no circumstances should a prisoner have an initial classification of MDO/MIN/IC.

(5) Classification actions are entered into the Corrections Management Information System (CORMIS).

(6) All prisoners shall be initially assigned to the Special Quarters' Chief to ensure supervision and personal contact, pending clinical/medical clearance and urinalysis. Once cleared, the prisoner will be assigned to the Orientation Housing Unit. **(5-ACI-5B-05)**. **Transient prisoners will remain in Special Quarters until transfer is affected.**

(7) Policy, procedure, and practice provide for a written prisoner classification plan. The plan specifies the objectives of the classification system and methods for achieving them, and it provides a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to determine whether the objectives are being met **(5-ACI-5B-01)**.

(8) Adjudicated delinquent offenders and youths charged with offenses that would not be crimes if committed by adults will not reside in the brig **(5-ACI-5B-12)**.

b. Prisoner Notification. Unless precluded for security or other substantial reasons, all prisoners will be given the opportunity to appear at their classification hearing. They will be notified in writing at least 48 hours before the next Classification Review, using enclosure (1). Prisoners may waive the 48 hour notice and/or their right to appear at the hearing **(5-ACI-5B-05)**. The right to appeal the outcome to the Commanding Officer is retained even if the prisoner declines to appear. Unless precluded for security or other substantial reasons, all prisoners appear at their classification hearing and are given notice 48 hours prior to the hearing; such notice may be waived by the prisoner in writing **(5-ACI-5B-08)**.

c. Custody Reclassification. Custody reclassification shall be focused on the graduated release through a systematic decrease in supervision and corresponding increase in prisoner responsibility **(5-ACI-5F-03)**.

(1) After orientation, prisoners will be reviewed by the Orientation Unit Team for placement in the general population, custody, housing, work, and special programs. Reclassification will be done if the following occurs:

(a) Meeting time requirements listed in paragraph (d) below.

(b) A guilty finding from a Discipline and Adjustment Board.

(c) Receipt of more than three negative spot reports within a 90-day period.

(d) After movement from disciplinary segregation.

(e) Any time determined appropriate by a unit team member or at the prisoner's request.

(2) To effect a reclassification review; the Unit Team will:

(a) Complete the Custody Reclassification Form DD Form 2711-1. This form is verified by the Unit Manager with input from the Unit Team. If the Unit Team agrees with the objective recommendation, "no" is circled on the override line. If the C&A Board disagrees recommendation, "yes" is circled with the override code and rationale written on the form for review by the Brig Officer. Override of the objective classification recommendation will be determined by the Brig Officer. An override will normally increase/decrease the custody by one level unless otherwise approved by the Brig Officer.

(b) Determine change in custody level and housing assignment.

(c) Notify the prisoner of the unit team decision.

(d) Forward form to Brig Officer via the Classification and Adjustment Board (C&A Board), a multi-disciplinary board, in accordance with SOP 635, and place completed form in the prisoner's file after Brig Officer's approval **(5-ACI-5B-03)**.

(e) Input the classification actions into CORMIS after final approval is received.

d. Time Schedule for Reclassification. In accordance with reference (b), reclassification of prisoners will be accomplished by the Unit Team as follows **(5-ACI-5B-02) (5-ACI-5B-06)**:

Criteria	Pretrial	Post-Trial
At completion of orientation or upon change in legal status	Maximum Custody	All
Every 30 Days	Maximum Custody	Maximum Custody
Initiated by staff recommendation to change custody classification to a higher/more restrictive level based on identification of risk, other salient factors or management problems. (e.g., MDI to MAX)	Medium-In Custody	All except Maximum Custody
Initiated by staff recommendation to change custody classification to a lower/less restrictive level based on performance, risk or other salient factors. (e.g., MDI to MDO)	N/A	All except Installation Custody
Quarterly*	N/A	Medium-In, or those with sentences of one year or less

Semi-annual*	N/A	All with sentences of 1 to 3 years
Annual*	N/A	All with sentences over 3 years

*Reclassification may also be conducted based on review of the prisoner's hard-card, work evaluations, disciplinary actions, or other performance or security issues. This review is initiated by the Unit Team at its weekly meeting, which reviews prisoner hard-cards and other related performance information. A review of the prisoner program plan will also be conducted at least annually and documented in CORMIS.

e. Prisoner Initiated Reclassification. Prisoners may initiate a review of their progress and program status, and custody classification at any time by submitting a DD Form 510 request to their unit team **(5-ACI-5B-09)**. If a request for custody classification is received, the Unit Team will assess the prisoner and make a recommendation to the C&A Board. The C&A Board will review the prisoners request and Unit Team recommendation, and forward their recommendation to the Brig Officer for approval.

f. Guidelines for Custody Reclassifications. The Unit Team shall take into consideration the degree of supervision and restraint needed for control of individual prisoners, inside and outside the security perimeter, as outlined in Reference (a), Article 4201. The Unit Team/C&A Board will use the following guidelines to establish proper custody classification assignments for all post-trial prisoners; exceptions to any of the elements listed below must be approved by either the CO or XO.

NOTE: Time awarded for pretrial confinement and other administrative credits deemed appropriate by the court will be considered as time served and used in computing minimum time eligibilities for custody classification.

(1) Maximum Custody (MAX). Pre-trial and post-trial prisoners requiring special custodial supervision because of the high probability of escape, are potentially violent or dangerous, and those who are at risk of harming themselves. Ordinarily, only a small percentage of prisoners shall be classified as MAX.

(2) Medium Inside (MDI). Pre-trial and post-trial prisoners who present security risks not warranting MAX and are not regarded as dangerous or violent.

(a) Assigned to all new prisoners, except those specifically deemed to be serious management problems (MAX), shall be assigned a MDI custody classification during the reception/orientation phase.

(b) All pre-trial prisoners will maintain an MDI custody classification, except those specifically deemed to be serious management problems (MAX).

(c) Assigned to General and Special Courts-Martial prisoners who have more than 90 days remaining on their sentence and who have not served one fourth 1/4 of their sentence to confinement.

(d) May also be used when special circumstances warrant (e.g., previous or current conduct in confinement, convicted of serious violent crime, previous convictions, escape risk, pending civil charges, etc.).

(3) Medium Outside (MDO). Post-trial prisoners who present security risks not warranting MDI are considered MDO prisoners.

(a) Will normally be assigned to Summary Courts-Martial prisoners after completion of orientation unless special circumstances warrant remaining MDI.

(b) Assigned to General and Special Courts-Martial prisoners who have served one fourth (1/4) of their sentence to confinement or have less than 90 days remaining on their sentence to confinement unless special circumstances warrant remaining MDI (e.g., convicted of serious violent crime, previous convictions, escape risk, pending civil charges, etc.).

(4) Minimum Custody (MIN). Post-trial prisoners who present security risks not warranting the above classifications are considered MIN prisoners.

(a) Summary courts-martial prisoners may be assigned upon completion of orientation if facility needs require.

(b) May be assigned to General and Special Courts-Martial prisoners who have served one third (1/3) of their sentence to confinement or have less than 2 years remaining on their sentence to confinement.

(c) Must be active in or completed all required programs associated with their convicted offense(s) or any other condition that may exist (i.e., Sexual Offender Education (SOED), General Violence (GO) Treatment, Innovative Skills, Techniques, Options and Plans for Better Relationships (STOP) Treatment, Substance Use Treatment).

(d) No DRs or negative Observation Reports within 90 days. If more than 3 DR's received, prisoner must have completed 120 days without incident since their last DR. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Should a minimum custody prisoner be found guilty at a disciplinary hearing, the prisoner shall be reviewed for increased custody.

(e) Work and Training Reports must reflect above average to outstanding marks.

(f) A prisoner increased from minimum custody will not normally be reassigned to minimum.

(5) Installation Custody (IC). Certain post-trial prisoners who require only limited custodial supervision. They may work and move about much the same as individuals in a normal duty status.

(a) Assigned to prisoners upholding the highest standards of personal conduct and behavior.

(b) Have completed at least one half (1/2) of their confinement adjudged, or the convening authority has acted, whichever occurs first.

(c) No violent charges or any charges that are of a sexual nature.

(d) No more than twelve months from minimum release date.

(e) Never previously removed from IC classification for poor performance or behavior.

(f) Must be active in or completed all required programs related to their offense or any other condition that may exist.

(g) No DR's or negative Observation Reports within 180 days of the nomination. If more than 3 DR's received, he must have completed 180 days without incident since his last DR. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

(h) Work and Training Reports must reflect above average to outstanding marks.

(i) Consideration will be taken when assigning jobs to prisoners adjudicated for serious sexual or aggravated assault offenses.

(j) IC Classification shall be administered in accordance with ref (e).

g. Other Factors Affecting Custody Classification

(1) Factors, though not all inclusive, to be considered in assessing higher custody classifications (MAX or MDI) include:

(a) Assaultive behavior.

(b) Disruptive behavior.

(c) Serious drug abuse.

(d) Serious civil/military criminal record (convicted or alleged).

(e) Low tolerance of frustration.

(f) Intensive acting out or dislike of the military.

(g) History of previous escape(s).

(h) Pending civil charges/detainer filed.

(i) Serving a sentence which the individual considers to be unjust or severe.

(j) Poor home conditions or family relationships.

(k) A mental evaluation indicating serious neurosis or psychosis.

(l) Indication of unwillingness to accept responsibility for personal actions past and present.

(m) Demonstrated pattern of poor judgment.

(n) Length, or potential length, of sentence.

(o) Gang affiliation or ties with disruptive organizations.

(p) Awaiting transfer to another confinement facility.

(q) Refusal to accept/participate in recommended treatment programs.

(2) Factors that indicate lower custody classifications (MDO, MIN, or IC) include:

(a) Clear military record, aside from present offense.

(b) Close family ties; good home conditions.

(c) The offense(s) charged is not serious.

(d) Apparently stable mental condition (responsible for own actions).

(e) Indications the individual wishes to return to duty.

(f) Comparatively short sentence to confinement; however, length of sentence shall not be an overriding factor.

(g) Behavior during a previous confinement.

(h) Completion of, or active participation in, treatment programs or groups.

(3) The factors listed above are indicators, not ironclad rules; therefore, the Brig Officer will consider objective based overrides where applicable. An evaluation of all phases of prisoner performance shall be made prior to each custody change. By following the criteria and concepts outlined above, the Brig Officer shall be able to make more efficient use of staff and provide an atmosphere in which rehabilitative efforts shall be more effective.

h. Staff and prisoner interaction are encouraged. Brig staff, particularly unit teams, follow the unit management system which provides staff with the authority to make decisions, and the ability to make recommendations regarding security, classification, services, and programs for prisoners (see SOP 633) **(5-ACI-2B-02)**. The maximum size of a single management unit is variable and is based upon the characteristics of its prisoner population but does not exceed 80

prisoners. The exact size of each management unit is determined by (1) the security classification of the prisoner occupants (higher security levels require smaller unit size), and (2) the ability of staff to complete regular security checks, maintain visual and auditory contact, maintain personal contact and interaction with prisoners, and be aware of unit conditions **(5-ACI-2B-03).**

i. The security and program determinations necessary for any individual to be eligible for industries work are made by the Classification and Assignment Board (**5-ACI-7A-09**).

6. Appeals. Appeals of classification decisions shall be forwarded to the Commanding Officer via DD Form 510 in accordance with the Prisoner Handbook (5-ACI-5B-07).

7. Records Management. Records created as a result of this SOP, regardless of media or format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

8. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, the originator will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9.

[redacted]

J. M. BRISCO JR.

Releasability and distribution:
This SOP is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via Y Drive\\Naeachrlfs101v\navperscom$\CHRL\TownHall\Instructions - SOPs\SOPs\401

Distribution:
PERS-00D
Department Heads
Special Assistants
Unit Teams

48 HOUR NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

The notice is to advise you that your classification status will be reviewed as explained below. You are encouraged to attend this classification hearing - it is your opportunity to personally hear the discussion and consideration of the factors that affect your classification. If you choose not to attend you still retain the right to appeal the outcome to the Executive Officer. You may waive the 48 hour notice and/or your right to appear at your hearing. Such notice will be made by your signature, which verifies your preference and indicates receipt of notice.

UNIT: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

LOCATION: _____

NAVCONBRIG CHARLESTON, SC

1640/35 (NEW 05/93)

48 HOUR NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

DATE	NAME	WAIVE NOTICE	WILL ATTEND	WAIVE APPEAL	SIGNATURE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL CONSOLIDATED BRIG CHARLESTON
1050 REMOUNT RD, BLDG 3107
CHARLESTON, SC 29406-3515

6 Oct 25

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston
To: Officer in Charge, Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston Detachment Chesapeake
Info: CAPT Derek Butler, JAGC, USN, Region Special Trial Counsel, Office of Special Trial Counsel

Subj: RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR A CONTACT VISIT WITH COUNSEL ICO CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

Ref: (a) Naval OSTC Det Norfolk ltr of 2 Oct 25

1. In response to ref (a) and in support of the government's position on this unique case, limited exception to policy is cautiously granted with the following caveats:

a. The prisoner will remain restrained at all times during the visit.

b. The prisoner visits will be conducted in a brig contact room and staff will maintain current security protocols; no further adjustments will be authorized.

c. Any guilty Disciplinary Review Board findings, whether related to a visit or not, will revoke this exception and return the prisoner to standard protocols associated with his classification.

d. Any security protocol violations during the visit will return the prisoner to standard protocols associated with his classification.

2. I note that isolated instances of previously demonstrated compliance do not mitigate risk with prisoners facing severe sentences and consequences. This is particularly true in cases where a prisoner may receive unexpected news or information that serve as a trigger for volatile behavior. Allowing contact visits for prisoners designated with a custody classification of "maximum" increases risk to the safety of visiting personnel and my staff. Brig security policy is in place for everyone's safety, even when it is inconvenient. I have seen numerous staff assaulted in my tenure by unstable prisoners who were at times compliant, thus the cautious approval of this unique government request. I hope this level of risk, which I wholly own, is noted for any future requests.

[redacted]
J. M. BRISCO JR.

2 Oct 25

From: CAPT Derek Butler, JAGC, USN, Region Special Trial Counsel, Office of Special Trial Counsel
To: Commanding Officer, Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston
Via: Officer in Charge, Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston Detachment Chesapeake

Subj: REQUEST FOR A CONTACT VISIT WITH COUNSEL ICO CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

1. I respectfully request consideration of an exception to policy to authorize CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, currently confined at Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake, to have a contact visit with his defense counsel. I fully acknowledge that this request is contrary to standard brig policy and recognize the importance of maintaining consistent security protocols within your facility. As such, I am only asking for an exception for this case, and not for a change to the general policy.

2. Defense counsel have repeatedly expressed concerns regarding their ability to communicate clearly with their client in the no-contact visitation room in this particular case due to some unique issues with their client. I do not concur that the current no-contact arrangement is inherently unsuitable for client visitation in general. However, I do believe that providing defense with a reasonable accommodation in this case is worth consideration and would quite likely facilitate the efficient litigation of this particular case by ensuring that the defense counsel can communicate with this client.

3. CSSN Copeland has previously been allowed two contact visits in building A-50 with his defense counsel. Both visits were completed without incident. His demonstrated ability to conduct himself appropriately during those visits provides a factual basis for considering an exception in this instance.

4. To balance defense counsel's concerns with the brig's operational security requirements, I recommend the following conditions if contact visits are approved:

a. The prisoner will remain restrained at all times during the visit. These restraints would be the same that were employed during his contact visits prior to his recent hearings; and

b. The visits would be conducted in a brig contact room where brig staff could maintain close visual observation consistent with current security protocols.

5. I believe that granting contact visits under these conditions would assuage the concerns of his defense counsel while preserving the brig's security interests. I submit this request not as a precedent-setting measure, but rather as a narrowly tailored exception justified by the unique issues the defense team is having communicating with the prisoner in this case and the prisoner's prior demonstrated compliance.

6. I appreciate your consideration of this matter. I am available to discuss further either by phone at 757-341-5663 or via email at derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]

D. D. BUTLER

3 Dec 25

From: LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Chief Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel,
United States v. CSSN Copeland, USN

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH CDR BRIAN FLANAGAN, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 3 December 2025, LCDR Chris Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, spoke to CDR Brian Flanagan, USN, telephonically. The following disclosures are provided:

a. CDR Flanagan reported that he was contacted via email by LCDR Serfess on 21 November with a request for the contact information of the Medical Record custodian, but otherwise has not spoken to the Defense.
b. As the OIC of the brig, CDR Flanagan is authorized to exercise discretion and override the determinations of the C&A Board per the SECNAV Instruction.
c. While the seriousness of charged offenses would normally create a high enough point value for CSSN Copeland to be confined in MAX, there are a few classes that are offered that allow for points to be subtracted from the total. CCSN Copeland has attended some classes that subsequently lowered the point total and thereby his recommended classification status.
d. CDR Flanagan has been overriding the C&A board's recommendation since that reduction in point total occurred. In the matter of CSSN Copeland, CDR Flanagan believes he has lawfully used his discretion to keep him in MAX based on the seriousness of the charges, the potential length of sentence if found guilty of the charges, and the limitations of his Level I facility in providing adequate security should his classification status be reduced. CSSN Copeland engaged in some minor negative things early on, but he does not attach much weight to that.
e. CDR Flanagan explained that he has no desire to punish CSSN Copeland and has included CSSN Copeland in a step-down program that allows for extra time out of his cell.
f. In his experience, confinees facing serious charges, with the potential for long confinement sentences, are safety risks to themselves and other confinees. Ultimately, CDR Flanagan is responsible for the safety of CSSN Copeland, his staff, and the other confinees.
g. As a Level 1 Facility, CDR Flanagan feels that the brig is not staffed to properly supervise/monitor such safety concerns, as a Level 3 facility like Leavenworth would be.
h. To his knowledge, CSSN Copeland has not appealed the decision to continue his confinement in MAX.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY

Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 3:03 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Subject: RE: Defense Motion - Unlawful Pretrial Punishment
Attachments: copeland000.pdf
Signed By: brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Red Category

LCDR Dempsey,

Here is the latest grade sheet. To confirm, he has not appealed any of these decisions to keep him in max custody. Even with the -2 for completing a life skills class, he still only makes it into the reduce category by 1 point, so it's as small of an override as possible.

Happy to answer any further questions.

V/R,

OIC

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 3:27 PM
To: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Defense Motion - Unlawful Pretrial Punishment

Good Afternoon Sir –

Sorry I am between offices right now. Let's plan to talk tomorrow. Does 1100 work for you? Thanks!

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 3:26 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Defense Motion - Unlawful Pretrial Punishment

LCDR Dempsey,

Just tried to call but got the voice mail. If you are out for the afternoon, I'm available all day tomorrow. I will be at my desk until just before 1600, we'll be handing out some awards then and I'll probably head home for the day after that.

V/R,

OIC

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 11:44 AM
To: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Defense Motion - Unlawful Pretrial Punishment

Copy, sir and understood, that's what I expected as well. I will follow up with more details once I have them.

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 11:22 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Defense Motion - Unlawful Pretrial Punishment

LCDR Dempsey,

Is this in regard to Prisoner Copeland?

I am available on 10DEC. Never done one of these; however, I would simply refer to the SECNAV-granted authority to keep a prisoner in MAX custody due to the allegations against them and the potential length of sentence if found guilty.

V/R,

OIC

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 11:16 AM
To: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Defense Motion - Unlawful Pretrial Punishment

Good Morning Sir,

The Defense has requested your production for a motion alleging unlawful pretrial punishment. The motion will be heard on 10 December (specific time unknown). Are you available? I do not imagine it will take more than 30 minutes. In-person presence would be desirable, but telephonic would work as well if necessary. I am also happy to discuss the motion and what to expect when you have a moment. I am unavailable today, but could be free tomorrow or Wednesday. Thanks!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record information and decisions regarding changes in a prisoner's custody classification. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
IC1 GREEN	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[X]	[ ]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	0
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	0
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	-2
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	0
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	6

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [X] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [ ] SAME (7-10 Points) [ ] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE

ADMIN FACTOR: SNP work and training report is average. SNP has one negative and one positive entry in hard card since last reclassification board. Completed one life skills class but has missed the last three.

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [X] NO [ ] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Reduction in classification to MDI.

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	[redacted]	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
FLANAGAN, BRIAN P CDR, OIC		20251117

10. FINAL DECISION

REMAIN MAX/OVERRIDE

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLIX
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STATUS REVIEW – PVD+154D- RECLASSIFICATION							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20251117							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+154D**	**PVD+159D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-78E**	**K-78E**
				MAX	**MDI**	**K-78E**	**K-**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20251013			**Next Reclassification:** 20251114			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP asked if it were possible to attend the C & A and have the guards step out while he talked. He stated he didn't want anyone to feel any type of way about anything he would say and didn't want anyone to start treating him differently. Informed SNP that shouldn't be happening and I would ask the question. SNP had no further questions or concerns. SNP has received one negative entry and one positive since last reclassification board. SNP completed one life skills class and denied the classes for the previous 3 weeks.

Counselor recommendation is reclassification to MDI and move to General Population.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 17 NOV 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 17 NOV 2025.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
BM' ANDERSON [redacted] CDO	✓		
MSGT GIBBONS [redacted]	X		SNP HAS BEEN COMPLIANT WITH ALL ORDERS AND HAS SHOWN HE CAN FUNCTION IN GP

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SANDY, JADEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments: SNP WILL REMAIN MAX [redacted] CUSTODY.

[redacted] _____ Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

REMAIN MAX

[redacted] _____ Approve / Disapprove

CUI

STATUS REVIEW – PVD+146D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20251104							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+139D**	**PVD+146D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-78E**	**K-78E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20251013			**Next Reclassification:** 20251114			

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP asking questions about mail and mailing timelines. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until next reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 04 NOV 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
BM ANDERSON [redacted]	X		
MSGT GIBSON [redacted] OPS	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SANDI, JADEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments:

Suz will remain MAX-STEP Down.

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD+139D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20251028							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+132D**	**PVD+139D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-78E**	**K-78E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20251013			**Next Reclassification:** 20251114			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP inquired about the determination of last reclassification board. Informed SNP of the decision and answered questions about mail and obtaining items he needs. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until next reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 28 OCT 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on _____N/A_____.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MALBANICKI, S. [redacted] OPS	X		
SSGT FEDERAN [redacted]	F		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] Brayman	Clinical	
HM1 WILLIAMS [redacted] HM1	MEDICAL	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] ~~Rec~~ / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record information and decisions regarding changes in a prisoner's custody classification. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
IC1 GREEN	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[X]	[ ]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	0
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	0
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	-2
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	0
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	6

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [X] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [ ] SAME (7-10 Points) [ ] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE

ADMIN FACTOR: SNP was assessed by clinical and removed from POI. SNP work and training report is average. No disciplinary issues have been observed. SNP completed stress management and anger management programming.

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [X] NO [ ] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Reduction in classification to MDI.

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	[redacted]	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CR FLANAGAN, BRIAN P O1C		20251014

10. FINAL DECISION

REMAIN MAX.

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLIX
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STATUS REVIEW – RECLASSIFICATION							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20251014							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+121D**	**PVD+125D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
				MAX	**MDI**	**K-79E**	**K-42E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250911			**Next Reclassification:** 20251013			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical and completed stress management and is complete with anger management per step down recommendation. SNP has been cleaning the Special Quarters day room and claims cleaning of other dorms as part of step down has not been completed due to lack of available guards. All other parts of stepdown plan have been conducted with no reported issues. SNP has received six positive entries in his hardcard with zero negative entries. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is reclassification to MDI and placement in general population.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 14 OCT 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 14 OCT 2025.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted] Counselor Signature [redacted]

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MAC WINSOR [redacted]		X	WHILE SNP HAS BEEN RECEPTIVE, HE IS STILL ACCUSED OF A VIOLENT ACT.
SSGT FEDERAN	X		SNP HAS BEEN FOLLOWING STEP DOWN PROGRAM AND BEHAVIOR HAS BEEN GOOD. RECOMMEND TO ADD MORE TO HIS STEP DOWN.

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	Clinical	Recommend removal of MAX Status due to example improvement & Good behavior. This incentive will also maintain a stable mental status.
HM1 WILLIAMS [redacted]	MEDICAL	

Chairman Comments: RECOMMEND SNP COMPLETING TO GENERAL POPULATION. SNP HAS COMPLETED 8 HOURS OF ANGER MANAGEMENT AND 4 HOURS OF STRESS MANAGEMENT. HE CLEANS THE DAYROOM AND SHOWERS

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

NEED SPECIFICS ON "ALL OTHER PARTS" OF STEPDOWN FOR DETERMINATION. MAY RECEIVE ADDITIONAL MOBILITY (LIKE GENERAL POP DORM AREA), ONCE WE OPEN JULIET DORM.

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +118D

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20251007

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+111D**	**PVD+118D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRETRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250911	**Next Reclassification:** 20251013

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:

ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical and completed stress management and is complete with anger management per step down recommendation. SNP has been cleaning the Special Quarters day room and claims cleaning of other dorms as part of step down has not been completed due to lack of available guards. All other parts of stepdown plan have been conducted with no reported issues. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until next reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 07 OCT 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSG G WILLIAMS [redacted] OPS	X		
BM: ANDERSON [redacted] CPO	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SANDY, JADEN	Medical	
[redacted] Patricia Benjamin	Clinical	

Chairman Comments: SN2 IS UNDER CONTINUED OBSERVATION. WILL REMAIN MAX CUSTODY

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +111D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250930							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+104D**	**PVD+111D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical and completed stress management and is ~~half~~ in complete with anger management per step down recommendation. SNP has been cleaning the Special Quarters day room and claims cleaning of other dorms as part of step down has not been completed due to lack of available guards. All other parts of stepdown plan have been conducted with no reported issues. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until next reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 30 SEP 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MAJ BANICKI [redacted] OPS	X		
[redacted] COO	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
HM1 WILLIAMS [redacted]	MED/CLIN	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +104D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250923							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+98D**	**PVD+104D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical and completed stress management and is half complete with anger management per step down recommendation. SNP has been cleaning the Special Quarters day room. SNP had court hearing on 20250918 and feels it went well. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until next reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 23 SEP 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/P
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
BM ANDERSON [redacted] CDO	✓		
MAC WINJUM [redacted] OPS	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
HM1 Waters, J. [redacted]	Medical	
[redacted]		

Chairman Comments:

SUP WITH CONTINUED OBSERVATION UNTIL NEXT RECLASSIFICATION BOARD

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +98D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250917							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+92D**	**PVD+98D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical and completed stress management and is half complete with anger management per step down recommendation. SNP has been cleaning the Special Quarters day room and has been receiving positive hard card entries for volunteering to work. SNP has been completing programming with the reentry specialist when scheduled with the only interruption being command visitation. SNP remains in communication with family. SNP recently had hospital T/R and after return stated he feels better. SNP had court hearing on 20250915 and feels it went well. SNP is nervous about next one on 20250918 and does not want media posting his photographs everywhere. SNP skipped a meal this morning due to not being hungry in the mornings. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until next reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 17 SEP 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
[redacted] MSGT OPS	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
Patricia Benjamin [redacted]	Clinical	Continue with Step Down.
HMCS SANDT, JADEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

CUI

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLIX
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STATUS REVIEW – PVD +92D

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20250911

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+90D**	**PVD+92D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-~~79E~~**	**~~K-79E~~**
				~~MAX~~	**~~MDI~~**	**~~K-79E~~**	**~~K-42E~~**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:

ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B- FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical and completed stress management and is half complete with anger management per step down recommendation. SNP has been cleaning the Special Quarters day room and has been receiving positive hard card entries for volunteering to work. SNP has been completing programming with the reentry specialist when scheduled with the only interruption being command visitation. SNP remains in communication with family. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is reclassification to MDI and placement in general population.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 11 SEP 2025.

Reclassification Only:

You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 11 SEP 2025.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
SGT RICKED [redacted] CDO/OPS		X	RECOMMEND TO STAY MAX WITH NEW STEPDOWN PLAN.

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	Clinical	Recommend SNP remain MAX with an additional Stepdown towards MDI
[redacted] YMCS SADDI, JAVEN	Medical	Recommend SNP remain max, but give additional opportunities to work on towards Gen pop.

Chairman Comments: SNP recommended to Stay a MAX, however the board has discussed additional items to add to his step down. He told the board that he is eager to be out of his cell more, cleaning and doing more programming.

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +90D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250909							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To 58
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+83D**	**PVD+90D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-79E**	~~**K-79E**~~
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
107B- FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been active in programming from clinical. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 9 SEP 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 11 SEP 2025.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
BM' ANDERSON [redacted] COO	✓		
MA' BANICKI OPS [redacted]	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]		
Patricia Bolyard		
[redacted]		
SANDT / JORDEN / HMCS	Medical	

Chairman Comments: Med needed to put him back downstairs.

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +83D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250902							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+75D**	**PVD+83D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-79E**	**K-79E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has completed three of four sessions for stress management and two sessions of anger management programming from clinical. SNP moved cells due to an ant issue. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until reclassification board with unoccupied dorm cleaning and continue two more modules for programming.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 2 SEP 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
SGT RICARD [redacted] CDO	X		
MA' BANICKI OPS [redacted]	X		
IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	**DEPARTMENT**		**COMMENTS**
[redacted] HMCS SAULT, JADCO	Medical		

Chairman Comments: Only done to document special move.

Amanda Cote
Board Chairman:

Rec / Not Rec

Approving Officer Comments:

FRANKLIN FEDERMAN SGT/CDO
Approving Officer:

Approve / Disapprove

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +75D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250825							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+70D**	**PVD +75D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-78E**	**K-78E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250811			**Next Reclassification:** 20250911			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has completed three of four sessions for stress management and one session of anger management programming from clinical. SNP moved cells due to a disruptive prisoner. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain MAX and continued observation until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 25 AUG 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial ____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MA' BANICKI, S. OPS [redacted]	X		
EDI HUMBERT [redacted] CDO	X		
IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	**DEPARTMENT**		**COMMENTS**
Patricia Benjamin [redacted]	Clinical		Continues Step Down pgm positive for this Mental Health
HM1 WILL IAMS [redacted] HM1	MEDICAL		

Chairman Comments:

continue Step down program

[redacted]

SFC BUSCH

Board Chairman: [redacted]

(Rec) / Not Rec

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted]

Approving Officer: [redacted]

Approve / Disapprove

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +68D

Counselor: IC1 GREEN

Date: 20250818

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+61D**	**PVD +68D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRETRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250711	**Next Reclassification:** 20250911

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has completed three of four sessions for stress management and started anger management programming from clinical. SNP is also involved in a step-down program, which he expressed to the counselor that he appreciates the opportunity. SNP has no further questions or concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain MAX and continued observation until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 18 AUG 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT Gibbons [redacted] OPS	X		
SGT RICARD [redacted] CDO	X		
IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	**DEPARTMENT**		**COMMENTS**
[redacted] HMC SKINDER, JADEN	Medical		

Chairman Comments: SNP has done very well with the step down program and we will continue to monitor and adjust step down as necessary.

Amanda Gibbons RSC — Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] — Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record information and decisions regarding changes in a prisoner's custody classification. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
IC1 GREEN	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[X]	[ ]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	0
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	0
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	-1
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	-1
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	6

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [X] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [ ] SAME (7-10 Points) [ ] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE

SNP IS VERY COOPERATIVE AND FOLLOWS ORDERS. ASK TO CLEAN THE SPECIAL QUARTERS DAY ROOM CONSISTENTLY

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [ ] NO [X] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

RECCOMENDATION TO REMAIN MAX AND START A STEP DOWN PROGRAM. CONTINED OBSERVATION UNTIL NEXT RECLASSIFICATION BOARD.

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Remain MAX

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Flanagan, Brian P, CDR, OIC [redacted]	20250811

10. FINAL DECISION

Remain MAX.

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLIX
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STATUS REVIEW – PVD +61D / Reclassification

Counselor: IC1 GREEN

Date: 20250811

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+56D**	**PVD +61D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRETRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250711	**Next Reclassification:** 20250811

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP is working on stress management programming from clinical. SNP has not received any negative observation reports nor disciplinary reports since arrival. SNP has been volunteering to help in any way possible. SNP has no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain MAX and continued observation until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 11 AUG 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 11 AUG 2025.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

[redacted]

Prisoner Signature

Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT GIBSONS OPS [redacted]	X		RECOMMEND STEP DOWN

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	Clinical	Recommend Step Down.
Freedenthal, E / Hm1 SFTDC [redacted]	MED	Recommend Step down.

Chairman Comments: Board discussed SM being offered a Step down program to include cleaning the hallways in KE. He is motivated to clean. He has followed all rules & has not received any DR's or negatives.

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +56D / Reclassification Notice

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20250806

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+50D**	**PVD +56D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRETRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250711	**Next Reclassification:** 20250811

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP is working on stress management programming from clinical. SNP has not received any negative observation reports nor disciplinary reports since arrival. SNP has been volunteering to help in any way possible. SNP has no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 06 AUG 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 11 AUG 2025.

Prisoner (DOES) / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

[redacted] Prisoner Signature

[redacted] Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT GIBSONS OPS [redacted]	X		
GSM1 COPPINGER [redacted]	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	Clinical	
Freudenthal, E / HM1 SFIDC [redacted]	MED	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

CUI

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLIX
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STATUS REVIEW – PVD +50D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250731							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+43D**	**PVD +50D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250711			**Next Reclassification:** 20250810			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP is working on stress management programming from clinical. SNP has not received any negative observation reports nor disciplinary reports since arrival. SNP has expressed concerns about funding brig account and staff is working with command to retrieve funding. SNP was advised of alternative funding options. SNP has expressed concerns about food quantities and concerns are being addressed by appropriate department. SNP has no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation with recommended programming.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 31 JUL 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted] Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial ____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT GIBBONS CDS [redacted]	7		
SGT RICARD MAK CDO	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SANDI, JADEN	Medical	
Patricia Benjamin [redacted]	Chaplain	

Chairman Comments: SNP Copeland is very cooperative and continues to follow orders. He has requested to clean the hallway in KE.

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +43D

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20250724

Prisoner Name	RCN	Status/Job		Custody		Unit/Cell	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	PVD+36D	PVD +43D	MAX	MAX	K-58E	K-58E

Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20250711	**Next Reclassification:** 20250810

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP recently started stress management programming from clinical. SNP has not received any negative observation reports nor disciplinary reports since arrival.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation with recommended programming.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 24 JUL 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT GIBSONS OPS [redacted]	X		
Sim' COPPINGER CDO [redacted]			

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	Clinical	
Freudenthal, E. HM1/SFIDC [redacted]	MED	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted]

SR BUSCH [redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman: [redacted]

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer: [redacted]

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +36D

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20250717

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+31D**	**PVD +36D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A	**Next Reclassification:** 20250810

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP recently started stress management programming from clinical. SNP has not received any negative observation reports nor disciplinary reports since arrival. SNP received a positive on 20250712.

Counselor recommendation is continued observation with recommended programming.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 17 JUL 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT GIBBONS ORS [redacted]	✓		
SGT RICARD [redacted] COO	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
Patricia Bowerman [redacted]	Claims	
Freudenthal, E. [redacted]	MED	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted]

Board Chairman: [redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted]

Approving Officer: [redacted] Approve / Disapprove

CUI

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record information and decisions regarding changes in a prisoner's custody classification. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
MA1 ECK	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[X]	[ ]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	0
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	0
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	0
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	0
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	8

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [ ] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [X] SAME (7-10 Points) [ ] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE

Admin Factor A: SNP was assessed by clinical and has been POI. SNP work and training report is average. No disciplinary issues have been observed. SNP has recently requested stress management programming.

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [X] NO [ ] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Remain MAX

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Flanagan, Brian P, CDR, OIC [redacted]	20250711

10. FINAL DECISION

REMAIN MAX

STATUS REVIEW – PVD +31D / RECLASSIFICATION

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20250711

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD/POI+29D**	**PVD +31D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A	**Next Reclassification:** 20250711

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP assessed by clinical for removal from POI status on 20250711. SNP has been respectful and has shown no signs of aggression towards staff. SNP has been limited in observable factors due to POI status. SNP recently requested stress management programming from clinical and is scheduled to begin soon. SNP has not received any negative observation reports nor disciplinary reports since arrival. SNP has one negative in hard card for count obstruction.

Counselor recommendation is remain Max and continue observation with programming and without POI restrictions.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 11 JUL 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
MSGT GIBBONS [redacted] OPS	✓		
SGT RICARD [redacted]	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	Clinical	Recommend to Remain From Main Status
Freudenthal, E. Hn/SFIDC [redacted]	MED	Recommend SNP to remain in current status due to points. Re-eval status once in programs that will reduce points.

Chairman Comments: All Members agree that SNP should be removed from POI status, but remain Max. He told the board he desires to be more active with programing and cleaning up the dorm

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer:

CUI

STATUS REVIEW – PVD/POI+29D / RECLASSIFICATION NOTICE

Counselor: MA1 ECK

Date: 20250709

Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD/POI+23D**	**PVD/POI+29D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**

Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610	**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A	**Next Reclassification:** 20250711

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP remains POI until cleared by clinical. SNP had no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain in special quarters until cleared from POI and observed until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 09 JUL 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 11 JUL 2025.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

[redacted] _____
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
[redacted] GSM COPPINGER	X		
[redacted] MAJ BARICKI OPS	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SAVOY, JADEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD/POI+23D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250703							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD/POI+17D**	**PVD/POI+23D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A			**Next Reclassification:** 20250710			

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP remains POI until cleared by clinical. SNP had no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain in special quarters until cleared from POI and observed until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 03 JUL 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted] Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial ____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
CDO SGT RICARD [redacted]	X		
OPS – MA' BANICKI S [redacted]	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SANDI, JADEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer: [redacted]

STATUS REVIEW – PVD/POI+17D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250627							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	From	To	From	To	From	To
		PVD/POI+10D	**PVD/POI+17D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A			**Next Reclassification:** 20250710			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP remains POI until cleared by clinical. SNP had no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain in special quarters until cleared from POI and observed until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 27 JUN 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
CSCS MAHONEY, LIONEL [redacted]	X		
IC' RODRIGUEZ/ CDO [redacted]	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted]	[illegible]	
SICER, ANDREW [redacted]	MEDICAL	

Chairman Comments:

SEC BUSCH [redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

CUI

APPELLATE EXHIBIT XLIX
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STATUS REVIEW – PVD/POI+10D							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250620							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD/POI+72H**	**PVD/POI+10D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A			**Next Reclassification:** 20250710			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP remains POI until cleared by clinical. SNP had no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain in special quarters until cleared from POI and observed until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 20 JUN 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial ____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
GSM' COPPINGER [redacted]	X		
MSGT GIBBONS OPS [redacted]	X		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS 'SANDI, JADEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments:

SFC BUSCH [redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] CMDC Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

STATUS REVIEW – PVD/POI+72H							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250613							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	From	To	From	To	From	To
		INDOC/PVD/POI	**PVD/POI+72H**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-58E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A			**Next Reclassification:** 20250710			

PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP clinically cleared on 20250611 and medically cleared on 20250612. Orientation completed on 20250613. SNP remains POI until cleared by clinical. SNP had no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain in special quarters until cleared from POI and observed until reclassification board.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 13 JUN 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
TYESHA ERVIN, CDO [redacted]	✓		
MSGT GIBSONS OPS [redacted]	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
[redacted] HMCS SANDI, JAIDEN	Medical	

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

Approving Officer:

CUI

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

ORIGINAL

INITIAL CUSTODY CLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. §136: "Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness"; 10 U.S.C. Chapter 48, "Military Correctional Facilities", DOD Directive 1325.04, "Confinement of Military Prisoners and Administration of Military Correctional Programs and Facilities"; and DOD Instruction 1325.07, "Administration of Military Correctional Facilities and Clemency and Parole Authority."

PRINCIPAL PURPOSES: To collect a new prisoner's personal history to assist in the custody classification.

ROUTINE USES: Disclosure of records are generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 522a(b) of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended. Information may be disclosed to confinement/correctional agencies for use in the administration of correctional programs, including custody classification, employment, training and educational assignments, treatment programs and social histories. Additional routine uses are listed in the applicable System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary. However, failure to provide all requested information may prevent the Correctional Facility staff from properly classifying prisoner's custody.

1. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	2. INTERVIEWER NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	3. (X one)
20250610	RICARD, MATTHEW	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

4. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle) (AKA)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. GRADE	d. SEX (X one)
COPELAND, JERMIAH	00165476C	E3	[X] MALE [ ] FEMALE

5. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	X	
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	X	
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	X	
d. SEGREGATION	X	

6. MANAGEMENT FACTORS (Enter point values) (Complete 15 - 17 of the Classification Worksheet)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE ART: 118 OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8 (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	8
b. SUBSTANCE ABUSE YES x 1 = 1 YES x 2 = 2 YES x 3 = 3 YES x 4 = 4	2
c. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = (Enter points from Offense Severity Scale (see DoDI 1325.7))	1
d. HISTORY OF VIOLENCE (See 17.d.) QUESTION (2) - YES = 2 QUESTION (3) - YES = 4 QUESTION (4) - YES = 6 QUESTION (5) - YES = 8	0
e. HISTORY OF ESCAPE NO = 0 YES = 6	0
f. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRE-TRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
g. TOTAL POINTS	11

7. SCREENING DECISION (X one)

[X] MEDIUM-IN (0 - 11 Points) [ ] MAXIMUM (12+ Points)

8. FINAL DECISION

a. OVERRIDE (X one)

[ ] NO [X] YES - [ ] CODE [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

DUE TO THE NATURE OF HIS CHARGES SNP IS PLACED MAX.

9. DECIDING AUTHORITY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	[redacted]	e. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
RICARD, MATTHEW	E5	CDO		20250610

10. CUSTODY DECISION

MAX

CUI (when filled in) ORIGINAL

CLASSIFICATION WORKSHEET

11. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	12. TIME	13. INTERVIEWER NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	14. (X one)
20250610	0353	RICARD, MATTHEW	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

15. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle) (AKA)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. GRADE
COPELAND, JERMIAH	00165476C	E3

16. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)

a. SUICIDE RISK

(1) HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING HERE?

I DON'T KNOW.

	NO	YES
(2) HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT COMMITTING SUICIDE? (X one) (If Yes, when? (YYYYMMDD)) 20240412	[ ]	[X]
(3) DID YOU MAKE A PLAN TO COMMIT SUICIDE? (X one) (If Yes, when? (YYYYMMDD))	[X]	[ ]
(4) HAVE YOU EVER ATTEMPTED SUICIDE? (If Yes, when (YYYYMMDD) and how?)	[ ]	[X]

SNP CUT HIS ARM. 20240412

b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	NO	YES
(1) DO YOU HAVE A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE? (If Yes, what?)	[X]	[ ]
(2) DO YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL CHALLENGES/CONCERNS? (If Yes, what?)	[X]	[ ]
(3) ARE YOU TAKING ANY MEDICATIONS? (If Yes, give reason)	[X]	[ ]

c. MENTAL HEALTH	NO	YES
(1) DO YOU HAVE ANY MENTAL CHALLENGES/CONCERNS? (If Yes, what?)	[X]	[ ]
(2) WERE YOU EVER HOSPITALIZED FOR MENTAL CHALLENGES/CONCERNS? (If Yes, when? (YYYYMMDD))	[X]	[ ]

d. SEGREGATION TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE, DO YOU HAVE ANY ENEMIES IN THIS FACILITY? (If Yes, who and why?)	NO	YES
	[X]	[ ]

ORIGINAL

CLASSIFICATION WORKSHEET *(Continued)*

17. MANAGEMENT FACTORS

a. WHAT CHARGE(S) ARE YOU CONFINED FOR?

ART 118 - MURDER

b. SUBSTANCE ABUSE *(X one as applicable)*		NO	YES
(1) HAVE YOU EVER USED DRUGS OR ALCOHOL?	DRUGS	X	
	ALCOHOL		X
(2) HAVE YOU USED DRUGS/ALCOHOL IN THIS ENLISTMENT?	DRUGS	X	
	ALCOHOL		X

(If answer to both (1) and (2) is No, skip to 17.c. If either (1) or (2) is Yes, continue lines (3) through (6).)	NO	YES
(3) HAVE YOU EVER BEEN DISCIPLINED IN THE SERVICE OR FIRED FROM A JOB BECAUSE OF DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE?	X	
(4) HAS DRUG/ALCOHOL USE EVER LED TO FAMILY PROBLEMS OR CONFLICTS?	X	
(5) HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL?	X	
(6) HAS USE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL RESULTED IN OTHER PROBLEMS, SUCH AS BLACKOUTS OR LOSS OF FRIENDS?	X	

c. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS
DO YOU HAVE ANY OUTSTANDING WARRANTS/DETAINERS OR ADDITIONAL PENDING CHARGES? *(If Yes, explain)*

NO	YES
	X

COURT 21JUL25 - RECKLESS DRIVING (VIRGINIA BEACH)

d. HISTORY OF VIOLENCE *(X one)*	NO	YES
(1) HAVE YOU EVER ASSAULTED ANOTHER PERSON?	X	

(If No, skip to 17.e. If Yes, answer (2) through (7).)	NO	YES
(2) NON-PHYSICAL ALTERCATION		
(3) ASSAULT WITHOUT A WEAPON		
(4) ASSAULT WITH A WEAPON		
(5) MULTIPLE ASSAULTS		

(6) AGE AT TIME OF INCIDENT(S)

(7) EXPLAIN INCIDENT(S)

e. HISTORY OF ESCAPE *(Assign 6 points in Item 6.e. if answer is Yes to any of the following questions (X one))*	NO	YES
(1) HAVE YOU EVER ESCAPED OR ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE CONFINEMENT?	X	
(2) WERE YOU EVER APPREHENDED ON A PAROLE VIOLATION?	X	
(3) HAVE YOU EVER RESISTED ARREST?	X	
(4) DID YOU EVER INITIATE A PERIOD OF UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCE WHILE OTHER CHARGES WERE PENDING?	X	

ORIGINAL

CLASSIFICATION WORKSHEET *(Continued)*

18. INTERVIEWER'S IMPRESSION

SNP APPEARED TO BE TIRED AND SLEEPY. SNP WAS VERY RESPECTFUL AND ANSWERED EVERY QUESTION ACCORDINGLY. SNP HAS NO CURRENT THOUGHTS OF HARM TO SELF OR OTHERS. RECOMMEND PLACEMENT IN SQ FOR FURTHER EVALUATION BY MEDICAL AND CLINICAL FOR PLACEMENT IN GP.

NIEGIP SGT [redacted] 20250610

19. NAME *(Last, First, Middle Initial)*, GRADE, TITLE

RICARD, MATTHEW SGT/COO [redacted]

21. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*

20250610

STATUS REVIEW – SPECIAL QUARTERS / INITIAL INTAKE							
Counselor: MA1 ECK							
Date: 20250610							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**R&R**	**INDOC/PVD/ POI**	**R&R**	**MDI**	**R&R**	**K-78E**
				MDI	**MAX**	**K-78E**	**K-58E**
Adjudged: PRE-TRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRE-TRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** N/A			**Next Reclassification:** 20250710			

PREA Status: ☐ YES ☐ NO ☒ UNKNOWN

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 - MURDER

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
Initial Intake Review. SNP met with Intake counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP will remain in Special Quarters until cleared by clinical, medical and completion of orientation. SNP was placed MDI as clerical error and status adjusted to MAX per policy. Due to cell policy move from K-78E to K-58E conducted on 20250610. SNP stated previous occasion of Suicidal thoughts and an attempt within last year. SNP had no further concerns.

Counselor recommendation is remain in special quarters until cleared from INDOC, clinical assessment, and place in POI status.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 10 MAY 2025.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

N/A
Prisoner Signature

[redacted]
Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial ____

BOARD MEMBERS Print/Sign	REC	NON-REC	COMMENTS
BM1 ERVIN, TYESHA CDO [redacted]	✓		
MAJ BANICKI, STEPHEN [redacted] OPS	✓		
IN ATTENDANCE Print/Sign	**DEPARTMENT**		**COMMENTS**
[redacted] HMCS SAUDI, JAIDEN	Medical		
Patricia Benjamin [redacted]	Clinical		Recommend POI

Chairman Comments:

[redacted] Rec / Not Rec

Board Chairman:

Approving Officer Comments:

[redacted] Approve / Disapprove

[redacted] Approving Officer:

CUI

MAGNET FORENSICS®

FORENSIC EXAMINATION REPORT

CASE NUMBER 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA

Case generated Thursday, June 5, 2025
Report generated Thursday, September 4, 2025

Record 1

Tags	29Jun25 timeline
Type	PlaceCardTap
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/29/2025 1:10:59.116 PM
Action	GET_DIRECTIONS
Location Name	Bermuda
Country	Bermuda
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\App.Intent\local\770096747336576
Location	• File Offset 346588
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Recovery method	• Parsing
Item ID	798281

Record 1

Search Term	norfolk airport
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=norfolk+airport&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari&dlnr=1&sei=IrQ9ZqKoDPihptQPvMGG8A8#cobssid=s&dlnr=1&wptab=si:ACC90nw1iFjLNTDUIV-gYYwlwGJPH-ZiErUy9FvC_xiBozCkI3J-taYwYH9nt1jhgUnHPDV8ZHhwNO4k0kS8LJphhf_jRrmegTub_1hASB8c-LevJaEMb6wh6P9635mYAjsivLU0xGXwvnhz_f_pM7AqSJPX0vk4Xw%3D%3D&lpg=cid:CgIgAQ%3D%3D
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	6/3/2025 8:41:43.067 PM
Search Session Start Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/10/2024 1:44:02.000 AM
Web Page Title	norfolk airport - Google Search
Artifact	Safari iCloud Tabs
Artifact ID	30646
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\CloudTabs.db
Location	• Table: cloud_tabs(rowid: 4674) • Table: cloud_tab_device(rowid: 2)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	30666

Record 2

Search Term	virginia airport
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=virginia+airport&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	6/3/2025 8:41:43.914 PM
Web Page Title	Can't Open Page
Artifact	Safari iCloud Tabs
Artifact ID	31280
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\CloudTabs.db
Location	• Table: cloud_tabs(rowid: 4708) • Table: cloud_tab_device(rowid: 2)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	31291

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record information and decisions regarding changes in a prisoner's custody classification. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended

1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
IC1 GREEN	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[ ]	[X]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	0
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	0
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	-2
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	0
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	6

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [X] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [ ] SAME (7-10 Points) [ ] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE

SNP RECIEVED MULTIPLE ORs FOR REFUSAL OF MEALS. THREE NEGATIVE HARD CARD ENTRIES AND PLACED ON POI STATUS BUT RECENTLY REMOVED.

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [ ] NO [X] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

RECCOMMENDATION TO REMAIN MAX

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Remain MAX

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	b. SIGNATURE	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Flanagan, Brian P, CDR, OIC	[redacted]	20260129

10. FINAL DECISION

DD FORM 2711-1, NOV 2022

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI (when filled in)

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

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1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
IC1 GREEN	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[ ]	[X]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	2
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	4
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	-2
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	2
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	14

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [ ] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [ ] SAME (7-10 Points) [X] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE

Prisoner has received two disciplinary reports since last reclassification with guilty findings at the D&A board. Showing signs of frustration but no aggression towards staff. Below average evaluation due to recent rise in disciplinary actions.

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [ ] NO [X] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE

Prisoner is currently MAX.

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Remain MAX

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	b. SIGNATURE	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Flanagan, Brian P, CDR, OIC	[redacted]	20260326

10. FINAL DECISION

Remain MAX

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

CUSTODY RECLASSIFICATION

PRIVACY ADVISORY

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1. INTERVIEWER NAME	2. (X one)
IC1 GREEN	[X] PRETRIAL [ ] POST-TRIAL

3. IDENTIFICATION

a. PRISONER NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER	c. RELEASE DATE (YYYYMMDD)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	

d. PRESENT CUSTODY	e. HOUSING UNIT
MAX	KILO EAST

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS (X as applicable)	NO	YES
a. SUICIDE RISK	[ ]	[X]
b. PHYSICAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
c. MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES/CONCERNS	[X]	[ ]
d. SEGREGATION	[X]	[ ]
e. VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION PROGRAM	[X]	[ ]
f. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS	[X]	[ ]
g. WAS THERE AN OVERRIDE ON LAST CLASSIFICATION?	[ ]	[X]

5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA (Enter point values)	POINTS
a. OFFENSE SEVERITY = 1 - 8	8
b. NUMBER OF DISCIPLINARY BOARDS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE = 1 TWO = 2 THREE+ = 4	2
c. SEVEREST DISCIPLINARY REPORT NONE = 0 CATEGORY 1 = 1 CATEGORY 2 = 2 CATEGORY 3 = 3 CATEGORY 4 = 4 CATEGORY 5 = 5	4
d. NUMBER OF NEGATIVE OBSERVATION/DISCIPLINARY REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE - THREE = 0 FOUR - SIX = 2 SEVEN - TEN = 4 ELEVEN+ = 6	0
e. NUMBER OF POSITIVE OBSERVATION REPORTS (Last 90 days) NONE = 0 ONE OR MORE = -1	0
f. CURRENT PROGRAMMING COMPLETED A TREATMENT PROGRAM = -2 INVOLVED IN TREATMENT PROGRAMS = -1 (only if no program completed) NO PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT = 0 FAILED OR DROPPED FROM PROGRAM = 2	-2
g. WORK PERFORMANCE OUTSTANDING = -2 ABOVE AVERAGE = -1 AVERAGE = 0 BELOW AVERAGE = 2	0
h. LENGTH OF SENTENCE TIME REMAINING PRETRIAL OR 0 - 90 DAYS = 0 91 DAYS - 1 YEAR = 1 1+ TO 3 YEARS = 2 3+ TO 5 YEARS = 3 5 + TO 10 YEARS = 5 10+ YEARS = 7 LIFE/DEATH = 8	0
i. PENDING CHARGES/WARRANTS/DETAINERS NO = 0 YES = ENTER POINTS FOR OFFENSE SEVERITY CODE (See DoDI 1325.07, Severity Code Tables)	0
j. TOTAL POINTS	12

6. CLASSIFICATION DECISION

a. (X one) [ ] REDUCE (0 - 6 Points) [ ] SAME (7-10 Points) [X] INCREASE (11+Points)

b. RATIONALE
MULTIPLE DISCIPLINARY REPORTS IN THE LAST 90 DAYS.

7. OVERRIDE

a. (X one) [ ] NO [X] YES (Enter code) [ ] NOT APPLICABLE (Policy)

b. RATIONALE
PRISONER IS ALREADY MAX

8. RECOMMENDED DECISION
Remain MAX

9. FACILITY COMMANDER/DESIGNEE

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial), GRADE, TITLE	[redacted]	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Flanagan, Brian P, CDR, OIC		20260129

10. FINAL DECISION

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

(Updated 20241216)

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*: 20260305

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to report favorable, unfavorable, injuries, or behaviors of prisoners. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. NAME *(Last, First, Middle)*	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JERMIAH, T	00165476CJ

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	KILO	SQ		57

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☐ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260305	0822	KILO EAST SQ	☐ YES ☒ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME *(Last, First, Middle)*	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*
GIBBONS, T	E-8	COMMAND EVALUATOR	20260305

10. WITNESS

a. NAME *(Last, First, Middle)*	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:
ON THE ABOVE DATE AND TIME I, MSGT GIBBONS, WHILE CONDUCTING MY DUTIES AS COMMAND EVALUATOR, WAS CONDUCTING A CELL SEARCH IN KILO 57 WHICH IS CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY PRISONER COPELAND. DURING THE SEARCH I FOUND A BLOODY TISSUE ON THE SINK THAT'S LOCATED IN THE FRONT RIGHT SECTION OF THE CELL. AFTER COMPLETING THE SEARCH ON THE REST OF THE CELL I PHOTO GRAFTED THE AREA WHERE THE ITEM WAS FOUND AND CONFISCATED IT UTILIZING GLOVES AND A BIOHAZARD BAG. THE CDO WAS THEN NOTIFIED, AND THE ITEM WAS PROCESSED WITH MEDICAL.

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON [redacted] — **b. DATE** *(YYYYMMDD)*: 20260305

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*	c. TIME
☐ YES ☒ NO		

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME *(Last, First, Middle Initial)*	b. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*	c. TIME
HUMBERT, A	20260305	0952

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:
THE ITEM WAS PROCESSED WITH MEDICAL AND A REPORT WAS GENERATED.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:
NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED FOR THIS REPORT. MEDICAL IS TRACKING.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE		c. DATE *(YYYYMMDD)*
CDR FLANAGAN, BRIAN OIC	[redacted]	20260309

57
ER
AS
PVD
MAX
NAME:
DATE:
REMARKS:

K-57





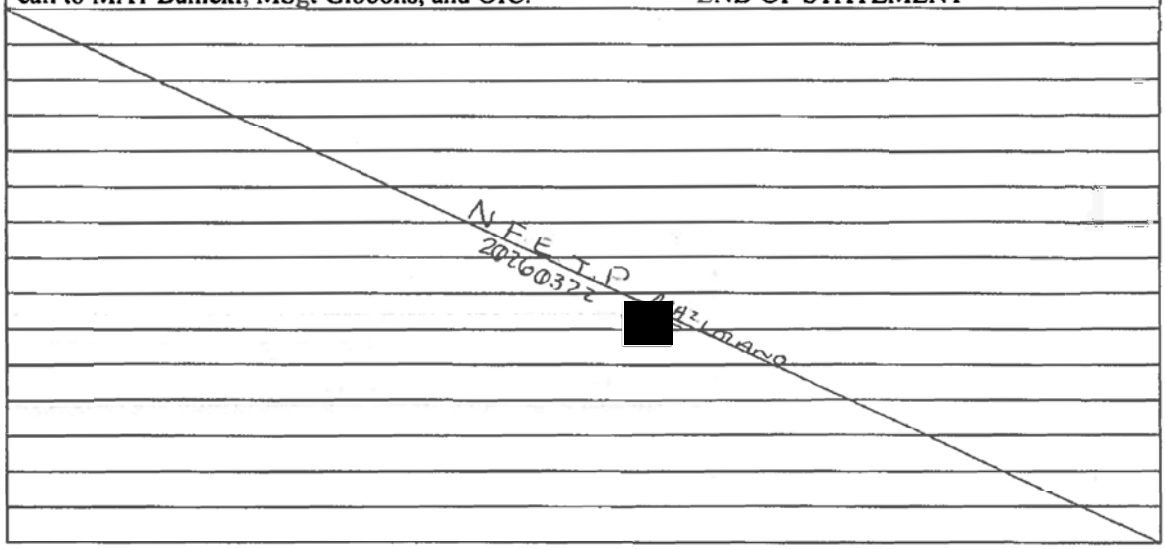
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. Place: KILO-EAST

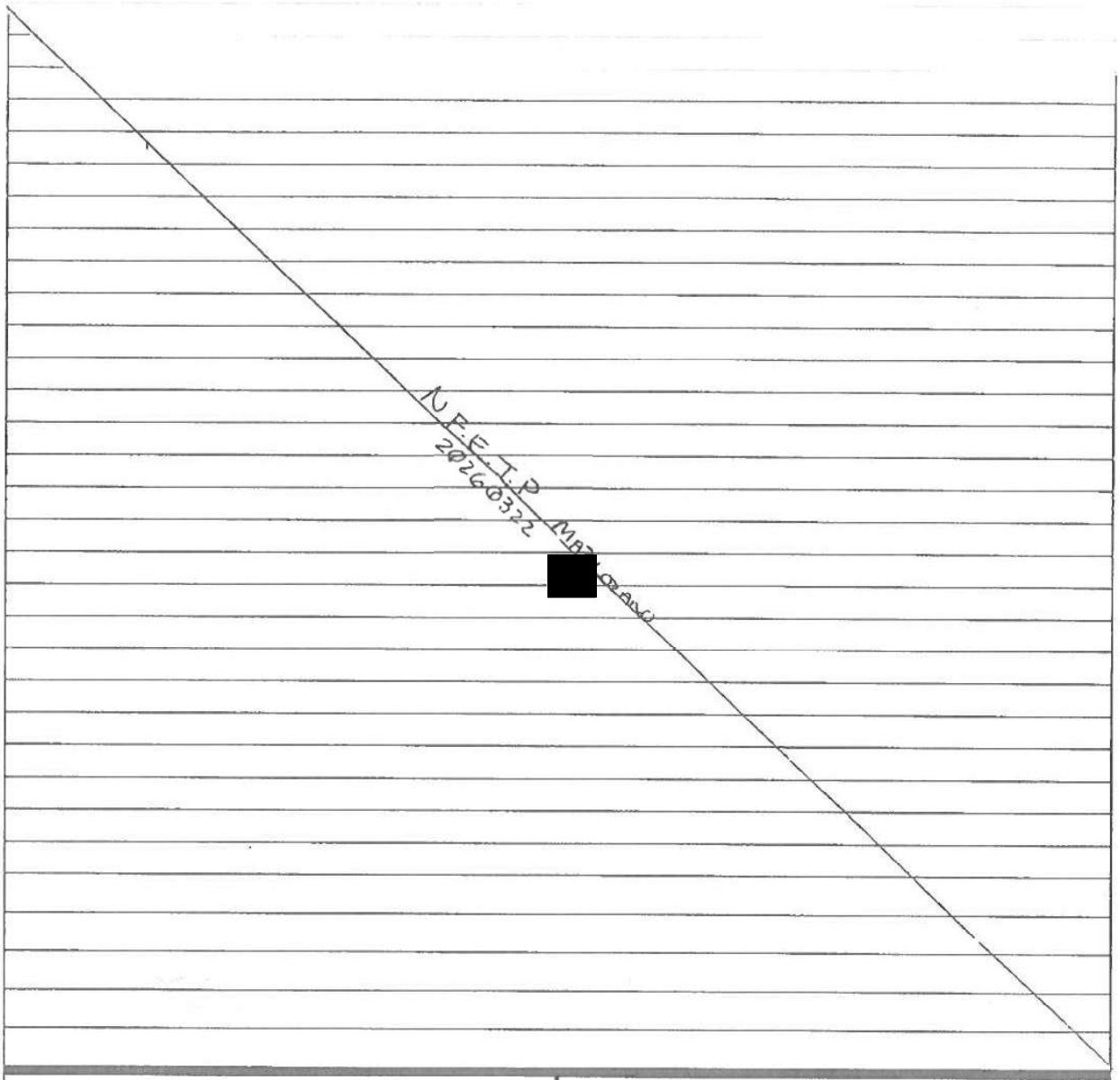
2. Date Time: 22MAR2026 1400

I, MA2 Lozano, make the following free and voluntary statement to MAC Jones, whom I know to be a command investigator for the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake. I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement concerns my knowledge of: Prisoner Copeland.

On the above date and time, I, MA2 Lozano, and MAC Winjum were notified by QM2 Russell and IC2 Mcintyre that while conducting cell inspections they found a stain that appeared to be dried blood in Prisoner Copeland's cell. We immediately notified medical, and made our way to Kilo East. Upon arriving, we spoke with Copeland to ask where the blood came from. He said "my hands." We asked him to see his hands and asked him how long the blood had been on the floor. He stated that it had been there since Friday. (Both myself and MAC Winjum took turns doing the CDO Tour in mornings and didn't see anything) We asked, why didn't he ask for medical or even for some Band-Aids, and he claimed that he asked nights for one but never got it. He then stated that he asked for toilet paper and it took him three days to get some. He didn't give any names of any guards. We told Copeland that he was going to be evaluated by medical. We then went to the Kilo East bubble and directed IC2 McIntyre and QM2 Russell to escort Copeland to the medical interview room so he can get seen by medical. MAC Winjum grabbed the camera and took pictures of his hands, cell and the amount of blood found. BM2 Guthrie, BM2 Trejo and GSM1 Zhanaydavila gathered the cleaning supplies to sanitize the cell. HM1 Evans evaluated Copeland's hands and thumb, and told Copeland that after he showered, he would wrap his thumb. Following the shower, Copelands scabs from previous picking were re-opened, and HM1 Evans bandaged the rest of his hand. Notifications were made via phone call to MA1 Banicki, MSgt Gibbons, and OIC.----------END OF STATEMENT----------



VOLUNTARY STATEMENT CONTINUED NAME: MAZ LORANO, G

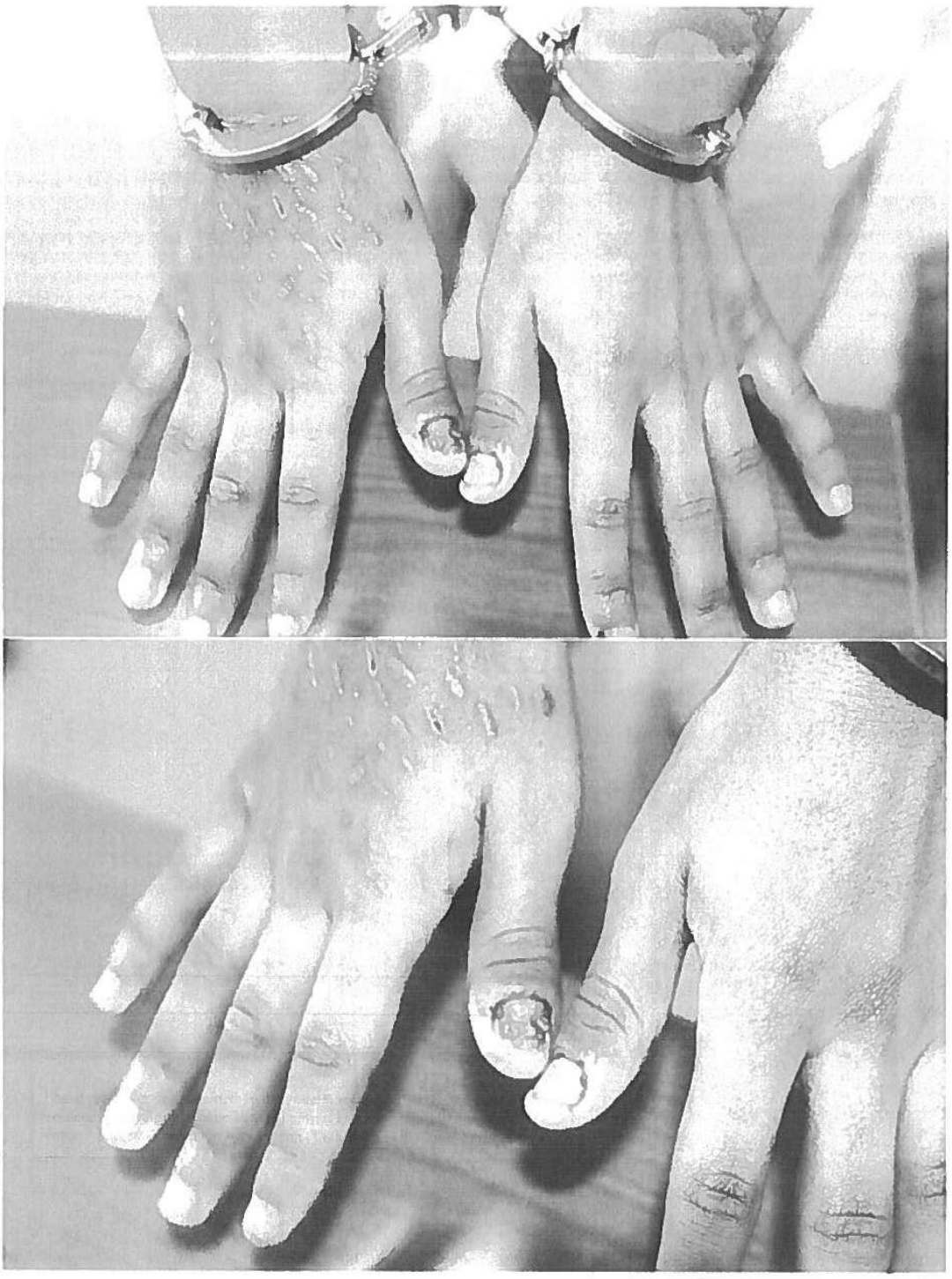


Subscribed and Sworn Before Me This 22nd
Day of March , 2026
Signature [redacted]
Print

I have read over this statement, which contains information/facts I have voluntarily provided. I have initialed corrections and made changes that I desire. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

[redacted]
Signature
MAZ LORANO, G.
Print Name

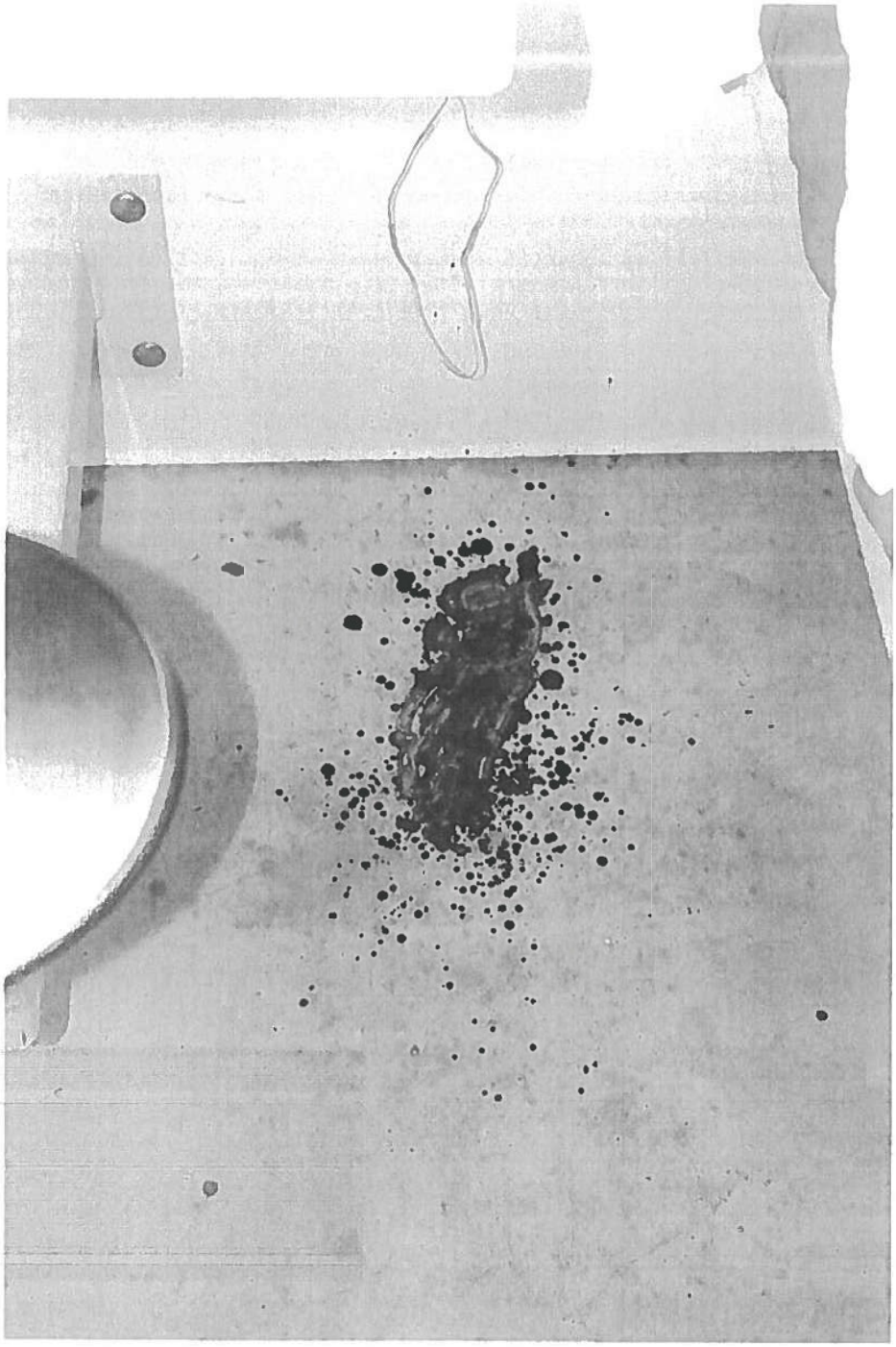
NAVCONBRIG CHESAPEAKE 5580.2 FOUO PG 2 OF 2

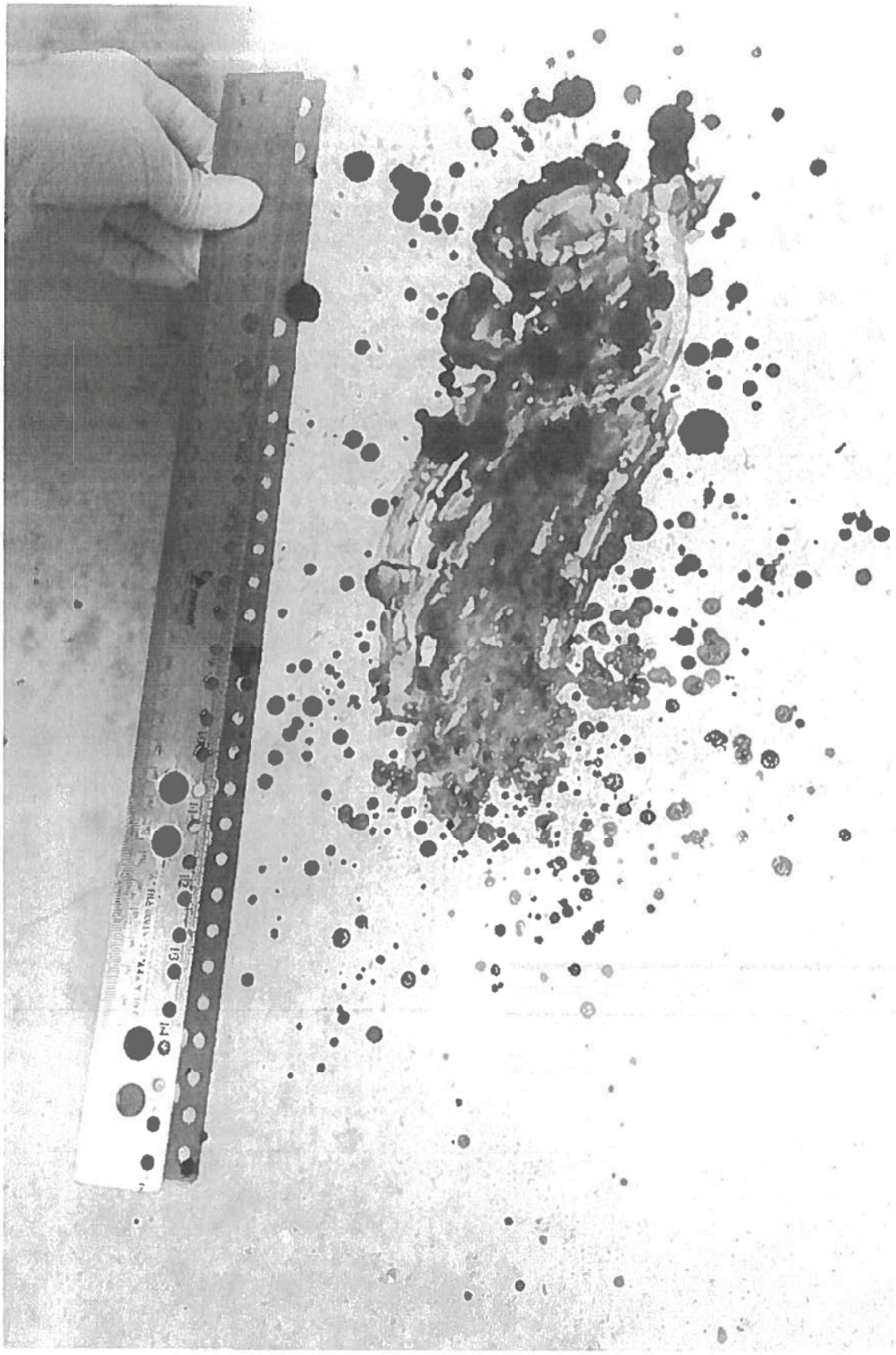



K-79









Prescribed by DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260414

PRIVACY ADVISORY

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1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476C

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	KILO	EAST		KE-79

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☐ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260414	0928	KILO-EAST	☒ YES ☐ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
ITI GRAY, R	E-5	SPECIAL QUARTERS SUPERVISOR	20260414

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
TREJO, K	E5	ESCORT	20260414

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

On the above date and time, I, ITI Gray was standing KE Special Quarters Supervisor and was taking prisoner Copeland out of his cell to apply restraints and take him to his command visitation. When the cell door opened prior to escorting prisoner Copeland, I observed what appeared to be tissue stained with blood inside the cell. SNP Copeland did not have any visible signs of active bleeding. Upon completion of visitation and fire drill, at approximately 1156, myself, MAC Winjum (CDO), BM2 Trejo, and HM2 Siler (Duty Corpsman) conducted a cell inspection of cell KE-79. Upon opening the door, we saw what appeared to be two separate pools of blood, one older and one newer, right next to the door frame of the cell. MAC Winjum took photos of the blood, while HM2 Siler conducted a medical interview with prisoner Copeland. Medical deemed the blood and injuries were old and required no further attention. Medical then cleaned up the blood.

N.F.E.T.P. ITI GRAY [redacted]

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON [redacted] — b. DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260414

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☒ YES ☐ NO	20260414	1156

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

Medical conducted an interview with SNP, deemed injuries were old, and no further medical attention was needed.

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
MAC Winjum	20260414	1156

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

OR reviewed and submitted to Operations.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

KEEP MEDICAL INFORMED.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE: CDR FLANAGAN, BRIAN, O1C [redacted] — c. DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260429

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

CUI (when filled in) [redacted]

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. Place: Kilo-East SQ KE-79
2. Date Time: 14APR2026 11:56

I, BM2 Trejo, make the following free and voluntary statement to MAC Jones, whom I know to be a command investigator for the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake. I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement concerning my knowledge of: Blood found in Prisoner Copeland's cell. On the above date and time. MAC Winjum (CDO), IT1 Gray (Special Quarters Supervisor), HM2 Siler (Duty Medical), and I, BM2 Trejo (Escort) conducted a cell inspection of cell KE-79. Upon entering cell KE-79, we noticed what appeared to be two separate pools of blood, one older and one newer, at the bottom left of the door frame of the cell. MAC Winjum took pictures of the scene, while I measured the size of the pool of blood. HM2 Siler conducted a medical interview with prisoner Copeland. After MAC Winjum concluded taking pictures, HM2 Siler removed the bloody tissue, disposing of it properly in medical.----------END OF STATEMENT----------

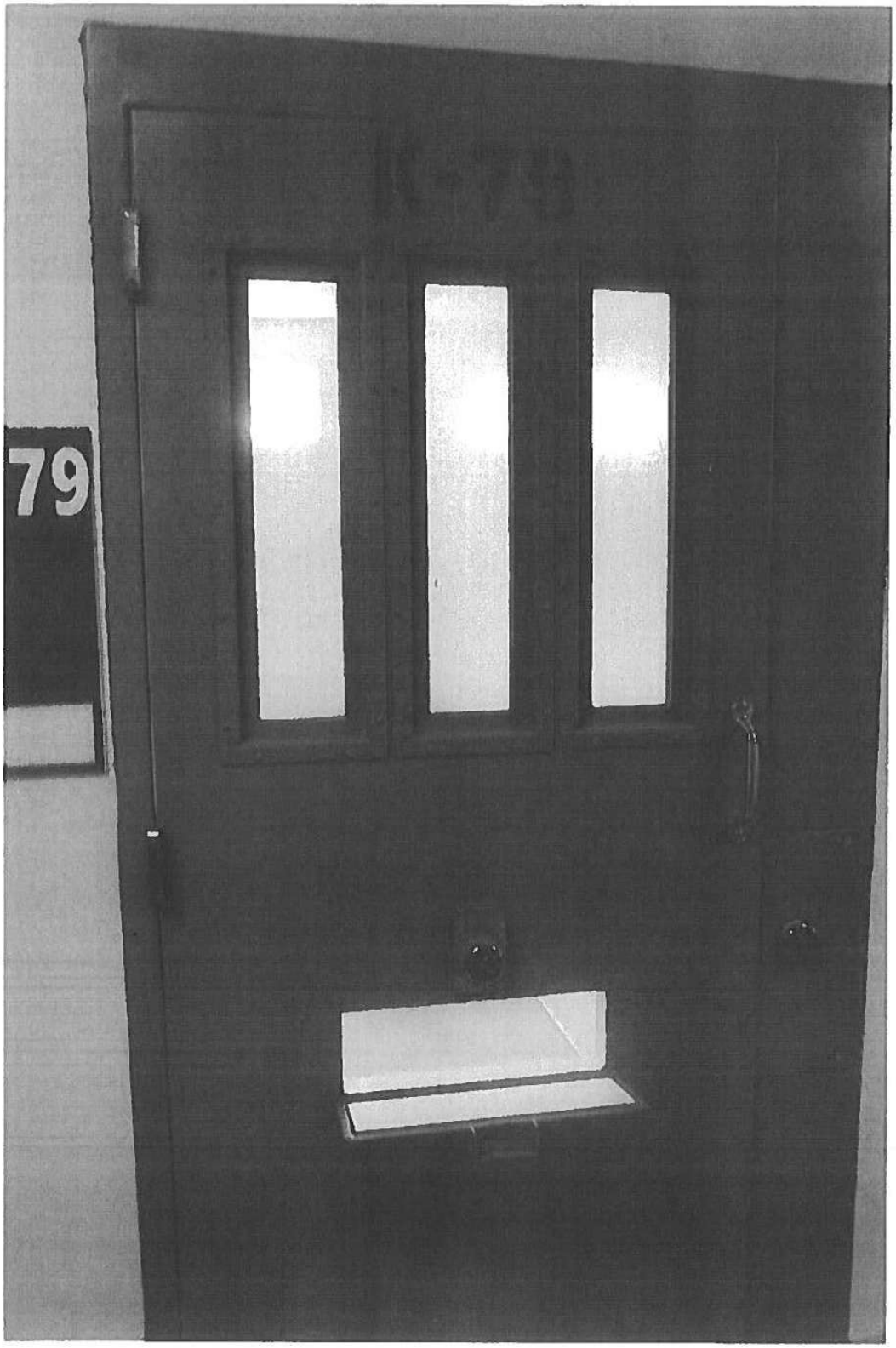
N.F.F. T.P
BM2 TREJO
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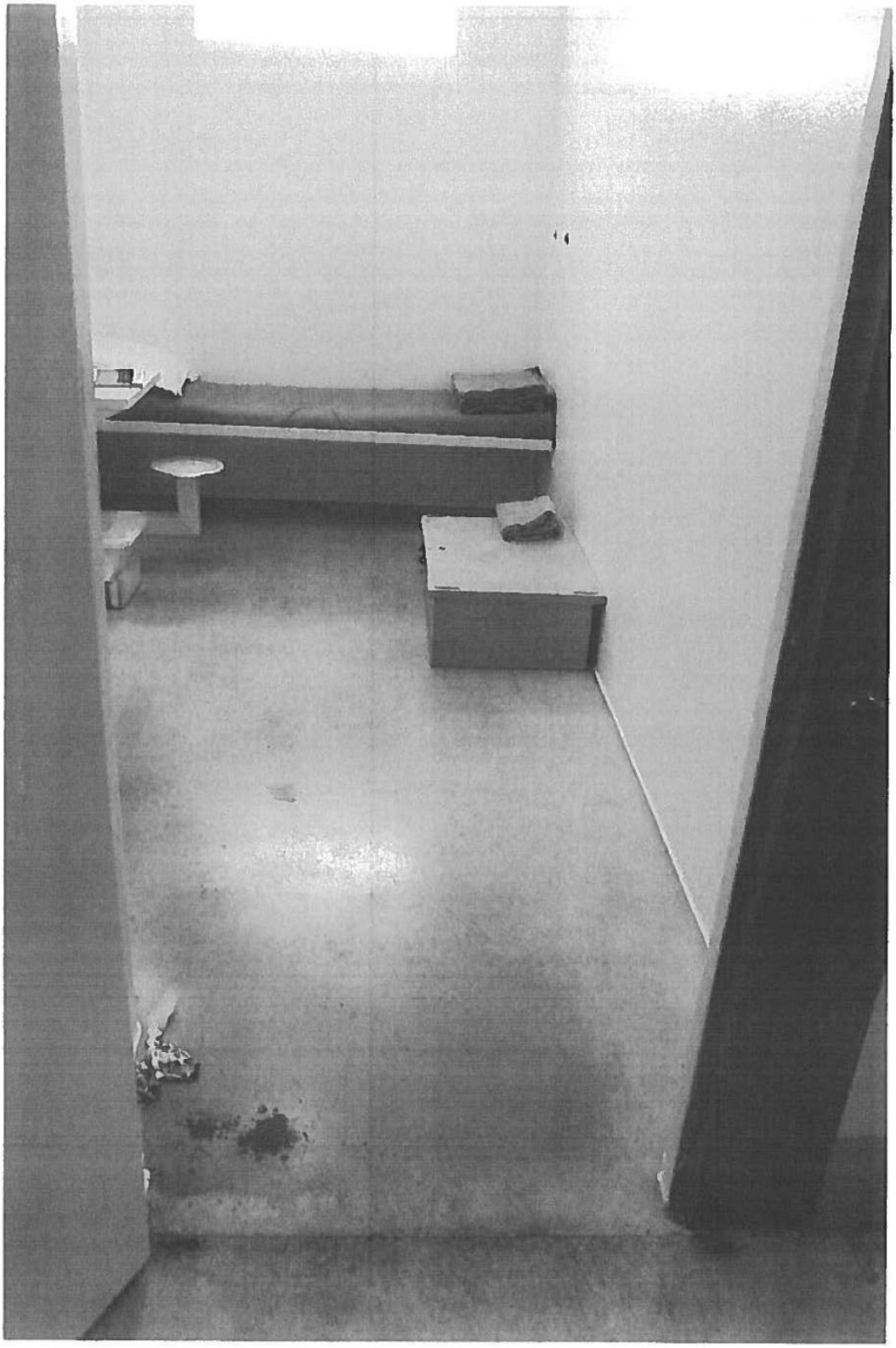
Subscribed and Sworn Before Me This 14th Day of APR 2026
Sign [redacted]
Print: MAC JONES

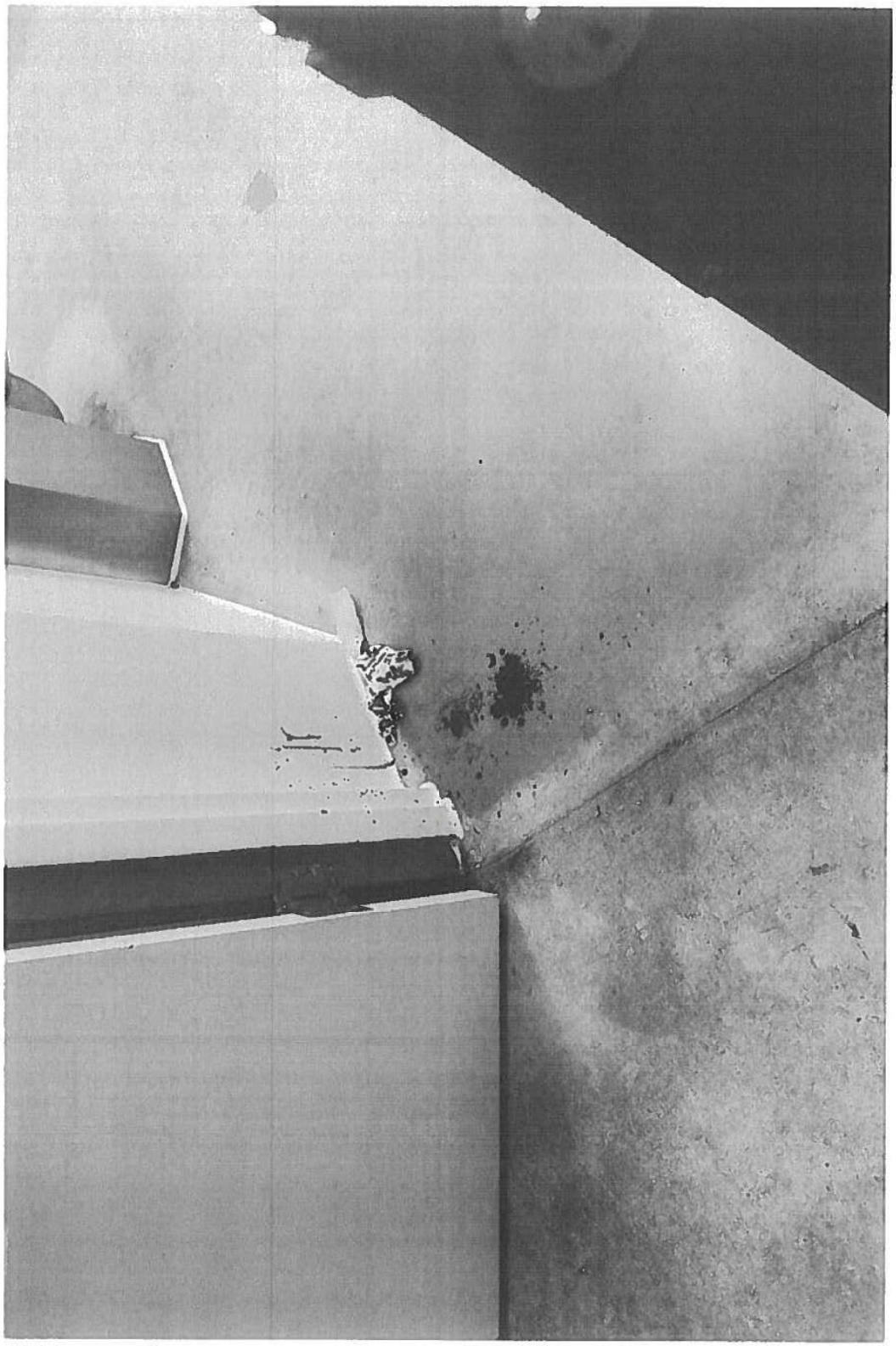
I have read over this statement, which contains information/facts I have voluntarily provided. I have initialed corrections and made changes that I desire. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

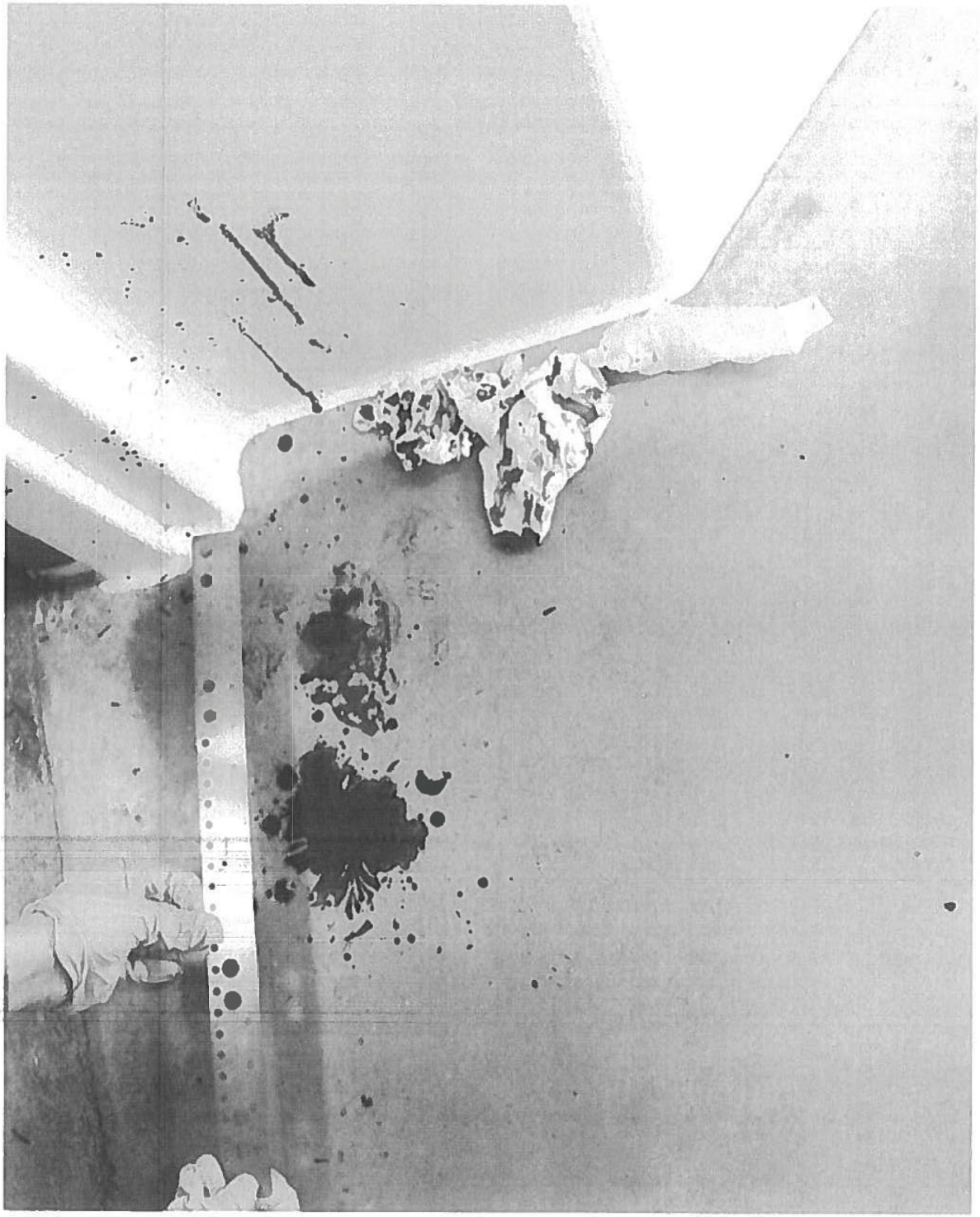
[redacted]
Signature
KAITLYNN TREJO
Print Name

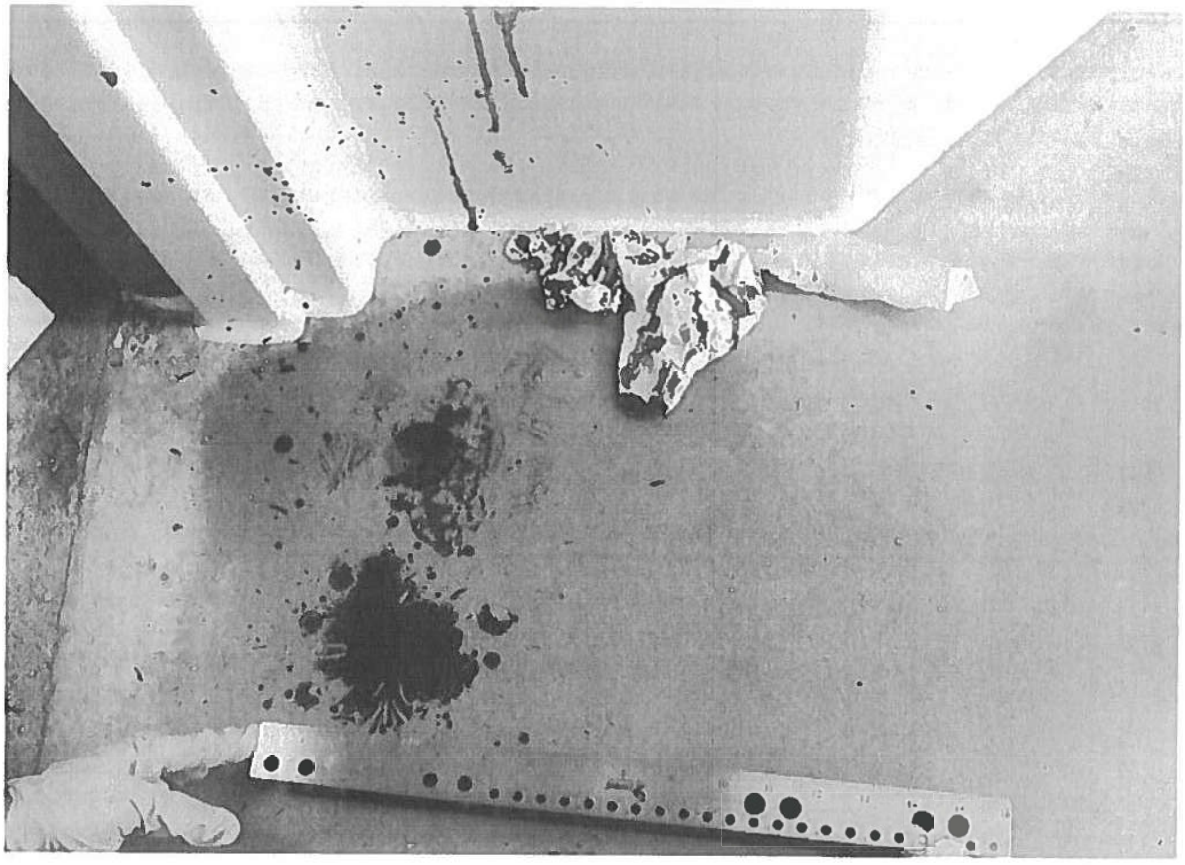
NAVCONBRIG CHESAPEAKE 5580.2 FOUO PG 1 OF


79











STATUS REVIEW – PVD+317D							
Counselor: IC1 GREEN							
Date: 20260422							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+310D**	**PVD+317D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-79E**	**K-79E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20260129			**Next Reclassification:** 20260426			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
Met with prisoner to answer any immediate questions or concerns. Prisoner informed me he has not been going to recreation call or doing personal time. States he just doesn't want to, and it feels like an inconvenience. Recommended prisoner conduct recreation call and personal time.

Counselor recommendation remain MAX and continued observation.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 22APR26.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on ___N/A____
Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

[redacted]

Prisoner Signature

[redacted] Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA)
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 9:56 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Subject: RE: Motions on Confinement Credit (Updated)
Signed By: brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

LCDR Dempsey,

I'm assuming this is related to the new Friday hearing? Either way, I read through both documents and, though I may have already provided similar feedback, I made various notes throughout the motion, no issues with the response. Sorry if this is too much but figure I would give you what notes I made and you can ignore what doesn't help make the case.

MOTION

"These conditions have also inhibited CSSN Copeland's 6th Amendment right to counsel." – False, he has the same access to legal counsel as any other MAX prisoner and we have never denied his ability to meet or speak with his counsel. Additionally, we've already made several exceptions to policy (ETP) for his visitation, one of which grew from the original agreement (they had an additional specialist come down after we had agreed to the original two).

BURDEN

3. "In fact, clinicians at the brig recommended CSSN Copeland be removed from "POI" or prevention of injury status." Enclosure N is an email from me where I mentioned we were taking him off POI based on clinical recommendation.

4. "Despite zero indications of violence" – He was punching walls, also, he was removed from POI and is not currently on POI.

4. "..the brig OIC continued to speculate about 'what if' something happened.." – that is part of my job to weigh the pros/cons or risks/rewards. The SECNAV also gives the Brig Officer the authority to make those decisions based on the circumstances.

5. and 6. Per authority granted by SECNAV M-1640.1 pages 4-10 and 4-11.

7. and 8. Relevance? ("had spent 247 days in max custody" and the Charleston Change of Command)

9. Should read "He is confined to his cell at most 22 hours a day. The way they worded it means he is at most out of his cell 2 hours a day, when he is out of his cell at least 2 hours a day.

10. The MAX outdoor rec area has two sections, Copeland has used both sections. One is the cage they mention, the other is an outdoor area with a half basketball court and outdoor exercise equipment (similar to

the gym just without free weights). As for the lack of outdoor rec due to weather, that is per our SOP/rules, not just for Copeland, so that is fair across the board. If it's too hot, too cold, or inclement weather, we do indoor rec.

11. This is allowed per SOP and SECNAV pg 8-36 and specifically 2-20 section 4.a.(3). Also, my understanding is Judge ordered there be a face-to-face meeting one way or the other; whether here at the brig or doing a temp release (TR) to A-50 or wherever. The Judge did not order me to facilitate it specifically; not sure they have that authority either. Once again for safety and security, I spoke with my CO and recommended we just support here since it's safer to keep him in the facility rather than outside the facility.

12. Wondering how they know this, just like how that civilian attorney knew we had made an ETP for Copeland. The atty brought it up, which led to me mentioning that ETP had been rescinded. Also, was my CO that rescinded it technically, since CDR Brisco signed the ETP and CDR Howard allowed it to stand until violated.

13. I did not say "You lawyers are all the same" or something to that effect. Nor would I say I was loud or aggressive, there were several other people on the Quarterdeck at the time. They left out the fact that this was the third time that atty lied to my staff by telling them I had authorized contact visitation for him and the other prisoner when I did not. The CDOs handled it by contacting me to verify, but after the third time I figured I needed to address the issue with him directly.

14. The atty was trying to tell me how good of a prisoner that prisoner was and no issues, I mentioned he was ACCUSED (I specifically used that verbiage) of killing and dismembering someone, which leads to him being a MAX prisoner, which means no contact visitation per the SECNAV and SOP. I also didn't say "testified before, I don't care". He threatened to take me to court over my refusal and I said it wasn't the first time I had to testify for this same issue and I'd see him there (in court).

15. Disagree, we've already made multiple ETPs for Copeland visitation, one which grew beyond what I originally agreed to and I still allowed it (they are welcome). Also, I allowed his mother extended visitation earlier in his confinement due to her having traveled all the way from WA, and exception the SECNAV also puts to the Brig Officer to decide. Regarding my "unassailable position that allegations equal criminality.." no, that is per SECNAV 2-20, 4-10 through 4-11.

16. Those confiscated legal documents were crime scene and coroner photographs that he left out in the open/plain view on his desk during a cell search. His legal documents are usually kept in a folder, inside storage box he has access to. DC eventually gave him another copy of everything and he was allowed to keep them and we explained to him how he is supposed to store those items.

17. We have the noise machines for this purpose and I'm not aware of any guards saying they need to overhear the conversation as part of their job or anything else. I've only ever heard people state they are aware of attorney client privilege.

ARGUMENT

Second paragraph. "Article 13 prohibits punishment of an accused.." – this is not punishment, he is a MAX per the guidance in the SECNAV.

"..stray from a proper function.." – doesn't stray from SECNAV guidance.

Third paragraph. He received a DR for disrespect on 10FEB and one on 04FEB for disrespect, disobedience, and staff harassment.

Fourth paragraph. Redundant and based on the assumption that being a MAX prisoner is in fact unduly harsh punishment (which they have not established as a fact). "..very definition of illegal punishment." Same response, not punishment, see SECNAV.

Fight paragraph. Redundant as above.

a. Already said above

-"..the brig OIC's perception" aka understanding of the SECNAV. Yes, I watch the news, local, national, and international. The local news talks about the case. They don't talk about other prisoners and they remain MAX based on their individual circumstances.

b. "..detriment of his 6th Amendment.." they already made this claim above, we do not hinder his right to counsel, just their insistence that we go against our lawful guidance to make exceptions for them.

-"materials were reviewed and confiscated." – the same photos mentioned above.

c. 'The brig OIC has demonstrated disdain for the defense counsel in this case.." how? I have numerous emails from them thanking me making above mentioned ETPs. Not wanting to make exceptions without good reason is not disdain, it's my job. One day if I make exceptions left and right, something will go wrong and then I'll be in the hot seat. The only DC I've had issue with was for a different prisoner and that was due to him lying to my staff.

-"..run the brig as he sees fit;" aka IAW SECNAV policy.

Footnote 18 – True, I mentioned that as other prisoners watch the local news during meal times and Copeland's case has been mentioned, to include that he was in confinement here in Chesapeake. That is just a piece of the information I have to make a decision. My thought on this was more for Copeland's safety in case anyone else there knew the victim, or just felt like harming him for whatever other reason (I believe there is precedent for this type of behavior in other confinement facilities). The majority of that decision was still based on the SECNAV guidance.

d. Again, "remains in maximum custody." Because of the SECNAV guidance.

-"has been punished before ever gets his day in court." False, this again is assuming the DC's claims are factual and he shouldn't be a MAX prisoner.

-"Article 13 prohibits exactly this type of punishment.." I would replace punishment with the word confinement.

-"Those cases have yielded months of admin credit" – I'm assuming this is in regards to Reimonenq and maybe prisoner Day. Day was in Gen Pop when I got here and stayed there until transferring. Reimonenq I can only speculate on, my understanding is the prosecution botched things up and he was kept in confinement while they tried to rebuild their case and eventually the judge gave him time served. I'm not privy to those details so can't really say.

-"CDR Flanagan's predecessor certainly knew.." I did not get a face-to-face turnover, he was gone about a month before I stepped food in VA.

Again, apologies for the length, at least they are all bullets. Please let me know if you have any questions about any of it.

V/R,

OIC

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 12:32 PM
To: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Motions on Confinement Credit (Updated)

Good Afternoon Sir,

Please find supplemental filings on the confinement credit issue attached here for the case of US v. Copeland. I do not expect you will be called as a witness, but if we did, that would be telephonic. Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey

LCDR, JAGC, USN

Special Trial Counsel

757-341-4545

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk

9620 Maryland Avenue

Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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Clinical Director

Jamie M. Dickson, PsyD
Licensed Psychologist

Dana L. Formon, PhD, ABPP
Board Certified in Forensic Psychology

Kendall L. Reiner, PhD
Licensed Psychologist

June 4, 2026

Dear LCDR Serfress and LCDR Morgan,

Per your request, I am providing a summary of the evaluation I performed of your client, CSSN Copeland on May 15, 2026. These results reflect my current impressions of CSSN Copeland. The summary of the evaluation is as follows:

Client Name: CSSN Jermiah Copeland
Date of Birth: March 23, 2005

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- Clinical interview regarding CSSN Copeland's relevant history and administration of psychological testing on May 15, 2026 (approximately four hours, forty-five minutes)
- Verbal consultations with LCDR Serfress and LCDR Morgan, CSSN Copeland's defense counsel
- Verbal consultation with Ms. Daniela LaValva, LCSW
- Review of law enforcement reports and investigative documents related to the instant offenses
- Review of CSSN Copeland's school records
- Review of CSSN Copeland's records from the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake
- Collateral telephone interview with CSSN Copeland's grandmother, Ms. Kathleen Brown on May 26, 2026 (approximately twenty minutes)
- Collateral telephone interview with CSSN Copeland's ex-girlfriend, Ms. Dezi Ramirez-Vasquez on May 26, 2026 (approximately ten minutes)
- Collateral telephone interview with CSSN Copeland's mother, Ms. Rochell Brown on May 26, 2026 (approximately fifteen minutes)

- Collateral telephone interview with CSSN Copeland's brother, Mr. Isaiah Copeland on May 27, 2026 (approximately fifteen minutes)

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING:
Techniques Utilized:

1. Test of Memory Malingering (TOMM)
2. Validity Indicator Profile (VIP)
3. Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS)
4. Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System (D-KEFS)
5. Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function, Second Edition, Adult Version (BRIEF-2A)

TEST RESULTS:

Response Style:

The TOMM is a memory recognition task in which the subject is shown a series of line drawings and then shown another series where one of the drawings was in the previous list and one was not. The subject is asked to identify which of two line drawings was one that had previously been presented. The test is designed to help distinguish between malingered and true memory impairments. A score significantly below that of the mean for individuals with cognitive impairment suggests the possibility of less-than-optimal effort and possibly malingering.

On the TOMM, CSSN Copeland's scores (Trial 1 = 50 out of 50; Trial 2 = 50 out of 50) indicate that he was putting forth good effort during testing.

The VIP is a measure of response validity that is intended to be administered concurrently within a battery of cognitive tests. It consists of two subtests, Nonverbal and Verbal, that are administered and scored separately. The VIP is useful for identifying when the results of cognitive or neuropsychological testing may be invalid because of an intention to perform sub-optimally or because of decreased effort, whether intentional or not. When the VIP indicates that a test taker's approach to the assessment was valid, the clinician can generally have confidence that the individual intended to perform well on the test and made a concerted effort to do so.

On the VIP, CSSN Copeland's performance on both the Nonverbal and Verbal subtests should be considered valid. The characteristics of his responses indicate that he intended to do well and he applied sustained effort. Although the VIP was not designed to generate a measure of reasoning ability, general level of comprehension, word knowledge, or reading ability, it is often possible to generate reasonable estimates of ability based on characteristics of the examinee's performance curve and adjusted score. Results of the VIP suggest that CSSN Copeland's reasoning ability is at least low average to average or higher. Results suggest his word knowledge is at least significantly below average or higher.

Cognitive Functioning:

The RBANS Update is a measure of various domains of cognitive functioning, including immediate and delayed memory, attention, language, and visuospatial/constructional skills.

CSSN Copeland scored in the Low Average range on the index measuring Immediate Memory (SS=83, 13th percentile), which included a measure of memory of basic verbal information (List Learning) and complex verbal information (Story Memory). This index measures the examinee's ability to remember information immediately after it is presented.

CSSN Copeland scored in the Average range on the Visuospatial/Constructional index (SS=96, 39th percentile), which included an assessment of his ability to copy a complex geometric design from a model (Figure Copy) and correctly identify the spatial orientation of lines in two dimensions (Line Orientation). This index measures the individual's ability to perceive spatial relations.

CSSN Copeland scored in the Borderline range on the Language index (SS=74, 4th percentile) which assessed his ability to perform confrontation naming (Picture Naming) and to demonstrate rapid verbal production based on category (Semantic Fluency). This index assesses the examinee's ability to respond verbally to either naming or retrieving learned material.

CSSN Copeland scored in the Extremely Low range on the Attention index (SS=53, 0.1st percentile), which measured his auditory attention (Digit Span) and his ability to rapidly process and respond to visual stimuli (Coding). This index assesses the examinee's capacity to remember and manipulate both visually and orally presented information in short-term memory storage.

CSSN Copeland scored in the Low Average range on the Delayed Memory index (SS=83, 13th percentile) which assessed free recall of basic verbal information (List Recall), recognition of basic verbal information (List Recognition), free recall of complex verbal information (Story Recall), and free recall of complex visual information (Figure Recall). This index assesses the examinee's anterograde memory capacity.

CSSN Copeland's Total Scale score, a measure of general cognitive functioning, fell within the Borderline range (SS = 72; 3rd percentile). His scores are lower than expected for his age and estimated IQ (Below Average to Average range), suggesting general lowering of skills particularly in the domains of language and attention.

Executive Functioning:

The Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System (D-KEFS) is a set of standardized tests used to assess higher-level cognitive abilities, which are known as executive functions. Executive functions draw upon an individual's more fundamental cognitive skills, such as attention, language, and perception to generate more complex cognitive operations. The D-KEFS measures a variety of verbal and nonverbal executive functions for children and adults (ages 8–89 years). It is comprised of nine tests that were designed to stand alone; therefore, tests can be selected for specific reasons.

The D-KEFS subtests assess various dimensions of executive function. Several of the subtests assess complex attention by requiring the subject to engage in a variety of tasks that require

attention to multiple cognitive processes simultaneously, shifting set or dealing with distracting stimuli while attempting to carry out a target behavior. Other subtests tap into abstract reasoning and problem-solving abilities, which are also dimensions of executive function.

Trail Making Test: This subtest requires the person to visually scan and locate targets on the page in front of them. The conditions increase in difficulty from condition 1 to condition 4. Condition 5 is a motor skills condition only. Condition 4 is the primary executive function task, and it assesses flexibility of thinking on a visual-motor task. CSSN Copeland's performance on the Trail Making test fell in the Low Average to Average range.

Verbal Fluency Test: This subtest requires the examinee to generate words that begin with a particular letter as quickly as possible, then to generate words that belong to a designated semantic category as quickly as possible, and finally to generate words, alternating between two different semantic categories as quickly as possible. The Verbal Fluency subtest measures the examinee's ability to generate words fluently in an effortful, phonemic format, from overlearned concepts, and while simultaneously shifting between overlearned concepts. CSSN Copeland's performance on this subtest was generally in the Low Average to Average range. However, it was noteworthy that during the second 15 second time interval across the three conditions, his performance fell in the Borderline range, which suggests that maintaining verbally fluent responses is a weakness for him. CSSN Copeland also exhibited a significant number of set loss errors in the first condition; however, the errors he made were mild and not likely indicative of serious cognitive deficits.

Design Fluency Test: This subtest evaluates a person's ability to generate line designs by following simple rules as quickly as possible. There are minimal words required other than the instructions. An understanding of the instructions is determined prior to moving into the subtest condition. The subtest consists of three conditions, each one slightly different and the third one more challenging requiring the person to switch between rule sets. This subtest is a basic test of design fluency, response inhibition, and cognitive flexibility. CSSN Copeland's performance on the Design Fluency subtest was generally in the Average to Very Superior range. However, his Percent Design Accuracy score fell in the Low Average range, which suggests he may have some relative difficulty with initiation of problem solving and in establishing and maintaining the cognitive set of the task, when compared to his other skills as measured by the Design Fluency subtest. Additionally, CSSN Copeland's contrast score, which compares his performance on condition 3 to his combined performance on conditions 1 and 2, fell in the Borderline range and suggests he has a relative personal deficit in cognitive shifting.

Color-Word Interference Test: This subtest requires the person to name color blocks, read color words, and use inhibition and cognitive flexibility to complete the 3rd and 4th conditions. The foundation is a simple task but as the conditions progress, the tasks become more difficult. This subtest measures the examinee's ability to inhibit an overlearned verbal response to generate a conflicting response, thus assessing inhibition and cognitive flexibility. CSSN Copeland's performance on this subtest was in the Low Average to High Average range.

Free Sorting Test: This subtest requires the examinee to sort six mixed-up cards that display both stimulus words and various perceptual features into two groups containing three cards per group, according to as many different categorization rules or concepts as possible. The examinee

is then asked to describe the concepts used to generate each sort. This subtest assesses a person's ability to initiate problem-solving behavior in both verbal and nonverbal modalities. CSSN Copeland's performance on this measure fell in the Average range.

Twenty Questions Test: For this subtest, the examinee is shown a page with several items pictured on it. The examiner has selected one of the items, and using "yes or no" questions, the examinee attempts to guess the selected item with as few questions as possible. This subtest assesses the ability to perceive various categories and subcategories, to formulate abstract questions, and to incorporate feedback to formulate more efficient questions. CSSN Copeland's scores fell in the Low Average to Average range.

Word Context Test: For this subtest, the individual attempts to discover the meaning of a made-up word based on its use in five clue sentences, using as few clue sentences as possible. The examinee is asked to continue reporting the correct response to the remaining clue sentences of the item. This subtest evaluates executive functions in the verbal modality and assesses skills such as deductive reasoning, integration of multiple bits of information, hypothesis testing, and flexibility of thinking. CSSN Copeland's performance on this measure was in the Average range.

Tower Test: This subtest requires the examinee to move disks of varying sizes across three pegs to build a designated tower in the fewest number of moves possible, while complying with specific rules related to how to move the disks. The Tower Test assesses spatial planning, rule learning, inhibition of impulsive and perseverative responding, and the ability to establish and maintain the instructional set. CSSN Copeland's scores on this subtest were in the Average to High Average range.

Proverbs Test: This subtest is designed to evaluate a person's ability to recognize the meaning of sayings or proverbs both with a free response and with multiple choice responses. The examinee is presented with common proverbs and uncommon proverbs. This subtest measures fundamental verbal skills and the ability to integrate the meanings of individual words into coherent, abstract principles or concepts. CSSN Copeland's performance for free inquiry fell in the low average range. He struggled to understand and explain the more abstract proverbs, and his score in that area was in the Borderline range. CSSN Copeland's responses tended to be concrete rather than abstract responses indicating an understanding of the underlying meaning of the proverb. His abstraction only score fell in the Impaired range.

The BRIEF-2A is a standardized rating scale designed to provide a window into everyday behaviors associated with specific domains of executive functioning in adults ages eighteen years and older. Ratings of everyday executive functions, or self-regulation, are good predictors of an individual's functioning in many areas, including academic, vocational, social, behavioral, and emotional.

The BRIEF-2A profile based on CSSN Copeland's responses shows that he provided responses to all the test items. Validity scales show that his responding was reasonably consistent across the course of the test and he did not rate himself in an overly negative or atypical manner. Therefore, the results can be interpreted with confidence.

The results of the BRIEF-2A suggest the presence of mild self-regulatory problems in two domains. The first area of concern is inhibitory control and impulsivity, which is the ability to

resist impulses and the ability to stop one's own behavior at the appropriate time. CSSN Copeland likely has difficulty resisting impulses and considering consequences before acting. He may be perceived as being less in control of himself than his peers, interrupting others frequently, saying inappropriate things, and/or being restless or unable to sit still for appropriate lengths of time. Others may express concerns about his verbal and social intrusiveness or lack of personal safety.

The other area of concern is self-monitor, which refers to awareness of the impact of one's own behavior on other people and outcomes. CSSN Copeland likely has difficulty monitoring his behavior in social settings and may show limited awareness of his behavior and the impact it has on his social interactions with others. The following areas on the BRIEF-2A were not rated as areas of concern for CSSN Copeland.

1. Shift: ability to move freely from one situation, activity, or aspect of a problem to another as the circumstances demand.
2. Emotional control: ability to modulate or regulate emotional responses.
3. Initiate: ability to begin a task or activity and to independently generate ideas, responses, or problem-solving strategies.
4. Working memory: capacity to hold information in the mind for the purpose of completing a task, encoding information, or generating goals, plans, and sequential steps to achieve goals.
5. Plan/organize: ability to manage current and future-oriented task demands.
6. Task-monitor: ability to keep track of one's own problem-solving successes and failures and to identify and correct mistakes.
7. Organization of materials: measures orderliness of work, living, and storage spaces.

SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS:

CSSN Copeland's performance on the TOMM and VIP suggested he was putting forth optimal effort during the testing session, and the results of the additional testing that was administered can be interpreted with confidence. The results of the VIP also indicate his reasoning ability is at least low average to average or higher, and his word knowledge is at least significantly below average or higher. Overall, results of testing indicate that CSSN Copeland's language abilities, specifically maintaining verbally fluent responses and verbal abstraction are a weakness for him. He also has weaknesses in the areas of attention, inhibitory control and impulsivity, and awareness of the impact of his behavior on others and on outcomes.

This concludes my evaluation of CSSN Copeland. The opinions expressed in this report are subject to modification if additional data becomes available. I reserve the right to express additional opinions that I believe are consistent with the data from this evaluation if I decide it is appropriate or if I am called upon to do so. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

_____

Jamie M. Dickson, Psy.D.
Licensed Psychologist
Georgia License #PSY003318

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 17 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 17 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE L through AE LIX (Page 84)).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS (FAILURE TO STATE AN OFFENSE)** **5 DEC 2025**

RESPONSE

1. Pursuant to Rule for Court-Martial (RCM) 907(b)(2)(E), the Defense's motion to dismiss the sole Specification of Charge VII for failure to state an offense should be denied. The challenged Specification includes all necessary elements and provides adequate notice.

BURDEN

2. The Defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence and the burden of persuasion as the moving party.[1]

FACTS

3. The sole Specification of Charge VII alleges as follows:

> In that Culinary Specialist Seaman Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 29 May 2025, with premeditation, murder CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, by means of **an act** of the Accused.[2]

4. On 15 October 2025, the Defense requested a bill of particulars for this Specification.[3] The Government responded on 5 November 2025.[4]

5. In that bill of particulars, the Government explained that it "is not required to prove a specific act caused CS3 A.R's death."[5] But the Government did outline that it intended to "present

1. R.C.M. 905(c)(1) & (2).
2. Charge Sheet (emphasis added).
3. Encl. 1.
4. Encl. 2.
5. Encl. 2. at 1.

evidence that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation by the Accused," including evidence as separately detailed and noticed under M.R.E. 404(b).[6]

6. The remains of CS3 A.R. were extremely decayed upon recovery after the Accused left her body in the woods for several days.[7] A conclusive manner of murder has not been identified.[8] However, as outlined in the Government's response to the Defense's motion in limine under M.R.E. 404(b), the pathological, forensic, and other evidence indicate together that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. to death on 29 May 2025.[9]

LAW

7. "A specification is sufficient if it alleges every element of the charged offense expressly or by necessary implication."[10] A defective Specification should only be dismissed when it is "so defective that it substantially misled the accused" and the interest of justice requires that trial "proceed on any remaining charges and specifications without undue delay."[11]

8. To prove a violation of premeditated murder under Article 118, UCMJ, the Government must show:

a. That a certain named or described person is dead;

b. That the death resulted from the act or omission of the accused;

c. That the killing was unlawful; and

d. That, at the time of the killing, the accused had a premeditated design to kill.[12]

9. To ensure the constitutional rights of an accused are protected, a Specification "must: (1) allege, either expressly or by necessary implication, every element of the offense intended to be charged and 'sufficiently apprise the accused of what he must be prepared to meet'; and (2) protect him against double jeopardy."[13]

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6. Encl. 2. at 1; Encl. 3.
7. Encl. 4.
8. Encl. 4.
9. Encl. 3; Gov. Resp. to Def. Mot. in Lim. (M.R.E. 404(b) and 413).
10. R.C.M. 307(c)(3)
11. R.C.M. 907(b)(3)(A)
12. 10 U.S.C. § 918 (Article 118, UCMJ).
13. *United States v. Richard*, 84 M.J. 586, 589 (C.G.C.C.A. 2024) (quoting *Russell v. United States*, 369 U.S. 749, 763-64 (1962)) (cleaned up); *United States v. Valencia*, 85 M.J. 529, 532 (N.M.C.C.A. 2024).

10. "[I]t is for Congress to define criminal offenses and their constituent parts."[14] As such, "failure to follow a model specification is not determinative of whether a specification states an offense."[15]

11. A specification does not need to detail specific facts beyond that required by statute, but if the Government chooses to do so it is "bound to abide by" that narrow scope.[16] Indeed, as long as each element is included in the specification and an accused is protected from double jeopardy, "**a specification need not 'allege in detail the factual proof that will be relied upon to support the charges**.'"[17] "[M]ore detailed information, 'if essential to the defense, can be obtained by a motion for a bill of particulars or through pretrial discovery.'"[18] When an act is charged, "[t]he Government [i]s not required to allege in the specification the evidence it would offer to prove [the accused] committed that act."[19]

12. Specific to intentional murder, in *United States v. Elmore*, the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Military Review found the evidence to be legally sufficient in a case where the specification of intentional murder did not allege a specific act and there was limited forensic evidence.[20] In *Elmore*, the specification alleged that the murder was done by an "unknown act of unlawful force or violence."[21] While failure to state an offense was not specifically before the court, the court explained that as long as the Government proves *corpus delicti*,[22] the finding could be both legally and factually sufficient, even in the case of a specification "for premeditated murder in a case where there is no body or only traces of a body."[23] It went on to explain that *corpus delecti* is proven by "two elements: that the alleged victim is dead and that the death was the result of some criminal agency."[24] Indeed, the Court found that charging no specific act but arguing a

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14. *United States v. Jones*, 14 M.J. 740, 742 (A.F.C.M.R. 1982) (citing *United States v. Liparota*, 471 U.S. 419, 424 (1985)).
15. *Id*. (citing *United States v. Spigner*, 16 C.M.R. 604 (A.F.B.R. 1954)).
16. *Untied States v. English*, 79 M.J. 116, 120 (C.A.A.F. 2019); *United States v. Kelley*, 2025 CCS LEXIS 181, *17-21 (C.G.C.C.A. April 25, 2025) (unpublished) (finding that the Government chose to keep their Specification open ended by only stating a number of contraband photographs, not which photographs specifically and that was sufficient).
17. *United States v. Ray*, 85 M.J. 631, 635-36 (CGCCA 2025) (quoting *Untied States v. Sharpe*, 438 F.3d 1257, 1263 n.3 (11th Cir. 2006)) (emphasis added).
18. *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Jenkins*, No. 20-13831, 2022 U.S. App. LEXIS 4278, at *3 (11th Cir. Feb. 16, 2022)).
19. *Id*. (citing *Sharpe*, 438 F.3d at 1263 n.3.
20. *United States v. Elmore*, 31 M.J. 678, 683 (N-M. Ct. M. R. 1990). The Defense contends that *Elmore* does not apply to this case because it has to do with legal sufficiency. Def. Mot. for App. Rel. at 4. We disagree, because as noted by the Defense, if a specification fails to state an offense, it is legally insufficient. Def. Mot. for App. Rel. at 3; R.C.M. 906(b)(6) (Discussion).
21. *Elmore*, 31 M.J. at 690
22. *Id*. at 682-84.
23. *Id*. at 683. Of course, it is the legal sufficiency of the evidence that is relevant to this Court in the case *sub judice* vice the factual sufficiency beliefs of the judges on that case.
24. *Id*. (citing *United States v. Crider*, 45 C.M.R 815 (NMCMR 1972).

specific manner of murder at trial (stabbing in this case) rendered a finding that was sufficiently supported by the evidence.[25]

10. The Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals (CGCCA)'s decision in *United States v. Richard* provides the rare exception to when it is necessary to provide more than the statute requires in a specification to ensure adequate notice.[26] In *Richard*, the CGCCA held that more specific notice in a specification may be required when "the aperture of potential acts or omissions" is substantial based on the facts of the case.[27] In a prosecution for involuntary manslaughter, the court found that charging only a manner of death (neither an act or omission) in this specific case was insufficient notice for the accused to adequately defend herself.[28] The court explained that "merely reciting an element without alleging central facts or circumstances can still deprive an accused of constitutionally required notice."[29] The court applied this reasoning to the specification of involuntary manslaughter and found the specification gave inadequate notice by not stating a specific act or omission.[30] The court held "it can scarcely be disputed that what an accused actually did or failed to do that resulted in the death or another is at the core of any prosecution" for an allegation of that type.[31] But of substantial interest here, the court explicitly distinguished this holding from an allegation of "intentional murder" because "the aperture of potential acts or omissions significantly" increases for an allegation of involuntary manslaughter vice murder.[32]

11. The court in *Richard* then ruled the lack of notice for involuntary manslaughter was not harmless and warranted dismissal.[33] The court specifically found that dismissal was warranted because there was no bill of particulars, the discovery pointed to a number of possible acts or omissions that led to the victims death, and the Government explicitly refused to "confine itself to any particular act(s) or omission(s)" at trial, presenting evidence for a number of methods that the victim may have been killed.[34]

12. In contrast, in *United States v. Ray*, the CGCCA outlined precisely why its holding in *Richard* is the exception.[35] In *Ray*, the defense argued that the specification at issue failed to state an offense under *Richard* because it failed "to allege a specific act or acts constituting 'sexually intimate behavior.'"[36] In distinguishing the "peculiar" facts of *Richard*, the CGCCA found that because "engaging in sexually intimate behavior 'alleges an act'" the specification

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25. *Id*. at 684-85.
26. *Richard*, 84 M.J. at 589-93.
27. *Id*. at 591
28. *Id*. at 589-90.
29. *Id*. at 590 (emphasis added).
30. *Id*. at 591.
31. *Richard*, 84 M.J. at 591.
32. *Id*. at 591
33. *Id*. at 592-93.
34. *Id*. at 592.
35. *United States v. Ray*, 85 M.J. 631, 635-36 (CGCCA 2025)
36 *Id*. at 636.

was sufficient.[37] Specifically, the court held that despite this language potentially "encompass[ing] a broad array of conduct" it described the accused as "actively doing something" and that was sufficient.[38] The CGCCA held that "[t]he Government was not required to allege in the specification the evidence it would offer to prove he committed that act. It was entitled to present evidence of all of Appellant's sexually charged comments and actions on 18 March 2022 to demonstrate that he engaged in sexually intimate behavior."[39]

ARGUMENT

13. The sole Specification of Charge VII states an offense and protects the Accused against double jeopardy. The elements of the offense have been included in the Specification—this is not contested. And that is all that is required. The sample specification is not the statute. As explained in *Ray,* "[t]he Government [i]s not required to allege in the specification the evidence it would offer to prove he committed that act."[40] To the contrary, the Government is "entitled to present evidence of all of" the Accused's actions to demonstrate that he intentionally murdered CS3 A.R.[41]

14. And while the Government is not required to narrow the scope of the language of the Specification beyond that required by statute, it did so here. The Government specified the murder was from an "act" of the Accused, not either of "an act or omission."

15. Any additional concerns about adequate notice have been remedied by both discovery and a bill of particulars. There is little room for dispute that the evidence indicates the Accused murdered CS3 A.R. through some act on 29 May 2025. Unfortunately, as highlighted by the Defense, CS3 A.R.'s decomposed remains were unable to provide a conclusive manner of death and there is no direct evidence of such. But the process of elimination when paired with forensic and eyewitness evidence is illuminating here. There is no evidence of blunt force trauma, stabbing, shooting, overdose, suicide, or death by natural causes. This leaves a limited number of possible acts, including strangulation—a potential conclusion supported by both pathologists in this case.[42] And while the Government intends to admit all evidence of potential acts at trial, we intend to argue that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. to death as outlined in our bill of particulars.

16. The limited number of possible acts in this case makes any potential notice issues quite distinguishable from the "peculiar" facts of *Richard* and more like *Ray*.[43] Unlike the substantial number of different acts or omissions that could have supported the involuntary manslaughter allegation at issue in *Richard* that were exacerbated by the Government's tactics and wide-ranging discovery, there are only a small amount of factually similar acts in this case. *Richard*

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37 *Id*.
38 *Id*.
39 *Id*. (citing *Sharpe*, 438 F.3d at 1263 n.3).
40 *Id*. (citing *Sharpe*, 438 F.3d at 1263 n.3).
41 *Id*. (citing *Sharpe*, 438 F.3d at 1263 n.3).
42. The Defense's reference to an electronically transcribed voice memo from Dr. Rodic is erroneous. He has provided that strangulation was "possible or probable" based on his autopsy. Encl. 4 at 29.
43. *Ray*, 85 M.J. at 636.

hypothesized that in an intentional murder case with a more limited amount of potential acts, there would likely not be a notice violation when a specific act is not in the specification. And in *Ray*, the CGCCA explicitly found that even if a specification's language alleges an "act" that "encompasses a broad array of conduct" that does not mean a specification fails to state an offense.[44] Moreover, any potential concerns about the language of a specification outlined in *Richard* or *Ray* have been remedied by the provided bill of particulars in this case that outlines exactly the act the Government intends to argue: murder by strangulation.

17. And there is precedent for this approach in an intentional murder case. As applied in the no-body homicide case discussed above, *Elmore*, charging that an "act" of the accused caused an intentional murder does not render a guilty finding legally insufficient. Indeed, the selected language here is even more precise than that in *Elmore*. The Government seeks to do what was done in *Elmore* by charging an act of the Accused and arguing a theory of what that act was at trial.

18. To require anything different of the Government in this case gives an incentive to hide or destroy a murder victim's remains and any evidence about the manner of death, as prosecution without a body or with only limited forensic evidence would be impossible due to insufficient notice in later charges. This benefit surely cannot be intended, particularly in a case such as this where the Government is endeavoring to meet the Accused's demands for a speedy trial while the investigation remains ongoing.

19. Other than strangulation, the Defense does not point to any other factually dissimilar method of death they feel they are not on notice to defend against either through discovery or the bill of particulars. That is because under the facts of this case, the Specification provides sufficient notice to the Accused. The Government has unnecessarily narrowed the murder down to an "act," not an omission. And the evidence, particularly as outlined in the Government's bill of particulars, most directly supports only one act of murder: strangulation. The Accused is on more than sufficient notice to meet this Specification.

REQUESTED RELIEF

20. The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to dismiss the sole Specification of Charge VII for failure to state an offense.

WITNESSES & ENCLOSURES

21. The Government submits the following enclosures as evidence in support of its motion**:**

1. Request for Bill of Particulars dated 15 October 2025.

2. Bill of Particulars dated 5 November 2025.

3. M.R.E. 404(b) notice dated 5 November 2025 (excerpt).

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44. *Id*.

4. Autopsy Reports for CS3 A.R. and related material.

ORAL ARGUMENT

22. The Government requests oral argument.

[redacted]
Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

15 Oct 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN Detailed Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR BILL OF PARTICULARS ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 906(b)(6), discussion
(b) Art. 30(b), UCMJ
(c) R.C.M. 307(c)(3)
(d) Glasser v. United States, 315 U.S. 60 (1942)

1. "The purposes of a bill of particulars are to inform the accused of the nature of the charge with sufficient precision to enable the accused to prepare for trial, to avoid or minimize the danger of surprise at the time of trial, and to enable the accused to plead the acquittal or conviction in bar of another prosecution for the same offense when the specification itself is too vague and indefinite for such purposes." Reference (a).

2. In the sole specification of charge VII, the Government charged CSSN Copeland with premeditated murder by means of "an act of the the Accused." The defense requests notice the actual "act" by which the govenrment alleges that CSSN Copeland caused CS3 A.R.'s death.

3. This request is made so that the accused may be precisely informed as to the nature of the charges. References (b) and (c) recognize that the pleading procedures currently utilized in the military provide only a succinct recitation of the manner and means alleged to have perpetrated the crime. Accordingly, this specification is inadequate in providing the accused with the essential facts constituting the offenses. Reference (d) recognizes the basic right of the accused to be aware, in some specificity, of the facts the government will attempt to prove.

4. I request a response within 10 days. If no response is received within that period, I will consider it a denial of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil or 850-452-5572 with questions.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **USN**	**BILL OF PARTICULARS** **5 NOV 2025**

1. The Government provides the following bill of particulars pursuant to R.C.M. 906(b)(6) with respect to the charges against CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, USN, as requested by the Defense on 15 October 2025.

2. The purpose of this bill of particulars is to inform the accused of the nature of the charges with sufficient precision to enable the Accused to prepare for trial and to avoid or minimize the danger of surprise at the time of trial.

3. To prove a violation of premeditated murder under Article 118, UCMJ, the Government must show:

a. That a certain named or described person is dead;

b. That the death resulted from the act or omission of the accused;

c. That the killing was unlawful; and

d. That, at the time of the killing, the accused had a premeditated design to kill.

4. The Government is not required to prove a specific act caused CS3 A.R's death. Instead, the Government must only prove that *an* act of the Accused caused the death.[1] While the Government will argue that position at trial, as provided in our 5 November 2025 404(b) notice, the Government will present evidence that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation by the Accused.

1. *See United States v. Elmore*, 31 M.J. 678, 683 (N-M. Ct. M. R. 1990) (explaining that when evaluating the sufficiency of a murder conviction that in a case involving no body or only traces of a body, the Government need not prove the act that caused the death but rather need only prove *corpus delecti*); *United States v. Richard*, 84 M.J. 586, 591 (C.G.C.C.A. 2022) (articulating the distinguishable notice required in pleading for involuntary manslaughter vice intentional murder).

5. A bill of particulars does not restrict the Government's proof at trial. Pursuant to RCM 906(b)(6), this bill of particulars may be amended at any time, subject to such conditions as justice permits.

[redacted]

C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **USN**	**NOTICE UNDER** **M.R.E. 404(b) AND 413** **5 NOV 25**

1. Pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme, motive, and intent for the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

a. The Accused's history of strangulation as it relates to his actions toward ABHAN C.R. in the sole Specification of Charge II and CSSN S.R. in Specification 1 of Charge V, as well as the evidence consistent with the Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. in the sole Specification of Charge VII discussed in detail below.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. Both the strangulation of ABHAN C.R. and the strangulation of CSSN S.R. were reported separately by each victim and neither had knowledge of the other. Both described being strangled by the Accused. The evidence supports that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. as well. The medical examiner determined that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation. The medical examiner also ruled out blunt force trauma, stabbing, or shooting as potential causes of death and there were no findings to suggest suicide, overdose, or death by natural causes. CS3 A.R. made a panicked call for help at 0214 to ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, on 29 May 2025 while she was with the Accused. The Accused took the phone and asked ET3 Rich how far away he was. CS3 A.R. was never heard from by her loved ones again. Between 01:52:58-2:30:23, the Accused's heart rate rapidly increased and stayed between 125-128 bpm, spiking again at 130 bpm at 03:07:06. The Accused's suitemate reported hearing what he believed to be karaoke in the common room around that time, but did not investigate. The blood found at the scene was limited to the closet area where the Accused stored the body, suggesting no blood-producing injury occurred and eyewitnesses did not observe any obvious wounds on CS3 A.R.'s body just hours after she was murdered. In fact, they believed she was asleep. As discussed in paragraph 3.c.(1) below, the Accused also had a strong motive to murder CS3 A.R. at the time he did so.

c. The Accused's history of strangulation is offered to establish common scheme, motive, and intent for the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), Specification 1 of Charge V

(Domestic Violence – Strangulation), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII.

i. The Accused has a demonstrated history of using strangulation to exert control over women to get them to comply. The Accused strangled ABHAN C.R. when she resisted his sexual advances. In that case, the Accused used strangulation to exert control over ABHAN C.R. and obtain his desired sexual gratification. The Accused similarly strangled CSSN S.R., his intimate partner, when she confronted him about his infidelity. The Accused did so again to gain control of his victim, in this case to stop her from arguing with him. As evidenced by these two occasions, the Accused is quick to use strangulation to assert control over a situation to get what he wants.

ii. The Accused applied this common scheme and again exerted control over CS3 A.R. by strangling her, just as he did with ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. In the case of CS3 A.R., the Accused decided to strangle her to control her and prevent her from reporting misconduct to either ET3 Rich or the Accused's suitemates, as discussed in paragraph 2(c)(1) below.

iii. The Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. was approximately one month after his strangulation of CSSN S.R. All three strangulation events occurred within a year of each other and reflect a common scheme of controlling women to get them to comply.

(2) Reasoning in support of motive for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 1.c.(1) above, the Accused sought control over both ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. The Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. was motivated by the same desire for control.

(3) Reasoning in support of intent for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 1.c.(1) above, the Accused used strangulation as a method to assert control over his victims. Specific to CS3 A.R., the Accused intended to control CS3 A.R. by strangling her to death, for the reasons discussed in paragraph 2.c.(1) below.

(4) Reasoning in support of lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII. This evidence of the Accused's common scheme of strangulation of female victims will also be offered to show that CS3 A.R.'s death was not an accident. While there is no evidence to suggest CS3 A.R. died of natural causes, committed suicide, or otherwise unintentionally overdosed, this evidence of strangulation establishes her death was not an accident but an intentional action of the Accused. Moreover, the Accused demonstrated with ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. that he could strangle someone and stop short of killing them. That the Accused was

capable of this demonstrates he did not unintentionally strangle CS3 A.R. for too long and accidentally murder her.

2. Pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

a. On 25 May 2025, Y.J. was in the Accused's barracks room. Two friends in the common area heard her telling the Accused to "stop" penetrating her vagina and entered the room to stop the Accused from continuing.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These events were reported by Y.J. and are corroborated by the witnesses who responded to her request for the Accused to "stop."

c. That others heard a victim ask the Accused to "stop" from another room within the Accused's barracks room is offered to establish knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII. The above-described interaction with Y.J. occurred only 4 days prior to the night CS3 A.R. was murdered and both events took place in the same barracks room. For the reasons detailed in paragraph 3.c.(1) below, the Accused had a motive to murder CS3 A.R. This event with Y.J. was fresh on his mind and the Accused knew that his suitemates would be able to hear CS3 A.R. cry for help. The Accused also knew that his suitemates may be able to hear him murder CS3 A.R. if he chose a loud mechanism for doing so. As a result, the Accused was motivated to murder CS3 A.R. before his suitemates responded and he did so by strangulation because he knew it would be quiet.

3. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault) and both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

a. In July of 2024, the Accused was accused of sexual misconduct by ABHAN A.R. and was aware he was under investigation by NCIS for that accusation. He stated that ABHAN A.R. "put a case on him." In November of 2024, the Accused was accused by CSSN S.S. of a separate sexual assault and other offenses. The Accused reported that CSSN S.S. "put a charge" on him and that he "caught a case." He told her that his life was ruined. Nearly immediately after this accusation, he became inconsolable, threatened to kill himself, and repeatedly attempted to genuinely kill himself by walking in front of approximately three trains before being recovered by ship security and brought back to the ship.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. The Accused's actions after being confronted by CSSN S.S. were observed by eyewitnesses and

members of the ship had to recover him and return him to the ship to stop his attempted self-harm. The Accused statements to CSSN S.S. about his desire to kill himself are recorded in text messages.

c. The Accused's reaction to an allegation of sexual assault is offered to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident with respect to the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII.

i. When CSSN S.S. made accusations against the Accused in November 2024, the Accused immediately demonstrated he was willing to take extreme and violent measures by attempting to kill himself.

ii. CS3 A.R. made a panicked call to ET3 Rich for help at 0214; a call the Accused denies occurred despite call records to the contrary. It is evident from that call that the Accused had done something to CS3 A.R. to cause distress. The Accused murdered CS3 A.R. shortly after that call.

iii. That call was prompted by an unwanted sexual advance and the Accused murdered her to prevent her from making a report. After CS3 A.R. went missing, the Accused self-servingly told investigators and his roommate that nothing sexual occurred that night between the two of them. Comparatively, the Accused advised another Sailor, CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN, that CS3 A.R. and he were making out, but that he had turned her down after she wanted to go further and this upset her. Both of these statements conflict with the accounts of the Accused's roommates, who described the Accused and CS3 A.R. as partially naked on top of each other on the floor of the common area later on the morning of 29 May. Consistent with their nudity and illuminated by the Accused's self-serving false and half-true statements (a common scheme detailed below) to CS2 Taylor, his roommate, and investigators, sexual conduct occurred between the Accused and CS3 A.R. Given the nature of CS3 A.R.'s plea for help, that sexual conduct was unwanted.

v. Motivated to prevent another report being made against him, the Accused made a decision to murder CS3 A.R. after his unwelcome advance. On the call, the Accused asked ET3 Rich how far away he was to determine how long he had to prevent another case against him from being reported. CS3 A.R. was never heard from again despite significant search efforts from interested parties immediately following the call.

vi. Just as he had an extreme and violent response to a second reported allegation against him from CSSN S.S., here he formed the premeditated intent to murder CS3 A.R. before she could make a third report, as discussed in paragraph 1.b. While the Government cannot say specifically what that unwanted sexual advance was, the Accused's lies about that evening combined with CS3 A.R.'s cry for help

and their state of undress that morning indicate that something inappropriate occurred and provided a motive for him to commit premeditated murder.

(2) Reasoning in support of intent for the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 2.c.(1) above, the Accused formed the premeditated intent to murder CS3 A.R. because he did not believe he could overcome a third reported allegation. He was willing to kill himself after CSSN S.S.'s allegation, underscoring the extreme intent he is capable of. Anything less than murder would have been insufficient as it would have left her as a witness against him.

(3) Reasoning in support of lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 2.c.(1) above, this evidence of the Accused's extreme desire to avoid an allegation even if by suicide establishes that CS3 A.R.'s death was not an accident, but the result of an intentional action of the Accused.

(4) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for the for Specification 3 of Charge I and both Specifications of Charge III. The Accused's instant and extreme response by attempting suicide after he was accused of this charged misconduct by CSSN S.S. demonstrates a consciousness of guilt as to his actions towards her.

4. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme and consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I (Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault), the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as intent for both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement):

a. The Government believes the below evidence is *res gestae*, but offers it here in an abundance of caution. Evidence of the Accused's history of telling half-truths to mislead investigators. The Accused has described himself as a "king manipulator" and acknowledged an intent to "get [his] story straight" and applies that manipulating behavior to the criminal investigations pending against him. This is not merely lying. Over the course of five separate investigations and several more interviews with investigators, the Accused has demonstrated a calculated pattern of (1) admitting only uncontroverted facts, (2) shifting when he realizes he is challenged with credible evidence or investigative steps, (3) fabricating favorable events where possible, and (4) never admitting to the most serious misconduct for which there is only one witness (the victim).

(1) During two separate investigations into pre-service misconduct, the Accused made misleading statements as follows:

i. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused him of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone after he admitted to recording it, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away preventing him from giving it to investigators. The Accused's mother advised that she told the

Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced the phone. The phone was never recovered. This evidence meets categories (1) and (2).

ii. In June 2022, L.L. alleged that the Accused was at her home and they were sitting on the couch together. The Accused touched her vulva with his hand without her consent, despite her continually moving his hand away and telling him "no." He also pressured her to hug and kissed her without her consent. The Accused gave a half-true statement to investigators, agreeing that he was with L.L. on the couch but denied touching her inappropriately and denied kissing L.L. without consent, only that he attempted to kiss her. The Accused also told investigators that L.L. had sent him nude photographs and messages asking to be "fucked," but when asked the Accused advised he did not have those messages. This evidence meets categories (1)-(4).

(2) The accused made misleading statements during investigations into ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.S. as follows:

i. The Accused made half-true statements about strangling ABHAN C.R. and his sexual interest in her. ABHAN C.R. told investigators that after talking with the Accused, the Accused strangled her, touched her intimate areas, and attempted to kiss her. The Accused downplayed the sexual nature of his interaction with ABHAN C.R. and that he strangled her, only admitting that he lightly choked her. Specifically, when asked by NCIS about this misconduct, he told investigators:

A. That they were "flirting," but he also denied being romantically or sexually interested in her. This evidence meets category (1).

B. When asked if he strangled ABHAN C.R., he stated "oh okay yeah I have but it wasn't like a weird way," and stated he put one hand around her neck without applying any pressure after she pinched his arm. The Accused also admitted that he told ABHAN C.R. that he heard she liked to be choked. Nonetheless, the Accused denied any sexual touching or attempted sexual touching took place. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

ii. The Accused made half-true statements by admitting to recording and broadcasting a sexual encounter with CSSN S.S. but conveniently lied about the whereabouts of his phone and later "lost" the recording of that encounter when he got a "new" phone. CSSN S.S. alleged she was sexually assaulted while incapable of consenting and that the Accused recorded and broadcast the sexual assault to others without her consent. The Accused admitted to sex with CSSN S.S. but said it was consensual, said that the interaction seemed "too good to be true," told investigators he did not know if CSSN S.S. was aware he was recording, and admitted to showing others the recording. When asked about his phone, the Accused lied to investigators about its whereabouts. Specifically, he told NCIS another Sailor had the phone, but that Sailor denied ever having it and investigators were unable to locate it after

searching. When the Accused acquired a "new" phone, he recovered digital evidence for investigators, but no longer had the video of his sexual encounter with CSSN S.S. This evidence meets categories (1)-(4).

iii. The Accused also denied any misconduct when initially confronted by CSSN S.S. (who had no memory of the event) and told CSSN S.S. that they did not have sex, despite later admitting they did once it became clear that others were reporting they had seen the video. This evidence meets categories (2) and (3).

(3) After an investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused made several half-true statements to mislead during the early days of CS3 A.R.'s disappearance and follow-on investigation. Most notably:

i. On 29 May 2025:

A. The Accused told FCC Bradley Parker, USN, that early on the morning of her disappearance, CS3 A.R. was having personal issues and was seeking help, so he picked her up and brought her to his barracks room to discuss them. But this is not why or how they were together. CS3 A.R. came to the Accused's barracks room to make tacos and hang out on the evening of 28 May 2025. CS3 A.R. only made a call for help at 0214 on 29 May 2025 to ET3 Rich, discussed above, and no one else. FCC Parker was aware CS3 A.R. was seeking help that night because he had spoken to ET3 Rich. The Accused advised him that CS3 A.R. had called several people and he was the first to get to her. The Accused turned CS3 A.R.'s call for help to ET3 Rich into a narrative to make himself look better and more trusted while he concealed her dead body on his bed. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

B. According to FCC Parker, the Accused was acting like he had just woken up and took a significant amount of time to answer the door, further indicating he had been sleeping. But the Accused had been awake since at least 0728, as demonstrated by his record of watching pornography nearly constantly from 0728-1150 that morning. Instead, he was concealing CS3 A.R.'s body and concocting a narrative. Relatedly, the Accused told FCC Parker his phone died and his alarm did not go off which is why he was not at work. But his phone was on and charged. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

C. The Accused told FCC Parker he had a ride to work to get him to leave. He did not and he did not check in to work until 1 June 2025. This evidence meets category (3).

ii. On 1 June 2025:

A. The Accused told investigators that while CS3 A.R. was at his barracks room on 29 May 2025, PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN, a suitemate of the Accused, came into the common area to ask if CS3 A.R. was okay as she was upset.

But PSSN Gordillocruz denied this occurred. He states he arrived to the unit around 0400 but the lights were off and he did not see anyone in the dark common area. This evidence meets categories (1) and (3).

B. The Accused maintained his lie that FCC Parker woke him and CS3 A.R. up on 29 May 2025 when he came to the room around 0900. CS3 A.R. was already dead and the Accused was already awake, as noted above. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

C. The Accused told investigators he borrowed his roommate's car and dropped CS3 A.R. back at her barracks around 1000 on 29 May 2025. The Accused provided later that CS3 A.R. left of her own accord. None of the Accused's roommates allowed him to borrow a vehicle at that time. And, perhaps most notably, CS3 A.R. was already dead. There is no evidence to suggest she left the barracks room while alive. This evidence meets categories (1) and (3).

iii. On 2 June 2025:

A. During this interview of the Accused, an iPhone was found during a contemporaneous search in his barracks room. The Accused told investigators the phone did not work, but investigative efforts later determined that it did work and this had been a lie. This evidence meets category (3).

B. As discussed above, the Accused provided his encounter with CS3 A.R. was not a sexual encounter, but CS3 A.R. was described as partially naked by the Accused's roommates and he told CS3 Taylor that CS3 A.R. and he had begun making out in his bed and she wanted to go further sexually, but the Accused stopped it. As detailed above, this is not true. This evidence meets category (3) and (4).

C. The Accused told investigators that CS3 A.R. did not make a call for help or to be picked up. But she called ET3 Rich in a panic at 0214 asking to be picked up and the Accused took the phone to speak with him. This evidence meets category (3).

D. The Accused told investigators CS3 A.R. spent a significant amount of time on the phone with an ex-boyfriend from Texas, but there is no evidence to suggest that occurred. This evidence meets category (3).

E. The Accused re-iterated his lie about PSSN Gordillocruz checking on CS3 A.R. to ensure she was okay. This evidence meets category (3).

F. The Accused stated he slept in his bed with CS3 A.R. and denied being naked on the floor of the common area. But they were found on the common area floor by all three roommates in a state of undress before being seen in the Accused's bed by FCC Parker later that morning. This evidence meets

category (3).

G. The Accused stated his unauthorized absence (UA) status was a big misunderstanding and he did not know he was UA because he was not scheduled to work. But FCC Parker repeatedly told him to check in over the weekend. This evidence meets category (3).

H. The Accused denied telling investigators he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room on 29 May 2025, in contrast with her previous statement. This evidence meets category (3) and (4).

I. The Accused denied knowing where CS3 A.R. was. This evidences meets categories (3) and (4).

iii. On 6 June 2025:

A. The Accused re-iterated several of his 2 June lies, including that CS3 A.R. called an ex-boyfriend from Texas, that nothing sexual occurred, that FCC Parker woke him up, and that he did not know CS3 A.R. was. This evidence meets categories (3) and (4).

B. The Accused also acknowledged he did not drop CS3 A.R. off as stated previously. This evidence meets category (2).

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These statements were made by the Accused to investigators or other witnesses and are often corroborated by other investigative actions.

c. The Accused's history of telling half-truths as a "king manipulator" is offered to establish common scheme and consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I (Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault), the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as intent for both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I, the sole Specification of Charge II, both Specifications of Charge III, Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. The Accused's common scheme of providing half-true information in a calculated manner demonstrates a pattern with the goal of misleading investigators after he "get[s his] story straight." The sheer number of half-truths across various investigations demonstrates he is a deliberate liar—a "king manipulator"—and he uses this scheme of different types of lies as noted above to delay and obfuscate investigations. This is a very particular method of lying. That he consistently gives enough information to admit to an event without inculpating himself of the most serious

misconduct, fabricates accounts where he believes he will not be challenged, and misleads investigators as to the state of the evidence demonstrates a willful scheme to mislead that becomes more probative the more it is replicated. That these lies often contain some level of the truth makes his lies about what happened between himself and CS3 A.R. particularly illuminating, as he is the only witness still alive. And because this is a common scheme, these lies are more easily distilled down to what actually occurred, as described in paragraph 2.c.(1).ii, such as the fact that the Accused made the unwanted sexual advance on CS3 A.R. and not the other way around as he described to CS2 Taylor.

(2) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I, the sole Specification of Charge II, both Specifications of Charge III, Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. For the reasons outlined in paragraph 3.c.(1) above, the Accused's history of half-truths demonstrates an intentional pattern of misleading investigators to exculpate himself, demonstrating a consciousness of guilt for his misconduct.

(3) Reasoning in support of intent for both Specifications of Charge VI. The Accused's repeated history of half-truths to mislead investigators and others demonstrates that his false statements to investigators in these Specifications are intentional.

5. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme and lack of accident for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice) and consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), all Specifications of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

a. The Accused has a history of hiding his phone from investigators when under criminal investigation.

i. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused the Accused of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away, preventing him from giving it to them. The Accused's mother advised that she told the Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced his phone. His phone was never recovered.

ii. In November 2024, after CSSN S.S. accused the Accused of misconduct, he hid his cell phone from investigators and lied and said he had given it to a friend before saying it was lost. When he later provided digital evidence to investigators, he advised he had gotten a "new" phone and no longer had the video in question.

iii. On 2 June 2025, when questioned about the disappearance of CS3 A.R., the Accused advised that the cell phone found in his barracks room would not turn on. However, investigative steps later determined that the phone was operational at the time. When investigators sought to seize that phone on 9 June 2025, the phone was missing from the Accused's belongings and never recovered.

iv. The Accused has also conducted online research on what a phone search can return, including queries such as: (1) "can police fet [ph.] infirmation [ph.] from reset phone;" (2) "ncis co cosign my phone;" and (2) "what do police do when they seuze [ph.] your phone;" (4) "ncis took my phone;" and (5) "can ncis take your phone off allegations."

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These facts are supported by the accounts of criminal investigators and the Accused's own statements, as well as a digital extraction of one of the Accused's phones.

c. This evidence of the Accused hiding his phone when placed under investigation is offered to establish common scheme for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice) and consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), all Specifications of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme and lack of accident for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV. The Accused has demonstrated a common scheme of lying and hiding his phone when under investigation for an offense that he perceives may result in his phone being seized. He did this with the pre-service allegations against him in May 2022, he did it again with the allegations of CSSN S.S. in November of 2024, and he did it most recently when being investigated for crimes related to the disappearance of CS3 A.R. This evidence also supports that him misplacing his phone is not an accident, but an intentional effort to obstruct justice.

(2) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I, both Specifications of Charge III, all Specifications of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI the sole Specification of Charge VII. The Accused hides his phone intuitively because it contains incriminating information on it. The Accused's online search history supports that belief. That he lied and hid his phone repeatedly from investigators indicates a consciousness of guilt for all offenses related to both CSSN S.S. and CS3 A.R. Moreover, his Google search history supports that he did so with the specific intent to limit an investigation into misconduct.

6. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

a. The Accused recorded and broadcast a sexual encounter with a female victim in high school in May of 2022 without her consent.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These facts are supported by the accounts of witnesses and the Accused's own statements.

c. This evidence of the Accused recording and broadcasting sexual encounters is offered to establish common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III. The Accused has demonstrated a common scheme of recording and broadcasting sexual encounters without consent, just as he did with CSSN S.S. This evidence also supports that the Accused knew when he recorded and broadcast his encounter with CSSN S.S. that this conduct was wrongful absent her consent and that doing so without her consent was intentional.

7. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish motive and intent for Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation):

a. The Accused makes an "evil" grin when assaulting women.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. This account is from a victim of the Accused's pre-service misconduct, L.L. She alleges that while he touched her vulva without consent, he had an "evil" grin.

c. This "evil" grin by the Accused is offered to prove motive, intent, and identity with respect to Specification 1 of Charge V.

(1) Reasoning in support of motive and intent for Specification 1 of Charge V. CSSN S.R. described the Accused as smiling while he strangled her. This description mirrors the "evil" grin described by L.L., identifying the Accused as the perpetrator and establishing further that the Accused enjoys and intends nonconsensual touching of women.

8. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

a. The Government believes the below evidence outlining various actions of the Accused related to CS3 A.R.'s murder are *res gestae*, but offer them here in an abundance of caution. The Government provides notice of the following evidence:

(1) The Accused hid in various barracks lounges from 29 May 2025-1 June 2025 after he murdered CS3 A.R. When security from the ship came to find him on 1 June 2025, he hid in the bathroom on the fifth floor of his barracks. The Accused's roommate also stated that the

Accused was leaving very early and returning very late over that weekend, which was highly unusual for him.

(2) During the period of 29 May 2025 to 1 June 2025, the Accused was in an unauthorized absence status and was repeatedly notified that he needed to check-in, but he ignored those requests. Indeed, despite dozens of inquiries as to his whereabouts from both his ship and his friends that the Accused viewed on his phone, the Accused generally did not answer his phone or respond to text messages from 29 May 2025 until 1 June 2025.

(3) The Accused encouraged his roommate to leave the room, which was an unusual request.

(4) The Accused disposed of CS3 A.R.'s body in a wooded area on 2 June 2025. The Accused turned his phone on Airplane mode after he decided where to place the body and turned it off of Airplane mode when he was done placing her in the woods. Specifically, he placed his phone on Airplane mode at 04:48:08 on 2 June 2025 when he drove to a pinned location (where the body was found) and turned it off at 05:16:13 when he left the site.

(5) At 1311 the day he murdered CS3 A.R., the Accused searched for a trip to "Bermuda." In the days following his murder of CS3 A.R., the Accused searched online for "virginia airport" on 3 and 10 June 2025 and "norfolk airport" on 3 June 2025.

(6) As discussed in detail above, during the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused lied about various things, including: (1) that he dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks on 29 May 2025, (2) that he did not know where CS3 A.R. was, (3) that the iPhone found in his room on 3 June 2025 did not work, (4) that CS3 A.R. did not call anyone for a ride from his barracks room on 29 May 2025, (5) that CS3 A.R. was on the phone with her ex-boyfriend from Texas on 29 May 2025, (6) that CS3 A.R. had wanted to go further sexually when they were together on 29 May 2025, but he declined, and (7) that he slept with CS3 A.R. in his bed that night and not on the floor.

(7) The Accused told his roommate nothing sexual occurred between himself and CS3 A.R. on 29 May 2025, in contrast to what he told CS3 Taylor and despite them being in a state of undress together on the floor of the common area that morning.

(8) The Accused hid and/or destroyed his second iPhone prior to going to the brig on 9 June 2025, as discussed above.

(9) The Accused turned off location services on his phone on 29 May 2025, including Life360 which had been on constantly for approximately one year and shared with another person.

(10) The Accused called and texted CS3 A.R. on 1 June 2025 asking where she was and notifying her of her UA status despite knowing she was deceased and her body was in his closet.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. It is either

from data extracted from the Accused's phone, from the Accused's own statements, or from statements of eyewitnesses.

c. These actions by the Accused in the hours and days following the murder of CS3 A.R. are offered to show consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. These actions include an intent to flee, an attempt to mislead, and an attempt to hide from investigators and others. They were taken close in time to the disappearance of CS3 A.R. and are those taken by someone with a guilty conscience.

9. Pursuant to M.R.E. 413, the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following propensity evidence as relevant to the charged sexual misconduct in Specifications 1, 2, and 4 of Charge I (Abusive and Aggravated Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault).

a. In June 2022, the Accused touched L.L.'s vulva and kissed her without consent despite her repeatedly removing his hand and telling him "stop" and "no."

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that this other sexual misconduct occurred. This account is from a victim of the Accused's pre-service misconduct, L.L.

c. This propensity evidence is offered as relevant to Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge I. Specifically, the Accused's actions towards ABHAN C.R. in these charged offenses nearly mirror the Accused undeterred approach to sexual gratification with L.L. In both cases, the Accused ignored the victim's request to stop and his hands being repeatedly removed and continued with his unwanted sexual contact.

d. This propensity evidence is also offered as relevant to Specification 4 of Charge I. Specifically, the Accused refused to take no for an answer from Y.J., just as he did with L.L. In both cases, he continued with his sexual goals despite that objection.

10. For any specific evidentiary Bate Stamp citations, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (757) 341-4545 or at Christopher.dempsey2@navy.mil.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

Name: V/ A. R. Case Number: T2025-00840	POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT *OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER* COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA	PAGE 1

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE, SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23510
(757) 683-8366

AUTOPSY NO: T- 246-25
DATE/DAY/TIME: Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 0830
DECEDENT: V/ A. R.
AUTOPSY AUTHORIZED BY: Dr. Lameira, acting Medical Examiner for Norfolk

Body Identified by: Tags on the body bag and suitcase. Definitive ID by fingerprint comparison.
Persons present at autopsy: Ms. Lacombe, Ms. Magruder, Ms. Sloulin, NCIS Danielle Ortiz, Morgan Currie, NPD John Murphy

Rigor: Absent **Livor:** Undetermined
Age: PII **Race:** White **Sex:** F **Length:** 58" **Weight:**72 lbs. **Eyes:** No eyes
Hair: Black **Body Heat:** Refrigerated

GENERAL EXTERNAL EXAMINATION: [redacted]

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS: Nude. Personal effects: necklace, two earrings, a larger earring.

EXTERNAL WOUNDS: Examination limited by decomposition changes.

SCARS, TATTOOS: Tattoos on left arm and upper back,

MARKS OF THERAPY: None.

HISTORY: [redacted]

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES:

1. [redacted]

2. Additional findings: decomposition, advanced stage.

Cause of Death: Undetermined

The facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

8/18/2025 — **Date Signed**
OCME Norfolk, VA — **Place of Autopsy**
Fernanda Lameira — **Signature of Pathologist**
Fernanda Lameira, M.D

GROSS DESCRIPTION: *Note: exam limited by decomposition changes.*

SKIN: Tattoos. Partially skeletonized.

SEROUS CAVITIES: No adhesions or fluid accumulation. The diaphragm is intact. The organs are in normal anatomic position.

NECK ORGANS: Layered dissection reveals unremarkable soft tissue of the anterior neck. The larynx and hyoid are intact. The thyroid gland has a normal size and shape.

HEART: 77 g. The coronary arteries arise normally and have a right dominant posterior circulation. There is no significant atherosclerosis. The valves are normally formed. The foramen ovale is closed. The great vessels are unremarkable and free of obvious injury.

AORTA: The aorta and its major branches are normally distributed, with no significant atherosclerosis.

LUNGS: Left 155 g, right 181 g. The pleural surfaces are unremarkable and cover red-purple, mildly edematous pulmonary parenchyma.

LIVER: 299 g. The liver capsule is smooth and glistening, covering red-purple congested parenchyma.

GALLBLADDER: No bile. No stones were identified.

SPLEEN: 80 g. The splenic capsule is smooth, glistening, and intact. There is unremarkable underlying red-purple parenchyma.

LYMPH NODES: No lymphadenopathy is appreciated.

PANCREAS: Unremarkable.

ADRENALS: Examination limited due to decomposition changes; no evident lesions present.

GI TRACT: T[redacted]

KIDNEYS: Left 155 g, right 181 g. Smooth cortical surfaces. Well-circumscribed cortico-medullary junctions. No dilatation of the collecting system or ureters.

BLADDER: Contains no urine. Unremarkable mucosa and wall.

GENITALIA: Unremarkable uterus, fallopian tubes, and ovaries.

BRAIN AND MENINGES: 784 g. Complete loss of normal architecture. The brain is a brow/gray soft tissue.

SKULL: Intact.

MUSCULOSKELETAL: Aside from the postmortem changes, the bony framework, supporting musculature, and soft tissues are grossly unremarkable. The cervical spinal column is removed, visualized, and it is intact.

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:
Liver (Slide 2): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. No evidence of inflammation, steatosis, or necrosis.

Kidney (Slide 2): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. Well-distributed tubules and glomeruli with no histopathological abnormalities.

Lungs (Slide 1): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. Edema and no other significant histopathological changes were observed.

TOXICOLOGY:
Samples were submitted for toxicological analysis. See Certificate of Analysis.
Waiting for another toxicology analysis. Still pending.

DNA AND FINGERPRINTS:
Samples of blood and fingerprints were taken and retained.

POSTMORTEM PHOTOGRAPHY:
Postmortem photographs were taken and retained.

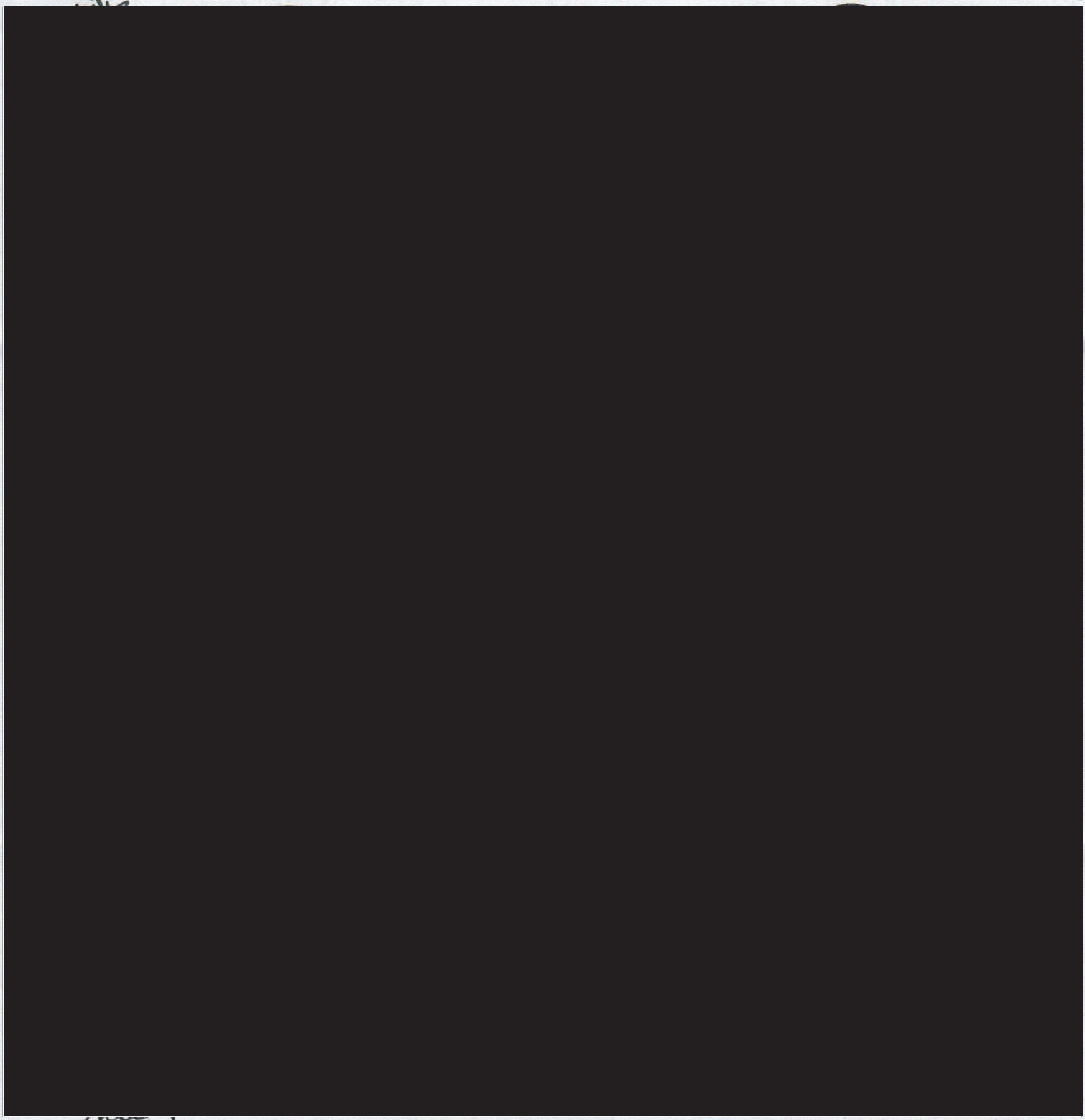
EVIDENCE:
Suitcase, personal effects, DNA card x2, patch from inside the suitcase, PERK kit (219M00468), round disk from inside the suitcase, possible string from inside the suitcase, paper from inside the suitcase, fingernails, CD with exam photos to law enforcement. Second CD with exam photos to law enforcement (Norfolk PD).

[redacted]

CAUSE OF DEATH: Undetermined

MANNER OF DEATH: Undetermined

BODY DIAGRAM



DECED T-246-25 T2025-00840
Name: V.A.R. [redacted]
Height:
Weight:
6-10-2025
DR. LAMEIRA

MEDICAL EXAMINER:
Name: _____
Date: _____
Autopsy #: _____

Form CME - BDI

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Rev. 11/21/03

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Eastern Laboratory
830 Southampton Avenue
Suite 400
Norfolk, VA 23510

Tel. No.: (757) 683-8327
Fax: (757) 683-8830

June 10, 2025

TO: G. V. ROBINSON
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE
SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VA 23510-1046

FS Lab # T25-3510

RECEIVED
JUN 11 2025
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER

Your Case #: T2025-00840

Victim(s):

Alias: [redacted] V/ A. R.

Suspect(s): - - -

Evidence Submitted By: G. V. Robinson

Date Received: 06/10/2025

Item 999 Copy of a fingerprint card bearing the name [redacted] V/ A. R.
Item 1000 Postmortem Tape Lift From OCME Case Number T2025-00840

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

COMPARISON RESULTS OVERVIEW:

Name	Identification(s) (Total / Item)	Exclusion(s) (Total / Item)	Inconclusive(s) (Total / Item)
[redacted] V/ A. R.	1 / Item 1000	---	---

PROCESSING AND EXAMINATION:

Item 1000 was visually examined. One fingerprint was digitally preserved and designated as 1000P1.

ANALYSIS:

Fingerprint 1000P1 was analyzed and determined to be of value for comparison.

EXEMPLARS:

The following exemplar, bearing the listed name, was visually examined, digitally preserved, and used for comparison:

Name	Obtained From	DOB	SID / FBI	Exemplar Type
[redacted] V/ A. R.	Submitted - Item 999	---	95HPF5D5W	Fingerprint Card

[redacted]

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
FS Lab # T25-3510
Your Case # T2025-00840
June 10, 2025

COMPARISON RESULTS:

IDENTIFICATION(S):
Fingerprint 1000P1 was identified to the exemplar bearing the name [redacted] V/ A. R. .

TERMINUS STATEMENTS:

The only fingerprint of value for comparison has been identified.

Date(s) of Testing: 06/10/2025.

Supporting examination documentation is maintained in the case file.

The above listed methods are those approved for use at the time of analysis. Current methods can be found in the Latent Print Procedures Manual, which can be found at www.dfs.virginia.gov/documentation-publications/manuals/.

The evidence is being retained for personal pickup.

Attest:

I certify that I performed the above analysis or examination as an employee of the Department of Forensic Science and that the above is an accurate record of the results and interpretations of that analysis or examination.

[redacted]
Emily Vocu
Forensic Scientist

ABBREVIATION/DEFINITION KEY:
AFIS: Automated Fingerprint Identification System; generic term; applies to VA-AFIS and NGI at DFS.
DOB: Date of Birth
CCRE: Central Criminal Records Exchange
FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Database: Next Generation Identification (NGI) database
SID: State Identification Number
State Database: VA-AFIS database
Identification: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines there is sufficient observed data in agreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints originated from the same source.
Exclusion: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines that there is sufficient observed data in disagreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints did not originate from the same source.
Inconclusive: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines there is insufficient observed data in agreement or disagreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints did or did not originate from the same source. The insufficient observed data could be the result of absent or unreliable areas of the friction ridge print, the exemplars or both.

EV

CAC 06-10-2025

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Eastern Laboratory
830 Southampton Avenue
Suite 400
Norfolk, VA 23510

Tel. No.: (757) 683-8327
Fax: (757) 683-8830

July 14, 2025

TO: FERNANDA LAMEIRA, M.D.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE
SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VA 23510-1046

FS Lab # T25-3510

Your Case #: T2025-00840

Victim(s): [redacted] V/ A. R.
Alias [redacted] V/ A. R.

Suspect(s): - - -

Evidence Submitted By: Leena Sloulin

Date Received: 06/11/2025

Item TX1	One container of liver
Item TX2	One container of muscle
Item TX3	One container of spleen

RECEIVED
JUL 22 2025
[redacted]
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

Item TX1 Liver:
Ethanol 0.083 ± 0.004 % by weight by weight
Method: Alcohols by Headspace Gas Chromatography

No other drugs and/or drug classes were detected.

Item TX1 was screened for the following drugs, drug classes, and/or substances:
Ethanol, methanol, acetone, isopropanol, cocaine/benzoylecgonine, opiates, oxycodone/oxymorphone, methamphetamine/methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), phencyclidine, fentanyl, methadone, benzodiazepines.

Item TX2 Muscle:
Not Analyzed

Item TX3 Spleen:
Not Analyzed

Date(s) of Testing: 06/24/2025 - 07/11/2025

Supporting examination documentation is maintained in the case file. The above-listed methods are those approved for use at the time of analysis. Current methods can be found in the Toxicology Procedures Manual which can be found at www.dfs.virginia.gov/documentation-publications/manuals/. Measurement uncertainty is reported at a 95.45% level of confidence for all toxicological analyses except blood alcohol which is reported at a 99.73% level of confidence.

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
FS Lab # T25-3510
Your Case # T2025-00840
July 14, 2025

The evidence is being returned to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Attest:

I certify that I performed the above analysis or examination as an employee of the Department of Forensic Science and that the above is an accurate record of the results and interpretations of that analysis or examination.

[redacted]
Erica Sales
Forensic Scientist

ES
[redacted]
7.16.25

Name: Dr. Fernanda Lameira, Medical Examiner, City of Norfolk **Command (mil)/City, State (civ): Norfolk, Virginia**		
Date/time: 29 July 2025; 1300		
Contact Info		
E-mail		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (c)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (alt)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Other		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Available?	Next 3 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next 6 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next year? Yes ☒ No ☐	
Giglio Questions	Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of a crime involving a false official statement, perjury, larceny or other crime of dishonesty?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received non-judicial punishment for an act or omission which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received administrative counseling or other non-punitive measure for an act which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might call into question your character for truthfulness?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might raise a question of bias or favoritism toward any party to the case?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐

On 29 July 2025, CAPT Derek Butler, JAGC, USN, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed Dr. Lameira, in the presence of LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, Mr. Rob Robinson, Norfolk ME, and Dr. Wendy Gunther, Assistant Chief Medical Examiner. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

Dr. Lameira reported that due to the level of decomposition of, and post-mortem insect activity on, the body of V/A.R., no definitive cause of death could be discerned. Dr. Lameira was able to rule out stomping, stabbing, shooting, and a drug overdose as possible causes of death. She specified that the toxicology test only tested for specific drugs, but the lab was likely able to have additional testing done for specific prescriptions being taken by V/A.R upon request. Additionally, the toxicology report showed a BAC of .083 at the time of death.

Dr. Lameira noted that there was not enough remaining soft tissue on the body to indicate or rule out asphyxia as a cause of death. The only noted broken bones were ribs #2-5, which would not be consistent with attempts at CPR. There was not enough tissue left in the neck area to indicate whether there was any blood pooling in that area. The fallopian tubes and uterus were unremarkable with no indications of a pregnancy. There were no indications of any chronic conditions that would lead to a natural death and Dr. Lameira opined it would be unlikely for someone V/A.R.'s age to suffer a natural death.

It was explained that the alcohol ethenyl level, generally considered the BAC, could have been elevated by insect activity that creates yeast. No results had come back on the buccal and anal swabs that were conducted during the autopsy, and vaginal swabs were not conducted due to the lack of soft tissue resulting from decomposition and insect activity. Dr. Lameira explained that insect activity and decomposition generally begin in body openings (eyes, ears, mouth, nose, etc.) and areas where skin is pressed together (buttocks, below breasts, arms crossed, etc.). She opined that the folded position of the body in the duffel bag created the skin-to-skin pressure points on the chest that became areas of accelerated decomposition, in comparison to the other areas of the torso.

When asked, Dr. Lameira stated that there was not enough soft tissue on the body to determine whether there were any injuries to the body that would have been bleeding before death. Dr. Lameira explained that up to a liter of "purge" can be expelled post-mortem through the nose and mouth and appears red in color. "Purge" was explained as the fluid in the lungs and surrounding tissue that leaks out of the nose and mouth post-mortem, and can become further dislodged from the body if the body is moved.

When asked, Dr. Lameira stated that rigor mortis sets in within about 12 hours after death and opined that the body was likely placed into the duffel bag prior to the onset of rigor mortis. Dr. Lameira concured with Dr. Gunter that it was not unusual for people to mistake dead bodies for living people.

/s/

K. E. VANETTI

From:	Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
To:	Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Gunther, Wendy (VDH)
Cc:	Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] Re: List of Prescription Medication
Date:	Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:35:50 AM

No drugs. Negative.
This case was signed out in September.

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 11:48 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH); Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning Dr. Gunther,

I am just following up on this. Was there a result for the escitalopram?

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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WORK PRODUCT. It is intended only to be read by the individual(s) or entity(s) to whom it is addressed or their designee.

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 9:24 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning – thank you! We are good on waiting. I just wasn't sure what the timeline might be for tracking purposes. I appreciate all of your help!

V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 8:34 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

Well, it's going to take the lab quite a while to do the escitalopram, particularly since Dr. Lameira pointed out to me that we don't have blood, just liver and muscle. I'm not sure the expensive, fast lab (NMS) will even do naproxen on liver and muscle; I think they only work on blood. So you're looking at 60 days if you want to wait for the escitalopram.

If you don't, then there is a much shorter timeline; I'll leave it up to Dr. Lameira to estimate it for you.

WG

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 4:13 PM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)

<Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon –

Are you able to provide an estimated timeline on when the autopsy report will be finalized? Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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WORK PRODUCT. It is intended only to be read by the individual(s) or entity(s) to whom it is addressed or their designee.

V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)

<shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

We can definitely ask for escitalopram, and if we have to we can send out for naproxen, but we can't do Cefpodoxime, the antibiotic.

I kind of think naproxen isn't indicated; if it's going to kill you, it does it by internal bleeding, and that wasn't part of the findings, right, Dr. Lameira?

How about if we ask our lab for escitalopram, and if it's positive, we don't do naproxen? If it's negative, the expense of outside lab can do naproxen within a couple of weeks.

Dr. Gunther

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 3:34 PM
To: Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <fernanda.lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>; Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <rob.robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon Dr. Lameira and Dr. Gunther,

Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with us on Tuesday. I apologize for the delay in getting back to you, but it took some time for us to track down the specific prescriptions we'd like to have the sample tested for (if that has not already been done). They are:

- Escitalopram/Lexapro
- Cefpodoxime
- Naproxen

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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EPIARX Autopsy Services

The EPIARX Laboratory
4000 Albemarle Street NW
Suite 208
Washington DC, 20016

The Histopathology Laboratory
Institutions 600 N. Wolfe Street
Building 700
Baltimore, MD 21287

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

CASE NO. ED25-1195

Autopsy X

JURISDICTION: Routine adult clinical autopsy

NAME OF DECEASED: [redacted] V/ A. R.

RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, VA 23505

AGE: [redacted] PII SEX: Female

DATE OF Birth: [redacted] PII

DATE OF Death: 6/09/2025 TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS OF INCIDENT: Wooded area at/near residence

PRONOUNCED DEAD: Unknown TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS/INSTITUTION: Sunset Funeral Home
657 Springmart Boulevard
Brownsville, TX 78526

DATE OF AUTOPSY: 6/28/2025 TIME: 0900 CDT

PERFORMED BY:

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD.
Board Certified Pathologist

Significant condition(s):

(a) Habit-forming substances detected in bodily fluids

- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☒ Could Not Be Determined

New Protocol, Reporting Protocol for the Examination of Gross Autopsy of Adult Decedents
Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP
Protocol Implementation: December 2024

An autopsy was performed on the body of V/A.R. on the 28th day of June, 2025.

CONSENT FOR AUTOPSY

Consented and reviewed by Dr. Nemanja RODIC. Consenter was, Esmeralda CASTLE. The relationship of the individual, providing consent for autopsy, to the decedent is mother. Type of autopsy was complete, including brain.

PRIOR POSTMORTEM PROCEDURES

Following macroscopic examination there was **NO EVIDENCE** of organ donation. Following macroscopic examination there was **EVIDENCE** of prior autopsy.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body was that of a well-developed & well-nourished female. The body weighed about 120 pounds, was 4 feet 5 inches in height, and appeared compatible with the reported age of PII years [calculated body mass index 20.6(1)]. There were no personal effects identified. The body was cold. The body was in state of late decomposition marked by skin discoloration, desquamation, and skeletonization. Rigor and lividity designation deferred. The scalp hair was black. The eye examination deferred. The nose examination deferred. The lips examination deferred. Some upper and lower teeth were present with good dental hygiene. Dentures were not present. The skin was free of any significant abrasions, bruises, lacerations, lymphadenopathy, or burns. Examination of the neck revealed no evidence of injury. No injury of the ribs or sternum was evident externally; negative for deformity and increased anterior-posterior diameter. The abdomen was grossly unremarkable. The extremities were grossly unremarkable. Leg circumference 10 cm from

medial malleolus were, 20 cm on the right, and 20 cm on the left. Negative for pitting edema. The fingernails examination deferred. Negative for palpable lymph nodes. Negative for joint deformity, abnormal mobility, and non-therapeutic punctures or needles track marks. The external genitalia were those of a normal adult female. The posterior torso was without note; negative for sacral decubitus ulcer. Negative for tenting of skin. Negative for sunken eyes.

EVIDENCE OF THERAPY:

ID band with decedent name and case number (T-246-25 T2025-00840) were identified on patient body bag and bilateral lower extremities. Negative for nasogastric tube, central venous line, intravenous line, PEG tube, endotracheal tube, and Foley catheter.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES:

The body was re-opened by the usual Y-shaped thoraco-abdominal incision and the chest plate was removed. No adhesions nor abnormal collections of fluid were present in any of the body cavities. The subcutaneous fat layer of the abdominal wall was less than 1" thick. There were no abnormalities of the omentum and mesenteries. There was no internal evidence of blunt force or penetrating injury to the thoraco-abdominal region.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

The head was normocephalic. External examination revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for dry surface of the galea. The dura showed no lesions. The leptomeninges showed no lesions. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical and showed no lesions. The brain base showed no

lesions. The cerebellum showed no lesions. The brainstem showed no lesions. The superior spinal cord showed no lesions. The eyes were not submitted for microscopic examination.

NECK:

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland and large vessels revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for trauma of the gingiva, lips, or oral mucosa.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The epicardial fat was mild. The coronary ostia were normally positioned. The foramen ovale was closed. The coronary arteries arose normally, followed the usual distribution and were free of grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis of the right coronary artery, left common/main coronary artery, left anterior descending artery, and circumflex artery. The chambers, valves, leaflets, and chordae tendinae exhibited the usual size-position relationship and were unremarkable. The myocardium was red-brown, firm and unremarkable; the atrial and ventricular septa were intact; negative for infarcts/lesions of the myocardium. The endocardium was smooth and thin; negative endocardial hemorrhages and endocardial discoloration. The aorta was fairly elastic and of even caliber throughout with its major branches distributed normally, followed the usual course and were widely patent. Negative for significant abdominal/thoracic aorta atherosclerosis. Negative for tortuosity or widening of the thoracic segment. Negative for dilation of the lower abdominal segment. Negative for aortic aneurysm. The venae cavae and their major tributaries returned to the heart in the usual distribution and were free of thrombi. No focal endocardial, valvular, and myocardial lesions were seen.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

Scant secretions were found in the lower bronchial and upper respiratory passages. The mucosa has pink-tan postmortem discoloration. The upper airway was clear of debris and foreign material; the mucosal surfaces were smooth,

yellow-tan and unremarkable. The pleural surfaces were smooth, glistening, well-expanded, and unremarkable bilaterally. Lungs were atelectatic and subcrepitant. The pulmonary parenchyma was red-purple in color, congested, and edematous. There was dependent congestion and postmortem softening. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions/scarring. The pulmonary arteries were normally developed The bronchi were patent with no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The lungs were cut fresh.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The hepatic capsule was smooth, glistening and intact, covering dark red-brown parenchyma with minimal congestion. Serial sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The extrahepatic biliary tree was patent, without evidence of calculi. The gallbladder was present and showed thin wall, velvety mucosa, and no calculi. The portal vein, hepatic arteries, and hepatic veins were patent.

ALIMENTARY TRACT:

The mucosa was pink-tan with normal mucosal folds. No tablets or capsules could be discerned in the stomach or the stomach contents. No residual medications were identified. The external and *in situ* appearance of the small intestine and colon were grossly and palpably unremarkable. The small intestine and colon were opened along the anti-mesenteric border to reveal soft liquid fecal material in the small bowel and soft semi-formed, thick green stool in the colon. The small bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The vermiform appendix was grossly and palpably unremarkable. The large bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan peri-circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The distal large bowel contents were stool. The superior mesenteric artery was free of grossly identifiable and palpable atherosclerosis. The pancreas occupied a normal position, had a

normal pink-tan lobulated parenchyma, and the ducts were patent, not ectatic. No parenchymal calcifications; negative for necrosis or trauma.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The red-brown surface of renal capsules were rough and uneven to touch. The ureters were patent. The renal arteries showed no grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis. The cortices were sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which were red-purple to tan and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves and ureters were unremarkable. The urinary bladder contained minimal urine; the mucosa was gray-tan and grossly unremarkable.

LYMPHORETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM:

The spleen had a smooth, intact capsule covering red-purple, moderately firm parenchyma; the lymphoid follicles were unremarkable. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The regional lymph nodes appeared normal. The bone marrow was dark red. The lymph nodes were not enlarged. The thymus was not identified.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid was symmetrical in appearance and sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The breast tissue was sectioned in the usual manner and contained small amount of white fibrous tissue; negative for significant abnormality.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The diaphragm was intact. Skeletal muscles were red-brown and firm. The calvarium was intact. The vertebral columns showed normal curvature. The ribs were negative for fractures. The vertebral bodies were negative for fractures. No bone or joint abnormalities were noted.

AUTOPSY PROCEDURES AND ANCILLARY TESTING

The approach to autopsy dissection was M. Letulle's Technique (*en bloc* from tongue to rectum). There were not special dissections performed. Tissue retained in stock jars until signout. Additional samples taken as follows, homogenized viscera. Ancillary testing, toxicology.

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3):

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3)

Trimmed from larger formalin-fixed blocks:

A. Head cutis ventral, multiple fragments;

B. Head cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;

C. Neck cutis ventral, multiple fragments;

D. Neck cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;

E. Thorax cutis ventral, multiple fragments;

F. Thorax cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;

G. Right upper extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;

H. Right upper extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;

I. Left upper extremity ventral, multiple fragments;

J. Left upper extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;

K. Right lower extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;

L. Right lower extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;

M. Left lower extremity ventral, multiple fragments;

N. Left lower extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;

O. Central nervous system, multiple fragments;

P. Viscera, multiple fragments; and

Q. Additional viscera, multiple fragments.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: Sections showed cardiac parenchyma and stroma free of significant interstitial-type fibrosis and nuclear & cytoplasmic hypertrophy, acute & chronic inflammation, hemorrhage, and necrosis. Sections of coronary arteries were free of significant cholesterol clefts and dystrophic calcifications within narrowed vascular walls. Sections of aorta were free of significant cholesterol clefts deposits. Negative for malignant cells.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: Bilateral sections of pulmonary parenchyma and stroma notable were free of significant congestion, variably sized & increased alveolar spaces, acute inflammation, chronic inflammation, fibrosis, hemorrhage, and hemosiderin-laden macrophages. Polarization and refraction failed to reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Sections of hilar lymph nodes showed benign primary follicles. Sections of larynx were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM: Sections showed hepatic parenchyma and stroma free of significant acute & chronic inflammation, macrosteatosis, glycogenated nuclei, and fibrosis. Negative for malignant cells.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: Sections showed bilateral renal parenchyma and stroma notable for medial hypertrophy of medium sized vessels and interstitial/subcapsular lymphocytic inflammation, but free of significant basement membrane thickening, hyaline change, thyroidization, and interstitial fibrosis. Section of urinary bladder were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Sections of genitourinary tract were histologically unremarkable. Polarization and refraction failed to

reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Negative for malignant cells.

ALIMENTARY TRACT: Sections showed histologically unremarkable pancreatobilliary and tubular gastrointestinal tract. Negative for malignant cells.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma, free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for malignant cells.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for adrenal hemorrhage. Negative for malignant cells.

MEDICAL RECORDS REVIEW

Accompanying medical information collected from pre-autopsy verbal report by _Esmeralda CASTLE, the mother of the decedent, was notable for following medical findings:

Past Medical History: negative for suicidal attempts; equivocal for prior past suicidal ideation (10/2024);

Surgical Procedures: none;

Medical Laboratory: antemortem COVID-19 negative test.

Additional Notes: Clinical symptoms/signs, not in acute distress (5/28/2025-5/29/2025), asymptomatic (interim). The decedent did not receive blood transfusions or lived in Europe prior to death. The decedent was vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to death. The decedent had been consuming alcoholic beverages (wine and liquor)/tobacco (vaped) prior to death. The decedent had not been consuming illegal habit-forming drugs prior to death. The decedent did not have history of cancer prior to death. External and macroscopic images taken for posterity. Examination limited by autolysis and tissue preservation. Preliminary diagnosis called to and confirmed by Esmeralda CASTLE on 7/3/2025 at 1615. See accompanying Axis 3327991 report. Final diagnosis called to and confirmed by family friend on 8/1/2025 at 1615.

OPINION:

Based collectively on my autopsy findings herein as well as my review of the accompanying submitted medical information, in the case of this PII-year-old female, V/ A. R., the manner of death is deferred (1,4-6,&9). I reserve the right to amend my opinion(s) upon the receipt of additional material (7).

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D.
Board-certified Pathologist

Date signed: 8/1/2025

References:

1. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose_wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm
2. ISBN-13: 978-1941096321, pages 105-108.
3. PMCID: PMC8817622.
4. https://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/topic_search_results?topic_status=P
5. https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/vitalrecords/physician-me/docs/capcodbook.pdf
6. https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/solutions/uptodate/roles/patients-caregivers
7. https://documents.cap.org/protocols/Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP.pdf
8. PMID: 39912823
9. https://www.rcpath.org/static/33b81f4a-89f3-42bd-bc33bdd67879f008/G171-The-decomposing-cadaverfor-publication.pdf

Occasional errors in punctuation, grammar, and content occur.

Comment: "The following statement applies to tests, i.e. to dye(s), chemical solution stains, and Class I IHC reagents and kits. Dye(s), chemical solution stains are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations as "mixtures of synthetic or natural dyes or nondye chemicals in solutions used in staining cells and tissues for diagnostic histopathology, cytopathology, or hematology" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1850). This definition encompasses many of the common materials found in a conventional histopathology laboratory, such as routine hematoxylin and eosin stains, as well as special stains like trichrome, iron, and Grocott-Gömöri's methenamine silver, among others, and are considered Class I devices subject to general controls. Class I IHC reagents and kits are defined as those that "provide the pathologist with adjunctive diagnostic information that may be incorporated into the pathologist's report, but that is not ordinarily reported to the clinician as an independent finding," noting that "these IHC's are used after the primary diagnosis of tumor (neoplasm) has been made by conventional histopathology using nonimmunologic histochemical stains, such as hematoxylin and eosin" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). The 1998 final rule further describes these as "adjunctive tests [to conventional histopathologic diagnostic examination] and presenting a low risk to public health."37 An example of a Class I IHC specifically mentioned in the IHC reagents and kit regulation is keratin (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). Many other Class I IHC reagents and kits can be found by searching for the "NJT" product code on the FDA establishment registration and device listing database.47 These IVDs are exempt from premarket notification/510(k) submission, although they are still subject to FDA general controls and QS/CGMP requirements. Most IHC stains used by anatomic pathologists are considered diagnostic markers and therefore are categorized as Class I by the FDA. The tests herein have not been cleared or approved for the specific use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA does not require this test to go through premarket FDA review. These tests are used for clinical purposes. It should not be regarded as investigational or for research. This laboratory is certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments 1988 (CLIA) as qualified to perform high complexity clinical laboratory testing. All stains and tests are performed with general controls, i.e. positive and negative control reactions as necessary, and all controls show appropriate reactivity. However, stains and tests have not been validated on decalcified tissues. Results should be interpreted with caution given the likelihood of false negativity on decalcified specimens. Certain tests utilize Class I Analyte-Specific Reagents (ASR); these tests are developed, and their performance characteristics determined by this laboratory. ASRs used in this laboratory have been established and verified for accuracy and precision.(8)"

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Website: www.axisfortox.com

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

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AXIS
FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Case Number: 3327991	**Subject's Name:** V/ A. R.
Client Account: 21028 / ED21028	**Agency Case #:** ED25-1195_APR
Report To: Epiarx Diagnostics ATTN: Epiarx Diagnostics 700 12th Street N.W. Suite 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20005	**Date of Death:** 07/08/2025 **Investigator:** NEMANJA RODIC MD PHD **Date Received:** 07/03/2025 **Date Reported:** 07/25/2025

Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Date Collected:** 06/25/2025 09:00
Container(s): 01:T Tissue,UNSPECIFIED **Test(s):** 70510T Comprehensive Drug Panel, Tissue

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
VOLATILES	POSITIVE					
Methanol	POSITIVE	0.586	0.02		mg/g	
Ethanol	POSITIVE	0.280	0.02		mg/g	
Acetone	Negative					
Isopropanol	Negative					
AMPHETAMINES	Negative					
ANALGESICS	Negative					
ANESTHETICS	Negative					
ANTICHOLINERGICS	Negative					
ANTICONVULSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDEPRESSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDIABETICS	Negative					
ANTIFUNGALS	Negative					
ANTIHISTAMINES	Negative					
ANTIPSYCHOTICS	Negative					
BARBITURATES	Negative					
BENZODIAZEPINES	Negative					
CANNABINOIDS	Negative					
CARDIOVASCULARS	Negative					
GASTROINTESTINALS	Negative					
HALLUCINOGENS	Negative					

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Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
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Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Continued..**

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
MISCELLANEOUS	Negative					
MUSCLE RELAXANTS	Negative					
OPIOID ANALGESICS	Negative					
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS	Negative					
STIMULANTS	Negative					
UROLOGICALS	Negative					

Specimens will be kept for at least one year from the date of initial report.

The Specimen identified by the Laboratory Specimen Number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Laboratory Director

Laureen J. Marinetti, PhD, F-ABFT

V/ A. R.

Laboratory Case #:3327991

Print Date/Time:07/25/2025, 15:01

Page: 2 of 2

Case Reviewer

AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Stuart Kurtz, M.S., D-ABFT -FT
This individual may not have performed any of the analytical work.

Unless otherwise noted, testing performed at 5780 W 71st Street, Indianapolis, IN 46278.

But again Please remember that what I like to do in order for the due diligence we observe is that after the military final autopsy document becomes available ask miss missus cancelled to submit it to our secure Dropbox shared folder and then send us an e-mail at sometime in the two-minute whenever the report is available maybe like 10 weeks from now or 16 weeks from now whenever OK and then I will review that and then either then or correct the report as needed OK so the so microscopic examination of multiple sections on this case showed no evidence of any blunt force trauma so that's something I think was important to rule in or out the toxicology studies were pertinently positive and there was a significant level of ethanol or alcohol there was detected and I think that is a significant finding now this upon microscopic examination on the organ systems there's no other changes either on microscope events or inflammation infection or cancer of any kind so I think the major other cause of that has been have been formally ruled out so this substance is detected in the bodily fluid I think is significant in the quantity and quality of it and I think that's something that informs the cause of death in this case um so in other words you know from our end we don't see any evidence of foul play as far as UM trauma to the remains and I think this is again let me just I'm careful what kind of language I'm using here I think this is suggestive of an accidental ingestion OK now um again what I'd like to do in order for all of the due diligence be observed is that once the the military is available I will review that material and then appropriately if I identify any additional diagnostic features that can help better classify the findings will attend the mandatory OK do you do you have any questions for me from your end yes so a couple questions um does the the findings or are there any other pending tests that that need to be deducted or awaiting results that will impact your final report the due diligence worked that I wanted to perform from our end is available is completed and but when and if the final autopsy documents from the first examination becomes available I'll be very happy to review that and again because you may be sometime in the future like a month two months maybe even six months depending on how complex this is on there and um whatever that is I just asked you and the family yeah we we did I I wanted to check we did open the Dropbox folder OK their e-mail maybe I should actually add you let me just add you on on that e-mail as well because you are you know the point of contact here and and then once you do that because it may be again sometime in the future just please drop me an e-mail OK and say something like hey doctor Aldrich dismiss cancel or miss poor yeah you're missus amber esmeralda I'm ibra so esmeralda is is miss castle and then my name is Debra I'm her colleague from law school yes her friend got it OK so let me see here then please just send me an e-mail that way I can see that it's in the archive that's the only problem with the Dropbox automatically not familiar it's there and then within about a week or two I will schedule us for follow up or attended or amend their correct report as needed OK the second question that I had was are any of the tests are able to indicate or any of the

anything that you were able to see and able to show whether there was any strangulation or any type of of anything of that nature I took very meticulous examination both externally of the remains and systematic microscopic examination to rule out even some small or difficult to detect ecchymosis or petechiae or other force or signs of one force trauma and I look very carefully there there's none so I and considered it formally ruled that out OK so sometimes by external examination you cannot see the you know the evidence of trauma but but this way that I performed it there's just simply no way of missing it because I'm looking at singular cells at that level right and if there's any kind of level of of change in I'm I'm I'm able to see it now there is that there has been formally considered and ruled out so I will add you to the to do a Dropbox share folder and let's then be communication whenever the report becomes available OK and once that report comes out we'll as well as I'll call her as me I'm sorry we'll miss castle get a copy of of your findings or will or will she get a copy of this additional report after I just feel like she's going to ask him no I'm gonna explain this to thank you so we're going to release our report automatically this is our standard operating procedure we're gonna release our reported automatically to to to her to Monday morning OK and then electronically and then they will mail her a hard copy those are typically dashed that same went Friday OK perfect and then once we reviewed the additional material we will follow the same sequence OK we'll release the report basically as if it's a new report one thing we have you know that's confirmed so that's fine but to confirm the address should we mail her report to [redacted] yes that's it OK wonderful thank you so much and lesbian communication then the first report OK thank you so much thank you bye bye

Name: Dr. Nemanja Rodic **Command (mil)/City, State (civ): Washington, DC** Epiarx Diagostics (28JUN2025 Autopsy)		
Date/time: 10-22-25 / 1500 PM		
Contact Info		
E-mail	nrodic@epiarx.com	Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (c)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (alt)	202-795-7109	Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Other		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Available?	Next 3 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next 6 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next year? Yes ☒ No ☐	
Giglio Questions	Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of a crime involving a false official statement, perjury, larceny or other crime of dishonesty?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received non-judicial punishment for an act or omission which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received administrative counseling or other non-punitive measure for an act which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might call into question your character for truthfulness?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might raise a question of bias or favoritism toward any party to the case?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐

On 22 October 2025, LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN interviewed Dr. Nemanja Rodic in the presence of LN2 Jocelyn M Gomez, USN. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

Dr. Rodic stated that when his office received the body to conduct an autopsy, the remains were contained in a clear bag. Inside of that bag was a pool of colored fluid with a strong odor. It was Dr. Rodic's opinion that this fluid was an alcohol-based preservative or other embalming fluid that contained a dilute of alcohol deformaline. Dr. Rodic was not sure exactly how the military or mortuary service would have packaged or preserved the remains prior to his examination or what chemicals specifically were used.

Dr. Rodic explained that this fluid was undoubtedly what caused the high level of alcohol found in the remains of the deceased. The results were too high to be clinically relevant, indicating that the fluid is what caused the high result.

Dr. Rodic did not see an indication of blunt force trauma or sharp force trauma on the remains, although the autopsy was not extremely thorough. Dr. Rodic also explained that the remains were also decomposed.

When asked if the findings were consistent with asphyxiation, Dr. Rodic explained it was possible or probable. He explained that natural causes were a dubious suggestion given the age and purported fitness of the deceased. He believed it was likely one of three mechanisms of death: (1) asphyxiation; (2) blunt force trauma for which any evidence had decomposed; or (3) termination of life due to ingestion of alcohol. Dr. Rodic clarified that he had no significant evidence to suggest intoxication from alcohol was the cause of death because the numbers he had recorded were incorrectly inflated by the fluid in the bag. As such, without additional evidence he could not say if that was a probable cause of death.

/s/

J.M. GOMEZ

LN2, USN Trial Paralegal

Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)

From: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2025 10:18 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003 [redacted] V/ A. R.

Mr. Dempsey,

Yes, I like to change original and incorrect "rea" verbiage to correct and updated "recall".

Sincerely,
Dr. Rodic

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Monday, November 24, 2025 at 10:14 AM
To: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/ A. R. [redacted]

Good Morning Dr. Rodic,

Thank you! Did you mean to say "recall" instead of "real" in the first sentence of your e-mail? Thanks again.

V/r

LCDR Dempsey

From: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2025 1:33 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/ A. R. [redacted]

Mr. Dempsey,

It is my real that I did not consider designating strangulation as possible/probable mechanics/mode of death in this case. It is my recall that I deferred from designating manner of death herein, because my examination was limited by prior autopsy, prior embalming, lack of any documents in writing for review, and marked tissue degeneration/loss prior to the autopsy. For example, some parts of both acral and truncal soft tissue and bones were absent at the time of my examination.

With respect,
Dr. Rodic

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Friday, November 21, 2025 at 1:00 PM
To: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland
Good Afternoon Dr. Rodic,

The victim's family provided us with a rough transcript of a phone call you had with them back when you reported your findings (attached). I do not have a recording, just this transcript. This has raised a couple of questions I attribute to poor automated transcription. I know we spoke previously and addressed these, but I want to run them to ground just to be sure:

1. Were the findings consistent with strangulation as a potential cause of death?

2. At one point, the transcript says that "foul play" related to "trauma" can be ruled out. Is that correct? If so, what do you mean by that?

Thank you! I am also happy to discuss on the phone if preferred. Please just let me know a time that works for you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF** **(CHANGE VENUE)** **5 December 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(b)(11), the Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the 26 November 2025 *Defense Motion for Appropriate Relief (Change Motion)* to change the venue of trial in the case of *United States v. CSSN Jermiah Copeland*.

BURDEN

The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence.[1]

FACTS

1. CSSN Copeland is charged with four specifications of violation of Article 120, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), one specification of violation of Article 128, UCMJ, two specifications of violation of Article 120c, UCMJ, three specifications of violation of Article 131b, UCMJ, two specifications of violation of Article 128b, UCMJ, two specifications of violation of Article 107, UCMJ, and one specification of violation of Article 118, UCMJ. Of the 15 alleged specifications, three are alleged to have occurred on board the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75), three is alleged to have occurred at or near Oslo, Norway, and eight are alleged to have occurred at or near Norfolk, Virginia.[2]

2. CSSN Copeland is attached to USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95),[3] home-ported in Norfolk, Virginia.

3. The Government has provided notice that it expects to call 53 witness of whom 44 are located in or around Norfolk, Virginia or are attached to units located in or around Norfolk, Virginia.[4] The Defense has requested production of 34 witnesses, of whom 29 are located in or

[1] R.C.M. 905(c).
[2] Charge Sheet.
[3] Charge Sheet.
[4] COPELAND - MFAR (Change Venue) Gov Evidentiary Package, Enclosure 1: Anticipated Government Witness List dtd 28 Oct 25.

around Norfolk, Virginia.[5] requested production of other witnesses at this time. No expected witnesses are located in Jacksonville, Florida or Mayport, Florida.

4. As of June 2024, the Hampton Roads metropolitan area is estimated to contain a population of 1,787,169.[6]

5. Naval Station Norfolk is the largest naval station in the world with the largest concentration of U.S. Navy forces.[7]

6. Of the 154 identified articles and social media posts mentioning CSSN Copeland, 78 were published in June 2025, 18 were published in July 2025, 11 were published in August 2025, 35 were published in September 2025, and 12 were published in October 2025.[8]

7. CSSN Copeland was ordered into confinement on June 9, 2025.[9]

8. Charges were preferred on August 22, 2025.[10]

9. An Article 32 hearing was held in this case on 18 September 2025.

10. Trial is scheduled in this case for June 2026.[11]

LAW

Under the Rules for Court Martial, the place of trial may be changed when necessary to prevent prejudice to the rights of the accused or for the convenience of the Government if the rights of the accused are not prejudiced thereby.[12] "A change of place of trial may be necessary when there exists in the place where the court-martial is pending so great a prejudice against the accused that the accused cannot obtain a fair and impartial trial there."[13]

In *United States v. Curtis*, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces affirmed that "where there is a reasonable likelihood that prejudicial news prior to trial will prevent a fair trial, the judge should continue the case until the threat abates, or transfer it to another county."[14] However, "pretrial publicity standing alone, no matter how widespread, is not a sufficient reason

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[5] Appellate Exhibit XXXI, Enclosures A and C.
[6] COPELAND - MFAR (Change Venue) Gov Evidentiary Package, Enclosure 2: Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, *New Census Data: Population Growth Rebounds* (June 2024) https://www.hrpdcva.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/229 (accessed 12/4/25).
[7] COPELAND - MFAR (Change Venue) Gov Evidentiary Package, Enclosure 3: U.S. Department of State, *Naval Station Norfolk*, April 30, 2025, https://www.state.gov/reporting-tours-foreign-press-centers/norfolk-naval-station (accessed 12/4/25).
[8] Appellate Exhibit XXIII, Enclosure K.
[9] Appellate Exhibit XXIII, Enclosure A.
[10] Charge Sheet.
[11] Appellate Exhibit I, Trial Management Order.
[12] R.C.M. 906(b)(11).
[13] R.C.M. 906(b)(11), Discussion.
[14] 44 M.J. 106, 124 (C.A.A.F. 1996) (citing *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333, 363, (1966)).

for a change of venue…unless it is shown that such publicity has permeated the panel members."[15] *Curtis* identifies two types of prejudice that might impact the right to a fair trial: presumed prejudice and actual prejudice.[16] A showing of actual prejudice is "usually necessary before a change of venue is granted."[17] However, "evidence of inflammatory, prejudicial pretrial publicity that so pervades or saturates the community as to render virtually impossible a fair trial by an impartial jury drawn from that community" represents an exception to the general rule requiring a show of actual prejudice. [18] In most instances a motion for a change of venue takes place after the *voir dire*.[19]

To establish presumed prejudice, Defense must show that pretrial publicity (1) is prejudicial, (2) is inflammatory, and (3) has saturated the community.[20] To establish saturation, "there must be evidence of the amount of pretrial publicity and the number of individuals exposed to it."[21]

To establish actual prejudice, Defense must show that members of the court-martial panel have such fixed opinions that they cannot judge impartially the guilt of the accused.[22] *"*Without such a showing, evidence that the members had knowledge of highly significant information or other incriminating matters is insufficient."[23] A member "is not disqualified just because he has been exposed to pretrial publicity or *even has formulated an opinion as to the guilt or innocence* of an accused on the basis of his exposure"[24] unless the member "cannot set aside the initial impressions."[25]

In applying these tests in *United States v. Gray*, C.A.A.F. distinguished the presumed prejudice found in *Rideau v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 723 (1963) where "the defendant's uncounseled pretrial confession was broadcast three times on television before his trial" and did not find presumed prejudice where "the articles appear to be no more than routine reports of heinous crimes, investigation of these crimes, the arrest of appellant, and the preliminary steps taken to bring appellant to trial in both state and military courts" and the articles did not appear to be "unduely sensationalistic."[26]

Similarly, in *United States v. Simpson*, C.A.A.F. found no actual or presumed prejudice where Defense had introduced an extensive collection of news clippings, transcripts of television

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[15] *Id*.
[16] *Id.* at 139
[17] *Id*. at 124.
[18] *United States v. Gray*, 51 M.J. 1, 27-29 (C.A.A.F. 1999) (citing *Rideau v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 723 (1963)),
[19] *Curtis,* 44 M.J. at 124.
[20] *United States v. Simpson*, 58 M.J. 368, 372 (C.A.A.F. 2003); See also *Curtis*, 44 M.J. at 139 (citing *Nebraska Press Ass'n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539, 554 (1976)).
[21] *Curtis*, 44 M.J. at 139 (citing *United States v. Gray*, 37 M.J. 730, 747 (ACMR 1992)).
[22] *Simpson*, 58 M.J. at 372.
[23] *Id.*
[24] *United States v. Akbar*, 74 M.J. 364, 397 (C.A.A.F. 2015) (emphasis added).
[25] Id. (citing *United States v. Iribe-Perez*, 129 F.3d 1167, 1171 n.4 (10th Cir. 1997)).
[26] *United States v. Gray*, 51 M.J. 1, 28 (C.A.A.F. 1999).

programs, videotapes, and transcripts of interviews, taking up five volumes of the trial record.[27] The court below had characterized the material as reflecting a "nationwide media blitz" and a "media feeding frenzy" in describing the quantity and frequency of media interest, but noted that many of the items were duplicate stories and that, in comparison to civilian criminal investigations, was very sparse on details.[28] The Court found no presumed prejudice because extensive media interest did not demonstrate that the community was "saturated with inflammatory prejudicial material" and noted that few of the articles directly referred to the accused.[29] The Court further found no actual prejudice based on extensive individual voir dire that revealed members had encountered very little information about the trial.[30]

Finally, in *Skilling v. United States*, the Supreme Court highlighted several factors in finding no presumed prejudice from pretrial publicity.[31] First, the Court considered the "size and characteristics" of the community in which the crime occurred.[32] Second, the Court considered the lack of publication of a "confession or other blatantly prejudicial information of the type readers or viewers could not reasonably be expected to shut from sight."[33] Third, the Court considered the time between the media attention and trial.[34] The Court found no presumed prejudice despite the "sheer number of victims" of Enron, finding that extensive screening questionnaire and followup voir dire were effective.[35] Finally, the Court found that even a co-defendant's well-publicized guilty plea was mitigated by a delay of two weeks.[36]

ARGUMENT

1. Defense has not met its burden to establish presumed prejudice due to pretrial publicity.

In order to establish presumed prejudice, the Defense must show that pretrial publicity is prejudicial, inflammatory, and that the prejudicial, inflammatory publicity has saturated the community.[37] Defense has failed to establish any of these elements.

First, as in *Skilling*, Defense has not established there has been any confession or prejudicial information published in media sources.[38] In even the exemplar post highlighted by Defense in Enclosure J,[39] the linked article contains information that could be seen as favorable to the

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[27] *Simpson*, 58 M.J. at 372.
[28] *Id.*
[29] *Id.* at 373.
[30] *Id.*
[31] 561 U.S. 358 (2010).
[32] *Skilling*, 561 U.S. at 382 (contrasting a murder in a small parish of only 150,000 residents with murder in the city of Houston with 4.5 million residents).
[33] *Id.*
[34] *Id.* at 383.
[35] *Id.* at 384.
[36] Id. at 385.
[37] *United States v. Simpson*, 58 M.J. 368, 372 (C.A.A.F. 2003); See also *Curtis*, 44 M.J. at 139 (citing *Nebraska Press Ass'n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539, 554 (1976)).
[38] *Skilling*, 561 U.S. at 382.
[39] Appellate Exhibit XXIII, Enclosure J.

defense (that the cause and manner of death is "undetermined") and only mentions CSSN Copeland as being "in pretrial confinement in connection to [A.R.]'s death."[40]

Neither has Defense shown any of the media attention or publicity as spreading any inflammatory information. A review of the articles listed in Enclosure K of the Defense motion, reveals news articles relaying basic procedural information, such as the schedule of a hearing, or names on a charge sheet, with little information of CSSN Copeland specifically. The articles are also written in a neutral tone, without editorialization. Rather than establishing evidence of inflammatory media attention, Defense instead relies on comments from unknown individuals as an example of inflammatory publicity.[41] These comments are not media sources, there is no evidence of their reach to potential members, and these comments appear to have minimal interaction (with no "likes" and few responses). Further, not only is there no evidence that these few comments are representative of a community, but also, because the comments were posted on a public Facebook page, there is no evidence that these commenters are even located near Norfolk, Virginia.

The third element required to establish presumed prejudice is that prejudicial, inflammatory material, not simply publicity in general, must have saturated the community.[42] Assuming arguendo that every article listed by Defense was inflammatory and prejudicial, this is hardly the "nation-wide media blitz" or "media feeding frenzy" that the *Simpson* court considered.[43] As in *Skilling*, Norfolk, Virginia is a large metropolitan area with over 1.7 million residents. The articles highlighted by Defense were overwhelmingly (136 of 154) published by Norfolk area media such as 13 News, Wavy 10, and Channel 3, not military-specific news channels. There is no evidence that potential members have been saturated with inflammatory material. With one of the few metrics of saturation that Defense offered, and the only one connected to Norfolk specifically, Defense provided that Naval Station Norfolk's Facebook post received 3,600 interactions from its 125,000 followers. [44] This is approximately a 2.8% interaction rate.

Finally, any level of saturation that might exist will also be mitigated by time. A survey of the identified articles also reveals that media attention peaked in June 2025, with more than half the articles published in that month. A small bump of renewed media publication occurred in September surrounding the Article 32 hearing with very limited media attention since. Trial is set for June 2026. In *Skilling*, the Court found that pretrial publicity did not violate the right to a fair and impartial jury when a trial was delayed by two weeks after a co-defendant made a well-publicized guilty plea.[45] Here trial is set for nearly a year out from the peak of media attention.

2. Voir dire three months prior to trial is unnecessary and would increase the likelihood of

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[40] COPELAND - MFAR (Change Venue) Gov Evidentiary Package, Enclosure 4: WAVY News 10, 'We cannot accept this as the end of the story'; Cause and manner of death for V/ A. R. ruled 'undetermined' by Medical Examiner's Office, August 26, 2025) https://www.wavy.com/news/local-news/norfolk/cause-and-manner-of-death-for-V/ A. R. -undetermined-medical-examiners-office/ (accessed 12/4/25).

[41] Appellate Exhibit XXIII, Enclosure J.

[42] *Simpson*, 58 M.J. at 373.

[43] *Id*. at 372.

[44] Appellate Exhibit XXIII, Enclosure K, page 2.

[45] *Skilling*, 561 U.S. at 38

delay.

First, defense has shown no exceptional circumstances to deviate from the typical practice of raising a motion to change venue until after voir dire.[46] Pretrial confinement is not a rare or exceptional circumstance. Additionally, maintaining voir dire close to the trial date ensures that selected members are available for trial. Selecting members three months prior increases the likelihood of losing members to illness or unavailability beyond their control. Further, members selected three months in advance cannot be questioned during voir dire on their ability to pay attention to a case free from potential distractions because they cannot project three months out what those distractions might be. Rather than ensuring trial proceeds without delay, selecting members three months ahead of trial increases the likelihood of delay.

3. Trial should be held at Naval Station Norfolk.

Even if a potential member stationed in Norfolk has been exposed to pretrial publicity, that member "is not disqualified just because he has been exposed"[47] A potential member could even have formulated an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of an accused on the basis of the exposure so long as they can set aside their initial impressions.[48] *Voir dire* will allow any potential member to be examined for actual prejudice and serves to protect CSSN Copeland's right to a fair and impartial jury without the need to assume members of the Norfolk community are presumed prejudice.

The majority of charged misconduct took place in Norfolk, Virgina. The overwhelming majority of witnesses are located in Norfolk, Virginia or attached to units homeported in Norfolk, Virginia. The accused's command is homeported in Norfolk, Virginia. The accused is in confinement in Chesapeake, Virginia, in the area of Norfolk, Virgina. Maintaining the place of trial at Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia is to the convenience of the Government and would not prejudice the rights of the accused.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Government respectfully requests the Court to deny the Defense motion to change the venue of trial.

EVIDENCE

The government offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this Motion:

Enclosure 1: Anticipated Government Witness List dtd 28 Oct 25

Enclosure 2: Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, New Census Data:

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[46] *Curtis,* 44 M.J. at 124 ("defense is not entitled to have such a motion granted unless it is shown that such publicity has permeated the panel members. In most instances a motion for a change of venue takes place after the *voir dire*.").
[47] *United States v. Akbar*, 74 M.J. 364, 397 (C.A.A.F. 2015).
[48] *Id.*

Population Growth Rebounds (June 2024)
https://www.hrpdcva.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/229 (accessed 12/4/25).

Enclosure 3: U.S. Department of State, Naval Station Norfolk, April 30, 2025, https://www.state.gov/reporting-tours-foreign-press-centers/norfolk-naval-station (accessed 12/4/25).

Enclosure 4: WAVY News 10, *'We cannot accept this as the end of the story'; Cause and manner of death for* V/ A. R. *ruled 'undetermined' by Medical Examiner's Office*, August 26, 2025) https://www.wavy.com/news/local-news/norfolk/cause-and-manner-of-death-for V/ A. R. -undetermined-medical-examiners-office/ (accessed 12/4/25).

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO [redacted]
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 5th day of December 2025, a copy of this motion was served on Defense Counsel.

[redacted]

L.A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

U N I T E D S T A T E S

v.

JERMIAH T. COPELAND
CSSN USN

28 OCTOBER 2025
ANTICIPATED
GOVERNMENT WITNESS LIST

Pursuant to R.C.M. 701(a)(3) and in accordance with Trial Management Order, the government provides the names of those individuals that may be called as witnesses during the prosecution case-in-chief, and during sentencing, in the above referenced case. The government reserves the right to call witnesses not listed below, but will do so with sufficient notice to defense. All common witnesses desired by the defense must be requested in compliance with R.C.M 703(c):

ABHAN	C.R.		[redacted]
CSSN	Fernando	Cuestabravo	
CSSN	S.S.		jason.j.kim22.mil@us.navy.mil
CSSN	Jaqueline	Bita	[redacted]
CSSN	Jada	Knight	
Mr.	Jackobie	Gant	
CS2	Kirsten	Click	
CSSA	McKenzie	Saunders	
CS3	Kaulise	Cousins	
CSSN	Kaylee	Parks	
CS3	Shamel	Eaddy	
CSSN	Alexis	Rodgers	
Ms.	Kerry	Maynard	kerry.l.maynard.civ@army.mil
Ms.	Ashley	Epstein	ashley.r.epstein.civ@army.mil
LT	Rasheda	Dia	[redacted]
CDR	Brett	Ballard	
CSSA	Nicholas	Spivey	
CSSN	S.R.		
CS2	Reza	Taylor	
Ms.	Y.J.		
LSSA	Omeri	Smoot	
AEAN	Jdyn	Bradfrod	

YN3	Sean	Monaghan	[redacted]
PSSN	Irbin	Gordillocruz	
AR	John	Calisse	
LTJG	David	Demazure	david.demazure@ddg95.navy.mil
CSSA	Deontae	Williams	[redacted]
FCC	Brad	Parker	
Dr.	Fernanda	Lameira	
Mr.	JD	Davidson	john.davison@ncis.navy.mil
ET3	Daniel	Rich	[redacted]
HT3	Michael	Gillespie	
Ms.	Mary	Benson	
Ms.	Esmeralda	Castle	Marshall@griffinlawdefense.com
CSSN	Gladis	Garcia-Barrera	[redacted]
MASN	Jessica	Gouge	
CSSN	Jean Jacques	Eddyson	
ABHAA	Deondre	Williams	
Special Agent	Tiffany	Martinez	tiffany.martinez@ ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Danielle	Ortiz	danielle.ortiz@ ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Morgan	Currie	morgan.currie@ ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Ashley	Ullom	ashley.ullom@ ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Jason	Keller	jason.keller@ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Matthew	Miller	matthew.miller@ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Caroline	Robinson	caroline.robinson@ ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Allison	Fox	alison.g.fox.civ@us.navy.mil
Special Agent	Brandon	Moore	brandon.moore@ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Jessica	Gokey	Jessica.Gokey@ ncis.navy.mil
Special Agent	Dara	Elk	dara.elk@ ncis.navy.mil
NCC	Lorenzo	Carter	[redacted]
PSC	Clarissa	Impelidodayoan	
LSC	Robert	Janson	
Mr.	Karl	Morrisette	karl.morrisette@ ncis.navy.mil

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

NEW CENSUS DATA: POPULATION GROWTH REBOUNDS

Last month the U.S. Census Bureau released annual (intercensal) population estimates for 2023. The Hampton Roads metro area's population rose to 1,787,169, an increase of 1,779 residents from the previous year. The latest estimates indicate a positive shift toward pre-pandemic population trends for both the region and the nation as deaths slowed and net migration increased, a sign the pandemic's impact is diminishing. However, some lingering effects of the pandemic continue to shape demographic trends as population growth rates remain well below pre-pandemic levels, illustrating the ongoing nature of the recovery.

As shown in Figure 1, population growth in 2023 increased from the prior year in the United States, Virginia and Hampton Roads. Nationally, the total population increased 0.5% in 2023, a continued rebound from the record low rate of 0.1% recorded in 2021. Since the U.S. Census Bureau estimates the population as of July 1st, 2021 marks the first full year of the pandemic's impact on population growth. In Virginia, population growth edged up from a pandemic low of 0.2% in 2021 to 0.4% in 2023. In Hampton Roads the total population increased 0.1% in 2023, a rebound from a pandemic low in 2022 when the population declined by 0.01%.

While the 2023 estimates show improvement, population growth rates remain below pre-pandemic levels for all three areas. For context, from 2010 to 2019, the population increased at an average annual rate of 0.6% in the United States, 0.7% in Virginia, and 0.3% in Hampton Roads.

Population change in a region can be attributed to three components: the natural change (births minus deaths), net domestic migration (migration between the region and other parts of the country), and net international migration (migration between the region and outside the U.S.). As shown in Figure 2, in 2022, net international migration became the largest contributor to population growth in the region, as deaths and net domestic out-migration increased. The rebound in 2023 was mainly driven by fewer deaths, increasing the natural change in the population, and a decline in net domestic out-migration

Figure 1: Population Change: U.S., Virginia, and Hampton Roads

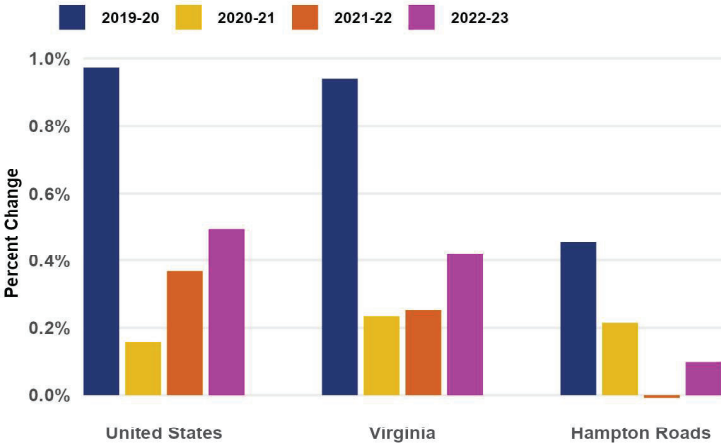
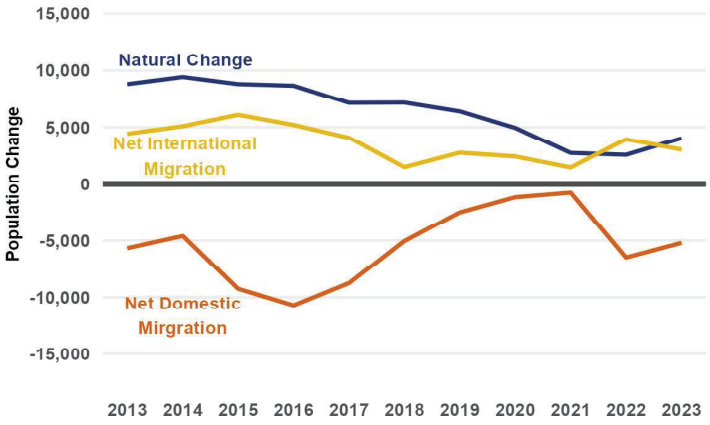


Figure 2: Components of Population Change, Hampton Roads



Data source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Program (PEP). Hampton Roads reflects the Virginia Beach-Chesapeake-Norfolk, VA-NC MSA.

The new census data suggests a gradual return to pre-pandemic population growth trends, though the recovery remains on-going.

** Please note the estimates presented here reflect a potential undercount of the region's population estimates from 2020 forward due to a misreporting of military personnel in the 2020 census count. The HRPDC is currently assisting in a challenge of these census estimates, proceed with caution when analyzing the metro area and local population totals until this issue is resolved.*

An official website of the United States GovernmenHere's how you know

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

Naval Station Norfolk

FPC REPORTING TOUR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

NORFOLK, VA

APRIL 30, 2025



Naval Station Norfolk is a United States Navy base in Norfolk, Virginia, that is the headquarters and home port of the U.S. Navy's Fleet Forces Command (FFC). It is the world's largest naval station, with the largest concentration of U.S. Navy forces through 75 ships alongside 14 piers and with 134 aircraft and 11 aircraft hangars at the adjacently operated Chambers Field.

This one-day tour to Norfolk, Virginia, provided foreign journalists insight into the United States Navy and U.S. efforts to collaborate with allies and train for joint operations. Journalists were able to tour naval ships, capture b-roll footage, explore a guided-missile destroyer (DDG), directly engage with crew, and gain insights into squadron operations.

TAGS

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NORFOLK

'We cannot accept this as the end of the story'; Cause and manner of death for A.R. ruled 'undetermined' by Medical Examiner's Office

SHARE

NORFOLK, Va. (WAVY) – The cause and manner of death for A.R., the Naval sailor who was found dead June 9 after being reported missing May 29, has been reported as "undetermined" according to the Medical Examiner's Office.

Another Naval sailor, Jermiah Copeland, is in pretrial confinement in connection to A.R.'s death.

Navy sailor's high school allegations resurface after murder charge ›

A.R. was last seen around 10 a.m. after an E-7 assigned to the USS James E. Williams saw her while conducting a wellness check on another sailor assigned to the same ship.

Va. senators demand answers into death of A.R. ›

According to a Navy memo, after four days of no contact from A.R. they notified her mother, Esmeralda Castle. According to the memo, "Navy policy requires such a notification to next-of-kin on Day 5 of a Sailor's absence."



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A spokesperson for the family of A.R. sent 10 On Your Side a statement about her cause of death. It reads as follows:

"We have been informed that the official report lists the cause of A.R.'s death as undetermined. Given the condition of her body, we understand why this conclusion was reached by the medical examiner. However, this does not change the fact that V/ A. R. lost her life and was found in a wooded area under circumstances that remain deeply troubling. "Closure cannot come until the truth is revealed, and accountability will [not] take place until the circumstances are fully explained. We cannot accept this as the end of the story." A.R.'s life mattered. She was a beloved daughter, sister, and sailor who proudly served her country. We will continue to honor her memory by seeking truth, justice, and change so that no other family endures this kind of loss."

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL (Expert Consultants)** **Memory & Human Reaction** **Sadistic Sexual Behavior** **Mitigation** **Pathologist** **5 December 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703, the Government respectfully requests that the Court deny Defense's Motion to compel that the convening authority authorize funding for Dr. Reagan Wetherill, a forensic psychologist.

FACTS

Dr. Wetherill – Memory & Human Reaction

1. Between 22 October 2025 and 28 October 2025, Defense submitted 9 requests for expert assistance. Three of those requests were for three different forensic psychologists – Dr. Nameeta Saini, Dr. Reagan Wetherill, and Dr. Jamie Dickson.[1]

2. The Defense requested to fund Dr. Reagan Wetherill's employment as a defense consultant in the field of forensic psychology, "specifically [for] the psychology surrounding a person's fight or flight response and the effect of alcohol on memory."[2]

3. On 5 November 2025, the Government negatively endorsed Defense's request for funding for both Dr. Wetherill and Dr. Dickson citing a lack of necessity.

Dr. Dickson – Sadistic Sexual Behavior

4. On 24 July 2024, ABHAN C.R. was strangled by the Accused on the fantail of the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75).[3]

[1] Encl 1-3;
[2] Encl 2
[3] Encl 4

5. On or about 23 July 2024, two TRUMAN Sailors, ABHAN C.R. and CSSN Copeland exchanged contact information and shortly thereafter CSSN Copeland asked ABHAN C.R. if she wanted to hang out on the mess decks after work.[4]

6. ABHAN C.R. met the Accused on the mess deck in the late evening hours of 23 July 2024, but the Accused changed plans and led ABHAN C.R. to the fantail of the ship.[5]

7. While on the fantail, the two carried on a causal conversation until the Accused turned the conversation to ABHAN C.R.'s boyfriend and her romantic life. He suggested to ABHAN C.R. that she should engage in sexual activity with him to upset her boyfriend. ABHAN C.R. declined.[6]

8. Prior to the strangulation, the Accused asked ABHAN C.R. if she liked to be choked. She denied that she liked to be choked and asked him who told him that. The Accused responded, "nobody."[7]

9. The medical examiner who conducted CS3 A.R.'s autopsy could not eliminate strangulation as a possible cause of death.[8]

10. On 22 October 2025, Defense requested a forensic psychologist, Dr. Jamie Dickson, to consult in sadistic sexual behavior.[9]

11. On 5 November 2025, the Government negatively endorsed Defense's request for an expert in sadistic sexual behavior.

Ms. LaVala- Mitigation

12. On 22 October 2025, Defense requested an expert consultant in mitigation.[10]

13. On 5 November 2025, the Government negatively endorsed Defense's request for funding for an expert consultant in mitigation citing a lack of necessity.

Dr. Banerjee - Pathology

14. On 22 October 2025, Defense requested an expert consultant in pathology.[11]

15. The expert's hourly rate is $850/hour. The estimated total for services in this case is $250,000.[12]

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[4] *Id*.
[5] *Id*.
[6] *Id*.
[7] Encl 5
[8] Encl 6
[9] Encl 2
[10] Encl 7
[11] Enclosure E to AE X
[12] Enclosure E to AE X

16. One 5 November 2025, the Government alerted Defense their request violated service regulations.

17. JAGMAN 0146(l) authorizes compensation for experts in line with compensation paid to experts by U.S. Attorneys. The presumptive rate for a medical doctor is between $275 and $400/hour.[13]

18. The Government made several attempts but has been unable to find an active-duty pathologist able to assist.

19. The Government obtained a list of qualified civilian pathologists and forwarded that list to Defense in order to help facilitate an adequate substitute expert consultant.[14]

20. Until the filing of this motion, the Government was unaware Defense objected to interviewing a substitute pathologist.

BURDEN OF PROOF

The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden of persuasion and the burden of proof on any factual issue, the resolution of which is necessary to decide the motion, by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c)(1)-(2).

LAW

Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 703(d)(2) provides when the "employment of a Defense expert consultant is considered necessary" the Defense may request government funding for that expert "in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned." When raised before the military judge, "[t]he military judge shall determine . . . in the case of an expert consultant, whether the assistance is necessary for an adequate Defense."[15]

JAGMAN 0146(l) states," (1) The convening authority will authorize the employment of an expert consultant or witness and will fix the limit of compensation to be paid such expert based on the normal compensation paid by U.S. Attorneys for attendance of a witness of such standing in U.S. courts in the area involved. Information concerning such normal compensation may be obtained from the nearest GCMCA having a judge advocate assigned in other than an additional duty, temporary duty, or temporary additional duty capacity."

Indeed, the requirement that the government provide for expert consultation stems from the Due Process demand that an accused be given the "basic tools" necessary to present a Defense.[16] The right to expert assistance is triggered upon a demonstration of both necessity, and that denial of expert assistance would "result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[17]

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[13] *See*, Expert Service Provider and Presumptive Rates, https://cand.uscourts.gov/attorneys/criminal-justice-act-cja
[14] See Enclosure G to AE X
[15] R.C.M. 703(d)(2).
[16] *United States v. Short*, 50 M.J. 370, 373 (C.A.A.F. 1999).
[17] *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 458 (C.A.A.F. 2008) (citations omitted).

"An accused is entitled to expert assistance provided by the Government if he can demonstrate necessity."[18] But the mere possibility of assistance is not sufficient to prevail on the request.[19] Instead, the accused has the burden of establishing "that a reasonable probability exists that (1) an expert would be of assistance to the Defense and (2) that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[20] "In order to satisfy the first prong of this test… [t]he Defense must show (1) why the expert is necessary; (2) what the expert would accomplish for the accused; and (3) why Defense counsel is unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert would be able to develop."[21]

"An accused is not, however, entitled to a specific expert of his own choosing."[22]

ARGUMENT

I. Dr. Wetherill – Alcohol and Memory and Human Response

A. Defense fails to explain how Dr. Wetherill would be of assistance because Defense has not demonstrated necessity when a Forensic Psychologist has already been appointed to the Defense Team.

The defense requests Government funding for three separate forensic psychologists—one to conduct a recidivism analysis for sentencing, one to opine on "fight or flight" and the effects of alcohol on memory, and one to address "sadistic sexual behavior." – all unrelated matters, the Accused's risk of recidivism, fight or flight response and the effect on alcohol and memory – both as they pertain to CSSN S.S. and sadistic sexual behavior as it allegedly pertains to ABHAN C.R. The defense provides no clear explanation for why one qualified forensic psychologist cannot competently consult on each of these matters. Because the burden rests squarely with the defense to show that the requested expert assistance is *necessary* for each expert under R.C.M. 703(d), and they have failed to do so, the request for Dr. Wetherill must be denied.

Forensic psychologists routinely provide consultation across multiple domains, including risk assessment, trauma and stress responses, alcohol-related memory effects, and sexual-behavior evaluations. Dr. Sani's curriculum vital describes a myriad of different services she can provide which are not limited only to recidivism analysis[23].

The defense identifies no clinical limitation, no statutory barrier, and no evidentiary rule that prohibits a single expert from addressing these topics. Instead, the defense asserts that multiple experts are required because, in their view, if one expert interviews the accused and later testifies on any other matter, the attorney client privilege and work product doctrine that protects a non-testifying expert consultant will be pierced, and the Government could obtain and introduce the accused's statements. This argument misstates the law.

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[18] *United States v. Gunkle*, 55 M.J. 26, 31 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[19] *Freeman*, 65 M.J. at 458 (citing *United States v. Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005)).
[20] *Freeman*, 65 M.J. at 458.
[21] *United States v. Lloyd*, 69 M.J. 95, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2010).
[22] *Short*, at 373.
[23] Encl 1.

Defense consulting experts are protected by both the attorney–client privilege and the attorney work-product doctrine. The Government has no right to discover statements made by the accused to a consulting expert. Privilege is implicated only if the defense affirmatively chooses to call that expert as a witness, and even then, any waiver is *limited in scope* to the basis of the expert's testimony. There is no rule that simply because an expert interviewed the accused, any testimony by that expert on a wholly unrelated subject opens the door to admission of the accused's statements. The defense's asserted "privilege or work product concern" is unfounded. R.C.M 703 does not entitle the defense to multiple experts merely to facilitate a strategic preference.

Because the Defense has not shown that three experts are necessary, because one appropriately qualified forensic psychologist can consult on all the requested topics, and because the defense's privilege/work product theory as applied to this case is incorrect, the request for Dr. Wetherill, a second forensic psychologist, should be denied.

B. Denial of Defense's Request to Fund Dr. Wetherill Will Not Result in a Fundamentally Unfair Trial

Defense cannot show necessity because they already possess a qualified forensic psychology expert capable of addressing these exact topics. The Defense's existing expert has the training, credentials, and professional expertise to analyze human stress responses, trauma physiology, perception under threat, and the cognitive impact of alcohol. These subjects fall squarely within the skill set of any licensed forensic psychologist.

R.C.M. 703(d) requires the defense to demonstrate why an expert is necessary—not merely helpful, convenient, or strategically advantageous. The defense has not identified any limitation in their current expert's training, experience, or subject-matter competency that would prevent that expert from offering opinions on these issues. Because the defense already has an expert with the requisite expertise, the request for an *additional* forensic psychologist is redundant and unnecessary.

Moreover, the presence of a currently appointed forensic psychology expert defeats any claim that denial of a second expert would result in a fundamentally unfair trial. The Defense already has full access to the very expertise they claim is essential. They can prepare their case, consult on witness behavior, analyze memory issues, and—if they choose—present expert testimony to the members. Due process does not entitle the defense to duplicate experts for strategic impact or to bolster presentation optics by hiring multiple experts in the same area.

Accordingly, because the Defense already possesses an expert fully capable of addressing the topics of stress responses and alcohol's effect on memory, they cannot meet their burden to show necessity under R.C.M. 703(d). Denial of an additional forensic psychologist will not compromise the fairness or integrity of the proceedings.

II. Dr. Jamie Dickson – Sadistic Sexual Behavior

There is no evidentiary basis for sexual-behavior expertise. Any attempt to attribute a predilection for "sexual choking" to the victim is unsupported. Furthermore, it is inadmissible

without proper MRE 412 notice (which Defense has chosen not to provide). However, even with an evidentiary basis and proper notice, this is not a topic that requires expert assistance. Lastly, Defense already has a qualified forensic psychologist who can consult on these topics. For these reasons, the request for an expert in sadistic sexual behavior must be denied.

A. The Defense Has Not Demonstrated Necessity for an Expert in "Sadistic Sexual Behavior"

Defense requests an expert in "sadistic sexual behavior" to develop unspecified "theories" and "potentially testify" at trial. This request is speculative, unsupported by the evidence, and fails to satisfy any of the requirements of R.C.M. 703(d). Defense has not shown why such an expert is necessary, what admissible evidence the expert would address, or why their already-appointed forensic psychologist cannot perform any required consultation.

B. Defense's Theory That the ABHAN C.R. "Liked to Be Choked" Is Unsupported, Inadmissible, and Based Solely on the Accused's Self-Serving Statement

Defense asserts it needs a "sadistic sexual behavior" expert because the Accused asked the victim if she "liked to be choked" and then strangled her. The notion that the victim, ABHAN C.R., engaged in a sadistic sexual behavior is wholly unsupported by the evidence. There is no indication—from witness statements, forensic evidence, prior history, or any other admissible source—that this victim had a sexual interest in choking. Defense appears to agree – otherwise the victim's alleged sexual behavior would have been included in Defense's M.R.E. 412 Notice. It was not. The only "evidence" offered is the accused's own sinister statement, made contemporaneously with the assault. This is not a foundation for expert funding. Additionally, if factual evidence exists to support the claim that ABHAN had a sexual interest in choking, the Defense can gather that evidence and present it without the help of an expert. Expert assistance is simply not required to present that evidence.

C. Even If the Accused Wrongly Believed ABHAN C.R. Enjoyed Strangulation, there is no necessity for a Defense expert.

Even assuming arguendo that a person can consent to strangulation,(a point the Government very much contests)[24] the Defense has failed to establish how an expert is necessary. If the Court were to find that consent is a defense, then evidence of a mistaken belief of consent to support a mistake of fact instruction can be presented through witnesses. An expert is not necessary to present that evidence.

Consent is not a defense to strangulation[25]. Therefore, a mistaken belief as to consent is not relevant as a mistake of fact as to consent would also not be a defense. An expert cannot convert a defendant's subjective, but objectively unreasonable assumption into a legally viable

[24] A person "cannot consent to an act likely to produce grievous bodily harm or death." *United States v. Outhier*, 45 M.J. 236 (C.A.A.F. 1996)(citations omitted). The Government would certainly argue that strangulation is likely to produce grievous bodily harm or death, and thus that consent is not a defense.
[25] *Id.*

justification. The necessity requirement is not met when the proposed expert merely supports an inadmissible, irrelevant, or legally invalid theory.

D. As to the CS3 A.R., There Is No Evidence of Sexual Strangulation or Sexual Kink to Justify Any Expert Assistance

Defense asserts that a "sadistic sexual behavior" expert is necessary because the Government's theory is that CS3 A.R. was also strangled. The Government's theory is based on autopsy findings consistent with strangulation. No evidence exists that CS3 C.R. held a predisposition for sexual kink associated with strangulation. An expert cannot be justified where there is no factual predicate. R.C.M. 703(d) requires necessity grounded in the actual evidence of the case, not in generalized speculation or unsupported theories.

E. Defense Already Has a Forensic Psychologist Capable of Consulting on These Topics

Assuming arguendo, an expert on sexual sadism or sexualized choking were relevant—which it is not—the defense already possesses a forensic psychologist who is fully capable of consulting on these very issues. Forensic psychologists, as a matter of training and practice, routinely address sexual behavior, paraphilic disorders, sadistic patterns, and the relationship between violence and sexualized conduct. Defense has not explained why their current expert is unable to consult or testify on these matters. Under R.C.M. 703(d), the defense must explain why existing resources cannot address the need. They have made no such showing.

III. Ms. LaVer – Sentencing Mitigation

Because the defense has not demonstrated necessity under R.C.M. 703(d), has not shown what an expert would accomplish, has not explained why their exceptionally experienced team cannot gather the same information, the request must be denied.

A. The Defense Has Not Demonstrated that A Mitigation Expert is Necessary

This case was not referred capital. The defense's reliance on *United States v. Kreutzer*[26], is misplaced. *Kreutzer* involved a mass shooting, seventeen wounded victims, a deceased officer, and a capital referral. The ACCA held expert mitigation assistance was necessary because (1) the accused faced the death penalty, and (2) there was significant evidence of mental illness, competency concerns, and potential lack of mental responsibility.

Those conditions are wholly absent here. Defense has not alleged any issue – like the issues present in *Kreutzer* – that makes this case one that requires assistance of a mitigation specialist. Unlike in *Kreutzer*, Defense does not argue the Accused suffers from any mental disease or defect, nor have the requested a R.C.M. 706 evaluation.

B. Defense Has Not Shown Why Its Existing Team Cannot Develop Sentencing Evidence Without Additional Experts

[26] 59 M.J. 773 (A. Ct. Crim. App. 2004)

(1) The Defense Team Consists of Three Senior Military Justice Litigators

Under R.C.M. 703(d), the defense must show why counsel cannot gather or present the evidence themselves. Here, defense merely provides a blanket statement that they cannot and fail to acknowledge the experience level of defense counsel. The accused is represented by three highly experienced defense counsel, including the Deputy Director of the Defense Counsel Assistance Program (DCAP). Each of these counsel have litigated serious cases involving clients facing decades of confinement. They offer no explanation as to why their years of experience, interviewing witnesses and developing sentencing cases is inadequate.

(2) The Defense Team Also Consists of a Highly Regarded Defense Litigation Support Specialist

In addition to three senior counsel, the Defense has a Defense Litigation Support Specialist (DLSS), Ms. Jeanine Badanes[27], assigned to the case. She is a skilled, if not the most skilled, DLSS professional in the Navy, is a licensed attorney, and has extensive experience conducting investigations, interviewing witnesses, obtaining records, and compiling detailed background information.

Her capabilities directly overlap with the mitigation functions the defense now seeks to assign to a funded expert. The presence of such a highly qualified DLSS demonstrates that the defense already possesses the ability to develop precisely the same mitigation evidence they claim cannot be presented without expert funding.

(3) The Defense Has Not Shown What an Expert Would Accomplish That Their Existing Team Cannot

The defense provides no explanation of what specific, specialized tasks an expert would perform that fall outside the abilities of (1) three senior defense attorneys, and (2) a highly experienced DLSS. R.C.M. 703(d) requires this showing. Without it, the request fails.

B. Denial of a Mitigation Expert Will Not Render the Trial Fundamentally Unfair

There is no reasonable probability that denying this expert will result in a fundamentally unfair trial. The defense has not identified any unique factors in this non-capital case that make it different from the myriads of other serious felony level cases each of the counsel has handled previously. The existing defense team is more than capable of preparing and presenting an adequate sentencing case with the personnel already assigned. The Due Process Clause guarantees the "basic tools," not unlimited resources.

IV. Dr. Banerjee - Pathology

[27] See Enclosure K to Def MFAR Change Venue, "I, Jeanine Badanes, have been employed as a Defense Litigation Support Specialist (Defense Investigator) with Defense Service Office Southeast in Norfolk, Virginia, since October 2015.Prior to my current position, I worked as a litigation attorney for 19 years and practiced both civil and criminal law, in State and Federal Courts, most recently as a State prosecutor. Over the past ten (10) years as the defense investigator."

Defense Is Not Entitled to the Expert of Their Choosing—Particularly When They Refuse to Follow the JAGMAN or Engage With the Government to find an Adequate Substitute.

The Defense is not entitled to a specific expert, nor are they entitled to disregard service regulations when requesting expert assistance. Here, the requested pathologist charges a rate that exceeds the maximum compensation authorized by the JAGMAN. The Defense has been aware of this defect in their request since 5 November 2025. The applicable rate for a medical doctor paid by U.S. Attorneys is between $175 and $400 an hour.[28] Yet instead of engaging in any self-help to vet a compliant expert by contacting any of the several qualified pathologists the Government located for them, the Defense has chosen to do nothing to rectify their defective request and asks this Court to ignore service regulations and appoint an expert of their choosing.

The Government is actively engaged in finding Defense an adequate substitute, however, Defense appears to have declined to contact the multiple substitutes provided by the Government; continues to ignore the JAGMAN's explicit instructions on how to determine authorized compensation or even ask the Government for further information on compensation; and then insist that the Court compel the Government to fund the expert who's fee violates service regulations, anyway. The Defense has not even shown that they have engaged with their requested expert about working within existing compensation structure.

The Defense proposed an expert outside of the regulations and has not engaged with suggested substitutes provided by the Government. The Defense should have to engage with these other experts before requesting this Court to order an expert outside of the existing compensation regulations.

Accordingly, the Defense request for this particular pathologist must be denied.

EVIDENCE

Enclosure (1): Request for Dr. Saini,
Enclosure (2) Request for Dr. Wetherill,
Enclosure (3) Request for Dr. Dickson
Enclosure (4) NCIS Summary of Interview– ABHAN C.R. dtd 6 Aug 24
Enclosure (5) Transcript Excerpts – ABHAN C.R. NCIS Interview dtd 6 Aug 24
Enclosure (6) R.C.M. 701 Disclosure – Dr. Lameira
Enclosure (7) Request for Ms. LaVala
Enclosure (8) Request for Dr. Banerjee

RELIEF REQUESTED

[28] See, Expert Service Provider and Presumptive Rates, https://cand.uscourts.gov/attorneys/criminal-justice-act-cja

The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to compel expert assistance as discussed above.

ORAL ARGUMENT

The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 5th day of December 2025.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

22 Oct 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Trial Counsel

Subj: EXPERT CONSULTANT REQUEST IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN – RECIDIVISM ANALYSIS

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST. amend. VI
(b) Article 46, Uniform Code of Military Justice
(c) Rule for Courts-Martial 703, M.C.M. (2019 ed.)
(d) Military Rule of Evidence 502, M.C.M. (2019 ed.)
(e) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68 (1985)
(f) *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451 (C.A.A.F. 2008)
(g) *United States v. Gonzalez,* 39 M.J. 459 (C.A.A.F. 1994)
(h) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572 (N.M.C.C.A. 1990)

Encl: (1) CV of Dr. Nameeta Sahni, Psy.D.
(2) Fee Schedule of Dr. Nameeta Sahni, Psy.D.

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), CSSN Jermiah Copeland, through counsel, requests the appointment of a confidential forensic psychologist specializing in psychosexual evaluation, sex offender rehabilitation, and recidivism to assist in his defense. Specifically, CSSN Copeland requests that you appoint Dr. Sahni as a representative of the defense so that any communications between her, CSSN Copeland, and defense counsel will be privileged pursuant to reference (d) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. **Background**:

CSSN Copeland is charged with four specifications of violations of Article 120 (sexual assault), a violation of Article 128 (assault consummated by a battery), two specifications of violations of Article 120c (indecent recording/broadcasting), three specifications of violations of Article 131b (obstruction of justice), two specifications of violations of Article 128b (domestic violence), two specifications of violations of Article 107 (false official statement), and a violation of Article 118 (premeditated murder). If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole.

Dr. Sahni is a licensed and well-credentialed forensic psychologist with over 20 years of experience. Over the course of her career, she has interviewed and evaluated offenders and in many cases made recommendations about their future risk to society.

3. **Supporting Law**:

The Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees court-martial defendants a

right to the effective assistance of counsel.[1] This includes "the right to present a defense by means of confrontation, cross-examination and going forward with a presentation of [his or her] own evidence." Military due process entitles a service member to the assistance of an expert when necessary for the preparation of an adequate defense."[2]

More specifically, the government must provide expert assistance for the defense when there exists: "a reasonable probability that (1) an expert would be of assistance to the defense and (2) that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[3]

The first prong is established when the accused demonstrates the following: "(1) why the expert assistance is needed; (2) what the expert assistance would accomplish for the accused; and (3) why the defense counsel [is] unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistance would be able to develop."[4]

Even if a defense expert consultant does not become an expert witness, such a consultant may still assist the defense in evaluating, identifying and developing evidence.[5]

4. **Reasoning**:

a. *Expert assistance in the field of psychosexual evaluation and recidivism risk assessment is needed to explore and develop that CSSN Copeland is a low risk to commit crimes in the future.*

If convicted, CSSN Copeland has the right to present evidence in extenuation and mitigation to the sentencing authority. This evidence could include an expert opinion that CSSN Copeland is a low risk to society generally. Any such evidence would be a solid basis to adjudicate a lower sentence than CSSN Copeland might otherwise receive without this evidence.

b. *Expert assistance in the field of psychosexual evaluation and recidivism risk assessment is the only way for CSSN Copeland to develop and ultimately present the critical evidence described above. This expert assistance requested creates the scientifically-valid basis for testimony that CSSN Copeland is a low risk to commit future offenses.*

Dr. Sahni will complete a full recidivism risk analysis. This includes administering several psychological exams, as well as conducting collateral interviews and a review of pertinent evidentiary material. The results of Dr. Sahni's evaluation will be analyzed and explained (possibly via an extensive written report) to allow defense counsel to ascertain if and how to use Dr. Sahni's findings. Depending on the outcome of the psychological testing, Dr. Sahni will also be able to testify as to CSSN Copeland's low risk of committing other offenses.

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[1] *United States v. Allen,* 31 M.J. 572, 623 (N-M.C.C.A. 1990).
[2] *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288 (C.M.A. 1986).
[3] *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 458 (C.A.A.F. 2008).
[4] *Id.*
[5] *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005).

c. *Defense counsel cannot conduct psychological tests nor ultimately testify to the results in court.*

Forensic psychological testing of CSSN Copeland will require a qualified and licensed psychologist trained and experienced in conducting these professional evaluations. Lawyers cannot ethically or practically conduct such tests on their own. Additionally, if the defense decides to use the results of the testing described above, only a qualified expert like Dr. Sahni is competent to testify to the findings at trial. There is no way to develop the necessary psychological evidence demonstrating a low risk of recidivism without the expert assistance requested.

d. *Denial of the requested expert assistance would deprive CSSN Copeland of his right to fully explore relevant and compelling evidence in extenuation and mitigation should he need to present a pre-sentencing case. This would result in a fundamentally unfair trial.*

CSSN Copeland has the constitutional right to present a defense. This includes presenting and challenging evidence at presentencing proceedings.[6] If there is credible, scientifically sound evidence that CSSN Copeland is a low-risk to society, he must be permitted to explore if and how to present that evidence to the sentencing authority. This evidence would most certainly bear strongly on the issue of any potential sentence, should CSSN Copeland be convicted. CSSN Copeland cannot investigate, develop, or present this important defense without access to the requested expert assistance. Therefore, denying his request ultimately denies him the right to put on his case.

5. **Proposed Expert Consultant and Fees**:

The defense has estimated the following fees:

Expense	Rate	Total
30 hours pretrial consultation	$450/hour	$13,500.00
Evaluation of CSSN Copeland	$4,500.00	$4,500.00
Presence at trial – 21 days	$4,500.00/day	$94,500.00
Dr. Sahni's travel expenses in accordance with the JTR	TBD	TBD

Therefore, the defense requests a **total authorization of approximately $112,500.00**, not including travel expenses, to be reimbursed in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulations, for the services described above.

The defense further requests that the expert consultant be viewed as a member of the defense team such that all communications between the expert consultant and the accused and his counsel will be viewed as confidential. The defense further requests that the government not have any conversations or other interaction with the requested expert consultant in relation to this case except for any administrative communications in securing their assistance for the defense. The defense understands this limitation may be removed if the defense eventually desires to have

[6] *Garries*, 22 M.J. 288 (citing *Ake*, 470 U.S. 58).

the expert testify in the case.

6. Thank you for your careful consideration of this request. If I may provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly by phone at 850-452-5572, or by email at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

NAMEETA SAHNI, PSY.D.

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EDUCATION AND LICENSING

PROFESSIONAL LICENSE- STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ADMITTED JANUARY 2007

ALLIANT INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (AIU)/CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY (CSPP)
Doctorate in Clinical Psychology Awarded November 2004 (Psy.D.) — San Diego, CA
Dissertation Title: Perceptions of Those Left Behind: An Exploration of Family Dynamics Within Military Reservist Families During the 2003 Iraq Wartime Deployment

ALLIANT INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (AIU)/CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY (CSPP)
Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology Awarded June 2002 (M.A.) — San Diego, CA

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY (VIRGINIA TECH) — Blacksburg, VA
Bachelor of Science in Psychology Awarded May 2000 (B.S.)

RECENT/CURRENT FORENSIC AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2021-current **PARTNER, AXON (AXON AID) FAMILY FIRST PROGRAM**
Mental health expert consultant for Axon's first-ever wellbeing initiative. — Scottsdale, AZ

2020-current **POLICE PSYCHOLOGIST, POLICE & FIRE PSYCHOLOGY, APC (PRESIDENT)**
Forensic evaluator responsible for public safety pre-employment evaluations. — San Diego, CA
Major Responsibilities: Pre-employment psychological/fitness-for-duty evaluations for various public safety candidates (police officers, firefighters, paramedics, EMTs and dispatchers) for various law enforcement/fire departments and fitness for duty evaluations.

2020-current **FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST, FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATES, APC (PRESIDENT)**
Private practice conducting criminal/civil forensic evaluations. — San Diego, CA
Areas of expertise: Sex-offending, violence risk assessments, severe mental disorders, personality issues, child/family matters and statutory-based evaluations (pursuant to WIC 6600, PC 1026, PC 2962/2972 and PC 1368).
Major Responsibilities: Forensic evaluator with experience providing expert testimony and trial strategy in military, criminal, family law and civil matters. Work includes

2014-2020 **POLICE PSYCHOLOGIST, INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL EVALUATIONS**
Forensic evaluator responsible for pre-employment and arming evaluations. — San Diego, CA
Major Responsibilities: Pre-employment psychological screening/evaluation of pre-employee candidates for various law enforcement and emergency personnel agencies and fitness for duty evaluations.

2007-2020 **FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST, CALIFORNIA FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATES (CFPA, OWNER)**
Private practice conducting criminal/civil forensic evaluations. — San Diego, CA
Areas of expertise: Sex-offending, violence risk assessments, severe mental disorders, personality issues, child/family matters and statutory-based evaluations (pursuant to WIC 6600, PC 1026, PC 2962/2972 and PC 1368).
Major Responsibilities: Forensic evaluator with experience providing expert testimony and trial strategy in military, criminal, family law and civil matters. Work includes trial strategy and work as a trial consultant, affirmative defense, independent review work, topic-specific expert testimony, and professional consultation on a variety of forensic topics. Scope of practice also includes trial preparation, evaluations to inform sentencing and to address statutory criteria in various civil/criminal proceedings, as well as expert testimony and consultation on appellate and courts martial/U.S. military cases (multiple branches) as well as member panel selection for courts martial.

RECENT PRIOR FORENSIC AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE (CONT'D.)

2007-2020 **EVALUATOR- CA DEPT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION – FORENSIC ASSESSMENT DIVISION** Sacramento, CA
Forensic evaluator responsible for psychological evaluations of life-term inmates.
Major Responsibilities: Conduct evidence-based clinical risk assessments on inmates with indeterminate life sentences, which are provided to the Board of Parole Hearings in order to assist them in parole suitability decisions. Additional duties have included clinical supervision, consultation and training of new evaluators (as requested). Clinical supervision and training has included training on the risk factors for violence, training on risk assessment tools, field training and clinical supervision, and reviewing risk assessment evaluations. Assisted in the development and implementation of this division's first Peer Review process in order to create a quality review process. Fulfilled Acting Senior Psychologist responsibilities and was primarily responsible for supervising mental health/risk assessment evaluations.

2014-2016 **INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR, LIBERTY HEALTHCARE, INC. (CONDITIONAL RELEASE PROGRAM)**
Forensic evaluator responsible for community placement suitability evaluations. Coalinga, CA
Major Responsibilities: Conducting periodic status reports on patients civilly committed to Coalinga State Hospital as Sexually Violent Predators (SVPs) pursuant to WIC §6604-6609.3 for suitability in community placement

2010-2012 **CONTRACT EVALUATOR, COALINGA STATE HOSPITAL (CSH)**
Forensic evaluator responsible for annual update evaluations of Sexually-Violent Predators (SVP's) hospitalized under WIC 6604-6609.3. Coalinga, CA
Major Responsibilities: Conducted evidence-based clinical risk assessments on SVP's civilly committed to state hospital. Testimony offered as needed, and evaluations focused

2009 **CONTRACT EVALUATOR, GATEWAYS CONDITIONAL RELEASE PROGRAM (CONREP)**
Forensic evaluator responsible for psychological evaluations of Mentally-Disordered Offenders (MDO's) and individualized hospitalized under PC 1026 (Not Guilty by Reason Of Insanity). Los Angeles, CA
Major Responsibilities: Completed progress evaluations addressing civilly-committed patients' progress in treatment and appropriateness to be released from a maximum-security state hospital and returned to the conditional release program in the community.

2007-2008 **SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH (CMH) - ON-CALL DOCTOR** San Luis Obispo, CA
On-call psychologist for after-hours seclusion and restraint coverage.
Major Responsibilities: Provide after-hours seclusion and restraint orders for CMH. Clinical assessments conducted with individuals deemed to be a danger to themselves or others, and least-restrictive interventions are authorized.

2005 – 2007 **CA. DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH- ATASCADERO STATE HOSPITAL (ASH) STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST.** Atascadero, CA
Unit psychologist within ASH; unit housed approximately 50 men committed pursuant to PC 1026 and 2962/2972.
Major Responsibilities: All psychological care of residents on treatment unit, including individual and group therapy. Primary responsibilities included forensic work to address the clinical and legal needs of unit residents, including forensic report preparation, and court testimony. Psychological testing was conducted, as needed. Responsibilities included treatment team participation and consultation with other clinicians, as needed. Additional administrative and clinical responsibilities as medical staff, as needed.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

2021-current **INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY (ID) NETWORK** New York, NY
SIGNS OF A PSYCHOPATH: Recurring Episodes Starting in Season 3

2023 **THE CW NETWORK** New York, NY
CRIME NATION: Premiere Season- Episodes 1 and 10, Airing Starting February 2024

2022 **OXYGEN NETWORK** New York, NY
SNAPPED: Season 31- Episodes 15 and 24

2021 **OXYGEN NETWORK** New York, NY
BLACK WIDOW MURDERS: Mini Series- Episode 5

2021 **AXON'S FAMILY FIRST MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING INITIATIVE** Scottsdale, AZ
ALWAYS ON: Released May 2021

2021 **INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY (ID) NETWORK- DISCOVERY PLUS** New York, NY
TALKING EVIL: Season 1- Recurring Episodes, Released February 2021

PRIOR FORENSIC AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2004 – 2005 **UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER (UCMC) – POST-DOCTORAL PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANT.** San Diego, CA
Provided both group and individual therapy to inpatient adults as well as inpatient prisoners in hospital's behavioral-health and/or medical-surgical unit, psychological testing, and training to pre-doctoral interns as lead intern.
Major Responsibilities: Facilitated group therapy ranging from clinical assessment to psychoeducation (anger management, interpersonal skills, substance abuse, and relaxation), individual short-term therapy, and psychological testing as ordered. Responsibilities included providing individual treatment to detainee/inmate population admitted to the hospital for psychiatric symptoms. Lead intern also responsible for administrative duties related to scheduling, training, etc. of department staff. Additional responsibilities included participation in county-wide disaster drill preparedness, as well as preparations for the hospital's Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (J.C.A.H.O.) and Department of Health Services (DHS) surveys.

2003-2004 **CENTER FOR APPLIED BEHAVIOR SERVICES (CABS) FAMILY CENTER – PSYCHOLOGY INTERN.** San Diego, CA
Provided court-ordered mediation, custody evaluations, and parent evaluations for Family Court Services- County of San Diego.
Major Responsibilities: Psychological testing, clinical interviewing, assessments from observational interviews, collecting collateral data, writing up comprehensive psychological evaluation of data, including report and clinical recommendations for family court services and ongoing contact with attorneys and/or judges involved in cases.

2002 - 2003 **UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER (UCMC) - PSYCHOLOGY INTERN.** San Diego, CA
FORMERLY VILLA VIEW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
Provided both group and individual therapy to inpatient adults in hospital's behavioral-health unit (BHU), emergency room consultation, and psychological testing.
Major Responsibilities: Facilitated group therapy ranging from clinical assessment to psychoeducation (anger management, interpersonal skills, substance abuse, and relaxation), individual short-term therapy, psychological testing as ordered, psychoeducation for emergency room medical staff, and emergency room consultation.

PRIOR FORENSIC AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE (CONT'D.)

2001 - 2002 **SOCIAL ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH (SAY)- COUNSELING INTERN.** San Diego, CA

Provided both short-term and long-term therapy to child clients and their families.

Major Responsibilities: Clinical intakes, assessment and service plan development of clients. Therapy consisted of various treatment modalities, with an emphasis on family systems and family therapy. Case presentation experience included use of family genograms.

2002 - 2003 **CENTER FOR AUTISM RESEARCH & EVALUATION SERVICES (CARES) – TUTOR.** San Diego, CA

Provided behavior modification through the use of discrete trial.

Major Responsibilities: In-home tutor for children diagnosed with autism and/or other developmental delays.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

2019 **U.S. NAVY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS DEFENSE SERVICES OFFICE PACIFIC** Yokosuka, Japan

Psychological Considerations and Use of Forensic Experts Including Expert Selection

2014 **U.S. NAVY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS DEFENSE SERVICES OFFICE WEST** San Diego, CA

Psychological Considerations and Use of Forensic Experts

PUBLICATIONS

2000 **AABT (ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF BEHAVIOR THERAPY) NOV. 2000- FIRST AUTHOR** New Orleans, LA

Effects of the Affective Valence of Abusive Male Behavior and Women's Abuse History on Attributions and Affective Responses Toward Male Abuse.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2003 – 2004 **CSPP TEACHING ASSISTANT (T.A.) FOR GRADUATE COURSES** San Diego, CA

Advanced Ethics and Professional Issues & Projective Personality Testing courses.

Major Responsibilities: Aided professors in administration and grading of course assignments, including written and oral vignettes, and final exams. Taught weekly Rorschach testing lab and developed in-class assignments. Answered student questions regarding course material, as well as provided student academic support and mentorship, and general assistance to professors.

2000-2001 **CSPP- RESEARCH ASSISTANT TO KRISTINE BRADY, PH.D.** San Diego, CA

Conducted data collection and analyses for doctoral candidates.

Major Responsibilities: Accountability for study screenings and data coding, as well as researching articles for professor.

1998 - 2000 **VIRGINIA TECH PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT - RESEARCH ASSISTANT** Blacksburg, VA

Study team lead- study attempted to isolate specific traits and factors that lead to abuse in college courtship.

Major Responsibilities: Overall accountability for study execution and completion, including creating research design, training and leading research teams, screenings, and data analysis.

RELEVANT TRAININGS

CA COMISSION ON PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING (POST), CERTIFIED PRE-EMPLOYMENT EVALUATOR
40-HR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CERTIFICATION, STATE OF CALIFORNIA (South Bay Community Services, Chula Vista, CA)
HCR-20 VERSION 3 TRAINING (Kevin Douglas, Ph.D., Sacramento, CA)
HCR-20 TRAINING (Stephen Hart, Ph.D., Sacramento, CA)

RELEVANT TRAININGS (CONT'D.)

CERTIFIED HARE PSYCHOPATHY CHECKLIST- REVISED (PCL-R) EVALUATOR (multiple)
CERTIFIED IN THE ADMINISTRATION AND SCORING OF THE LS/CMI (Susan Storm, LMFT, Sacramento, CA)
STATIC-99 TRAINING (Amy Phenix, Ph.D., Coalinga, CA)
STATIC-99R TRAINING (David Thornton, Ph.D., Atascadero, CA)
STRUCTURED RISK ASSESSMENT (SRA) TRAINING (David Thornton, Ph.D., Atascadero, CA)
MnSOST-R TRAINING (Doug Epperson, Ph.D., Atascadero, CA)
40-HR CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATION TRAINING (Neil Ribner, Ph.D. & Russ Gold, Ph.D., San Diego, CA)
12-HR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR CUSTODY EVALUATORS TRAINING (N. Ribner, Ph.D. & R. Gold, Ph.D., San Diego, CA)
8-HR ANNUAL UPDATE TRAINING FOR CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATORS (multiple)
4-HR ANNUAL UPDATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING FOR CUSTODY EVALUATORS (multiple)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2022-current	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CHIEFS OF POLICE (IACP), MEMBER
2021-current	SOCIETY FOR POLICE AND CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY, MEMBER
2021	ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS (ATSA), CLINICAL ASSOCIATE MEMBER
2019-2020	SAN DIEGO PSYCH-LAW SOCIETY, MEMBER
2015-2020	SAN DIEGO PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (SDPA), MEMBER
2014-2018	SOCIETY FOR POLICE AND CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY, MEMBER
2013-2018	INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS FOUNDATION, INC. (ICISF), MEMBER
2013-2018	ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS (ATSA), CLINICAL ASSOCIATE MEMBER
2006-2014	CENTRAL COAST PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (CCPA), MEMBER
2010-2012	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CORRECTIONAL AND FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY, MEMBER
2008-2012	CALIFORNIA COALITION ON SEXUAL OFFENDING, MEMBER
2008-2012	AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, MEMBER
2008-2011	FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, SUSTAINING MEMBER
2008-2011	CALIFORNIA PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, MEMBER
2008-2009	AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CORRECTIONAL AND FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATES, APC
NAMEETA SAHNI, PSY.D.
CLINICAL/FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST • CA LICENSE # PSY21294
(619) 606-4643

2024
JAGC FEE SCHEDULE

ALL PRE-TRIAL WORK (Incl. discovery review, consultation, evaluation)	$450/hour
IN-PERSON CONSULTATION DAYS	$4,500/day
TRIAL DAYS	$4,500/day

TRAVEL-RELATED EXPENSES*

Hotel	Federal Rate
Daily Per Diem (if greater than 24 hrs)	Federal Rate
Travel Rate	
(CONUS)	$950/day
(OCONUS)	$2,500/day

*Dr. Sahni Arranges Independent Airfare (But Understands Reimbursement will be no more than the allowable Government Rate)

PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS TO DR. SAHNI AT THE PHONE NUMBER LISTED ABOVE, OR VIA EMAIL (DRSAHNI@FORENSICPSYCH.EXPERT)

24 Oct 25

From: LCDR Clifton E. Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Office of the Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: EXPERT CONSULTANT REQUEST IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN – FIGHT OR FLIGHT

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST. amend. VI
(b) Article 46, Uniform Code of Military Justice
(c) Rule for Courts-Martial 703, M.C.M. (2019 ed.)
(d) Military Rule of Evidence 502, M.C.M. (2019 ed.)
(e) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68 (1985)
(f) *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451 (C.A.A.F. 2008)
(g) *United States v. Gonzalez,* 39 M.J. 459 (C.A.A.F. 1994)
(h) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572 (N.M.C.C.A. 1990)

Encl: (1) CV of Dr. Reagan Wetherill
(2) Fee Schedule of Dr. Reagan Wetherill

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), the defense counsel for CSSN Copeland respectfully requests government funding for an expert consultant in the field of forensic psychology, specifically the psychology surrounding a person's fight or flight response and the effect of alcohol consumption on memory. Specifically, CSSN Copeland requests that you appoint Dr. Wetherill as a representative of the defense so that any communications between her, CSSN Copeland, and defense counsel will be privileged pursuant to reference (d) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. CSSN Copeland is charged with four specifications of violations of Article 120 (sexual assault), a violation of Article 128 (assault consummated by a battery), two specifications of violations of Article 120c (indecent recording/broadcasting), three specifications of violations of Article 131b (obstruction of justice), two specifications of violations of Article 128b (domestic violence), two specifications of violations of Article 107 (false official statement), and a violation of Article 118 (premeditated murder). If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole.

3. A military accused is entitled to expert assistance in the form of expert consultation "to aid in the preparation of his Defense upon a demonstration of necessity…and that denial of an expert would result in a fundamentality unfair trial." *United States v. Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005); R.C.M. 703(d). Under Article 46, UCMJ, the Defense may request expert consultants to assist the Defense in "evaluating, identifying, and developing evidence," as well as to "test and challenge the Government's case." *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F 2005). The right to present evidence guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment, Article 46, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 703 "necessarily includes the right to prepare." *United States v. Allen*, 31

M.J. 572, 623 (N-M.CM.R. 1990). Consequently, a military member is entitle[d]…to the assistance of an expert when necessary to the preparation of an adequate defense." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986). The right to an "adequate defense" includes "preparation for cross-examination" of Government witnesses well "as presentation of an expert defense witness." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Durant*, 545 F.2d 823, 827 (2d Cir. 1976)). Thus, a Defense expert's assistance as a consultant before trial and during trial may in part be justified by the consultant's ability to provide assistance in preparing the Defense for the presentation of expert testimony. *Id.*

4. To demonstrate "necessity" as required by R.C.M. 703, the Defense must show "more than the 'mere possibility of assistance from a requested expert' . . . " *Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005). "The accused must show that a reasonable probability exists 'both that an expert would be of assistance to the defense and that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial.'" *Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005). In order to demonstrate the first prong of that test—that a reasonable probability exists that an expert would be of assistance to the Defense—the Defense must explain: "'(1) why the expert is necessary; (2) what the expert would accomplish for the accused; and (3) why defense counsel is unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert would be able to develop.'" *United States v. Hennis*, 79 M.J. 370, 382-83 (C.A.A.F. 2020) (quoting *United States v. Lloyd*, 69 M.J. 95, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (emphasis in original).

5. As delineated in enclosure (1), Dr. Wetherill is a board-certified clinical psychologist with an expertise in clinical and experimental research involving alcohol and the physiological effects on the brain and memory. The evidence in this case raises significant questions that may likely be explained by a comprehensive understanding of the body's immediate "fight or flight" response to any given situation or startling event. Moreover, the allegations involving CSSN S.S. contain the alleged victim having blackouts. Dr. Wetherill's extensive education and experience in forensic psychology makes her participation indispensable to CSSN Copeland's defense and perfecting a case on the merits. The defense is aware of no government substitute that could address the specific nature of the defense's need to the level of knowledge and expertise as Dr. Wetherill.

6. Additionally, based on how defense anticipates the evidence will be presented at trial, defense counsel effectiveness and ability to present a logical defense, through cross and direct examination, will be limited without assistance of Dr. Wetherill. The defense is not an expert in this subject matter. Defense counsel has not received any formal training in psychology. Nor does defense counsel have the necessary time or ability to develop such and expertise prior to trial. This type of evidence requires a level of knowledge the defense does not possess, and cannot gain in a few weeks or even months of study. Furthermore, defense is unable to present this evidence to members without the assistance of an expert witness.

7. Based on the fee schedule in enclosure (2), defense requests twenty (20) hours for pre-trial consultancy at a cost of $8,000.00. Additionally, the Defense requests Dr. Wetherill's presence at

trial (21 days), and one day of trial preparation, for a total of 22 days ($4,000/day x 22 days) at a cost of $88,000.00. **The total amount requested by defense is approximately $96,000.00**, in addition to travel expenses in accordance with Joint Travel Regulations. The defense will submit an additional request if more time is needed.

8. The defense requests that this expert be assigned as a consulting member of CSSN Copeland's defense team, such that all communication between the accused, defense counsel, and the expert are privileged and confidential pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 502. The defense further requests that the government refrain from any substantive contact with this expert. It is understood that this limitation may be removed if the defense ultimately desires to have Dr. Wetherill testify as an expert witness in this case.

9. Thank you for your careful consideration of this request. If I may provide any additional information, I am available at (757) 341-4486 or clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil to answer any questions about this request.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III

Reagan R. Wetherill, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist

BIOGRAPHICAL

Business address:

Reagan Wetherill, Ph.D.
Department of Psychiatry
Perelman School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania
3535 Market Street, Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Email: rweth@pennmedicine.upenn.edu
Office: 215-746-3953

EDUCATION

Graduate: University of Texas at Austin, Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology (APA approved), August 2010
Dissertation: Alcohol-Induced Blackouts: Associated Memory Processes and Neural Correlates
Mentors: Kim Fromme, Ph.D. and David M. Schnyer, Ph.D.

University of Texas at Austin, Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology (APA approved), June 2006
Mentor: Kim Fromme, Ph.D.

Undergraduate: Vanderbilt University
B.S. Neuroscience, May 2002

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

2012 – present Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Pennsylvania State Board of Psychology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020 – present	Director, Molecular Imaging and Neuroimaging Division of the Center for Studies of Addiction, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry
2019 – present	Assistant Director, PennPACE Clinical Core, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Departments of Psychiatry & Radiology
2023 – present	Associate Professor, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
2013 – 2023	Assistant Professor, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry
2012 – 2013	Postdoctoral Researcher, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry
2010 – 2012	Postdoctoral Fellow, University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
2009 – 2010	Clinical Psychology Intern, Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System/University of California, San Diego School of Medicine

CONSULTING AND EXPERT WITNESS EXPERIENCE (does not include cases that were settled, dismissed, or alternate dispositions)

2023	US v Bulcao (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Knox, KY)
2023	US v Gjergo (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Sill, OK)
2023	Horocofsky v. City of Lawrence, Kansas (Civilian Case, Lawrence, KS)
2023	US v. Lanham (General Court-Martial, Fort Drum Army Base, NY)
2023	US v. Reyes (General Court-Martial, Norfolk Naval Base, VA)
2023	US v. Fink (General Court-Martial, Norfolk Coast Guard, VA)
2023	State of Washington v. Jadin Ramirez (Civilian Case, Ephrata, WA)
2023	US v. Harrington (General Court-Martial, Fort Polk Army Base, LA)
2023	US v. Nenni (General Court-Martial, Alameda Coast Guard Island, CA
2022	US v. Valle (General Court-Martial, Grand Forks Air Force Base, ND)
2022	US v. Castro (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Sill, OK)
2022	US v. Cummings (General Court-Martial, Norfolk Naval Base, VA)
2022	US v. Mertens (General Court-Martial, Naval Base Guam)
2022	US v. Alfaro (General Court-Martial, Army Camp Humphreys, South Korea)
2022	US v. Winton (Special Court-Martial, Washington DC Navy Yard)
2022	Cass County v. Smith (Civilian Case, Fargo, ND)
2022	University of Indiana Urbana-Champaign Title IX case (Civilian Case, Champaign, IN)
2021	US v. Taylor (General Court-Martial, MacDill AFB, Tampa, FL)
2021	US v Mendoza (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Riley, Kansas)
2021	Conduct Investigation – CDT Gordon (United States Military Academy, West Point, NY)
2021	US v Jobes (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, NC)
2021	US v Jones (General Court-Martial, Naval Station Bremerton, WA)
2021	US v Metcalf (General Court-Martial, United States Coast Guard Station Boston, MA)
2021	US v Swisher (General Court-Martial, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, SC)
2021	US Naval Academy Administrative Separation – Midshipmen Currie (Annapolis, MD)
2020	US v Ramento (General Court-Martial, Naval Station Bremerton, WA)
2020	US v Browning (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Carson, CO)
2020	US v Villa (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Carson, CO)
2020	US v Hicks (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Hood, TX)
2020	US v Hamilton (General Court-Martial, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA)
2020	US v Keago (General Court-Martial, United States Naval Academy, Navy Yard, Washington DC)
2020	US v Yepez (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Hood, TX)
2020	US v Arenas (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Hood, TX)
2019	US v Long (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Carson, CO)
2019	US v Campbell (General Court-Martial, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, OH)
2019	US v Motus (General Court-Martial, Fort Meade, MD)
2019	State of Kansas v. Horocofsky (Civilian Case, Kansas City, MO)
2018	US Center for SafeSport v. Rice (Civilian Case, Denver, CO)
2018	US v Brown (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Carson, CO)
2018	US v Goodman (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Carson, CO)
2018	US v Nabors (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, NC)
2017	US v McDonald (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Gordon, Augusta, GA)
2017	UC Berkeley Title IX Investigation and Hearing (Berkeley, CA)

2016 US v Marquez (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Benning, GA)
2016 US v Rivera (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Benning, GA)
2016 US v Chavez (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Bliss, TX)
2016 US v Torres-Jimenez (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Riley, KS)
2016 Stanford University Title IX Investigator and Hearing (Palo Alto, CA)
2015 US v Cash (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Bliss, TX)
2015 US v Magnus (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Bliss, TX)
2015 US v Reeder (General Court-Martial, Army Kaiserslautern, Kleber Kaserne, Germany)
2015 US v Mitchell (General Court-Martial, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA)
2014 US v McClure (General Court-Martial, Army Fort Bliss, TX)
2014 Drexel University Title IX Investigation and Hearing (Civilian Case, Philadelphia, PA)
2014 US v Fuentes (General Court-Martial, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI)
2014 US v Welch (General Court-Martial, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan)
2014 US v Sanchez (General Court-Martial, USCG Base Alameda, CA)
2013 US v Peters (General Court-Martial, Army Garrison Bamberg, Germany)

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

2021 - present **Member**, Abramson Cancer Center, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

2015 – present **Member**, Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

2013 – present **Member**, David J. Mahoney Institute of Neurological Science, University of Pennsylvania

2013 – present **Member**, Center for Functional Neuroimaging, University of Pennsylvania

ACADEMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEES

2018 – present **Member**, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry Strategic Planning Committee, Environment Team

2017 – present **Member**, Center for Studies of Addiction Data Safety Monitoring Board

2017 – 2019 **Director**, Center for Studies of Addiction Seminar Series

2013 – present **Member/Mentor**, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Biomedical Postdoctoral Research Council

2016 – present **Member**, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry Faculty Search Committee

AWARDS AND HONORS

2020 Outstanding Field Editor Award, *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*
2018 Annual Field Editors' Award, *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*
2016 - 2018 Alcohol Medical Scholars Program Award, University of California, San Diego
2014 Early Career Investigator Travel Award, College on Problems of Drug Dependence
2013 Women & Sex/Gender Junior Investigator Travel Award, National Institute on Drug Abuse
2011 - 2013 Loan Repayment Program Award, National Institutes of Health

2011	Junior Investigator Travel Award, Research Society on Alcoholism
2010	Outstanding Dissertation Award, University of Texas at Austin
2008	Fellowship for Academic Excellence, University of Texas at Austin
2005 – 2010	Student Merit Award, Research Society on Alcoholism
2004 – 2010	Fred Murphy Jones & Homer Lindsey Bruce Endowed Graduate Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin
2004 – 2010	Endowed Graduate Fellowship, Waggoner Center for Alcohol and Addiction, University of Texas at Austin
2002 – 2003	Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award, National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Drug Abuse

ELECTED OFFICES AND COMMITTEES

2019 – 2022	**Program Committee,** College on Problems of Drug Dependence
2014 – 2016	**Industry, Academia, and Government Relations Committee,** College on Problems of Drug Dependence
2012 – 2014	**Travel Awards/Mentorship Committee,** College on Problems of Drug Dependence

GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEES

2023	Ad-hoc Member, NIH Neurotoxicology and Alcohol (NAL) Study Section
2022	Ad-hoc Member, NIH Neural Basis of Psychopathology, Addictions and Sleep Disorders (NPAS) Study Section
2021	Ad-hoc Member, NIDA Neurobiology of Motivated Behavior (NMB) Study Section
2019	Ad-hoc Member, Marie Sklodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) Review Group, Universite libre de Bruxelles
2019	Chair, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group EITN
2015 – 2018	Ad-hoc Member, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Brody Family Trust Grant Review Group
2018	Chair, NIDA Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group ZRG1 ETTN-L (50)
2018	Ad-hoc Member, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group ZRG1 PSE-B (64) C
2017	Chair, NIDA Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group ZRG1 ETTN-L (51)
2015 – 2017	Ad-hoc Member, Penn Center for AIDS Research Pilot Grant Program Review Group
2016	Ad-hoc Member, NIDA Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group ZRG1 ETTN-L (54)
2016	Ad-hoc Member, University of Wisconsin Research Growth Initiative Grant Review Group

EDITORIAL BOARDS/POSITIONS

2022 – present	**Associate Editor,** *Frontiers in Psychiatry – Addictive Disorders*
2017 – present	**Field Editor**, *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*
2021 – present	**Editorial Board**, *Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging*
2021 – present	**Editorial Board**, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports*

Ad Hoc Reviewer (past 5 years):

Addiction Biology, Addiction, Journal of Addiction Medicine, Biological Psychiatry, Drug and Alcohol Dependence, JAMA Psychiatry, Memory, European Journal of Neuroscience, Behavioral Brain Research, Journal of Psychiatry and Neuroscience, Pain Practice, Pharmacology, Biochemistry, and Behavior, Journal of

Abnormal Psychology, Neuroimage, Neuropsychopharmacology, Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research, Nicotine and Tobacco Research

ORGANIZING ROLES IN SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

2019 – 2022 **Program Committee**, College on Problems of Drug Dependence
2019 **Symposium Co-Chair**, College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Antonio, Texas
2018 **Symposium Co-Chair**, American Psychological Association, San Francisco, California
2017, 2018 **Program Review**, Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco,
2015 **Symposium Chair**, Research Society on Alcoholism, San Antonio, Texas
2014 **Program Review**, Research Society on Alcoholism, Bellevue, Washington
2008 **Symposium Co-Chair**, American Psychological Association, Boston, Massachusetts

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

2003 – present Research Society on Alcoholism
2012 – present College on Problems of Drug Dependence
2016 – present Research Society on Marijuana
2017 – present American Psychological Association
2006 – 2012 International Neuropsychological Society

CURRENT FUNDED GRANTS

2020 – 2025 National Institute on Drug Abuse, UG1DA050209, A Clinical Laboratory with Integrated Neuroscience (CLIN) for Early Evaluation of Medications for Substance Use Disorders, $2,661,656, K.Kampman/A. Childress (MPIs)
Role: Co-Investigator

2019 – 2024 National Institute on Drug Abuse, P30DA046345, Penn PET Addiction Center of Excellence (Penn PACE), $7,421,303, R. Mach/H. Kranzler (MPIs)
Role: Clinical Core Assistant Director

COMPLETED GRANTS

2019 – 2023 National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, R21HL144673, Using PET to Measure Pulmonary Oxidative Stress in E-cigarette Users, $383,204, R. Wetherill (PI)
Role: Principal Investigator

2018 – 2022 National Institute of General Medical Sciences, R44GM130195, Brainaware: Interactive Digital Psychoeducation for Adolescents and Young Adults with Substance Use Disorders, $530,425, K. Schleisman (PI)
Role: Site Principal Investigator

2016 – 2022 National Institute on Drug Abuse, R01DA040670, Influence of the Natural Hormonal Milieu on Perfusion fMRI Smoking Cue Responses, $2,375,661, R. Wetherill (PI)
Role: Principal Investigator

2015 – 2022 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, K23AA023894, Effectiveness of Topiramate: Characterizing Individual Differences, $855,562, R. Wetherill (PI)
Role: Principal Investigator

2018 – 2019	Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics' (ITMAT) Transdisciplinary Program in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics Pilot Grant, Measuring Pulmonary Oxidative Stress in E-cigarette Users and Smokers with PET, $50,000, R. Wetherill (PI) Role: Principal Investigator
2016 – 2019	PNC Charitable Trust Grant, Hormones, The Brain, And Behavior: Examining The Causes And Effects Of Alcohol Use And Relapse In Women, $37,999, R Wetherill (PI) Role: Principal Investigator
2017	Foundation for Alcoholism Research, Baclofen for Alcohol Dependence, $14,000, R. Wetherill (PI) Role: Principal Investigator
2011 – 2015	National Institute on Drug Abuse, R01DA029845, Characterizing a Cue-Vulnerable Endophenotype in Smokers, $1,221,313, T. Franklin (PI) Role: Co-Investigator
2011 – 2015	Pennsylvania Department of Health/Commonwealth Universal Research Enhancement Program, CURE Addiction Center of Excellence: Brain Mechanisms of Relapse and Recovery, $6,000,000, A. Childress/T. Franklin/D. Langleben (MPIs) Role: Co-Investigator
2003 – 2008	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, F31AA017022, The Etiology of Fragmentary Blackouts: Memory Processes and Neural Activations, $68,492, R. Wetherill (PI) Role: Principal Investigator

MAJOR ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES

2022	Lecturer, "Neurobiology of Addiction: Influence of Biological Sex and Hormones", Addiction: Understanding how we get hooked and how we recover (HSOC 0311-301), University of Pennsylvania
2021	Lecturer, "Marijuana", Brain & Behavior Course for MS1s, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
2021	Lecturer, "Using PET Imaging to Examine Oxidative Stress in E-cigarette Users", Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry
2019	Lecturer, "Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Study of Topiramate's Effects", Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds
2019	Lecturer, "Cannabis, Cannabis Use Disorder, & Treatment", Brain & Behavior Course for MS1s, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
2018	Lecturer, "Translational Models of Reward-Motivation in Smoking Behavior", Summer at Penn Neuroscience Research Academy, University of Pennsylvania
2018	Lecturer, "Cannabis and Cannabis Use Disorder", Brain & Behavior Course for MS1s, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
2017	Lecturer and Consultant, "Alcohol, Memory, and Alcohol-Induced Blackouts: Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Violence Implications", Office of the Sexual Violence Investigator Officer Annual Panel Member Training, University of Pennsylvania

2017	Lecturer, "Sex Differences in Nicotine Use Disorder", Center for Studies of Addiction, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
2017	Lecturer, "Brain Mechanisms of Topiramate's Effects on Heavy Drinking", Department of Psychiatry Research Trainee Event, University of Pennsylvania
2016	Lecturer and Consultant, "Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Violence", Office of the Sexual Violence Investigator Officer Annual Panel Member Training, University of Pennsylvania
2016	Lecturer, "Influence of Sex on Neural Processing in Nicotine Use Disorder", Center for Studies of Addiction, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry
2015	Lecturer, "Acute Effects of Alcohol on the Brain and Alcohol-Induced Blackouts", Center for Studies of Addiction, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry
2014	Lecturer, "Neural Features of Cannabis Use Disorder", Center on Studies of Addiction, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
2011	Proctor, "Clinical Foundations" Integrated Scientific Core Curriculum Course for MS1s, University of California, San Diego School of Medicine

INVITED TALKS

2021	"The Influence of Sex and Hormones on Reward-Related Responses and Behavior", Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut
2021	"Alcohol Use and the Brain", Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2019	"Alcohol-Induced Blackouts: What Happened? How Did We Get Here?", Association of Title IX Administrators (ATIXA), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2019	"Further Exploration into the Influence of Sex and Hormones on Cigarette Smoking Cue Reactivity", College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Antonio, Texas
2019	"Classifying and Characterizing Nicotine Use Disorder with High Accuracy Using Machine Learning and Resting-State fMRI", College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Antonio, Texas
2018	"Sex Differences in Brain Reactivity to Smoking Cues: Consensus across Sites and Methodologies", American Psychological Association, San Francisco, California
2018	Discussant for "Sex Differences in the Nicotine Addicted Brain---Translational Implications" symposium, American Psychological Association, San Francisco, California
2018	"Alcohol-Related Blackouts: Clinical Phenomena & Potential Genetic Influences", Research Society on Alcoholism, San Diego, California
2018	"Sex Differences in Nicotine Use Disorder: Findings from Neuroimaging", Research Institute on Addictions, Buffalo, New York
2018	"Use of Neuroimaging to Explore Sex Differences in Nicotine Use Disorder", National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Rockville, Maryland
2017	"Sex Differences in Nicotine Use Disorder: Findings from Neuroimaging", University of Vermont, Vermont Center on Behavior and Health, Burlington, Vermont

2017	"Addiction as a Brain Disease: Sex Differences in Nicotine Use Disorder", University of Connecticut Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Farmington, Connecticut
2017	"Alcohol, Memory, and Alcohol-Induced Blackouts: Title IX Implications", Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
2017	"The impact of sex on brain responses to smoking cues: replication in a new cohort", College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Montreal, Canada
2017	"Resting-state rCBF in Cigarette Smokers: Sated vs Withdrawal States", Society of Biological Psychiatry, San Diego, California
2017	"Influence of Sex and Ovarian Hormones on Neural Processing in Nicotine Use Disorder", Columbia University School of Medicine, New York, New York
2017	"Addiction as a Brain Disease: What Every PCP Should Know About SUDs", Keynote Address at the 10th Annual Conference on Primary Care and Child/Adolescent Psychiatry: Teens and Substance Abuse, Reading, Pennsylvania
2017	"Addiction as a Brain Disease: What Everybody Should Know About SUDs", 10th Annual Conference on Primary Care and Child/Adolescent Psychiatry: Teens and Substance Abuse, Reading, Pennsylvania
2016	"The Influence of Sex on Neural Processing in Cannabis Use Disorder", American Psychological Association, Denver, Colorado
2016	"Age of Onset of Marijuana Use and Neural Responses to Backward-masked Marijuana Cues: Shifts in Striatal Activity." National Institutes of Health Marijuana Summit, Bethesda, Maryland
2015	"Influence of Sex on Neural Processing of Subliminal Cannabis Cues in Cannabis Use Disorder (CUD): Implications for Treatment Strategies", American Psychological Association, Toronto, Ontario
2015	"What Happened and Why? Predictors and Consequences of Alcohol-Induced Blackouts", Research Society on Alcoholism, San Antonio, Texas
2013	"Sex Differences in Neural Responses to Smoking Cues: A Perfusion fMRI Study", College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Diego, California

PUBLICATIONS

1. Ashare, R. L., Turay, E., Worster, B., Wetherill, R.R., Bidwell, L.C., Doucette, A., Meghani, S.H. Social determinants of health associated with how cannabis is obtained and used in patients with cancer receiving care at a cancer treatment center in Philadelphia. *Cannabis*; 6(2):1-12, Jul 2023.

2. Wetherill, R.R., Dubroff, J. Reply: Molecular imaging of pulmonary inflammation: claiming that vaping is more harmful than smoking is unsupported. *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*; 64(6):995, Jun 2023.

3. Ely, A.V., Wetherill R.R. Reward and inhibition in obesity and cigarette smoking: neurobiological overlaps and clinical implications. *Physiology and Behavior*; 260:114049, Mar

2023.

4. Wetherill, R.R., Doot, R.K., Young, A.J., Lee, H., Schubert, E.K., Wiers, C.E., Leone, F.T., Mach, R.H., Kranzler, H.R., Dubroff, J.G. Molecular imaging of pulmonary inflammation in electronic and combustible cigarette users: a pilot study. *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*; online ahead of print, Jan 2023.

5. Raval, N.R., Wetherill, R.R., Wiers, C.E., Dubroff, J.G., Hillmer, A.T.: Positron emission tomography of neuroimmune responses in humans: insights and intricacies. *Seminars in Nuclear Medicine* 53(2):213-229, Mar 2023.

6. Franklin, T.R., Spilka, N.H., Keyser, H., Maron, M., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R.: Impact of the natural hormonal milieu on ventral striatal responses to appetitive cigarette smoking cues: a prospective longitudinal study. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* 5:100119, Nov 2022.

7. Doot, R.K., Young, A.J., Nasrallah, I.M., Wetherill, R.R., Siderowf, A., Mach, R.H., Dubroff, J.G.: [18F]NOS PET brain imaging suggests elevated neuroinflammation in idiopathic parkinson's disease. *Cells* 11(19):3081, Sep 2022.

8. Regier, P.S., Gawrysiak, M.J., Jagannathan, K., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R.: Trauma exposure among cannabis use disorder individuals was associated with a craving-correlated non-habituating amygdala response to aversive cues. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* 5:100098, Sep 2022.

9. Daviet, R., Aydogan, G., Jagannathan, K., Spilka, N., Koellinger, P.D., Kranzler, H.R., Nave, G., Wetherill, R.R.: Associations between alcohol consumption and gray and white matter volumes in the UK biobank. *Nature Communications* 13(1): 1175, March 2022.

10. Ekhtiari, H., Zare-Bidoky, M., Sangchooli, A., Janes, A., Kaufman, M.J., Oliver, J., Prisciandaro, J.J., Wüstenberg, T., Anton, R.A., Bach, P., Baldacchino, A., Beck, A., Bjorks, J., Brewer, J., Childress, A.C., Claus, E., Courtney, K., Ebrahimi, M., Filbey, F., Ghahremani, D., Azbari, P.G., Goldstein, R., Goudrian, A., Grodin, E., Hamilton, P., Hanlon, C.A., Hasani Abharian, P., Heinz, A., Joseph, J.E., Kiefer, F., Khojasteh-Zonoozi, A., Kober, H., Kuplicki, R., Li, Q., London, E.D., McClernon, J., Noori, H., Owens, M., Paulus, M., Perini, I., Potenza, M., Potvin, S., Ray, L., Schacht, J., Seo, D., Sinha, R., Smolka, M.N., Spanagel, R., Steele, V., Stein, E., Loeber, S.L., Tapert, S., Verdejo-Garcia, A., Vollstaedt-Klein, A., Wetherill, R., Wilson, S., Witkiewitz, K., Yuan, K., Zhang, X., Zilverstand, A.: A methodological checklist for fMRI drug cue reactivity studies: Development and expert consensus. *Nature Protocols* 17(3): 567-595, March 2022.

11. Ely, A.V., Jagannathan, K., Spilka, N., Keyser, H., Rao, H., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R.: Exploration of the influence of body mass index on intra-network resting-state connectivity in chronic cigarette smokers. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 227: 108911, October 2021.

12. Delgado, M.K., Shofer, F., Wetherill, R.R., Curtis, B., Hemmons, J., Spencer, E., Branas, C., Wiebe, D., Kranzler, H.R.: Accuracy of consumer marketed smartphone-paired alcohol breath testing devices: A laboratory validation study. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* 45: 1097-1099, May 2021.

13. Wetherill1, R.R., Spilka, N., Maron, M., Keyser, H., Jagannathan, K., Ely, A., Franklin, T.R.: Influence of the natural hormonal milieu on brain and behavior in women who smoke cigarettes: Rationale and methodology. *Contemporary Clinical Trials Communications* 21: 100738, February 2021.

14. Regier, P., Jagannathan, K., Franklin, T., Wetherill, R., Langleben, D., Gawrysiak, M., Kampman, K., Childress, A.R.: Sustained brain response to repeated drug cues is associated with worse drug-use outcomes. *Addiction Biology* 26(5): e13028, September 2021.

15. Wetherill, R.R., Spilka, N., Jagannathan, K., Morris, P., Romer, R., Pond, T., Lynch, K.G., Franklin, T.R., Kranzler, H.R.: Effects of topiramate on neural responses to alcohol cues in treatment-seeking individuals with alcohol use disorder: preliminary findings from a randomized, placebo-controlled trial. *Neuropsychopharmacology* 46: 1414-1420, July 2021.

16. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Spilka, N.H., Keyser, H., Ely, A.V., Rao, H., Janes, A.C., Wetherill, R.R.: Smoking-induced craving relief relates to increased DLPFC-striatal coupling in nicotine-dependent women. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 221: 108593, April 2021.

17. Aydogan, G., Daviet, R., Karlsson, R., Linnér, R.K., Harel, T.A., Kable, J.W., Kranzler, H.R., Wetherill, R.R., Ruff, C.C., Koellinger, P.D., Nave, G.: Genetic underpinnings of risky behavior relate to altered neuroanatomy. *Nature Human Behavior* 5: 787-794, June 2021.

18. Ketcherside, A., Jagannathan, K., Dolui, S., Hager, N., Spilka, N., Nutor, C., Rao, H., Franklin, T., Wetherill, R.R.: Baclofen-induced changes in the resting brain modulate smoking cue reactivity: A double-blind placebo-controlled functional magnetic resonance imaging study in cigarette smokers. *Clinical Psychopharmacology & Neuroscience* 18: 289-302, May 2020.

19. Li, X., Pan, Y., Fang, Z., Lei, H., Zhang, Z., Shi, H., Ma, N., Raine, P., Wetherill, R., Kim, J., Wan, Y., Rao, H.: Test-retest reliability of brain responses to risk-taking during the balloon analogue risk task. *NeuroImage* 209: 116495, April 2020.

20. Ely, A., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Ketcherside, K.A., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R.: Double jeopardy: Comorbid obesity and cigarette smoking are linked to neurobiological alterations in inhibitory control during smoking. *Addiction Biology* 25: e12750, March 2020.

21. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Ketcherside, A., Spilka, N., Wetherill, R.R.: Menstrual cycle phase modulates responses to smoking cues in the putamen: Preliminary evidence for a novel target. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence 198*: 100-104, May 2019.

22. Ashare, R.L., Wetherill, R.R.: The intersection of sex differences, tobacco use, and inflammation: implications for psychiatric disorders. *Current Psychiatry Reports 20*(9): 75, August 2018.

23. Wetherill, R.R., Rao, H., Hager, N., Wang, J., Franklin, T.R., Fan, Y.: Classifying and characterizing nicotine use disorder with high accuracy using machine learning and resting-state fMRI. *Addiction Biology 24*: 811-821, July 2019.

24. Allen, A., Howe, C., Weinberger, A., Wetherill, R., McKee, S.: Oral contraceptives and cigarette smoking: A review of the literature and future directions. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research 21*(5):592-601, April 2019.

25. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Fang, Z., Wong, J., Childress, A.R., Detre, J.A., Rao,

H., Wetherill, R.R.: Brain substrates of early (4 hour) cigarette abstinence: Identification of treatment targets. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence 182*: 78-85, January 2018.

26. Regier, P.S., Monge, Z.A., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R., Teitelman, A., Jagannathan, K., Suh, J.J., Wang, Z., Young, K.A., Gawrysiak, M., Langleben, D.D., Kampman, K.M., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Emotional, physical and sexual abuse are associated with a heightened limbic response to cocaine cues. *Addiction Biology 22*: 1768-1777, November 2017.
27. Dumais, D.M., Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Gawrysiak, M., Betts, J., Farmer, S., Guthier, E., Pater, H., Janes, A.C., Wetherill, R.R.: Multi-site exploration of sex differences in brain reactivity to smoking cues: Consensus across sites and methodologies. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence 178*: 469-476, September 2017.
28. Wetherill, R.R., Hager, N., Jagannathan, K., Mashhoon, Y., Pater, H., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Early versus late onset of cannabis use: Differences in striatal response to cannabis cues. *Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research 1*(1): 229-233, October 2016.
29. Wetherill, R.R., Hager, N., Guthier, E., Franklin, T.R.: Gram years: a method to standardize and quantify lifetime cannabis use. *Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research 1*(1): 216-217, September 2016.
30. Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Maron, M., Franklin, T.R.: Influence of menstrual cycle phase on resting-state functional connectivity in naturally cycling, cigarette-dependent women. *Biology of Sex Differences 7*: 24, May 2016.
31. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Alcohol-induced blackouts: A review of recent clinical research with practical implications and recommendations for future studies. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 40*(5): 922-935, May 2016.
32. Wetherill, R.R., Franklin, T.R., Allen, S.S.: Ovarian hormones, menstrual cycle phase, and smoking: a review with recommendations for future studies. *Current Addiction Reports 3*(1): 1-8, March 2016.
33. Kranzler, H.R., Armeli, S., Wetherill, R.R., Feinn, R., Tennen, H., Gelernter, J., Covault, J., Pond, T.: Self-efficacy mediates the effects of topiramate and GRIK1 genotype on drinking. *Addiction Biology 21*(2): 450-459, March 2016.
34. Wetherill, R.R., Fang, Z., Jagannathan, K., Childress, A.R., Rao, H., Franklin, T.R.: Cannabis, cigarettes, and their co-occurring use: Disentangling differences in default mode network functional connectivity. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence 153*: 116-123, August 2015.
35. Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Sex differences in associations between cannabis craving and neural responses to cannabis cues: Implications for treatment. *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology 23*(4): 238-246, August 2015.
36. Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Childress, A.R., Rao, H., Franklin, T.R.: Cannabis, cigarettes, and their co-occurring use: Disentangling differences in gray matter volume. *International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology 18*(10): pyv061, June 2015.
37. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Johnson, B., Kelly, S., Langguth, J., Mumma, J., Childress, A.R.: Influence of menstrual cycle phase on neural and craving responses to appetitive smoking cues in naturally cycling females. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research 17*(4): 390-397, April 2015.
38. Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R., Hager, N., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Limitations of the use

of the MP-RAGE to identify morphometric biomarkers: recent cigarette smoking alters gray matter indices in the ventral striatum. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience 8*: 1-3, January 2015.

39. Kranzler, H.R., Wetherill, R.R., Feinn, R., Pond, T., Gelernter, J., Covault, J.: Posttreatment effects of topiramate treatment for heavy drinking. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 38*(12): 3017-3023, December 2014.

40. Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Johnson, B., Mumma, J., Rao, H., Childress, A.R.: The effects of chronic cigarette smoking on gray matter volume: influence of sex. *PLoS One 9*(8): e104102, August 2014.

41. Wetherill, R.R., Childress, A.R., Jagannathan, K., Bender, J., Young, K.A., Suh, J.J., O'Brien, C.P., Franklin, T.R.: Neural responses to subliminally presented cannabis and other emotionally evocative cues in cannabis-dependent individuals. *Psychopharmacology 231*: 1397-1407, April 2014.

42. Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Shin, J., Franklin, T.R.: Sex differences in resting state neural networks of nicotine-dependent cigarette smokers. *Addictive Behaviors 39*(4): 789-792, April 2014.

43. Young, K.A., Franklin, T.R., Roberts, D.C., Jagannathan, K., Suh, J.J., Wetherill, R.R., Wang, Z., Kampman, K.M., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Nipping cue reactivity in the bud: baclofen prevents limbic activation elicited by subliminal drug cues. *Journal of Neuroscience 34*(14): 5038-5043, April 2014.

44. Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Lohoff, F.W., Ehrman, R., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Neural correlates of attentional bias for smoking cues: modulation by variance in the dopamine transporter gene. *Addiction Biology 19*(2): 294-304, March 2014.

45. Wetherill, R.R., Squeglia, L.M., Yang, T.T., Tapert, S.F.: A longitudinal examination of adolescent response inhibition: neural differences before and after the initiation of heavy drinking. *Psychopharmacology 230*(4): 663-671, December 2013.

46. Wetherill, R.R., Tapert, S.F.: Adolescent brain development, substance use, and psychotherapeutic change. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors 27*(2): 393-402, June 2013.

47. Wetherill, R.R., Young, K.A., Jagannathan, K., Shin, J., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: The impact of sex on brain responses to smoking cues: a perfusion fMRI study. *Biology of Sex Differences 4*: 9, April 2013.

48. Wetherill, R.R., Castro, N., Squeglia, L.M., Tapert, S.F.: Atypical neural activity during inhibitory processing in substance-naïve youth who later experience alcohol-induced blackouts. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence 128*(3): 243-249, March 2013.

49. Squeglia, L.M., Pulido, C., Wetherill, R.R., Jacobus, J., Brown, G.G., Tapert, S.F.: Brain response to working memory over three years of adolescence: influence of initiating heavy drinking. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs 73*(5): 749-60, September 2012.

50. Wetherill, R.R., Schnyer, D.M., Fromme, K.: Acute alcohol effects on contextual memory BOLD response: differences based on fragmentary blackout history. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 36*(6): 1108-15, June 2012.

51. Squeglia, L.M., Sorg, S.F., Schweinsburg, A.D., Wetherill, R.R., Pulido, C., Tapert, S.F.: Binge drinking differentially affects adolescent male and female brain morphometry. *Psychopharmacology 220*(3): 529-39, April 2012.

52. Wetherill, R.R., Bava, S., Thompson, W.K., Boucquey, V., Pulido, C., Yang, T.T., Tapert, S.F.: Frontoparietal connectivity in substance-naïve youth with and without a family history of alcoholism. *Brain Research 1432*: 66-73, January 2012.

53. Fromme, K., Wetherill, R.R., Neal, D.J.: Turning 21 and the associated changes in drinking and driving after drinking among college students. *Journal of American College Health 59*(1): 21-7, 2011.

54. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Acute alcohol effects on narrative recall and contextual memory: an examination of fragmentary blackouts. *Addictive Behaviors 36*(8): 886-9, August 2011.

55. Stappenbeck, C.A., Quinn, P.D., Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Perceived norms for drinking in the transition from high school to college and beyond. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs 71*(6): 895-903, November 2010.

56. Wetherill, R.R., Neal, D.J., Fromme, K.: Parents, peers, and sexual values influence sexual behavior during the transition to college. *Archives of Sexual Behavior 39*(3): 682-94, June 2010.

57. Brister, H.A., Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Anticipated versus actual alcohol consumption during 21st birthday celebrations. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs 71*(2): 180-3, March 2010.

58. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Subjective responses to alcohol prime event-specific alcohol consumption and predict blackouts and hangover. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs 70*(4): 593-600, July 2009.

59. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Alcohol use, sexual activity, and perceived risk in high school athletes and non-athletes. *The Journal of Adolescent Health 41*(3): 294-301, September 2007.

60. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Perceived awareness and caring influences alcohol use by high school and college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors 21*(2): 147-54, June 2007.

EDITORIALS/BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Franklin, T.R., Mumma, J., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Childress, A.R.: Morphometric Biomarkers of Addiction and Treatment Response. Neuroimaging and Psychosocial Addiction Treatment. Feldstein-Ewing, S.W., Witkiewitz, K., Filbey, F.M. (eds.). Palgrave Macmillan, Page: 111-124, 2015.

2. Wetherill, R.R., Tapert, S.F.: Neural Circuitry and Neurocognitive Development. The Oxford Handbook of Adolescent Substance Abuse. Zucker, R., Brown, S. (eds.). 1(1), March 2016 Notes: DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199735662.001.0001

ABSTRACTS/SELECTED POSTERS

1. Wiers, C.E., Gonzales, L., Young, A., Byanyima, J., Li, X., Doot, R., Vesslee, S., Weyl, R., Glogowska, K., Shi, Z., Wetherill, R.R., Pond, T., Koob, G.F., Volkow, N.D., Pawlosky, M.T., King, M.T., Kranzler, H.R., Dubroff, J., Vendruscolo, L.F.: Effects of a single-dose ketone ester on alcohol consumption and brain glucose metabolism in rats and humans. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* 46:63, Sept 2022.

2. Wetherill, R.R., Doot, R., Keyser, H., Young, A., Lee, H., Schubert, E.K., Kranzler, H.R., Mach, R.H., Dubroff, J.G.: Pulmonary inflammation in e-cigarette users, cigarette smokers, and healthy

controls: A [18F]NOS PET imaging study. Presented at the Virtual Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, June 21, 2021.

3. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Keyser, H., Spilka, N., Ely, A.V., Rao, H., Wetherill, R.R.: Impact of the natural hormonal milieu on brain responses to appetitive smoking cues. Presented at the Virtual Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, June 23, 2021.
4. Ely, A.V., Jagannathan, K., Spilka, N., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R.: The influence of BMI on intra-network resting-state connectivity in cigarette smokers. Presented at the Annual Meeting of The Obesity Society, Virtual Meeting, November 3, 2020.
5. Doot, R.K., Young, A.J., Dominguez, T.L., Helili, Z., Keyser, H., Goodarz, J., Li, S., Lee, H., Schubert, E.K., Mach, R.H., Wetherill, R.R., Dubroff, J.G.: Blood pool selection for quantifying lung inflammation via [18F]NOS uptake in nicotine users and healthy humans. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging, June 15, 2020.
6. Wetherill, R.R., Spilka, N., Morris, P., Romer, D., Jagannathan, K., Pond, T., Kranzler, H.R.: Topiramate attenuates neural responses to alcohol cues: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled pharmacogenetic study in European-American heavy drinkers. Presented at the 58th Annual Meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Orlando, Florida, December 9, 2019.
7. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Ketcherside, K.A., Spilka, N., Keyser, H., Rao, H., Wetherill, R.R.: Influence of Sex and Hormones on Brain and Behavioral Responses to Smoking Cues, a Major Relapse Predictor. Presented at the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences Annual Conference, Washington DC, May 6, 2019.
8. Wetherill, R.R., Spilka, N., Jagannathan, K., Darnley, S., Ketcherside, K.A., Franklin, T.R..: Fluctuations in ovarian hormones influence neural responses to smoking cues. Presented at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, San Francisco, California, February 22, 2019.
9. Childress, A.R., Jagannathan, K., Regier, P., Suh, J., Ehrman, R., Darnley, S., Berkowitz-Sturgis, E., Monge, Z., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R., Langleben, D., Young, K., Gawrysiak, M., Szucs-Reed, R., Kampman, K., O'Brien, C.: The amygdala gets what the amygdala wants": Amygdalar activation by 6 second cocaine videos predicts relapse, and fully mediates outcome prediction by the positive affective bias to implicit cocaine cues. Presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Diego, California, June 11, 2018.
10. Ketcherside, A., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Pelosi, D., Darnley, S., Yang, N., Rao, H., Detre, J., Dolui, S., Franklin, T., Wetherill, R.: Lighting up: Neural responses to cigarette smoking Presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Diego, California, June 11, 2018.
11. Ely, A.V., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Pater, H., Childress, A.R., Wetherill, R.R., Franklin, T.R.: Hypoactivation of cognitive control brain regions in obese smokers during smoking cue exposure. Oral presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Obesity Society, Washington, D.C., November 2, 2017.
12. Wetherill, R.R., Rao, H., Franklin, T.R., Fan, Y.: Pattern classification identified large scale functional networks altered by nicotine use. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Organization of Human Brain Mapping, Vancouver, Canada, June 25, 2017.
13. Dumais, K., Wetherill, R., Franklin, T., Janes, A.: Sex differences in default mode network

suppression during exposure to smoking cues in nicotine-dependent individuals. Oral presentation at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Montreal, Canada, June 22, 2017.

14. Childress, A.R., Jagannathan, K., Regier, P., Darnley, S., Suh, J.J, Young, K., Franklin, T.R., Monge, Z., Wetherill, R.R., Berkowitz-Sturgis, E., Gawrysiak, M., Langleben, D.D., Szucs-Reed, R., O'Brien, C.P.: When passion persists: cocaine patients exhibit "mesolimbic persistence" to 33 msec drug cue that is both medication-sensitive and positively correlated with years of prior cocaine use. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Hollywood, Florida, December 6, 2016.

15. Hager, N., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Regier, P., Mashhoon, Y., Pater, H., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Switching gears: shifts in reward function associated with age of onset of mj use. Presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, California, June 13, 2016.

16. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Wetherill, R.R., Rao, H., Pater, H., Childress, A.R.: Losing balance: time course of smoking cue-elicited neural activity. Presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, California, June 13, 2016.

17. Childress, A.R., Jagannathan, K., Regier, P., Suh, J., Monge, Z., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R., Young, K.A., Darnley, S., Gawrysiak, M., Langleben, D., Kampman, K.M., O'Brien, C.P.: When bigger isn't better: widespread brain activation during attempted inhibition of the response to 6 sec cocaine video cues predicts poor drug use outcomes. Presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, California, June 13, 2016.

18. Wetherill, R.R., Hager, N., Jagganathan, K., Maron, M., Pater, H., Guthier, E., Childress, A., Franklin, T.R.: Menstrual cycle phase effects on neural responses and cigarette craving in naturally cycling, cigarette-dependent women. Presented at the 10th Annual Meeting of the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 25, 2016.

19. Wetherill, R.R., Hager, N., Mashhoon, Y., Jagannathan, K., Franklin, T.R.: Age of onset of marijuana use and neural responses to backward-masked marijuana cues: shifts in striatal activity. Presented at the Marijuana and Cannabinoids: A Neuroscience Research Summit Meeting, Bethesda, Maryland, March 22, 2016.

20. Childress, A.R., Jagannathan, K., Regier, P., Monge, Z.A., Franklin, T.R., Suh, J.J., Wetherill, R.R., Young, K.A., Langleben, D.D., Ehrman, R.N., Wang, Z., Gawrysiak, M., O'Brien, C.P.: Too Much of a Good thing? A Heightened Brain Response to 6 Second Cocaine Video Cues Predicts Poor Drug Use Outcomes in Treatment-seeking Cocaine Patients. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Hollywood, Florida, December 7, 2015.

21. Monge, Z., Suh, J.J., Ehrman, R., Jagannathan, K., Wang, Z., Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R., Childress, AR.: Your Attention, Please! The Direction of Brain-Attentional Bias Correlations for Cocaine Cues Depends on which Hand Generates the Bias Scores. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Washington, D.C., November 17, 2015.

22. Monge, Z.A., Jagannathan, K., Suh, J., Ehrman, R., Wang, Z., Franklin, T., Wetherill, R.R., Young, K.A., Gawrysiak, M.J., Langleben, D., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: A higher hill to climb! Older cocaine-addicted patients viewing 500 msec cocaine cues have reduced activation of modulatory circuits and increased activation of motivational circuits. Poster presented at the

77th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Phoenix, Arizona June 18, 2015.

23. Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Hager, N., Suh, J., Childress, A.R.: Neural correlates of attentional bias for cannabis cues: Influence of sex. Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Phoenix, Arizona, June 18, 2015.

24. Childress, A.R., Jagannathan, K., Suh, J., Monge, Z.A., Young, K.A., Wang, Z., Franklin, T.R., Langleben, D., Li, Z., Kampman, K.M., Wetherill, R.R., Ehrman, R., Gawrysiak, M.J., Szucs-Reed, R., O'Brien, C.P.: Dangerous liaisons: Heightened intra-limbic connectivity during subliminal cocaine cues is a relapse-vulnerable endophenotype. Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Phoenix, Arizona, June 18, 2015.

25. Hager, N., Dubroff, J., Langguth, J., Kelly, S., Hager, N., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R., Suh, J., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Recent smoking versus overnight abstinence alters dopamine transporter availability. Presented at the Penn Medicine Neuroscience Center Symposium, Genetics of Brain Disorders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania May 8 2015.

26. Hager, N., Franklin T.R., Jagannathan, K., Suh, J.J., Childress, A.R., Wetherill, R. R.: Associations between cannabis craving and neural responses to cannabis cues: Implications for treatment. Presented at the 13th Annual Meeting of the Mahoney Institute for Neurological Science, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 1, 2015.

27. Monge, Z. A., Joefield, D. S., Suh, J. J., Ehrman, R. N., Jagannathan, K., Wang, Z., Franklin, T. R., Wetherill, R., Young, K., Gawrysiak, M., Langleben, D. D., O'Brien, C. P., Childress, A. R.: How do you really feel? Cue-induced brain activity can predict implicit attitudes towards drug use in cocaine-dependent patients. Presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 6, 2015.

28. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Johnson, B., Kelly, S., Langguth, J., Mumma, J., Childress, A.R.: Influence of menstrual cycle phase on neural and craving responses to appetitive smoking cues in naturally cycling females. Presented at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Research Annual Pre-meeting workshop entitled 'Moving Beyond "Mice to Men": Innovations in Translational Gender-Sensitive Tobacco Research', Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 25, 2015.

29. Franklin, T.R., Dubroff, J., Langguth, J., Kelly, S., Hager, N., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Suh, J.J., Childress, A.R.: Recent smoking versus overnight abstinence alters dopamine transporter availability. Presented at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 26, 2015.

30. Wetherill, R.R., Quinn, P.D., Fromme, K.: Alcohol-induced blackouts and subjective alcohol intoxication: a global- and event-level examination. Presented at the 37th Annual Meeting of the Research Society on Alcoholism, Bellevue, Washington, June 25, 2014.

31. Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Mumma, J., Johnson, B., Rao, H., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Effects of cannabis and cigarette smoking on gray matter volume: a voxel-based morphometry study. Presented at the 76th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 17, 2014.

32. Young, K., Franklin, T.R., Li, Y., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Suh, J.J., Singer, Z., Davidson, S., Monge, Z., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Baclofen reduces resting blood flow, and correlations with limbic cue reactivity, in the ventral striatum of cocaine-dependent men. 52nd Annual Meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Hollywood,

Florida December 9, 2013.

33. Franklin, T.R., Jagannathan, K., Wetherill, R.R., Bender, J., Johnson, B., Mumma, J., Kampman, K., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Modulation of resting brain cerebral blood flow by the GABA B agonist, baclofen: a longitudinal perfusion fMRI study in marijuana dependent treatment seeking individuals. 52nd Annual Meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Hollywood, Florida December 9, 2013.

34. Young, K.A., Li, Y., Roberts, D.S., LeJeuz, C., Franklin, T.R., Suh, J.J., Goldman, M., Kampman, K., Wetherill, R.R., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Baclofen, a GABA B agonist, reduces risk-taking and reveals the relationship between brain responses to drug cues and risk-taking in cocaine-addicted patients. 75th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Diego, California June 20, 2013.

35. Franklin, T.R., Wetherill, R.R., Jagannathan, K., Shin, J., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R.: Sex differences in functional connectivity during smoking cue exposure. 75th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Diego, California June 20, 2013.

36. Childress, A.R., Li, Y., Goldman, M., Suh, J.J., Ehrman, R., Lam, S., Singer, Z., Franklin, T.R., Langleben, D., Young, K., Wetherill, R.R., Gawrysiak, M.J., O'Brien, C.P.: Frontal vs. limbic predictors of inhibitory success in addiction. 75th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, San Diego, California June 18, 2013.

37. Wetherill, R.R., Li, Y., Bender, J., Jagannathan, K., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Attentional bias and brain responses to "unseen" cannabis cues. 41st Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, Hawaii February 7, 2013.

38. Wetherill, R.R., Bender, J., Jagannathan, K., Li, Y., O'Brien, C.P., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Brain responses to "unseen" cannabis cues among cannabis-dependent individuals. 51st Annual Meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Hollywood, Florida December 4, 2012.

39. Wetherill, R.R., Jangannathan, K., Lohoff, F., Ehrman, R., Childress, A.R., Franklin, T.R.: Neural correlates of attentional bias for smoking cues: modulation by variance in the dopamine transporter gene (SLC6A3). Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, New Orleans, Louisiana, October 2012.

40. Wetherill, R.R., Bava, S., Boucquey, V., Pulido, C., Squeglia, L.M., Tapert, S.F.: Altered frontoparietal connectivity in substance-naïve youth with a family history of alcoholism. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 35*(Suppl. 1): 54, June 2011.

41. Squeglia, L.M., Dager-Schweinsburg, A., Sorg, S.F., Boucquey, V., Castro, N., Eberson, S.C., Wetherill, R.R., Tapert, S.F.: Does binge drinking during adolescence interfere with normal brain development? A*lcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 35*(Suppl. 1): 67, June 2011.

42. Pulido, C., Squeglia, L.M., Castro, N., Boucquey, V., Eberson, S., Wetherill, R.R., Tapert, S.F.: Adolescent alcohol expectancies and anterior cingulate cortex bold response to alcohol cues. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 35*(Suppl. 1): 62, June 2011.

43. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K., Schnyer, D.M.: Acute effects of alcohol on neural correlates of source memory: an examination of fragmentary blackouts. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 34*(Suppl. 2): 426, June 2010.

44. Fossos, N., Stappenbeck, C.A., Wetherill, R.R., Quinn, P.D., Fromme, K.: The role of perceived norms for drinking in the transition from high school to college. *Alcoholism: Clinical and*

Experimental Research 33(Suppl. 1): 646, June 2009.

45. Wetherill, R.R.: Blackouts and hangovers: negative consequences of 21st birthday celebrations. Presented at the 116th Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 2008.

46. Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Predictors of variable drinking patterns: global and event-level analyses. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 31*(Suppl. 2): 223, June 2007.

47. Patel, A., Wetherill, R.R., Fromme, K.: Perceived anonymity moderates injunctive norms for alcohol and marijuana use. 114th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, August 2006.

48. Wetherill, R.R., Kroll, G., Fisher, L., Matthews, D.: Youth with impulsive aggression: anticonvulsant medication compliance and outcomes. Presented at the 17th Annual Meeting of the American Neuropsychiatric Association, San Diego, California, February 2006.

49. Wetherill, R.R., Neal, D.J., Fromme, K.: The effects of perceived anonymity on drinking patterns in high school seniors. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 29*(Suppl. 1): 89, June 2005.

50. Kruse, M.I., Wetherill, R.R., Corbin, W.R., Fromme, K.: Self-report measures of perceived subjective response to alcohol. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 28*(Suppl. 3), June 2004.

51. Ikemoto, S., Wetherill, R.R., Morales, M., Wise, R.: Afferents to the ventral tegmental area: differences between the anterior and posterior regions. Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, New Orleans, Louisiana November 11, 2003.

PROFESSIONAL FEE SCHEDULE

Reagan Wetherill, PhD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist
Associate Professor
891 Ferry Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
(619) 208-1956

- All pre-trial consultation and services are billed at a rate of $400 per hour.
- In-person services (consultation, deposition, testimony) are billed at a rate of $4,000 per day.
- All days out of the office are billed. Thus, if I leave for trial on the 1st and return is on the 6th, 6 days are billed.
- All in-person trial consultation/testimony will include a full day of in-person consultation and preparation with trial team the day before trial starts at a rate of $4,000 per day.
- Travel and lodging costs (airfare, rental car or ground transportation costs, lodging, and per diem meals) are to be reimbursed in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulation (JTR).
- If I commit my calendar to a deposition or court appearance, it precludes my availability to provide services in other cases. Therefore, cancelations/rescheduling with less than 3 days' notice are billed a minimum of one-half day ($2000) for the reserved time.
- Payment is expected within 30 days of completion of trial and/or consultation services.

24 Oct 25

From: LCDR Clifton E. Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Office of the Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: EXPERT CONSULTANT REQUEST IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN – SEXUAL SADISTIC BEHAVIOR

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST. amend. VI
(b) Article 46, Uniform Code of Military Justice
(c) Rule for Courts-Martial 703, M.C.M. (2019 ed.)
(d) Military Rule of Evidence 502, M.C.M. (2019 ed.)
(e) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68 (1985)
(f) *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451 (C.A.A.F. 2008)
(g) *United States v. Gonzalez,* 39 M.J. 459 (C.A.A.F. 1994)
(h) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572 (N.M.C.C.A. 1990)

Encl: (1) CV of Dr. Jamie Dickson
(2) Fee Schedule of Dr. Jamie Dickson

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), the defense counsel for CSSN Copeland respectfully requests government funding for an expert consultant in the field of sexual sadistic behavior in the context of strangulation and sexual kinks. Specifically, CSSN Copeland requests that you appoint Dr. Dickson as a representative of the defense so that any communications between her, CSSN Copeland, and defense counsel will be privileged pursuant to reference (d) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. CSSN Copeland is charged with four specifications of violations of Article 120 (sexual assault), a violation of Article 128 (assault consummated by a battery), two specifications of violations of Article 120c (indecent recording/broadcasting), three specifications of violations of Article 131b (obstruction of justice), two specifications of violations of Article 128b (domestic violence), two specifications of violations of Article 107 (false official statement), and a violation of Article 118 (premeditated murder). If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole.

3. A military accused is entitled to expert assistance in the form of expert consultation "to aid in the preparation of his Defense upon a demonstration of necessity…and that denial of an expert would result in a fundamentality unfair trial." *United States v. Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005); R.C.M. 703(d). Under Article 46, UCMJ, the Defense may request expert consultants to assist the Defense in "evaluating, identifying, and developing evidence," as well as to "test and challenge the Government's case." *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F 2005). The right to present evidence guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment, Article 46, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 703 "necessarily includes the right to prepare." *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572, 623 (N-M.CM.R. 1990). Consequently, a military member is entitle[d]…to the

assistance of an expert when necessary to the preparation of an adequate defense." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986). The right to an "adequate defense" includes "preparation for cross-examination" of Government witnesses well "as presentation of an expert defense witness." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Durant*, 545 F.2d 823, 827 (2d Cir. 1976)). Thus, a Defense expert's assistance as a consultant before trial and during trial may in part be justified by the consultant's ability to provide assistance in preparing the Defense for the presentation of expert testimony. *Id.*

4. To demonstrate "necessity" as required by R.C.M. 703, the Defense must show "more than the 'mere possibility of assistance from a requested expert' . . . " *Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005). "The accused must show that a reasonable probability exists 'both that an expert would be of assistance to the defense and that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial.'" *Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005). In order to demonstrate the first prong of that test—that a reasonable probability exists that an expert would be of assistance to the Defense—the Defense must explain: "'(1) why the expert is necessary; (2) what the expert would accomplish for the accused; and (3) why defense counsel is unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert would be able to develop.'" *United States v. Hennis*, 79 M.J. 370, 382-83 (C.A.A.F. 2020) (quoting *United States v. Lloyd*, 69 M.J. 95, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (emphasis in original).

5. Dr. Dickson is a licensed forensic psychologist with advanced training in sexual sadistic behavior and will assist CSSN Copeland in developing his theory and defense. The circumstances surrounding the allegations involving ABHAN C.R. indicates that she was into choking, however, in a sexual manner. If the defenses chooses to have Dr. Dickson testify, she can educate the members about this type of behavior associated with sexual acts and what is or is not outside the norm. Furthermore, the government alleges CSSN Copeland committed the premeditated murder of CS3 A.R. The defense has a constitutional right to present alternative theories to the members, and Dr. Dickson's consultancy is necessary to assist the defense with this. Dr. Dickson's extensive training in sexual sadistic behaviors makes her participation indispensable to perfecting a case on the merits.

6. The defense is not an expert in this subject matter. Defense counsel's formal training in this subject matter is extremely limited. Defense counsel also lack the time necessary or ability to develop such an expertise prior to trial. This type of evidence requires a level of knowledge the defense does not possess, and cannot gain in a few weeks or even months of study. Furthermore, defense is unable to present this evidence to members without the assistance of an expert witness.

7. Based on the fee schedule in enclosure (2), defense requests twenty (20) hours for pre-trial consultancy at a cost of $6,000.00. Additionally, the Defense requests Dr. Dickson's presence at trial (21 days), and one day of trial preparation, for a total of 22 days ($3,000/day x 22 days) at a cost of $66,000.00. **The total amount requested by defense is approximately $72,000.00**, in

addition to travel expenses in accordance with Joint Travel Regulations. The defense will submit an additional request if more time is needed.

8. The defense requests that this expert be assigned as a consulting member of CSSN Copeland's defense team, such that all communication between the accused, defense counsel, and the expert are privileged and confidential pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 502. The defense further requests that the government refrain from any substantive contact with this expert. It is understood that this limitation may be removed if the defense ultimately desires to have Dr. Dickson testify as an expert witness in this case.

9. Thank you for your careful consideration of this request. If I may provide any additional information, I am available at (757) 341-4486 or clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil to answer any questions about this request.



C. E. MORGAN III

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jamie M. Dickson, Psy.D.

(404) 276-1575
drdickson@forensicspecialty.com

EDUCATION/LICENSURE:

Georgia School of Professional Psychology/Argosy University-Atlanta
Doctorate of Psychology - August 2008
Master of Arts - June 2005

Middle Tennessee State University
Bachelor of Science in Psychology - December 1998
Minors in Social Work and Criminal Justice Administration

Georgia Licensed Psychologist (#PSY003318)
Alaska Licensed Psychologist (#239364)
PSYPACT Interjurisdictional Temporary Authorization to Practice (Certificate #18316)

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Forensic Specialty Group, Marietta, GA.
Clinical/ Forensic Psychologist, June 2013 - Present

- Member of an Independent Practice in Forensic Psychology
- Complete evaluations of Juveniles and Adults in criminal, delinquency, family court, and civil matters
- Conduct Pre-trial evaluations of Competency to Stand Trial, Mental State at Time of Offense, and Capacity to Waive Miranda
- Perform Psychosexual and Violence Risk Evaluations of Adults and Juveniles
- Perform Parental Fitness Evaluations
- Review Forensic Interviews and consult regarding techniques of interviewers and child/adolescent developmental issues impacting on the interview context
- Consult with attorneys regarding psycholegal issues impacting civil and criminal cases and provide expert testimony as needed

Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Kennesaw, GA.
Clinical Psychologist June 2013-Present (Contract):

- Conduct psychological evaluations with children and adolescents for purposes of diagnostic clarification and treatment planning

Clinical Psychologist September 2008 - June 2013:

- Provided Individual and Family Therapy and Specialized group treatments including Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Aggression Replacement Training and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for male and female adolescents with varying diagnoses
- Co-led teams charged with implementing the Positive Behavior Support model in various programs
- Prepared and provided trainings on mental health issues to Devereux employees and outside audiences for continuing education credits
- Supervised all therapists providing services in clinical department

- Supervised graduate students completing practicum training
- Oversaw psychological testing services and completed needed psychological evaluations
- Led and participated in multidisciplinary treatment team meetings to ensure high quality client care

Florida State Hospital, Chattahoochee, FL
Predoctoral Psychology Intern, August 2007 – August 2008
Completed major rotations on Civil and Forensic Admissions Units and a Dialectical Behavior Therapy Program as well as a minor rotation at a specialized Juvenile Justice Treatment Facility

- Provided individual and group therapy and led competency restoration groups for adolescents and adults with psychotic, mood, anxiety, substance abuse, and personality disorders
- Co-led groups for adolescent males convicted of sexual offenses
- Conducted psychological assessments and wrote reports to answer referral questions regarding cognitive, personality, and neuropsychological functioning and criminal competency and malingering issues
- Provided crisis intervention counseling for residents as the need arose
- Participated in recovery team meetings to ensure high quality care for residents

Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Kennesaw GA
Psychometrist, July 2007 - September 2008

- Conducted psychological evaluations with male and female residents ages 9-18

Advanced Practicum Student, August 2006 – June 2007

- Provided group and individual therapy to adolescent males with sexual offending and other severe behavioral issues
- Supervised Practicum Students
- Performed Psychological Evaluations

King's Psychological Learning Center, Inc., Decatur, GA
Psychometrist April 2005- May 2007

- Performed psychological evaluations with adults and children
- Performed specialized evaluations of individuals seeking social security disability benefits

Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Kennesaw, GA
Therapy Practicum Student, September 2005 – June 2006

- Provided individual and group therapy for male and female residents ages 12-16 with complex trauma histories and psychotic, mood, disruptive behavior, anxiety, and substance abuse disorders.

Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital, Adult Forensic Unit, Rome, GA
Diagnostic Practicum Student, September 2004 – August 2005

- Administered achievement tests, IQ tests, adaptive behavior scales, personality tests, and tests of malingering to adult male and female patients with psychotic, mood, personality, and substance abuse disorders and intellectual disabilities

Kid Psych, Inc., Alpharetta, GA
Psychometrist, September 2003- March 2005

- Conducted clinical interviews with parents of children referred for therapy and administered psychological tests to the child clients
- Conducted psychological evaluations with children and adults applying for Social Security Disability benefits

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Georgia School of Professional Psychology/Argosy University-Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

- Adjunct Faculty for Therapy Practicum Seminar, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014
- Teaching Assistant for Counseling Theories, Summer 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007
- Teaching Assistant for Cognitive Behavioral Theory and Therapy, Spring 2006

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

National Alliance on Mental Illness, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2014-Present

- Provide training on mental health diagnoses and de-escalation techniques when dealing with individuals with mental illness for law enforcement officers completing Crisis Intervention Team Training

St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Atlanta, Georgia, December 2013-February 2017

- Complete mental health assessments and provide individual therapy to clients residing at the City of Refuge Homeless Shelter and other indigent individuals in the Atlanta community

Dazzling Stone Home for Children, Chennai, India, July 2004 – August 2004

- Taught math and conversational English to students

Adopt-a-Family Program, **Murfreesboro, TN,** December 1997 – December 1998

- Initiated the adoption of a needy family by a local business and implemented plan to fund the family's needs

Center for Living and Learning Horticulture Program, **Franklin, TN**, August 1998 - April 1999

- Supervised mentally ill adults and teenagers working in greenhouses

Head Start Program, **Murfreesboro, TN**, October 1998 – December 1998

- Assisted with children's classroom activities

Mt. Juliet Jr. High School, Mt. Juliet, TN, September 1996 – December 1996

- Tutored students needing additional help in math

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Clinical Research Project (Dissertation Equivalent), July 2008

- "Threat/control-override delusions and violent behavior in the mentally ill: Is the violent behavior consistent with the content of the delusion?"

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

- "Child Forensic Interviewing in the USA: Current Practices and Developments," June 2025
- "Women in Forensic Psychology," April 2025
- "Forensic Interviews, Suggestibility, and Working with Experts in Child Abuse Cases," April 2024, April 2025

- "Working with Experts in Battered Persons Cases," March 2024
- "Vicarious Trauma: Dealing with the Effects of Our Clients' Trauma," April 2022
- "Counterintuitive Victim Behavior," March 2022
- "Assessing Adolescents to Stand Trial," October 2021
- "Forensic Evaluation of Juveniles," July 2019
- "Forensic Interviews: The Basics," March 2018
- "The Role of Suggestibility in Child Sexual Abuse Evaluations," January 2016
- "Understanding Trauma and Its Effects: Relationships Between Trauma and Youth Violence," September 2011, March 2012, August 2012, September 2019
- Georgia Crisis Intervention Team Training Program: Mental Disorders, An Introduction; Schizophrenia; Mood Disorders; Personality Disorders; Childhood and Adolescent Mental Health

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- American Psychological Association, Member
- Georgia Psychological Association, Member
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Member
- Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, Member
- American Psychology-Law Society, Member
- The National Register of Health Service Psychologists, Member
- Global Institute of Forensic Research, Member

ADDITIONAL TRAININGS:

- Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (four day training)
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy: Treating Adolescents with Multiple Problems (two day training)
- Introduction to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children for Mental Health Professionals
- Recreational Drugs in the Forensic Setting: Pharmacology and Mental State
- Buzzed: The Straight Facts about the Most Used and Abused Drugs from Alcohol to Ecstasy (online self-study program)
- Use of Psychotropic Medication in Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults: Diagnostic and Developmental Considerations
- Substance Abuse: The Brain Mechanics of Addiction
- Clinical Psychopharmacology: A Science, An Art, or Both…What Are Your Professional Role(s) and Responsibilities
- Forensic Interviewing in Child Sexual Abuse Cases presented by the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (40 hour training)
- Ten Step Forensic Interview Training (33 hour online training)
- Child Interviewing 2019: Update on Research and Practice (online training)
- Interviewing Children to Preserve Accurate Testimony
- General Considerations for Interviewing Children with Disabilities (online training)
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children Annual Colloquium Forensic Interview Track (16 hour training)
- Ethical and Effective Consultation and Testimony in Cases with Child Victims

- Dolls and Diagrams for Practice, Investigation, and Prosecution (online forensic interviewing course)
- Child Interviewing-Where Research Meets Practice (online forensic interviewing course)
- Assessing False Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse and Issues Regarding Recantation
- Introduction to Developmentally Appropriate Interviewing Using the Revised NICHD Protocol
- Evaluating Forensic Interviews with Children
- Trauma and Memory
- Young People and the Law: International Approaches to Care, Corrections, and Intervention (three day training)
- Safer Communities, Safer Relationships: Generating Solutions for Reducing Persistent Violence and Other Serious Offending (three day training)
- Darkstone Certified Official Hare PCL-R and PCL:SV Live Webinar Training (two day training)
- Introduction to Psychopathy
- STATIC99-R Live Webinar Training
- Advanced Assessment of Sexual Offenders: Sexual Sadistic, Child Pornography, and Non-Contact Offenders
- Adult Sexual Offender Risk Assessment and Management
- Sexual Offender Risk Assessment-State of the Science in the 21st Century
- Multidimensional Inventory of Development, Sex, and Aggression (MIDSA) On Demand Training
- Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism (ERASOR) Live Webinar Training
- Protective + Risk Observations for Eliminating Sexual Offense Recidivism (PROFESOR) Live Webinar Training
- Risk Assessment with Juvenile Sex Offenders
- Working with Sexually Reactive Youth in Residential Treatment
- Assessment of Risk for Violence in Juveniles
- Developmental Considerations in Juvenile Forensic Evaluations
- Current Trends in Medication and Understanding Mental Health in Violent Adolescents
- Violence Risk Assessment
- Assessing and Managing Violence Risk
- Competencies in the Criminal Process
- Evaluation of Competence to Stand Trial
- Interrogations and Disputed Confessions (self-study program)
- Forensic Evaluation in Miranda Waiver and False/Coerced Confession Cases
- Capacity to Waive Miranda Rights
- Assessment of Mental State Defenses in Criminal Cases
- The Insanity Defense
- Malingering and Forensic Practice: Conceptual Issues and Clinical Methods
- Comprehensive Assessment of Malingering
- Conducting Parental Capacity Evaluations in Child Protection Matters
- Child Murder by Parents
- Custody Evaluations: The Essentials
- Custody Evaluations: Advanced Topics

- Physical and Psychological Implications of Hormone Therapy for Gender Variant Clients
- Talking Sex in the Therapy Room
- Ethics: Special Issues with Sexual Minority Clients
- Exploring Sexual Attitudes: Discovering the Dark Corners of Our Counter-transference
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children Annual Colloquium (2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2023)

Jamie M. Dickson, Psy.D.
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Marietta, GA 30060
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TRIAL CONSULTATION/EXPERT WITNESS FEE SCHEDULE

1. Pre-Trial Consultation Services: Case and document review, which may include but is not necessarily limited to evidence, any related case records, medical and psychological reports, military records and recordings and transcriptions of interviews is billed at $300.00 per hour. Case review, discussion and consultation with counsel, and telephonic testimony at pretrial motions hearings are included in pre-trial consultation and are also billed at $300.00 per hour. Pre-trial consultation generally takes a minimum of 8 hours to complete though this may be significantly greater depending on the complexity of the case. Evaluation of a defendant can take up to three working days. Defendant evaluation is also billed at $300.00 per hour. The number of hours for pre-trial consultation shall be agreed to in writing before work commences. If additional time is required, both parties shall agree in writing before the additional work commences. The fee for any work completed shall be paid even if the case does not ultimately go to trial.

2. Trial Consultation and Expert Testimony: All activities related to attendance at trial, including trial consultation, expert testimony and travel are billed at a daily rate of $3000.00.

3. Expenses:
   a. Round trip airfare is expected to be provided by the Government at standard government rates. Dr. Dickson will book her own air travel, which will be billed at 100% reimbursement of coach class fare.
   b. Driving will be billed at GSA POV rate.
   c. GSA per diem schedules are expected to be used to reimburse the contractor for the cost of lodging, either on a military installation or off base, as well as standard meal rates.
   d. The cost of a rental car, when allowed, will be reimbursed by the government. If a rental car is not provided, the cost of transportation to and from the airport as well as any other transportation costs shall be borne by the Government.

4. Payment: Payment is expected within 30 days of the trial and/or consultation services to the address listed above. If billing is to be handled through WAWF, the government is responsible to provide the contractor with all information needed to effect this process.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06AUG24

CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF [redacted]

1. As background, on 26Jul24 NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, of an unrestricted reported of sexual assault aboard the ship that occurred on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. MA1 CORTESELLI reported ABHAN [redacted] ([redacted] USN, CVN 75, reported CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe.

2. On 06Aug24 at approximately 2030 hours, [redacted] was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) aboard CVN 75, while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q. IT2 Morgan RODRIGUEZ, USN, Uniform Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, was present for the entirety of the interview.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. [redacted] related she is in a relationship with CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, CVN 75, and was in the mess decks with him in the early morning hours of 23Jul24 when he stated he was going to sleep. [redacted] stated after CSSN CUESTABRAVO left, she began receiving SnapChat snaps from S/COPELAND, who stated he was headed to the ship and expressed he wanted to talk to her about CSSN CUESTABRAVO. [redacted] agreed, and stated S/COPELAND arrived and requested the pair go somewhere private to talk.

5. After arriving to the area of the fantail, S/COPELAND told [redacted] that CSSN CUESTABRAVO was talking to other women and asserted CSSN CUESTABRAVO was not treating [redacted] the way she should be treated. [redacted] related S/COPELAND suggested SHE engage in a relationship with him (S/COPELAND) to "get back at" CSSN CUESTABRAVO. [redacted] stated she told S/COPELAND she did not "do those types of things." [redacted] recalled discussing her relationship with S/COPELAND for a short period of time before S/COPELAND began to play a "game" with her wherein he pretended to arrest her. [redacted] stated S/COPELAND forced her hands behind her back and grabbed her vulva over the clothing.

6. [redacted] related she turned around and punched S/COPELAND in the stomach.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **06AUG24**

V/C.R. related S/COPLEAND told her he heard she liked to be choked, at which time S/COPELAND applied pressure to her neck with one hand so that it was difficult for V/C.R. to breathe. V/C.R. recalled pushing S/COPELAND's hand away from her throat but that he would immediately replace it and keep applying pressure. While applying pressure to her neck, V/C.R. recalled S/COPELAND kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breasts, buttocks, and vulva over the clothing. V/C.R. related the physical contact lasted approximately a minute before S/COPELAND stopped of his own accord. V/C.R. stated she told S/COPELAND she was going to bed and left the fantail.

7. V/C.R. recalled being unsure if she should tell CSSN CUESTABRAVO because she was worried about his reaction, but texted him about what happened. V/C.R. stated CSSN CUESTABRAVO encouraged her to report the incident. V/C.R. stated she called the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) phone number she found on a poster aboard the ship, and was informed to get in touch with shipboard SAPR personnel. V/C.R. stated she did not know how, so CSSN CUESTABRAVO reported the incident to Security. V/C.R. stated she had bruising on her neck that CSSN CUESTABRAVO observed, but that it was now gone.

8. V/C.R. stated she told her Chief, CSC Gregory SIMMONS, USN, CVN 75, about the incident. V/C.R. related CSSN Jalen OWENS, USN, CVN 75, told CSSN CUESTABRAVO that S/COPELAND told her (CSSN OWENS) that V/C.R. had reported him.

9. V/C.R. provided RA screen shots of the texts she sent to CSSN CUESTABRAVA via Air Drop, and signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) denoting her consent; Enclosure (B) pertains. The screen shots were subsequently placed on an NCIS Photographic Template for inclusion into the case file; Enclosure (C) pertains.

11. At the conclusion of the interview, V/C.R. was provided a DD Form 2701 Victim Witness Assistance Pamphlet (VWAP).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF V/C.R. 06AUG24
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY V/C.R. 06AUG24
(C) NCIS PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE/06AUG24

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **06AUG24**

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT EXCERPT
ABHAN [redacted] USN INTERVIEW DATED 6 AUGUST 2024

00:09:21: [redacted] And then so after that, he was like, oh, yeah, you know, you should like, get back at him. And I was like, oh, I don't do this. I don't do stuff like that. And he's like, well, you should. And he's like, well, I'm the first person you should get back at him with and he's like me [sic]. And I was like, like for what? And I was like, I don't do stuff like that. And then after that then like a little later, like after he was talking, he started like, he got in my face, he got close to me, whatever. And then like I pushed him because I don't like people in my face, like close up to me. So I like pushed him away and he was like "push me again and push me again." And he kept coming in my face. And then like after that he grabbed me or whatever. And then like he put his hand like he asked me, he's like, "Do you like being choked?" I was like, "Who told you something like that?" And he said "Nobody." And then like after that, like he put his hand around my neck and then like I tried to get his hand off my neck and he like kept going. And like I go to the push him and he was like "keep pushing me. and I'm going to keep going harder." So then I kept squeezing it and he started like touching my areas, too.

00:10:37: Special Agent: So we don't have to use any which your comfortable with, but I'm just trying to establish...So when you say areas, you're showing me your breasts?

00:10:42: [redacted] (Indicates yes).

00:10:43: Special Agent: OK, over the clothes, under the clothes, something else?

00:10:46: [redacted] Over the clothes.

00:10:47: Special Agent: Anywhere besides your breasts?

00:10:48: [redacted] (Indicates yes)

00:10:48: Special Agent: Where?

00:10:49: [redacted] Like my front and back.

00:10:51: Special Agent: Oh, OK. So was he like touching your vulva like over the clothes and then also your buttocks as well?

00:10:56: [redacted] (Indicates yes)

00:10:58: Special Agent: OK, like running his hands over? Is he grabbing? Can you like describe that?

00:11:02 [redacted] Like, just like grabbing.

****

00:12:31: Special Agent: So you said that he had his hands around on your neck and it really hurt. Ok it sounds like he was applying a lot of pressure. Was it just one hand, Two hands?

00:12:40: [redacted] One.

00:12:41: Special Agent: One hand. OK. And were you able to breathe during that period of time?

00:12:47: [redacted] Not like a lot, like just a little.

00:12:50: Special Agent: OK, this is going to sound like a strange question, but what did your body feel like at that time?

00:12:55: V/C.R. I feel like I couldn't like - my nose hurt - like it felt like i had something in it.

UNITED STATES V. COPELAND

Name: Dr. Fernanda Lameira, Medical Examiner, City of Norfolk **Command (mil)/City, State (civ): Norfolk, Virginia**		
Date/time: 29 July 2025; 1300		
Contact Info		
E-mail		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (c)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (alt)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Other		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Available?	Next 3 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next 6 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next year? Yes ☒ No ☐	
Giglio Questions	Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of a crime involving a false official statement, perjury, larceny or other crime of dishonesty?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received non-judicial punishment for an act or omission which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received administrative counseling or other non-punitive measure for an act which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might call into question your character for truthfulness?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might raise a question of bias or favoritism toward any party to the case?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐

On 29 July 2025, CAPT Derek Butler, JAGC, USN, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed Dr. Lameira, in the presence of LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, Mr. Rob Robinson, Norfolk ME, and Dr. Wendy Gunther, Assistant Chief Medical Examiner. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

Dr. Lameira reported that due to the level of decomposition of, and post-mortem insect activity on, the body of V/A.R., no definitive cause of death could be discerned. Dr. Lameira was able to rule out stomping, stabbing, shooting, and a drug overdose as possible causes of death. She specified that the toxicology test only tested for specific drugs, but the lab was likely able to have additional testing done for specific prescriptions being taken by V/A.R upon request. Additionally, the toxicology report showed a BAC of .083 at the time of death.

Dr. Lameira noted that there was not enough remaining soft tissue on the body to indicate or rule out asphyxia as a cause of death. The only noted broken bones were ribs #2-5, which would not be consistent with attempts at CPR. There was not enough tissue left in the neck area to indicate whether there was any blood pooling in that area. The fallopian tubes and uterus were unremarkable with no indications of a pregnancy. There were no indications of any chronic conditions that would lead to a natural death and Dr. Lameira opined it would be unlikely for someone V/A.R.'s age to suffer a natural death.

It was explained that the alcohol ethenyl level, generally considered the BAC, could have been elevated by insect activity that creates yeast. No results had come back on the buccal and anal swabs that were conducted during the autopsy, and vaginal swabs were not conducted due to the lack of soft tissue resulting from decomposition and insect activity. Dr. Lameira explained that insect activity and decomposition generally begin in body openings (eyes, ears, mouth, nose, etc.) and areas where skin is pressed together (buttocks, below breasts, arms crossed, etc.). She opined that the folded position of the body in the duffel bag created the skin-to-skin pressure points on the chest that became areas of accelerated decomposition, in comparison to the other areas of the torso.

When asked, Dr. Lameira stated that there was not enough soft tissue on the body to determine whether there were any injuries to the body that would have been bleeding before death. Dr. Lameira explained that up to a liter of "purge" can be expelled post-mortem through the nose and mouth and appears red in color. "Purge" was explained as the fluid in the lungs and surrounding tissue that leaks out of the nose and mouth post-mortem, and can become further dislodged from the body if the body is moved.

When asked, Dr. Lameira stated that rigor mortis sets in within about 12 hours after death and opined that the body was likely placed into the duffel bag prior to the onset of rigor mortis. Dr. Lameira concured with Dr. Gunter that it was not unusual for people to mistake dead bodies for living people.

/s/

K. E. VANETTI

22 Oct 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel, East
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF A MITIGATION SPECIALIST IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) UCMJ, Article 46
(b) R.C.M. 703(d)
(c) *United Sates v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986)
(d) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572, 623-24 (N.M.C.M.R. 1990)
(e) *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006)
(f) *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999)
(g) *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987)
(h) *United States v. McAllister,* 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001)
(i) *United States v. Warner,* 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005)
(j) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985)

Encl: (1) Curriculum Vitae of Ms. Daniela LaValva
(2) Fee Letter

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), CSSN Copeland, through counsel, requests the government to appoint Ms. LaValva as a mitigation expert consultant to the defense team to assist in the preparation of its case, in accordance with Uniform Code of Military Justice (U.C.M.J.), Article 46; Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703; *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999) and *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987).[1] CSSN Copeland further requests that Ms. LaValva be designated as a member of the defense team bound by the attorney-client privilege, in accordance with Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 502(a) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. **Law.** Under the Sixth Amendment, CSSN Copeland has the right to the effective assistance of counsel and the right to present a defense. In order to adequately represent CSSN Copeland, he requires more than the advocacy skills of his attorney. This includes "the right to present a defense by means of confrontation, cross-examination and going forward with a presentation of its own evidence." *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572. The right to present evidence "necessarily includes the right to prepare." *Id.* As stated above, military due process consequently "entitles a service member to the assistance of an expert when necessary to the preparation of an adequate defense." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288 (C.M.A. 1986)). Congress guaranteed, through the UCMJ, that the parties to a court-martial "shall have equal opportunity to obtain witnesses and other evidence." Article 46, U.C.M.J. Under this scheme, service members are entitled to expert assistance when such assistance is necessary in mounting an

[1] In *United States v. Kreutzer*, 70 M.J. 444 (C.A.A.F. 2012), C.A.A.F. upheld an Army Court of Criminal Appeals decision in which a majority of the Court held that the military judge's erroneous denial of the Appellant's request for an expert in mitigation, required relief- in the form of setting aside all contested findings.

adequate defense. *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985) (holding, when necessary, due process requires appointment of a government expert). Importantly, the entitlement for an accused to expert assistance "is not limited to actual expert testimony at trial." *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006). The *Kreutzer* Court held that defense counsel who failed to conduct a sufficient investigation into the background of the accused for sentencing were ineffective, thus requiring the sentence to be set aside.

To avail himself or herself of this right, an accused—through defense counsel—must submit a request for an expert to the convening authority, supported by "a statement of reasons why the employment of the expert is necessary." R.C.M. 703(d). Both references (b) and (c) provide the structure for evaluating requests for expert consultants and witnesses.

The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces has held that RCM 703(d) authorizes employment of experts to assist the defense at government expense when they are relevant and necessary. The Court established a three-prong test to determine the necessity of a requested expert:

1. Why is the expert needed;
2. What would the expert accomplish for the defense; and
3. Why is the defense unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistant would be able to develop?

3. **Factual Background**. CSSN Copeland is charged with four specifications of violations of Article 120 (sexual assault), a violation of Article 128 (assault consummated by a battery), two specifications of violations of Article 120c (indecent recording/broadcasting), three specifications of violations of Article 131b (obstruction of justice), two specifications of violations of Article 128b (domestic violence), two specifications of violations of Article 107 (false official statement), and a violation of Article 118 (premeditated murder). If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole.

4. **Why an Expert is needed and What the Expert would accomplish for the defense?**

Ms. LaValva brings years of experience working on death penalty cases and an understanding of what factors are mitigating and where best to unearth those mitigating factors. While the defense can conduct a cursory examination of the accused and speak to his family, the defense is not positioned to conduct the required in-depth background analysis of the accused to present the most effective sentencing case possible. The allegations in the case are the most severe under the UCMJ and CSSN Copeland has a right to present an affective case in mitigation. The assistance of this expert is not hypothetical, Ms. LaValva knows where to find this information, knows how to present the information, and knows how to best assist the defense team in creating an effective and persuasive case in mitigation.

5. **Why counsel cannot perform such duties.** The defense counsel detailed to CSSN Copeland are experienced litigators but are not experts in mitigation. As C.A.A.F. has recognized, cases involving the possibility of substantial confinement or the death penalty require a greater

emphasis on the employment and research of mitigation tools. Ms. LaValva will help focus the defense team on areas which may provide the best mitigation evidence, her knowledge and ability to provide this input comes directly from experience and training that defense counsel cannot acquire prior to trial. While the detailed counsel will diligently prepare and continue to educate themselves, CSSN Copeland requires the assistance of specially trained assistance while he faces the prospect of being confined for the remainder of his natural life. Ms. LaValva will assist the defense in ensuring more than simply "sufficient" effort has been applied to CSSN Copeland's particular case. CSSN Copeland cannot get a fair sentencing proceeding without the assistance of a mitigation specialist who can gather the evidence necessary to present to the members to ensure they have a full understanding of CSSN Copeland's rehabilitative potential and all of the mitigating circumstances surrounding the alleged offenses.

6. **Cost.** Enclosure (2) is Ms. LaValva's fee schedule. Her rate for professional consulting is $250.00 an hour for all work including team, client work, field investigations, record collection, and others. **The defense requests thirty (30) hours of pre-trial assistance, at a total cost of $7,500.00**. Further, the defense request travel at the government rate to conduct an investigation and meet with CSSN Copeland in-person.

7. The defense requests that the expert consultant be viewed as a member of the defense team such that all communications between the expert consultant and the accused and his counsel will be viewed as confidential. The defense further requests that the government not have any conversations or other interaction with the requested expert consultant in relation to this case except for any administrative communications in securing their assistance for the defense. The defense understands this limitation may be removed if the defense eventually desires to have the expert testify in the case.

8. Ms. LaValva's assistance is relevant and necessary to providing CSSN Copeland with a case in mitigation that goes beyond merely being "sufficient." Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil or 850-452-5572.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

Daniela S. LaValva, LCSW, LMSW

76 South Orange Ave, Suite 101 South Orange, NJ 07079
dlavalva@metisgroupllc.net cell - (973) 518-2288

Employment Experience:

Montclair State University August 2022 – Present
Adjunct Professor

- Teach bachelors and masters level courses for the School of Social Work and Child Advocacy.
- Teach practicum seminar courses for MSW students.

Wellpath/Hudson County Corrections & Rehabilitation Center February 2020 – August 2023
Mental Health Director

- Oversee and supervise mental health program and ensure ongoing effectiveness of programming and maintaining compliance with corrections contracts.
- Recruit and train new staff.
- Manage psychiatrist scheduling and collaborate for continuity of care.
- Maintain strong working relationship with medical department and corrections staff.
- Work with judiciary personnel to provide psychiatric assessments and recommendations.
- Oversee Suicide Watch and specialized units: segregation, protective custody, and mental health.
- Develop programming to best assist inmates regarding mental health concerns and reentry.
- Participate in senior management meetings
- Provide trainings.
- Develop internship program.

Metis Group, LLC December 2018 – Present
Co-Founder

- Provide ongoing clinical counseling to adolescents, couples, individuals and families.
- Provide supervision to LCSW and LPC candidates.
- Contract with agencies to provide trainings around trauma, secondary trauma, suicide prevention, substance use, and mitigation.
- Provide forensic reports for criminal, family, military, and immigration courts.
- Expert Vendor for Office of the Public Defender / NJ since April 2024
- Expert Vendor for the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) / Federal since August 2023

The Legal Aid Society / Juvenile Rights Practice April 2017 – February 2020
Director of Juvenile Services Unit

- Oversee and supervise social work supervisors and social work staff in five boroughs.
- Recruit, orient and training of new staff and interns.
- Coordinate social work continuing education program.
- Consult on cases and resources.
- Review and implement social work practice standards, forms, procedures and organizational systems.
- Participate in senior management meetings and committees
- Represent JRP at external meetings, task forces and conferences
- Provide assistance to JRP's legal trainers, Appeals Unit, and Special Litigation and Law Reform Unit.

Education and Health Centers of America March 2013 – April 2017
Deputy Director of Treatment / Logan Hall

- Ensure ongoing effectiveness of programming and contract compliance for NJ State Parole Sanction Programs, STEPS and RESAP, Intensive Supervision Program (ISP), Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC), and Essex and Union County programs for both male and female residents.
- Supervise Unit Managers, Clinical Supervisor and Unit Supervisors.
- Communicate with New Jersey State Parole Board, and Union and Essex County Prisons. Attend meeting and conduct trainings regarding programming.
- Provide on-site job trainings as well as new hire trainings. Develop and conduct trainings for counselor professional development and best practices.
- Participate in Deputy Director meeting to review contract compliance within facilities.
- Serve on the Treatment Leadership Committee as the EHCA representative to review best clinical practices throughout the country.
- Attend meetings in accordance with Division of Child Protection and Permanency to ensure timely notification of incarceration of parents with open cases. Co-lead Quality Assurance meetings.

Adelphi University, Garden City, NY / Manhattan Campus November 2011 – June 2016
Faculty Liaison / NJ Cohort Coordinator / Field Work Department

- Assist students and field instructors through sequence of field education to maximize learning experience.
- Ensure field instructor, agency liaison, and student accountability for meeting school expectations and standards.
- Mediate between student and field instructor and agency. Monitor special problems in the field.
- Managed NJ Cohort students with field placement. Act as liaison with students and the university. Provide training on registration, field work, NJ licensure among others.

Community Education Centers West Caldwell, NJ January 2008 – April 2017
Social Work Intern Coordinator

- Developed and implemented successful social work internship program for forensic treatment program in New Jersey.
- Established relationships with New York and New Jersey social work programs both masters and bachelor level.
- Serve on various committees to ensure programming is being delivered consistently throughout the five New Jersey facilities.
- Provided and developed staff trainings on conflict resolution, ethics, suicide, secondary trauma, and sexual harassment.

Daniela LaValva, LCSW South Orange, New Jersey April 2004 – December 2018
Psychotherapist / Forensic Social Worker

- Provide ongoing therapeutic services to diverse populations including adolescents, children and adults.
- Focus on issues around the changing family and coping with the effects of loss, divorce or separation. Trained in Parenting Coordination.
- Conducted assessments for students who have been suspended from school for disruptive behaviors and prepared return to school reports.
- Prepared Pre-Pleading, Pre-Sentence assessments and letters for Criminal Courts of New York and New Jersey.

Clark Psychology Center Clark, New Jersey January 2002 – April 2004
Psychotherapist

- Provided ongoing therapeutic services to diverse populations including but not limited to adolescents and school age children. Provided individual as well as family and marital counseling.

Myles J. McManus Middle School Linden, New Jersey October 1999 – June 2000
School Social Worker

- Provided ongoing counseling for students in 6^{th} – 8^{th} grade.
- Responsible for conducting assessments of students' adaptive social functioning and emotional development, family functioning, and cultural factors affecting learning and behavior.
- Assisted Principal and Vice Principal with administrative duties and conflict resolution.
- Participated in multidisciplinary CORE team meetings.

The Center for Children + Families, Inc. Jamaica, New York November 1997 - January 1999
Case Management Supervisor

- Supervised 4 - 5 Bachelor and Master level Case Planners and students.
- Provided weekly supervision to Case Planners and monitored approximately 80 at risk families.
- Maintained all ACS guidelines and internal monthly statistical reports.
- Conducted groups and trainings for staff inclusive of Windows NT and CONNECTIONS computer network.
- Conducted trainings about child abuse and neglect and in services about Preventive Services.

The Center for Children + Families, Inc. October 1995 - November 1997
Case Planner

- Provided daily case management for a caseload of up to seventeen at risk families to avert foster care placement.
- Provided in-office individual and family counseling, home visits, case coordination, case conferencing, termination, crisis intervention, referrals, educational support, mediation, and advocacy.
- Attended professional trainings.
- Coordinated male, adolescent group trips to East Jersey State Prison, Scared Straight Program.
- Conducted trainings at area high school on awareness and assessment of child abuse and neglect.

Volunteer:

Human Rights Clinic, HealthRight International May 2018 – November 2023
Volunteer

- Provide physical and psychological evaluations for survivors of torture and trauma, and author affidavits in support of their applications for immigration relief.

Juvenile Conference Committee Maplewood, New Jersey September 2006 – January 2010

- Provide alternative to Family Court involvement for at risk youths. Knowledge of various programs within Essex County to deter youth from future police interaction.

Certification and Licenses:

- **Parenting Coordination with High Conflict Families** **Completed:** December 2012
- **Certified LSW Supervisor / NJ** **Completed:** June 2008
- **The Center for Dispute Resolution,** Montclair, New Jersey **Completed:** March 2001
- **Adelphi University,** Garden City, New York **Completed:** January 1998 (SIFI)
- **NJ LCSW:** New Jersey - # SC 49271 **NY LMSW:** New York - # 052750

Education:

Columbia University School of Social Work, NY, New York **Graduated**: May 1995
Master of Science in Social Work / Minor in Law

Brooklyn College, CUNY, Brooklyn, New York **Graduated**: February 1992
Bachelor of Science (*cum laude*) in Psychology / Minor in Art

References available upon request.

METIS GROUP LLC

76 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE
SUITE 101
SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

October 15, 2025

RE: Mitigation request

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing to provide a response to the request for Metis Group, LLC, specifically Daniela LaValva, LCSW to provide services for the purposes of mitigation for your client.

Metis Group, LLC fee scale delineated below if for providing a written document. Fees related to providing testimony will be provided as needed.

Reports will require 15-20 hours of work at the rate of $250/hour. Travel time, if needed, is not included and a separate fee schedule arranged.

An invoice of services will be provided to the assigned attorney at the completion of the report.

Should a report be determined to not be needed or completed, a bill for time spent preparing for the report will be submitted to the assigned attorney.

The invoice will include hours worked with an itemized list of tasks completed.

Thank you,

Daniela LaValva

Daniela LaValva, LCSW
Mitigation Specialist

24 Oct 25

From: LCDR Todd Mihill, USCG, Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren A. Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF A FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST CONSULTANT IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) UCMJ, Article 46
(b) R.C.M. 703(d)
(c) *United Sates v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986)
(d) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572, 623-24 (N.M.C.M.R. 1990)
(e) *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006)
(f) *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999)
(g) *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987)
(h) *United States v. McAllister,* 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001)
(i) *United States v. Warner,* 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005)
(j) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985)

Encl: (1) Dr. Banerjee CV
(2) Dr. Banerjee Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), CSSN Jermiah Copeland, through counsel, requests the government to appoint Dr. Priya Banerjee as a forensic pathology expert consultant to the defense team to assist in the preparation of its case, in accordance with Uniform Code of Military Justice (U.C.M.J.), Article 46; Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703; *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999) and *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987). CSSN Copeland further requests that the forensic pathologist be designated as a member of the defense team bound by the attorney-client privilege, in accordance with Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 502(a) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. **Law.** Under the Sixth Amendment, CSSN Copeland has the right to the effective assistance of counsel and the right to present a defense. In order to adequately represent CSSN Copeland, he requires more than the advocacy skills of his attorney. This includes "the right to present a defense by means of confrontation, cross-examination and going forward with a presentation of its own evidence." *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572. The right to present evidence "necessarily includes the right to prepare." *Id*. As stated above, military due process consequently "entitles a service member to the assistance of an expert when necessary to the preparation of an adequate defense." *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288 (C.M.A. 1986)). Congress guaranteed, through the UCMJ, that the parties to a court-martial "shall have equal opportunity to obtain witnesses and other evidence." Article 46, U.C.M.J. Under this scheme, service members are entitled to expert assistance when such assistance is necessary in mounting an adequate defense. *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985) (holding, when necessary, due process requires appointment of a government expert). Importantly, the entitlement for an accused to expert assistance "is not limited to actual expert testimony at trial." *United States v.*

Lee, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006).

To avail himself or herself of this right, an accused—through defense counsel—must submit a request for an expert to the convening authority, supported by "a statement of reasons why the employment of the expert is necessary." R.C.M. 703(d). Both references (b) and (c) provide the structure for evaluating requests for expert consultants and witnesses.

The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces has held that RCM 703(d) authorizes employment of experts to assist the defense at government expense when they are relevant and necessary. The Court established a three-prong test to determine the necessity of a requested expert:

1. Why is the expert needed;
2. What would the expert accomplish for the defense; and
3. Why is the defense unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistant would be able to develop?

3. **Factual Background**. CSSN Copeland is charged with the premeditated murder of CSSN A.R., among a myriad of other charges. During the ensuing investigation into the death of CSSN A.R., the Government performed medical tests and examinations on the deceased, resulting in scientific and medical reports regarding the evidence. The Government has secured the assistance of an expert, Dr. Fernanda Lemeira and will surely be using Dr. Lemeira's skill, knowledge, experience and expertise in the Government's case against CSSN Copeland. CSSN Copeland requires the assistance of Dr. Banerjee to meet and test the evidence that will be presented against him in order to ensure a full and fair trial on the merits.

4. **Why an Expert is needed and What the Expert would accomplish for the defense?**

At trial the Government will necessarily present medical evidence and scientific testimony as evidence against CSSN Copeland. The Defense must be afforded the opportunity prepare for, meet, and counter the Government's evidence. Dr. Banerjee will assist the Defense in analyzing evidence and reports, the techniques and procedures used, and the testimony of the Government's witnesses.

Dr. Banerjee will provide the Defense with expert opinions and assessments of the evidence that are constitutionally required to confront the Government's evidence in defense of CSSN Copeland. She has skills, education, training, and experience that the attorneys for CSSN Copeland cannot hope to attain- even through diligent effort- prior to trial. Her assistance is essential and required for a full and fair trial.

The evidence provided in discovery indicates that the cause of death for CSSN A.R. remains "undetermined." The nature of this assessment indicates that the Government will be pursuing a theory that, though cause of death is undetermined, CSSN Copeland was responsible for her death. Dr. Banerjee's training, education and experience will help the defense team probe alternate theories of death, different possible causes of death, and counter the evidence presented

by the Government's experts. These are not hypothetical results of this expert's work on the case- they are actual tangible assistance directly related to the Defense's theory of the case.

Dr. Banerjee's assistance will be required and utilized throughout litigation of pretrial legal and evidentiary issues as well as during trial on the merits. Her assistance, and its necessity to the Defense team cannot be understated.

5. **Why counsel cannot perform such duties.** The rapid growth in forensic science techniques at trial may make cases more complex than general practitioners can handle on their own. *United States v. McAllister*, 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001); *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005). No member of the defense is an expert in the field of forensic pathology. Although counsel have and will continue to diligently research these areas, they cannot realistically be expected to attain the level of competency required to challenge and evaluate a Government's experts or challenge and evaluate the Government's evidence. Without the ability to consult with its own expert, the Defense would not be able to adequately represent CSSN Copeland within the meaning of the Sixth Amendment or the UCMJ.

6. **Adequate government substitute.** The Defense is not aware of an acceptable governmental substitute that has comparable qualifications, education or experience to that of Dr. Banerjee.

7. **Cost.** Enclosure (2) is Dr. Banerjee's fee schedule. Her rate for professional consulting is $850 per hour and trial participation rate of $10,000 per day. We have estimated that she will need 30 hours for pre-trial consultancy at a cost of $25,500.00, and trial participation for 22 days at a cost of $220,000.00. **The defense requests a total authorization of $245,500.00,** not including travel expenses to be reimbursed in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulations. Dr. Banerjee is currently available for the scheduled trial dates and is already enrolled within the federal payment system.

8. The Defense requests that the expert consultant be viewed as a member of the Defense team such that all communications between the expert consultant and the accused and his counsel will be viewed as confidential. The Defense further requests that the Government not have any conversations or other interaction with the requested expert consultant in relation to this case except for any administrative communications in securing their assistance for the Defense. The Defense understands this limitation may be removed if the defense eventually desires to have the expert testify in the case.

9. Dr. Banerjee's assistance is relevant and necessary to providing CSSN Copeland with an adequate defense to the charges. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at `todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil` or 571-369-8409.

T. M. MIHILL

Priya Banerjee, M.D.

Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC.

Board Certified Forensic and Anatomic Pathologist
20 Manning Drive, Barrington Rhode Island 02806
Email: autopsymd@gmail.com; Cell: 401-252-1319
EIN: 81-1997500

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

4/1/2016-present	President and Founder Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC Contract forensic pathologist: Clark County, NV (Las Vegas metro region) Criminal and Civil medical-legal consultant, Private autopsy pathologist
5/3/2022-present	Know Your Rights Camp, Colin Kaepernick Foundation Autopsy Team Pathologist (New England to Mid Atlantic Region)
7/1/2010 – 8/9/2021	Assistant Medical Examiner Office of the State Medical Examiners State of Rhode Island, Providence, RI
7/1/2012-present	Clinical Assistant Professor Brown University, Depart. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
1/25/17-5/2020	Adjunct Professor of Justice Studies Roger Williams University Forensic Pathology and Forensic Seminar Series
1/23/20-2022	Adjunct Professor, Graduate Medical Sciences/Boston U. Medicine Forensic Medicine and Death Investigation Course
1/30/2019-8/1/2021	Expert Forensic Pathologist, Rhode Island Cold Case Task Force
5/2018-12/2020	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of New Hampshire

12/2012-2/2013	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of Maine

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

8/2000-5/2004	**University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, M.D.**
7/2004– 6/2005	**Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, PA Internal Medicine Preliminary Year
7/2005-6/2009	**The Johns Hopkins Hospital** Baltimore, MD AP/CP Pathology Residency
7/2009-6/2010	**Office of Chief Medical Examiner, State of Maryland** Baltimore, MD Forensic Pathology Fellow
8/1996-5/2000	**University of Maryland, College Park** B.S. Cell, Molecular Biology and Genetics (Magna Cum Laude) Concentration Criminology and Criminal Justice
5/16/2014	National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Workshop
2/21/2014	Rhode Island Traffic Incident Management Responder Training
5/2-5/3/2014	FEMA/New Mexico Tech Medical Preparedness and Response Bombing Incidents Course
5/10-5/12/2011	Medicolegal Death Investigation Training Seminar National Forensic Science Training Center Tampa Florida
6/7-6/11/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Anthropology Course
5/3-5/7/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Forensic Odontology Course

BOARD CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

American Board of Pathology: Board Certified in Forensic Pathology 2012

American Board of Pathology; Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology, 2011

*all CME/Maintenance of Certification maintained for both areas

State of Rhode Island	Allopathic Physician Medical License MD13342
State of Pennsylvania	Medical License MD 436021 (inactive, in good standing)
State of Nevada	Medical Doctor License #23829

AWARDS, HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS:

June 18, 2019	Brown University School of Medicine, Clinical Teaching Award
2012-current	National Association of Medical Examiners
2011-current	College of American Pathologist, Fellow
2011-current	Rhode Island Criminalists Association, Associate Member
2007	College of American Pathologists., Leadership Development Award

GUEST LECTURES AND MEDIA EXPERIENCE:

Vinnie Politan

February 28, 2025	Death Of Gene Hackman and his Wife https://pagesix.com/2025/02/28/celebrity-news/gene-hackman-and-wife-betsy-arakawa-may-have-been-dead-for-weeks-before-their-bodies-were-found-sheriff/
October 11, 2024	How Forensic Pathologists Analyze Human Remains, expert interview https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/east-bay/how-forensic-pathologists-analyze-human-remains/
2024-current	Multiple appearances on Court TV
April 1	Preston Lord murder, Opening Statements Spotlight with Julie Grant CourtTV
July 7, 2023	Expert TV interview "Toxicology Report for Alex Fierro" on Court TV. https://x-default-stgec.uplynk.com/ausw/slices/4a8/5a41d9ac062d41bbb88c8ded2e0ef1c0/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1_e.mp4
May 16, 2023	Expert TV interview "Children's Book Author Charged with Murder of Husband." https://www.courttv.com/title/medical-examiner-eric-richins-had-5xlethal-dose-of-fentanyl-in-system/?fbclid=IwAR1r5CeBoNBxfMqMKJISO310ifbSsuhYpsyVMoMdnxLPGgQbH4RThTV4Pp0

January 5, 2023 Expert TV interview, " DNA found on sheath 'the money' for Idaho police forensic pathologist" on Cuomo Show, NewsNation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFSKkKnMabs

October 3, 2022 Expert contributor quoted: US monkeypox deaths are rare; here's why they can be difficult to confirm (author: Jaqueline Howard) CNN Health online. https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/03/health/monkeypoxdeaths-difficult-to-confirm

August 21, 2022 Expert TV Interview, "Tell No Tales", Forensic Files II Episode, HLN network. Season 3, Episode 16.

May 11, 2022 TV Interview, Morning in America (News Nation) "Vicky White died by Suicide" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LVq3KjQxkc

May 10, 2022 TV Interview, Inside Edition: Bahamas Deaths of Three US Visitors https://www.insideedition.com/toxic-ac-leak-theorized-as-possiblecause-in-mysterious-deaths-of-americans-at-bahamas-resort-74759.

February 11, 2022 Interview, CNN Newsroom: (9 am hour): Forensic Pathologist on Bob Saget Autopsy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kdze5p25SXI

February 10, 2022 Interview, CNN Tonight with Laura Coates; Dr. Banerjee https://video.snapstream.net/Play/4hTGjGopBrT1Ywz5NAbchZ?accessToken=bew086lmmeopi

February 10, 2022 Interview, Inside Edition https://www.insideedition.com/after-bob-sagets-autopsy-raises-alarmaround-skull-injuries-what-doctors-say-to-do-if-you-hit-your.

January 12, 2022 Interview, Today Show on Bob Saget Death and Autopsy https://www.today.com/video/bob-saget-s-final-performance-latestdetails-on-his-death-130675269917

December 16, 2021 Interview, American Radical Podcast Episode 4: Cause of Death https://www.msnbc.com/msnbc-podcast/cause-death-n1286073

October 25, 2021 Interview, Real Time Crime Podcast re: Brian Laundrie

October 23, 2021 CNN interview: The manhunt for Brian Laundrie is over. But several big questions remain; https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/23/us/gabby-petito-brianlaundrie-questions/index.html

October 21, 2021 Determining Brian Laundrie's cause of death could be "challenging," says forensic pathologist; https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/brian-laundrie-news-10-21-21/index.html

October 21, 2021 CNN Interview: Wolf Blitzer Situation Room: Forensic pathologist explains what was 'odd' about the scene; https://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2021/10/21/brianlaundrie-remains-family-crime-scene-banerjee-sot-tsrvpx.cnn

September 21-22, 2021 Multiple appearances: Fox and Friends, local Fox stations, Law and Crime network re Death and autopsy of Gabby Petito https://www.foxnews.com/media/gabby-petito-autopsy-challenges-cause-death-pathologist

https://video.foxnews.com/v/6278085320001#sp=showclips
https://video.foxbusiness.com/v/6273622961001#sp=show-clipsoin

April, 2021 Multiple appearances, MSNBC, CNN/HLN and Law and Crime Network re: Derek Chauvin trial and the autopsy of George Floyd https://www.msnbc.com/katy-tur/watch/chuck-rosenberg-i-think-the-defenseattorney-got-a-little-too-cute-went-a-little-bit-too-far-109936709537

March 29, 2021 Forensic Pathologist Dr. Priya Banerjee: Learning from the dead to help the living. Profile in Boston Globe

December 6, 2019 Member interview on "Searching for answers: Inside a secret meeting of RI's Cold Case Task Force." https://www.wpri.com/news/special-reports/searching-for-answers-inside-a-secret-meeting-of-ris-cold-case-taskforce/

2019-Present Multiple Expert Appearances (recurring) on Law and Crime Network, recurring shows

November 11, 2019 Expert Appearance on Law and Crime Network: "Linda Kenney Baden asks Why the Blunt Force Trauma Killed the Victim but Not the Gunshot Wounds?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PlseesVo6S4&t=33s

October 31, 2019	"What's Going on with Jeffrey Epstein's Autopsy?" online article in Rolling Stone Magazine: https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culturefeatures/jeffrey-epstein-autopsy-baden-homicide-suicide-906192/
November 2, 2018	Water Intoxication Death, Coroner Talk Podcast with Darren Drake
September 26, 2018	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony for Oklahoma National Association of Attorney Generals, Oklahoma City, OK.
September 6, 2018	RIH Department of Pathology Grand Rounds: Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony
September 8, 2017	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony National Association of Attorney Generals, Providence, RI.
June 8, 2017	Organizing Physician and Lecturer: Select Topics in Forensic Pathology (Gunshot Wounds)
April 5, 2017	Expert Medical Examiner: Opioid Panel/Drug Overdose Deaths. Johnson and Wales University.
February 8, 2017	Radio interview with Jay Oliver ft. Joe Giacalone on LI in the AM, LINews Radio. Part 3 of Long Island Serial Killer. https://soundcloud.com/jvcbroadcasting/dr-priya-banerjee-interview
January 27, 2017	Guest Lecturer: The Medicolegal Autopsy: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender and Criminal Defense Lawyer
December 5, 2016	TV Interview with Reporter Tim White, WPRI. "How investigators identify human remains that have been underground for decades" http://wpri.com/2016/12/05/how-investigators-identify-human-remainsthathave- been-underground-for-decades/
June 24, 2016	Lecturer, Overview of the RI Medical Examiners Office and Death Investigation Rhode Island State Police Training Academy
2016-present	Lecturing Forensic Pathologist, Mock Scene Investigation University of Rhode Island BPS 101: Scientific Evidence Class I and II
2011-2014	Guest Lecturer: Fire Related Deaths Annual Fire Investigation Training Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators

March 24, 2014	Medical Examiner/Witness Fire Scene Investigation Training with Mock Crime Scenes Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators
April 26, 2013	Guest Lecturer: The Medical Examiner System in Rhode Island Univ. of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
March 26, 2013	Presenter, Rhode Island Health Careers Expo and Fair Rhode Island School Based Coordinator Network
November 12, 2013	Lecturer: Gunshot Wounds at "Patterns of Injury and the Story They Tell" Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
October 16, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Forensic Pathology and Forensic Identification for Dentists Greater Woonsocket Dental Association, Rhode Island
March 14, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Overview of Forensic Pathology and the Rhode Island Medical Examiner System West Coventry Fire District, Greene, Rhode Island.
February 8, 2012	Forensic Pathology 101: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender
September 16, 2011	Guest Lecturer: Medicolegal Death Investigations University of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
July 11, 2013	Guest Expert, Episode 30, TheForensicweek.com Show (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr6seMRVNQk)
December 13, 2012	Guest Expert, Episode 3, The Forensicweek.com Show (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zasZIp4BCvw)
September 28, 2010	Medicolegal Autopsy and Gunshot Wounds at The Relationship Between the Fundamental of Forensic Pathology and Your Professional Practice Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
November, 2009	Guest Expert Witness, University of Maryland Mock Trial
April, 2009	Guest Forensic Pathologist, Mock Crime Scene for the Community University of Maryland, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

PUBLICATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS:

Truong LV, **Banerjee, P**. Hepatic Hemangiosarcoma Presumed by Imaging as Hemangioma: A Case Report and Literature Review **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at American Academy of Forensic Sciences Meeting, February 2023.

Truong LV and Banerjee, P. Autopsy and Forensics: Forensic Entymology. https://www.pathologyoutlines.com/topic/forensicsentomology.html. February 2, 2021.

Almeida R; **Banerjee, P,** et al. Death Attributed to Dichlorvos (DDVP) Intoxication. (**Poster Presentation**). Presented at the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. September, 2020.

Belova N. and **Banerjee, P**. Drowning Deaths in Rhode Island, A Retrospective Review. **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at the National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October 2018.

Banerjee, P; Detora D; Iwuc P, Stanley C, and Ogilvie L. A case of suicide by injected xylazine. **(Platform Presentation)** Presented at Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting, November, 2014.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Eight Cases from 1999-2009. J Forensic Sci 2014 May;59:865-868.

Banerjee, P and Stanley C. Fatal Salt Intoxication from Table Salt Administration **(Poster).** Presented at National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October, 2012.

Ellis, CL, **Banerjee, P**, Carney, E, Sharma, R, Netto GJ. Adrenal lymphangioma: clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical characteristics of a rare lesion. Hum Pathol. 2011 Jul;42(7):1013-8.

Carney EM, **Banerjee P**, Ellis CL, Albadine R, Sharma R, Chaux AM, Burger PC, Netto GJ. PAX2(-)/PAX8(-)/inhibin A(+) immunoprofile in hemangioblastoma: A helpful combination in the differential diagnosis with metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma to the central nervous system. Am J Surg Pathol. 2011 Feb;35(2):262-7.

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Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC

Priya Banerjee, MD
20 Manning Drive
Barrington, RI 02806
Cell: [redacted]
Email: autopsymd@gmail.com
www.anchorforensicpathology.com
EIN: 81-1997500

FEE SCHEDULE

*Expedited rate (review with opinion and/or report) $1700 per hour

Non-Refundable Retainer (4 hours) $3400

Review of materials and reports $850 per hour

Testimony (Hearing, Grand Jury, Trial etc) $10,000 per 8 hours

Car related travel mileage billed at the established government rate (in addition to travel time costs). Mileage between locations will be established via google maps. Tolls also billed at cost.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL WITNESS PRODUCTION** **5 December 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703, the Government respectfully requests that the Court deny Defense's Motion to compel production of CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN, Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez, and Dr. Nemanja Rodic.

FACTS

CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN

1. CS3 V/A.R. the decedent, was a sailor on board the USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).[1]

2. CSSN Junrogel Miguel is currently a sailor on board USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS and was a friend to both CS3 V/A.R. and her ex-boyfriend, HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN.[2]

3. CSSN Junrogel Miguel describes his relationship with CS3 V/A.R. as close and they would socialize when he was not on restriction.[3]

4. CSSN Migel is aware that CS3 V/A.R. sought treatment for mental health and took medication prior to her death.[4]

Mr. Brian Telez, USN

5.Mr. Telez received an Instagram message from CS3 V/A.R. in May 2025.[5]

6. The Instagram message expressed her displeasure with her command.[6]

Dr. Nemanja Rodic

[1] Encl 1, Results of Interview CSSN JUNROGUEL MIGUEL, USN
[2] Id.
[3] Id.
[4] Id.
[5] Encl 2, Results of Telephonic Interview of Mr. Brian Telez, CIV
[6] Id.

7. Dr. Rodic is a pathologist who conducted a secondary autopsy on the body of CS3 V/A.R. weeks after the Norfolk Medical Examiner conducted the official autopsy.

8. When asked if the findings of his secondary autopsy were consistent with asphyxiation, Dr. Rodic explained it was possible or probable.[7]

BURDEN OF PROOF

1. The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden of persuasion and the burden of proof on any factual issue, the resolution of which is necessary to decide the motion, by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c)(1)-(2).

LAW

R.C.M. 703(a) and Art. 46, UCMJ, provide that the parties to a court-martial "shall have equal opportunity to obtain witnesses."[8] R.C.M. 703(b)(1) provides "[e]ach party is entitled to the production of any witness whose testimony on a matter in issue on the merits or on an interlocutory question would be relevant and necessary."[9] "Evidence is relevant if: (a) it has a tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence; and (b) the fact is of consequence in determining the action."[10] Evidence is "necessary" when it is not cumulative and contributes to a party's presentation of the case in some positive way on a matter in issue.[11]

ARGUMENT

I. CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN Should Not Be Produced Because His Testimony Regarding the Victim's Mental Health and Medication Is Irrelevant, Speculative, and Lacks Personal Knowledge

A. CSSN Miguel Is Not a Mental-Health Professional and Cannot Offer Opinions on Medication or Mental Health

The defense requests production of a lay witness who is "aware" that a CS3 A.R. suffered from "mental health issues" and whose proposed testimony concerns how the victim's medication needed to be monitored. This testimony is not relevant, lacks proper foundation, and does not satisfy the requirements for production under R.C.M. 703.

This individual is not a psychologist, psychiatrist, counselor, physician, pharmacist, or any other type of mental-health or medical professional. He has no clinical training or expertise that would allow him to discuss: the purpose of the victim's medication, the side effects, whether it requires "monitoring," or how it might relate to any fact at issue in this case. CS3 A.R.'s autopsy found no evidence of a prescription drug overdose.[12]

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[7] Encl 3, RCM 701 Disclosure Dr. Rodic 2 Oct 25; Email Exchanges
[8] R.C.M. 703(a)
[9] R.C.M. 703(b)(1)
[10] R.C.M. 401
[11] Discussion, R.C.M. 703(b)(1)
[12] Encl 4

Under M.R.E. 701, a lay witness may testify only to matters within their personal perception. They may not offer opinions "based on scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge"—and medication management or effects of prescription medication is plainly specialized knowledge. Because this witness cannot satisfy M.R.E. 701 or 702, he cannot provide admissible opinion testimony on mental-health conditions or pharmaceutical monitoring.

B. The Proposed Testimony Is Irrelevant Under M.R.E. 401 and 402 and fails the M.R.E. 403 balancing test.

Understanding that CSSN Miguel lacks these qualifications, Defense nonetheless asks this Court to produce him as witness because he will somehow provide admissible evidence leading members to the Defense theory that CS3 A.R. committed suicide. Defense asks this Court to allow a junior sailor testify as to his awareness of his friend's deceased ex-girlfriend's mental health and medication history and opine as to her "episodes." Under no circumstance is the evidence admissible or relevant, but it is, however, highly inflammatory and fails the M.R.E. 403 balancing test. Without a showing of relevance, production is improper. R.C.M. 703 does not require the Government to produce witnesses who will offer inadmissible, speculative, or irrelevant testimony.

II. Mr. Brian Telez. Should Not Be Produced Because His Testimony Regarding the Victim's Mental Health Is Irrelevant and Inadmissible.

Defense asks this Court to produce Mr. Telez so he may testify about comments CS3 A.R. made to him nine days before her death on Instagram. Notwithstanding this testimony would be composed entirely of inadmissible hearsay for which no exception exists – this testimony is also irrelevant.

III. Dr. Nemanja Rodic Testimony Is Inadmissible Because Its Only Relevance is Cumulative With the Testimony of Dr. Lameira.

Dr. Rodic performed a second autopsy 18 days after CS3 A.R.'s first autopsy. Dr. Rodic's autopsy was limited as he examined the body after a prior autopsy, after embalming, without any associated documentation to write his review and after marked tissue degradation and loss prior to the first autopsy.[13] He stated he deferred his designating a manner of death because of these limitations.[14] Nonetheless, Defense argues this witness is relevant and necessary based in part on poorly captured voice to text transcription of a call between the CS3 A.R.'s mother and Dr. Rodic. Nonetheless when interviewed on 22 October 2025, Dr. Rodic stated that asphyxiation was a possible or probable cause of death.[15] His testimony is cumulative with Dr. Lameira, the Virginia Commonwealth Medical Examiner.

EVIDENCE

Enclosure (1) Results of Interview CSSN Junroguel Miguel, USN

[13] Encl 3
[14] *Id.*
[15] *Id.*.

Enclosure (2) Results of Telephonic Interview of Mr. Brian Telez, CIV
Enclosure (3) RCM 701 Disclosure Dr. Rodic 22 Oct 25, and Email Exchange
Enclosure (4) Email exchange with Dr. Lameira

RELIEF REQUESTED

2. The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to compel expert assistance of production of CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN, Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez, and Dr. Nemanja Rodic as discussed above.

ORAL ARGUMENT

3. The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 5th day of December 2025.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO[redacted]
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/ PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JUNROGEL MIGUEL, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and participating Agent (PA) Lisa CARROLL conducted an interview of CSSN Junrojel MIGUEL, USN, James E. Williams (DDG 95), in regard to the above caption investigation.

2. The interview of CSSN MIGUEL was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. CSSN Miguel stated he met CSSN V/A.R. (V/ V/A.R. , USN, DDG 95, while working in the galley. CSSN MIGUEL reported that he and V/ V/A.R. became very close friends in JAN25, to the extent V/ V/A.R. started referring to him as her brother. CSSN MIGUEL explained that he and V/ V/A.R. only socialize when he is not on restriction. When hanging out V V/A.R. would often invite CSSN MIGUEL and CSSN Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95, to her barracks room. CSSN MIGUEL stated V/ V/A.R. and CSSN GILLESPIE began dating in late MAY24, and their relationship ended in DEC24.

4. CSSN MIGUEL described the relationship between V/A.R. and CSSN GILLESPIE as a being like soulmates. CSSN MIGUEL noted they understood each other deeply, shared similar emotions, and were extremely compatible. CSSN MIGUEL said the relationship between CSSN GILLESPIE and V/A.R. because their personalities did not align. CSSN MIGUEL added that V/A.R. initiated the breakup to focus on herself, which CSSN GILLESPIE agreed to. CSSN MIGUEL that he often served a bridge between the two. According to CSSN MIGUEL, V/A.R. would sometimes states how she misses CSSN GILLESPIE during conversations.

5. CSSN MIGUEL described V/A.R. as a very emotional person with a traumatic past. CSSN MIGUEL recalled that in MAY24, V/A.R. went to the bar alone, became intoxicated and later mention having an "episode". When asked CSSN MIGUEL what he meant by "episodes" he clarified that V/A.R. has had mental health episodes. CSSN MIGUEL stated V/A.R. would occasionally have episodes where she seemed mentally detached or unresponsive. During these times, she would start looking around and stop replying to everyone. CSSN MIGUEL noted CSSN GILLESPIE would have to constantly talk to her to bring her back to reality. Since knowing her, CSSN MIGUEL stated he witnessed three such episodes. He confirmed that V/A.R.

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0123_COPELAND

EXHIBIT 25

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA 03JUN25

takes medication but have to be closely monitored to avoid her from overdosing. CSSN MIGUEL emphasizes V/A.R. has a traumatic family history, which could explain her mental health challenges.

6. CSSN MIGUEL stated while he was on restriction, V/A.R. failed to show up for work, when he was released from restriction and retrieved his phone back, he noticed a text message from V/A.R. thanking him for his support and friendship. Once off restriction, CSSN MIGUEL reconnected with CSSN GILLESPIE and was excited to see him. CSSN GILLESPIE told CSSN MIGUEL, V/A.R. was no longer communicating with him, possibly because she was unsure about continuing a relationship with either ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, or CSSN GILLESPIE. CSSN GILLESPIE advised CSSN MIGUEL he asked V/A.R. about returning his motorcycle helmet. CSSN MIGUEL also reported CSSN GILLESPIE advised him V/A.R. was missing. CSSN MIGUEL stated he was already aware of the information after overhearing a conversation at work. CSSN MIGUEL stated he overheard that V/A.R. had last been seen with CSSN Jeremiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, in his barracks room, as reported by command. CSSN GILLESPIE also told CSSN MIGUEL that V/A.R. had expressed a desire to leave the Navy, which CSSN MIGUEL initially took as a joke. However, CSSN MIGUEL began to feel that things he was hearing were not adding up. He concluded that if someone doesn't want to be found, as V/A.R. appeared to be, by not answering calls or texts, it is likely because they don't want to be found.

7. CSSN MIGUEL advised his last official conversation with V/A.R. was 24MAY25. At the conclusion of the interview CSSN MIGUEL signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure to obtain copies of the text messages between him and V/A.R. Enclosure (B) pertains. CSSN MIGUEL provided RA with five (5) screenshot photos of text messages between him and CSSN V/A.R. all of which were placed on a CD-R; Enclosure (C) pertains. Five (5) photos were placed on a photo template; Enclosure (D) pertains.

8. There is nothing further to report.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) ONE (1) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF CCN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY CSSN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(C) CD-R: SCREENSHOTS PROVIDED BY CSSN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25
(D) PHOTO TEMPLATE; PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CSSN JUNROJEL MIGUEL, USN/03JUN25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 13JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted]

RESULTS OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW OF BRIAN TEELEZ MENDEZ, CIV

1. On 13Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) telephonically interviewed Brian TEELEZ MENDEZ, CIV, regarding Instagram messages received from CSSN [redacted] (V[redacted]), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). RA identified themself verbally. RA interviewed TEELEZ MENDEZ telephonically due to residing in Illinois.

2. TEELEZ MENDEZ stated in May 2025, he received Instagram messages from V/[redacted] stating, "I just don't like my chain of command my division it's toxic as fuck." TEELEZ MENDEZ stated he had not heard from V/[redacted] since 20May25. TEELEZ MENDEZ provided RA with two (2) screenshots of Instagram messages, which were subsequently placed onto a photograph template and appended as Enclosure (A). RA appended two (2) photographs of Instagram messages onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R); Enclosure (B) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PHOTO TEMPLATE: TWO (2) PHOTOGRAPHS OF INSTAGRAM MESSAGES/13JUN25
(B) DVD-R: TWO (2) PHOTOGRAPHS OF INSTAGRAM MESSAGES/13JUN25

REPORTED BY: VICTORIA PADILLA-MARTINEZ, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 1 LAST DO V2 LNN

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ENCLOSURE H
1 of 1

UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Name: Dr. Nemanja Rodic **Command (mil)/City, State (civ): Washington, DC** Epiarx Diagostics (28JUN2025 Autopsy)		
Date/time: 10-22-25 / 1500 PM		
Contact Info		
E-mail	PII	Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (c)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (alt)	PII	Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Other		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Available?	Next 3 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next 6 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next year? Yes ☒ No ☐	
Giglio Questions	Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of a crime involving a false official statement, perjury, larceny or other crime of dishonesty?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received non-judicial punishment for an act or omission which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received administrative counseling or other non-punitive measure for an act which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might call into question your character for truthfulness?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might raise a question of bias or favoritism toward any party to the case?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐

On 22 October 2025, LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN interviewed Dr. Nemanja Rodic in the presence of LN2 Jocelyn M Gomez, USN. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

Dr. Rodic stated that when his office received the body to conduct an autopsy, the remains were contained in a clear bag. Inside of that bag was a pool of colored fluid with a strong odor. It was Dr. Rodic's opinion that this fluid was an alcohol-based preservative or other embalming fluid that contained a dilute of alcohol deformaline. Dr. Rodic was not sure exactly how the military or mortuary service would have packaged or preserved the remains prior to his examination or what chemicals specifically were used.

Dr. Rodic explained that this fluid was undoubtedly what caused the high level of alcohol found in the remains of the deceased. The results were too high to be clinically relevant, indicating that the fluid is what caused the high result.

Dr. Rodic did not see an indication of blunt force trauma or sharp force trauma on the remains, although the autopsy was not extremely thorough. Dr. Rodic also explained that the remains were also decomposed.

When asked if the findings were consistent with asphyxiation, Dr. Rodic explained it was possible or probable. He explained that natural causes were a dubious suggestion given the age and purported fitness of the deceased. He believed it was likely one of three mechanisms of death: (1) asphyxiation; (2) blunt force trauma for which any evidence had decomposed; or (3) termination of life due to ingestion of alcohol. Dr. Rodic clarified that he had no significant evidence to suggest intoxication from alcohol was the cause of death because the numbers he had recorded were incorrectly inflated by the fluid in the bag. As such, without additional evidence he could not say if that was a probable cause of death.

/s/

J.M. GOMEZ

LN2, USN Trial Paralegal

Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)

From: Nemanja Rodic < PII
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2025 10:18 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/A.R.

Mr. Dempsey,

Yes, I like to change original and incorrect "rea" verbiage to correct and updated "recall".

Sincerely,
Dr. Rodic

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Monday, November 24, 2025 at 10:14 AM
To: Nemanja Rodic PII >
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/A.R. V/A.R.

Good Morning Dr. Rodic,

Thank you! Did you mean to say "recall" instead of "real" in the first sentence of your e-mail? Thanks again.

V/r

LCDR Dempsey

From: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2025 1:33 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/A.R. V/A.R.

Mr. Dempsey,

It is my real that I did not consider designating strangulation as possible/probable mechanics/mode of death in this case. It is my recall that I deferred from designating manner of death herein, because my examination was limited by prior autopsy, prior embalming, lack of any documents in writing for review, and marked tissue degeneration/loss prior to the autopsy. For example, some parts of both acral and truncal soft tissue and bones were absent at the time of my examination.

With respect,
Dr. Rodic

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Friday, November 21, 2025 at 1:00 PM
To: Nemanja Rodic <[redacted] PII
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland
Good Afternoon Dr. Rodic,

The victim's family provided us with a rough transcript of a phone call you had with them back when you reported your findings (attached). I do not have a recording, just this transcript. This has raised a couple of questions I attribute to poor automated transcription. I know we spoke previously and addressed these, but I want to run them to ground just to be sure:

1. Were the findings consistent with strangulation as a potential cause of death?

2. At one point, the transcript says that "foul play" related to "trauma" can be ruled out. Is that correct? If so, what do you mean by that?

Thank you! I am also happy to discuss on the phone if preferred. Please just let me know a time that works for you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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EPIARX | Autopsy Services

The EPIARX Laboratory
4000 Albemarle Street NW
Suite 208
Washington DC, 20016

The Histopathology Laboratory
Institutions 600 N. Wolfe Street
Building 700
Baltimore, MD 21287

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

CASE NO. ED25-1195

Autopsy X

JURISDICTION: Routine adult clinical autopsy

NAME OF DECEASED: [redacted]

RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, VA 23505

AGE: 21 SEX: Female

DATE OF Birth: [redacted]

DATE OF Death: [redacted] TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS OF INCIDENT: Wooded area at/near residence

PRONOUNCED DEAD: Unknown TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS/INSTITUTION: Sunset Funeral Home
657 Springmart Boulevard
Brownsville, TX 78526

DATE OF AUTOPSY: 6/28/2025 TIME: 0900 CDT

PERFORMED BY:

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD.
Board Certified Pathologist

Significant condition(s):

(a) Habit-forming substances detected in bodily fluids

- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☒ Could Not Be Determined

New Protocol, Reporting Protocol for the Examination of Gross Autopsy of Adult Decedents
Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP
Protocol Implementation: December 2024

An autopsy was performed on the body of V/A.R. on the 28th day of June, 2025.

CONSENT FOR AUTOPSY

Consented and reviewed by Dr. Nemanja RODIC. Consenter was, Esmeralda CASTLE. The relationship of the individual, providing consent for autopsy, to the decedent is mother. Type of autopsy was complete, including brain.

PRIOR POSTMORTEM PROCEDURES

Following macroscopic examination there was **NO EVIDENCE** of organ donation. Following macroscopic examination there was **EVIDENCE** of prior autopsy.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body was that of a well-developed & well-nourished female. The body weighed about 120 pounds, was 4 feet 5 inches in height, and appeared compatible with the reported age of 21 years [calculated body mass index 20.6(1)]. There were no personal effects identified. The body was cold. The body was in state of late decomposition marked by skin discoloration, desquamation, and skeletonization. Rigor and lividity designation deferred. The scalp hair was black. The eye examination deferred. The nose examination deferred. The lips examination deferred. Some upper and lower teeth were present with good dental hygiene. Dentures were not present. The skin was free of any significant abrasions, bruises, lacerations, lymphadenopathy, or burns. Examination of the neck revealed no evidence of injury. No injury of the ribs or sternum was evident externally; negative for deformity and increased anterior-posterior diameter. The abdomen was grossly unremarkable. The extremities were grossly unremarkable. Leg circumference 10 cm from

medial malleolus were, 20 cm on the right, and 20 cm on the left. Negative for pitting edema. The fingernails examination deferred. Negative for palpable lymph nodes. Negative for joint deformity, abnormal mobility, and non-therapeutic punctures or needles track marks. The external genitalia were those of a normal adult female. The posterior torso was without note; negative for sacral decubitus ulcer. Negative for tenting of skin. Negative for sunken eyes.

EVIDENCE OF THERAPY:

ID band with decedent name and case number (T-246-25 T2025-00840) were identified on patient body bag and bilateral lower extremities. Negative for nasogastric tube, central venous line, intravenous line, PEG tube, endotracheal tube, and Foley catheter.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES:

The body was re-opened by the usual Y-shaped thoraco-abdominal incision and the chest plate was removed. No adhesions nor abnormal collections of fluid were present in any of the body cavities. The subcutaneous fat layer of the abdominal wall was less than 1" thick. There were no abnormalities of the omentum and mesenteries. There was no internal evidence of blunt force or penetrating injury to the thoraco-abdominal region.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

The head was normocephalic. External examination revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for dry surface of the galea. The dura showed no lesions. The leptomeninges showed no lesions. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical and showed no lesions. The brain base showed no

lesions. The cerebellum showed no lesions. The brainstem showed no lesions. The superior spinal cord showed no lesions. The eyes were not submitted for microscopic examination.

NECK:

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland and large vessels revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for trauma of the gingiva, lips, or oral mucosa.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The epicardial fat was mild. The coronary ostia were normally positioned. The foramen ovale was closed. The coronary arteries arose normally, followed the usual distribution and were free of grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis of the right coronary artery, left common/main coronary artery, left anterior descending artery, and circumflex artery. The chambers, valves, leaflets, and chordae tendinae exhibited the usual size-position relationship and were unremarkable. The myocardium was red-brown, firm and unremarkable; the atrial and ventricular septa were intact; negative for infarcts/lesions of the myocardium. The endocardium was smooth and thin; negative endocardial hemorrhages and endocardial discoloration. The aorta was fairly elastic and of even caliber throughout with its major branches distributed normally, followed the usual course and were widely patent. Negative for significant abdominal/thoracic aorta atherosclerosis. Negative for tortuosity or widening of the thoracic segment. Negative for dilation of the lower abdominal segment. Negative for aortic aneurysm. The venae cavae and their major tributaries returned to the heart in the usual distribution and were free of thrombi. No focal endocardial, valvular, and myocardial lesions were seen.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

Scant secretions were found in the lower bronchial and upper respiratory passages. The mucosa has pink-tan postmortem discoloration. The upper airway was clear of debris and foreign material; the mucosal surfaces were smooth,

yellow-tan and unremarkable. The pleural surfaces were smooth, glistening, well-expanded, and unremarkable bilaterally. Lungs were atelectatic and subcrepitant. The pulmonary parenchyma was red-purple in color, congested, and edematous. There was dependent congestion and postmortem softening. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions/scarring. The pulmonary arteries were normally developed The bronchi were patent with no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The lungs were cut fresh.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The hepatic capsule was smooth, glistening and intact, covering dark red-brown parenchyma with minimal congestion. Serial sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The extrahepatic biliary tree was patent, without evidence of calculi. The gallbladder was present and showed thin wall, velvety mucosa, and no calculi. The portal vein, hepatic arteries, and hepatic veins were patent.

ALIMENTARY TRACT:

The mucosa was pink-tan with normal mucosal folds. No tablets or capsules could be discerned in the stomach or the stomach contents. No residual medications were identified. The external and *in situ* appearance of the small intestine and colon were grossly and palpably unremarkable. The small intestine and colon were opened along the anti-mesenteric border to reveal soft liquid fecal material in the small bowel and soft semi-formed, thick green stool in the colon. The small bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The vermiform appendix was grossly and palpably unremarkable. The large bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan peri-circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The distal large bowel contents were stool. The superior mesenteric artery was free of grossly identifiable and palpable atherosclerosis. The pancreas occupied a normal position, had a

normal pink-tan lobulated parenchyma, and the ducts were patent, not ectatic. No parenchymal calcifications; negative for necrosis or trauma.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The red-brown surface of renal capsules were rough and uneven to touch. The ureters were patent. The renal arteries showed no grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis. The cortices were sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which were red-purple to tan and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves and ureters were unremarkable. The urinary bladder contained minimal urine; the mucosa was gray-tan and grossly unremarkable.

LYMPHORETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM:

The spleen had a smooth, intact capsule covering red-purple, moderately firm parenchyma; the lymphoid follicles were unremarkable. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The regional lymph nodes appeared normal. The bone marrow was dark red. The lymph nodes were not enlarged. The thymus was not identified.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid was symmetrical in appearance and sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The breast tissue was sectioned in the usual manner and contained small amount of white fibrous tissue; negative for significant abnormality.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The diaphragm was intact. Skeletal muscles were red-brown and firm. The calvarium was intact. The vertebral columns showed normal curvature. The ribs were negative for fractures. The vertebral bodies were negative for fractures. No bone or joint abnormalities were noted.

AUTOPSY PROCEDURES AND ANCILLARY TESTING

The approach to autopsy dissection was M. Letulle's Technique (*en bloc* from tongue to rectum). There were not special dissections performed. Tissue retained in stock jars until signout. Additional samples taken as follows, homogenized viscera. Ancillary testing, toxicology.

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3):

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3)

Trimmed from larger formalin-fixed blocks:

A. Head cutis ventral, multiple fragments;
B. Head cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;
C. Neck cutis ventral, multiple fragments;
D. Neck cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;
E. Thorax cutis ventral, multiple fragments;
F. Thorax cutis dorsa, multiple fragments;
G. Right upper extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;
H. Right upper extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;
I. Left upper extremity ventral, multiple fragments;
J. Left upper extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;
K. Right lower extremity, ventral, multiple fragments;
L. Right lower extremity, dorsal, multiple fragments;
M. Left lower extremity ventral, multiple fragments;
N. Left lower extremity dorsa, multiple fragments;
O. Central nervous system, multiple fragments;
P. Viscera, multiple fragments; and
Q. Additional viscera, multiple fragments.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: Sections showed cardiac parenchyma and stroma free of significant interstitial-type fibrosis and nuclear & cytoplasmic hypertrophy, acute & chronic inflammation, hemorrhage, and necrosis. Sections of coronary arteries were free of significant cholesterol clefts and dystrophic calcifications within narrowed vascular walls. Sections of aorta were free of significant cholesterol clefts deposits. Negative for malignant cells.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: Bilateral sections of pulmonary parenchyma and stroma notable were free of significant congestion, variably sized & increased alveolar spaces, acute inflammation, chronic inflammation, fibrosis, hemorrhage, and hemosiderin-laden macrophages. Polarization and refraction failed to reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Sections of hilar lymph nodes showed benign primary follicles. Sections of larynx were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM: Sections showed hepatic parenchyma and stroma free of significant acute & chronic inflammation, macrosteatosis, glycogenated nuclei, and fibrosis. Negative for malignant cells.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: Sections showed bilateral renal parenchyma and stroma notable for medial hypertrophy of medium sized vessels and interstitial/subcapsular lymphocytic inflammation, but free of significant basement membrane thickening, hyaline change, thyroidization, and interstitial fibrosis. Section of urinary bladder were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Sections of genitourinary tract were histologically unremarkable. Polarization and refraction failed to

reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Negative for malignant cells.

ALIMENTARY TRACT: Sections showed histologically unremarkable pancreatobilliary and tubular gastrointestinal tract. Negative for malignant cells.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma, free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for malignant cells.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for adrenal hemorrhage. Negative for malignant cells.

MEDICAL RECORDS REVIEW

Accompanying medical information collected from pre-autopsy verbal report by _Esmeralda CASTLE, the mother of the decedent, was notable for following medical findings:

Past Medical History: negative for suicidal attempts; equivocal for prior past suicidal ideation (10/2024);

Surgical Procedures: none;

Medical Laboratory: antemortem COVID-19 negative test.

Additional Notes: Clinical symptoms/signs, not in acute distress (5/28/2025-5/29/2025), asymptomatic (interim). The decedent did not receive blood transfusions or lived in Europe prior to death. The decedent was vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to death. The decedent had been consuming alcoholic beverages (wine and liquor)/tobacco (vaped) prior to death. The decedent had not been consuming illegal habit-forming drugs prior to death. The decedent did not have history of cancer prior to death. External and macroscopic images taken for posterity. Examination limited by autolysis and tissue preservation. Preliminary diagnosis called to and confirmed by Esmeralda CASTLE on 7/3/2025 at 1615. See accompanying Axis 3327991 report. Final diagnosis called to and confirmed by family friend on 8/1/2025 at 1615.

OPINION:

Based collectively on my autopsy findings herein as well as my review of the accompanying submitted medical information, in the case of this 21-year-old female, V/A.R. the manner of death is deferred (1,4-6,&9). I reserve the right to amend my opinion(s) upon the receipt of additional material (7).

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D.
Board-certified Pathologist

Date signed: 8/1/2025

References:

1. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose_wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm
2. ISBN-13: 978-1941096321, pages 105-108.
3. PMCID: PMC8817622.
4. https://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/topic_search_results?topic_status=P
5. https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/vitalrecords/physician-me/docs/capcodbook.pdf
6. https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/solutions/uptodate/roles/patients-caregivers
7. https://documents.cap.org/protocols/Autopsy.Adult_1.0.0.0.REL_CAPCP.pdf
8. PMID: 39912823
9. https://www.rcpath.org/static/33b81f4a-89f3-42bd-bc33bdd67879f008/G171-The-decomposing-cadaverfor-publication.pdf

Occasional errors in punctuation, grammar, and content occur.

Comment: "The following statement applies to tests, i.e. to dye(s), chemical solution stains, and Class I IHC reagents and kits. Dye(s), chemical solution stains are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations as "mixtures of synthetic or natural dyes or nondye chemicals in solutions used in staining cells and tissues for diagnostic histopathology, cytopathology, or hematology" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1850). This definition encompasses many of the common materials found in a conventional histopathology laboratory, such as routine hematoxylin and eosin stains, as well as special stains like trichrome, iron, and Grocott-Gömöri's methenamine silver, among others, and are considered Class I devices subject to general controls. Class I IHC reagents and kits are defined as those that "provide the pathologist with adjunctive diagnostic information that may be incorporated into the pathologist's report, but that is not ordinarily reported to the clinician as an independent finding," noting that "these IHC's are used after the primary diagnosis of tumor (neoplasm) has been made by conventional histopathology using nonimmunologic histochemical stains, such as hematoxylin and eosin" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). The 1998 final rule further describes these as "adjunctive tests [to conventional histopathologic diagnostic examination] and presenting a low risk to public health."37 An example of a Class I IHC specifically mentioned in the IHC reagents and kit regulation is keratin (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). Many other Class I IHC reagents and kits can be found by searching for the "NJT" product code on the FDA establishment registration and device listing database.47 These IVDs are exempt from premarket notification/510(k) submission, although they are still subject to FDA general controls and QS/CGMP requirements. Most IHC stains used by anatomic pathologists are considered diagnostic markers and therefore are categorized as Class I by the FDA. The tests herein have not been cleared or approved for the specific use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA does not require this test to go through premarket FDA review. These tests are used for clinical purposes. It should not be regarded as investigational or for research. This laboratory is certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments 1988 (CLIA) as qualified to perform high complexity clinical laboratory testing. All stains and tests are performed with general controls, i.e. positive and negative control reactions as necessary, and all controls show appropriate reactivity. However, stains and tests have not been validated on decalcified tissues. Results should be interpreted with caution given the likelihood of false negativity on decalcified specimens. Certain tests utilize Class I Analyte-Specific Reagents (ASR); these tests are developed, and their performance characteristics determined by this laboratory. ASRs used in this laboratory have been established and verified for accuracy and precision.(8)"

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FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

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Indianapolis, IN 46278

Telephone: (317) 759-4TOX

Website: www.axisfortox.com

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To: FX21028

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From: **Axis Forensic Toxicology**

Number of pages (including cover sheet): 3

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AXIS
FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Case Number: 3327991	**Subject's Name:** V/A.R.
Client Account: 21028 / ED21028	**Agency Case #:** ED25-1195_APR
Report To: Epiarx Diagnostics ATTN: Epiarx Diagnostics 700 12th Street N.W. Suite 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20005	**Date of Death:** 07/08/2025 **Investigator:** NEMANJA RODIC MD PHD **Date Received:** 07/03/2025 **Date Reported:** 07/25/2025

Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Date Collected:** 06/25/2025 09:00
Container(s): 01:T Tissue,UNSPECIFIED **Test(s):** 70510T Comprehensive Drug Panel, Tissue

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
VOLATILES	POSITIVE					
Methanol	POSITIVE	0.506	0.02		mg/g	
Ethanol	POSITIVE	0.280	0.02		mg/g	
Acetone	Negative					
Isopropanol	Negative					
AMPHETAMINES	Negative					
ANALGESICS	Negative					
ANESTHETICS	Negative					
ANTICHOLINERGICS	Negative					
ANTICONVULSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDEPRESSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDIABETICS	Negative					
ANTIFUNGALS	Negative					
ANTIHISTAMINES	Negative					
ANTIPSYCHOTICS	Negative					
BARBITURATES	Negative					
BENZODIAZEPINES	Negative					
CANNABINOIDS	Negative					
CARDIOVASCULARS	Negative					
GASTROINTESTINALS	Negative					
HALLUCINOGENS	Negative					

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Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Specimen No: **41275819** **Continued..**

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
MISCELLANEOUS	Negative					
MUSCLE RELAXANTS	Negative					
OPIOID ANALGESICS	Negative					
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS	Negative					
STIMULANTS	Negative					
UROLOGICALS	Negative					

Specimens will be kept for at least one year from the date of initial report.

The Specimen identified by the Laboratory Specimen Number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Laboratory Director

Laureen J. Marinetti, PhD, F-ABFT

[redacted] V/A.R.

Laboratory Case #:3327991
Print Date/Time:07/25/2025, 15:01
Page: 2 of 2

Case Reviewer

AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Stuart Kurtz, M.S., D-ABFT -FT
This individual may not have performed any of the analytical work.

001469_COPELAND
Unless otherwise noted, testing performed at 5780 W 71st Street, Indianapolis, IN 46278.

But again Please remember that what I like to do in order for the due diligence we observe is that after the military final autopsy document becomes available ask miss missus cancelled to submit it to our secure Dropbox shared folder and then send us an e-mail at sometime in the two-minute whenever the report is available maybe like 10 weeks from now or 16 weeks from now whenever OK and then I will review that and then either then or correct the report as needed OK so the so microscopic examination of multiple sections on this case showed no evidence of any blunt force trauma so that's something I think was important to rule in or out the toxicology studies were pertinently positive and there was a significant level of ethanol or alcohol there was detected and I think that is a significant finding now this upon microscopic examination on the organ systems there's no other changes either on microscope events or inflammation infection or cancer of any kind so I think the major other cause of that has been have been formally ruled out so this substance is detected in the bodily fluid I think is significant in the quantity and quality of it and I think that's something that informs the cause of death in this case um so in other words you know from our end we don't see any evidence of foul play as far as UM trauma to the remains and I think this is again let me just I'm careful what kind of language I'm using here I think this is suggestive of an accidental ingestion OK now um again what I'd like to do in order for all of the due diligence be observed is that once the the military is available I will review that material and then appropriately if I identify any additional diagnostic features that can help better classify the findings will attend the mandatory OK do you do you have any questions for me from your end yes so a couple questions um does the the findings or are there any other pending tests that that need to be deducted or awaiting results that will impact your final report the due diligence worked that I wanted to perform from our end is available is completed and but when and if the final autopsy documents from the first examination becomes available I'll be very happy to review that and again because you may be sometime in the future like a month two months maybe even six months depending on how complex this is on there and um whatever that is I just asked you and the family yeah we we did I I wanted to check we did open the Dropbox folder OK their e-mail maybe I should actually add you let me just add you on on that e-mail as well because you are you know the point of contact here and and then once you do that because it may be again sometime in the future just please drop me an e-mail OK and say something like hey doctor Aldrich dismiss cancel or miss poor yeah you're missus amber esmeralda I'm ibra so esmeralda is is miss castle and then my name is Debra I'm her colleague from law school yes her friend got it OK so let me see here then please just send me an e-mail that way I can see that it's in the archive that's the only problem with the Dropbox automatically not familiar it's there and then within about a week or two I will schedule us for follow up or attended or amend their correct report as needed OK the second question that I had was are any of the tests are able to indicate or any of the

anything that you were able to see and able to show whether there was any strangulation or any type of of anything of that nature I took very meticulous examination both externally of the remains and systematic microscopic examination to rule out even some small or difficult to detect ecchymosis or petechiae or other force or signs of one force trauma and I look very carefully there there's none so I and considered it formally ruled that out OK so sometimes by external examination you cannot see the you know the evidence of trauma but but this way that I performed it there's just simply no way of missing it because I'm looking at singular cells at that level right and if there's any kind of level of of change in I'm I'm I'm able to see it now there is that there has been formally considered and ruled out so I will add you to the to do a Dropbox share folder and let's then be communication whenever the report becomes available OK and once that report comes out we'll as well as I'll call her as me I'm sorry we'll miss castle get a copy of of your findings or will or will she get a copy of this additional report after I just feel like she's going to ask him no I'm gonna explain this to thank you so we're going to release our report automatically this is our standard operating procedure we're gonna release our reported automatically to to to her to Monday morning OK and then electronically and then they will mail her a hard copy those are typically dashed that same went Friday OK perfect and then once we reviewed the additional material we will follow the same sequence OK we'll release the report basically as if it's a new report one thing we have you know that's confirmed so that's fine but to confirm the address should we mail her report to [redacted] yes that's it OK wonderful thank you so much and lesbian communication then the first report OK thank you so much thank you bye bye

From:	Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
To:	Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Gunther, Wendy (VDH)
Cc:	Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] Re: List of Prescription Medication
Date:	Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:35:50 AM

No drugs. Negative.
This case was signed out in September.

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 11:48 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH); Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning Dr. Gunther,

I am just following up on this. Was there a result for the escitalopram?

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 9:24 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning – thank you! We are good on waiting. I just wasn't sure what the timeline might be for tracking purposes. I appreciate all of your help!

V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 8:34 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

Well, it's going to take the lab quite a while to do the escitalopram, particularly since Dr. Lameira pointed out to me that we don't have blood, just liver and muscle. I'm not sure the expensive, fast lab (NMS) will even do naproxen on liver and muscle; I think they only work on blood. So you're looking at 60 days if you want to wait for the escitalopram.

If you don't, then there is a much shorter timeline; I'll leave it up to Dr. Lameira to estimate it for you.

WG

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 4:13 PM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)

<Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon –

Are you able to provide an estimated timeline on when the autopsy report will be finalized? Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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WORK PRODUCT. It is intended only to be read by the individual(s) or entity(s) to whom it is addressed or their designee.

V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)

<shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

We can definitely ask for escitalopram, and if we have to we can send out for naproxen, but we can't do Cefpodoxime, the antibiotic.

I kind of think naproxen isn't indicated; if it's going to kill you, it does it by internal bleeding, and that wasn't part of the findings, right, Dr. Lameira?

How about if we ask our lab for escitalopram, and if it's positive, we don't do naproxen? If it's negative, the expense of outside lab can do naproxen within a couple of weeks.

Dr. Gunther

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 3:34 PM
To: Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <fernanda.lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>; Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <rob.robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon Dr. Lameira and Dr. Gunther,

Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with us on Tuesday. I apologize for the delay in getting back to you, but it took some time for us to track down the specific prescriptions we'd like to have the sample tested for (if that has not already been done). They are:

- Escitalopram/Lexapro
- Cefpodoxime
- Naproxen

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTIONS TO SUPPRESS** **5 December 2025**

MOTION

The Government respectfully requests this Court deny the Defense Motions to Suppress the evidence obtained from CSSN Copeland's barracks room pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS), the search of CSSN Copeland's iPhone 15 also pursuant to a CASS, and CSSN Copeland's statements to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) on 3 and 6 June 2025.

FACTS

1. On 31 May 2025, NCIS was contacted by Officer James Stalcup of the Norfolk Police Department (NPD) regarding a missing person report filed by ET3 Daniel Rich, USN regarding his ex-girlfriend, CS3 A.R, .USN.[1]

2. ET3 Rich advised Officer Stalcup that CS3 A.R. had not been seen or heard from since 29 May 2025 when she was last seen with CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, the Accused.[2]

3. Officer Stalcup told NCIS that he contacted CS3 A.R.'s command, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) and was informed by the command legal officer, LTJG David Demazure, USN (DDG 95) that CS3 A.R. was in an unauthorized absence (UA) status and the ship had been unable to contact her.[3]

4. LTJG Demazure provided Officer Stalcup with a phone number for CS3 A.R. However, when Officer Stalcup called the phone number, the number went straight to voicemail.[4]

5. After receiving this report from NPD, on 31 May 2025 NCIS also contacted LTJG Demazure, who confirmed that both CS3 A.R. and CSSN Copeland were in a UA status.

[1] Encl 1, Results of Initial Contact with Norfolk Police Department
[2] *Id*.
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*.

LTJG Demazure did not indicate any safety concerns surrounding CS3 A.R. and CSSN Copeland.[5]

6. On 31 May 2025, NCIS interviewed ET3 Rich. ET3 Rich stated that he last spoke to CS3 A.R. around 0230 on 29 May 25 via phone during which she was crying and asked for help. After the call, ET3 Rich was able to trace CS3 A.R.'s phone to Willis Manor, X-2 Barracks located on board Naval Station Norfolk, but only until 0430 at which time it appeared to have powered down.[6]

7. On 1 June 2025 at approximately 1341, CSSN Copeland was located in his barracks room on board Naval Station Norfolk after his mother called base security requesting a welfare check on her son.[7]

8. On 1 June 2025, NCIS contacted CS3 A.R.'s mother, Ms. Esmeralda Castle.

    a. Ms. Castle stated that she had not spoken to her daughter in about a week, but did receive a Facetime call from her on 28 May 2025 that she was unable to answer.

    b. NCIS asked Ms. Castle if she had any concerns that her daughter may commit suicide. Ms. Castle said she did not think that her daughter would have committed suicide, however, she told NCIS that her daughter has had in-patient mental health treatment in the past.

    c. Ms. Castle noted the in-patient treatment was brought about by pressures CS3 A.R. felt from work and ongoing sexual harassment she was subjected to by an older male on board the ship.[8]

9. On 1 June 2025, NCIS opened a missing-person investigation stemming from the suspected Article 86 absence of CS3 A.R.[9]

10. On 1 June 2025, NCIS conducted an initial search of CS3 A.R.'s barracks room. NCIS found the room to be neat tidy with various personal items throughout, to include a yoga mat, workout weights laid on the floor and a motorcycle helmet sitting on a desk. NCIS did not observe any signs of foul play.[10]

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[5] Encl 2, Results of Initial Contact with Command, MTAC, and ET3 Daniel Rich, USN on 31 May 25
[6] *Id*.
[7] *Id*.
[8] Encl 3, Results of Contact with Esmeralda Castle
[9] Encl 4, Affidavit of Special Agent Matthew Miller
[10] Encl 5, Results of Initial Search of CSSN V/A.R. Barracks Room

11. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CS3 A.R.'s roommate, MA3 Jessica Gouge, USN, USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN 77) who indicated she had not seen CS3 A.R. in several days.[11]

12. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed ET3 Rich.[12] ET3 Rich explained he is a recent ex-boyfriend of CS3 A.R.

    a. ET3 Rich stated that the two ended their relationship roughly a month ago, but she still shared her phone location with him.

    b. ET3 Rich told investigators that he and HT3 Michael Gillespie, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), another ex-boyfriend of CS3 A.R., attempted to search for CS3 A.R. in the early morning hours of 29 May 2025, but did not find her.

    c. ET3 Rich told investigators that CS3 A.R.'s father is currently incarcerated for assaulting CS3 A.R. when she was younger. ET3 Rich told investigators that CS3 A.R. was fearful of her father's release from prison.

    d. ET3 Rich further told investigators that CS3 A.R. suffered from some type of depression, and he helped regulate her medication as he was worried she might purposely overdose.

13. On 1 June 2025, NCIS contacted Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) to see if CS3 A.R. was or was currently a patient. NMCP stated they had no record of a recent hospital admission.[13]

14. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed FCC Brad Parker, USN, USS JAMES WILLIAMS (DDG 95). FCC Parker was CS3 Copeland and CS3 A.R.'s Chief.

    a. FCC Parker stated he went to CSSN Copeland's barracks room on the morning of 29 May 2025 because CSSN Copeland did not come to work as scheduled.

    b. FCC Parker believed CSSN Copeland was asleep when he arrived because when CSSN Copeland answered his barracks room door he appeared groggy.

    c. FCC Parker told investigators that he observed CS3 A.R. in CSSN Copeland's barracks bed, she acknowledged him, rolled over, and appeared to go back to sleep.

    d. FCC Parker stated he told CSSN Copeland to tend to CS3 A.R. and then come into work that day.

[11] Encl 6,Results of Interview of MA3 Jessica Gouge, USN
[12] Encl 7, Results of Initial Interview of ET3 Daniel Rich, dtd 1 June 25
[13] Encl 8, Results of Contact with Naval Medical Center Portsmouth

e. FCC Parker stated that CSSN Copeland told him CS3 A.R. was having personal issues and she came to CSSN Copeland's barracks room to discuss.[14]

15. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CSSN Copeland in the lounge of X-2 Willis Manor - his barracks building.

a. CSSN Copeland told investigators that he and CS3 A.R. were co-workers and he texted her on 28 May 2025 to discuss recipes and ingredients for tacos.

b. CSSN Copeland said CS3 A.R. came to his barracks that night and the two made tacos and drank alcohol.

c. CSSN Copeland described CS3 A.R. as becoming increasingly more emotional as the night went on and the two spoke about her romantic relationships.

d. CSSN Copeland stated that CS3 A.R. confided in him regarding her relationship with an ex-boyfriend, HT3 Gillespie and a recent argument the two had over a motorcycle helmet.

e. CSSN Copeland stated that one of his roommates came into the barracks common area where the two were sitting to check on CS3 A.R. because she appeared to be upset.

f. CSSN Copeland told NCIS that CS3 A.R. spent the night in his room and the two did not engage in sexual intercourse.

g. CSSN Copeland said they were woken by their chief, FCC Parker, around 0900 on 29 May 2025.

h. CSSN Copeland told investigators that the last time he saw CS3 A.R. was when he borrowed his roommate's car and returned CS3 A.R. to her barracks room around 1000 on 29 May 2025.[15]

16. On 2 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CSSN Gladys Garcia - Barrera, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), a friend of CS3 A.R.

a. CSSN Garcia-Barrera told investigators that on 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. and CSSN Garcia-Barrera went to Target and purchased exercise equipment and groceries.

b. After both returning to base and parting ways, CS3 A.R. told CSSN Garcia-Barrera that she was going to CSSN Copeland's barracks room to make tacos.

[14] Encl 9, Results of Initial Contact with FCC Brad Parker, USN
[15] Encl 10, Results of Initial Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN

c. When asked about CS3 A.R.'s mental health, CSSN Garcia-Barrera told investigators that she had heard CS3 A.R. had received inpatient mental health treatment at NMCP but did not know of any suicide attempts.

d. She disclosed, however, that CS3 A.R. talked about visiting a friend in New York and made comments to HT3 Gillespie about going UA to New York.[16]

17. On 2 June 2025, NCIS requested Navy Federal Credit Union Financial Records of CS3 A.R.

a. The subpoena requested that CS3 A.R. not be notified for fear that notification carried with it "a substantial risk…of endangering life or physical safety, flight from prosecution, or seriously jeopardizing an investigation or official proceeding or unduly delaying the same."[17]

b. In the Special Agent's opinion, this concern was based on two factors "(a) CS3 A.R.'s previously expressed suicidal ideation and her distressed state immediately prior to her entering a UA status; and (b) The nature of the offense as being in an unauthorized absence status will mean she will likely change her patterns to avoid being caught if she knows we are tracking her location."[18]

18. On 2 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CSSN Copeland's roommate, YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN (VAW 124).

a. YN3 Monaghan stated that CSSN Copeland occasionally has female guests in the barracks. YN3 Monaghan could recall three different women on three separate occasions.

b. He recalled that on the first two occasions he brought over an African American woman and on the third occasion, YN3 Monaghan observed CSSN Copeland with a white female with dark hair.

c. He told investigators that he saw the white female with dark hair passed out on the floor in her underwear.

d. When shown a photo of CS3 A.R., he could not identify her as the female he had seen passed out on the floor.[19]

19. On 3 June 2025, NCIS interviewed HT3 Gillespie. HT3 Gillespie is also an ex-boyfriend of CS3 A.R.

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[16] Encl 11, Results of Interview of CSSN Garcia-Barrera, USN, Enclosure (2).
[17] Encl 4, Special Agent Matt Miller Affidavit dtd 2 June 25
[18] *Id*.
[19] Encl 12, Results of Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN dtd 2 June 25

a. On the night of 28 May 2025, HT3 Gillespie received a text message from CS3 A.R. that read, "fuck you."

b. HT3 Gillespie stated that he and CS3 A.R. had had an argument on 27 May 2025 regarding her returning a motorcycle helmet to him.

c. HT3 Gillespie said after he received the text message, he tried to contact CS3 A.R. multiple times, but she did not respond.

d. NCIS requested and HT3 Gillespie provide a PASS to allow NCIS to review his cell phone.

e. CSSN Copeland told HT3 Gillespie that he dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room at 1300 on Thursday.[20]

20. On 3 June 2025, NCIS contacted Virginia State Police and requested they activate a Critical Missing Adult Alert Statewide for CS3 A.R. noting a current mental health issue.[21]

21. On 3 June 2025, NCIS interviewed AR John Calisse, USN,(VAW 124), CSSN Copeland's suitemate.

a. AR Calisse lived in the room across the common area from CSSN Copeland's bedroom.

b. AR Calisse recalled leaving his room on 29 May 2025 at approximately 0530.

c. When AR Calisse exited his room, he observed CSSN Copeland and an unknown female laying naked in the middle of common room floor.

d. He described the two lying on their backs, face up, with their eyes closed and CSSN Copeland's head lying on the thigh of the female.

e. AR Calisse described that the female's bra was pulled down exposing her breast.

f. AR Calisse told NCIS that CSSN Copeland borrowed AR Calisse's White Jeep on the evening of 1 June, but did not return to base with the vehicle until the morning of 2 June 2025 making AR Calisse late for work.[22]

22. On 3 June 2025, NCIS also interviewed PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN,(VAW 124), the last suitemate of CSSN Copeland.

[20] Encl 13, Results of Interview of HT3 Michael Gillespie
[21] Encl 14, Virginia Missing Person Information Clearinghouse Report dtd 3 June.
[22] Encl 15, Results of Interview of AR John Calisse, USN dtd 3 June 2025

a. He advised that he arrived back to the barracks room from a trip at approximately 0400 on 29 May.[23] He advised that all of the lights were off and he did not see anyone at that time.[24]

b. When PSSN GordilloCruz left his room with AR Calisse the next morning, he observed a female laying nearly fully naked with her breasts exposed on the floor of the common area with CSSN Copeland laying naked face up with his head on her torso.[25]

23. On 3 June 2025, CSSN Copeland invited a female Sailor, CSSN Sarah Cook, USN, who was a co-worker from his previous ship, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), to his barracks.

a. CSSN Cook arrived at CSSN Copeland barracks room around 1845.

b. CSSN Cook and CSSN Copeland hung out for over an hour in the common area of his barracks room watching TV and playing video games. CSSN Cook told NCIS she did not notice anything off about CSSN Copeland's behavior during her visit.

c. CSSN Cook estimated that she was at CSSN Copeland's room for over an hour when NCIS arrived and escorted him to his interview.[26]

24. On 3 June 2024 at 1949, CAPT Matthew Schlarmann, Commanding Officer of Naval Station Norfolk signed a CASS authorizing a search of the place where CS3 A.R. was last seen - SN Copeland's side of the his barrack's room - Rack A of 335B and common area of the barracks room. The CASS was issued in connection with the ongoing investigation into CS3 A.R.'s Article 86 offense.[27]

25. At approximately 2117, NCIS conducted an initial walk through of Room 335.[28]

26. While on scene, AR Calisse, CSSN Copeland's suitemate signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for Willis Manor X-2 #335.[29]

27. While the search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room was underway, CSSN Copeland's was interviewed at the Norfolk NCIS Field Office on board Naval Station Norfolk at approximately at 2130 on 3 June 2025.

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[23] Encl 16, Results of Interview of PSSN Irbin Gordillocuz
[24] *Id*.
[25] *Id*.
[26] Encl 15, Results of Interview of AR John Calisse, USN dtd 3 June 2025
[27] Encl 18, Command Authorized Search and Seizure – United States v. V/A.R. USN dtd 3 June 2025
[28] Encl 19, NCIS Scene Agent Notes dtd 3 June 2025
[29] Encl 20, Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure dtd 3 June 2025 signed by AR John Calisse, USN

a. Prior to entering the interview room, agents seized an iPhone 15 that CSSN Copeland brought with him.[30]

b. At the beginning of the interview, CSSN Copeland was asked if he had eaten which he acknowledged he had.[31]

c. CSSN Copeland was provided several bags of snacks and water at the beginning of the interview.[32]

28. One of the agents involved in the interview, Special Agent Bea Duffy, was very familiar with CSSN Copeland.

a. The two deployed together on the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) for several months at the end of 2024.

b. As the TRUMAN's Afloat Agent, Special Agent Duffy was the lead agent on the cases involving ABHAN A.R. and CSSN S.S. This interview was the fourth time in 10 months she had interviewed CSSN Copeland.[33]

29. After he was advised of his Article 31(b) rights, at approximately 2147, CSSN Copeland waived those rights and spoke with NCIS.[34] [35]

30. He was advised he could request a break at any time and additional snacks should he desire.[36]

31. At 2203, NCIS searched for electronics belonging to CS3 A.R. in Room 335, Side B and common space using an electronics detecting dog and found nothing of evidentiary value.[37]

32. At approximately 2234, NCIS searched Room 335 Side B Rack A and Common Area utilizing a cadaver dog. The dog alerted to a grey backpack located on CSSN Copeland's

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[30] Encl 23, Conversation with Special Agent Bee Duffy dtd 3 Dec 25
[31] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June at approx. 00:17:30; Encl 21, Interview Transcript pg. 1)
[32] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June at approx. 00:17:30
[33] Encl 22, Government Disclosure: Conversation with Special Agent Bea Duffy, NCIS dtd 3 Dec 25
[34] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June at approx. 00:17:30; Encl 22, Interview Transcript pg. 8-12)
[35] Encl 25, Military Rights Waiver dtd 3 June 2025
[36] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June at approx. 00:18:00; Encl 22,Interview Transcript pg. 12
[37] Encl 19, NCIS Scene Agent Notes dtd 3 June.

side of suite B at 2241, but this was not given any serious weight as these dogs can alert to any body odor, including sweat.[38]

33. At approximately, 1 hour and 22 minutes into the interview, agents offered CSSN Copeland a break.

    a. Agents asked him if he needed anything or would like to use the bathroom. He declined both offers.[39]

    b. The break lasts approximately 43 minutes during which time CSSN Copeland appeared to take a nap.[40]

34. When agents return to the room, they ask CSSN Copeland if he is fine to continue and he replies, "Yes, ma'am."[41] He is offered, but declines a bathroom break.

35. Although CSSN Copeland places his head on the table during breaks, he never tells the Special Agents that he is too tired to continue. In fact, he never tells either agent that he is tired. The Special Agents, however, continually check in with him, by making reference to they themselves being tired or they acknowledge that he must be tired[42] – but CSSN Copeland never asks to terminate the interview.

36. NCIS then broaches the topic with CSSN Copeland regarding his phone. They ask:

    [02:06:25] Special Agent Gokey, "So, I would like then to look at your phone and place you in the room, and that could potentially maybe help you with your command. Like, we could pitch it to him like, 'Hey, man, he didn't go to work, but it's not like he was fucking missing or gone or whatever.' Right?

    [02:06:46] SA GOKEY: You would be cool with that?

    [02:06:48] CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

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[38] Id.; Encl 24, Government Disclosure: Conversation with Special Agent Danielle Ortiz, NCIS dtd 3 Dec 25

[39] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June at approx. [01:22:00].; Encl 22, Transcript pg. 72

[40] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June from approx. [01:22:00 to 02:05:19].

[41] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June from approx.[02:06:00]. Encl 22,Transcript pg. 72

[42] Encl 22, Pg. 74- Special Agent Gokey – I'm Tired, Pg. 79 – I know you're tired. Pg. Special Agent Duffy (I know you're tired I know you're frustrated. I know that this – it sucks being in this situation). Pg. 103 – You okay? I know you're tired. We're about done. I just have a few more things I want to ask you about. As always, it's your choice. Pg. 105 – Special Agent Duffy "I'm tired, too"

37. CSSN Copeland then gives Special Agents the passcode to his phone.[43]

38. Special Agent Gokey then reads the PASS to CSSN Copeland.

    a. Special Agent Gokey informs CSSN Copeland again that NCIS is conducting an investigation into Article 86 and 107,

    b. Special Agent Gokey informs CSSN Copeland that NCIS is requesting to search his iPhone 15, and

    c. That he has the right to refuse to permit NCIS to search his phone.[44]

39. CSSN Copeland asks investigators if his phone will be returned to him. He says he would like to call his mother. Agents agree to facilitate a call with his mother. First, Special Agent Gokey reaffirms CSSN Copeland's desire to allow a permissive search of his phone by asking:

    [02:09:55] Special Agent Gokey: Are you good with signing this?

    [02:09:56] CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But is it cool if I can call my mom?

40. During this exchange, CSSN Copeland never says he is no longer permitting NCIS to search his iPhone 15.

41. Approximately 2 hours and 36 minutes into the interview and roughly 1 hour and 14 minutes after the first break, CSSN Copeland is offered a second break.[45]

42. At 2346, NCIS utilized a Hemastix, to test for the presence of blood on a sticker found stuck to the floor of CSSN Copeland's closet which was brown in color. The sticker tested presumptive positive for the presence of blood.[46]

43. At 0005, NCIS utilized a Hemastix, to test for the presence of blood on CSSN Copeland's bathroom sink. The sample tested presumptive positive for the presence of blood.[47]

44. From 0000-0116, NCIS utilized Bluestar, a chemical reagent used to test for the presence of blood.[48]

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[43] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June from approx.[02:06:51].
[44] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June from approx. [02:08:17] – [02:09:32]
[45] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June from approx. [02:36]
[46] Encl 19, NCIS Scene Agent Notes dtd 3 June 2025
[47] Id.
[48] Id. Encl 40, Documentation of Collection of Evidence from Room 335 (Bluestar)

45. At the end of the interview, CSSN Copeland signed a PASS which authorized agents to search his backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices.[49]

46. When presenting the PASS to CSSN Copeland, Special Agent Duffy discussed the parameters.

    a. She verbally explained all the items that he already given consent to and additional items that NCIS would like to search.

    b. She verbally listed the iPhone 15 that was previously discussed that CSSN Copeland had given consent to search. She says:

    "And then, you know, I know we already talked about phone and you were okay with us, you know, looking through that. And I wanted to ask you about the other iPhone that you have in your room. Is that something you would also be okay with going through?"

    c. CSSN Copeland does not express disagreement regarding her assertion that he is giving consent to the iPhone 15 that was previously discussed.

    d. She also listed another phone found in his bedroom, an apple watch, and a PS5.

    e. She discussed with him his right to refuse or limit the scope of the search.

    f. After reading the PASS to him in its entirety, CSSN Copeland signed the PASS.[50]

47. Special Agent Duffy then asked if CSSN Copeland was still willing to sign the paper copy of the first PASS to memorialize his consent. CSSN Copeland, visibly annoyed, said "No. I just—can we just—I'm just trying to go home."[51] The interview was terminated, although Special Agent Duffy returned a couple of minutes later to ask "I didn't give you my phone in order to call your mom. You want to do that? [52] CSSN Copeland responds "I'll just wait" and asks how much longer it will take to leave.[53] The parties depart not long after that.

48. At 0138, NCIS ceased the search of the barracks room and released the scene to CSSN Copeland, who was then present at the barracks room.[54] While at the barracks room, CSSN Copeland asked for his phone back, but SA Duffy advised he could not have it as it had been seized, or something to that effect.[55]

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[49] Encl 25, Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure dtd 4 June 2025
[50] Encl 21, Video Interview of CSSN Copeland dtd 3 June from approx. [02:58]-[03:01]; Encl 22, Transcript pg. 103-106
[51] Encl 22, Transcript pg. 107
[52] Encl 22, Transcript pg. 107
[53] Encl 22, Transcript pg. 107
[54] Encl 19, NCIS Scene Agent Notes dtd 3 June 2025
[55] Encl 23, Government Disclosure: Conversation with Special Agent Bee Duffy dtd 3 Dec 25.

49. At 1339 on 4 June 2025, CAPT Matthew Schlarmann, Commanding Officer of Naval Station Norfolk signed a second CASS authorizing a second search of 335B Rack A and the Common Area. The CASS was issued in connection with the ongoing investigation into CS3 A.R.'s Article 86 offense.[56]

50. On 4 June 25 Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of the seized iPhone 15 belonging to CSSN Copeland.

51. On 4 June 25, NCIS obtained a 2703(d) Order for T-Mobile Records pertaining to CS3 A.R. and CSSN Copeland's cellular phone accounts, respectively.

    a. Both orders included a request for device location, historical location information, mobility of cell location and wireline information.

    b. The mobility records for CSSN Copeland's account showed that he contacted CS3 A.R. on 1 June 2025 a total of 5 times between 1902 and 1904.[57]

52. On 4 June 2025, NCIS coordinated with Newport News Police Department Criminal Intelligence Unit to conduct License Plate Reader (LPR) queries on two vehicles CSSN Copeland had been known to borrow.

    a. The White Jeep Liberty belonging to AR Calisse was captured at Hampton Blvd & W 25th Street at 0440 on 2 June.[58]

    b. AR Calisse told investigators CSSN Copeland borrowed his Jeep on the night of 1 June, but did not return to base with it until 2 June making AR Calisse late for work.[59]

53. On 4 June 2025, at approximately 1315, NCIS conducted a scene examination in the hallway and stairwell closest to CSSN Copeland's barracks room - Room 335 on the third floor.

    a. Multiple areas of reddish brown staining were observed in the stairwell between levels 1 and 3.

    b. NCIS collected samples of the reddish brown stains for later analysis. No presumptive testing was done during the collection.[60]

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[56] Encl 27, Command Authorized Search and Seizure – United States v. V/A.R. USN dtd 4 June 2025.
[57] Encl 29, Results of 2703(D) Court Order
[58] Encl 30, Results of License Plate Reader Network Queries
[59] Encl 15, Results of Interview of AR John Calisse, USN
[60] Encl 31 X-2 Stairwell Scene Observation of 4 June 2025

54. At 0743 on 5 June 2025, CAPT Matthew Schlarmann, Commanding Officer of Naval Station Norfolk signed a CASS authorizing a search of CSSN Copeland's seized iPhone 15. Defense has not challenged the validity of this CASS, but merely the timing in relation to when they mistakenly believe that the search of the phone began.[61]

55. Also on 5 June, the Government obtained a Search Warrant for CSSN Copeland's AT&T account requesting, among other items, Call/Text/Data Detail records and specialized location data for CSSN Copeland's cell phone.[62]

56. At 1230 on 5 June, NCIS conducted a canvas of the X-2 Building. Upon arrival, the Barracks Manager, Ms. Mary Benson, explained to NCIS that she observed what appeared to be blood down the hallway of the first floor. NCIS observed at the end of hallway near the door a small dropping of a reddish brown substance. Ms. Benson stated the floors had been mopped between 29 or 30 May, but not since.[63] Samples were collected.

57. On 5 June, NCIS obtained a search warrant for CS3 A.R.'s Google account. The results showed two failed log in attempts on 2 June.[64] On 7 June 2025, it was determined that these failed log in attempts were done by ET3 Rich in attempt to located CSSN A.R..[65]

58. On 5 June, NCIS and Suffolk Police and Fire Departments conducted a canvassing search of the area surrounding College Dr. in Suffolk, Virginia as NCIS determined that was area of interest due to a possible cell ping from CS3 A.R.'s phone. No items of evidentiary value were recovered from the canvas.[66]

59. On 5 June 25, a preliminary rapid DNA test was conducted by Virginia State Police on comparison a sample obtained from CS3 A.R.'s mother and three suspected blood samples found in and around CSSN Copeland's barracks room.

    a. Sample 1: A buccal swab provided by CS3 A.R.'s mother.
    b. Sample 2: A swab of suspected blood from the X2 barracks stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2
    c. Sample 3:A swab of suspected blood from the left rear corner of CSSN Copeland's closet
    d. Sample 4: A swab of suspected blood from X2 barracks stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3.

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[61] Encl 28, Excerpt from Report of Findings NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQPS
[62] AE 3, 30a Matters
[63] Encl 31 Results of Area Canvas of Building X-2 with Photos dtd 5 June
[64] Encl 33, Results of Search Warrant for CS3 [redacted] s Google Account
[65] Encl 34, Results of Interview of ET3 Daniel Rich dtd 7 June 25, USN
[66] Enc 35, Results of Area Canvassing in Suffolk, VA dtd 5 June 25

Results were inconclusive. Sample 1 lacked sufficient DNA, Samples 2 and 3 were a mixture meaning they contained at least 2 human DNA profiles and Sample 4 displayed an error code and no human DNA was detected.[67]

60. On 6 June 25, CSSN Copeland was interviewed by NCIS at approximately 0843. During that interview he was advised that he was suspected of making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CS3 Angelina A.R.[68]

61. Agents repeatedly advised CSSN Copeland that he was in control of the interview and could stop at any time.

Special Agent: "I'd like to go through it with you. There's one that's a little--one piece of it's a little different on this form than what was talked about last time, and I want to have a chance to explain that to you. But, again, I--I--if you're telling me you don't want to do this, like, I'm not going to make you even do this part."[69]
****
"Are you--you comfortable just doing the first step and then talking a little bit more? We're not going to make you make a decision one way or the other.

CSSN Copeland: Yeah. I mean, what do you--what's the form?
Special Agent: Okay. Yeah."[70]

62. CSSN Copeland after being advised of 31(b) rights, waived those rights and spoke with investigators.[71]

63. On 9 June 25, YN3 Sean Monaghan, CSSN Copeland's roommate was interviewed by NCIS a second time.[72]

    a. YN3 Monaghan told investigators that he returned from leave on 28 May 25 around 1900. CSSN Copeland arrived to their barracks room around 2200. YN3 Monaghan had watch early on 29 May, so he was already half asleep. However, YN3 Monaghan remembers seeing a lighter skinned female with short hair with CSSN Copeland.

    b. YN3 Monahan woke up around 0500 on 29 May and noticed there was no one else in his bedroom. When he exited his bedroom and entered the common area around 0640, he observed CSSN Copeland asleep on the living floor in his underwear with a girl that YN3 Monaghan did not recognize. YN3 Monaghan left for work and returned around 1300.

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[67] Encl 36, Results of Rapid DNA Analysis dtd 5 June 25
[68] Encl 38, at pg 13
[69] Encl 38, Transcript pg. 9
[70] Encl 38, Transcript pg. 12-13
[71] Encl 39, Military Rights Waiver dtd 6 June 25
[72] Encl 41, Results of Secondary Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN dtd 9 Jun 25

c. When he returned, no one was in the barracks room. He next saw CSSN Copeland in their barracks room around 2000.

d. Over the course of 30 May – 1 June, YN3 Monaghan observed CSSN Copeland leaving their barracks room very early in the morning and returning late in the evening.

e. YN3 Monaghan described CSSN Copeland's behavior on 2 June as "skiddish."

f. YN3 Monaghan stated that although he does not allow CSSN Copeland to use his car, he does leave his keys in places where CSSN Copeland could access them. YN3 Monaghan stated that on 3 June 25, he believes that his car had moved parking spots.

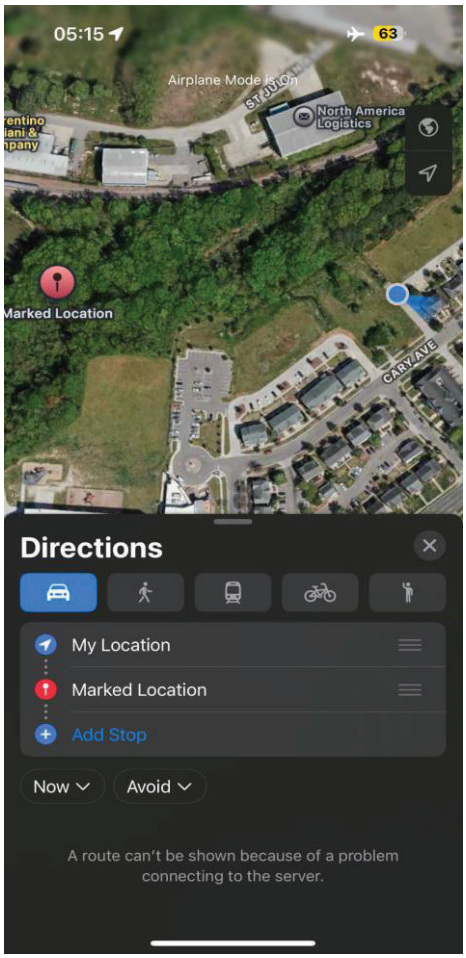
g. YN3 Monaghan also told investigators that he deep cleaned the barracks room on 2 June after noticing a blood spot on a bathmat in the bathroom he shares with CSSN Copeland.

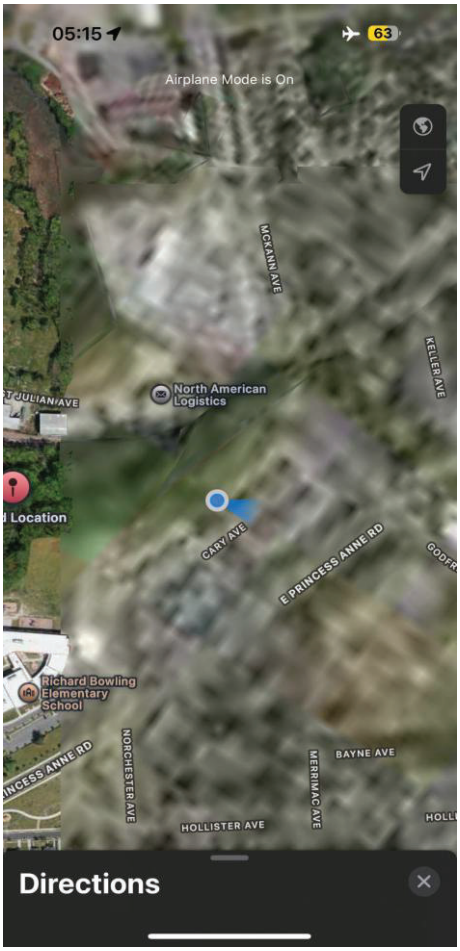
64. Between 5 June 25 and 9 June 25, an NCIS Digital Forensic Expert, Special Agent John Davison conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 belonging to CSSN Copeland pursuant to a CASS executed by CAPT Schlarman, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05 June 25. That search did not commence until after the CASS was signed. [73]

65. On 9 June 25, Special Agent Davison located and extracted two image files during the examination of the iPhone 15 belonging to CSSN Copeland. The image file named IMG_2621.PNG appears to be a screenshot of an Apple maps App with the street name Cary Ave visible in the image. The device also appears to be in Airplane mode and time of day is 05:15 according to the visible image. The blue circle appears to be the user of the iPhone 15 belonging to CSSN Copeland and appears to be facing towards the house on Cary Ave.[74]

66. The following are the image files containing the screenshots named IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG in order.[75]

[73] Encl 28, Excerpt from Report of Findings NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQPS
[74] Encl 42, Report of Findings NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQPS– Screenshots
[75] Id.

67. 



68. The user of the iPhone 15 belonging to CSSN Copeland took the screenshot named IMG_2621.PNG on 02 June 25, at 5:15:21 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 belonging to CSSN Copeland either purposely or accidentally took the screenshot named IMG_2622.PNG on 02 June 25, at 5:15:25 AM.[76]

69. On 9 June 2025 at approximately 1700, NCIS arrived at the location of Cary Avenue in Norfolk, Virginia and conducted a foot search around the Broad Creek neighborhood and Richard Bowling Elementary School.[77]

70. The Broad Creek neighborhood is a residential area occupied by townhomes, an elementary school and a wooded area containing walking paths to a creek.[78]

71. At 1745, NCIS located a bag off a path behind a row of townhomes. NCIS divided into groups and ultimately located the bag by following a smell.[79]

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[76] *Id.*
[77] Encl 43, Photos of Broad Creek
[78] *Id.*
[79] Encl 44, Scene Recovered Remains

72. Once the bag was located, K9 Kyra, a cadaver dog was utilized who presented a positive alert for the bag.[8081]

73. NCIS partially unzipped the bag and discovered human remains inside.[82]

74. On 10 June 2025, NCIS applied for a second CASS for CSSN Copeland's iPhone 15 which was executed by CAPT Matthew Schlarmann, Commanding Officer of Naval Station Norfolk.[83] This CASS included a search for evidence of Article 118, UCMJ.[84]

75. On 10 June 2025, USACIL DNA results indicated that the blood found in CSSN Copeland's closet was a mixture originating from two individuals – both CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R.'s DNA profile were included as contributors to this mixture.[85] The reddish-brown substance found in the stairwell also matched CS3 A.R.'s DNA.

BURDEN OF PROOF

The Government bears the burden of proof and persuasion by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c)

Pursuant to M.R.E. 311(d)(5), the Government bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that either (A) the evidence was not obtained as the result of an unlawful search or (B) the evidence obtained from an unlawful search fits into any one of a number of exceptions to the exclusionary rule.

LAW

I. CONSENT TO SEARCH

Under Mil. R. Evid. 314(e)(2), Manual Courts-Martial, a person may consent to a search of his or her person or property, or both, unless control over such property has been given to another. A person may grant consent to search property when the person exercises control over that property. Consent to search must be proven by the Government by clear and convincing evidence. Mil. R. Evid. 314(e)(5).

"M.R.E. 314(e)(3) implements the limited scope rule of *Schneckloth v. Bustamonte,*[86] which requires investigators to account for any express or implied limitations on a consent to search. Those limitations, however, cannot be determined on the basis of the subjective intentions of the consenting party. As the Supreme Court concluded in *Florida v. Jimeno,*[87] the

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[80] *Id*.
[81] Encl 24, Conversation with Special Agent Ortiz
[82] *Id*.
[83] Encl 28, Excerpt from Report of Findings NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQPS
[84] *Id*.
[85] Encl 45, USACIL: 25 ATL 00931 dtd 10 June
[86] 412 U.S. 218, 248-49, 93 S. Ct. 2041, 36 L. Ed. 2d 854 (1973)
[87] 500 U.S. 248, 111 S. Ct. 1801, 114 L. Ed. 2d 297 (1991)

standard is "that of 'objective' reasonableness -- what would the typical reasonable person have understood by the exchange between the officer and the suspect?"[88]

As CAAF cited in *United States v. Harborth*, "'…the ultimate touchstone of the Fourth Amendment is reasonableness' . . . [t]he 'warrant requirement is subject to certain exceptions.'"[89] One such exception allows for the temporary seizure of effects based upon probable cause or a "reasonable, articulable suspicion, premised on objective facts," of criminal activity." [90]

"[CAAF] has recognized that "search" and "seizure" are separate concepts. Revoking consent to one does not necessarily revoke consent to the other.[91]

"There must be some communication understandable to those conducting the search that the consent has been withdrawn." [92] "…[M]agic words" are not required to effectuate withdrawal of consent, an accused must make his intent clear through some unequivocal act or statement.[93]

Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 314(e)(4), which governs the voluntariness of consent searches, states "[c]onsent may . . . be withdrawn at any time." The phrase "any time" suggests no expiration, but our higher court has provided a terminus: "Consent . . . may be withdrawn at any time, provided of course that the search has not already been conducted."[94] Mil. R. Evid. 316(d)(2) states the consent requirements of Mil. R. Evid. 314 apply to consent seizures. The same reasoning therefore applies, and consent may be withdrawn at any time, provided that the seizure has not already been completed. Additionally, revoking consent to a seizure does not revoke consent to search. [95]

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[88] *Id.* at 251 (rejecting the accused's attempt to suppress evidence of cocaine possession by arguing that while he consented to a general car search at a traffic stop, he believed that consent did not permit the officer to open a closed bag that ultimately contained cocaine)." *United States v. Wallace*, 66 M.J. 5, 8 (C.A.A.F. 2008)

[89] *Lange v. California*, 594 U.S. 295, 301, 141 S. Ct. 2011, 210 L. Ed. 2d 486 (2021) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting *Brigham City v. Stuart*, 547 U.S. 398, 403, 126 S. Ct. 1943, 164 L. Ed. 2d 650 (2006))

[90] *United Staes v. Harborth*, 2025 CAAF LEXIS 436,*17 citing, *United States v. Place*, 462 U.S. 696, 702, 103 S. Ct. 2637, 77 L. Ed. 2d 110 (1983); *United States* v *Jacobsen*, 466 U.S.109, 121(1984).

[91] *United States v. Eugene*, 78 M.J. 132, 134 (CAAF 2018)(citing, *United States v. Wallace*, 66 M.J. 5, 8 (C.A.A.F. 2008)

[92] *Eugene,* 78 M.J. at 134*,* (citing, *United States v. Coleman*, 14 M.J. 1014, 1016 (C.M.A. 1982)).

[93] *Eugene,* 78 M.J. at 134*,* (citing, *United States v. Gray*, 369 F.3d 1024, 1026 (8th Cir. 2004)

[94] *United States v. Dease*, 71 M.J. 116, 120 (C.A.A.F. 2012).

[95] *United States v. Wallace*, 66 M.J. 5, 8 (C.A.A.F. 2008).

"As a general matter, a voluntary oral consent to search is not invalidated by a subsequent refusal to provide written consent to search."[96] Refusal to sign a form acknowledging that one has orally consented does not, absent more, negate the oral consent."[97]

II. COMMAND AUTHORIZED SEARCH AND SEIZURE

A search is proper if conducted pursuant to a search warrant or authorization based on probable cause.[98] A search authorization is valid only if issued by an impartial individual in one of the following categories: commander, military judge or magistrate, or other competent search authority.[99]

A. Probable Cause

No warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.[100] The Fourth Amendment protects the people against unlawful searches and seizures and requires establishment of probable cause prior to issuance of a warrant.[101] The military has implemented the Fourth Amendment through Military Rules of Evidence (M.R.E.) 311-17.

Probable cause exists to search when there is a reasonable belief that the person, property, or evidence sought is located in the place or on the person to be searched.[102] As noted by the U.S. Supreme Court, probable cause determinations must be based upon the "totality of the circumstances."[103] Probable cause requires more than a bare suspicion, but something less than preponderance of the evidence.[104] "It follows that probable cause determination are inherently

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[96] *United States v. Green*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 206238, *72-73

[97] 1993 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 4405, [WL] at *3. See also United States v. Lattimore, 87 F.3d 647, 651 (4th Cir. 1996) (en banc) ("It is clear, however, that a refusal to execute a written consent form subsequent to a voluntary oral consent does not act as an effective withdrawal of the prior oral consent."); United States v. Thompson, 876 F.2d 1381, 1384 (8th Cir. 1989) (oral consent voluntary although defendant refused to sign written consent to search form); United States v. Castillo, 866 F.2d 1071, 1082 (9th Cir. 1988) (rejecting the argument that defendant's "refusal to sign a written consent form vitiated any oral consent"); United States v. Boukater, 409 F.2d 537, 539 (5th Cir. 1969) (finding defendant's [*73] oral consent voluntary despite defendant's later refusal to sign consent to search form); United States v. De Los Santos, 904 F. Supp. 91, 93 (N.D.N.Y. 1995) ("[A] defendant's refusal to sign a consent to search form does not vitiate [earlier oral] consent.").

[98] Mil. R. Evid. 315(a); 315(f)(1).
[99] Mil .R. Evid. 315(d).
[100] U.S. Const. Amend. IV.
[101] U.S. Const. Amend. IV.
[102] M.R.E. 315(f)(2).
[103] *Illinois v. Gates*, 463 U.S. 213, 238 (1983).
[104] *United States v. Leedy*, 65 M.J. 208, 212 (C.A.A.F. 2007)

contextual, dependent upon the specific circumstances presented as well as on the evidence itself. Indeed, probable cause is founded not on the determinative features of any particular piece of evidence provided … but rather the overall effect or weight of all factors presented to the magistrate.[105]

Further, probable cause "deals with probabilities."[106] "[T]here is no specific probability required, nor must the evidence lead one to believe that it is more probable than not that contraband will be present."[107] "The duty of the reviewing court is simply to make a practical, common-sense decision whether, given all the circumstances set forth in the affidavit, there is a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place. Probable cause to search exists when the facts and circumstances are sufficient in themselves to warrant a man of reasonable caution to believe that an offense has been committed."[108] Further, "there is no requirement that an affidavit present conclusive proof by direct evidence that the crime has been committed before a search warrant can issue."[109] Finally, Courts should not invalidate warrants by interpreting affidavits in a hyper technical, rather than a commonsense manner.[110]

"Stated differently, in order for there to be probable cause, a sufficient nexus must be shown to exist between the alleged crime and the specific item to be seized."[111] "The question of nexus focuses on whether there was a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place."[112]

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[105] *Id*. at 213.
[106] *Id*.
[107] *Id*.
[108] *Leedy*, 65 M.J. at 213–17 (finding probable cause existed when specific facts such as a potentially innocuous name of a digital file ("14 year old Filipino girl") was found amongst a playlist of titles identifying sex acts were viewed in context and illuminated through the affiant's professional background training and experience in child pornography cases); *see e.g.*, *United States v. Clayton*, 68 M.J. 419, 424-25 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (finding probable cause existed to search for child pornography on computer in appellant's quarters, based largely on appellant's membership in a Google user group known to contain child pornography, even though there was no evidence appellant actually possessed child pornography); *United States v. Macomber*, 67 M.J. 214, 218 (C.A.A.F. 2009) (finding probable cause existed to search airman's barracks room for child pornography under the totality of circumstances, even though there was no evidence the airman ever actually possessed child pornography, and the evidence that he registered with a child pornography website was fourteen months old) (emphasis added).
[109] *Leedy*, 65 M.J. at 217 (quoting *United States v. Eichert*, 168 Fed. App'x 151, 152 (9th Cir. 2006) (finding probable cause was met and comported with common sense because requiring a detailed description of the contents of a pornographic image as a predicate to search would put law enforcement in the untenable position to only allow a search for contraband after the contraband had already been discovered).
[110] *Illinois v. Gates*, 462 U.S. 213, 236 (1983); *United States v. Clayton*, 68 M.J. 419, 423 (C.A.A.F. 2010); *United States v. Macomber*, 67 M.J. 214, 218 (C.A.A.F. 2009); *United States v. Gallo*, 55 M.J. 418, 421 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[111] *United States v. Nieto*, 76 M.J. 101, 106 (C.A.A.F. 2017).
[112] *United States v. Clayton*, 68 M.J. 419, 424-25 (C.A.A.F. 2010).

When the defense has challenged the probable cause support for a search authorization, the evidence relevant to the motion is limited to evidence concerning the information actually presented to or otherwise known by the authorizing officer.[113] Nonetheless, a court "will not defer to a warrant based on an affidavit that does not provide a magistrate with a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause."[114] Accordingly, "substantial basis as a standard of review examines the information supporting the request for a search authorization through the eyes of a judge evaluating the magistrate's decision."[115] Finally, while a Commanding Officer does not issue warrants, he or she is bound by the same rules in authorizing a search as a [F]ederal magistrate; that is, probable cause to believe that the things to be seized are on or within the premises to be searched.[116]

B. Particularity

A search authorization must "particularly describe the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."[117] The Fourth Amendment requires that a search warrant describe the items to be seized with sufficient particularity to prevent a general exploratory rummaging in a person's belongings.[118] Notwithstanding the importance of preserving the particularity requirement, there is considerable support in federal law for the notion of "achieving a balance by not overly restricting the ability to search electronic devices."[119] Thus, in applying the Fourth Amendment to searches of electronic devices, there exists "a zone in which such searches are expansive enough to allow investigators access to places where incriminating materials may be hidden, yet not so broad that they become the sort of free-for-all general searches the Fourth Amendment was designed to prevent."[120] The proper way to determine sufficient specificity is

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[113] M.R.E. 311(d)(4)(A).
[114] *United States v. Carter*, 54 M.J. 414, 419 (C.A.A.F. 2001) (quoting *Illinois v. Gates*, 463 U.S. 213, 239 (1983)).
[115] *Id.* at 422.
[116] *United States v. Lancina*, 2017 CCA LEXIS 436 *4 (N.M.C.C.A. 2017).
[117] U.S. Const. amend. IV.
[118] See *U.S. v. Richards*, 76 M.J. 365, 369 (CAAF 2017).
[119] *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369-70 (citing *United States v. Richards*, 659 F.3d 527, 540-42 (6th Cir. 2011) (court allowing the search of an entire server known to contain websites harboring child pornography). "[I]t is folly for a search warrant to attempt to structure the mechanics of the search and a warrant imposing such limits would unduly restrict legitimate search objectives." *United States v. Burgess*, 576 F.3d 1078, 1094-95 (10th Cir. 2009) (court upholding a warrant to search "all computer records" for evidence of drug trafficking). Instead of attempting to set out bright line rules for limiting searches of electronic devices, the courts have looked to what is reasonable under the circumstances. "As always under the Fourth Amendment, the standard is reasonableness." *United States v. Hill*, 459 F.3d 966, 974-77 (9th Cir. 2006) (court upholding an off-site search of all of the defendant's computer storage media for evidence of child pornography).
[120] *Id.* at 370.

"whether it was reasonable to provide a more specific description of the items at that juncture of the investigation."[121]

"A nexus inquiry focuses on whether there was a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place."[122] "A nexus may be inferred from the facts and circumstances of a particular case, including the type of crime, the nature of the items sought, and reasonable inferences about where evidence is likely to be kept."[123]

In the absence of facial specificity, if the Government can otherwise show the CASS incorporated by reference an affidavit that described the particular items to be searched then the Fourth Amendment would be satisfied.[124]

The Supreme Court has never declared that the Fourth Amendment prohibits a warrant from cross-referencing other documents. In fact, the Court recognizes that most Courts of Appeals have held that a court may construe a warrant with reference to a supporting application or affidavit if the warrant uses appropriate words of incorporation, and if the supporting document accompanies the warrant.[125]

"It has long been held that the presence of a search warrant serves a high function, and that high function is not necessarily vindicated when some other document, somewhere, says something about the objects of the search, but the contents of that document are neither known to the person whose home is being searched nor available for her inspection."[126]

The Court in *Ixcolgonzalez* did not disagree with the concept that simultaneous delivery of supporting documents with the CASS may be a means of incorporation.[127]

C. Scope of a Search

In *Shields,* NMCCA recognized it "is folly for a search warrant to attempt to structure the mechanics of the search and a warrant imposing such limits would unduly restrict legitimate search objectives."[128]

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[121] *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369; *see also United States v. Ixcolgonzalez*, CCA LEXIS 186 *6 (N.M.C.C.A 2025)
[122] *United States v. Guihama*, 2022 CCA LEXIS 672, *27 (A.F.C.C.A. November 2022) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).
[123] *Id.* at *27-28.
[124] *United States v. Ixcolgonzalez*, 2025 CCA LEXIS 186, *8 (N.M.C.CA. 2025)
[125] *Id.*
[126] *United States v. Ixcolgonzalez*, 2025 CCA LEXIS 186, *9 (internal citations and quotations omitted.)
[127] *Id.*
[128] *United States v. Shields*, 83 M.J. 226, 231 (CAAF 2023) (internal citations and quotations omitted.)

To assess whether a search is reasonable, we must assess, "on the one hand, the degree to which [the search] intrudes upon an individual's privacy and, on the other, the degree to which it is needed for the promotion of legitimate governmental interests." United States v. Gurczynski, 76 M.J. 381, 386

D. Good Faith Exception

To begin, the good faith exception applies to searches authorized by a commander.[129] The "good-faith inquiry is confined to the objectively ascertainable question whether a reasonably well trained officer would have known that the search was illegal in light of all of the circumstances."[130] Even where evidence was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure, it may be still be used if it meets the requirements of good-faith exception:

(a) The search or seizure resulted from an authorization to search, seize, or apprehend issued by an individual competent to issue the authorization under M.R.E. 315(d) or from a search warrant or arrest warrant issued by competent civilian authority[…];

(b) the individual issuing the authorization or warrant had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause or the official seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and in good faith believed that the individual issuing the authorization or warrant had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause, and

(c) the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith relied on the issuance of the authorization or warrant. Good faith is to be determined using an objective standard.[131]

Further "[searches] pursuant to a warrant will rarely require any deep inquiry into reasonableness," for "a warrant issued by a magistrate normally suffices to establish" that a law enforcement officer has "acted in good faith in conducting the search."[132] Nevertheless, "the officer's reliance on the magistrate's probable-cause determination and on the technical sufficiency of the warrant he issues must be objectively reasonable."[133]

Next, a law enforcement official does not have an objectively reasonable belief that there was a substantial basis for determining probable cause where the magistrate "was misled by

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[129] *United States v. Lopez*, 35 M.J. 35 (C.M.A. 1992); *see also United States v. Perkins*, 78 M.J. 381 (C.A.A.F. 2019) (following logic of SCOTUS in *Leon* and overruling *United States v. Hoffman*, 75 M.J. 120 (C.A.A.F. 2016) in finding the exclusionary rule was inapplicable because the commander issuing search authorization and NCIS agent seeking and executing the search authorization relied on the advice of appropriate Government attorneys who concluded there was probable cause to secure a search authorization).
[130] *United States v. Ixcolgonzalez*, 2025 CCA LEXIS 186, *13
[131] M.R.E. 311(c)(3).
[132] *United States v. Leon*, 468 U.S. 897, 922 (1984) (quoting *Illinois v. Gates*, 462 U.S., at 267 (WHITE, J., concurring in judgment); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 823, n.32 (1982)).
[133] *Leon*, 468 U.S. at 922.

information in an affidavit that the affiant knew was false or would have known was false except for his reckless disregard of the truth;" where the magistrate "wholly abandoned his judicial role" or was a mere rubber stamp for the police; and where the warrant is "so facially deficient – i.e., in failing to particularize the place to be searched or things to be seized – that executing officers cannot reasonably presume it to be valid…."[134] Additionally, there can be no objectively reasonable belief in a substantial basis for determining probable cause where the warrant was based on an affidavit "so lacking in indicia of probable cause as to render official belief in its existence entirely unreasonable."[135]

E. Appreciable Deterrence

Evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure made by a person acting in a governmental capacity is inadmissible against the accused if: (a) the accused makes a timely motion to suppress; (b) the accused had a reasonable expectation of privacy in the person, place, or property searched; and (c) exclusion of the evidence results in appreciable deterrence of future unlawful searches and seizures and the benefits of the deterrence outweigh the costs to the justice system.[136]

In *United States v. Leon*, the Supreme Court noted that it is the "magistrate's responsibility to determine whether the officer's allegations establish probable cause and, if so, to issue a warrant comporting in form with the requirements of the Fourth Amendment."[137] In the ordinary case, "an officer cannot be expected to question the magistrate's probable-cause determination or his judgment that the form of the warrant is technically sufficient."[138] "[Once] the warrant issues, there is literally nothing more the policeman can do in seeking to comply with the law."[139] Penalizing the officer for the magistrate's error, rather than his own, "cannot logically contribute to the deterrence of Fourth Amendment violations."[140] Finally, the Court found that "the marginal or nonexistent benefits produced by suppressing evidence obtained in objectively reasonable reliance on a subsequently invalidated search warrant cannot justify the substantial costs of exclusion."[141]

F. Inevitable Discovery

Evidence that was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure may be used when the evidence would have been obtained even if such unlawful search or seizure had not been made.[142] "This doctrine may apply where it is reasonable to conclude officers would have

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[134] *United States v. Carter*, 54 M.J. 414 at 419-420 (C.A.A.F. 2001)(quoting *Leon*, 468 U.S. at 923 (1984)).
[135] *Id*. at 419.
[136] M.R.E. 311(a).
[137] *Leon*, 468 U.S. at 921.
[138] *Id.*
[139] *Id*. (quoting *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465, 498, BURGER, C.J., concurring)
[140] *Id*. at 921.
[141] *Id*. at 922.
[142] M.R.E. 311(c)(2).

obtained a valid authorization had they known their actions were unlawful."[143] "The doctrine of inevitable discovery allows for the admission of illegally obtained evidence when the government 'demonstrate[s] by a preponderance of the evidence that when the illegality occurred, the government agents possessed, or were actively pursuing, evidence or leads that would have inevitably led to the discovery of the evidence in a lawful manner."[144]

In *United States v. Eppes*, where the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces concluded a search of the accused's bags was beyond the scope of the search authorization, it nonetheless upheld the admission of the evidence obtained as a result of the search under the inevitable discovery exception.[145] In that case, the search authorization authorized the search of the accused and his personal vehicle, but not the accused's personal bags.[146] Upon executing the search, the law enforcement agents searched the bags, resulting in a search beyond the scope of the authorization, but within the confines of the affidavit, which requested authority to search the accused, his personal bags and his personal vehicle.[147] The Court stated: "It is likely the omission of the bags from the search authorization was simply a scrivener's error because the agent who swore the affidavit also apparently authored the search authorization signed by the magistrate. It seems incongruous that the agent would include the bags in the affidavit and then intentionally leave them out of the drafted search authorization.[148] Upon searching the bags, agents found evidence of a separate offense in plain view.[149] They stopped their search and obtained an additional search authorization to collect evidence of the separate offense.[150] In upholding admission of evidence obtained as a result of the search of the bags under the inevitable discovery doctrine, the Court reasoned the agents would have applied for and received authorization to search the bags had they recognized the discrepancy in the authorization omitting the bags.[151] Further, the Court found "no valid policy reason for applying the exclusionary rule."[152]

III. VOLUNTARY STATEMENTS

Article 31(b), UCMJ provides:

> No person subject to this chapter may interrogate, or request any statement from, an accused or a person suspected of an offense without first informing him of the nature of the accusation and advising him that he does not have to make any statement regarding the offense of which he is accused or suspected and that any

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[143] *United States v. Eppes*, 77 M.J. 339, 347-348 (C.A.A.F. 2018) (internal citation omitted).
[144] *Id.* at 347 (quoting *United States v. Wicks*, 73 M.J. 93, 103 (C.A.A.F. 2014)).
[145] *Id.* at 346-348.
[146] *Id.* at 348.
[147] *Id.*
[148] *Id. 347.*
[149] *Id.* at 343.
[150] *Id.*
[151] *Id.* The court also relied on the independent source doctrine
[152] *Id.*

statement made by him may be used as evidence against him in a trial by court-martial.

Article 31(b) warnings encompass the Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination's two distinct rights: the right to silence and the right to counsel during custodial pretrial questioning.[153]

"Such warnings are required when "(1) a person subject to the UCMJ, (2) interrogates or requests any statement, (3) from an accused or person suspected of an offense, and (4) the statements regard the offense of which the person questioned is accused or suspected."[154]

"Whether a person is a suspect is an objective question that is answered by considering all the facts and circumstances at the time of the interview to determine whether the military questioner believed or reasonably should have believed that the servicemember committed an offense."[155]

At times it can also be appropriate to consider the subjective view, looking at "what the investigator, in fact, believed, and . . . decid[ing] if the investigator considered the interrogated person to be a suspect."[156] Designating someone a suspect for Article 31(b), UCMJ, purposes requires more than merely a "hunch."[157]

"The purpose of informing a suspect or accused of the nature of the accusation is to orient him to the transaction or incident in which he is allegedly involved."[158] "It is not necessary to spell out the details . . . with technical nicety."[159] The warning need only inform an accused "of the general nature of the allegation, to include the area of suspicion that focuses the person toward the circumstances surrounding the event."[160]

A waiver of Article 31(b), UCMJ and Fifth Amendment rights must be voluntary, knowing, and intelligent.[161] Voluntariness turns on whether the accused's "will has been overborne."[162] "The necessary inquiry is whether the confession [or admission] is the product of an essentially

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[153] United States v. Flanner, 85 M.J. 163, 169 (C.A.A.F. 2024).
[154] United States v. Jones, 73 M.J. 357, 361 (C.A.A.F. 2014) (citing United States v. Cohen, 63 M.J. 45, 49 (C.A.A.F. 2006)).
[155] United States v. Swift, 53 M.J. 439, 446 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting United States v. Good, 32 M.J. 105, 108 (C.M.A. 1991)).
[156] Muirhead, 51 M.J. at 96.
[157] *United States v. Metz*, 84 M.J. 421, 426-427 (C.A.A.F. 2024).
[158] United Sates v. Rice, 29 C.M.R. 340, 342 (C.M.R. 1960).
[159] United States v. Quintana, 5 M.J. 484, 487 (C.M.A. 1978).
[160] United States v. Simpson, 54 M.J. 281, 284 (C.A.A.F. 2000).
[161] *United States v. Mott*, 72 M.J. 319, 330 (C.A.A.F. 2013).
[162] *Schneckloth v. Bustamante*, 412 U.S. 218, 225 (1973) (internal citation omitted).

free and unconstrained choice by its maker."[163] An accused "may waive his right to remain silent even if the [accused] does not know the specific questions the authorities intend to ask."[164]

Whether an accused's will has been overborne in a particular case, and whether a waiver is knowing and intelligent, depends on the "totality of all surrounding circumstances[.]"[165] Factors considered include "the youth of the accused, his lack of education, or low intelligence, the lack of any advice to the accused of his constitutional right, the length of detention, the repeated and prolonged nature of the questioning, and the use of physical punishment such as the deprivation of food or sleep", and the accused's experience, education, background, capacity to understand, nature of the rights and their warnings, and the consequences of waiving rights.[166] No one criterion is controlling.[167]

The Constitution is not concerned with moral and psychological pressures to confess emanating from sources other than official coercion, such as an accused's fear for his future.[168] The fact that a suspect chooses to speak after a rights advisement is highly probative.[169] The presence or absence of tactics during an interrogation are probative.[170] "Ploys to mislead a suspect or lull him into a false sense of security" may be utilized without automatic suppression.[171] Even "a misrepresentation by police that a cohort has confessed or that a companion has identified the accused as a perpetrator, while relevant to a determination of voluntariness, would not render an otherwise voluntary statement involuntary."[172] Mild-mannered forms of questioning weigh in favor of finding confessions voluntary.[173] "Not only must we examine the circumstances

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[163] *United States v. Bubonics*, 45 M.J. 93, 95 (C.A.A.F. 1996).
[164] *Mott*, 72 M.J. at 330 (citing *United States v. Ruiz*, 536 U.S. 622, 629-630 (2002) (internal ellipses redacted)).
[165] *Schneckloth*, 412 U.S. at 226; *United States v. LeMasters*, 39 M.J. 490, 493 (C.A.A.F. 1994) (finding waiver knowingly and intelligently made "[u]nder the circumstances of this case"). Reviewing courts employ a "two-part test from *Schneckloth*, looking to both (1) the personal characteristics of the accused as well as (2) the circumstances of the interrogation." *United States v. Lewis*, 78 M.J. 447, 453 (C.A.A.F. 2019) (internal citation omitted).
[166] *Schneckloth*, 412 U.S. at 225 (internal quotations and citations omitted); *Mott*, 72 M.J. at 330.
[167] *Schneckloth*, 412 U.S. at 226.
[168] *Berghuis v. Thompkins*, 560 U.S. 370, 386 (2010).
[169] *United States v. Lewis*, 78 M.J. 447, 453 (C.A.A.F. 2019).
[170] *United States v. Ellis*, 57 M.J. 375, 379 (C.A.A.F. 2002).
[171] *United States v. Jones*, 34 M.J. 899, 907 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 1992).
[172] *Id*.
[173] *See*, *e.g.*, *United States v. Delarosa*, 67 M.J. 318, 326 (C.A.A.F. 2009) (holding the "atmosphere of the interrogation was not laced with coercion or intimidation" having specifically "found that the detective's tone was never verbally abusive or threatening); *United States v. Neiman*, 2016 CCA LEXIS 435, unpub. op. at *31 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. Jul. 26, 2016) (holding the military judge correctly declined to find coercion where the "agents carefully explained why they needed to speak with him, never raised their voices, never threatened him, nor did they ever make any promises or provide any assurances of leniency or other benefit in exchange for his cooperation").

surrounding the taking of the statement regarding what was done or said, but we also must examine what was not done or not said."[174]

ARGUMENT

I. THE SEARCH OF CSSN COPELAND'S BARRACKS ROOM ON 3 JUNE WAS A VALID SEARCH.

a. THE CASS ISSUED ON 2 JUNE 2025 WAS VALID. THE CASS DESCRIBED THE ITEMS TO BE SEIZED WITH PARTICULARITY.

Defense misunderstands the purpose and scope of the CASS that authorized the search of the barracks room. The CASS was issued to investigate CS3 A.R.'s unauthorized absence. The supporting affidavit details the facts surrounding CS3 A.R.'s absence, her last known movements, and the need to locate evidence bearing on where she had gone or whether she was in danger. Except for a single typographical error in the header, the authorization is titled with CS3 A.R.'s name, further underscoring its purpose.

It is entirely reasonable—and often necessary—for investigators to search for "other evidence of the offense," including the victim's personal items, clothing, backpack, bus or plane tickets, travel receipts, or anything indicating where she went or whether she was hiding. Likewise, searching for potential biological evidence such as blood or DNA is a routine and reasonable investigative step when determining a missing person's location or condition. Defense's attempt to recast the CASS as targeting CSSN Copeland ignores both the factual context and the plain language of the affidavit. The search was properly authorized and directly related to locating the missing victim who was in a UA status, and any evidence or tips of where she may be from the last place she had been seen.

b. THE AREAS IN WHICH BLOOD WAS FOUND WAS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE CASS

It was also objectively reasonable for investigators executing the CASS to look inside a locked closet while searching for a missing person. When a service member is in an unauthorized absence status and potentially in danger, investigators must consider the full range of possibilities—including that the individual may be hiding, injured, unconscious, or otherwise unable to respond. Closets, particularly locked ones, are common locations where a missing person might be concealed, voluntarily or involuntarily. A closet may also contain the victim's personal effects, clothing, travel bags, identification, transportation receipts, or other indicia of where she had gone or whether she was preparing to leave. Additionally, investigators could reasonably believe a locked closet might contain biological evidence—such as blood, bodily fluids, or signs of injury—bearing on the victim's physical condition. In an investigation to find a missing person, it would be unreasonable not to check a locked closet. The decision to open it was therefore well within the scope of the authorized search and entirely consistent with the goal of locating the missing person and assessing her condition.

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[174] *Ellis*, 57 M.J. at 379.

c. CSSN COPELAND ALSO SIGNED A PASS FOR THE SEARCH OF HIS BARRACKS ROOM ON 3 JUNE 2025

Defense also ignores that CSSN Copeland signed a PASS at the conclusion of his interview authorizing NCIS to search among other things, his barracks room. CSSN Copeland knowingly and voluntarily authorized the search and independently validated the agents' authority to search the barracks room. The Defense cannot simply disregard this subsequent voluntary consent, which operates as an independent and lawful basis for this search.[175]

d. CSSN COPELAND'S SUITEMATE SIGNED A PASS FOR THE COMMON AREA OF THE BARRACKS ROOM – BLUESTAR ILLUMINATED

Moreover prior to the search, AR Calisse, CSSN Copeland's suitemate also gave authorization to search the areas in which he had control. This would include the common area which also through the use of Bluestar indicated the presence of blood.[176]

e. GOOD FAITH EXCEPTION WOULD APPLY

Here, under M.R.E. 311(c)(3), even if the search authorization is found to be defective by this Court, the Good Faith Exception should apply. First, there was a search authorization issued by a person with authority to issue it, the Commanding Officer (CO) of Naval Station Norfolk. Under the second prong, the CO "had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause."[177] Under the last prong, the NCIS search team "reasonably and with good faith relied on the issuance of the authorization."[178] In short, Special Agent Gokey presented a proper affidavit to the CO, and her team relied on it.

f. INEVITABLE DISCOVERY WOULD APPLY

Even if this Court were to find the initial search of the barracks room, the inevitable discovery doctrine squarely applies. First, CSSN Copeland signed a PASS for the search of his barracks room during his 3 June interview. That fact alone would have led to the discovery of the items found in the initial search of his barracks room. Moreover, other independent, contemporaneously developing evidence—wholly unrelated to any evidence found inside the barracks room or based on this PASS—would have produced probable cause for a valid search authorization.

On 3 June, CSSN Copeland voluntarily told law enforcement that he had been texting the victim on 1 June, and independent of that statement, on 4 June 2025, a 2703(d) order from AT&T confirmed that he contacted CS3 A.R.'s phone multiple times on the evening of 1 June 2025. On 3 June, investigators also learned that he borrowed his roommate's car overnight, with license-plate-reader data placing the vehicle on relevant routes during the critical time period.

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[175] Permission Authorization for Search and Seizure dtd 4 June.
[176] Encl 40
[177] M.R.E. 311(c)(3)(B).
[178] M.R.E. 311(c)(3)(C).

Most significantly, law enforcement discovered blood in the hallway and stairwell immediately outside the barracks room—locations requiring no search authorization—and subsequent testing confirmed the blood belonged to the victim. These facts, taken together, would have inevitably led to the issuance of a search authorization for the barracks room meaning the contested evidence would have been lawfully discovered regardless of any alleged defect in the initial search.

g. THE EXCLUSIONARY RULE DOES NOT PROHIBIT ADMISSION OF THIS EVIDENCE

Under M.R.E. 311(a)(3), "exclusion of this evidence" would not "result[] in appreciable deterrence of future unlawful searches . . . and the benefits of such deterrence do not outweigh the costs to the justice system." First, there is no conduct from the agents to deter, as they presented evidence of a Sailor who was in an unauthorized absence status to a person who could properly issue a search authorization and then acted upon that authorization. There is no government malfeasance here. Their conduct reflects diligence, not misconduct. Far from engaging in any overreach, agents took deliberate, lawful measures to ensure the investigation proceeded in compliance with the 4th Amendment. Even if there were conduct to deter, the benefits of deterring that conduct do not in any way outweigh the costs to the justice system of excluding evidence of blood and DNA of a deceased Sailor from the last location where she was seen alive.

II. CSSN COPELAND'S 3 JUNE AND 6 JUNE STATEMENTS ARE ADMISSIBLE AND WERE LAWFULLY OBTAINED

A. BECAUSE CSSN COPELAND WAS PROPERLY ADVISED OF HIS RIGHTS AND THE TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SHOWS VOLUNTARINESS, THE 3 JUNE 2025 INTERVIEW IS ADMISSIBLE

i. INVESTIGATORS COMPLIED WITH ARTICLE 31(b) BY ADVISING CSSN COPELAND OF THE MISCONDUCT UNDER INVESTIGATION; ARTICLE 118 WAS NOT AMONG THE OFFENSES FOR WHICH HE WAS THEN A SUSPECT

Investigators properly oriented CSSN Copeland to the offenses for which he was suspected at the time—namely, Article 107, UCMJ based on the inconsistencies that were beginning to emerge in his account of 28 and 29 May, and Article 86, UCMJ due to his own unauthorized absence.

First, he was not a suspect for Article 118 at the time and NCIS did not need to advise him that he was suspected of the murder of CS3 A.R. At the time of the 31(b) advisement and interview, CS3 A.R. had only been missing for approximately five days and there was no direct evidence that she was deceased. After issuing a BOLO, law enforcement continued to receive multiple tips regarding sightings and her potential whereabouts. Moreover, NCIS were aware of the victim's documented history of suicidal ideations and her prior statements expressing self-harm. Multiple witnesses to include, ET3 Rich, HT3 Gillespie, and the victim's mother, Ms. Castle, described to law enforcement CS3 A.R.'s mental health history. NCIS searched for her at NMCP looking for any hospital admission. CS3 Garcia Barrera disclosure to law enforcement

that CS3 A.R. had even talked about going to visit in a friend in New York and potentially going UA. Based on the information available on that date, it was entirely reasonable—and factually supported—to believe that she may have voluntarily left CSSN Copeland's residence and harmed herself, or that CSSN Copeland was potentially assisting her in evading law enforcement due to her mental state, ongoing personal issues on the ship, or her UA status at the time. Nothing at the time of the interview elevated the matter to a suspected murder. Moreover, aside from some inconsistencies, CSSN Copeland had given an entirely plausible account of events and multiple witnesses reported that CS3 A.R. was alive on the morning of 29 May 2025.

NCIS's own actions after the search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room also demonstrate they did not suspect CSSN Copeland of murder at the time of his 3 June interview. First of all, the questioning agents were not aware that blood had been found in the barracks. This occurred either at the very end of the interview and they were not notified or after it's conclusion. But even after completing the search of his barracks room (and finding the blood), *agents returned the barracks room to him*[179] – an objective indication that they did not suspect him of murder or any foul play at that time. Indeed, the blood could have been anyone's (including CSSN Copeland) or even pre-dated CSSN Copeland's occupancy.

Even assuming *arguendo* that he should have been advised of Article 118, advising him about being suspected of Article 86 and 107 offenses in relation to the disappearance of CS3 AR was sufficient to orient him to the incident he was being questioned about, which is his interactions with CS3 A.R. in his barracks room, the inconsistent explanations he gave about those interactions, and both her and his UA statuses. There is no scenario in which he would not have understood that law enforcement was trying to locate CS3 A.R. and was looking for information from the last person to have been with her. That is sufficient to orient him to the incident at issue.

In *United States v. Metz*,[180] CAAF found Article 31(b) rights were not required when law enforcement merely viewed the subject as a person of interest and not a suspect. In *Metz*, NCIS investigated a suspected intentional fire inside a maintenance building at Camp Pendleton. NCIS interviewed a noncommissioned officer (NCO) in charge of the building who identified the accused and another Marine as two who possessed keys to the building - among potential others. The NCO told investigators that a particular set of belongings had been destroyed in the fire and the owner of those items had recently counseled the accused. He further said the accused was a "problem child," "has a grudge," and "if anyone was going to start a fire it would have been [the accused]."[181] NCIS next spoke with the accused in his barracks room, they informed him that they were investigating an incident at his workplace, but did not inform of Article 31(b) rights. The accused made several statements to law enforcement – to include he had no knowledge of the incident, he had been at his barracks all morning and he believed his key could be lost.[182]

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[179] Encl 24
[180] *Metz*, 84 MJ at 427 (citing, *United States v. Swift*, 53 M.J. 439, 447 (C.A.A.F 2000)
[181] *Id*.
[182] *Id*.

CAAF agreed with the trial court and NMCCA when it found that Article 31(b) warning were not required during the law enforcement interview in the accused's barracks room. CAAF citing United States v. Swift, noted, "Designating someone a suspect for Article 31(b), UCMJ, purposes requires more than merely a "hunch." [183] The same is true in this case. A mere "hunch" that the accused may have caused the disappearance of CS3 A.R. is not enough to require Article 31(b) warnings. The evidence available at the time could not have supported anything beyond a hunch.

ii. THE TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES ON 3 JUNE DEMONSTRATES THAT CSSN COPELAND'S STATEMENTS WERE VOLUNTARY

Applied here, every *Schneckloth* factor supports a finding of voluntariness. The interview lasted a little over three hours - ending before 0100. CSSN Copeland was offered and took several breaks throughout the interview. Prior to arriving at NCIS, CSSN Copeland was relaxing with a friend at his barracks room, playing video games and watching TV. There is no evidence of prolonged, repeated, or coercive questioning. Defense makes no argument that CSSN Copeland is not of normal intelligence or suffering from any mental or cognitive impairments. He was properly advised of his Article 31(b) rights by Special Agent Gokey, stated he understood them, and signed the written warning. There was no deprivation of food, multiple breaks were taken, and despite Defense's assertion that CSSN Copeland "expressed to agents several times throughout the entire interview that he was tired and wanted to go home" these words are found nowhere in the transcript of his interview. In fact, it was not until the very end of the interview that CSSN Copeland made any reference to wanting to go home. Special Agent Duffy then terminated the interview to make that happen.

The interview is devoid of any threats, promises, or physical coercion. The agents' tone throughout the recorded interview was calm and conversational. CSSN Copeland answered questions coherently and demonstrated full capacity to understand the situation, the rights he had been advised of, and the consequences of speaking with investigators. In fact, this was CSSN Copeland's fourth occasion to receive a rights advisement in the past year.[184] Under these circumstances, and considering both his personal characteristics and the conditions of the interview, the totality of the evidence demonstrates that his statements were voluntary.

B. BECAUSE CSSN COPELAND WAS PROPERLY ADVISED OF HIS RIGHTS AND THE TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SHOWS VOLUNTARINESS, THE 6 JUNE 2025 INTERVIEW IS ALSO ADMISSIBLE

1. INVESTIGATORS COMPLIED WITH ARTICLE 31(b) BY ADVISING CSSN COPELAND OF THE MISCONDUCT UNDER INVESTIGATION;

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[183] *Id*.

[184] The Accused had been interviewed by NCIS once regarding ABHAN C.R. and twice regarding CSSN S.S.

ARTICLE 118 WAS NOT AMONG THE OFFENSES FOR WHICH HE WAS THEN A SUSPECT

Again, investigators properly oriented CSSN Copeland to the offenses for which he was suspected at the time—namely, Article 107 and his knowledge of the possible death of CS3 A.R. Having been properly advised of his rights, he waived those rights and agreed to speak with investigators.

At the time of the interview, no body had been found, and no DNA analysis had linked any blood to the victim. Investigators merely knew that blood had been found CSSN Copeland's room, with no evidence yet connecting it to CSSN A.R.. It is neither unreasonable nor uncommon for a person's own blood to appear in a space where they store clothing, shoes, and personal items. Nor does it strain credibility to acknowledge that a Navy barracks room is, at best, generally unsanitary—making the presence of biological material from multiple sources entirely plausible.

Defense enjoys the benefit of hindsight; investigators did not. The correct inquiry is what investigators reasonably believed at the time. At that stage, the victim remained missing; explanations other than murder remained viable; and CSSN Copeland's shifting and inconsistent accounts supported suspicion of false official statements, potentially to cover for her - not murder. Under these circumstances, the Article 107 advisement—combined with the advisement that he was suspected of having knowledge of the victim's possible death—more than adequately oriented him to the incident under investigation for purposes of Article 31(b).

Just as CAAF held in *Metz*, being a labeled a "person of interest" is not synonymous with being a "suspect" for purposes of Article 31(b). As *Metz* confirms, a person of interest is not a suspect, so Article 31(b) warnings are not required. Here, investigators nonetheless provided rights and expressly oriented CSSN Copeland to their belief that CS3 A.R. was possibly dead and if so, CSSN Copeland may have knowledge of that fact – affording him greater protection than *Metz* requires.

Even assuming arguendo that investigators should have suspected him of Article 118, the advisements actually given—including that he was suspected of Article 107 offenses arising from the victim's disappearance and that he was suspected of having knowledge of the possible death of the CS3 A.R.—fully oriented him to the incident under investigation. Advising a suspect that law enforcement believes he may have knowledge of a person's death is not a peripheral or ambiguous statement; it alerts any reasonable person that investigators are exploring the circumstances surrounding that person's disappearance, possible demise, and the suspect's potential involvement in or awareness of those circumstances. In practical effect, such an advisement directs CSSN Copeland to the same factual core that underlies an Article 118 inquiry—the events leading to the victim's disappearance, CSSN Copeland's last known interactions with her, and whether he played any role in or has information about her death. That advisement sufficiently orients him to the gravity and nature of the suspected misconduct.

Defense also places undue weight on the fact that the Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) was involved at this early stage. That observation is legally meaningless. At the time,

General Crimes and OSTC—though separate commands—routinely collaborated on cases that might develop into covered offenses as occurred here. Furthermore, CSSN Copeland already had two open Article 120, UCMJ investigations, both of which were active with OSTC.[185] As a known suspect from those cases, OSTC would naturally be involved. Nonetheless, OSTC's early awareness does not retroactively transform the investigation into a murder inquiry, nor does it alter what investigators reasonably believed when they advised CSSN Copeland of the offenses for which he was actually suspected.

CSSN Copeland's statements were voluntary under any fair application of the totality-of-the-circumstances analysis. The interview occurred mid-morning at 0842 or after any prolonged detention. At the outset, agents expressly told him that he was in "full control"[186] of the process and emphasized that he could terminate the interview at any time. They did not merely recite this once—they paused during the interview to reiterate that he could stop the questioning whenever he wished, underscoring the truly voluntary nature of the encounter.[187] Moreover, this was far from his first rights advisement. By this point in 2025, CSSN Copeland had his Article 31(b) rights read to him five separate times.[188] He was therefore no novice to the process, and he demonstrated both the familiarity and the capacity to understand his rights and make informed decisions about whether to speak. Nothing about the circumstances—mid-day timing, repeated reminders of his control, absence of coercive tactics—supports a finding that his will was overborne. Under these facts, his statements were plainly voluntary.

III. THE SEARCH OF CSSN COPELAND'S PHONE WAS LAWFUL, AND THE RESULTING EVIDENCE IS ADMISSIBLE

A. INDEPENDENT OF THE VALID PASS, THE LAWFUL CASS AUTHORIZED THE SEARCH AND RENDERS THE EVIDENCE ADMISSIBLE

NCIS lawfully obtained a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) on 5 June 2025 before conducting any forensic examination of CSSN Copeland's phone. The Defense does not challenge the validity of that authorization, and that fact alone renders the resulting evidence admissible. Although the phone was seized pursuant to a PASS, it was—more importantly and entirely independent of the PASS—*also* seized on the basis of probable cause. When CSSN Copeland arrived for his 3 June interview, his iPhone 15 was seized.[189] His interview concluded in the early morning hours of 4 June. On 4 June, NCIS started the extraction of CSSN Copeland's iPhone 15. A digital extraction is simply an extension of the lawful seizure and a routine step in preserving electronic evidence. In the early morning hours of 5 June 2025, the CASS was granted. Special Agent Davison then commenced his search of the iPhone 15 on 5 June 2025 pursuant to the CASS. Because NCIS secured a valid CASS prior to reviewing or

[185] See, Encl 23(referencing allegations involving ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.S.)
[186] Encl 38,Transcript of 6 June Interview, pg 7
[187] *Id.*
[188] *See* Encl 23, Conversation with Special Agent Bee Duffy dtd 3 Dec 2025; Encl 25
[189] Encl 23

searching any data on the device, the subsequent search was lawful, and suppression is unwarranted.

B. CSSN COPELAND CONSENTED TWICE TO THE SEARCH OF HIS IPHONE 15

By words and action, CSSN Copeland authorized NCIS to search his iPhone 15. Special Agent Gokey asked, "So, I would like then to look at your phone…Are you cool with that?" CSSN Copeland responds, "Yeah." His oral consent was immediately reinforced with his actions – identifying his phone to Special Agent Gokey as an iPhone15. He then actively enabled the search by giving agents the passcode to unlock the phone. It is patently unreasonable to believe that one who intends to withhold consent hands investigators the digital keys to their device. CSSN Copeland further confirmed his willingness when he stated he understood the purpose of the search, understood he could revoke consent at any time, and understood the agents did not have a warrant, yet chose to allow the search to proceed. At no point did he express refusal to permit the search.

Defense urges the Court to focus on CSSN Copeland's delay in the act of signing the PASS as evidence of refusal, but that argument is a red herring and not one supported by case law. When evaluating voluntary consent that involves oral consent, but refusal to sign a written consent form "as a general matter a voluntary oral consent to search is not invalidated by a subsequent refusal to provide written consent to search".[190] The written PASS serves to memorialize the exchange between investigators and CSSN Copeland—a procedural safeguard arguably rooted in an era when interviews were not routinely recorded. It is not the signature itself that determines voluntariness; it is the interaction, advisement, and conduct captured on video that controls. CSSN Copeland had already orally consented, provided the agents with his phone's make, model, and passcode, and affirmatively indicated he understood the nature and consequences of the search. The Court must evaluate voluntariness based on the totality of circumstances—not on the timing of when a written form was signed. Defense's focus on paperwork timing ignores the governing legal test and cannot defeat the clear and convincing evidence of voluntary consent.

Defense also asks the Court to treat CSSN Copeland's questions—whether he would get his phone back and whether he could call his mother—as revocations of consent or indications that he had not truly consented in the first place. That argument collapses when scrutinized. These questions are not revocations. At no point did CSSN Copeland state or imply, "stop," "do not search," or anything approximating a withdrawal of consent. Instead, he continued to cooperate, remained engaged, and took no action—verbal or otherwise—to halt the search. His inquiries reflect nothing more than a desire to understand logistical consequences and to communicate with a family member, neither of which constitute legal revocation under Mil. R. Evid. 314(e)(3). It is a fair question of law enforcement to ask when and if personal property will be returned – especially a companion of daily life – a smart phone. Further it's a logical assumption that CSSN Copeland would believe he would have to use his phone to call his mother opposed to NCIS providing him with a phone. His questions were reasonable, but not revocations. A revocation must be *unequivocal*. Here, CSSN Copeland's words and conduct did the opposite:

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[190] *United States v. Green, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 206238, *72*

he maintained consent, provided access information, and never once attempted to limit or terminate the search. Defense's attempt to recast routine questions as rescissions of consent is unsupported by law and contradicted by the events of his 3 June interview.

And this same logic applies to his request for his phone while at his barracks room after the interview. Asking about when he may get his phone, is not a revocation of consent.

Even if this Court finds that CSSN Copeland unequivocally requested that his phone be returned to him either during the interview or at his barracks room afterward, that request affects only the seizure of his phone – not the search. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces analyzed a similar situation in *United States v. Eugene*.[191] In *Eugene*, the accused gave his wife possession of his cellphone while he was on a field exercise where cellphone use was prohibited. While in possession of the phone, the accused's wife discovered messages and nude photos and videos of women who his wife suspected were underage. The accused's wife turned his phone over to law enforcement, unlocking the phone with her fingerprint. A basic search of the accused's phone did not yield any items of evidentiary value. Four days after his phone was seized by law enforcement, the accused was interviewed. During the interview, the accused asked that his cell phone be returned. Law enforcement denied his request. A thorough search of the accused's phone was conducted months later and several items of evidentiary value were recovered.

At trial, Defense moved to suppress the search of the phone. The trial court denied the. motion citing that the request to return the phone was an attempt to withdraw consent to seize but "did not amount to a withdrawal of consent to search."[192]

In *Eugene*, the CAAF reminds practitioners that "search" and "seizure" are distinct concepts.[193] The Court noted, "Revoking consent to one does not necessarily revoke consent to the other."[194] In affirming the lower court's decision, the Court noted the military judge found that Appellant "never told SA Nations or anyone else in CID not to search his cell phone or that he refused consent to search his cell phone." Instead, the accused merely "asked . . . if he could have his cell phone back, most likely so he could continue to use it.[195]" CAAF upheld the trial court's rationale that this request – at best – "implicated the seizure of the phone and not the search."[196] CAAF specifically noted that at no point did the accused ask the agents not to search his phone and the request for the phone to be returned came on the heels of the accused giving law enforcement identifying information about his phone and the keys to access the data therein – "his phone number, email address, user name for Kik and password for Kik."[197]

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[191] *United States v. Eugene*, 78 M.J. 132 (C.A.A.F. 2018)
[192] *Id*. at 134
[193] *Id.(*citing, *United States v. Wallace*, 66 M.J. 5, 8 (C.A.A.F. 2008)
[194] *Id*.
[195] *Id*.
[196] *Id*.
[197] *Id*.

Like in *Eugene* and assuming arguendo that in this case CSSN Copeland asked that his phone be returned to him to call his mother, he was revoking a consent to seize, not consent to search. Once the seizure is complete consent cannot be revoked.[198] But notwithstanding, CSSN Copeland's consent to allow NCIS to seize his iPhone 15, NCIS also lawfully seized his phone upon arrival at the NCIS Field Office pursuant to M.R.E. 316(c).

Ultimately, CSSN Copeland never unequivocally revoked his consent to search. At most, he inquired about the return of his phone—an issue that pertains to *seizure*, not *search*. And even that request, had it been a revocation, would have been legally ineffective because the lawful seizure had already occurred.

Further underscoring that CSSN Copeland consented to a search of his iPhone 15, agents ended the interview by presenting CSSN Copeland with a second PASS covering his backpack, the barracks room, and his electronic devices—explicitly mentioning the cell phone he had already agreed could be searched. He demonstrated understanding, asked questions about limiting the scope, and later signed a second PASS authorizing the same searches. Despite this, Defense fixates on a single moment when—visibly irritated—CSSN Copeland said "No" as the first PASS was placed in front of him and immediately followed it with, "I'm just trying to go home." Defense now asks the Court to pretend that isolated "No," stripped of all context, somehow constituted a revocation of consent. That argument is untenable.

In context, CSSN Copeland was refusing to engage in further conversation or paperwork, not withdrawing permission for the search. He did not object to agents searching his phone, did not tell them to stop and never once expressed a desire to revoke consent. A revocation must be unequivocal and specifically directed at the search. Nothing about CSSN Copeland's irritated dismissal meets that standard. Defense's attempt to elevate a moment of frustration into a legal revocation is not merely misguided—it is contradicted by CSSN Copeland's words, actions, and written authorization which immediately preceded. It defies logic to claim that CSSN Copeland both granted consent and, in the very same breath, withdrew it.

Indeed, CSSN Copeland's own conduct demonstrates that he *wanted* law enforcement to take possession of his phone—not that he objected to it. His behavior reflects a clear effort to manipulate what investigators would ultimately find: he texted CSSN A.R. on the evening of 1 June despite knowing she was already dead and he placed his phone in Airplane Mode in an apparent attempt to avoid detection of his movements. Understanding that agents were actively trying to place his whereabouts during the period of unauthorized absence, he also knew that when his phone was not in Airplane Mode, its location data would likely place him at his barracks – an alibi. These actions are entirely inconsistent with someone attempting to shield the

[198] Consent . . . may be withdrawn at any time, provided of course that the search has not already been conducted." United States v. Dease, 71 M.J. 116, 120 (C.A.A.F. 2012). Mil. R. Evid. 316(d)(2) states the consent requirements of Mil. R. Evid. 314 apply to consent seizures. The same reasoning therefore applies, and consent may be withdrawn at any time, provided that the seizure has not already been completed.

device from law enforcement; they instead reflect an individual trying—unsuccessfully—to outsmart the investigation.

III. ALTERNATIVELY, THE GOOD-FAITH AND INEVITABLE-DISCOVERY EXCEPTIONS BAR SUPPRESSION

Even assuming arguendo that the CASS or CSSN Copeland's multiple consents were somehow deficient, suppression is still unwarranted because the evidence extracted from his phone would have been inevitably discovered through lawful investigative avenues already underway.

First, NCIS had already lawfully seized the phone at the time consent was initially provided. Once a device is validly seized, investigators may and in – this case did - continue to pursue independent investigative steps that would inevitably authorize a forensic search. That is exactly what occurred here.

But even if the phone had not been seized, as the investigation progressed, NCIS obtained a lawful 2703(d) order from CSSN Copeland's cellular provider showing that he sent text messages to the CS3 A.R. mere hours before the White Jeep he borrowed was captured via license plate reader technology in the early morning of 2 June travelling in and around Hampton Blvd and 24th Street. This temporal proximity between potential communication with CSSN A.R. and his access to a vehicle would have underscored the evidentiary value of CSSN Copeland's phone.

Lastly, the physical evidence obtained in this case would provide another independent legal basis to obtain and search CS3 Copeland's phone. Once forensic analysis later confirmed that blood found in CSSN Copeland's room matched CS3 A.R. investigators undoubtedly had probable cause to search any device capable of storing communications, photographs, or geolocation data related to the victim's disappearance. Additionally even in areas of the barracks that did not require any search authorizations, hallways and stairwells, law enforcement identified brown reddish substances which after testing were a DNA match for CS3 A.R.

Ultimately, the contents of CSSN Copeland's phone would have been discovered as a matter of course through routine, lawful investigative developments—entirely independent of any challenged consent or authorization. The inevitable discovery doctrine squarely applies - As does the good faith exception. First, the CASS was issued by a person fully empowered to do so—the Commanding Officer of Naval Station Norfolk. Second, the CO had a substantial basis to determine that probable cause existed based on the information presented. Third, the executing NCIS agents reasonably relied on that authorization and did so in good faith. Taken together, NCIS submitted a facially sufficient affidavit, the CO exercised his authority appropriately, and investigators justifiably relied on the authorization.

And even if not, "exclusion of this evidence" would not "result[] in appreciable deterrence of future unlawful searches . . . and the benefits of such deterrence do not outweigh

the costs to the justice system."[199] The exclusionary rule has no application under these circumstances. Suppression is unwarranted.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to suppress.

WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE

(1) Results of Initial Contact with Norfolk Police Department
(2) Results of initial Contact with Command, MTAC, and ET3 Daniel Rich, USN
(3) Results of Contact with Esmerelda Castle
(4) Affidavit of Special Agent Matthew Miller
(5) Results of Initial Search of CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. [redacted] Barracks Room, Enclosure
(6) Results of Interview of MA3 Jessica Gouge, USN
(7) Results of Initial Interview of ET3 Daniel Rich, USN dtd 1 June 2025
(8) Results of Contact with Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
(9) Results of Initial Contact with FCC Brad Parker, USN
(10) Results of Initial Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN
(11) Results of Interview of CSSN Garcia-Barrera, USN
(12) Results of Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN dtd 2 June 2025
(13) Results of Interview of HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN
(14) Virginia Missing Person Information Clearing House
(15) Results of interview of AR John Calisse, USN
(16) Results of Interview of PSSN Gordillocruz
(17) Results of Interview of CSSN Sarah Cook
(18) Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) – United States v. [redacted] V/A.R. [redacted] dtd 3 June 2025
(19) NCIS Scene Agent Notes dtd 3 June 2025
(20) Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure dtd 3 June 2025 – AR John Calisse
(21) Video NCIS Interview 3 June 2025 – CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN
(22) Transcript of NCIS Interview 3 June 2025 – CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN
(23) Government Disclosure: Conversation with Special Agent Bea Duffy, NCIS dtd 3 Dec 25
(24) Government Disclosure: Conversation with Special Agent Danielle Ortiz, NCIS dtd 3 Dec 25
(25) Military Rights Waiver dtd 3 June 2025
(26) Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure dtd 4 June 2025 – CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland
(27) Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) – United States v. [redacted] V/A.R. [redacted] dtd 4 June 2025
(28) Excerpt from Report of Findings NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQPS
(29) Results of 2703(D) Court Order
(30) Results of License Plate Reader Network Queries
(31) X-2 Stairwell Scene Observation of 4 June 2025

[199] M.R.E. 311(a)(3),

(32) Results of Area Canvas of Building X-2 dtd 5 June 2025
(33) Results of Search Warrant for CS3 V/A.R. Google Account
(34) Results of Interview of ET3 Daniel Rich, USN dtd 7 June 2025
(35) Results of Area Canvassing in Suffolk, Virginia dtd 5 June 2025
(36) Results of Rapid DNA Analysis dtd 5 June 2025
(37) Video of 6 June NCIS Interview of CSSN Copeland
(38) Transcript of 6 June NCIS Interview of CSSN Copeland
(39) Military Rights Waiver dtd 6 June 2025
(40) Documentation of Collection of Evidence from Room 335
(41) Results of Secondary Interview of YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN dtd 9 June 2025
(42) Excerpt from Report of Findings NFFO 13Y9L ITEM XUQPS– Screenshots
(43) Photos of Cary Avenue Search
(44) Scene Recovered Remains
(45) USACIL Report – 25 ATL 00931 dtd 10 June 2025

WITNESSES

1. Special Agent Jessica Gokey
2. Special Agent Danielle Ortiz
3. Special Agent Bee Duffy

ORAL ARGUMENT

The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO [redacted]
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 5th day of December 2025.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO [redacted]
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH NORFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. On 31May25, Reporting Agent (RA) was contacted by Officer James STALCUP, CIV, Norfolk Police Department (NPD) about two (2) sailors who were considered to be in an Unauthorized Absence (UA) status. STALCUP advised ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) called and wanted to report his ex-girlfriend CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. (V/F [redacted] V/A.R., USN, DDG 95 missing because no one had talked to her or seen her since 29May25. STALCUP noted ET3 RICH stated V/ [redacted] V/A.R. had been with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN , DDG 95, the other sailor reported missing.

2. STALCUP stated he called DDG 95 and spoke with LTJG David DEMAZURE, USN, DDG 95 who is the legal office for DDG 95. STALCUP advised he confirmed with LTJG DEMAZURE that V/ [redacted] V/A.R. and S/COPELAND were UA from DDG 95 and the ship has had no contact with them.

3. STALCUP provided V/ [redacted] V/A.R. phone number which he attempted to call but his call went straight to voicemail. STALCUP did not have any contact information for S/COPELAND. RA attempted to call the number for V/ [redacted] V/A.R. provided by STALCUP but the call went straight to voicemail.

4. At 1622 hours, RA located a contact number for S/COPELAND. When called S/COPELAND's mother Rochell BROWN, CIV answered. BROWN advised she had not talked to S/COPELAND in a few days. When asked if she had a phone number for him she sated his phone had been turned off and talked with him through social media. RA asked BORWN if she could reach out to S/COPELAND. BROWN stated she would attempt to contact him.

5. RA contacted the duty agent, Special Agent Carrie Johnson, and provided her with the relevant details and steps already taken.

REPORTED BY: JORDAN M KENNEDY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER PORTSMOUTH

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH COMMAND, MTAC, AND ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN ON 31MAY25

1. On 31MAY25, Reporting Agent (RA) received a duty notification at 1637 hours, from Special Agent Jordan KENNEDY, in reference to missing persons concerns involving two sailors assigned to USS James E. Williams (DDG 95). SA KENNEDY reported receiving information from Norfolk Police Department (NPD) that ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95 was attempting to file a missing person's report for CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted], USN, DDG 95. SA KENNEDY informed RA that ET3 RICH stated V/[redacted] was last seen with CSSN Jerimiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95. Additionally, SA KENNEDY stated he had already spoken with LTJG David DEZMURE, USN, Legal Officer, DDG-95, who confirmed awareness of two sailors missing after not reporting for duty. SA KENNEDY further advised his attempts were unsuccessful to contact both V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND. At 1635 hours, RA informed the Duty Supervisor, Special Agent (SSA) Matthew MILLER, with the information received from SA KENNEDY.

2. At approximately 1728 hours, RA made contact with the Multi Threat Assessment Center (MTAC) to request assistance in pinging V/[redacted]'s cellphone. RA spoke with Janice BAILEY, MTAC, who noted that without V/[redacted] experiencing immediate suicidal ideations or in harm, she would not be able to conduct a ping for S/[redacted]'s cellphone. RA re-connected with LTJG DEMAZURE via telephone [redacted]), who reiterated his awareness of V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND not showing up for duty. LTJG DEMAZURE stated that V/[redacted] last reported on 28MAY25. He also confirmed contact was made with S/COPELAND on 29MAY25. S/COPELAND was instructed to report to duty, but S/COPELAND never reported to work. LTJG DEZMURE acknowledged about being informed about ET3 RICH filing the missing person's report for V/[redacted]. LTLG DEMAZURE did not indicate command had any safety concerns surrounding V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND.

3. ON 31MAY25, RA made contact with ET3 RICH via telephone [redacted]) in reference to the captioned investigation. ET3 RICH stated he last communicated with V/[redacted] around 0230 hours, on 29MAY25. ET3 RICH stated V/[redacted] was crying and made a comment about needing his help. ET3 RICH attempted to track V/[redacted] cellphone location which led him to the Willis Hall, X2 Barracks, located on Norfolk Naval Station (NOB). ET3 RICH advised he was able to track V/[redacted] location until approximately 0430 hours, at which time he stated V/[redacted]'s phone powered down. ET3 RICH advised after speaking with V/[redacted]'s friends (NFI), the last person V/[redacted] was in contact with was S/COPELAND on 29MAY25. ET3 RICH advised he requested a

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EXHIBIT 2

000138_COPELAND

ENCLOSURE 2
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CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF CONTACT WITH ESMERALDA CASTLE, CIV

1. On 01JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) made initial contact with Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV, mother of CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. (V/[redacted] V/A.R. USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to her daughter's missing status.

2. This contact was conducted via cellphone and not recorded.

3. RA attempted to contact CASTLE two times via phone call and followed up with a text message, with no response. After speaking with ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG-95 and learning he was in contact with CASTLE, RA instructed ET3 RICH to ask CASTLE to call RA.

4. RA asked CASTLE when the last time she spoke with V/[redacted] V/A.R. and CASTLE stated she had not spoken with V/[redacted] V/A.R. in approximately a week, however, V/[redacted] V/A.R. did attempt a Facetime call Wednesday 28MAY25, but CASTLE did not answer. CASTLE stated V/[redacted] V/A.R. most likely called her younger sister after she did not answer, but CASTLE was not certain. RA gathered contact information for the 3 siblings of V/[redacted] V/A.R. to contact.

5. RA asked CASTLE if she had access to V/[redacted] V/A.R. banking records, which CASTLE stated she did not.

6. RA asked CASTLE if she would be concerned about V/[redacted] V/A.R. s mental health or concerned V/[redacted] V/A.R. may commit suicide, which CASTLE stated she did not think V/[redacted] V/A.R. would have committed suicide. However, CASTLE did disclose V/[redacted] V/A.R. had gone into mental health treatment sometime in the last year for inpatient treatment. RA followed up asking if CASTLE knew the reasoning for the inpatient treatment, which CASTLE responded, V/[redacted] V/A.R. was under a lot of pressure at work due to them being short staffed and V/[redacted] V/A.R. was also having problems with sexual harassment onboard DDG-95. RA followed up asking if CASTLE knew who was sexually harassing V/[redacted] V/A.R. which CASTLE stated an older white male.

7. RA asked CASTLE what, if anything had she been told about V/[redacted] V/A.R. missing. CASTLE stated she had been contacted by ET3 RICH, and he was concerned about V/[redacted] V/A.R. missing and to "not trust the command." RA asked CASTLE to explain further about not trusting the command. CASTLE stated ET3 RICH said they had lied to CASTLE and V/[redacted] V/A.R. was not found in a room, and she had not returned to work on Friday. CASTLE continued saying she called the Quarterdeck of DDG-95 and spoke to a Chief PARKER, who was identified as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95. CASTLE stated FCC PARKER told

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

In re Navy Federal Credit Union Financial Records of CSSN V/A.R. [redacted] USN	**AFFIDAVIT OF SPECIAL AGENT MATTHEW MILLER** **2 June 2025**

1. I, Special Agent Mathew Miller, am currently employed as a special agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service ("NCIS"). I have worked for NCIS for over 10 years. I am currently a Supervisory Special Agent with the Norfolk Field Office.

2. On June 1, 2025, NCIS commenced an investigation into accusations of a violation of Article 86, UCMJ committed by CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. [redacted] USN ("Accused"). I am the Lead Special Agent assigned to this investigation. The NCIS case number for the investigation is 01JUN25NFNF-00237-7MNA.

3. Due to the nature of the allegations, I determined it was a necessary investigative step to pursue and review the following categories of the Accused's financial records from Navy Federal Credit Union: Basic subscriber information and transactions pertaining to account number: [redacted] PII

4. These financial records are relevant and necessary to the investigation of the allegations against the Accused because the requested records will assist in identifying the location of the Accused and any means of transportation she may have utilized.

5. I have reason to believe that if the Accused is provided the customer notice that may be required under the Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978 that there is a substantial risk of destruction of endangering life or physical safety, flight from prosecution, or seriously jeopardizing an investigation or official proceeding or unduly delaying the same. I base my opinion on the following evidence and facts that I have observed and/or reviewed:

a. The suicidal ideation previously expressed by the Accused and her distressed state immediately prior to her entering a UA status; and

b. The nature of the offense as being in an unauthorized absence status will mean she will likely change her patterns to avoid being caught if she knows we are tracking her location.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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was located. RA removed the motorcycle helmet from the desk and observed nothing of significance to the visible eye. RA then searched the trash can, there was a receipt located within the trashcan; however it was from approximately a month prior. PA searched the closet and nothing of significance was observed with the visible eye. RA looked through the dirty clothes hamper and did not see any staining on any of the clothing.

5. RA and PA then searched the common room area of V[PII] barracks and observed a plate of vegetables on the top shelf of the refrigerator. The vegetables observed where an onion, tomatoes, and jalapenos.

6. Nothing observed in V[PII] room nor in the common room alluded to any signs of foul play.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE OF EIGHT (8) PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN OF V[PII] BARRACKS ROOM/01JUN25
(B) DVD OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN OF V/[PII] BARRACKS ROOM/01JUN25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF MA3 JESSICA GOUGE, USN

1. On 01JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Supervisory Special Agent (PA) Matthew MILLER conducted an initial interview with the roommate of CSSN [redacted PII] (V/[redacted PII] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS, who was identified as MA3 Jessica GOUGE, USN, USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN-77).

2. This interview was not recorded.

3. RA asked MA3 GOUGE if she knew V/[redacted PII] and how well, MA3 GOUGE stated she did not know V/[redacted PII] and never talk as they have very different schedules. MA3 GOUGE stated the last time she had seen V/[redacted PII] was a few days earlier.

4. PA asked MA3 GOUGE why there were chairs stacked in front of V/[redacted V/A.R.]s door, which MA3 GOUGE stated she placed them there to know if V/[redacted PII] came back to the room as she knew V/[redacted PII] was missing. MA3 GOUGE added base security had come by Thursday morning searching for her but V/[redacted PII] was not in the room. MA3 GOUGE stated someone had been there every day since checking to see if V/[redacted PII] had come back to her room.

5. PA asked MA3 GOUGE if she had any substantial information as it relates to V/[redacted PII] disappearance which MA3 GOUGE stated she did not.

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of V/[redacted]. As background, CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, DDG 95 and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. ET3 RICH was identified as an ex-boyfriend of V/[redacted]

2. ET3 RICH stated he dated V/[redacted] for approximately three (3) weeks. ET3 RICH explained V/[redacted] ended their relationship approximately one (1) month prior, citing she had too much going on in her life. ET3 RICH stated that when he dated V/[redacted] she routinely shared here location with him and he could track her phone. ET3 RICH stated that on Wednesday, 28May25, into Thursday, 29May25, he and HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95, (another or V/[redacted]s ex-boyfriends) went searching for V/[redacted] because they were worried about her when her phone seemed to power off. ET3 RICH stated he and HT3 GILLESPIE along with Naval Station Norfolk Base Security Forces went to CSSN COPELAND's barracks room in the early morning hours (approximately 0400) of 29May25 as that was the last location of her pone. ET3 RICH said they discovered neither V/[redacted] nor S/COPELAND present in the room. When asked about his relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE, ET3 RICH said he and GILLIESPIE get along fine even though they both dated V/[redacted] ET3 RICH said he was told from command V/[redacted] was located along with S/COPELAND after he and HT3 GILLESPIE looked for her Wednesday, 28May25 into Thursday, 29May25.

3. ET3 RICH explained V/[redacted]s father is in prison for assaulting V/[redacted] when she was younger. ET3 stated V/[redacted] is very threatened by her father and is scared for when he is released from prison. ET3 RICH said V/[redacted] has a strained relationship with her mother and doesnot talk to her often. However, ET3 RICH said V/[redacted] speaks with her aunt often.

4. ET3 RICH said V/[redacted] suffers from some type of depression related issues as he would help her regulate her prescribed medication. ET3 RICH stated he was worried that she would take too much and hurt herself. When asked where V/[redacted] would go if she were to seek mental health treatment, ET3 RICH stated she would go to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA.

5. When asked about finances, ET3 RICH stated to his knowledge, V/[redacted]

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF CONTACT WITH NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER PORTSMOUTH, VA

1. As background, CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, DDG 95 and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, S/COPELAND was discovered in his barracks rooms; however, V/[redacted] was not located. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, who stated if V/[redacted] was going to seek mental health treatment, it would be at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA. RA subsequently contacted NMCP's charge nurse to determine whether V/[redacted] sought treatment and was currently a patient at the hospital. The charge nurse explained whether a patient seeks emergency care or mental health care, they would be triaged first. The charge nurse stated they do not have a record of V/[redacted] being admitted into the hospital.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 01un25, Reporting Agent (RA) made contact with FCC Brad PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), to glean information pertaining to both CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95 and CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, DDG 95 Unauthorized Absence (UA) status. As background, V/[redacted] USN, DDG 95 and S/COPELAND, were placed into an UA status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, Rochell BROWN, CIV, NCIS and BROWN contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms on NOB, Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at [redacted] door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

2. FCC PARKER was identified as being V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND's supervisor on DDG 95 and making positive contact with both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] on Thursday, 29May25 at approximately 0900 hours.

3. FCC PARKER recalled that on 29May25, he went to S/COPELAND's barracks room, Naval Station Norfolk, Willis Manor, and woke him up because he did not show for work in the morning. FCC PARKER recalled it was obvious he had woke S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] up due to their grogginess. FCC PARKER stated he physically observed V/[redacted] in S/COPELAND's barracks, she acknowledged his presence, rolled over, and appeared to go back to sleep. FCC PARKER said he instructed S/COPELAND to report to work after he tended to V/[redacted] and took her home. FCC PARKER said S/COPELAND told him V/[redacted] was having some personal issues and came to his barracks room Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss.

4. FCC PARKER said S/COPELAND was supposed to only work Thursday and have the weekend off.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of V/[redacted] V/A.R. The interview took place in the lounge area on third floor of building X2, Willis Manor, located on Naval Station Norfolk (NOB), and was not recorded.

2. As background, V/[redacted] V/A.R. and S/COPELAND were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, NCIS and S/COPELAND's mother contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] V/A.R. The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms in Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at V/[redacted] V/A.R. door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

3. During his interview, S/COPELAND described his relationship with V/[redacted] V/A.R. as co-workers. S/COPELAND stated he texted with V/[redacted] V/A.R. on Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss recipes and ingredients for tacos. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] V/A.R. came over to his barracks room, made tacos and they both consumed alcohol. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] V/A.R. gradually became more upset as the night progressed and they spoke about her current and past romantic relationships. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] V/A.R. spoke on the phone to two (2) ex-boyfriends, both of which were confrontational calls. One call was with an ex-boyfriend he still believed was located in Texas (NFI) and the other call was with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95.

4. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] V/A.R. and HT3 GILLESPIE argued over returning a motorcycle helmet and that HT3 GILLESPIE wanted it back. S/COPELAND said V/[redacted] V/A.R. explained her relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE was toxic and described her most recent ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, as at first being a sweetheart and then he wasn't. S/COPELAND said ET3 RICH and HT3 GILLESPIE do not get along, that they have issues with each other, and opined it was due to their relationships with V/[redacted] V/A.R. S/COPELAND said HT3 GILLESPIE has come to the galley on the ship a lot, which sometimes caused issues. S/COPELAND said he did not know of any instances of HT3 GILLESPIE being violent toward V/[redacted] V/A.R. and that HT3 GILLESPIE was more of a topic of conversation than ET3 RICH was during their evening together.

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0032_COPELAND

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S/COPELAND described his role during the evening as a sounding board for V/ V/A.R.

5. S/COPELAND recalled one of his roommates walked into the barracks suite (common area) and asked if V/ V/A.R. was okay as she was upset, which he (S/COPELAND) responded yes.

6. S/COPELAND explained V/ V/A.R. spent the night in his barracks room and they did not have sexual intercourse. S/COPELAND said he was supposed to work on Thursday 29May25, however, he woke up late as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room at approximately 0900 and woke he and V/ V/A.R. S/COPELAND said he misunderstood FCC PARKER and did not report to work. S/COPELAND said he borrow his roommate's vehicle and drove V/ V/A.R. back to her barracks at approximately 1000 hours. S/COPELAND said this was the last time he saw V/ V/A.R.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 02JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA, USN

1. On 02JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Carrie JOHNSON interviewed CSSN Gladis GARCIA-BARRERA, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) regarding the whereabouts of CCSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, DDG-95. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA was identified as a friend of V/[redacted V/A.R.]

2. The interview was conducted inside a government vehicle outside of CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA's barracks building, SP-29, onboard Naval Station Norfolk (NAVSTA Norfolk). RA and PA JOHNSON identified themselves via credentials.

3. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that she only became close with V/[redacted V/A.R.] over the last month or so, and that they hung out together for the first time outside of work on 24MAY25. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she mostly communicates with V/[redacted V/A.R.] on text message or Instagram. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA said the last time she received any communication from V/[redacted V/A.R.] was via Instagram at 2244 hours on Wednesday night, 28MAY25.

4. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA recalled that on 28MAY25, she and V/[redacted V/A.R.] ended their shift at 0815 and upon being released from the ship, took an Uber to Target together. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that V/[redacted V/A.R.] ordered the Uber on her phone. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA could not recall which Target they went to, but remembered there was a Food Lion next to it. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she and V/[redacted V/A.R.] both purchased yoga mats and weights because they both wanted to exercise more. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised they purchased other things, such as grocery items, etc. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that V/[redacted V/A.R.] purchased her Target items with a tap-to-pay feature on her phone, which CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA believed to be linked to V/[redacted V/A.R.] "Navy cash card."

5. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that when she and V/[redacted V/A.R.] left target, CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA ordered a Z-Trip ride which was supposed to arrive at 1141; however, the vehicle was late, so they took another Z-Trip ride at 1202 hours. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised the Z-Trip took them through Gate 22 of Naval Station Norfolk, dropped off CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA, then dropped V/[redacted V/A.R.] off. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated she requested that V/[redacted V/A.R.] let her know when she was back safely, which V/[redacted V/A.R.] did. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that later in the afternoon, V/[redacted V/A.R.] mentioned going to the barracks room of Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95 to cook

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tacos and sent her a couple of pictures of food. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA was unsure of the relationship between S/COPELAND and V/ V/A.R. and did not know S/COPELAND very well. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that she heard S/COPELAND "had a case" from the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) involving "Richerton" (NFI) and heard that S/COPELAND was supposed to go to jail for speeding and evading. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not know any other details regarding S/COPELAND's previous case.

6. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that on the morning of Thursday, 29MAY25, HT3 Michael Davontae GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95 messaged her around 0454 am requesting her to call him. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she did call HT3 GILLESPIE, who was V/ V/A.R. ex-boyfriend, and HT3 GILLEPSIE expressed his concerns for V/ V/A.R. because the previous evening V/ V/A.R. sporadically texted him "fuck you."

7. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA was asked about V/ V/A.R. mental health. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised she had heard V/ V/A.R. had mental health issues and had been admitted to the "5th floor" before (the "5th floor" is a term referring to the psychiatric unit at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP)). CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not know of any suicide attempts by V/ V/A.R. and denied that V/ V/A.R. communicated any suicidal ideations. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that there were times when V/ V/A.R. would stop talking to people, but only in person and not for this long. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that V/ V/A.R. had recently suggested the two of them take a trip to New York to go shopping. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that V/ V/A.R. had a friend in New York referred to as "Flacko" (NFI) which CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised was the term for "skinny" in the Spanish language. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not know anything more about "Flacko." CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she did hear that V/ V/A.R. made comments to HT3 GILLESPIE regarding going AWOL and mentioned New York.

8. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA also advised that V/ V/A.R. was closest to CSSN Junrojel MIGUEL, USN, DDG-95. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that V/ V/A.R. texted CSSN MIGUEL a concerning text message. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA had a screenshot of part of the text message and showed RA. RA observed the partial text message (from V/ V/A.R. to CSSN MIGUEL) which stated that V/ V/A.R. was scared of men and indicated that she felt uncomfortable around several people on the ship who V/ V/A.R. referred to as "CS1" who V/ V/A.R. alleged would grab her phone out of her hands and look through her gallery; "RS2" who told V/ V/A.R. he loved her and wanted a hug; and "BM1" who wanted a secret relationship with V/ V/A.R. after finding out she and HT3 GILLESPIE broke up. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA identified CS1 as CS1 Darrell HOWELLEL (NFI) and RS2 HART (NFI). CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not recall BM1's name but knew he was on DDG-95 along with CS1 and RS2.

9. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA listed other relevant individuals: ET3 RICH (NFI) is an ex-boyfriend of V/ V/A.R. CSSN Jean JAQUAEZ ("JJ") (NFI) was identified

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as a friend of V/ V/A.R.

10. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA provided the following contact information for V/ V/A.R.
Phone number: PII
Instagram: 19itsyafavoritegirl

11. At the conclusion of the interview, CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to view her iPhone 12, specifically any communications with V/ V/A.R. The PASS form and review of the extraction of CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA's iPhone will be documented in a subsequent Investigative Action.

REPORTED BY: LISA CARROLL, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 02JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/ PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN

1. On 02JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and participating Agent (PA) Lisa CARROLL conducted an interview of YN3 Sean MONGHAN, USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron (HM 12), in regard to the caption investigation.

2. YN3 MONAGHAN stated while living at Willis Manor, X2, barracks aboard Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, VA, he received a roommate approximately 5 months ago. YN3 MONAGHAN identified his roommate as CSSN Jeremiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). YN3 MONAGHAN explained that he and S/COPELAND are occupants of room 335B, which houses four (4) individuals. The commons area is shared with residents of room 335A. Although he is not very familiar with the other roommates, YN3 MONAGHAN advised S/COPELAND is very good friends with one of the roommate occupants in 335A (NFI). YN3 MONAGHAN described that particular roommate as a shorter white male with black hair.

3. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he owns a 2011 Toyota Camry, white in color, bearing New Jersey tag PII. On 02JUN25, YN3 MONAGHAN provided PA with four (4) pictures of his vehicle for verification, all of which were placed on a CD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains. Four (4) photographs provided by YN3 MONAGHAN were also placed on a photograph template; Enclosure (B) pertains. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he was unsure if any of his roommate's in 335A owned any vehicles. YN3 MONAGHAN explained S/COPELAND typically drives a four-door sedan, black in color, but he could not recall the exact make or model due to S/COPELAND's frequent mechanical issues and the vehicle's poor condition. YN3 MONAGHAN noted the vehicle S/COPELAND's drives is often parked in the parking lot of X2 barracks, near the handicap spaces. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he does not allow S/COPELAND to borrow his vehicle.

4. YN3 MONAGHAN described S/COPELAND as someone who enjoys partying, play video games, and occasionally inviting female guests to the barracks. YN3 MONAGHAN mentioned that while being roommates, S/COPELAND brought three different women over on separate occasions. YN3 MONAGHAN described the first woman as a black female with long black dreads and a scar on the left side of her face (NFI). According to YN3 MONAGHAN, she and S/COPELAND had a very toxic and abusive relationship. YN3 MONAGHAN recalled an incident where she slashed S/COPELAND's car tires while he was playing video games. The second woman was described as a black female with an aggressive demeanor (NFI). YN3 MONAGHAN recalled an incident where she attempted to stab S/COPELAND while holding a knife, pushing past YN3 MONAGHAN during the confrontation. The

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000183_COPELAND

EXHIBIT 13

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third woman was described as a white female with short black hair (NFI). YN3 MONAGHAN stated he did not have any personal interactions with these women and only observed them passing by, as his conversations were solely with S/COPELAND.

5. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on 29MAY25, he left the barracks around 0600 for work. At that time, S/COPELAND was not in their room. YN3 MONAGHAN reported that when he returned around 1300 hours, S/COPELAND was in the common area wearing a black hoodie with yellow writing and jeans while playing video games. On 30MAY25, S/COPELAND neither reported to work nor remained consistently in the barracks. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND appeared to be gone mostly all-day Saturday and Sunday, 30-31MAY25, which was usual behavior. On 31MAY25, YN3 MONAGHAN was awakened by S/COPELAND's command representative (NFI). YN3 MONAGHAN stated he informed S/COPELAND's command that S/COPELAND had already left that morning. YN3 MONAGHAN was unsure of S/COPELAND whereabouts. At approximately 1200 hours on 31MAY25, Norfolk Naval Station (NOB) Police arrived to conduct a welfare check, as S/COPELAND had still not returned to work. YN3 MONAGHAN reported S/COPELAND eventually returned back to the barracks around 1000 hours the next day, 01JUN25. Later that evening, YN3 MONAGHAN reported he saw S/COPELAND sitting in the common area of their barracks room playing his video game around 2300 hours. On 02JUN25, S/COPELAND reportedly woke YN3 MONAGHAN at 0500 hours, to request a ride to gate 2, which YN3 MONAGHAN did not provide.

6. YN3 MONAGHAN was unsure of the usual places S/COPELAND tends to frequent on a regular basis. YN3 MONAGHAN noted S/COPELAND does not own any electronics other that his video gaming system and two cellular devices. YN3 MONAGHAN described the cellular devices a being an iPhone black in color (NFI) and a possible black android cellular phone (NFI). At the conclusion of the interview, RA and PA showed YN3 MONAGHAN a picture of CSSN V/A.R. (V V/A.R. USN, DDG 95 for identification purposes. YN3 MONGHAN could not identify V/V/A.R. and noted he has not seen V/V/A.R. at his barracks room, as she does not match the description of the aforementioned female individuals.

7. There are no further details to report.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) CD-R: PHOTOS PROVIDED BY YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/02JUN25
(B) PHOTO TEMPLATE; PHOTOS PROVIDED BY YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/02JUN25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Colton WEAVER, interviewed HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) at NCISRA PORTSMOUTH, VA in reference to the captioned investigation.

2. For the ease of the reader, this summary is condensed from the interview, which was audio/video only recorded in its entirety and is not necessarily described in the order it was discussed. The recording contains a verbatim account of the interview. The audio/video interview was subsequently transferred onto a DVD-R. A copy of the DVD-R containing the audio/video recording of HT3 GILLESPIE's interview is appended to this report as Enclosure (A).

3. HT3 GILLESPIE stated he dated CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] DDG 95 for approximately six (6) months, circa MAY24 to NOV24. HT3 GILLESPIE advised after they broke up, they maintained a friendship and would still see each other. HT3 GILLESPIE recalled V/[redacted V/A.R.] was admitted to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) circa SEP24 for mental health related issues. HT3 GILLESPIE advised V/[redacted] disclosed being diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and an eating disorder. HT3 GILLESPIE reported V/[redacted] was prescribed medication relating to mental illness. HT3 GILLESPIE stated V/[redacted V/A.R.] spoke about taking more medication than prescribed which resulted to V/[redacted] agreeing to let HT3 GILLESPIE hide her medication and dispense the correct amount as needed. HT3 GILLESPIE stated another ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95 also hid V/[redacted]s medication for the same aforenoted reason.

4. HT3 GILLESPIE described V/[redacted V/A.R.] as a person who did not like being alone but was a kind person who was willing to help others. HT3 GILLESPIE indicated V/[redacted] has a history of being a victim of sexual assault. HT3 GILLESPIE recalled V/[redacted V/A.R.] making jokes about buying a plane ticket and traveling to New York (NFI). HT3 GILLESPIE advised V/[redacted V/A.R.] did not own a vehicle but was saving money for one. HT3 GILLESPIE stated V/[redacted V/A.R.] would often ride with him or other friends to get around. HT3 GILLESPIE advised he is unaware of V/[redacted V/A.R.] making recent suicidal ideations.

5. HT3 GILLESPIE stated he was on duty from 0700 on 28MAY25 to 0700 the following day, 29MAY25. HT3 GILLESPIE advised while at work on 28MAY25, he saw V/[redacted] and they made plans to go get his motorcycle helmet from V/[redacted]barracks room on 29MAY25. HT3 GILLESPIE advised V/[redacted V/A.R.]

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA 03JUN25

appeared upset and was passive aggressive during the interaction and wanted to know why HT3 GILLESPIE wanted his helmet back. HT3 GILLESPIE reported at approximately 1900 hours on 28MAY25, he received a call from V/[V/A.R.] and she wanted to tell HT3 GILLESPIE about her day. HT3 GILLESPIE noted V/[V/A.R.] appeared happy during the phone call and that was the last time he heard V/R[V/A.R.] voice. At approximately 2200-2300 hours that same night, HT3 GILLESPIE advised he received a text messaged from V/[V/A.R.] which read "Fuck you". HT3 GILLESPIE stated after he received the aforenoted text message, he attempted to reach out to V/[V/A.R.] repeatedly until approximately 0400 hours on 29MAY25. HT3 GILLESPIE stated he became increasingly concerned after V/[V/A.R.] failed to reply to his messages. HT3 GILLESPIE also noted V/[V/A.R.] stopped sharing her location with him and at approximately 0200 hours on 29MAY25, he observed his text messages not showing as "delivered". HT3 GILLESPIE described the behavior as concerning because V/[V/A.R.] would never completely ignore him in the past.

6. HT3 GILLESPIE reported the following day, on 29MAY25, he responded to a barracks building (NFI) onboard Naval Station Norfolk with ET3 RICH, which was V/[V/A.R.] last shared location via iPhone. HT3 GILLESPIE advised he knocked on V/[V/A.R.] door and her roommate (NFI) answered and advised she had not seen V/[V/A.R.] HT3 GILLESPIE noted although V/[V/A.R.] stopped sharing her location with him, she continued to share her location with ET3 RICH. HT3 GILLESPIE advised he was eventually notified by V/R[V/A.R.] friend "GARCIA" that V/[V/A.R.] was picked up by CSSN Jeremiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95 and taken back to his barracks room. HT3 GILLESPIE stated he was aware CSSN COPELAND did not possess a vehicle but heard he had borrowed one (NFI). GARCIA also stated on 28MAY25, she went to Target (NFI) with V/[V/A.R.] and purchased yoga items, clothing and other items.

7. HT3 GILLESPIE reported prior to the interview with NCIS, he spoke with S/COPELAND about his interaction with V/[V/A.R.] HT3 GILLISPIE stated he recorded their interaction without S/COPELAND knowing. S/COPELAND disclosed while with V/[V/A.R.] they had consumed alcohol (NFI) and V/[V/A.R.] became emotional and had an "episode" and started calling people (NFI). Furthermore, S/COPELAND explained the last time he saw V/[V/A.R.] was when he dropped her off at her barracks on 29MAY25 at approximately 1300 hours. HT3 GILLESPIE advised he asked S/COPELAND if he actually saw V/[V/A.R.] go into her barracks in which S/COPELAND responded in the negative and advised she walked off the side of the building.

8. HT3 GILLESPIE signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure and sent RA 25 photograph screenshots and one (1) video via Airdrop. This investigative endeavor will be documented on separate reporting.

9. Nothing further to report.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SP-67 (Rev. 01/30/2024)

VIRGINIA MISSING PERSON INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE REPORT

(21 and OVER ONLY)

*INVESTIGATING OFFICER: INV Ray McCoy/8712

*DATE/TIME REPORTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT: 06-01-2025/1900

*DATE ENTERED VCIN/NCIC: 06-03-2025

*ORIGINATING AGENCY CASE NUMBER: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA

VIC #:

*PART 1

*AGENCY SUBMITTING REPORT: NCIS

ORI NO.: VANIS2102

*TELEPHONE # OF INVESTIGATING AGENCY (ACCESSIBLE 24 HOURS): AREA CODE (571) 305 - 4900

*LAST NAME:	FIRST NAME:	MIDDLE NAME:	SUFFIX:	*SEX:	RACE:
[redacted]	V/A.R.			F	W

*PLACE OF BIRTH: V/A.R.

*DATE OF BIRTH: V/A.R.

*HEIGHT: 5 FT. 0 IN.

*WEIGHT: 110 LBS.

*EYE COLOR: ☐ BLACK ☐ BLUE ☐ MAROON ☐ GREEN ☒ BROWN ☐ GRAY ☐ HAZEL ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ MULTICOLOR ☐ PINK

*HAIR COLOR: ☒ BLACK ☐ BLOND ☐ WHITE ☐ SANDY ☐ BROWN ☐ GRAY ☐ RED ☐ ____

COMPLEXION: ☐ FAIR/LIGHT ☐ BLACK ☒ MEDIUM ☐ ALBINO ☐ DARK ☐ OLIVE ☐ DARK BROWN ☐ RUDDY ☐ SALLOW ☐ YELLOW ☐ MED. BROWN ☐ LT. BROWN

SCARS, MARKS, BRACES, TATTOOS, PIERCINGS: Unk

GLASSES: ☒ YES ☐ NO CONTACTS: ☐ YES ☒ NO

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: PII

OPERATOR'S LICENSE NUMBER: PII

O.L. STATE: TX

DATE OF EXPIRATION:

MEDICAL CONDITION: ☒ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, WHAT TYPE: Mental health issues

*MEDICATION REQUIRED: ☒ YES ☐ NO

MEDICATION TYPE: Unk anti-depressants

PERSON WHO IS REPORTING SUBJECT MISSING:

LAST: Gillespie

FIRST: Miguel

MIDDLE:

ADDRESS: Buildng U-20, room 228B, Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, VA

PHONE:

*DATE OF LAST CONTACT: 05-29-2025

IN PERSON: ☐ YES ☒ NO

VIA PHONE: ☒ YES ☐ NO

LAST SEEN IN COMPANY OF: NAME(S):	SEX:	RACE:
(1) Copeland, Germiah	M	B
(2)		

MISCELLANEOUS DATA: (Information which may assist in identification: nickname, associates, direction of travel, hairstyle, clothing, jewelry, etc.)

Carrying a blk and purple backpack, possibly Hello Kitty

Last seen with Copeland at 9712 Virginia Ave, Norfolk, VA 23511

VEHICLE INFORMATION:

LICENSE PLATE NUMBER:	STATE:	YEAR OF EXP:	LIC. TYPE:	VIN:

VEHICLE YEAR:	MAKE:	MODEL:	STYLE:	COLOR:

* MANDATORY DATA ELEMENTS

SP-67 (Rev. 01/30/2024)

***PART 2**

CHECK APPLICABLE CONDITION:

1. ☐ DISABILITY:
   Person missing is under proven physical/mental disability or is senile thereby subjecting herself/himself or others to personal or immediate danger.
   Are you requesting a Senior Alert activation? YES ☐ NO ☐
   Are you requesting a Missing Person with Autism Alert activation? YES ☐ NO ☐
   Are you requesting a Critically Missing Adult Alert activation? YES ☐ NO ☐
   If you answered yes to ANY of the questions above, contact the VSP Duty Sergeant at 804-674-2026.

2. ☒ ENDANGERED:
   Person missing under circumstances indicating his/her physical safety is in danger.
   Are you requesting a Critically Missing Adult Alert activation? YES ☒ NO ☐
   If you answered yes to the question above, contact the VSP Duty Sergeant at 804-674-2026.

3. ☐ INVOLUNTARY:
   Person missing under circumstances indicating the disappearance was not voluntary.
   Are you requesting a Critically Missing Adult Alert activation? YES ☐ NO ☐
   If you answered yes to the question above, contact the VSP Duty Sergeant at 804-674-2026.

4. ☐ CATASTROPHE VICTIM
   Person who is missing after a catastrophe.
   Are you requesting a Critically Missing Adult Alert activation? YES ☐ NO ☐
   If you answered yes to the question above, contact the VSP Duty Sergeant at 804-674-2026.

5. ☐ OTHER
   A person 21 or older, not meeting the criteria for entry in any other category, who is missing and for whom there is a reasonable concern for his/her safety.
   Are you requesting a Critically Missing Adult Alert activation? YES ☐ NO ☐
   If you answered yes to the question above, contact the VSP Duty Sergeant at 804-674-2026.

***PART 3**

I certify the person described in Part 1 is missing and that the information I have furnished is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[redacted] #S712 | 06-03-2025 | LEO

SIGNATURE | DATE | RELATIONSHIP

PART 4

I authorize any law-enforcement official to use photographs and/or any other identifying information I have provided in any manner they deem necessary in attempting to locate the person I am reporting missing.

[redacted] #S712 | 06-03-2025 | LEO

SIGNATURE | DATE | RELATIONSHIP

Virginia Missing Children Information Clearinghouse
Virginia State Police
Criminal Justice Information Services Division
P. O. Box 27472
Richmond, Virginia 23261-7472

PLEASE ATTACH A CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MISSING CHILD TO THIS FORM

* MANDATORY DATA ELEMENTS

000328_COPELAND

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/ PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN

1. On 03Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) John KOWALSKI conducted an interview of AR John CALISSE, USN, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124 regarding his knowledge related to the whereabouts of CSSN V/A.R. (V/ V/A.R. USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of AR CALISSE was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. AR CALISSE reported on 29May25, while at his barracks Willis Manor, Building X-2, Room 335, on Naval Station Norfolk, at approximately 0200, he heard his suitemate CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, and an unknown female singing karaoke in S/COPELAND's room. AR CALISSE stated he always heard loud music coming from S/COPELAND's room at all times of the night. AR CALISSE did not recall seeing any signs that S/COPELAND was consuming alcohol in the common area. AR CALISSE stated at approximately 1900 on 28May25, S/COPELAND requested to use his white 2014 Jeep Compass to which he obliged. AR CALISSE reported S/COPELAND returned at approximately 2000, knocked on his barracks door, and when he opened the door to obtain the keys, he observed a female in the kitchen area cooking, who he later identified as V/ V/A.R.

4. AR CALISSE recalled waking up the morning of 29May25, at approximately 0500, to report to work on time. At approximately 0530, AR CALISSE stated he exited his room and upon walking into the common area observed S/COPELAND and an unknown female laying naked in the middle of the common room floor. AR CALISSE stated he observed them on their backs, face up, with their eyes closed. AR CALISSE stated he observed S/COPELAND laying on the thigh of the unknown female. AR CALISSE stated he did not see any clothing belonging to S/COPELAND. AR CALISSE stated he observed the female wearing red pajama pants with flowers, with one pant leg slightly on at the ankle, and her bra pulled down exposing her breast. AR CALISSE reported walking past them in order to leave the room and believed both S/COPELAND and the female to be breathing. AR CALISSE stated when he returned from work at approximately 1700, S/COPELAND and the female were not in the barracks room.

5. AR CALISSE described the female as brown skinned, long brown hair, and

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

with what he believed to be a possible nose piercing. AR CALISSE stated this was his first time seeing the female; however, confirmed it was V/ V/A.R. when showed a photograph.

6. AR CALISSE stated he did not see S/COPELAND again until Sunday 01Jun25, at approximately 1400, when he asked him for a ride to report to DDG 95. AR CALISSE agreed to provide transportation to S/COPELAND after returning from Walmart. AR CALISSE stated he transported S/COPELAND along with ISSA Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, VAW 124, at approximately 1700. AR CALISSE stated S/COPELAND was on DDG 95 for approximately one hour while ISSA GORDILLACRUZ and AR CALISSE waited in the parking lot for him to return. AR CALISSE stated when S/COPELAND returned to the vehicle he informed him he was required to do a urinalysis for not reporting to work on 30May25. AR CALISSE stated while driving from DDG 95 back to the barracks they stopped at Chipotle located at 4712 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23508, at approximately 1900.

7. AR CALISSE stated when they returned to the barracks, S/COPELAND asked if he could use his car to get something to eat. AR CALISSE allowed S/COPELAND to use his vehicle giving him the key at approximately 2000. AR CALISSE stated when he woke up the next morning and proceeded to go to work, he noticed his car key was not on the kitchen counter where S/COPELAND normally leaves it after borrowing his car. AR CALISSE stated he called S/COPELAND to find out his location and was angry because he caused him to be late for work. AR CALISSE reported meeting S/COPELAND in the X-2 parking lot at approximately 0630 and watched him drive the vehicle into the parking lot. AR CALISSE stated he was unaware of the locations S/COPELAND traveled to while he had his vehicle.

8. During his interview, AR CALISSE signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his Jeep Compass which will be documented under separate cover.

9. At the conclusion of the interview, while returning AR CALISSE to VAW-124, he located EZ Pass transactions and provided screenshots of the charges from 27May25 to 02Jun25 without being requested; Enclosure (B) pertains. AR CALISSE stated the charge on 01Jun25 was his return from the ship; however, all other charges were believed to be accrued by S/COPELAND.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN/03JUN25
(B) PHOTO TEMPLATE: SCREENSHOTS OF EZPASS LOCATIONS/03JUN25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF PSSN IRBIN GORDILLOCRUZ, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (RA) Fritzner PHILEMON conducted an interview of PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124) in regards to his knowledge of this investigation. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ is one of 4 roommates of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he returned to his barracks room at approximately 0400 on 28JUN25. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ had been on leave and flew back to Norfolk at approximately 0300. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated upon his return he walked into the common area of the room and noticed all the lights were off. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he did not see or notice anyone on the couch or the floor of the common room area. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ admitted he was exhausted and was really only focused on going to sleep.

4. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he woke up for work at approximately 0620 and exited his room at approximately 0645 with his roommate, AR John CALISSE, and they both noticed two individuals laying on the ground near the couch opposite their room. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female was laying on her back with her breasts exposed and her chest was rising and falling. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ further described the female as dark skin and having curly hair. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he had never seen this female but did believe she was in the Navy. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ described his roommate, S/COPELAND, was naked and was laying with his head on the females stomach. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he and CALISSE had to maneuver around the two laying on the ground to get to the front door.

5. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated on Saturday, 31MAY25, and Sunday, 01JUN25, he had been woken up in the morning by base security trying to locate S/COPELAND. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated on 01JUN25, base security had arrived and told S/COPELAND he had to check in with his Command due to him being UA. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated S/COPELAND, CALISSE, and himself went to DDG-95, utilizing CALISSE's vehicle. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ continued saying, S/COPELAND had to check into the Command and do a urinalysis test. Afterwards, they all went to Chipotle for food and returned to the barracks. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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stated it was around sunset when they all went to DDG-95.

6. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated after returning from Chipotle, S/COPELAND asked to borrow CALISSE's vehicle to "go get food". PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated that was strange because they had all just eaten. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he did not see S/COPELAND again until approximately 0630 on 02JUN25, when he and CALISSE were attempting to go to work and S/COPELAND had not come back with the vehicle.

7. No further information was obtained.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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US v. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN



Exhibit 20 ENCLOSURE A

OPTICAL DISC Containing

Interview PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz

03JUN25

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF CONTACT OF CSSN SARAH COOK, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and participating Agent (PA) Caroline ROBINSON spoke with CSSN Sarah COOK (CSSN COOK), USN, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 77), regarding the whereabouts of CCSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CSSN COOK was identified as a friend of CSSN Jeremiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95.

2. This conversation was audio recorded, and a copy of the recording was subsequently saved to a DVD-R disc. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; please refer to Enclosure (A) for amplifying details. This interview took place at [redacted PII] [redacted PII] floor three within the lobby area.

3. As background, V/[redacted V/A.R.] was last seen at S/COPELAND's, barracks located at 9712 Virginia Ave. room 335B. On 03JUN25, NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) for [redacted PII]. NCIS discovered three individuals identified as S/COPELAND's roommates and one female identified as CSSN COOK in S/COPELAND's barracks room during the execution of the CASS.

4. CSSN COOK stated she received text messages from S/COPELAND to hang out at his apartment on 03JUN25 and arrived at his room at approximately 1845 hours. CSSN COOK went on to state she has known S/COPELAND since January 2025 and met at the gally on deployment aboard the CVN 77. CSSN COOK stated S/COPELAND became friends on the deployment and a few months later S/COPELAND was removed off of the CVN 77 during the deployment. CSSN COOK further explained she was not informed of the specific reason for his removal from deployment, but S/COPELAND expressed to her it was for his mental health and self- harming "cutting" incidents.

5. CSSN COOK advised she met with S/COPELAND at his room located at 9712 Virginia Avenue Building X-2 Apartment 335B on 03JUN25. CSSN COOK went on to explain she was only at the room for over an hour when NCIS arrived at the front door. CSSN COOK stated she was in the common area with S/COPELAND watching tv and playing video games. CSSN COOK stated she did not go anywhere else within the apartment, but the common areas. CSSN COOK advised she didn't notice any off about S/COPELAND during their interaction during the night.

6. CSSN COOK recalled S/COPELAND was on his phone checking his messages while hanging out and advised he was texting someone with a "short name";

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however, could not see who S/COPELAND was texting.

7. When asked whether S/COPELAND had borrowed her vehicle, CSSN COOK stated he had not. CSSN COOK further explained she just purchased her vehicle on 01JUN25 after returning from deployment.

8. CSSN COOK recalled she thought it was a joke when NCIS started to knock on the front door and observed S/COPELAND go to the door to see who it was. CSSN COOK advised she didn't observe S/COPELAND acting unusual throughout the night.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING AUDIO RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN COOK/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: CHEYENNE SIMMONS, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 2 LAST EU V2 LNN

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Search Authorization

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN [redacted], USN

TO: Special Agent Jessica Gokey and other NCIS Agents

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by Special Agent Jessica Gokey

That there is reason to believe that on the person of and/or on the premises known as:
X2 Barracks Room 335B and the common area located on Naval Station Norfolk

which is/are under my jurisdiction, there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See attachment B

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person and/or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of a command authorized search exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH the person and/or place named for the property specified and if the property is found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this authorization and receipt for the property taken. You will provide a signed receipt to this command, containing a full description of every item seized.

Any assistance desired in conducting this search will be furnished by this command.

Dated this 3 day of June, 2025.

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.PII Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.PII Date: 2025.06.03 15:49:44 -04'00'

Signature of Person Authorizing Search

CAPT, USN, Commanding Officer
Rank, Service, Title

NAVSTA Norfolk
Command

ENCLOSURE (A)

NCIS 5580/7 (Rev. 7-2021)
000299_COPELAND

Affidavit for Search Authorization

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. USN

BEFORE the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia

The undersigned, being duly sworn, requests authority to search:
The barracks room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND, USN, located at Barracks X-2, Room 335B and the common area,Naval Station Norfolk, as described in Attachment (A).

Believing that there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
Evidence pertaining to Article 86 (Absense without leave) of the UCMJ, more particularl described in Attachment (B).

The request for authorization to search and seize is made in connection with an investigation into the offense(s) of :
Article 86 (Absense without leave) of the UCMJ.

The facts and circumstances known to me tending to establish the foregoing grounds for authorization to search and seize, including comments demonstrating the reliability of the information and/or informant, are as follows:
See Affidavit, incorporated herein by reference.

[redacted]

Signature of Affiant
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 3rd day of June, 2025.

[redacted]

Signature of Person Administering Oath

LT, USN, STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Rank, Service, Title

NCIS 5580/1 (1/2001) (Formerly NCISFORM 023/08-92)

AFFIDAVIT

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CSSN [redacted] USN

1. I, Jessica Gokey, am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. The following facts and information are known to your Affiant based upon information gained from the conduct of this investigation, witness observations, training and experience, and/or through information relayed through other law enforcement officers.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure to search the residence belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND as annotated in Attachment A.

4. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure, your Affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your Affiant has set forth the facts believed necessary to establish probable cause to believe that evidence of violations of Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 86 (Absence without leave).

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

5. This United States is investigating violations of Article 86 (Absence without leave).

6. On May 28, 2025, CSSN V/A.R. was known to be in the barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, who is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

7. According to COPELAND, V/A.R. came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

8. COPELAND stated V/A.R. called a "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, V/A.R. became emotional and began to cry.

9. COPELAND stated the relationship with V/A.R. was platonic and he is a friend from work and no sexual acts have happened between them.

10. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on 29 May 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

11. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see V/A.R. breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on V/A.R. stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if V/A.R. was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

12. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell V/A.R. was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

13. COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of 29 May 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND and V/A.R. were in a state of undress and V/A.R. waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

14. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and V/A.R. to V/A.R. residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

15. COPELAND's movements after dropping V/A.R. off at Miller Hall. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29-31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025.

16. On 02 June 2025, NCIS spoke to FCC PARKER to verify V/A.R. work schedule. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. was scheduled to work day shift Friday, May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 1, 2025 with a report time of 0500-0530 hours. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. failed to report all three (3) days.

17. NCIS interview all remaining roommates of COPELAND who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and V/A.R. on the morning of 29 May 2025.

18. The whereabouts of V/A.R. are still unknown. Her cellphone last pinged on 31 May 2025 for last known location. The last known was approximately Latitude 36.896558 Longitude -76.435536, which appears to be located in Suffolk, VA.

19. Additionally, NCIS spoke with her mother in Texas and she conveyed V/A.R. has attempted suicide in the past and suffers from depression, for which she is prescribed medication. Emergency Room's, psychology departments, morgues, and jails were all negative for her presence when called.

CONCLUSION

20. Based upon the information, your Affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe items in COPELAND's barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A and the common room area onboard Naval Station Norfolk may constitute evidence of Article 86 (Absence without leave) of the UCMJ.

21. Your affiant respectfully requests a CASS be issued, authorizing NCIS Agents, forensic examiners tasked by NCIS, and other law enforcement entities and their forensic components to search and retain evidence as described above.

[redacted]

Jessica Gokey, Special Agent
Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of June, 2025

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.PII
Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.PII
Date: 2025.06.03 19:50:32 -04'00'

CAPT
Commanding Officer

ATTACHMENT A: PLACES TO BE SEARCHED

X-2 room 335B Rack A and the common area onboard Naval Station Norfolk.

ATTACHMENT B: PARTICULAR ITEMS TO BE SEIZED

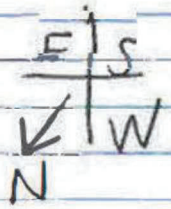
1. Bed linens, sheets, towels, blankets, pillows that appear to have been used or were recently used.
2. Used condoms and condom wrappers
3. Any clothing appearing to belong to a female
4. Items containing or could reasonably contain Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA), blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence
5. Other evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense.

6/3/25

Robin

PII

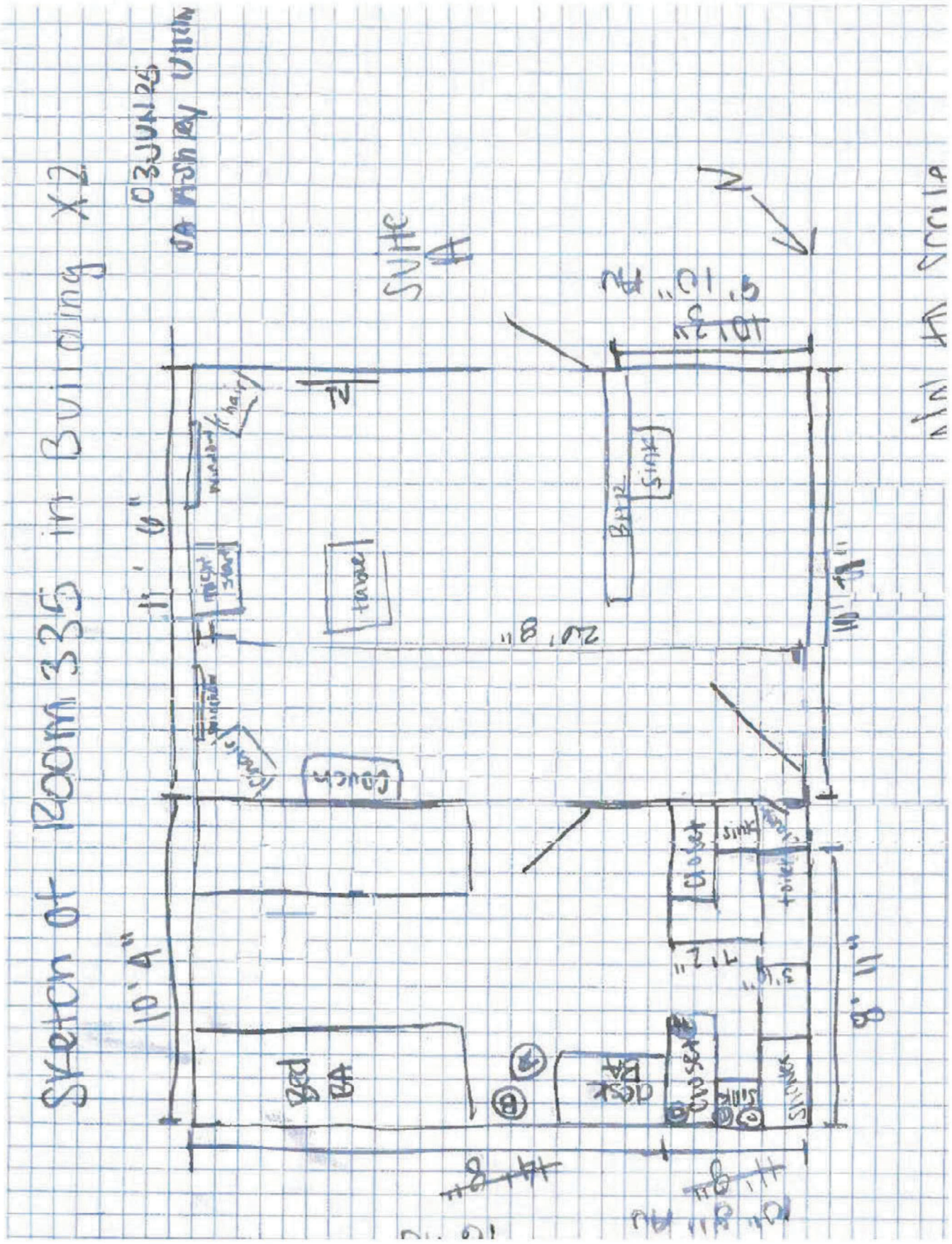
- Copeland Room / Building X-2 /
- arrival: 2004
- CASS approved: 1945 / 1980
- City of Norfolk landfill
  - roster picks up locations
    - public works schedule / route, request to stop pulling trash
- sunset, 75°,
- Ashley Ullom, Dave / Jill
- Joy Narowski / Alison FOX
- Morgan Cume
- Victoria (U40) Bee (U40) Jeu (U40)
- Sal (search) /
- Cheyenne / Brandon (evidence)
- 2088 cleared room
- Room 335
- [redacted] h @ 2117, stairwells
- Dave Lawhon / Ashley / Andrew Pisky [Kyra], VDEM, Morgan,
- Roommate outside; Cheyenne for interviews, already interviewed
- Common area
- Sink
- Light in kitchen was on, mold in sink
- Kitchen floor sticky
-
- coffee table had chunk missing
- Ziploc some cups, uptown cocktail strawberry margarita
- 4 controllers.
- 2 lounge chairs
- 1 couch
- windows on SE wall
- TV on SW wall
- entrance NW wall
- S room NE entry
- room is labeled B



- Kitchen has bar w/ (2) stools

Jesse, Morgan John, Ryan, KC, Steve, Tiffany, V/A.R. Bishop

- 2 occupants / 2 beds
- s/ bed on left side
- ceiling fan running
- bed is made w/ black sheets + black blankets
- storage under bed gray
- 2 pairs of shoes under bed
- desk against wall
- shoes backpack against wall
- desk has miscellaneous items
- fan on desk running
- 2154 Dave / Andrew walkthrough
- Dog started 2203
- alerted to airpods on coffee table
- alerted to desk in s/ room (hard drive)
- phone placed on charger
- watch placed on charger / consent roommate
- 2234 Kyra came through
- 2241 Kyra hit around bookbag in room
- 2300 ALS began
- 2330 search continued
- presumptive blood test closet 1146 paper in closet
- presump " " bathroom 0005
- sticker [redacted] 0035
- bluestar from 0000 - 0116
- exit photos 0134
* need EG's / sketch / photos
- 0138 scene released to COPELAND



ENCLOSURE 19
Page 3 of 4

A - Backpack
B - Sneakers (pair)
C - Possible Blood by sink (swab)
D - 11 shower on floor at floor
E - Swab of Blue Stain from sink bowl
F - Swabs of closet door (4)

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 03 June 25

I, AT John Calisse, USN, after being advised by SA Anthony Jones that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into _____, have been requested to permit a search of my Willis Manor X-2 -# 335 - 9712 Virginia Ave, Norfolk, VA 23511

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on _____ by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

Signed: [redacted]

[redacted]
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

[redacted]
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

_____
Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

Start : _____

End : _____

ENCLOSURE (A)

Placeholder for Enclosure 21:
CD of CSSN Copeland's Recorded Interview of 3 Jun 25


ENCL 21

1_Copeland Interview_3Jun25

MS. BEA: Okay. I didn't know what you prefer, so you all that.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

MS. BEA: Yeah, no problem. I'll be right back with you. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: All right. Thank you.

[Ms. Bea departed the room.]

MS. BEA: Sorry, Jeremiah, for that delay. You good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I'm fine.

MS. BEA: Did you eat?

CSSN COPELAND: I ate a little.

MS. BEA: Do you want more and CheezIts?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. If you change your mind, let me know, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Jess introduced herself, right? You know Justin?

Yeah.

SA GOKEY: I'll do it again. Oh, just for, you know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Special Agent Jessica Gokey.

MS. BEA: I'm still Bea.

CSSN COPELAND: [Inaudible 00:07:49.]

SA GOKEY: Your CAC is it in your wallet?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. [Hands wallet to CSSN Copeland.]

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am. [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: All righty. I'll put that back out here with your stuff. All right.

Okay. So, I know we talked Sunday a little bit about what's going on, but that was more like super informal. Now, we're in like the more formal setting, so I'm just going to get some information from you, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am. All right.

Just need--okay. What day did you report to the ship, roughly?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe like February 21st.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Of this year, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okey-dokey. What--you're CSSN, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Branch? U.S.

Sex?

CSSN COPELAND: Male.

SA GOKEY: Race?

CSSN COPELAND: Black. African American.

SA GOKEY: Okay. U.S. citizen?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Do you have a clearance?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's your full social?

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: Just kidding.

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

All right. Date of birth?

CSSN COPELAND: PII

SA GOKEY: Got another '05.

MS. BEA: It just makes us feel old.

SA GOKEY: It makes me feel old. I was a junior in high school.

How tall are you?

CSSN COPELAND: Like five-ten. Five-nine and a half.

SA GOKEY: I'll give you five-ten.

Weight?

CSSN COPELAND: Like 157.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Hair color?

CSSN COPELAND: Black.

SA GOKEY: Place of birth?

CSSN COPELAND: North Carolina.

SA GOKEY: North Carolina. Was that Durham?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Is it D-U-R-A-M?

CSSN COPELAND: D-U-R-H-A-M-H-A-M.

SA GOKEY: All right. Eye color?

CSSN COPELAND: Brown.

SA GOKEY: Brown. Okay. When are you set to rotate?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't even know.

SA GOKEY: No? Okay.

Is this your first enlistment?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, when did you enlist?

CSSN COPELAND: I joined the Navy July 13th, 2023.

SA GOKEY: 13th, July 23. Okay. I see you got tattoos. What's your favorite?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably this one. {Pointing to left forearm.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's it say?

CSSN COPELAND: In life, we all suffer, but I'll find my way through the darkness.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is that from the Bible?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: What's it from?

CSSN COPELAND: Just a quote.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And that's your left arm?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. And you currently reside at X-2?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Room number?

CSSN COPELAND: 335.

SA GOKEY: Are you Alpha Bravo?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe--I don't even know.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Bravo.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then in the room, do you know if you're---

-

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I'm Alpha.

SA GOKEY: You're Alpha in the room. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's a good note--a good phone number for you?

CSSN COPELAND: PII.

SA GOKEY: PII

CSSN COPELAND: PII

SA GOKEY: PII

CSSN COPELAND: PII

SA GOKEY: PII Okay. Good email?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GOKEY: Seven at Gmail. Okay. Do you have a vehicle?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What is your home address of record?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted].

SA GOKEY: [redacted]

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is that Durham?

CSSN COPELAND: No, that's in [redacted].

SA GOKEY: Oh, [redacted].

Okay. Do you know the zip code?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GOKEY: [redacted]

Okay. Highest level of education?

CSSN COPELAND: High school diploma.

SA GOKEY: High school. Okay.

You married?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. Who's your next to kin?

CSSN COPELAND: My mom.

SA GOKEY: Mom. What's Mama's name?

CSSN COPELAND: Rochelle Brown. R-O-C-H-E-L-L. And like--like the color brown.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know Mom's phone number by chance?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GOKEY: All right. Most--most people don't know their parents' number or they're next to kin.

Do you have a civilian occupation? Like, do you Uber Eats or anything on the side?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Do you want to see that?

MS. BEA: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I figured. We'll just have--have you hold onto that.

Okay. So, I know from past experience you've been down this road before with Ms. Bea here, and kind of like what--why we were at your room today. So, we're executing a CASS, which is a Command Authorized Search and Seizure because [redacted], that was the last place, you know, we--you--somebody saw her, me being you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, that's why we're doing that. Right? So, right now we're classifying her as UA.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And I would like to talk to you about the time that you were also UA and some other inconsist--inconsistencies I've

gotten from the previous statement that we had in order to protect you. I want to read you your rights.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And then, we can discuss further if you want to, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. If you don't mind, I'm going to scoot a little closer.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I am going to read this to you. All right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And then, whenever I say like, "One," and then I read it, I'm going to ask you if you understand.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: You're going to say yes or no. If you understand. Yes. If you don't know, and then I'll explain further for you. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, the place is in NCIS U-40. That is this building. The date is 03 June 25. You, Jeremiah Copeland, have been advised by me, Special Agent Jessica Gokey, that you were suspected of Article 86, unauthorized absence, and Article 107, false official.

You have also been advised that:

One, you have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: I understand the right, but what is Article 107 for false official?

SA GOKEY: So, it's the false official statement. So, I'm going to ask you questions that could be incriminating.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: About, you know, the story that we talked about on Sunday.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: So, because you're military, you guys get----

CSSN COPELAND: Articles.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. You guys and you also get to get told what we're talking about it, so there's no surprises. So I am--I'm going to ask you questions that could be incriminating. So, therefore, I have to read you that right? Or excuse me, that article.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I'll read number one again. All right. You have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'm going to ask you to initial it, it is not that you're waiving your right at that time.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I understand.

SA GOKEY: Okay, perfect. Just saying that you understand.

All right, and so I'll read number two. Any statement you make can be used against you in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceedings.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, go ahead for me.

Three. You have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by you at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as your counsel at no cost to you, or both.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, go ahead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: Four. You have the right to have your retained lawyer and or appointed military lawyer present during this interview.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And five, you may terminate this interview at any time for any reason.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, go ahead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: All right. So, one through five. Do you have any questions about that at all?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, perfect.

So, at this time, Jeremiah, do you want to continue this conversation?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Go ahead and read that paragraph out loud for me.

CSSN COPELAND: I understand my rights as relative to me and--to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appoint lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this

time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made with me--or been made to me.

SA GOKEY: Perfect. Have I threatened you today?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Has any other agent threatened you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Have we made any promises to you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. If you would just initial before and after that paragraph for me.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: And then, I'll have you sign and date.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, I will sign it, and I'll have Ms. Bea sign it as well.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Ms. Bea. [Hands document to Ms. Bea.]

Thank you. All right.

Okay. All right, Jeremiah. Okay. So, if you need a break, if you need to use the restroom, or you need more snackies, let me know. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, we know we're talking about V/A.R.

Can you go ahead and tell me, you know, the events leading up to why we're here right now?

CSSN COPELAND: So, I mean, I--what is it? We were at work, and she gave me a recipe to make salsa, and I was like, "I'm probably going to make it by tonight, or some shit." So, she was like, "Cool." And she was like, "If you do end up making tacos, then just call me." I was like, "All right. Bet. Cool."

So, I got home. By the time I got off work and everything, I called her and I was like, "I'm finna make tacos." And she was like, "All right." So, I told her I was just going to go to the store just to grab the rest of the stuff that was on the--like on the menu that she gave me. And then from there I went to the store, got everything, and then I came and picked her up, and we came back home. From there, we cooked--well, she made the salsa. We made tacos. She taught me how to make these, like, little tortillas, like out of the corn tortillas.

From there everything was cool, and we were just chilling, playing music, listening music. From there, she--it took a left turn when I told her something about one of the dudes that she messes with on the boat. And then, from there she was just, she got on the floor and she called one of her ex-boyfriends from Texas. We were sitting there talking for about maybe like 15,

20 minutes, maybe 25, just talking about the situation. Everything.

After that, she hung up, and she was just going on a call spree, calling hella people. And then from there, I guess she just broke down, whatever, saying how he did this. He did that. Cool. And then, from there, my roommate walked--walked in the room, and he asked if everything was good. I was like, "Just let her have a moment." because she's just sitting there crying. I'm not going to sit there and entertain that. So, we went to sleep. The morning comes, and obviously, I had to be at work, so I didn't show up. My Chief came in the room and he asked, "What's going on?" I was just saying, "I'm just having a late start." And he was like, "All right. Cool." He told me, "Do I have a ride to work?" And I said, "I, at the current moment, I was like, my roommate can take me, but I have--I have to wait until he gets off work." So, my Chief was like, "All right. Cool."

And so, my roommate got off late, so by the time my roommate got home, like they were already gone. So, I was just like, "Fuck it." And I was just like, I wasn't going to go in. So, I didn't go in. And then Friday comes, Saturday goes by, and then CS1 and my chief text me saying that I'm being marked UA. And from there, I was just like, all right.

And Sunday comes, the MAs come because my mom called because I haven't contacted my mom. So, I guess that part it was a well welfare check.

So, Sunday, I ended up going to the ship. And from there, I did urinalysis. And after urinalysis, they released me, and I went back home.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you went to--so, let's go back to when--what day did she come over?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You're positive it was Thursday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am. I believe it was Thursday.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, you were going to make tacos, and you were going to go to the store to get the ingredients?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And you did go to the store?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: How did you get to the store?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate took me to the store.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Which roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't specifically know his name, but he's across the room from me. He's the black African dude.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the--the black guy in the other room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What kind of car does he drive?

CSSN COPELAND: White Jeep.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he took you, or you just took his keys?

CSSN COPELAND: No, he took me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What store did you go to?

CSSN COPELAND: We went to Food Lion.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was that--which one?

CSSN COPELAND: I have no clue. There's like a lot of Food Lions.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair.

Do you know about what time you guys went?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You said you called her right, though?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I FaceTimed her.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you FaceTimed her, and then did you go to the store right after you FaceTimed her?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I hung up, and then after that, I was just telling him. I said, "Cool. Can we go to the store?" And he was like, "Yeah, let's go."

SA GOKEY: Okay.

MS. BEA: Did he go in with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm?

MS. BEA: Did he go in with you? Like, y'all were both doing some shopping?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, he went in with me.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. And then, what'd you do after you left the store?

CSSN COPELAND: We went back home.

SA GOKEY: Back to your building?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, how did V/A.R. get there?

CSSN COPELAND: I came and picked her up.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And did--in what car?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate's car.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did he go with you on that one?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I came and picked her up.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

MS. BEA: Same Jeep you said?

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

MS. BEA: Same Jeep?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Same roommate. Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you guys went--or excuse me, you went and picked her up.

What was she wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: I can't recall. I remember she was wearing a black shirt and I believe black pants.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she have anything with her?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe she had a--she had a purple backpack that she always carries with her.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I think that was it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Any--anything more descriptive about what she was wearing? Was like--again, like you may be one of the last people to here before she went UA.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And I'm really trying to find her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: because she's UA and she needs to be at work, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, anything more descriptive that I can start looking for?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, like, I can't really remember that. All I remember is her wearing a black shirt. I believe it was black pants and she had some Uggs.

SA GOKEY: Uggs. What kind of Uggs?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know the brand of--I--I just know of Uggs.

SA GOKEY: But--so, were they like slip-ons or were they boots or?

CSSN COPELAND: They were slip-ons.

SA GOKEY: They were the slip-ons. Okay. Okay. So, slip-on Uggs. Okay. Anything else?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Did you notice any jewelry that she was wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: I know she had a bracelet and I think a hair clip.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And a hair clip. Like one of the big ones to pull up a bunch of hair, or like a little big one.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was like a--a clip. Like an actual clip? Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But like, big one, little one.

CSSN COPELAND: It was like a medium-sized one.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know how females justify their hair clips, so.

SA GOKEY: No, that's fine.

MS. BEA: I never met V/A.R. Is she Hispanic? Is she black? Is she white?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe she's Hispanic.

MS. BEA: Okay. Does she wear, like, any kind of braids or anything like that? Or like, just kind of like, where's it long?

CSSN COPELAND: Military--military style, like in a bun.

MS. BEA: When you picked her up, was it in a bun?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. Was it in a bun the whole time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She always keeps her hair in a bun.

MS. BEA: Got it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Does she have her nose pierced?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Do you recall about what time you picked her up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't remember.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you picked her up, and then what did you do?

CSSN COPELAND: After that, we came home and we started making tacos.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she--did you say something about salsa on Sunday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I mean, that shit is in the sink right now.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: In my room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So did she--did she make it there or did you guys----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, she made it. I don't know if it was--it was like a guacamole or a salsa. It was one of the two. She made it in the room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She made everything, put it in the blender. The shit is still sitting in the sink right now, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was it good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, it was good, but it--it was her and my stomach. I have a weak stomach, so.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair. Did she bring any of the ingredients with her?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I bought everything at the store.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, you bought all the ingredients, and then she just made it?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, you guys made tacos. She made the salsa. Y'all ate. Then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, we started listening to music on my game on Apple Music and Spotify. It was going back and forth because too many people was on the internet at the time. So, obviously, it's going to start lagging. And then from there we just started talking. And she mentioned something about Gillespie, which is the dude that she talks to on the boat, and all this other stuff. And then, that's when I had brought up the fact that, like, something about he said something about him picking up a female. And she was like, that's crazy, because

she went on a walk, so and so, and she basically saw him pick up a female that looked like it was on his bike because he wears all black. So, she said it looked like it was his. And from there, I'm pretty sure she knew that it was him. So, she texted him and she was like, "Fuck you."

Sorry for my language.

SA GOKEY: No, but we're all adults. So, you cuss, you say whatever you--you need to say to----

CSSN COPELAND: But it--it is just me out of respect. I don't--you know.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But from there she said that. And from there, that's when she called her ex-boyfriend, that lived in Texas. And I was sitting on the couch. She was--she was sitting on the floor, and then she told me to come over to meet him. And then from there I was like, "What's good, Brody?" And he was like, "What's good?" And from there, they were talking, and I would just put my feedback in or just like, say like little things, because at the end of the day, it's not really my conversation, it's theirs. They're having a conversation, so. They were talking whatever. And then, from there they hung up and she was just calling other people, talking about how Gillespie's not shit, this, that, the third, and just going on a rabbit spree, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, what is Gillespie and her's relationship?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know. It's not really my part to really say, because I don't know much about Gillespie. I mean, I know that he works on our boat. She did mention they previously dated. I don't know how, for how long.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she tell you anything about if there was any, like, emotional abuse or physical abuse or anything like that between the two of them?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I know she was basically saying, like, how much money she spent basically on him paying for all his shit. He never done shit for her and so on. I know she mentioned--I think the thing that really like blew her over is how she said that she recently paid him $500 for a lawyer.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And from there I was like, that's crazy because I told him that he could have got a public defender for the-- the--he was going to court for speeding.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And I remember previously talking to him that week about that, because I said he could have got a public defender, and I guess that blew her because she basically told him the same thing, and I guess he didn't listen to her and got

a lawyer anyway. So, she spent $500 helping him pay for a lawyer.

SA GOKEY: Damn. She seems nice. I wouldn't do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Right.

SA GOKEY: Absolutely not. Sorry. Okay.

Anything else you know about the relationship?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know much about Gil. So, that's as far as--that's----

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----everything that I know.

SA GOKEY: Okay. From your own perception, do--what do you think of Gil?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, I don't really know him that much.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, it's like, I can't really say what I know about him.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I've had a couple conversations to him, but I don't know him as a person, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you couldn't say if, like, he's mean or nice or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, from the conversations I had with him, he's--he's cool. Like, that's all I can say. I don't know him as a person, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Just asking mainly because you know, she--he's an ex-boyfriend, so.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't really know what they get into for their relationship, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. Okay. What about this ex-boyfriend from Texas? Do you know anything about that person?

CSSN COPELAND: That was my first time ever meeting, talking to him, seeing him, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What'd he look like?

CSSN COPELAND: He was kind of like my complexion.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Pretty much the same color. Same like, build. I believe he had dreads.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did--did you hear like a nickname or his name by chance?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And you saw him, so was she FaceTiming him?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, they were FaceTiming. Okay. All right. Okay.

So, then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: After what?

SA GOKEY: I guess, after you guys got off the phone with the ex-boyfriend from Texas.

CSSN COPELAND: She went on a, like, rampage calling other people and just talking about how Gilispe's not shit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And when you say, rampage, I'm asking just because I want to--I want to understand like her mindset right then, like her--her mental capacity at that point.

Like, can you describe to me what that means to you?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was just calling other people.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And just talking about how Gil's not shit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was she pissed off and cussing, or was she crying? Was she just like, you know, just kind of flailing around? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, she was like, she was cooling, but she--at the same time, you could tell that she's getting like agitated.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like I said, like, after we were talking, she mentioned that she spent $500. That's what blew her because she was, like, not only did I mention that, but she also told him, and on top of him telling her that, or, like, her telling him

that, somebody else told her the same thing about getting a public defender, so.

It's just like she felt like he lied to him, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, I mean, in your opinion--I know you might not know him--do you think he was using her for money?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't--I'm not--it's not my part. I don't know him, so.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. No. That's fine.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: So, I was, like, in your opinion--if you don't know, you don't know, okay? So, do you know who all she was calling?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am. The only person that I saw, or that I knew, was her ex-boyfriend, which she introduced me to.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, just the Texas guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you didn't know who else she called?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So. All right. So, then, what else happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, after she started making phone calls, like, she started getting emotional, started crying, and

shit. From there, I just sat on the couch, you know, I was just like, all right, bro. Like, you just had her moment.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You were sitting on the couch. Where was she sitting?

CSSN COPELAND: She was sitting on the floor, like right in front of the table.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, she was still crying, and then my other roommate, the Mexican one that's also across the room, he walked in, and he was just asking, is everything cool? And I was like, yeah, bro. I was like, she's just having her moment. And I was like--I was like, she's--she's going to be good. And then he was like, all right. Cool. And he walked in the room, and I guess, I don't know. He just walked in the room and just kept it pushing.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he didn't really get involved?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Nah. He was just making sure if everything was good, and I told him, yeah, she's fine. Like, she just had some shit happen, so. She's just having her moment right now.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he was like, all right. Cool. And he was like, if y'all need something, just come, let me know. I was like, all right. Back at cha.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: And from there, that's when the night started ending. Like, I was like, cool. I'm going to go to sleep. And she was like, all right. Cool. So, she came and went to sleep with me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Where did you guys go to sleep?

CSSN COPELAND: My bed.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then your bed. Okay. And she slept with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Did you guys have sex?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then what happened? What was the next thing you remember?

CSSN COPELAND: I went to sleep.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then from there, that's when my chief came and knocked on the door the next day.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And what chief was that, again?

CSSN COPELAND: FCC Parker.

SA GOKEY: Parker. Okay. Do you remember about what time he knocked on the door?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was the sun out or was it still dark?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. The sun was out.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then walk me through what happened next?

CSSN COPELAND: He knocked on the door, and then I could hear somebody fidgeting with the doorknob. So, I thought it was my roommate because usually if I lock the door, if I close the door, he would just knock on the door until I wake up. So, I was like, hold on.

So, I woke up, and chief was there, and I was like, oh. I was like, good morning chief. And he was like, you having a late morning, like a late start? I was like, yeah. And he was like, is V/A.R. here? I was, like, yeah, she's right there. He saw her. He was like, all right. Cool. And that's when he was asking like, do I got a ride to work and everything? And I was like, at the moment, like, my roommate, he can take me whenever he gets off work. And he was like, all right. Cool.

He was like, just make sure you call CS1 or whatever and let him know, like, you're heading to work and everything. I was like, all right. Cool.

So, my roommate, he still never came through like when he was supposed to get off. So, I--I didn't go to work and I was just like, fuck it. I didn't go to work.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when everything processed through, all the way up to Saturday, when CS1 and chief told me I was marked UA.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: But I feel like it was all a misunderstanding because obviously, I had the weekend off, but I guess that's how the military is. If you are marked UA or whatever the day I wasn't present, it still builds up until I actually go in and basically----

SA GOKEY: And show face.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, how many days did you get marked UA then?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday, Friday, I think it was four. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Yeah. Sunday, around like the evening time, I came and I went to the CDO, and from there the CO is--was like, yeah, your mom called and she was worried [inaudible 00:39:26]. I didn't know about that part either, so.

I was like, yeah, I was like, I'm here. So, he told me I just got to standby until, until they can get somebody to basically do a urinalysis on me.

So, I waited, and then they ended up calling my MA1 because they couldn't find whatever they needed to find for her to get my sample. So, I waited until she got to the ship.

She got there. She got my information, and then after that, I did urinalysis. And then from there, they said I was good to leave.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, then, you said you were marked UA Thursday through Sunday?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then what were you doing Friday?

CSSN COPELAND: I was at home.

SA GOKEY: At the barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What were you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: In the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did you go anywhere?

CSSN COPELAND: I never left the building.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What about Saturday?

CSSN COPELAND: I was also in the lounge. I was just in the barracks.

SA GOKEY: In your lounge? In your bedroom or in your----

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, in the building.

SA GOKEY: Oh, gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I think my roommate knows by now, I don't really fuck with him. Like, ever since I've been in the

barracks, I either sleep on the couch or whenever he is not in the room, that's when I'm in the room.

Obviously, when he goes to the room, I go into the living room or outside the room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the one that you share a space with?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You--you guys don't get along?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He's just fucking filthy.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it--it fucking irritates me every day that I have to go into a room with another grown man--you don't shower, you don't maintain yourself.

SA GOKEY: Gross.

CSSN COPELAND: And it came up until, I believe, yesterday morning, when his CO came to inspect the room and basically saw how shitty and fucked up his side was, that he had to fully deep clean the entire room.

It just annoys and irritates me that I have to live with someone like that, so.

SA GOKEY: No.

CSSN COPELAND: I go to the front desk every day. Like, they can't really move him because he's in a squadron. All right. Cool.

They offered if I wanted to move, but I told them, yeah, and--with just with me working my hours, I couldn't move because obviously when I had work, I wouldn't been able to move out within the timeframe they gave me, so.

They gave me like a timeframe. It was like three days or something. So, I couldn't switch rooms. So, it was what it was, but it just irritates me.

I think my roommate should know by now, like, whenever he's up or in the room, I'm outside the room or I'm in the living room. Whenever I go to sleep, I either go to my homeboy's room, or I go somewhere else, or I sleep on the couch.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Sometimes I sleep in the room because I'm--I'm just exhausted and tired, and--yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I don't blame you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It is--it annoys me, and he's older than I am.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. How old is he? Do you know?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe he's like, 21.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or 22, something like that.

MS. BEA: Yeah. It's just gross.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. I would not be able to handle living in a situation like that. I would lose my mind.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it is what it is. At the end of the day, I mean, deployment is the same way.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: The fact that you're on land, you have all the time in the world to take a shower, clean up, do what you need to do, but he just chooses not to.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know why. It's----

SA GOKEY: Some people weren't raised right. Okay.

So, that Saturday, you were in a lounge in the barracks. Do you know which lounge?

CSSN COPELAND: I was like, on the third floor--fifth floor.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you were on both of them, or, you know----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. Were you with anybody in there?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I was by myself.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do they have TVs in there or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. Okay.

So, then Sunday, what were you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: I was also in the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Of the barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when I went to go take a shit, and I went to--I was taking a shit, and I heard somebody knock on the door, and I believe it was Ms. Mary's voice, and she asked who was in here, and I said, Copeland. And she was like, okay.

A couple minutes later, I heard somebody else like, trying to get in. I was like, I'm taking a shit. But he asked if he could come in here. I was like, bro, I'm taking a shit. He was like, all right. Cool.

And I believe like three, five minutes after that, that's when I believe the MAs came knocking on the door, asking--telling me to basically come out. From there, I was just like, what the fuck?

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: After that, I told him, just lemme wipe my ass. I got up, washed my hands, and everything. Cool. Walked out, and he was basically asking, do you know why I'm here?

I was like, yeah, because my chief texted me this morning saying basically--or the morning before that I was marked UA. And they were like, all right.

And from there, they weren't really saying much, but I guess, they were just asking me questions, like, more about myself, like, who--like, where I'm from and shit. Like, what school I graduated from, what sports and stuff do I play.

And then from there, the MA that was talking to me had left, went downstairs to go find his chief. And then from there, I was just upstairs talking to the two--the other MAs that were there.

After that, we walked down there. And from there, they basically talked to their chief, whatever. And he basically told me, just go check in to my command because obviously, I'm marked UA and to not make things worse on myself than what it already is, so.

I was like, all right. Cool. And I was like, I'll go do that. So, after that, I called my chief, and I was like--I [inaudible 00:46:15] asking my chief like, should I go basically to the barge right now with the time that it is right now? Or should I just wait till Monday when I have work?

And my chief was basically saying, it doesn't really make a difference. He said it would be--it could be better if I just go now, so it can be up and out the way. And he was like--he was saying, it's not really going to make a difference though because even if I do go Monday, it's going to be the same thing.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. And I hung up, and I put on my uniform, and I went to the barge. And then from there, that's when they did urinalysis and everything.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, your chief texted you Saturday and told you you were UA?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Why didn't you go in then?

CSSN COPELAND: because I was off. I already--I already told him. He asked the same thing. I was just like, if I'm off, then I'm off.

I mean, I read that you marked me UA. Cool. But if I'm off, like, they already know I'm not going to answer my phone. Like, even my CS2s, when they call, if I'm off, I'm not answering the phone.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you thought you were just off and not being marked as UA for the days you originally had off?

CSSN COPELAND: I--yeah. I didn't know what UA fully was, obviously, up until now. And they basically told me, cool.

So, if I'm marked UA, I'm just thinking, all right. When I go in Monday, they're just going to ask me basically what happened over the weekend, or why didn't I come in?

I didn't know that it keeps continuously going every day until I go and check in.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Until the MAs basically came in and told me that, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did command or the MAs ever come knocking on the door, like, Thursday or Friday, or Saturday?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I was--I wasn't home at the time if they did come in.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GOKEY: So, then where were you?

CSSN COPELAND: In the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. Okay. But you were in the building somewhere?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Is there anybody that I can talk to to verify that you were in the lounges? Did anybody see you? Any friends, any passerby?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, shit if--whoever was there. I mean, you could talk to Ms. Mary.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She walked in the lounge. I was on the fifth floor. She asked if I was good. I told her, yes, ma'am. I just told her--she walked by again and asked if everything was

good. I told her, yeah. I just told her I didn't want to be in my room.

She obviously knows the state of my roommate.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: because she was literally the only person that I went to every time I had an issue with my roommate. So, she can vouch and say the same thing, because I honestly do not like my roommate.

SA GOKEY: That's fair.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, he's a cool person. Like, he's a--he's a caring person, but it's just the way that he lives. I don't--I--I can't--like, I can't accept that.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just filthy. Like, I respect him as a person, everything you do, cool. It's just the way that he lives as a person, it's filthy.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair. Okay.

So, Ms. Mary saw you the whole weekend in one of the lounges?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not going to say the whole weekend.

SA GOKEY: Well, I'm sorry. Like, one of the days or one of the times of these?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Anybody else?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

I mean, there was another dude that was in the lounge with us at the time, but I don't know him.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'm sorry. I'm just picking up. You say with us. Were--was it just you and that other person, or were there like multiple people?

CSSN COPELAND: So, when I say us, it's like, it was me and another dude. We were inside the lounge, and at the time, they made him come into the lounge because they were people, like the workers there. They were cleaning the floor. They were waxing the floor. So, they made him come inside the lounge until they were done waxing the floor.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: But you don't know who that person is?

CSSN COPELAND: I've never seen him a day in my life.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Okay.

And then--so, then you guys go--do you go do your analysis? Who took you to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: So, when I walked in, one of my homeboys was--he was on watch and I was like, what's good, bro? He was like, what's good? And I was like, can you call the CDO for me? And he didn't know how to call the CDO. So, he walked into one of

the--he walked into like, this little area. It's like when you first walk into the barge and he asked for one of the chiefs.

And he was like, chief, do you think you could help me call for the CDO? And that's when one of the chiefs walked out, and he was like, you can't call for the CDO, like on the radio----

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: ----so, because it goes straight to the ship. And he was like, what do you need the CDO for? And then that's when I walked up and I was like, I need the CDO. And he was like, oh, okay.

And he picked up on his radio. He was like, CDO--he was like, CSSN Copeland here. And I guess like, basically, just telling him that I'm here to check in. So, he was like, give him a minute, he's going to head down.

From there, the CDO came down, it was a--it was, I believe, a lieutenant. And from there, he was talking to me, and he was basically saying that my mom said she hasn't heard from me. So, she called the base, and then she also called my command.

And from there, that's when they did the welfare check and everything. So, the lieutenant was basically telling me, my mom, and everything was worried. And I was like, yeah. I was like, she was, because obviously when I called her she was.

SA GOKEY: Your momma was mad at you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. So, I was--I was just letting him know that she was irritated.

Well, she wasn't irritated. She was just worried and mad, so. Yeah. So, then from there, he was basically saying, he's going to get somebody to go do your analysis.

So, he told me just to hang tight, and I was like, all right. So, he left to go basically find the urinalysis, and that's when me and the chief was talking. We were just talking about how he used to be a CS.

And then from there, I was just telling him how I wanted to cross rate because me personally, I don't like being a CS, and I don't think I can do like a full--like, my whole entire life is just being a CS.

So, I was talking to him about cross rating--being another rate, and he pulled me into like his little office and he pulled up like my ASVAB score. And he was basically saying, if I study whoopie woo, I can cross rate and become something else, like a yeoman.

We were also talking about like CBs. And then from there, the officer was basically saying, MA1 one was on the way because they couldn't find where the sample holder was for me to take urinalysis.

So, from there, I was just waiting for MA1 to come. Eventually, MA1 showed up and she told me to go downstairs with

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 18 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

(Place or Places of Trial)

On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Date or Dates of Trial)

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 18 of 25, and Appellate Exhibit (AE LIX (Pages 85 through 423)).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

her. It was the same class that was there. And the lieutenant--the CDO walked into the office where we first were. And I believe the chief followed down. He went downstairs with us, and from there, everyone asked for my CAC, and she was just taking notes down and everything, jotting everything down from my CAC.

And from there, she waited. I guess she was like filling out a piece of paper, and from there she took my chief. Or not my chief, but the chief basically walked me upstairs to go pee. I went pee. Went back downstairs, gave her the bottle, and from there she gave me back my CAC and said I was good to go.

And then, with chief and the CDO, I both verified--they both made me verify, when I had to come back to work, and I was basically saying, chief told me Monday.

So, I called chief to verify when I left. And he was just saying, just come Monday, 7:30. And I was like, yes, chief.

SA GOKEY: Okay. How did you get to the ship?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate drove me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. The same roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was anybody else with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Our other roommate, that was in the room with him. We went to get--he took me to the ship, and then afterwards we went to his Chipotle.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: We went home after.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And you guys--you stayed at the room the rest of the night then?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, you didn't leave at all after you guys had gone to the ship, Chipotle came back. Nobody--or excuse me. Not nobody leaves.

You never left again?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, presumably, you went up--got up and went to work the next morning?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who took you to work?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate.

SA GOKEY: Your roommate.

Is he on the same ship as you?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Whew. That man is a nice human. Where's he work? Do you know?

CSSN COPELAND: He works on base.

SA GOKEY: On this base?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

MS. BEA: I'm sorry. Is this the stinky roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Different roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Which one are we talking about?

CSSN COPELAND: The black African dude across.

MS. BEA: Black African dude. And your stinky roommate is which guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Sean.

MS. BEA: Sean. And what does he look like?

CSSN COPELAND: He's white.

MS. BEA: White dude. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Just want to make sure I'm keeping everybody straight. Okay. And the person that drove you around pretty much every time we talked about is your African dude, roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. Perfect. Thank you.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you have anything else right now?

MS. BEA: Yeah. I'm sorry. I know you got a ton of questions. I'm going to go back.

So, I know that you probably discussed a lot of this with Jess, like prior to me getting involved, right? So, I just wanted to make sure I understood.

So, what was your relationship with V/A.R. So, like, I know you said y'all didn't have sex that night, right? But I mean, like, were y'all talking, were you like getting to the point where you're going to be talking?

CSSN COPELAND: We just worked together.

MS. BEA: How long did you know her, like prior to her coming over?

CSSN COPELAND: Ever since I checked into the James E. Williams. On top of that, we went to A School together.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay. So, you guys go way back?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, she's a CS as well?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

So, did you guys like hang out in A School? Like, essentially, what I'm asking is like, it sounds like you guys were pretty tight.

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. I mean, at A School, we just knew of each other. When I checked into the James E. Williams, we hung out a couple times, and yeah.

We hung out with a couple other people. I remember we would go out sometimes. We would go to--we went to Dave and Buster's. We went to Dirty Buffalo.

So, there's been previous times where we've hung out before. We hung out when she came over.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, would you say you guys are just like platonic friends, or was there like a romantic interest there?

CSSN COPELAND: There was never a romantic interest.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, that's like way out of left field type scenario. You're just friends.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Understood. Okay.

So, you've known her for--for a while. So, you said that, you know, we already beat the whole salsa thing to death for certain. But you said that you guys were talking after you ate, and you mentioned something about--what's his name, Gilispe, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, I got confused. So, you said you saw him picking up a girl on his motorcycle. Tell me more about that.

CSSN COPELAND: He told me, like, that he was at work, and I was sitting down, and obviously, we were talking. The ship's not big, so.

MS. BEA: It is not.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. We were sitting there talking, and he was basically saying how we picked up a female in his car and so on. Like, he was basically saying like, he didn't really say much. He picked her up.

Like, she was--well, she was in her car. It was two females, and a female asked him in the passenger seat, how fast did your bike go? And he basically nodded and said, come find out yourself.

So, she hopped on his bike and she drove down the street, or not she, but he drove down the street with her, and then from there he picked up her number and they've been talking ever since.

But V/A.R. she initially got mad because--I'm guess--I'm guessing, the day that he was with the female, he was asking for his--his--helmet back that he bought V/A.R. And V/A.R. was basically asking him like, why do you want the helmet? And he was basically saying like, because it brings back all the times, like, all the places they've could have gone together, this, that, the third.

And she basically just went off about the helmet, like, what does he specifically need the helmet for? And they were going on back and forth.

And then from there, he was just like, he cut it, and he was like, fuck it. Like, you could just keep the helmet.

MS. BEA: Did this all happen on Thursday night, did you say----

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: ----or this is Wednesday?

CSSN COPELAND: No. That--no. That was like the night that she came over. Like, she was basically telling me about that.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay. So, she started talking to you about that whole shit?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But I'm saying, like with Gillespie and the female driving.

MS. BEA: Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: That was--that was when he told me when I was at work, the same day that she came over.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, let me make sure I have it right. So, when she came over, at some point, she started talking about Gillespie. Was she just like talking about her relationship, and were they still dating at the time, or they had already broken up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I----

MS. BEA: It's messy. Okay. And then, she was like telling you about an argument that she had with Gillespie about this motorcycle helmet, and you were like, oh, well, Gillespie told me----

CSSN COPELAND: No. So, she was talking about Gillespie, and she had mentioned something about him and a female, and I was

like, that's crazy because so and so, and that's when I started talking about when you told me at work about the female.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And she was like, no fucking way you said that because he basically texted me the day that basically, I told him about her--told her about it.

She was--basically, put two and two together. And the same day that he was talking to the female was the same day that he was asking for the bike helmet back.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: I get it now. All right. And that really pissed her off, and it sounds like she--yeah. Flipped out about that. Okay.

So, she texted Gillespie, and she was like, fuck off or wherever--whatever, something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: And then you said that she called her--oh, I'm sorry. Did she call her boyfriend in--ex-boyfriend in Texas before or after that?

CSSN COPELAND: After that.

MS. BEA: After that. Okay. And so, it sounds like--I mean, she was probably--was she talking to her ex-boyfriend about stuff with Gillespie?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. When did she like lose it, lose it? Because you said that she was like on the ground, crying. Everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, after she got done calling everyone. Like, after she got off the phone with her ex-boyfriend. Cool. Then she just started calling other people, and I guess she just lost it. Like, she was just done calling people, and she was just like, she was done.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just like, cool. And that's when I sat there and just let her have her moment, and I was like, all right, bro.

MS. BEA: Was she drinking?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She had like a shot or two of buzz ball. But then again, Buzz Ball's not strong. So, I don't----

MS. BEA: I don't know what buzz ball is.

SA GOKEY: You don't know what buzz ball is?

MS. BEA: I'm so sorry. Oh, is that like the balls you see at the liquor store? Okay, my bag. Sorry. As we've talked about multiple times in the past, I'm pretty old. Okay.

So, she had like a shot or two out of the buzz ball?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Would you consider her to be drunk? I mean, have you seen her drunk before?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was--I've never seen her drunk, but I don't think she was drunk because she was totally impaired of everything that she was doing, so.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: She was aware of everything she was doing.

MS. BEA: Okay. What do you mean when you say that?

CSSN COPELAND: Say what?

MS. BEA: Like, that she was aware of everything that she was doing.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, obviously, if somebody's drunk, you can tell if somebody's drunk because like, obviously, if they're having like a speech impediment or----

MS. BEA: Can't walk.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, like, when I say, she was visible and aware of everything she was doing, like she was obviously, like, you can tell there were no symptoms, that she was drunk.

MS. BEA: Got it. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: And let me see here. I have a bunch of questions written down. Okay. I just want to make sure I understood the timeline a little bit.

So, you were like, all right. Well, I'm going to go to sleep, and she came into the room with you. Was your roommate in there at the time?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so. Shit. I dunno because by the time I woke up, everybody was gone.

MS. BEA: Was this Wednesday night into Thursday morning?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, you said, when you woke up, everybody was gone? Where--I never figured out where was she?

CSSN COPELAND: She was in my bed.

MS. BEA: She was in your bed? She hadn't left yet?

CSSN COPELAND: No. My chief was there.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When he walked in, he saw her. Cool. And he told me, all right. When I'm obviously done and everything, he told me, just get ready for work and head to work.

MS. BEA: Here's what I'm confused about, too. Why didn't Chief just drive you to work? You didn't go back there anyway, right? Did he offered----

CSSN COPELAND: No. That's--no. He should have. That's why I was pissed off because they fucking marked me UA.

MS. BEA: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: That's the thing that, like, I don't know, because he--I feel like he set me for failure. I told--I fucking told him that, bro.

MS. BEA: Did you ask him for a ride? And he was like, no.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I--I feel like I should have offered, like, I should have been like, can I get a ride to work?

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: But then again, like, I feel like, he knows, obviously, I don't have a car, so.

MS. BEA: Right. Yeah. That doesn't make any sense. Okay. So, it just doesn't make sense, period.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: It's not just to me, it doesn't make sense. It just doesn't sense.

CSSN COPELAND: But like, he--like, he was also saying when he called me, he was just saying it was just a big miscommunication about me being UA.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. But I still was like a little irritated with the fact that it just--like, they marked me UA and like they made it this big fucking deal, this issue. I'm like, cool. I just left how it was.

I'm not finna argue. I'm not finna start a hissy fit or nothing. At the end of the day, I was UA. Cool. I'm going to own up to it. So.

MS. BEA: Okay. And V/A.R. was also UA with you, right? Like, essentially--because you know, are you both on the same schedule?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Was she supposed to be at work on Thursday as well?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She worked Friday and the weekend.

MS. BEA: Oh, I see.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: So, she was off.

CSSN COPELAND: We were opposite watch bill. So, when I'm working, she's not working. When she's working, I'm not working.

MS. BEA: And can you help me understand, are you on days all the time, or do you still have to work nights on the barge? Do you know what I mean?

You know how the carrier's like 24 hours?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah, but no.

MS. BEA: No. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, our schedule's like, obviously, you come in on a turnover day, 7:30.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And you work 7:30 and we get off around 17, which is like what, 5, 6, 7, 5:30, 5:40.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, it's pretty much 7:30 to five in the evening?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And then--so, she was supposed to be off. Was she at work on Wednesday? The day y'all had the conversation about the salsa?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was a turnover day.

MS. BEA: That was turnover. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: So, you came in and was she there as well?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. Every turnover day, both watch supposed to be there.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. And then she was supposed to be off, I would assume, like, you know, from Wednesday until Thursday, and she was supposed to go back to work on Friday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. Thank you for helping me understand that.

And, so, after chief woke y'all up--I mean, how did she seem that morning?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine.

MS. BEA: She was fine. When did she leave?

CSSN COPELAND: After Chief had left. Like, an hour or two later. I was just--she was just helping me clean, and then from there we left. And then that's when I called Chief, or I didn't call him, but I was just telling him--I texted him.

I was like, when my roommate gets here, I'll go to work. He never showed up. He got there by the time I got off work. So, from there, I didn't think to call or text. At the end of the day, I didn't show up. All right. Cool.

MS. BEA: Where did V/A.R. go?

CSSN COPELAND: She went back home.

MS. BEA: Where did she live at?

CSSN COPELAND: On base.

MS. BEA: Same place or somewhere different?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Somewhere different. I think it is like, from this building, it's down the street.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so.

MS. BEA: Did she walk? Did somebody come pick her up? Did she mention anything about how she was going to get back?

CSSN COPELAND: Getting a Uber.

MS. BEA: A Uber. On base?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They got a zTrip.

MS. BEA: Oh, yeah. Not that they can't get on base, it's just kind of like she didn't want to walk.

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, the zTrip. It's on base teleportation. It's an Uber.

MS. BEA: I see. Okay. Got it.

Do you remember what time that was that you saw her last?

CSSN COPELAND: After chief left, and then after she got ready and everything and she helped me clean up my room.

MS. BEA: This might be a dumb question, but cleaning up how?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, the mess that was left in the living room.

MS. BEA: From what?

CSSN COPELAND: The food.

MS. BEA: From the food?

CSSN COPELAND: Cleaning up.

MS. BEA: Okay. Well, I just didn't--I don't know what type of mess y'all make. So, like, the messy kitchen type scenario?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: The food--there was food left out. We didn't throw none of the food away. So, everything was sitting on the countertop, on the stove, the pans and pots, and everything. There was dishes in the sink.

So, he was like, y'all need to get that cleaned up because obviously, if he's coming to inspect, that's unsat. If you have trash into the trash can, it's unsat. You have to take the trash out every day.

MS. BEA: Who's coming to inspect? I'm sorry.

CSSN COPELAND: My chief.

MS. BEA: I didn't know that part. Keep in mind, I didn't talk to you to begin with, right. So----

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I said that already. When he came into the room, he said like, he was coming to inspect.

MS. BEA: I didn't know that part. Okay.

So, he was coming into inspect, because why?

CSSN COPELAND: Monthly inspection.

MS. BEA: Oh. I've never lived in the barracks, and I've never been in the Navy. You know that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: I'm just trying to ask questions. Okay.

So, he was coming in to inspect.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Did he tell you that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He didn't text, call, nothing. He just came in. But like I said, I was asleep, and when I heard like the fidget on the door, I thought it was my roommate. So, I said, hold up. I got up, opened the door, it's my chief.

MS. BEA: Okay. And this is the same time he came and woke y'all up when you like, were supposed to be at work, and he was like, late day. You got a late start or something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, he was supposed to come by anyway to inspect. He just didn't tell you he was going to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't--I don't know. I don't know if it was because either I was late or if he actually was coming to do a room inspection.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, that's above my pay grade. Chief is the chief. I'm not going to argue with the chief. So.

MS. BEA: Okay. Did he say he was--okay.

Like, I wasn't there. Right. So, keep in mind, when I'm asking these questions, just because I wasn't there.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Did he say like, I'm going to come back and inspect? Did he say--did he walk in and he was like, this room's a mess. You got to clean up before you come to work. Like, how did that go? How did you know that this was like an inspection?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, when he woke up, he was just like, is it a late start? I was like, yeah. Cool.

I mean, obviously, on top of that, if you're supposed to be at work, you're supposed to have the room clean if you leave. So, regardless, you're supposed to have everything clean. But he was basically saying, I need to clean up, and when I'm done cleaning head--head to work.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. And then he was like, do you have a way of getting to work? And that's when I went to--I mentioned my roommate. I was like, my roommate, when he gets off work, he could probably take me. And he was like, all right. Cool.

When you get off work--when he gets off work, then just head to work. Make sure you call CS1 and somebody and notify them.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when I was like, all right. Cool. I got you.

MS. BEA: Got it. So, she helped clean. And then did you like--did she just like leave straight out of your room? Did you like walk her down to the front? Like, how did that go?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She just left.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, I had to start getting ready for work, and I called my roommate, and he didn't answer. All right. Cool. So, I just waited until he got to the room. By the time he got there, I was just like, fuck it. I'm not--I'm not going because by the time he got there, we were--they were already off work.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not finna go into work, like, who am I supposed to check into? So, I was just like, all right. Cool. And I left it. I let the days pass by until Saturday hit and they texted me saying, I'm UA.

At that point, I'm not finna argue. I was just like, fuck it bro. I'll just go in Monday. And then, obviously, all that shit happened Sunday. So, I had to go in, and that's when I went in.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, to be really clear with you, like normally, you know, being UA is not a crime that NCIS investigates, right? We're really worried about V/A.R. which is, you know, why we want to talk to you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: So, you know, like all of the background is appreciated. I just, you know, I really want to know more about V/A.R. as far as, like, what was her mental state when she left.

Like, do you have any information that would be helpful for us to find her? Like, did she say that she was like not doing well? Did she say she was sad she was going to go somewhere?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine. If you want to know more about her mental health, I'd probably say go to Mitch or Gillespie because, obviously, Gillespie had all the answers when he talked to me the other day, so.

MS. BEA: What do you mean by that?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm just saying, like he had everything, like, he was just saying, like, he was saying she liked to go on walks, saying that she wanted to buy plane tickets, this, that, the third.

He was basically stating how, when he would talk to her, he'd be like, randomly, what do you want to do? She would be like, I want to buy a plane ticket to so and so. Cool.

So, out of anything, I don't really know what V/A.R. does. Cool. I just wanted to hang out. Cool. Obviously, it went bad because she had an attitude with Gillespie. They're not on good terms, or they got into an argument. Cool.

But out of anything, Mitch and Gillespie knows more than what I do about V/A.R. because, obviously, they've been in relationships with her.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And they know her as a person. I don't fully know her as a person.

MS. BEA: Okay. And, you know, I'm getting that you're saying that you don't know her as well as a person.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, fully understand that. It's just that I think, you know, be like, you might have been the last person to see

her that we've talked to. Unless there's somebody else that saw her after you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, that's why I'm asking you. Did she say she had plans to go meet somebody else? Was she like, I'm just going to go back to my room and sleep?

Like, anything you have would be helpful for us.

CSSN COPELAND: It was just like, I'll see you later. All right. Cool. If you need something, just call or text me. All right. I got you.

MS. BEA: Okay. Was she still crying when she left, or she seemed like she was fine?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was cool.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, like, if you go to sleep after having a bad night, usually if you go to sleep and you wake up, you're fine.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Well, that's just how I see it. I'm not going to speak for her.

MS. BEA: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, if you're holding your emotions, you can hold your emotions. Cool. But from the talk that I had and when I--when she woke up and shit before she left, she said, I

was just like, have a good day. If you need something, just call her, text me. And she was like, all right. And she left.

MS. BEA: And then did you hear from her again after she left?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. Until I got back, and then my chief was basically saying we're both marked UA.

And then from there, that's when I texted her and I was like, yo, like are you good? I was like, they just barked--they marked me and you, UA. And then I was just like--I think I asked her to call or text me if she get the text or whatever. She never responded.

And then, I was talking to Gillespie when I went to the ship, fucking--the day that I went Sunday. And he was basically asking if I heard anything from her after that. I was like, nah. But I was just telling him like, if--like, when she left, like, if she needed something, just to call or text me, and he was like, all right. Cool.

After that, like, we just left it as that until, obviously, I went to work the next day, and he was just like talking about it and shit. I was just like, all right, bro.

MS. BEA: What kind of stuff was he saying?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, obviously, the stuff I was talking about, how she liked to go on walks, and she wanted to put plane--like, plane tickets and shit.

Like, he was asking me basically what you guys are asking me, like if she, like, said anything, like she wanted to go anywhere. I was like, nah.

Like, she was--I was like, I don't know what you did, but she was mainly just talking about how you fucked up, bro. I was like, I don't know what the fuck you did, like what the hell you told her, what you guys [inaudible 01:16:37] head up into? But I was like, "Bro, I was like, bro, you had her crying and shit. She was just mad as fuck at you." He was like, "Yeah, she text me so on." And I was like, "All right, bro." I was like, "I don't know what you did, but that's between y'all, bro."

Like--and people--like, most people already know, like, I don't like getting involved in other people's bullshit--like, what ya'll got going on is what ya'll got going on. I'm not fin'to get myself involved. As you already know, I like to [inaudible 01:17:04]. I don't roll with that shit. After that situation, I just been chilling obviously until shit like this happens. They asked if they want to come over. I'm being a nice guy. Cool. And shit like that happens.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. I mean, you seem like, you feel like a certain type of way because shit like you--you're involved even though you don't want to be.

I mean, you got any type of feelings about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, it's like I can't do shit about it. Like, obviously, if I'm pulled into the bullshit, I'm pulled into the bullshit. There's no way I can get myself out of it. And once you're in, you're in.

I'm not going to sit here, nick and nag about it. At the end of the day, I allowed her to come over. She did what she did. That's just me being the nice guy, and now I'm involved in the bullshit. It's not shit I can do to get myself out of it. Cool.

SA GOKEY: Did you--that like, she ever mention if she had any type of like mental health struggles or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: She didn't mention it, or she did like----

CSSN COPELAND: She never said anything about that.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Got it.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, another thing that you mentioned that I wanted to chat about is you said that your roommate, Skipper, came by--the CO came by, and like, had him clean the room, and like it was nasty.

Did I mishear that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Your nasty roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Did you say his CO came and inspected it? The room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: When did that happen?

CSSN COPELAND: I think yesterday. Yeah. I think it was yesterday.

MS. BEA: Okay. And if you don't know, it's okay. Do you know what command he's with?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He is in a squadron.

MS. BEA: Squadron. You know what type of squadron? Are we talking helicopters, jets?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I don't--I dunno.

MS. BEA: That's okay if you don't know.

CSSN COPELAND: Because his--his command is decommissioning soon. So--yeah. When his command decommissions, he's going on the deployment with the new squadron that's attached to the FORD. So, that's the only thing that I know about his squadron.

MS. BEA: That's kind of positive. Right. They'll be gone.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, cool. But eventually, it's--somebody going to replace them.

MS. BEA: Hopefully, they're cleaner.

CSSN COPELAND: Hopefully.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, yesterday is when--if we think, the Squadron CO came by and, like, made him clean everything. Like, clean the room really well and everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was like mainly just his side and shit.

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. And then the other thing--I know I already asked you. I just wanted to clarify. When you said that your roommate drove you to the barge on Sunday, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Did he wait around with you until you were done doing your urinalysis and everything, and then that's when y'all went to Chipotle? Or like----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: ----did he come back?

CSSN COPELAND: He stayed there, but he can't--obviously, he can't go on to the ship. So, he stayed in the car. So, like, where I walk is like I need to--my chip is like a reader to a CAC scan for me to enter.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then from there I walked on, and he stayed, and then I texted him. I was like, just wait like 25 minutes because I got to wait for my MA1 to come. And when she gets here, they're going to make me fucking do urinalysis. And after that, they said, I'm good to go.

So, he was like, okay, bro.

MS. BEA: Okay. And this is the same African dude with the white Jeep?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. So, we spent a ton of time asking you questions. What do you think is relevant, as far as like, do you have any information that would help us or other people that we should talk to?

I know that they've been doing a lot of investigation and, you know, the name Gillispie and Mitch, sure is not unusual to them, but is there anything else you can think of, because we're really worried?

CSSN COPELAND: That'd be the only two.

I mean, obviously, they go back and forth, and they're so in love with her, so. Obviously, the only two people I would think that actually know V/A.R. is Mitch and Gillespie, so.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. Did she--so, sometimes people like mention things and you don't think it's going to be important at the time, but then like, when you think back, you're like, oh, okay.

Is there anything that she might have mentioned to you in the amount of time that she was with you about, you know, like what she wanted to go do, or like, anything that was like indicative of her mental state, anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Even if you don't think it's important.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

MS. BEA: Okay.

Anything else, Jess, because I think we--we'll take a break real quick.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Let's take a break.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Do you need anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: You need to use restroom [inaudible 01:22:18] good?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. We'll be right back with you. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 01:22:31.]

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea returned to the room at timestamp 02:05:19.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Sorry about that. Are you good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You don't need to use the restroom or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, just a couple more things. So, with you going UA, what do you think--do you think the command's going to get pissed off at you? And like anything--like, do you think you're in trouble with them?

CSSN COPELAND: What you mean?

SA GOKEY: Like, do you think they're going to--you're going to---

MS. BEA: Yeah. You're going to----

SA GOKEY: ----put you on restriction or, you know, anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, with me going UA? Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Okay. So, one thing I wanted to pitch is--so, you said with--you told us that you were in the barracks the whole weekend, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: So, it's not like you were out, you know, in another state doing whatever God knows what, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And a lot of times when Sailors go UA, that's what we're worried about, is you guys are out doing dumb shit, getting arrested, doing dumb things.

Hell, some of them, the defect to frigging North Korea. So, I would like then to look at your phone and place you in the room, and that could potentially maybe help you with your command.

Like, we could pitch it to him like, 'Hey, man, he didn't go to work, but it's not like he was fucking missing or gone or whatever.' Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: You would be cool with that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. What's your passcode?

CSSN COPELAND: 982--wait. [redacted].

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, [redacted]

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted].

SA GOKEY: [redacted]. Okay. All right. I'm just going to fill this out real quick. It's June, oh, Lord, have mercy on my soul.

And I spell your name wrong. I'm tired too. J-E-R-M-I-A-H, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And then Copeland. What kind of phone you got?

CSSN COPELAND: iPhone 15.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Working--86 and 107. So, you said iPhone. I'm sorry, what?

CSSN COPELAND: 15.

SA GOKEY: iPhone 15. Okay. Conducting on June 25, by NCIS. Okey-dokey. All right.

So, I'm going to scoot back over to you and we're going to go over this. All right. So, did I spell your name correct that time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I'll read this to you.

So you, Jeremiah Copeland, after being advised by me, Special Agent Jessica Gokey, that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into the Article 86 and 107, which was the two we discussed earlier.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: You have been--have--excuse me. Our goal 86 and 107 have been requested to permit a search of my iPhone 15.

You have been informed of count--of your constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant.

So, what that means is, again, I don't have a search warrant to go into it----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: ----but you're just giving me permission to go ahead and go into that, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay.

In full understanding of this right, you have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made. This search may be conducted on 03 June 25 by NCIS, and you hereby give your permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search, which are desired for investigative purposes.

You make this decision freely and voluntarily, and is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to you?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'll say it again.

Do you--did I--have I threatened you today?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Have I made you any promises?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you agree with this statement?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm going to be able to get my phone back. Like, I got to call my mom.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: It's too much shit going on.

SA GOKEY: No. That's fair. Are you good with signing this?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But is it cool if I can call my mom?

SA GOKEY: Yeah. You want to call your mom?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you want to call her right now?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. Do you want to go ahead and sign that, and then I will----

CSSN COPELAND: Can I wait first?

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Sure. Absolutely.

MS. BEA: Let me--so, just to make sure that everything on the phone is like essentially, pristine, no problem with you calling

your mom. I'll give you my phone to do it. You know her number by heart, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. Do you mind if we ask you a couple more questions before we do that, or do you want to just call her right now?

CSSN COPELAND: Go ahead and ask the questions.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okey-dokey. Okay. So, like I told you earlier, we're conducting a cast in your room, and you do have that roommate that lives in there.

Can you tell me what electronics are his?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, everything that's on his side.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, nothing would be on--nothing on his side would be yours and vice versa?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you have any other additional electronics in that room?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I have another phone. That's my phone that I have to go turn into AT&T.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I got my PS5, and that should be it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Out in the common room, are there any electronics that stay out there?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, my PS5 is what I was saying. It's also in the living room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, your PS5's out there. Okay.

Is there anything else out there that's yours or anybody else's that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm mean, the TV.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But the TV's the barracks, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the PS5 out in the common area is yours, and then you have another phone in your room.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: What kind of phone is that?

CSSN COPELAND: It's an iPhone 15 as well.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know what color it is?

CSSN COPELAND: It's gray.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is it broken?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It's not broke, but I fucked it up, so I broke it, but I got it fixed. They replaced the front, so I have to go turn it in.

So, they basically gave me like 31 days in order for me to turn it in, or else they're going to charge me for that phone---

SA GOKEY: Oh.

CSSN COPELAND: ----with the one I'm already purchasing, so.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Okay. So, it's like a trade thing, so you get to keep----

CSSN COPELAND: It was part of my insurance.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Oh, that's nice. Okay. Do you have any, like iPads or laptops?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. What about any--nope. There wasn't a desktop in there. Right? That desktop's his, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.] Yeah. It's an Xbox.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Oh, it's a Xbox. It's just--okay. I got you. Okay. All right. I want to kind of talk about--go back to

V/A.R. Can I just call her [inaudible 02:13:05]--yeah,

V/A.R. Just a couple more questions. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: I know you're tired.

When she came over to your house, did she--she had her phone, right? What kind of phone does she have?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it was the same as mine. It was a black iPhone 15.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she have any other electronics?

CSSN COPELAND: She just had her phone.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she was just wearing that bracelet, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Does she have an Apple watch that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.] I don't think she's ever had one.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Have you ever had an Apple Watch?

CSSN COPELAND: I do have an Apple Watch.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Where's that at?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it's in my desk.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. When V/A.R. was on the phone with whoever, when she was--I'll use your word on like a rampage, did she--when she was on the phone, did she ever ask anybody to come pick her up or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I mean, like I said, I was on the couch. I know she did call Rich. And she was on the phone with her ex, but from what I recall, I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

So, you don't recall hearing her tell somebody like, yo, come get me, come pick me up, I want to leave, or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who--what roommate was it again that walked in and was like, yo, is she good?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know his name, but it is--it's the other one that's across the room. Not the African one, but the other-

---

SA GOKEY: The other guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. Not stinky white boy?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then you guys--when you went to bed, you guys went to bed in your bed?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, I just wanted to clarify that.

So, this--this statement is the true statement, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. True and accurate to the best of your knowledge, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. It says, on--and I might've heard you wrong on Sunday. So, I'm not trying to come at you sideways. Okay. I just want to make sure everything I got it right.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Because on Sunday, I thought you told me that either you had slept on the couch and she slept in the bed, or vice versa.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I must have misspoke or misheard. I apologize. But you guys did sleep together in the bed?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But you guys didn't have sex?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What did you guys wear whenever you went to sleep?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I had the same thing on. It was just blue shorts and a black shirt.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is it the same black shirt you got on right now?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, what was she wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: The same thing she had on the whole night.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And what was that again?

CSSN COPELAND: Black shirt, black pants.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, the--another reason why I'm bringing that up, so FCC, we talked to him, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: He has a bit of a different story, right? He said that when he walked into the common space----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: ----that you two were on the ground in front of the couch completely naked.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Is that true?

CSSN COPELAND: When chief walked in, he knocked on the door. So, obviously, when he knocked, I was in my room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you weren't on the floor naked with her?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I was in my room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she was also in the room with you, though?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. When I opened the door, she was there.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he watched her when she was in the bed, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she say anything to him?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was asleep.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, FCC's not telling the truth?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He is not.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When he--when I opened my door when he knocked on it, she was asleep. I opened the door, and he's standing right there.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: He asked me was it a late start, and I said, "Yes, Chief."

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. I'm just going back through my notes real quick. Okay.

So, just to reiterate, so, Thursday--Thursday was the day that FCC got to your barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then Friday, Saturday, you sat in the barracks all day?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And went from various lounges?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then Sunday, the MAs got there, knocked on the door, and was like, yo, bro, you're UA?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right.

So then, the Jeep, so you went to go pick V/A.R. up, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did you ask permission to take the Jeep at that time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. He let me.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. I wasn't sure if, like, maybe he had left the keys on the counter, and he's just like, yo bro, you can use my car whenever, as long as I get to work, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you did ask permission to take those keys?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: To go get her, to bring her back?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then, the next morning, whenever you guys were up--so, you added a couple more details. So, I just want to make sure.

So, you guys got up after FCC was there, and y'all cleaned the room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, can you give me an about what time she may have left?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know because I don't even know what time she had came into the room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, the reason again, I'm asking is because on Sunday you told me that you, your roommate, and her got in the car and y'all dropped her off at Miller Hall.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't say that Sunday.

SA GOKEY: You sure?

CSSN COPELAND: I said, "It--it was me, my roommate that--like, two roommates.

SA GOKEY: Oh, I'm sorry. Not Sunday. I do apologize. When you guys took her home Thursday morning. I'm sorry. You--you're right. You didn't say that Sunday.

So, Thursday, you told me that you, the roommate, and her got in the car car and then y'all dropped her off at Miller Hall.

CSSN COPELAND: Miller Hall is my barracks.

SA GOKEY: And you're at X2?

CSSN COPELAND: Which is Miller Hall, isn't it?

SA GOKEY: That's Willis Hall. Miller Hall is the one right down the road. Her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: Now, I'm confused. Miller Hall is my barracks.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then, let's just say it this way, then. Sunday, you told me--on Sunday when we talked, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Right.

SA GOKEY: That you, roommate, her got in the car and y'all together dropped her off at her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't remember saying that.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, what--so, she got in an Uber then now?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know it was Uber or zTrip?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably a zTrip.

I mean, obviously, most Ubers, you have to be like on base or base access.

SA GOKEY: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: I was just asking if you knew either way, because again, she's still UA, right?

CSSN COPELAND: When I say Uber, it's like, zTrip.

SA GOKEY: You're talking interchangeably?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. That's fine. I just wanted to clarify. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Did she tell you she was taking a zTrip?

CSSN COPELAND: No. That's what suspected. She was like, she's trying to go----

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----back to her room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But she didn't tell you she was taking it? She just----

CSSN COPELAND: No. I assumed it was a zTrip.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Why did you assume it was a zTrip and her not just not walking home like she normally walks?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I mean----

SA GOKEY: I'm just asking.

CSSN COPELAND: I never said she likes walking, so why would I assume she walks?

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, she left the room sometime that morning. You guys--you never got in a car with her and took her anywhere?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What time--so, the roommate that you gets rides from mostly, do you know his work schedule?

Is he on days or nights?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know what his schedule is.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But Thursday morning, he had already gone to work then?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, presumably, he would be at work for the entire day.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: But you told FCC you're going to wait until he gets home to go to work.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Which would've been 16, 1700.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Did you have anybody else to call or anything like that to get you a ride to work?

CSSN COPELAND: That's the only person. I'm not fin'to go out my day and ask other--somebody else to come pick me up.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, everybody works on a daily. I mean, I know my schedule's a little bit different with me being a CS.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, theoretically, everybody's like daily duty and they have to report every day, Monday through Friday.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And theoretically get the weekends off, so.

SA GOKEY: Fair.

CSSN COPELAND: He would be the only person I call. Sometimes I call my homeboy, or I'll call my CS2, but they're already at work, so there's only to call them because I know they're not going to come pick me up.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. It just seems like you presumably should have known he was going to be at work all afternoon.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't know, because usually I'll tell him or sometimes I'll wait. Sometimes he comes home early, sometimes he doesn't. Same with my roommate.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Because obviously, Squadron, they're--they're so much different from being--working on the ship.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, Squadron is honestly love, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. You brought up this homeboy a couple times.

So, you guys--you go sleep in his room sometimes because of the stinky boy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's his name?

CSSN COPELAND: It's a lot of them. It just depends on who--like, where we're going.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Who would you consider like your best friend out here?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably my homeboy on the Truman, but they just got back, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's his name?

CSSN COPELAND: His name's Devonte Williams.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Well, since they got back, that's not one that you sleep in his room?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who do you mostly--whose room do you mostly sleep in?

CSSN COPELAND: So, my homeboy's name is Dee Dee?

SA GOKEY: Dee Dee?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Is that a nickname?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe that's his name.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know the last name?

CSSN COPELAND: Williams.

SA GOKEY: Williams. What command's he with?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe he's on the Ike.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Anybody else that you sleep in the room?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Just his.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Let's see.

Do you have anything?

MS. BEA: Not right now. You know, because of our interactions in the past, you know, that like I shoot straight and I'm not trying to bullshit you or anything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: You know that we're just trying to find V/A.R. right?

So, do you know where she is?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Did you have anything to do with her disappearance?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: If you were to take a polygraph and we asked you those questions, would you pass?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, you got nothing to hide?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I've been straight up, everything you've been asking, I've been responded to.

MS. BEA: Okay. Yeah. I think a lot, you know--I know you're tired. I know you're frustrated. I know that this--it sucks being in this situation.

I know that, like, you know, we're asking questions like a 5-year-old would ask, but most of that is because we want to make sure that we understand you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: And you know, kind of like we've been through this before, right? So, we talk to everybody, and everybody's got something different to say, usually.

So, sometimes people say pretty much the same thing, and sometimes there's wild shit differences. And what FCC told NCIS is just like real different. So, that's why, like, we really want to talk more about that, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, why--would this man lie on you?

CSSN COPELAND: I wouldn't say he would. I mean, he hasn't given me a reason to, but he literally walked in, and he knocked on my door. I opened--physically opened my room door and saw him.

MS. BEA: Yeah. Just want to make sure we're talking about the same thing. He knocked on the door to your suite, like with those two bunks in it, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Not to the main door, into the main living area. He knocked on your door?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. And--I mean, that's--because FCC told NCIS that y'all were naked.

CSSN COPELAND: I wasn't naked. I had shorts on.

MS. BEA: Oh, were you like not wearing a shirt?

Is that maybe why he got confused?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I didn't have a shirt on when I opened the door.

MS. BEA: Okay. What about V/A.R.

CSSN COPELAND: She was laying in the bed.

MS. BEA: And what about her clothes?

CSSN COPELAND: She had on a black top.

MS. BEA: When we're talking top, what kind of top were we talking? Like, a t-shirt. We talking a crop top bra?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. The same t-shirt she's been wearing the whole night.

MS. BEA: Okay. Yeah. I guess that's kind of where I'm at. Right. Is like, he said that he saw her like nude up top, and he saw her breasts.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Do you know, like, what's the deal with that? It's hard for you to speculate you're not him, right? But do you know, like, why he would think that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

I mean, I don't know why he's saying that. He walked in, and we were both butt naked on the floor when he specifically knocked on my door.

MS. BEA: Were any of your roommates home at this time----

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: ----that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: No. They were all at work.

MS. BEA: Okay. Tell me what Ms. Mary's schedule is. Like, does--do you think she would've been working at the time? Because it seems like y'all get along pretty well.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I mean, she works pretty much every day.

MS. BEA: Okay. Does she usually work during the day or at night?

CSSN COPELAND: During the day.

MS. BEA: During the day. Okay.

Is there anybody else we could talk to who would know--like, did you maybe talk to somebody at work about, like, V/A.R. spending the night? Anything else? Anybody come at you sideways about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Did Gilispe talk to you about it?

CSSN COPELAND: I've already stated, "he did."

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.] You said that it was like--was it twice afterwards?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And help me remember when that was.

CSSN COPELAND: Sunday, when I went to do urinalysis, and then the day after that, when I had work on Monday.

MS. BEA: Did you get the vibe he was being accusatory?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He was just asking me questions about V/A.R. or where she would be. That was Sunday.

Like, he was just like asking where she would be. And then Monday, he was just asking the same shit, and then was just saying like, was she being weird or anything? I was like, no. And then that was it.

MS. BEA: Okay. I'm going to do a hard left question, but it's mostly because I'm concerned about you----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: ----because, you know, we've--we've talked about your mental health struggles in the past and not feeling so great and everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Is that why your mom was worried when she couldn't get in touch with you?

CSSN COPELAND: About what?

MS. BEA: Your mental health.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. Like, at the end of the day, I don't answer my phone sometimes, and she knows that. Cool.

There was a female that I'm talking to, like she was calling, I didn't answer either. It just comes to times I would just want a break. My mom knows this, and I don't talk to nobody for days.

MS. BEA: Why?

CSSN COPELAND: Just because. I mean, at the end of the day, that's my life. If I don't want to pick up the phone, I don't got to pick up the phone.

MS. BEA: I mean, that's true. I have no problem with that. Sometimes I don't want to talk to my fucking family, but like, usually that coincides with times in my life where I'm having a hard time.

So, that's why I'm asking. You know, Jeremiah, you might not believe me, but I do care about you. I've always cared about you.

Are you doing okay?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

MS. BEA: Okay. If you weren't--I mean, I know that, you know, on the ship, you have mental health resources. I don't know what it's like on the--on the James E. Williams.

Do you--do you have somebody you can talk to?

CSSN COPELAND: Always.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, on top of that, I have my homeboy that's on the ship. Whenever I'm down or something, I'll go talk to him, or whenever I'm frustrated, I need somebody to talk to, he's like the only person I really talk to on the ship, so.

MS. BEA: Which one's that? I'm sorry. I don't know any----

CSSN COPELAND: J.J. He is a CS as well.

MS. BEA: That's J.J. Okay.

So--so, you're feeling okay right now? You--you just didn't answer the phone because you just didn't feel like--it's not because you're not feeling good mentally?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, on top of that, I--it's the weekend. My CS2s--especially everybody within that I work with, they know I'm not going to answer if I'm not at work.

Like, my CS2s told me multiple times--even like, they've been serious situations--like, for instance, when I said the female tried to stab me, where--when I was chilling at home, they were calling me. I wouldn't answer my phone. Or it will be like, I'll call them and they don't answer, and they call me back because they saw that, you know, they missed my call and I don't answer.

So, they get mad because my phone stays on do not disturb. So, they'd be like, you need to take your phone off or do not

disturb. If you see, obviously, I'm trying to call you. And I'd be like, okay. I just leave it at that.

If I'm in the mood to call them, then I'll call them. If not, I'll just be like, all right. If I see them at work, then I'll just talk to them at work.

MS. BEA: Okay. I mean--and another reason I ask too is like, sometimes when we have Sailors go UA, it's because like they have like, personal problems.

Have you--have you been UA before? Is this the first time?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It's my first time.

MS. BEA: Okay. What made it--so, what got you to the point that when they were like, you know, come into work or--or chief came by and was like, Hey, you got to come into work, that you were just like--you said fuck it, right?

What--what got you to that point? because I know you talked about not being happy there.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm saying like, my roommate didn't come. So, by the time he got home, they were off work.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, it was like, this isn't worth it, essentially?

CSSN COPELAND: It--it is not really about----

MS. BEA: Not a shitty thing.

CSSN COPELAND: ----not worth it, but I'm just like, fuck. Like, there--there ain't shit I could do about it.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: They're off work. So, who am I reporting to? Cool.

So, from there I was just like--when I got work on Monday, I'm going to just go to work and tell them what happened, which I told them this whole time. Whole time, my chief kept saying it was a misunderstanding or miscommunication. All right. Cool. I'm not finna argue.

MS. BEA: Yeah. I don't blame you. Okay.

And then--just for my own curiosity, right. Don't they have shuttles that take you to the different bases?

CSSN COPELAND: No. They don't.

MS. BEA: because like, how the fuck are you supposed to get--there's--how are you supposed to get where you're going?

CSSN COPELAND: They don't have shuttles. They have a shuttle----

MS. BEA: They just expect you to figure it out?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They have shuttles on base that take you different parts on base.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: But they don't have a shuttle that goes different places off base.

MS. BEA: Okay. because I remember----

CSSN COPELAND: They used to.

MS. BEA: ----the Truman was in Portsmouth, they had--yeah. because like, a lot of people were up at Little Creek, and then they just had duty drivers take people down. Nothing----

CSSN COPELAND: They had a shuttle bus that went from Little Creek to Norfolk Base when I first checked on board, which was after A School, and then months down the road, they ended up closing it down.

So, it was there for a minute, and then they ended up shutting that shuttle down.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: But I don't think I was on the Truman when they were in--in wherever you just said.

MS. BEA: Yeah. Portsmouth. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. And, you know, has your mom ever had to call the police before to see if you were okay?

Is this the first time?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure.

I mean, there's been times where, like, she called other people to make sure I'm fine, but it's due to the fact that I--I think somebody texted her and they were asking, like, have they heard from me? And she was like, no.

So, from there, obviously, she called me a couple times and then text me, and I didn't respond. So, then, that's what made her call my command or whatever.

MS. BEA: Do you know who texted her and asked if she could get in touch with you? Was it the command?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It was a female that I talked to.

MS. BEA: Okay. Is she a Sailor as well?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She's a civilian.

MS. BEA: Okay.

Does she live around here, or is she back in----

CSSN COPELAND: No. She's back home.

MS. BEA: Back home. Home, Whidbey, or home Carolina?

CSSN COPELAND: Whidbey.

MS. BEA: Whidbey. Okay. Got it.

So, she got in touch with your mom because she hadn't heard from you either? I'm understanding now. That's why you mentioned her to begin with. Okay. Got it. Okay.

So--I mean, you kind of had--you kind of know how we work at this point, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: All we're really interested in is finding V/A.R. Everybody we talked to is going to get the same questions that you just answered for me about having anything to do with her disappearance or knowing where she's at.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: You know, and at the end of the day, what I really want you to know is that is all we are interested in.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: So, if we could like--theoretically coordinate a polygraph for you tomorrow, is that something you'd be willing to do?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Fuck it.

MS. BEA: Fuck it. Yeah. I feel you. Okay. We're going to take another quick break. Unless you--I'm sorry.

SA GOKEY: No.

MS. BEA: Didn't mean to speak for you.

SA GOKEY: No. You're fine.

MS. BEA: Okay. We're going to take another quick break, and then we'll be back. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

MS. BEA: Do you need to use the bathroom?

CSSN COPELAND: Naw.

MS. BEA: You want more CheezIt?

CSSN COPELAND: Naw.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Oh, I'm sorry. I just kicked you.

MS. BEA: No. You're good. You're good.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 02:36:41 and returned to the room at timestamp 02:58:21.]

SA GOKEY: Okay-dokey. Sorry, Jeremiah.

MS. BEA: You okay? I know you're tired. We're about done. Okay. I just had a couple more things that we wanted to ask you about. As always, it is your choice.

Like we talked about, we are really, really interested in finding V/A.R. and we don't know what's going to be important when we start investigating. We just got to try to get as much as we can. Okay?

So, I wanted to ask you if it's okay--we're, you know, we're searching the barracks and everything else. Specifically, we wanted to go into spaces, like, you know, any kind of backpacks you have or anything else like that. You can be present for that as well. It's no problem either way.

And then, you know, I know we already talked about your phone and you were okay with us, you know, looking through that. And I wanted to ask you about the other iPhone that you have in your room. Is that something you would also be okay with us going through?

CSSN COPELAND: It's broke.

MS. BEA: Will it turn on?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Won't even turn on?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, it's broke.

MS. BEA: Okay. And then other electronic devices we talked about that was your PS5.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: And then the watch. Does the watch work?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And what does that one look like? Like, what kind of band do you have? Do you have like a----

CSSN COPELAND: It's a white band.

MS. BEA: A white band. Okay. So, if you'd be okay with us looking through that stuff, that would be cool, but again, it is completely up to you. It is always your decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Is that something you're all right with?

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine. Go ahead.

MS. BEA: Okay.

So, I have the--the same kind of verbiage of the--I can read this over to you again. You want me to?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Yeah. Okay.

So, I, CSSN, Jeremiah Copeland, after being advised by me, that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into Articles 86 and 107, have been requested to

permitt a search of my backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices that we talked about.

And you telling us--essentially, like, you tell us what's okay for us to search and what's not.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

MS. BEA: Okay. I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made. This search may be conducted on today's date by NCIS, and I here grant my permission to remove any--and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes. I make this decision freely and voluntarily is made no--with no threats having been made or promises extended to me. All sound good? Okay.

So, if you could sign where it says sign.

CSSN COPELAND: When you say like, sign, like you say backpack, bedroom, and electronic devices.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: When is that going to be?

MS. BEA: Tonight. Like, right now. I'm tired too.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm just trying to go home.

MS. BEA: Yeah. No. I feel you. I'm tired too.

CSSN COPELAND: And you say--what'd you say? When you said, whenever I choose, right?

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: But if I'm putting this on paper for--you saying all three of those, then you have by--what by choice do you have? You're obligated to go through all three with me, sign that, right?

MS. BEA: I--yeah. If you want to be present for when we go through those things, you're welcome to be there because we're also trying to go.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But I'm just saying, like, let's say I don't want you going through a certain backpack, but I already signed you--you're obligated to go through my backpack.

MS. BEA: So, this means consent. So, if at any point you say, "No, I don't want you to search this specific thing," we cannot search in there.

Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Answer that question well enough?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. And then, I wanted to revisit the one we talked about with your phone. Are you still okay with that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I just--can we just--I'm just trying to go home.

MS. BEA: Understood. Okay. All right. So, let's make some moves to do that and we will make those coordination and we will get right back. Okay.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 03:02:09 and Ms. Bea returned to the room at timestamp 03:03:35.]

MS. BEA: Hey, Jeremiah. I'm just realizing that I didn't give you my phone in order to call your mom. You want to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: I'll just wait.

MS. BEA: You just wait. Okay. Cool. I don't want to deprive you that opportunity.

CSSN COPELAND: How--how long is this going to take?

MS. BEA: How long until we leave this office----

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: ----to get back to you? 10 minutes.

[Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 03:03:56.]

[SA Gokey returned to the room at timestamp 03:16:21.]

SA GOKEY: Okay, Jeremiah. You ready to go? Got your stuff.

[END OF PAGE]

5 Dec 25

From: LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel,
United States v. CSSN Copeland, USN

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH SPECIAL AGENT BEA DUFFY, NCIS.

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 3 December 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Chris Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, spoke to SA Bea Duffy, NCIS in the Chief Special Trial Counsel office. The following disclosures are provided:

a. SA Duffy stated CSSN Copeland's phone would not have physically been in the interview room because, procedurally, cell phones are not permitted in the interview room unless there is something that the agent wants to review on the phone with the interviewee. SA Duffy considered the phone seized upon arrival at the interview facility in this case.
b. SA Duffy specified that the interview, PASS, and seizure of the phone were conducted as investigative steps for CSSN Copeland's suspected violations of Article 86 and 107, and to gain any information into the possible whereabouts of V/A.R who remained UA.
c. While SA Duffy was aware that the search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room was being conducted at the same time as the interview, she did not know if blood had been found in the closet while conducting the interview. She is certain that if she had that information while conducting the interview, she would have asked CSSN Copeland about it.
d. This was not the first time SA Duffy had interviewed CSSN Copeland. She had previously interviewed him 3 or 4 times regarding other investigations. SA Duffy confirmed that CSSN Copeland did not appear too tired to be interviewed and was not in any way unfit to complete the interview.
e. SA Duffy stated that CSSN Copeland gave verbal consent to have his phone searched earlier in the interview but was unwilling to sign the PASS specifically for that phone by the end of the interview because he just wanted to go home. She did not believe that wanting to go home was an unequivocal revocation of his earlier consent. SA Duffy's experiences led her to feel that a signed PASS was a best practice for a search and would have sought a CASS, regardless of the verbal consent, to avoid any litigation issues. She stated that the phone was seized, regardless of consent, as a probable cause seizure.
f. When asked if she thought the signed PASS that included the backpack and electronic devices was intended to include the phone that was physically with CSSN Copeland when he arrived to NCIS, she said she did not because there was a separate PASS for that specific device. This did not affect her belief that he consented.

g. SA Duffy described CSSN Copeland as a "person of interest" at that time and recalled leaving the interview she did not consider him a suspect of any foul play regarding V/A.R.'s disappearance. She expressed disbelief he would be involved in something as serious as this.
h. he should not be suspected as having harmed CS3 A.R.
i. During the search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room later that evening, CSSN Copeland asked for his phone back, but SA Duffy advised him at that point it had been seized or something to that effect.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY

5 Dec 25

From: LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel,
United States v. CSSN Copeland, USN

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH SPECIAL AGENT DANIELLE ORTIZ, NCIS.

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 3 December 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Chris Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, spoke to SA Danielle Ortiz, telephonically. The following disclosures are provided:

a. SA Ortiz explained that while the cadaver dog was working through CSSN Copeland's barracks room, the dog "signaled" at the bookbag that was placed between CSSN Copeland's desk and bed. She described it as not a "full" signal. She explained that "signaling" can be occur when any bodily odor is detected, including sweat.
b. The bag was moved to the side as the search of the room continued. The bag was searched, with the assistance of CSSN Copeland, upon his return to the room and his consent to the PASS. CSSN Copeland withdrew consent for NCIS to take his water bottle.
c. SA Ortiz explained that scope of the search included areas that may have the personal belongings (uniform, Hello Kitty bag, phone, etc.), or physical person, of V/A.R. It was logical to check in the CSSN Copeland's closet as V/A.R.'s personal items could be in the closet, or she could be hiding in there herself.
d. The closet floor was sticky, as if from a cleaning solution, and the impression of the bottom of a bucket was visible in the stickiness. Upon inspecting the closet floor, SA Ortiz identified a sticker with a brownish/red substance on it. The substance was checked using a Hemastix test and was presumptively positive as blood.
e. SA Ortiz then prepared the surface for BlueStar testing and subsequently found additional areas within the closet that illuminated, indicating blood or bodily fluids had been present. SA Ortiz caveated that BlueStar can illuminate material that is not a bodily fluid, such as bleach/cleaning supplies. The rest of CSSN Copeland's barracks room was then prepared for BlueStar testing and SA Ortiz followed the trail of illumination into the common area of the barracks suite.
f. SA Ortiz expressed that she communicated the presence of blood in the barrack's room to SA Gokey but does not remember the specific time she did so and believed it was when SA Gokey arrived at the scene. She explained that she was excited to communicate her findings to the investigatory team because as a forensic analyst this was an exciting discovery.

g. SA Ortiz specified that if she had thought it was a murder investigation or investigation into any foul play, she would have insisted on the barracks room being secured as a crime scene. As it was, there was no way of knowing when the blood detected was put there, whose blood it was, or if it was from clothing or from an injury.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation.

[redacted]

MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER

Place: NCIS - V-40

Date: 03 JUN 25

I JERMIAH COPELAND have been advised by SA JESSICA FOKEY

that I am suspected of: Art. 86 (unauthorized Absence) 107 (false official)

I have also been advised that:

JTC (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

JTC (2) Any statement I make can be used against me in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceeding;

JTC (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

JTC (4) I have the right to have my retained lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

JTC (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

JTC I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me. JTC

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 03JUN25

Witnessed: [redacted]

SA B. Duffy [redacted]

NCIS 5580/20 (REV. 6-2021)

ENCLOSURE B

000320_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 04Jun25

I, CSSN Jermiah Copeland, after being advised by SA B.Duffy that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into Articles 86 and 107, have been requested to permit a search of my backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on 04Jun25 by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

Signed: [redacted]

SA B.Duffy
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

[redacted]
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

[redacted]
Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

Start : 04JUN25 1241

End : 04JUN25 1249

NCIS 5580/21 (Rev. 7-2021)

Search Authorization

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.

CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. USN

TO: Special Agent Jessica Gokey and other NCIS Agents

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by Special Agent Jessica Gokey

That there is reason to believe that on the person of and/or on the premises known as:
X2 Barracks Room 335B and the common area located on Naval Station Norfolk

which is/are under my jurisdiction, there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See attachment B

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person and/or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of a command authorized search exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH the person and/or place named for the property specified and if the property is found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this authorization and receipt for the property taken. You will provide a signed receipt to this command, containing a full description of every item seized.

Any assistance desired in conducting this search will be furnished by this command.

Dated this 4 day of JUNE, 2025.

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.04 13:38:15 -04'00'

Signature of Person Authorizing Search

CAPT, USN, Commanding Officer
Rank, Service, Title

NAVSTA Norfolk
Command

NCIS 5580/7 (Rev. 7-2021)

000306_COPELAND

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN [redacted] USN

BEFORE the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia

The undersigned, being duly sworn, requests authority to search:
The barracks room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND, USN, located at Barracks X-2, Room 335B and the common area,Naval Station Norfolk, as described in Attachment (A).

Believing that there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
Evidence pertaining to Article 86 (Absense without leave) of the UCMJ, more particularl described in Attachment (B).

The request for authorization to search and seize is made in connection with an investigation into the offense(s) of :
Article 86 (Absense without leave) of the UCMJ.

The facts and circumstances known to me tending to establish the foregoing grounds for authorization to search and seize, including comments demonstrating the reliability of the information and/or informant, are as follows:
See Affidavit, incorporated herein by reference. [redacted]

Signature of Affiant
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 4th day of June, 2025.

[redacted]
Signature of Person Administering Oath

LT, USN, STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Rank, Service, Title

NCIS 5580/1 (1/2001) (Formerly NCISFORM 023/08-92)

AFFIDAVIT

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CSSN [redacted] USN

1. I, Jessica Gokey, am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. The following facts and information are known to your Affiant based upon information gained from the conduct of this investigation, witness observations, training and experience, and/or through information relayed through other law enforcement officers.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure to search the residence belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND as annotated in Attachment A.

4. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure, your Affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your Affiant has set forth the facts believed necessary to establish probable cause to believe that evidence of violations of Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 86 (Absence without leave).

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

5. This United States is investigating violations of Article 86 (Absence without leave).

6. On May 28, 2025, CSSN V/A.R. was known to be in the barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, who is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

7. According to COPELAND, V/A.R. came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

8. COPELAND stated V/A.R. called a "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, V/A.R. became emotional and began to cry.

9. COPELAND stated the relationship with V/A.R. was platonic and he is a friend from work and no sexual acts have happened between them.

10. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on 29 May 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

11. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see V/A.R. breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on V/A.R. stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if V/A.R. was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

12. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell V/A.R. was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

13. COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of 29 May 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND and V/A.R. were in a state of undress and V/A.R. waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

14. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and V/A.R. to V/A.R. residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

15. COPELAND's movements after dropping V/A.R. off at Miller Hall. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29-31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025.

16. On 02 June 2025, NCIS spoke to FCC PARKER to verify V/A.R. work schedule. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. was scheduled to work day shift Friday, May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 1, 2025 with a report time of 0500-0530 hours. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. failed to report all three (3) days.

17. NCIS interview all remaining roommates of COPELAND who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and V/A.R. on the morning of 29 May 2025.

18. The whereabouts of V/A.R. are still unknown. Her cellphone last pinged on 31 May 2025 for last known location. The last known was approximately Latitude 36.896558 Longitude -76.435536, which appears to be located in Suffolk, VA.

19. Additionally, NCIS spoke with her mother in Texas and she conveyed V/A.R. has attempted suicide in the past and suffers from depression, for which she is prescribed medication. Emergency Room's, psychology departments, morgues, and jails were all negative for her presence when called.

20. On 03 June 2025, NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure on the barracks room belonging to COPELAND. During the search, a pair of black rimmed glasses were located within the residence. It was unknown at the time, V/A.R. was known to wear black rimmed glasses.

CONCLUSION

21. Based upon the information, your Affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe items in COPELAND's barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A and the common room area onboard Naval Station Norfolk may constitute evidence of Article 86 (Absence without leave) of the UCMJ.

22. Your affiant respectfully requests a CASS be issued, authorizing NCIS Agents, forensic examiners tasked by NCIS, and other law enforcement entities and their forensic components to search and retain evidence as described above.

[redacted]

Jessica Gokey, Special Agent [redacted]
Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of June, 2025

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.PII
Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.1[redacted]
Date: 2025.06.04 13:39:09 -04'00'

CAPT
Commanding Officer

ATTACHMENT A: PLACES TO BE SEARCHED

X-2 room 335B Rack A and the common area onboard Naval Station Norfolk.

ATTACHMENT B: PARTICULAR ITEMS TO BE SEIZED

1. Bed linens, sheets, towels, blankets, pillows that appear to have been used or were recently used.
2. Used condoms and condom wrappers
3. Any clothing appearing to belong to a female
4. Items containing or could reasonably contain Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA), blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence
5. Black rimmed glasses
6. Other evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense.

SUMMARY

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, Supervisory Digital Forensic Examiner (SDFE) John DAVISON, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic examination based on a verbal request on 04Jun25, and a written request dated 17Jun25, from Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, NCISRA Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of the following device based on the request:

    a. iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

2. The case agent request specified the analysis of the following specific activity
    a. Conduct a digital forensic examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

3. The examination of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND disclosed the artifacts:
    a. Communications from a phone number and social media accounts identified as belonging V/ V/A.R.
    b. Geolocation data from 28May25 to 02Jun25, to include location where the remains of V/ V/A.R. were recovered.
    c. Route traveled on 02Jun25, by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to location where the remains of V/ V/A.R. were recovered.
    e. Screenshots of marked location from 02Jun25, near location where the remains of V/ V/A.R. were recovered.
    d. Three large thumbnails of images of S/COPELAND with a black luggage
    d. Text messages and phone calls from 28May25 to 03Jun25.
    e. Timeline analysis for 29May25
    f. Voicemails and audio recordings
    g. Google searches conducted by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND
    h. Contact information
    i. User Account information

WARNING
THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE. CONTENTS MAY BE DISCLOSED ONLY TO PERSONS WHOSE OFFICIAL DUTIES REQUIRE ACCESS HERETO. CONTENTS MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO THE PARTY(S) CONCERNED WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

SEARCH AUTHORIZATION

1. On 04Jun25, Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) executed by S/COPELAND, dated 04Jun25.

Click for a copy of the PASS.

1. Between 05Jun25 and 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

1. Between 10Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 10Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

EVIDENCE

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 for examination from SA Caroline ROBINSON, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

2. DFE BUSH copied the GrayKey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to a Seagate hard drive with serial number Z9A4RSFN. On 12Jun25, DFE BUSH enter the hard drive into evidence under NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO K8J9D Item 8JY7H to the Temporary Evidence Locker, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

FORENSIC ACQUISITION AND VERIFICATION

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained a full file system extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Graykey Extraction Tool OS version 1.26.3.31482045, App Bundle: 6.3.1.31921520. SA ROBINSON provided DFE BUSH the Personal Identification Number (PIN) 980377 to access the device. The device was isolated from network connectivity via airplane mode and could not be write-protected due to established forensic processes. The digital forensic extraction was verified through established forensic processes.

WORKING COPY

1. On 05Jun25, SDFE DAVISON obtained a working copy of the Graykey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND from DFE BUSH for examination.

EXAMINATION DETAILS

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of an iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using Magnet Axiom Version 9.2.1.44383, Magnet Axiom Version 9.4.1.45125, Cellebrite Inseyets Physical Analyzer version 10.5.0.1027, and ILEAPP version 2.2.0. The Apple ID associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max listed as [redacted] and the Directory Services Identifier (DSID) listed as 17163425203. A DSID is a unique numerical value associated with an Apple ID account to ensure each account has a unique number in case a user changes an email address associated with an Apple account. The phone number associated with device is PII -4307 and the device phone name is listed as "Jermiah's iPhone." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot from the device information displayed in Axiom and took a screenshot of the Graykey Extraction report.

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

TO: Special Agent Jessica Gokey and other NCIS Agents

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by Special Agent Jessica Gokey

That there is reason to believe that on the person of and/or on the premises known as:
an Apple iPhone, which was located on the person of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND

which is/are under my jurisdiction, there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See attachment B

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person and/or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of a command authorized search exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH the person and/or place named for the property specified and if the property is found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this authorization and receipt for the property taken. You will provide a signed receipt to this command, containing a full description of every item seized.

Any assistance desired in conducting this search will be furnished by this command.

Dated this 5 day of JUNE, 2025.

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED [redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED [redacted] Date: 2025.06.05 07:43:22 -04'00'

Signature of Person Authorizing Search

CAPT, USN, Commanding Officer

Rank, Service, Title

NAVSTA Norfolk

Command

NCIS 5580/7 (Rev. 7-2021)

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

BEFORE the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia

The undersigned, being duly sworn, requests authority to search:
CSSN Jermiah Copeland's personal cellular telephone(s) more particularly described in Attachment A.

Believing that there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See Attachment B.

The request for authorization to search and seize is made in connection with an investigation into the offense(s) of :
Article 86 and 107 of the UCMJ, more particularly described in Attachment B to the attached affidavit.

The facts and circumstances known to me tending to establish the foregoing grounds for authorization to search and seize, including comments demonstrating the reliability of the information and/or informant, are as follows:
See attached Affidavit, incorporated herein by reference. [redacted]

[redacted]
Signature of Affiant
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 5th day of June, 2025.

[redacted]
Signature of Person Administering Oath

LT, USN, STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Rank, Service, Title

NCIS 5580/1 (1/2001) (Formerly NCISFORM 023/08-92)

AFFIDAVIT

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. I, Jessica Gokey, am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. The following facts and information are known to your Affiant based upon information gained from the conduct of this investigation, witness observations, training and experience, and/or through information relayed through other law enforcement officers.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure to review the cellphone belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND as annotated in Attachment A.

4. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure, your Affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your Affiant has set forth the facts believed necessary to establish probable cause to believe that evidence of violations of Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 86 (Unauthorized Absence) and Article 107 (False Official Statement)

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

1. This United States is investigating violations of Article 86 (Unauthorized Absence) and Article 107 (False Official Statements).

2. On May 28, 2025, CSSN V/A.R. was known to be in the barracks room located at PII located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, who is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

3. On 01 June 2025, COPELAND was interviewed by NCIS. According to COPELAND, V/A.R. came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

4. COPELAND stated V/A.R. called an "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, V/A.R. became emotional and began to cry.

5. COPELAND stated the relationship with V/A.R. was platonic and he is a friend from work and no sexual acts have happened between them.

6. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on 29 May 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

7. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see V/A.R. breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on V/A.R. stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if V/A.R. was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

8. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell V/A.R. was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

9. COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of 29 May 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND and V/A.R. were in a state of undress and V/A.R. waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

10. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and V/A.R. to V/A.R. residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

11. COPELAND's movements are unknown after dropping V/A.R. off at Miller Hall. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29-31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025.

12. On 02 June 2025, NCIS spoke to FCC PARKER to verify V/A.R. work schedule. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. was scheduled to work day shift Friday,

May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 1, 2025 with a report time of 0500-0530 hours. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. failed to report all three (3) days.

13. NCIS interviewed all remaining roommates of COPELAND who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and V/A.R. on the morning of 29 May 2025.

14. The whereabouts of V/A.R. are still unknown. Her cellphone last pinged on 31 May 2025 for last known location. The last known was approximately Latitude 36.896558 Longitude -76.435536, which appears to be located in Suffolk, VA.

15. Additionally, NCIS spoke with her mother in Texas and she conveyed V/A.R. has attempted suicide in the past and suffers from depression, for which she is prescribed medication. Emergency Room's, psychology departments, morgues, and jails were all negative for her presence when called.

16. On 03 June 2025, NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure on the barracks room belonging to COPELAND. During the search, a pair of black rimmed glasses were located within the residence. It was unknown at the time, V/A.R. was known to wear black rimmed glasses.

17. On 03 June 2028, NCIS conducted a follow-up interview with COPELAND who stated he remained in his barracks room and the common space lounges within X-2. COPELAND stated he never left the X-2 building during his period of unauthorized absence.

18. COPELAND also stated, contrary to his 01 June 2025 interview, that neither he nor his roommate dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks on the morning of 29 May 2025. COPELAND stated he believed V/A.R. had taken an Uber or Z-Trip back to her barracks.

BIOMETRIC ACCESS TO DEVICES

19. This warrant permits law enforcement to compel CSSN Jermiah COPELAND to unlock any DEVICES requiring biometric access subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant. The grounds for this request are as follows:

a. I know from my training and experience, as well as from information found in publicly available materials published by device manufacturers, that many electronic devices, particularly newer mobile devices and laptops, offer their users the ability to unlock the device through biometric features in lieu of a numeric or alphanumeric passcode or password. These biometric features include fingerprint scanners, facial recognition features and iris recognition features. Some devices offer a combination of these biometric features, and the user of such devices can select which features they would like to utilize.

b. If a device is equipped with a fingerprint scanner, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device through his or her fingerprints. For example, Apple offers a feature called "Touch ID," which allows a user to register up to five fingerprints that can unlock a device. Once a fingerprint is registered, a user can unlock the device by pressing the relevant finger to the device's Touch ID sensor, which is found in the round button (often referred to as the "home" button) located at the bottom center of the front of the device. The fingerprint sensors found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Touch ID.

c. If a device is equipped with a facial-recognition feature, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device through his or her face. For example, this feature is available on certain Android devices and is called "Trusted Face." During the Trusted Face registration process, the user holds the device in front of his or her face. The device's front-facing camera then analyzes and records data based on the user's facial characteristics. The device can then be unlocked if the front-facing camera detects a face with characteristics that match those of the registered face. Facial recognition features found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Trusted Face.

d. If a device is equipped with an iris-recognition feature, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device with his or her irises. For example, on certain Microsoft devices, this feature is called "Windows Hello." During the Windows Hello registration, a user registers his or her irises by holding the device in front of his or her face. The device then directs an infrared light toward the user's face and activates an infrared-sensitive camera to record data based on patterns within the user's irises. The device can then be unlocked if the infrared-sensitive camera detects the registered irises. Iris-recognition features found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Windows Hello.

e. In my training and experience, users of electronic devices often enable the aforementioned biometric features because they are considered to be a more convenient way to unlock a device than by entering a numeric or alphanumeric passcode or password. Moreover, in some instances, biometric features are considered to be a more secure way to protect a device's contents. This is particularly true when the users of a device are engaged in criminal activities and thus have a heightened concern about securing the contents of a device.

f. As discussed in this Affidavit, your Affiant has reason to believe that one or more digital devices will be found during the search. The passcode or password that would unlock the DEVICES subject to search under this warrant currently is not known to law enforcement. Thus, law enforcement personnel may not otherwise be able to

access the data contained within the DEVICES, making the use of biometric features necessary to the execution of the search authorized by this warrant.

g. I also know from my training and experience, as well as from information found in publicly available materials including those published by device manufacturers, that biometric features will not unlock a device in some circumstances even if such features are enabled. This can occur when a device has been restarted, inactive, or has not been unlocked for a certain period of time. For example, Apple devices cannot be unlocked using Touch ID when: (1) more than 48 hours has elapsed since the device was last unlocked; or, (2) when the device has not been unlocked using a fingerprint for 8 hours and the passcode or password has not been entered in the last 6 days. Similarly, certain Android devices cannot be unlocked with Trusted Face if the device has remained inactive for four hours. Biometric features from other brands carry similar restrictions. Thus, in the event law enforcement personnel encounter a locked device equipped with biometric features, the opportunity to unlock the device through a biometric feature may exist for only a short time.

h. Due to the foregoing, if law enforcement personnel encounter any DEVICES that are subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant and may be unlocked using one of the aforementioned biometric features, this warrant permits law enforcement personnel to: (1) press or swipe the fingers (including thumbs) of COPELAND to the fingerprint scanner of the DEVICE; (2) hold the DEVICE in front of the face of COPELAND and activate the facial recognition feature; and/or (3) hold the DEVICE in front of the face of COPELAND and activate the iris recognition feature, for the purpose of attempting to unlock the DEVICE in order to search the contents as authorized by this warrant. In pressing or swiping a person's thumb or finger onto a device and in holding a device in front of a person's face, law enforcement may not use excessive force, as defined in Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 386 (1989); specifically, law enforcement may use no more than objectively reasonable force in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them.

Further, law enforcement may compel the use of the biometric features described above if: (1) the procedure is carried out with dispatch and in the immediate vicinity of the premises to be searched, and if, at the time of compulsion, the government has (2) reasonable suspicion that the suspect has committed a criminal act that is the subject matter of the warrant; and (3) reasonable suspicion that the individual's biometric features will unlock the device, that is, for example, because there is a reasonable suspicion to believe that the individual is the user of the device. The proposed warrant does not authorize law enforcement to require that resident's state or otherwise provide the password or any other means that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICE. Moreover, the proposed warrant does not authorize law enforcement to ask residents to identify the specific biometric characteristics

(including the unique finger(s) or other physical features) that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICE.

CONCLUSION

20. Based upon the information, your Affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe the cellphone belonging to COPELAND may constitute evidence of Article 86 (Absence without leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements) of the UCMJ.

21. Your affiant respectfully requests a CASS be issued, authorizing NCIS Agents, forensic examiners tasked by NCIS, and other law enforcement entities and their forensic components to search and retain evidence as described above.

[redacted]

Jessica Gokey, Special Agent [redacted]
Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of June, 2025

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.05 07:44:11 -04'00'

CAPT
Commanding Officer

ATTACHMENT A: PLACES TO BE SEARCHED

This Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) applies to the information associated with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND and his cellular telephone identified as an iPhone, dark in color, which was located on COPELAND's person when seized. Located at the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Norfolk Field Office Evidence Facility, 1650 Gilbert Street, Norfolk, VA 23511.

ATTACHMENT B: PARTICULAR ITEMS TO BE SEIZED

The following materials, which constitute evidence of the commission of a criminal offense, contraband, the fruits of crime, or property designed or intended for use or which is or has been used as the means of committing a criminal offense, namely violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 86 (Unauthorized Absence) and Article 107 (False Official Statement).

1. Cellular Telephone or storage media used as a means to commit the violations described above, to include the **TARGET DEVICE(S)**.
2. The telephone number, ESN number, serial number, SIM card number, or any other device identification number associated with and or contained in the device (s).
3. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this CASS.
4. For any cellular telephone or storage medium whose seizure is otherwise authorized by this CASS, and any cellular telephone or storage medium that contains or in which are stored records or information that is otherwise called for by this warrant, to include the **TARGET DEVICE(S)** (hereinafter, "CELLULAR TELEPHONE"):
5. Evidence of who used, owned, or controlled the CELLULAR TELEPHONE at the time the things described in this CASS were created, edited, or deleted, such as logs, registry entries, configuration files, saved user names and passwords, documents, browsing history, user profiles, email, email contacts, "chat," instant messaging logs, photographs, and correspondence;

6. Evidence indicating how and when the cellular telephone was accessed or used to determine the chronological context of cellular telephone access, use, and events relating to the crime(s) under investigation and to the cellular telephone user;
7. Evidence indicating the cellular telephone user's knowledge and/or intent as it relates to the crime(s) under investigation;
8. Evidence of live and deleted historical navigation data tracks, routes, and waypoints, GPS fixes, favorites, past journeys, trip logs, and user entered data, Latitude, Longitude, and Altitude coordinates, and related dates and times pertaining to Subject Offense(s);
9. Evidence of live and deleted logs, records, documents, and other items that may constitute evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or instrumentalities of violations of crimes, pertaining to Subject Offense(s);
10. Evidence of live and deleted contact lists, call logs, text messages and multimedia messages (SMS and MMS messages), e-mails, chats, video conference communication data, contact information, installed application information including their content and any other information which can be used to identify potentially associated persons pertaining to Subject Offense(s);
11. Evidence of the attachment to the CELLULAR TELEPHONE of other storage devices or similar containers for electronic evidence;
12. Evidence of programs (and associated data) that are designed to eliminate data from the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;
13. Passwords, encryption keys, and other access devices that may be necessary to access the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;

14. Documentation and manuals that may be necessary to access the CELLULAR TELEPHONE or to conduct a forensic examination of the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;
15. Records of or information about Internet Protocol addresses used by the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;
16. Records of or information about the CELLULAR TELEPHONE's Internet activity, including firewall logs, caches, browser history and cookies, "bookmarked" or "favorite" web pages, search terms that the user entered into any Internet search engine, and records of user-typed web addresses; and
17. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment.
18. The term "cellular telephone" includes all types of electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing devices performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, including desktop cellular telephones, notebook cellular telephones, mobile phones, tablets, server cellular telephones, and network hardware.
19. This CASS does not authorize law enforcement personnel to compel any other individuals found at the SUBECT PREMISES to provide biometric features, as described in the preceding paragraph, to access or otherwise unlock any DEVICE. Further, this warrant does not authorize law enforcement personnel to require that resident's state or otherwise provide the password or any other means that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICES, including by identifying the specific biometric characteristics (including the unique finger(s) or other physical features) that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICES.

20. This CASS authorizes a review of electronic storage media and electronically stored information seized or copied pursuant to this CASS in order to locate evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities described in this warrant. The review of this electronic data may be conducted by any government personnel assisting in the investigation, who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, and technical experts. Pursuant to this warrant, NCIS may deliver a complete copy of the seized or copied electronic data to the custody and control of attorneys for the government and their support staff for their independent review.

AFFIDAVIT

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. I, Jessica Gokey, am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. The following facts and information are known to your Affiant based upon information gained from the conduct of this investigation, witness observations, training and experience, and/or through information relayed through other law enforcement officers.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure to review the iPhone 15 Pro Max, in NCIS custody, the Apple watch, and the additional iPhone located in the barracks room belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND as annotated in Attachment A.

4. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure, your Affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your Affiant has set forth the facts believed necessary to establish probable cause to believe that evidence of violations of Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 107 (False Statements), Article 118 (Homicide), and Article 134 (Obstruction).

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

1. This United States is investigating violations of Article 107 (False Statements), Article 118 (Homicide), and Article 134 (Obstruction).

2. On May 28, 2025, CSSN V/A.R. was known to be in the barracks room located at PII located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, who is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

3. According to COPELAND, V/A.R. came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

4. COPELAND stated V/A.R. called a "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, V/A.R. became emotional and began to cry.

5. COPELAND stated the relationship with V/A.R. was platonic and he is a friend from work and no sexual acts have happened between them.

6. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on May 29, 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

7. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see V/A.R. breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on V/A.R. stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if V/A.R. was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

8. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell V/A.R. was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

9. COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of May 29, 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND answered the door in shorts and no shirt. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

10. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and V/A.R. to V/A.R. residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

11. COPELAND's movements after dropping V/A.R. off at Miller Hall are unknown. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29-31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025.

12. On 02 June 2025, NCIS spoke to FCC PARKER to verify V/A.R. work schedule. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. was scheduled to work day shift Friday,

May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 1, 2025 with a report time of 0500-0530 hours. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. failed to report all three (3) days.

13. NCIS interviewed all roommates of COPELAND, who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and V/A.R. on the morning of May 29, 2025.

14. V/A.R. cellphone last pinged on May 29, 2025, and the location was at the X-2 barracks.

15. On June 03, 2025, NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure on the barracks room belonging to COPELAND. During the search, a pair of black rimmed glasses were located within the residence. V/A.R. was known to wear black rimmed glasses.

16. On June 04, 2025, NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) at the barracks room belonging to COPELAND. During the search, NCIS notated an Apple watch was located in COPELAND's belonging. During the interview of COPELAND, he stated, the Apple watch was no longer working and he did not use it.

17. On June 04, 2025, NCIS also located an older iPhone, which during the interview of COPELAND he stated the phone was broken and no longer working. When charged, the phone turned on and appeared to be working. The screen was also not cracked.

18. On June 09, 2025, NCIS determined the Apple watch was connected to the iPhone taken from COPELAND's person. The iPhone is currently in NCIS' possession and has since been forensically viewed to show the Apple watch last synched with the iPhone on May 29, 2025 at approximately 0256.

19. On June 08, 2025, NCIS received confirmation from USACIL that the swab taken from the inside of COPELAND's closet had tested positive for human blood. Further testing, will be conducted to determine whose blood is located in the closet. As such, NCIS is going to be removing the flooring in the closet and/or the baseboards surrounding the closet for further testing for DNA and/or trace evidence.

20. During the search of COPELAND's room on June 04, 2025, after being analyzed it was determined there was a potential blood trail leading from inside the closet onto the carpet of the room. NCIS will also be removing the carpet from COPELAND's room and the common room for further testing for DNA and/or trace evidence.

21. On June 09, 2025, while reviewing the iPhone belonging to COPELAND, NCIS was able to extract two image files, one of which appears to be a screenshot of a Google maps App with the street name Cary Ave visible. The device also appeared to be in Airplane mode at the time the screenshot was taken. The time on the screen shot is 05:15. After further examination, it appears the screenshot was taken on June 02, 2025 at 5:15AM.

22. NCIS was able to locate and extract heath data to include the Apple Health Floors, Apple Health Steps, and Apple Health Distance during the examination. Which

shows the health data recorded on June 02, 2025, from 3:45AM to 5:57AM. Based off of the geolocation data located the approximately geolocation from the iPhone was in the approximately area of 2842 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23504.

23. On June 09, 2025, NCIS went to the location of the ping and began to search the area. Within the area of the ping, a suitcase was located near a tree. After partially opening the suitcase, a pair of human legs was observed to be inside the suitcase.

On June 10, 2025, NCIS attended the autopsy of the female located in the suitcase. Within the suitcase there was an E3 uniform patch located in the hair of the female.

BIOMETRIC ACCESS TO DEVICES

1. This warrant permits law enforcement to compel CSSN Jermiah COPELAND to unlock any DEVICES requiring biometric access subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant. The grounds for this request are as follows:

a. I know from my training and experience, as well as from information found in publicly available materials published by device manufacturers, that many electronic devices, particularly newer mobile devices and laptops, offer their users the ability to unlock the device through biometric features in lieu of a numeric or alphanumeric passcode or password. These biometric features include fingerprint scanners, facial recognition features and iris recognition features. Some devices offer a combination of these biometric features, and the user of such devices can select which features they would like to utilize.

b. If a device is equipped with a fingerprint scanner, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device through his or her fingerprints. For example, Apple offers a feature called "Touch ID," which allows a user to register up to five fingerprints that can unlock a device. Once a fingerprint is registered, a user can unlock the device by pressing the relevant finger to the device's Touch ID sensor, which is found in the round button (often referred to as the "home" button) located at the bottom center of the front of the device. The fingerprint sensors found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Touch ID.

c. If a device is equipped with a facial-recognition feature, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device through his or her face. For example, this feature is available on certain Android devices and is called "Trusted Face." During the Trusted Face registration process, the user holds the device in front of his or her face. The device's front-facing camera then analyzes and records data based on the user's facial characteristics. The device can then be unlocked if the front-facing camera detects a face with characteristics that match those of the registered face. Facial recognition features found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Trusted Face.

d. If a device is equipped with an iris-recognition feature, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device with his or her irises. For example, on certain Microsoft devices, this feature is called "Windows Hello." During the Windows Hello registration, a user registers his or her irises by holding the device in front of his or her face. The device then directs an infrared light toward the user's face and activates an infrared-sensitive camera to record data based on patterns within the user's irises. The device can then be unlocked if the infrared-sensitive camera detects the registered irises. Iris-recognition features found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Windows Hello.

e. In my training and experience, users of electronic devices often enable the aforementioned biometric features because they are considered to be a more convenient way to unlock a device than by entering a numeric or alphanumeric passcode or password. Moreover, in some instances, biometric features are considered to be a more secure way to protect a device's contents. This is particularly true when the users of a device are engaged in criminal activities and thus have a heightened concern about securing the contents of a device.

f. As discussed in this Affidavit, your Affiant has reason to believe that one or more digital devices will be found during the search. The passcode or password that would unlock the DEVICES subject to search under this warrant currently is not known to law enforcement. Thus, law enforcement personnel may not otherwise be able to access the data contained within the DEVICES, making the use of biometric features necessary to the execution of the search authorized by this warrant.

g. I also know from my training and experience, as well as from information found in publicly available materials including those published by device manufacturers, that biometric features will not unlock a device in some circumstances even if such features are enabled. This can occur when a device has been restarted, inactive, or has not been unlocked for a certain period of time. For example, Apple devices cannot be unlocked using Touch ID when: (1) more than 48 hours has elapsed since the device was last unlocked; or, (2) when the device has not been unlocked using a fingerprint for 8 hours and the passcode or password has not been entered in the last 6 days. Similarly, certain Android devices cannot be unlocked with Trusted Face if the device has remained inactive for four hours. Biometric features from other brands carry similar restrictions. Thus, in the event law enforcement personnel encounter a locked device equipped with biometric features, the opportunity to unlock the device through a biometric feature may exist for only a short time.

h. Due to the foregoing, if law enforcement personnel encounter any DEVICES that are subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant and may be unlocked using one of the aforementioned biometric features, this warrant permits law enforcement personnel

to: (1) press or swipe the fingers (including thumbs) of COPELAND to the fingerprint scanner of the DEVICE; (2) hold the DEVICE in front of the face of COPELAND and activate the facial recognition feature; and/or (3) hold the DEVICE in front of the face of COPELAND and activate the iris recognition feature, for the purpose of attempting to unlock the DEVICE in order to search the contents as authorized by this warrant. In pressing or swiping a person's thumb or finger onto a device and in holding a device in front of a person's face, law enforcement may not use excessive force, as defined in Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 386 (1989); specifically, law enforcement may use no more than objectively reasonable force in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them.

Further, law enforcement may compel the use of the biometric features described above if: (1) the procedure is carried out with dispatch and in the immediate vicinity of the premises to be searched, and if, at the time of compulsion, the government has (2) reasonable suspicion that the suspect has committed a criminal act that is the subject matter of the warrant; and (3) reasonable suspicion that the individual's biometric features will unlock the device, that is, for example, because there is a reasonable suspicion to believe that the individual is the user of the device. The proposed warrant does not authorize law enforcement to require that resident's state or otherwise provide the password or any other means that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICE. Moreover, the proposed warrant does not authorize law enforcement to ask residents to identify the specific biometric characteristics (including the unique finger(s) or other physical features) that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICE.

CONCLUSION

2. Based upon the information, your Affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe the cellphone belonging to COPELAND may constitute evidence of Article 107 (False Statements), Article 118 (Homicide), and Article 134 (Obstruction) of the UCMJ.

3. Your affiant respectfully requests a CASS be issued, authorizing NCIS Agents, forensic examiners tasked by NCIS, and other law enforcement entities and their forensic components to search and retain evidence asdescribed above.

[redacted]

Jessica Gokey, Special Agent
Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of June, 2025

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.10 17:26:03 -04'00'

CAPT
Commanding Officer

ATTACHMENT A: PLACES TO BE SEARCHED

This Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) applies to the information associated with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND and his cellular telephone identified as an iPhone 15 Pro Max, in NCIS' possession, the Apple watch and the additional cellular telephone (iPhone) which was located during the original CASS of COPELAND's barracks.

ATTACHMENT B: PARTICULAR ITEMS TO BE SEIZED

The following materials, which constitute evidence of the commission of a criminal offense, contraband, the fruits of crime, or property designed or intended for use or which is or has been used as the means of committing a criminal offense, namely violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 107 (False Statements), Article 118 (Homicide), and Article 134 (Obstruction).

1. Cellular Telephone or storage media used as a means to commit the violations described above, to include the **TARGET DEVICES**.
2. The telephone number, ESN number, serial number, SIM card number, or any other device identification number associated with and or contained in the devices.
3. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this CASS.
4. For any cellular telephone or storage medium whose seizure is otherwise authorized by this CASS, and any cellular telephone or storage medium that contains or in which are stored records or information that is otherwise called for by this warrant, to include the **TARGET DEVICES**:
5. Evidence of who used, owned, or controlled the **TARGET DEVICES** at the time the things described in this CASS were created, edited, or deleted, such as logs, registry entries, configuration files, saved user names and passwords, documents, browsing history, user profiles, email, email contacts, "chat," instant messaging logs, photographs, and correspondence;
6. Evidence indicating how and when the cellular telephone was accessed or used to determine the chronological context of cellular telephone access, use, and events relating to the crimes under investigation and to the cellular telephone user;

7. Evidence indicating the cellular telephone user's knowledge and/or intent as it relates to the crimes under investigation;
8. Evidence of live and deleted historical navigation data tracks, routes, and waypoints, GPS fixes, favorites, past journeys, trip logs, and user entered data, Latitude, Longitude, and Altitude coordinates, and related dates and times pertaining to Subject Offenses;
9. Evidence of live and deleted logs, records, documents, and other items that may constitute evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or instrumentalities of violations of crimes, pertaining to Subject Offenses;
10. Evidence of live and deleted contact lists, call logs, text messages and multimedia messages (SMS and MMS messages), e-mails, chats, video conference communication data, contact information, installed application information including their content and any other information which can be used to identify potentially associated persons pertaining to Subject Offenses;
11. Evidence of the attachment to the **TARGET DEVICES** of other storage devices or similar containers for electronic evidence;
12. Evidence of programs (and associated data) that are designed to eliminate data from the **TARGET DEVICES**;
13. Passwords, encryption keys, and other access devices that may be necessary to access the **TARGET DEVICES**;
14. Documentation and manuals that may be necessary to access the **TARGET DEVICES** or to conduct a forensic examination of the **TARGET DEVICES**;
15. Records of or information about Internet Protocol addresses used by the **TARGET DEVICES**;

16. Records of or information about the **TARGET DEVICES**'s Internet activity, including firewall logs, caches, browser history and cookies, "bookmarked" or "favorite" web pages, search terms that the user entered into any Internet search engine, and records of user-typed web addresses; and

17. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment.

18. The term "cellular telephone" includes all types of electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing devices performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, including desktop cellular telephones, notebook cellular telephones, mobile phones, tablets, server cellular telephones, and network hardware.

19. This CASS does not authorize law enforcement personnel to compel any other individuals found at the SUBECT PREMISES to provide biometric features, as described in the preceding paragraph, to access or otherwise unlock any DEVICE. Further, this warrant does not authorize law enforcement personnel to require that resident's state or otherwise provide the password or any other means that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICES, including by identifying the specific biometric characteristics (including the unique fingers or other physical features) that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICES.

20. This CASS authorizes a review of electronic storage media and electronically stored information seized or copied pursuant to this CASS in order to locate evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities described in this warrant. The review of this electronic data may be conducted by any government personnel assisting in the investigation, who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government,

attorney support staff, and technical experts. Pursuant to this warrant, NCIS may deliver a complete copy of the seized or copied electronic data to the custody and control of attorneys for the government and their support staff for their independent review.

Search Authorization

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.

CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

TO: Special Agent Jessica Gokey and other NCIS Agents

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by Special Agent Jessica Gokey

That there is reason to believe that on the person of and/or on the premises known as:
an Apple iPhone 15 Pro Max, in NCIS custody, an Apple watch, and additional cellphone (iPhone) located inside the barracks belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND

which is/are under my jurisdiction, there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See attachment B

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person and/or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of a command authorized search exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH the person and/or place named for the property specified and if the property is found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this authorization and receipt for the property taken. You will provide a signed receipt to this command, containing a full description of every item seized.

Any assistance desired in conducting this search will be furnished by this command.

Dated this 10 day of June, 2025.

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.10 17:18:32 -04'00'

Signature of Person Authorizing Search

CAPT, USN, Commanding Officer

Rank, Service, Title

NAVSTA Norfolk

Command

NCIS 5580/7 (Rev. 7-2021)

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

BEFORE the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia

The undersigned, being duly sworn, requests authority to search:
CSSN Jermiah Copeland's personal cellular telephone(s) and an Apple watch more particularly described in Attachment A.

Believing that there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See Attachment B.

The request for authorization to search and seize is made in connection with an investigation into the offense(s) of :
Article 107 (False Statements), Article 118 (Homicide), and Article 134 (Obstruction) of the UCMJ, more particuarly described in Attachment B to the attached affidavit.

The facts and circumstances known to me tending to establish the foregoing grounds for authorization to search and seize, including comments demonstrating the reliability of the information and/or informant, are as follows:
See attached Affidavit, incorporated herein by reference. [redacted]

[redacted]
Signature of Affiant
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 10 day of June, 2025.

[redacted]
Signature of Person Administering Oath

LT, USN, STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Rank, Service, Title

NCIS 5580/1 (1/2001) (Formerly NCISFORM 023/08-92)

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 04Jun25

I, CSSN Jermiah Copeland, after being advised by SA B.Duffy that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into Articles 86 and 107, have been requested to permit a search of my backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on 04Jun25 by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

Signed [redacted]

SA B.Duffy
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

[redacted]
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

[redacted]
Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

Start : 04JUN25 1241

End : 04JUN25 1244

NCIS 5580/21 (Rev. 7-2021)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF 18 USC 2703(D) COURT ORDER TO AT&T

1. On 04JUN25, LCDR Paul S. LAPLANTE, USN, Military Judge, signed a Court Order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2703(d) to AT&T for telephone number [redacted PII] for telephone records pertaining to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). Additionally, on 04JUN25, NCIS requested AT&T records pertaining to S/COPELAND under exigent circumstances.

2. On 04JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) served the Court Order to AT&T and received AT&T exigent reference number 4346012; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. On 04JUN25, AT&T provided the AT&T records pertaining to telephone number ([redacted PII]. A review of the AT&T subscriber information revealed the account belongs to S/COPELAND with an address of 300 A Avenue, Apt 1605, Fort Gregg Adams, VA 23801. The email provided is jermiahcopeland7@gmail.com. The account is currently active, and the service start date was listed as 23OCT23.

4. AT&T provided timing advances with device location, historical location information, mobility with cell location and wireline information. A review of the mobility records revealed S/COPELAND contacted CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, DDG 95, on 01JUN25 a total of five (5) times between 1902 EST and 1904 EST hours. No other telephone calls between S/COPELAND and V/[redacted V/A.R.] were noted.

5. A copy of the results were placed on a CD-R and appended as Enclosure (B).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) SIGNED 18 USC 2703(D) COURT ORDER TO AT&T/04JUN25
(B) RESULTS OF 18 USC 2703(D) COURT ORDER TO AT&T/04JUN25

REPORTED BY: TIFFANY L MARTINEZ, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 1 LAST DO V2 LNN

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
NORTHWEST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN RE APPLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR AN ORDER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d)	Case Identifier 02JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA
	Filed Under Seal

ORDER

The United States has submitted an application pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d), requesting that the Court issue an Order requiring AT&T Wireless, an electronic communications service provider and/or a remote computing service located in the United States, to disclose the records and other information described in Attachment A to this Order.

The Court finds that the United States has offered specific and articulable facts showing that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the records or other information sought are relevant and material to an ongoing criminal investigation.

The Court determines that there is reason to believe that notification of the existence of this Order will seriously jeopardize the ongoing investigation, including by giving targets an opportunity to flee or continue flight from prosecution, destroy or tamper with evidence, change patterns of behavior, or notify confederates. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2705(b)(2), (3), (5).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d), that AT&T Wireless shall, within ten days of the date of this Order, disclose to the United States the records and other information described in Attachment A to this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that AT&T Wireless shall not disclose the existence of the application of the United States, or the existence of this Order of the Court, to the subscribers of the account(s) listed in Attachment A, or to any other person, for 180 days from the date of this Order, except that AT&T Wireless may disclose this Order to an attorney for AT&T Wireless for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the application and this Order are sealed until otherwise ordered by the Court.

LAPLANTE.PAUL.SPENCER.[redacted] Digitally signed by LAPLANTE.PAUL.SPENCER.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.04 14:49:49 -07'00'

United States Military Judge

4 June 2025

Date:

ATTACHMENT A

I. The Account(s)

The Order applies to certain records and information associated with the following email account:

[redacted] 4307 between 29MAY25 through 01JUN25

II. Records and Other Information to Be Disclosed

AT&T Wireless is required to disclose the following records and other information, if available, to the United States for each account or identifier listed in Part I of this Attachment ("Account"):

A. The following information about the customers or subscribers of the Account:

1. Names (including subscriber names, user names, and screen names);
2. Addresses (including mailing addresses, residential addresses, business addresses, and e-mail addresses);
3. Local and long-distance telephone connection records with location of cellular telephone at the time of the connection;
4. Location history and/or data pings for the cellular telephone;
5. Records of session times and durations, location of telephone during data sessions, and the temporarily assigned network addresses (such as Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses) associated with those sessions;
5. Length of service (including start date) and types of service utilized;
6. Telephone or instrument numbers (including MAC addresses);
7. Other subscriber numbers or identities (including temporarily assigned network addresses and registration Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses (including carrier grade natting addresses or ports)); and

B. All records and other information (not including the contents of communications) relating to the Account, including:

1. Records of user activity for each connection made to or from the Account, including log files; messaging logs; the date, time, length, and method of connections; data transfer volume; user names; and source and destination Internet Protocol addresses;

2. Information about each communication sent or received by the Account, including the date and time of the communication, the method of communication, and the source and destination of the communication (such as source and destination email addresses, IP addresses, and telephone numbers).

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN RE APPLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR AN ORDER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d)	) Case Identifier: 02JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA) **Filed Under Seal**

APPLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES

FOR AN ORDER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d)

The United States of America, moving by and through its undersigned counsel, respectfully submits under seal this *ex parte* application for an Order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d). The proposed Order would require AT&T Wireless, an Internet Service Provider located in the United States, to disclose certain records and other information pertaining to Telephone Number [redacted] annotated in Attachment A. The records and other information to be disclosed are described in Attachment A to the proposed Order. In support of this application, the United States asserts:

LEGAL BACKGROUND

1. AT&T Wireless is a provider of an electronic communications service, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2510(15), and/or a remote computing service, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2711(2). Accordingly, the United States may use a court order issued under § 2703(d) to require AT&T Wireless, to disclose the items described in Part II of Attachment A. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(2) and 10 U.S.C. 846(c)(3) (Part II.A of Attachment A); 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(1) (Part II.B of Attachment A).

2. This Court has jurisdiction to issue the proposed Order because it is "a court of competent jurisdiction," as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2711. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d). Specifically, the Court is a court-martial or other proceeding under chapter 47 of title 10 (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), to which a military judge has been detailed. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2711(3)(C).

3. A court order under § 2703(d) "shall issue only if the governmental entity offers specific and articulable facts showing that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the contents of a wire or electronic communication, or the records or other information sought, are relevant and material to an ongoing criminal investigation." 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d). Accordingly, the next section of this application sets forth specific and articulable facts showing that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the records and other information described in Part II of Attachment A are relevant and material to an ongoing criminal investigation.

THE RELEVANT FACTS

1. On May 28, 2025, CSSN V/A.R. was known to be in the barracks room located at X-2 room 335B Rack A located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, which is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

2. According to COPELAND, V/A.R. came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

3. COPELAND stated V/A.R. called a "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, V/A.R. became emotional and began to cry.

4. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on 29 May 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving

for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

5. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see V/A.R. breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on V/A.R. stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if V/A.R. was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

6. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell V/A.R. was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

7. When interviewed by NCIS COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of 29 May 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND and V/A.R. were in a state of undress and V/A.R. waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

8. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and V/A.R. to V/A.R. residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

9. COPELAND's movements after dropping V/A.R. off at Miller Hall. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29 May 2025, 30 May 2025, 31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025, COPELAND was found by Base Police entering Naval Station Norfolk.

10. NCIS interview all remaining roommates of COPELAND who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and V/A.R. on the morning of 29 May 2025.

11. V/A.R. residence is located at Miller Hall, Unit 1083B. V/A.R. last entered her room, according to the door swipes, on 28 May 2025 at 1227 and at 2004 on 28 May 2025, into the common area only.

12. NCIS subpoenaed V/A.R. Navy Federal Credit Union banking records which show no activity since 28 May 2025.

13. V/A.R. cellphone has been pinged for last known location. The last known was approximately Latitude 36.896558 Longitude -76.435536, which appears to be located in Suffolk, VA

14. NCIS has been in contact with friends and family and as of today, there is no communication from V/A.R.

15. On June 3, 2025, NCIS interviewed COPELAND and he relayed his telephone number is PII 4307. Additionally, COPELAND's command advised COPELAND communicated with his command via telephone number [redacted]

16. Telephone number [redacted] is associated with New Cingular Wireless owned by AT&T Wireless.

REQUEST FOR ORDER

4. The facts set forth in the previous section show that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the records and other information described in Part II of Attachment A are relevant and material to an ongoing criminal investigation. Specifically, these items will help the United States to identify and locate the individual(s) who are responsible for the events described above, and to determine the nature and scope of their activities. Accordingly, the United States

requests that AT&T Wireless be directed to produce all items described in Part II of Attachment A to the proposed Order.

5. The United States further requests that the Order require AT&T Wireless not to notify any person, including the subscribers or customers of the account(s) listed in Part I of Attachment A, of the existence of the Order for 180 days from the date of the Order. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2705(b). This Court has authority under 18 U.S.C. § 2705(b) to issue "an order commanding a provider of electronic communications service or remote computing service to whom a warrant, subpoena, or court order is directed, for such period as the court deems appropriate, not to notify any other person of the existence of the warrant, subpoena, or court order." *Id.* In this case, such an order would be appropriate because the requested Order relates to an ongoing criminal investigation that is neither public nor known to all of the targets of the investigation, and its disclosure may alert the targets to the ongoing investigation. Accordingly, there is reason to believe that notification of the existence of the requested Order will seriously jeopardize the investigation, including by giving targets an opportunity to flee or continue flight from prosecution, destroy or tamper with evidence, change patterns of behavior, intimidate potential witnesses, or endanger the life or physical safety of an individual. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2705(b)(2), (3), (5). Some of the evidence in this investigation is stored electronically. If alerted to the investigation, the subjects under investigation could destroy that evidence, including information saved to their personal computers.

6. The United States further requests that the Court order that this application and any resulting order be sealed until further order of the Court. As explained above, these documents discuss an ongoing criminal investigation that is neither public nor known to all of

the targets of the investigation. Accordingly, there is good cause to seal these documents because their premature disclosure may seriously jeopardize that investigation.

Very Respectfully submitted,

MARTINEZ.TIFFANY.LYNN. PII Digitally signed by MARTINEZ.TIFFANY.LYNN. PII Date: 2025.06.04 15:43:46 -04'00'

Tiffany Martinez, Special Agent
Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Norfolk, Virginia

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on this 4th day of June, 2025.

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN

US v. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN



Exhibit 35 ENCLOSURE B

CD

Results of 2703d Court Order

to AT&T

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/ PII

RESULTS OF LICENSE PLATE READER NETWORK QUERIES

1. On 04Jun25, Investigative Analyst (IA) Mary OAKLEY coordinated with Newport News Police Department Criminal Intelligence Unit to conduct License Plate Reader (LPR) queries pertaining to the following vehicles of interest:

- Black 2015 Dodge Challenger 2 door- VA tags PII
- White 2014 Jeep 4 door- VA TEMP tags PII

Senior Law Enforcement Intelligence Analyst, Kristin MCMANUS, CIV, Newport News PD Intelligent Unit, produced LPR hit results on Wednesday, 28May25 between 0624-0758 HRS and Sunday, 01Jun25 between 1813-2121 HRS in the Norfolk and Suffolk areas only on VA tags PII. In relation to VA TEMP tags PII, hit results were 1937HRS on 27May25 at SB Granby Street and E Taussig Blvd, 1444 HRS on 01Jun25 at EB Admiral Taussig Blvd and Maryland Ave, and 0440 HRS on 02Jun25 at Hampton Blvd/W 25th Street.

2. On 07Jun25, additional queries were conducted in relation to a Blue 2004 Ford 2 door coupe with VA tags PII. Multiple hit results returned between Wednesday, 28May25 0613HRS and 05Jun25 2129 HRS. All hits were in the Norfolk and Portsmouth areas. At the request of Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, individual maps were created for each day by IA OAKLEY documenting the LPR hits to display time and direction of travel; Enclosure (A) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) VA PII MOVEMENT MAPS/VARIOUS DATES

REPORTED BY: MARY E OAKLEY, Representative
OFFICE: NORFOLK FIELD OFFICE

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1. BACKGROUND: On 04Jun25, at approximately 1315 hours, Reporting Agent (RA) Alison FOX, NCISRA Yorktown, was notified by Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Danielle ORTIZ, NCISRA Norfolk, suspected blood was observed in a stairwell of Willis Manor, Building X2, 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511 located on board Naval Station Norfolk. NCIS conducted an area canvass of Building X2 as part of proactive investigative efforts to locate CSSN V/A.R. [redacted] (V/ V/A R USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). NCIS visually inspected and focused on the hallway and stairwell closest in proximity to Room 335 located on the third floor, which was the known room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, a person of interest at the time of the investigation. SSA ORTIZ requested RA FOX respond to the area to document the scene and collect the suspected blood.

2. ARRIVAL AND JURISDICTION: On 04Jun25, at 1330 hours, RA FOX, and Participating Agents (PA) Joy NAROWSKI, NCISRA Yorktown, Dara ELK, NCISRA Portsmouth, and Lauren WATKINS, NCISRA Portsmouth conducted an examination of the stairwell. Willis Manor, Building X2 is located on board Naval Station Norfolk and is located within concurrent jurisdiction with Norfolk Police Department (NPD); however, NCIS maintains primary investigative jurisdiction due to V/ V/A.R. and S/COPELAND both being active-duty Navy service members.

3. SCENE SECURITY AND SEARCH AUTHORIZATION: No scene security was present upon RA FOX's arrival. There is no reasonable expectation of privacy within the stairwell. Therefore, no search authorization was required.

4. EXTERIOR OBSERVATIONS: Willis Manor, Building X2, is a military barracks located on board Naval Station Norfolk. Willis Manor, Building X2, is a five-story building with a parking lot located in front and to the side. The building is located between Maryland Ave and Virginia Ave. Figure [1] is a Google Maps image of Willis Manor, Building X2, depicting its relationship and orientation to the surrounding buildings. The black arrow was added to the image to depict the exit location of stairwell examined.

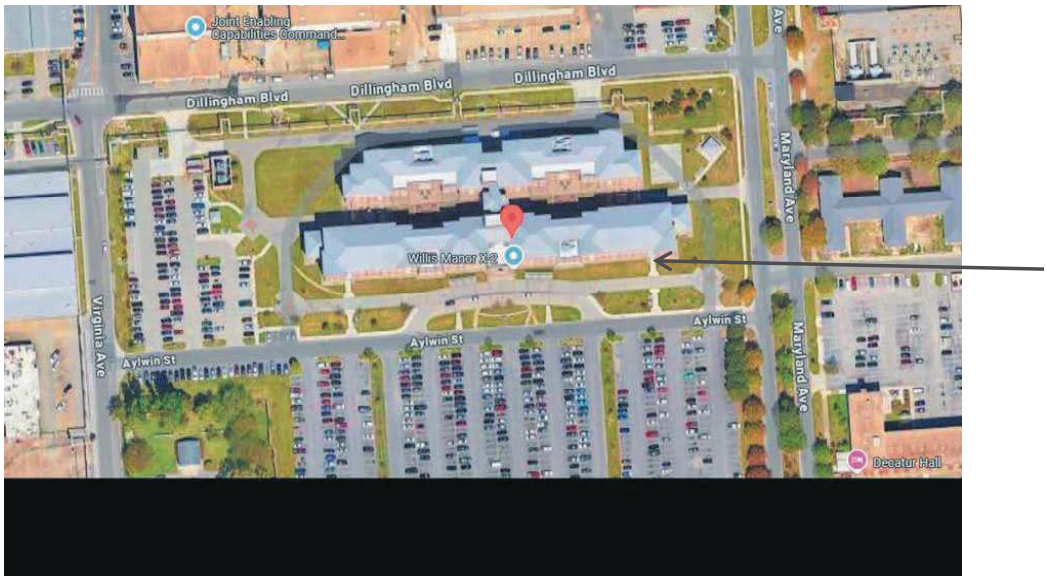


Figure 1 – Aerial view of Willis Manor, Building X2, on board Naval Station Norfolk (retrieved from Google Maps; 11Jun25).

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5. INTERIOR OBSERVATIONS: RA FOX responded to Corridor 3006, which is located on the third floor. Barracks Room 335 is located in this corridor, within the same hallway as Stairwell 5. Figures [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], and [7] depict the entry way into Corridor 3006, the door to S/COPELAND's room, and the stairwell entrance point from the third floor, which can be identified by the last exit sign in the corridor. The black arrow was added to Figure [6], which shows the last exit sign in the corridor.



Figure 2 – Image of Corridor 3006, which houses apartments 330-343 (DSC_6355).

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Figure 3 – Image of Corridor 3006, which houses apartments 330-343 (DSC_6356).

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Figure 4 – Image of Room 335 inside of Corridor 3006 (DSC_6357).



Figure 5 – Image of Room 335 inside of Corridor 3006, with last exit sign visible (DSC_6359

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Figure 6 – Image of last exit sign at the entrance to Stairwell 5 (DSC_6361).

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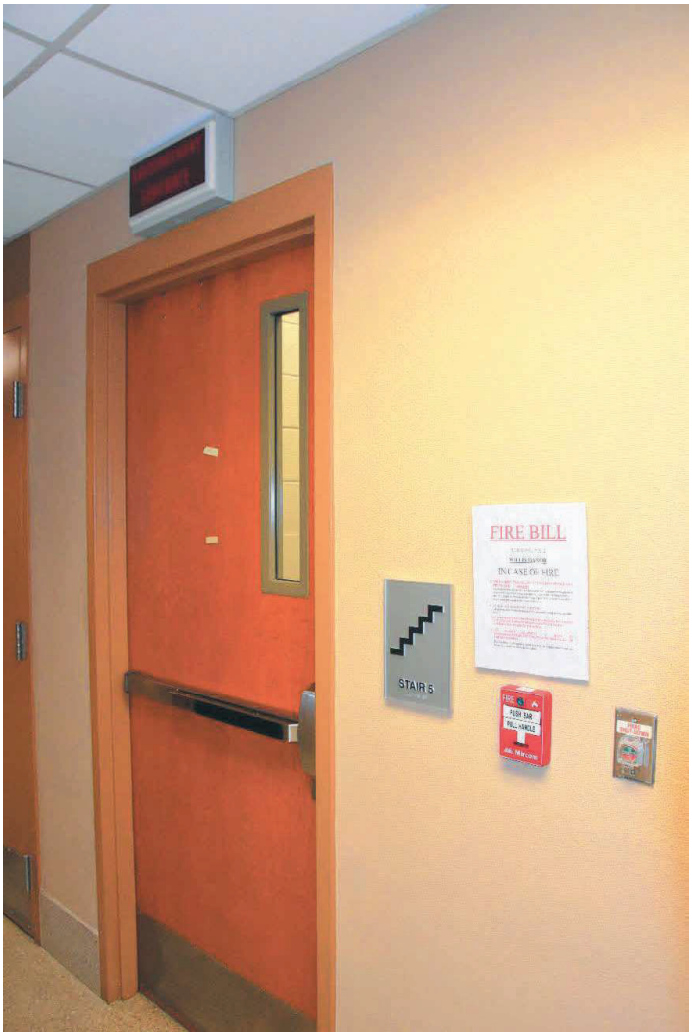


Figure 7 – Image of door to Stairwell 5 (DSC_6362).

6. STAIRWELL OBSERVATIONS: Multiple areas of reddish brown staining were observed in the stairwell between levels 1 and 3. These areas were marked with evidence placards and photographed. Figures [8], [9], and [10] depict overall photographs of the stairwell levels as they were found. Figures [11], [12], [13], [14], [15], and [16] depict midrange photographs of reddish brown stains observed in the stairwell. Figures [17], [18], [19], [20], [21], [22], [23], [24], [25], [26], [27], and [28] depict close up photographs of the aforementioned reddish brown stains.

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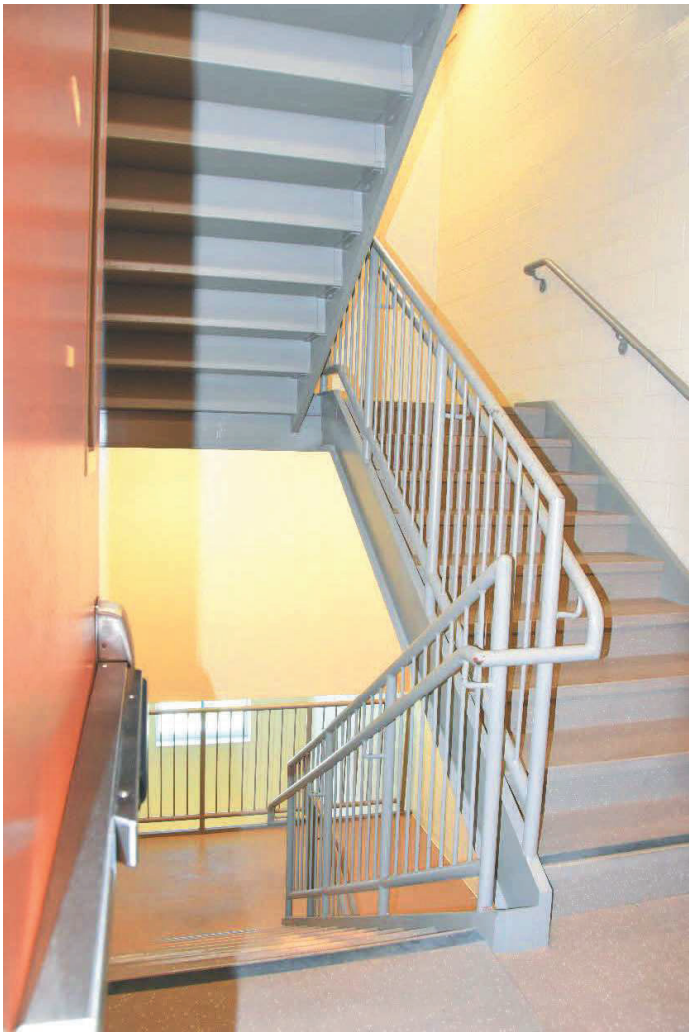


Figure 8 – Image from door to Stairwell 5 at level 3 (DSC_6363).

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Figure 9 – Image of Stairwell 5 in between levels 2 and 3, which depicts the door to the third level (DSC_6365).

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Figure 10 – Image of Stairwell 5 in between levels 2 and 3, which depicts the door to the second level (DSC_6367).

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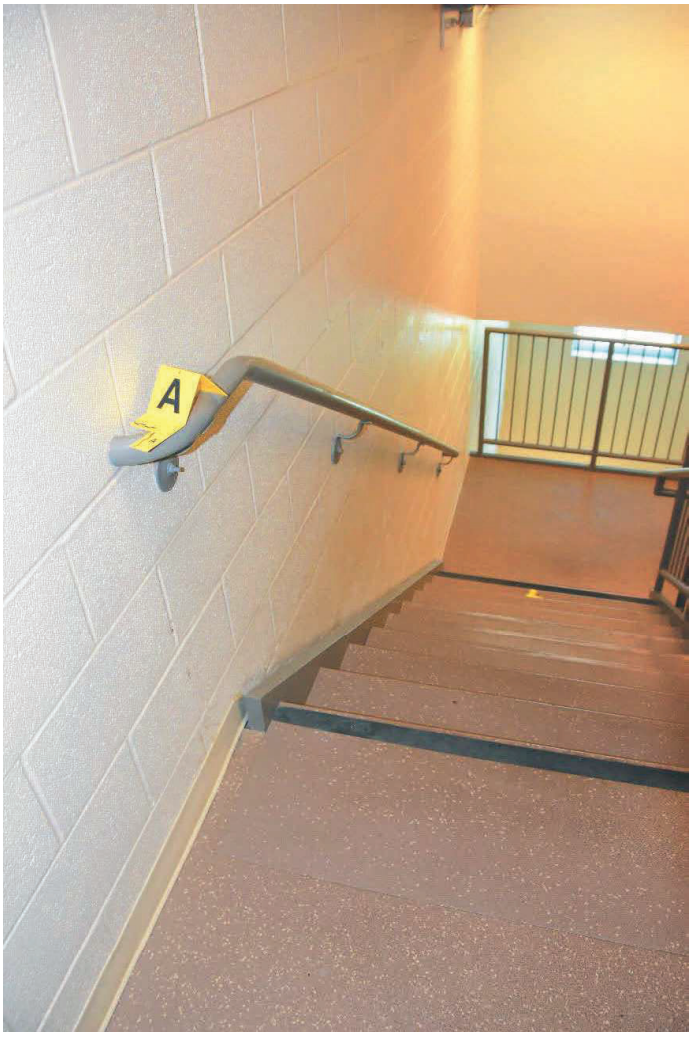


Figure 11 – Midrange photograph of stain on cement wall, which is located below the railing, marked with placard A (DSC_6369).

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Figure 12 – Midrange photograph of stains on stairs located between levels 2 and 3, marked with placards B, C, and D (DSC_6370).

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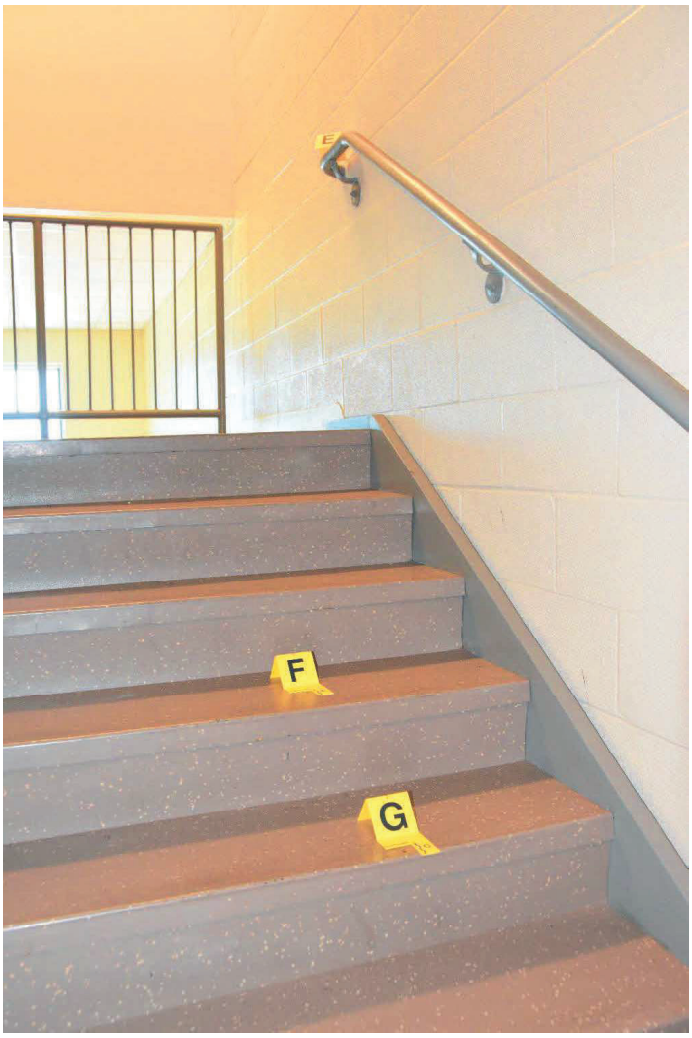


Figure 13 – Midrange photograph of stains on cement wall below railing and stairs located between levels 2 and 3, marked with placards E, F, and G (DSC_6400).

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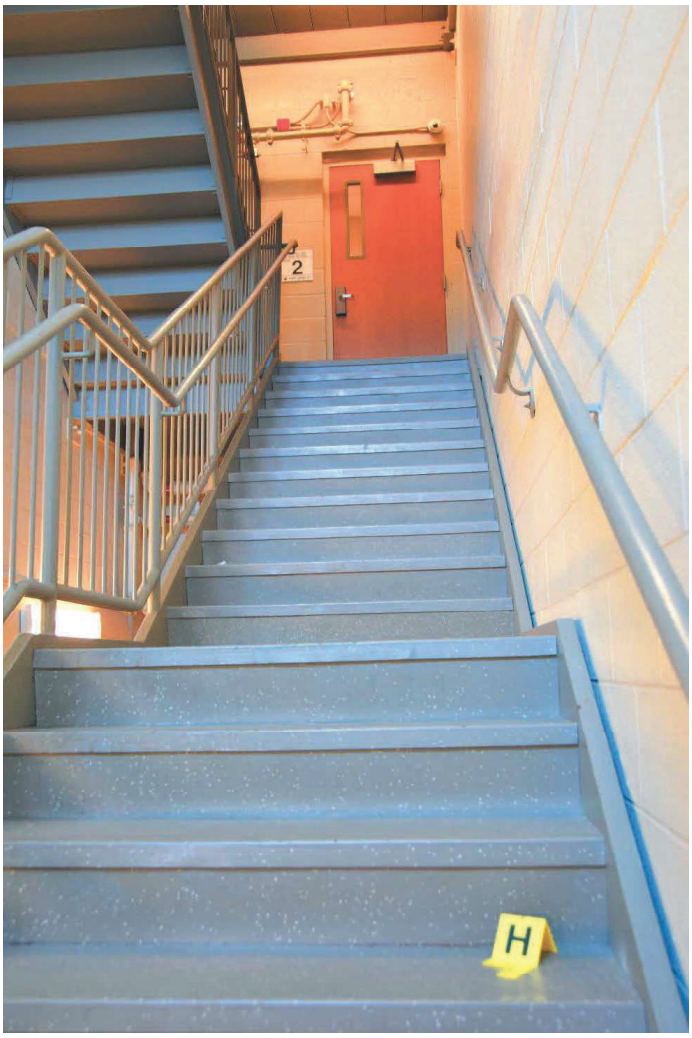


Figure 14 – Midrange photograph of stain on step between levels 1 and 2, marked with placard H (DSC_6418).

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Figure 15 – Midrange photograph of stains on floor and doorframe located on level 2, marked with placards I, J, and K (DSC_6408).



Figure 16 – Midrange photograph of stain on the underside of staircase, level 1, marked by the letter L (DSC_6422).

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Figure 17 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 3 (DSC_6382).

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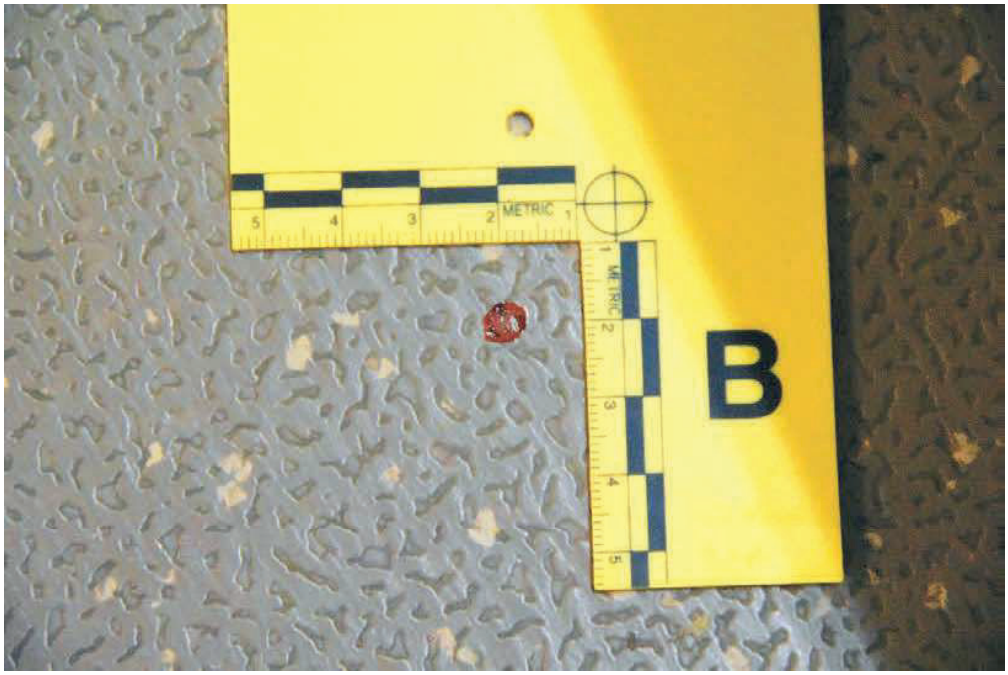


Figure 18 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6387).

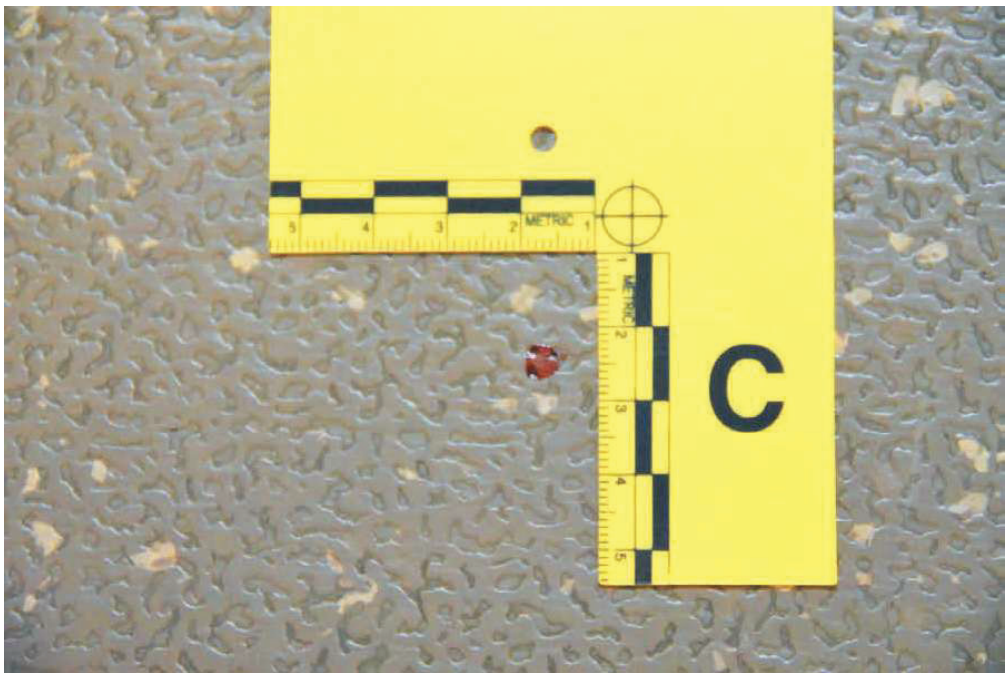


Figure 19 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6391).

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Figure 20 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6396).

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Figure 21 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6399).

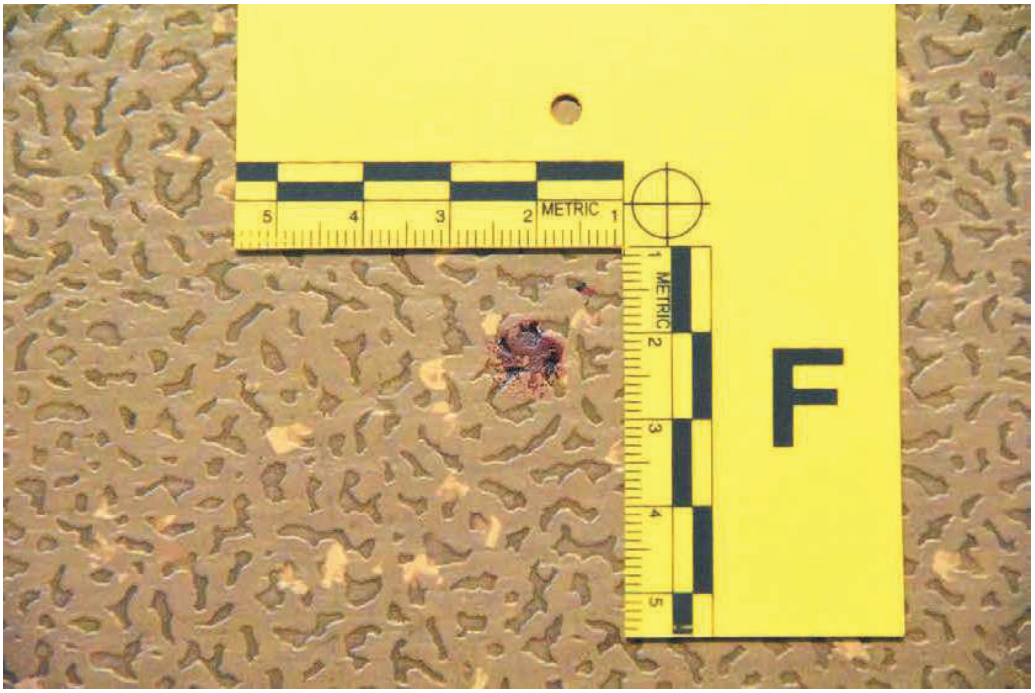


Figure 22 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6404).

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Figure 23 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6406).



Figure 24 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2 (DSC_6421).

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Figure 25 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 near door, level 2 (DSC_6410).

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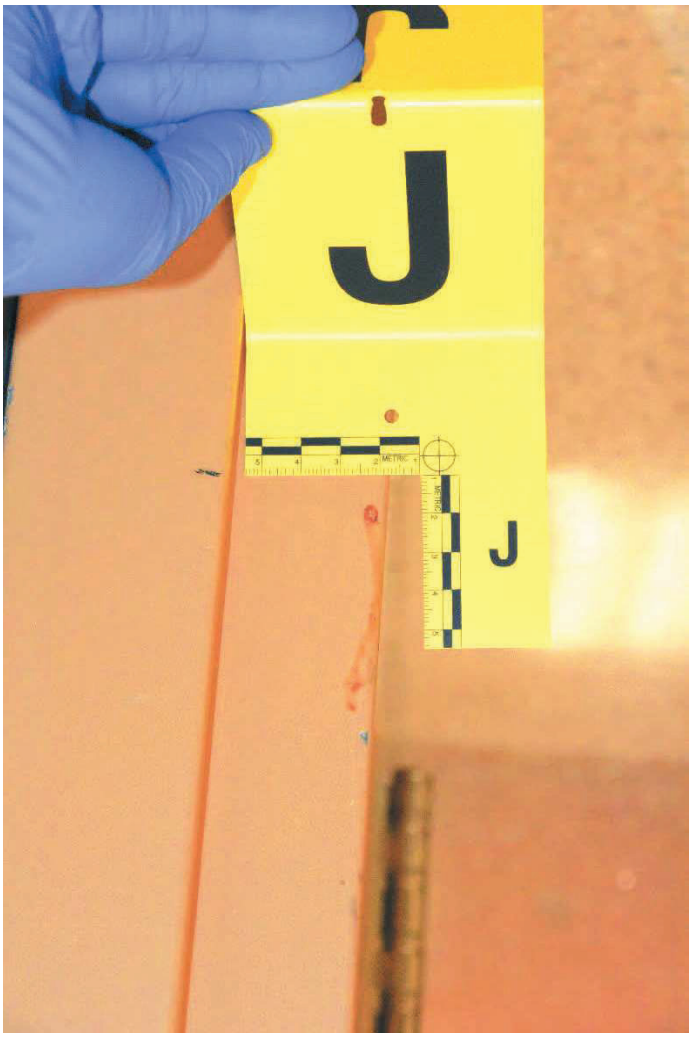


Figure 26 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 door frame, level 2 (DSC_6413).

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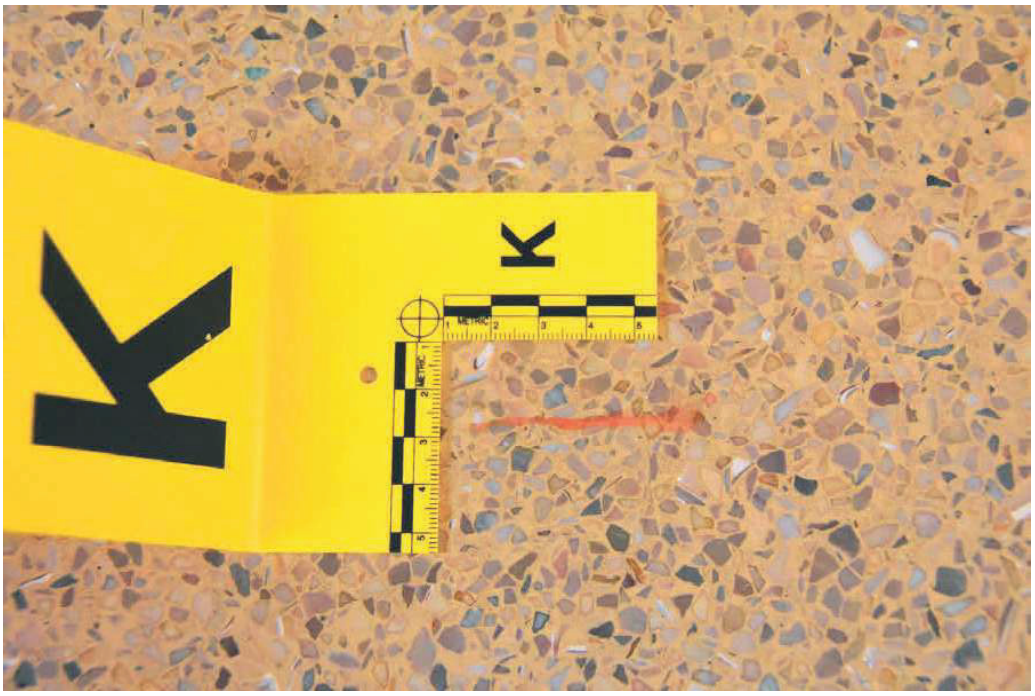


Figure 27 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 area near door, level 2 (DSC_6416).



Figure 28 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 1 (DSC_6426).

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7. SCENE PROCESSING: PA WATKINS completed photographic coverage of the area using a Nikon D7200 camera. A total of (73) digital images were captured, all of which were burned to a DVD-R and entered into the NCISRA Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility under Log EDAC7, Item RRDQ6. A copy of the DVD-R is appended as Enclosure (A). Forensic Consultant (FC) Morgan CURRIE completed 3D laser scans of the stairwell at a later date, the results of which will be reported under separate cover. RA FOX collected samples of the reddish brown stains. No presumptive testing was conducted during collection.

8. EVIDENCE SEIZURE: The following items were seized as evidence and entered into the NCISRA Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility under Log Number TKNM8:

Item GTRC2 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 3, placard (A)

Item 3F1W2 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (B)

Item 1L7PW - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (C)

Item JHXR7 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (D)

Item D6QNN - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (E)

Item MXQ1N - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (F)

Item 5CA0T - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (G)

Item 1K3RH - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2, placard (H)

Item 2KXCX - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, near door, level 2, placard (I)

Item 134B8 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 near door, level 2, placard (J)

Item 27UCQ - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 near door, level 2, placard (K)

Item MEFC2 - One swabs of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 1, placard (L)

Item DRD3B - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, level 3, placard (A)

Item GCL7Y - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (D)

Item 9K1GU - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (E)

Item HNRF1 - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2, placard (H)

Item NPRY1 - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, level 1, placard (L)

9. SCENE RELEASE: The scene examination concluded at approximately 1525 hours.

PARTICIPANT(S)
Dara ELK, Special Agent, NCISRA Portsmouth, VA
Joy NAROWSKI, Special Agent, NCISRA Yorktown, VA
Lauren WATKINS, Special Agent, NCISRA Portsmouth, VA

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: 73 PHOTOGRAPHS/04JUN25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF AREA CANVASS OF BUILDING X2

1. On 04Jun25, Reporting Investigator (RI) conducted an area canvass of Willis Manor, Building X2, Naval Station Norfolk, as part of proactive investigative efforts to locate CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). RI and PI MORLANG visually inspected and focused on the hallway and stairwell closest in proximity to Room 335 located on the third floor, which was the known room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

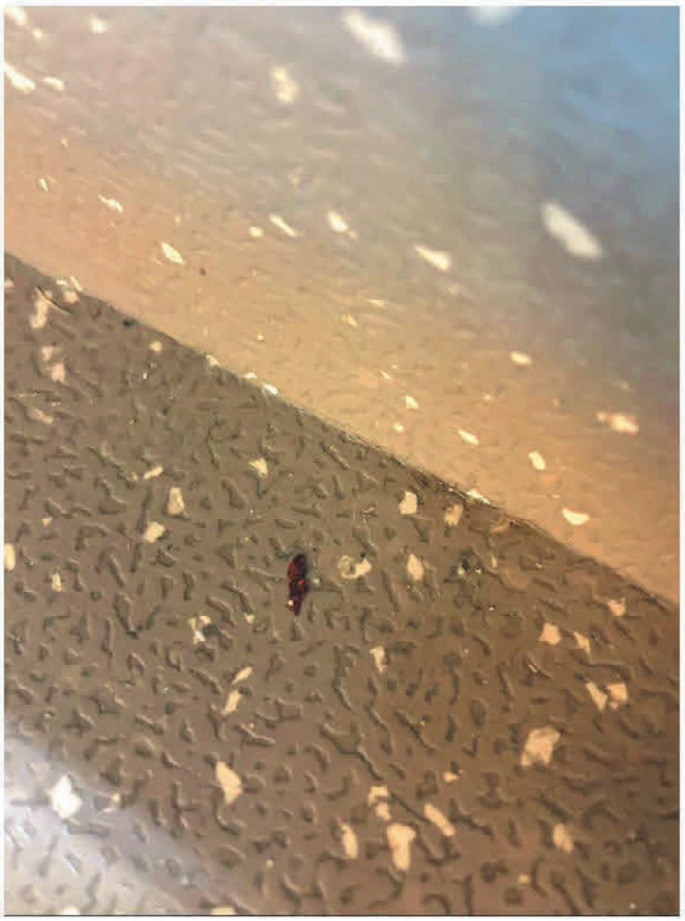
2. RI and PI MORLANG determined Stairwell 5 in Corridor 3006 to be the closest stairwell to Room 335. RI and PI MORLANG observed, upon entry into the stairwell, on the cinderblock wall were stains which were reddish brown in color. RI and PI MORLANG observed, on various stairs going down towards the ground level, between the third and first floors in Stairwell 5, were additional droplets which were also reddish brown in color.

3. PI MORLANG contacted PI Brad CANNING to advise him of the visual findings located in Stairwell 5. PI CANNING advised the Major Case Response Team (MCRT) would be responding to process the location. The results of the MCRT documentation of Stairwell 5 will be provided under separate cover.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PHOTO TEMPLATE: 4 PHOTOS OF SUSPECTED SUBSTANCE/04JUN25

REPORTED BY: JOHN M KOWALSKI, Investigator
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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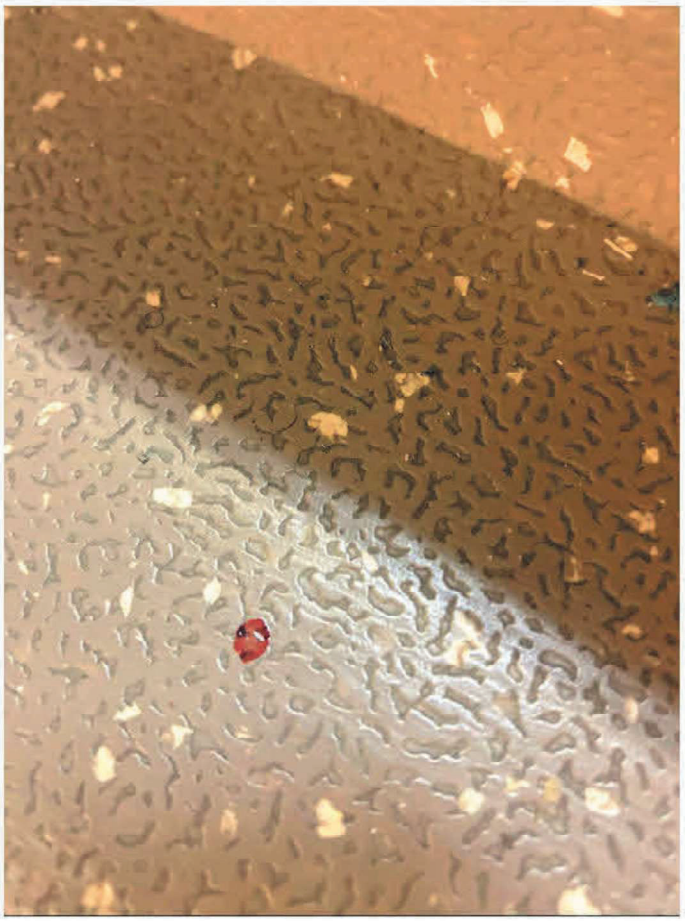
1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: INV John KOWALSKI
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Picture depicting X2 Stairwell 5 where suspected reddish brown substance was seen.		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 04JUN25

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (1) OF (4)

ENCLOSURE (A)

000377_COPELAND



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: INV John KOWALSKI
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Picture depicting X2 Stairwell 5 where suspected reddish brown substance was seen.		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 04JUN25

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PHOTOGRAPH (2) OF (4)

ENCLOSURE (A)

000378_COPELAND



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: INV John KOWALSKI
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Picture depicting X2 Stairwell 5 where suspected reddish brown substance was seen.		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 04JUN25

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PHOTOGRAPH (3) OF (4)

ENCLOSURE (A)

000379_COPELAND



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: INV John KOWALSKI
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Picture depicting X2 Stairwell 5 where suspected reddish brown substance was seen.		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 04JUN25

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PHOTOGRAPH (4) OF (4)

ENCLOSURE (A)

000380_COPELAND

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted]

RESULTS OF SEARCH WARRANT FOR V/[redacted] GOOGLE ACCOUNT

1. On 05JUN25, LCDR Paul S. LAPLANTE, USN, Military Judge, signed a Search Warrant for records pertaining to a Google, LLC account belonging to CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted]), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. On 05JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) served the Search Warrant to Google, LLC for V/[redacted] Google account identified as "[redacted]" Google provided reference number 96389416; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. On 05JUN25, Google provided the results for V/[redacted] Google account. The results revealed the account name is listed as [redacted]." The account was created on 14DEC19, and the account was last updated and logged into on 21MAY25. The recovery SMS lists telephone number [redacted]-2058. Additionally, the account revealed Internet Protocol (IP) address 174.77.94.243 had a failed log in attempt on two (2) occasions on 02JUN25 at approximately 1954 EST hours and 2000 EST hours. No other pertinent information was obtained.

4. A copy of the results were placed on a DVD-R and is appended as Enclosure (B).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) SIGNED SEARCH WARRANT FOR V/[redacted] GOOGLE ACCOUNT/05JUN25
(B) DVD-R: SEARCH WARRANT RESULTS FROM V/[redacted] GOOGLE ACCOUNT/05JUN25

REPORTED BY: TIFFANY L MARTINEZ, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 1 LAST DO V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 07JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN

1. On 07JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Devin RUIC conducted an interview of ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), regarding the captioned investigation involving CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, DDG-95, and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95.

2. RA recorded the interview of ET3 RICH using an audio/visual recording system, and RA downloaded a digital copy onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. ET3 RICH stated he first met V/[redacted V/A.R.] circa SEP24 when he went "cranking" to assist the Culinary Specialists aboard DDG-95. The term "cranking" was used to describe a temporary duty unrelated to ET3 RICH's traditionally rated duties.

4. ET3 RICH stated V/[redacted V/A.R.] would have days where she had "little panic attacks" and would want to go for a drive to Virginia Beach or to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. ET3 RICH recalled V/[redacted V/A.R.] would sometimes start having "panic attacks" when they would consume alcohol. V/[redacted V/A.R.] would talk about her father, who was in prison, and would become concerned for her own safety when discussing his future release from prison. ET3 RICH believed V/[redacted V/A.R.] father was in prison because V/[redacted V/A.R.] "reported him," and believed her father had forced her to take drugs and "forced himself" on her. ET3 RICH indicated V/[redacted V/A.R.] claimed her father intended to "find her" upon his release from prison.

5. ET3 RICH stated there are certain "cues" with V/[redacted V/A.R.] that resulted with "panic attacks" in the past. ET3 RICH clarified V/[redacted V/A.R.] often displayed these cues during the "build-up to sex." ET3 RICH stated if V/[redacted V/A.R.] was not "feeling it" and sexual contact continued, V/[redacted V/A.R.] would have a "meltdown." ET3 RICH stated he had an experience with V/[redacted V/A.R.] where she "pushed away" and locked herself in the bathroom. ET3 RICH explained that during this incident, both he and V/[redacted V/A.R.] had still been clothed, but had begun to engage in an intimate act. ET3 RICH recalled having to "talk her down" through a bathroom door in hopes of calming her down. ET3 RICH relayed another incident when they were talking about V/[redacted V/A.R.] father, wherein she ran out of his room, and he looked for her for 30 minutes until she came back.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA 07JUN25

6. ET3 RICH relayed V/ V/A.R. was in a relationship with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, until DEC24. ET3 RICH stated a lot of V/ V/A.R. belongings were in HT3 GILLESPIE's room while they were dating. After V/ V/A.R. and HT3 GILLESPIE broke up, ET3 RICH helped V/ V/A.R. move her stuff out of HT3 GILLESPIE's room. ET3 RICH relayed he started dating V/ V/A.R. circa DEC24 and believed they broke up circa MAY25. ET3 RICH stated while he was in a relationship with V/ V/A.R. they would primarily sleep in his room. ET3 RICH stated he and V/ V/A.R. broke up because she was "going through some stuff" and wanted to "work on herself."

7. ET3 RICH relayed on 29MAY25, he received a call from V/ V/A.R. at 0214 hours local time and she was "freaking out" and requested a "pick-up ASAP." ET3 RICH remembered V/ V/A.R. was crying and having a "meltdown." ET3 RICH recalled hearing "car noises" and believed V/ V/A.R. may have been outside. V/ V/A.R. passed the phone to another individual who ET3 RICH later "found out" was S/COPELAND. ET3 RICH relayed the person V/ V/A.R. passed the phone to asked how long it would take for ET3 RICH to arrive, to which ET3 RICH responded he was about ten to fifteen minutes away. ET3 RICH relayed he went through the gate to Norfolk Naval Station at 0228 hours and attempted to call V/ V/A.R. multiple times, but she did not pick up. ET3 RICH checked V/ V/A.R. location and saw that it was outside of the "X2 building" near the rounded driveway drop off area located in front of the building. As a note, the X2 building is also identifiable as Willis Manor, a barracks located onboard Norfolk Naval Station at 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511. ET3 RICH stated V/ V/A.R. was not there, and her phone was not there, and he started "freaking out a little bit." ET3 RICH showed pictures of V/ V/A.R. to people working at the front desk of X2, not further identified by ET3 RICH, but they were unsure if they recognized seeing her. ET3 RICH checked the front area of X2 to see if he could see her phone in the grass and did not find it. ET3 RICH went back inside X2; the individuals working the front desk suggested he call his command and the local precinct on base to report his concerns.

8. ET3 RICH attempted to call the base police office, but did not receive a response. ET3 RICH drove to base police and notified them of the situation. ET3 RICH estimated he called HT3 GILLESPIE around 0300 hours while he was with base police and HT3 GILLESPIE joined him at X2 around 0430 hours to help look for V/ V/A.R. ET3 RICH added HT3 GILLESPIE called him earlier on 29MAY25 at 0120 and 0143 hours, but he was asleep and missed the calls. ET3 RICH did not know why HT3 GILLESPIE called him that morning, but presumed it had to do with HT3 GILLESPIE's own concern for V/ V/A.R. ET3 RICH stated HT3 GILLESPIE was coming off duty from the ship that morning. ET3 RICH remembered he had to end the call with HT3 GILLESPIE because his Command Duty Officer (CDO) was calling him back.

9. ET3 RICH believed V/ V/A.R. phone died around 0430 hours on 29MAY25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **07JUN25**

due to her phone's location no longer saying "Live" and instead showing "Last Location" in his iPhone's "Find My" application.

10. Around 0500 hours, HT3 GILLESPIE stayed at X2 to continue looking for V/ V/A.R. and ET3 RICH drove to V/ V/A.R. barracks at Miller Hall, accompanied by two Masters-at-Arms (MAs) and waited for the Resident Advisors (RA) to arrive and unlock her door. ET3 RICH relayed the MAs accessed V/ V/A.R. room around 0630 hours, but V/ V/A.R. was not there. ET3 RICH stated the MAs did not permit him to go into her room but he peeked his head in and noticed the room looked like a photo or video of a "Fit Check" V/ V/A.R. sent to her friend CSSN Gladys GARCIABARRERA, USN, DDG-95 on 28MAY25. ET3 RICH noticed the only thing that appeared missing was her backpack. ET3 RICH remembered HT3 GILLESPIE met him at Miller Hall to assist in searching. ET3 RICH remembered going back to X2 with HT3 GILLESPIE after searching Miller Hall. ET3 RICH estimated he concluded his search and left base to go to work around 0730 hours.

11. ET3 RICH stated HT3 GILLESPIE called him between 0800 and 0900 hours on 29MAY25 and told ET3 RICH he had checked S/COPELAND's room and did not see V/ V/A.R. and S/COPELAND in the room. ET3 RICH recalled hearing from HT3 GILLESPIE that "the bed was made" and nothing looked "messed up." ET3 RICH believed it was possible HT3 GILLESPIE found out V/ V/A.R. was with S/COPELAND from CSSN GARCIABARRERA.

12. ET3 RICH recalled there was an "All Hands Call" around 1000 hours on 29MAY25 and remembered a Chief pulled him aside and told him V/ V/A.R. was found with S/COPELAND in S/COPELAND's room and that he could "relax." ET3 RICH learned FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, was the person who found S/COPELAND and V/ V/A.R. and messaged him via "GroupMe." FCC PARKER told him V/ V/A.R. was ok and safe" and affirmed he had seen V/ V/A.R. that day.

13. ET3 RICH stated he recently attempted to find V/ V/A.R. location on the morning of 07JUN25 as well as when he was at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) on 06JUN25. ET3 RICH stated ETC Donald ACKLEY, USN, DDG-95 escorted him to NMCP for a Command Referral to Behavioral Health. ET3 RICH relayed he attempted to sign into V/ V/A.R. Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) account and her email account a few times on 03JUN25 or 04JUN25 on his laptop and desktop while at his barracks; ET3 RICH explained he had attempted to login to V/ V/A.R. accounts using saved passwords, as V/ V/A.R. previously borrowed and used the laptop. ET3 RICH further explained he had attempted the logins on both the barracks-wide Wi-Fi network, and on his own Wi-Fi network later in his room.

14. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for the collection of his DNA via buccal swabs; Enclosure (B) pertains. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure of his MSI brand

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Laptop, SN: K2309N0254935, documented in a separate report; Enclosure (C) pertains. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for his Apple iPhone 14 Pro, SN: M1YXLVYPWD, documented in a separate report; Enclosure (D) pertains.

15. Subsequent to the completion of this interview, PA accompanied ET3 RICH to his barracks room to facilitate the execution of the signed PASS. During that search, NCIS personnel identified instructional paperwork associated with pregnancy tests in his room. ET3 RICH explained that in approximately MAR25, exact date not recalled, he and V/ V/A.R. had engaged in unprotected sex after consuming alcohol and afterward ET3 RICH could not recall whether he "pulled out" to avoid ejaculating in V/ V/A.R. ET3 RICH and V/ V/A.R. acquired multiple pregnancy tests from a local CVS, located in the vicinity of the Old Dominion University Campus, and waited approximately two weeks before conducting the tests. ET3 RICH reported that the test results were negative, indicating V/ V/A.R. had not become pregnant from the incident.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

DOD ID: PII
DOB: PII
PHONE NUMBER: PII

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/07JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE FOR DNA BUCCAL SWABS FROM ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/07JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF ET3 DANIEL RICH'S MSI BRAND LAPTOP SN: K2309N0254935/07JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF ET3 DANIEL RICH'S APPLE IPHONE 14 PRO SN: M1YXLVYPWD, USN/07JUN25

REPORTED BY: CORRIE FYLE, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF AREA CANVASSING IN SUFFOLK, VA

1. On 05Jun25, NCIS, Suffolk Police Department, and Suffolk Fire and Rescue conducted a canvassing search of the area surrounding College Dr., in Suffolk, VA. Based on the last known location ping of the cell phone belonging to CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), and in coordination with NCIS Intelligence Analyst Wynter EDWARDS, the area surrounding College Dr. was determined to be an area of interest in searching for V/[redacted V/A.R.] and her cell phone.

2. The search was conducted utilizing drones, specialized canines, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), and search teams on foot. Suffolk Police Department and Suffolk Fire and Rescue stated they will provide NCIS with the documentation of the search. The receipt and review of the documentation will be documented under separate cover.

3. Maps indicating the areas searched are appended as Enclosure (A). A list of NCIS, Suffolk Police Department, and Suffolk Fire and Rescue personnel present during the search is appended as Enclosure (B).

4. No items were found, and no additional leads were developed from this search.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PHOTO TEMPLATE: MAPS OF AREA SEARCHED/05JUN25
(B) PERSONNEL PRESENT/05JUN25

REPORTED BY: CAROLINE E ROBINSON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF RAPID DNA ANALYSIS

1. On 05JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA), Forensic Consultant (FC) Morgan CURRIE, and Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Danielle ORTIZ attended a preliminary rapid DNA test, operated by Special Agent Seymour LOPEZ, Virginia State Police (VSP).

2. Four (4) samples of DNA were provided for comparison to the ANDE Rapid DNA system, specifically:

Sample 1: A buccal swab provided by Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV (EMP Item 3N718).

Sample 2: A swab of suspected blood from X2 barracks stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2 (EMP Item HNRF1).

Sample 3: A swab of suspected blood from the left rear corner of S/COPELAND's closet (EMP Item 4DT6A).

Sample 4: A swab of suspected blood from X2 barracks stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (EMP Item GCL7Y).

3. The ANDE Rapid DNA system yielded the following results:

Sample 1, the anchor for all other samples to be compared to with familial DNA, was processed as "low" DNA detection which is unsuitable for comparison.

Samples 2 and 3 were determined to be a "mixture," meaning that at least two (2) human DNA profiles were detected (Note: The ANDE Rapid DNA system cannot parse and compare mixtures).

Sample 4 displayed an error code and no human DNA was detected.

4. In summary, the analysis was inconclusive because CASTLE's buccal swab did not contain sufficient DNA to compare other samples to and also because Samples 2 and 3 were mixtures which would not be able to be parsed and compared to Sample 1, even if it were to have sufficient DNA from CASTLE.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **05JUN25**

REPORTED BY: LISA CARROLL, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

PAGE 2 LAST DO V2 LNN

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Placeholder for Enclosure 37:
CD of CSSN Copeland's Recorded Interview of 6 Jun 25


ENCL. 37
maxell
DVD-R
4.7
16x
DVD
6 JUN 25

NCIS INTERVIEW ICO CSSN JEREMIAH COPELAND

SA GEREL: Today's date is 6 June 2025, at the NCIS Norfolk U-40 office. Approximate time is 0842. Polygraph and interview to be administered by Tyler Mann and David Gerel under session approval number 2025-2121 in regards to the missing person and or possible death of V/A.R. This interview is of Jeremiah Copeland, United States Navy, E-3.

[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland entered the room at timestamp 0:04:19.]

SA GEREL: All right, good morning. So, my name's David. I'm a part of the investigative team. I'm a special agent here at NCIS.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: This is my partner, Tyler Mann.

SA MANN: How are you?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm doing all right.

SA GEREL: We--we're part of the team, but also polygraph examiners.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, I'm going to check with you about the things that involving V/A.R. and her whereabouts and things like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we have been told that you had--had previously talked to and had been interested in taking a polygraph to confirm some of the stuff they asked you about.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's part of what we're here to do today. The--the main focus for the team, which includes us and--and I believe you as well, is to make sure that we can figure out where she's at and she's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. Do you have any questions about any of that so far?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. Very good. So, what they're doing, they've been working real hard, and--and they're trying to kind of take pieces of thoughts as to who might know as much as possible, and then, once they're done with it, put aside so they can focus on other stuff. So, you know, they talked to you--you still seem to be the last person that they can confirm actually had laid eyes on her.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: So, as you might imagine, you're pretty interesting to them as far as what, you know,

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we want to go ahead and--and take some of those big questions off the table with the polygraph so that they can move from you and then handle some other stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: How's that sound to you?

CSSN COPELAND: Do I have to take the polygraph?

SA GEREL: No, no, no, no. So, a couple things on that. And--and it's good for you to know this, and and--and involving yourself with--with NCIS for law enforcement, you never have to do anything. You're--you're--you're a grown man. You make decisions about your involvement. You definitely don't have to do this.

In fact, we need you to want to do this if you--if you want to be successful. It does not help us to offer you a test that you don't want to do or you feel uncomfortable with. So----

CSSN COPELAND: I want to--because I have stuff that I--I have to do today.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah. I gotcha. I would ask a favor for you, though.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Like, I--I'd like you to hear a bit about it before you make your full decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: And--and then, after you hear about it, kind of what we're interested in, what we're doing, then you can make a good decision about it. And--and, I can assure you that we can do pretty big things in terms of helping you with your day. So, if there's something in your day that you're concerned about, I'm pretty sure we can help you adjust that.

But I--I don't really know for sure. So, I'd want--want to hear what your--what your concern would be. So, does that make sense? So, I--I--you--you have the request that will you listen to us explain, kind of more about what the polygraph is and what we can do for you with it, before you make that decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Is that cool? Okay. Cool. So, okay, good. So, call me David. This is Tyler. Feel free to be first name with us. All right. What do you like me to call you?

CSSN COPELAND: You can just call me Cope or Jay.

SA GEREL: Cope or Jay,. Okay. Got it. All right. Which do you prefer?

CSSN COPELAND: Jay.

SA GEREL: Jay. Okay. All right, Jay. All right. So, the decision to take the polygraph is--is, you know, it's a big one. So, it's not something people, like, just say, "Yeah, I can't wait to take a polygraph." It's something that sometimes people will,

you know, think about and--and even go into a little apprehensiveness.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: It's very normal. It's also very normal for--for a case like this to--to--for it to be used multiple times.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And--and that's because, like, we're--we're getting information, we're confirming information, and then, keep moving on because our goal is to--to find her safely.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, if they're spending time thinking about you and they don't need to be, let's let them help them not by thinking about something else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: This is the concept. So, how a polygraph goes is we would go through a few forms. After we do the forms, we would, all the--the way through answering questions you have, we tell you what--what we know about the case, we share with you what you know about the case, make sure we're all on the same page with that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: And maybe we'll often find more details that we can push back to the main investigative team, and can help, and say that was

very helpful. And then, after that, we talk about the questions that we were considering asking you on polygraph.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: You would know what those questions are. You have a chance to talk about them, explain them, be comfortable with them. Once you're good and solidly comfortable with those questions, we explain how the test goes. We--we'd run the test and then, we would--we'd tell you how you did. And we'd tell the--the agents and the command how you did.

So, it gives people really quick information. And--and then, you know, if we--we'll talk all the--the way through. So, that's kind of the process.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: There's some significant talking upfront. I'd say probably at least an hour, sometimes a little bit more than that. That test itself is pretty quick. I mean, I say 15 minutes. After that, we talk through the results and see if there is any questions you have all the way through. We can--we treat you like you're a guest in our house, so if you need stuff like food, water, bathroom breaks, anything that would make you more comfortable, we'll do our best to accommodate that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: We want you to be as comfortable as you can through the process. You're in full control of the whole thing, all the way through.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: I gotcha.

SA GEREL: Is that something, hearing that, that you could be more interested in?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really. Like, I mean, I haven't even had, like, a normal time to even sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, every day they came and raided my room. You know, I got the chain of command talking about I got to come in. I got fucking Captain's Mast today.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, there's a whole bunch of stuff. And it's, like, my mental health, honestly, like, my mental health----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----going downhill.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Because it's just so much, like, you know, I'm trying to pretty much, like, you know, comprehend what's happening.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just every day it's something new. Something new. Something new.

SA GEREL: Okay. Well, your--your mental health is very important to us. So--so tell me--tell me more about that.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just something new every day.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know, it's not, even with this situation going on, I got family stuff going on. I got stuff in my life going on.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And it's--everything's just piling up. I'm getting--like, it's, like I'm getting stuck in a hole right now.

SA GEREL: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: So----

SA GEREL: All right. So, I hear you and--and what I'd like to do is the--the two forms that we typically do up front, where we will do the usual rights advisement, that you would get when anytime you talk to NCIS.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: I'm tempted--I'd like to--to offer you that, just to kind of make sure you kind of see the whole platform.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And--and then, that way we can talk, even a little bit more in-depth about how you're feeling and what we might be able to

do to help you feel a little bit better about that. But I don't want to do too much with that until we--we cover that first form because, your--your understanding of what--who we are and what we do is very important to me.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: And it should be important to you.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: So, with your permission, I'd like to go through that form with you, the first one. Just the rights advisement.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: And so, it's the--and you--you've been through it before. It's basically where we read you your rights. Like you have the right to remain silent and stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: I'd like to go through it with you. There's one that's a little--one piece of it's a little different on this form than what was talked about last time, and I want to have a chance to explain that to you. But, again, I--I--if you're telling me you don't want to do this, like, I'm not going to make you even do this part.

CSSN COPELAND: Because it's just like I haven't even had, like, a normal day where I can just try and rest.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: This whole week, the past week, it's just been hell for me.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, let's say I do it, then it's going to be more.
SA GEREL: Maybe.
CSSN COPELAND: Sign more papers. I got to come in and keep doing more stuff.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Maybe.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, it's just too much stuff going on from there.
SA GEREL: So--so maybe, maybe not. And that's what I wanted to spend a little more time talking to you about, because some of the stress and pressure that you're feeling might get dramatically decreased once this is over. Okay? But again, I--I feel--I don't feel perfectly comfortable getting into those details without at least making sure you understand your rights.
CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: But I would love to share with you how I think that might help you, if you're cool with that.
CSSN COPELAND: That's fine.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, before I do, Tyler, you--you got anything you--you want to say?
SA MANN: I mean, so can I--Jay, if you don't mind. Just with this, I know you're, like, my world is just spiraled. Right? And I get

it. This is a whirlwind. But the only advocate portion I'm going to sort of pitch you is this. What this will theoretically do if it--if--if you're forthcoming with us and we get to talk about all these topics here momentarily and put that all behind you, that on paper is going to make a lot of this stop.

So, you're still going to have some command things to maybe deal with. Family stuff is family stuff. I feel you. We all got to deal with that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: But at least it'll get this--this piece. Like, the NCIS piece will more than likely go--minimize. I'm not going to make a promise that that's going to happen, but----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----if this goes well and they say, "Hey, like we don't have to worry about him anymore. He's not on our, you know, interesting list of people anymore, not the most interesting man in the world." Like, we can sort of put you on the back burner. That invasiveness will likely decrease a significant amount.

So, I know you're, like, I just want all this shit behind me, and I get it, dude. I would want the same, like, if I'm sitting in here seat, I'm, like, Jesus, just give me, like, a day to be myself. Like, I'm 20 years old. What in the world am I getting into? Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So, that's why we're trying to do it is just to give you--you a little, hey, this--this can be an exit ramp for some of that baggage to go a separate way. And then, you can focus more on your family. You can focus more on you. Other things that are important.

And, you know, we can--whatever those are. If you're happy to share them, I'm happy to hear them. But, you know, I think that those are the things you should focus on, you know, family, obviously, first over everything. So, hopefully, we can take this off your plate by getting the polygraph out of the way. That's just my kind of piece from hearing what you're saying. And then, does that resonate? Am I on the right track with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Are we on the same page?

CSSN COPELAND: Gotcha. I appreciate you.

SA MANN: But yeah, I'll--I'll go back to that. That's kind of just the step we've got----

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

SA MANN: ----to go through.

SA GEREL: Cool. Are you--you comfortable just doing the first step and then talking a little bit more? We're not going to make you make a decision one way or the other.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, what do you--what's the form?

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah.

So, it's the Military Rights Waiver form and you've--you've seen this one before, so the form itself isn't that different. The thing I wanted to make sure that I shared with you to get the chance I can explain it is--is this part right here.

Okay. So, this is the rights waiver form. We do this before every polygraph, also before we talk to people. That's me and my partner. This is where we're at. So--so we want to talk to you today about, again, I'll explain all this, but making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CCSN V/A.R.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. So, this--a couple things here. So, we don't really care about the things you've said so far. I--I know that we're telling you you're suspected of making some things--some statements that might not be accurate. I want to make sure you know, all the--the way from the beginning of the end, that is not our focus.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You're suspected of it because, and that means we've got to let you know----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: ----that we're going to talk about it. But nobody's been that worried about that. We--we--we are focusing on V/A.R. .

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: All right. So, Angie. So--so we don't know if she's dead or not.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Right. But do--do you agree that that's everybody's fear?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. So, everybody's worried that she's been gone too long. She's usually pretty responsive. So, that's--that's what we're worried about. So, what we'd like to do is, although you're not specifically suspected of causing harm to her----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: ----we'd like to make sure you didn't. So they're making it seem. Like, okay, Copeland, maybe he--he is not perfect, but he didn't do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: That make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's the stuff we're going to talk about, and hopefully that polygraph help us figure out.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: All right. Does that make sense now?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: I just didn't want to drop this in your lap, and you're, like, what's that mean? I wanted to make sure I explained that. The rest of the form is exactly the same as the ones you've seen before. So, with knowing the topic that we're going to be focusing in on, here's some things to keep in mind.

You have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all. Any statement that you make can be used against you in--in--in trial or by court-martial or any other judicial administrative proceeding.

You have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by you at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as your counsel at no cost to you, or both. So, you can have a lawyer, and in multiple capacities.

You have the right to have any retained lawyer and or appointed lawyer present during the interview. And you may terminate the interview at any time for any reason.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
SA GEREL: These are all important. I like that. Really emphasize that last one because you are in full control of the conversation. You know, you can talk to us. You don't have to talk to us.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: As long as you're professional and--and polite to us, we'll be the same to you.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: All the way through. Any questions about any of this so far?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: Are you cool to talk with us a little bit more?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, I'm going to read this part out loud.
CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: And--and just so you--you've heard it and--and make sure you agree with it. But what we'd like to make sure that you're cool with and understand is that you understand, or I'm going to read it out loud to you.

I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have described--I'm sorry, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me.

Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Do you agree with that?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, if you--if you agree with it and want to talk to us, again, you're not deciding on the poly quite yet.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: You--you just want to get to us, you--you could initial for me beside each of these numbers. Sign that paragraph and then, sign for me there, please.
CSSN COPELAND: So, for each question, is it before and after or just----
SA GEREL: Just beside the number is fine. Yeah. Sorry, these things [inaudible 0:17:55]. There you go.
And then, just beside that paragraph as well.
CSSN COPELAND: This one?
SA GEREL: Yes, please. And then a full signature, there. But you--do you understand this and want to talk to us? Is that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. Thank you. All right, so the next thing we'll cover in a little bit more detail is the polygraph itself. The--the next form that we--that we may use is--is where we talk to you about what the polygraph is, and you say, "Okay. I'll start the process." So, that's where you can list, know definitively one or the other, but I'm not even going to get to that form quite yet.

So, let's--do--do--what questions do you have for us that will help you understand kind of why we're here and--and what we want to do today?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I don't have really no questions.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right, so--so let me just make sure you kind of see it from their perspective and--and our--and our perspective. You--you--you--I think you've already acknowledged this, but, so the big fear is that Angie may be--may be dead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. Did you do that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. I know they already asked you that, and you said no.

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Do you--do you know where she's at?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Did you help anybody to abduct her or kill her or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: That's the focus today.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. What we'd like to do is take that off the table so they are not thinking Copeland could have had anything to do with that. Make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: And--and--and, if we're able to talk to you about that and you get confident--you're already confident. Whether you can even stay confident to the point where you take that test and show a--a positive result, then we're going to be able to take that back to the agents and to the Commander. Like, "Okay, good. Now let's find other ways to find, Angie." Make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Does that make you feel any different about doing this?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir. I mean, at the end of the day, like, this is just a lot of stuff for me to handle right now. At the end of the day, there's always something. On top of that, they still want me to come to work. They still want me to do this. They still want me to do that.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it is just a lot. They keep coming to my room every day.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, it's just, like, I--I don't have a break.

SA GEREL: What are they--what's the mast for today? The Captain's Mast?
CSSN COPELAND: Going UA.
SA GEREL: Okay. Well, who do you think about that?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, at the end of the day, like--like he said, I'm a grown man and so, I'm going to take full accountability. At the end of day, it was me being irresponsible, not getting work when I'm supposed to. So, at the end of the day, I'm going to just take the consequence.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Does it bother--does it scare you?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I mean, it's mast. I mean, at the end of the day.
SA GEREL: Okay. Does--have you been through that before?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. And do you know, people have been?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: What usually happens on something like that?
CSSN COPELAND: They put you on a restriction. I mean, in my offense, I can already see they're probably going to take a reduction--reduction rate, half a month's pay, and probably put me on restriction. For how long? I don't know.
SA GEREL: Okay. And--and how--how does that make you feel to know that might be coming?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really much. I mean, I just got to go with the flow at the end of the day. Like I said, I take full accountability for my actions.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Not making it to work when I'm supposed to be, so---

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah. The military's different that way, right? Because I mean, in civilian, like, I don't show up, nobody, like, is going to punish me for it typically.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, they might, you know, talk to you about it or something. But in the military, like you said, it is different, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. A little different. I--I--I--I like how you're kind of keeping that frame in your mind. I don't want to speak for you, but it feels like you kind of get the gravity of what that is. I mean, you should have been to work. You weren't. They're going to do something about it. Sounds like something you can take that lump and move right on.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: We kind of think that too. But I wanted to see how bad that was affecting your--your mental health because, we--we could ask for that to get pushed back. We--then I think it probably would. I can't speak for your command, but they might do that.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I mean, the CO, he's trying to push it to where I get it done today

SA GEREL: And then, maybe you want that. I don't know. You want it done sooner or later?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, sooner. I mean, because obviously I don't want to stay on the barge. Like, I fucking hate the barge.

SA GEREL: It sounds like it would be a not a fun place.

SA MANN: I don't think you're alone in that. I've talked to many people at the barge.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't know who lied and said the barge was, like, smooth, but being in the shipyard in general.

SA GEREL: Yeah. One of the things that we would do would be to press on is just get to know you a little bit. I know some things about you, but I don't know as much as I want to to give you a polygraph. So, we--we get to know more about you, to include things like that. Like what--what ships you've been on and what you've--what you've been experiencing. I mean, you're young, so I--I would imagine probably not that much in the Navy quite yet.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, a little bit. I mean, I was on a carrier before I was on a DDG, so.

SA GEREL: What--what carrier were you on?

CSSN COPELAND: The Truman.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. All right.

SA MANN: You guys had a hell of a deployment, huh?
SA GEREL: Did you just get back from the deployment?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I did half the deployment. I flew off during February. Like, the middle of February.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.] Okay. Tyler, you got any--any things you want to cover?
SA MANN: I mean, what can we do to help you today? Like what moves, what--what gives us some power to help you out? Because I don't know that we have it, but I'll sure as hell try.
CSSN COPELAND: Nothing really. I mean, at the end of the day, you guys are doing your job, so----
SA MANN: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: That's--then that's just nothing. It's nothing really to it. At the end of the day, I can't ask you guys to do something. Like, you guys are just trying to do your job, get down to the bottom of whatever you guys need to. At the end of the day. I'm just trying to live.
SA MANN: No. Yeah. Absolutely. But that's what I mean, like, if there's somewhere we can meet in the middle and you've got an existential issue right now that you're, like, "Hey, like, here's the biggest thing going on in my world. I need this handled." Maybe we can help out with that, and it'll help you feel a little more comfortable with what we'd like to do with you today.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just everything that I got because I already know, like, with mast coming up, I also got a court date coming up.

SA MANN: So, what's that for?

CSSN COPELAND: Speeding.

SA MANN: Okay. Do you know when?

CSSN COPELAND: That's the 21st of July, so----

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----by the time I get off restriction, I'm going to have to prepare for that. On top of that, I've been trying to get--reach out to my lawyer. Don't got a phone. They took it, so----

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.] About that court? The speeding thing?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I got to talk to--the judge granted me a public defender. Can't even reach out to my public defender because I--I don't have a phone, so.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: At this point, it's just, like, I'm--I'm fried.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's a lot going on. We definitely get that. How much sleep would you--you think you got last night?

CSSN COPELAND: None. I had to prep doing my uniform for mast today, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Like, your--your dress uniform?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And then, how has that been over the last few days? How much sleep you getting?

CSSN COPELAND: None. Like, maybe an hour. I mean, the last time they came and got me, they didn't release me till, like, two, almost three o'clock. As soon as they released me, my Chief took me to my barracks. I had to get my uniform and go straight to work.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I had no sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So

SA GEREL: So, how about food? How you--how are you eating?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't have, like, an appetite to really eat at all, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Do you have some food this morning?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: You want some?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm good.

SA GEREL: How about some water? You want some water.

CSSN COPELAND: Water, yeah. I'll take some water.

SA GEREL: Okay. We'll go get that. We'll be back.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

[SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 0:25:30.]

SA MANN: So--so, I mean, I know you got a--a storm growing. Right? What's going on in the family world?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I just got shit with my mom. I mean, on top of that, she doesn't even know anything that's happened. I mean, I--I understand she realized I went UA. She called my command and called the--the base.

SA MANN: She was worried about?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, I mean, other than that, I--I haven't really talked to her ever--ever since that. My dad's been in the hospital, so.

SA MANN: How's he doing?

CSSN COPELAND: Not that well.

SA MANN: Oh. Do you mind if I ask what's happening?

CSSN COPELAND: So, he got an infection, and that was--I found out about that when I was on deployment, and I--I think it was, like, around December.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I tried to put in leave. Like, emergency leave.

SA MANN: Sure.

CSSN COPELAND: My chain of command denied it.

SA MANN: Yeah. I--I know the Truman was going through----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----some stuff out there, so I'm sure that was tough.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. And he's been in the hospital ever since. My mom said he's basically lost, like, his--like, he can't walk. He can barely talk.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: His vision's going bad, too. So, I know on their part. I know it's, like, hard, on that, so.

SA MANN: Yeah. No, that's tough.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: When's the last time you got to see him?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm?

SA MANN: When was the last time you got to see him?

CSSN COPELAND: It's been almost a year since I last took leave.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, that's also another thing. It's, like, I haven't been home. I've been telling my chain of command for months now. Like I--I--I need to take leave.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Because with everything going on, it's fucking with my mental health.

SA MANN: I gotcha. That'd be tough. I know I'd be----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----feeling probably similar if I had a bunch of family that I wasn't getting to see that were sitting in the hospital with prior circumstances. So, no, I get it, man.

And again, I'm not--one way or another today. Like, what you decide to do, I want you--you to just be comfortable with your decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: You know, I know you said it. Like, I--I think, you know, spent some--some time I think with B on the ship. Obviously, she's the only agent that was there, but, that I know she has a pretty--I don't know how--what your interactions with her have--have been. But I know she's generally a pretty straight shooter. I don't think she sort of beats around the bush. She just says, "Hey, here's what we got to do. Let's do it." Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She--she keeps it a hundred, but I don't like the way that she does it.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, everybody that I've talked to, dealt with, even with police officers, like--like, yeah, they got one job to be doing, but they kept it professional. When, like, I don't know what her problem is, but I feel like with me and her interactions, she--I feel like she antagonizes me.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And I don't--I don't really appreciate that, like, when I was talking to the first--first detective, little short one, you know, it was her and another agent that came to my room.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And, I talked to them. Cool. And then, when they had came and raided my room, she was there just in the background. I could see her staring at me. At first, I was, like, there's no way that's her until the agent had called her over there. And I was, like, fuck. All right, cool. But it's, like, the whole time we were in the interrogation room, it's just, like, she was, like, irritating me.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It's, like, I--it's, like, some people I can stand, but it's just something about her I don't like.

SA MANN: No, that's fair. I--I, like, I don't like everybody I meet, too. Sometimes it's just people don't connect. It is what it is. What I would ask today, though, is if I make you feel that way, if David makes you feel that way----

CSSN COPELAND: No, you guys--you guys are totally, like, you know, respectful, and you guys are keeping it official.

SA MANN: Yep.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just the way that she carries herself, the way that the mentality she has.

SA MANN: Understood. But if--if you feel like that happens, I want you to stop and let us know. You can tell me I'm wrong. That's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA MANN: I'm not, same with him. We're not above making a mistake. So, if you feel like a line is crossed, let us know. We don't want to do that. We'll course-correct for you.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. Thank you.

SA MANN: Yeah, just again, if--if I'm going to be blunt with you--you can be blunt with me. Full--fully expect that. So--excuse me. Why I said that, and, you know, and I think David's sort of been kind of slowly talking through this with you is, again, everyone wants to know where Angie is. The longer she's gone, you know, I mean, you've probably seen an Netflix documentary. Right? Like, as time passes and these type of things, all you see on the news. Like, hey, the more time that somebody's missing, the higher the likelihood that the end result's not a good one. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: That's just--it's statistics, and we're hoping that by trying to expedite and move through these things, this takes a ton of resources. I mean, we've had people the second that we found out she was gone, people started coming from every office all around the

country to try to serve and to give us bodies and manpower so we can dedicate more resources to trying to find her.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: You know, and I, again, unfortunately, you happen to be the last person that was with her----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----before either she went missing, she made the decision to do it, something bad happened to her, whatever that was. Whether it's fair or not, like, the fingers all kind of initially point at you just because you were that last one to be with her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And I hate to say it, but again, it's just like watching TV. If the last person that was with her was the last person that was with her, that's the easiest place to start. It's logical. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: Hey, you should at least have some semblance of an idea of what happened when she departed, where she went. You know, if she said anything to you about, "Hey, here's where I'm going to go, what I'm going to do."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: If you have any idea what that is, that's information we definitely want. The reason we kind of bring polygraph in the room

is so we can get that clear result from you. Because as much as I sit here and I want to believe everybody I work with----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----I'd be foolish to do that, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Because some people aren't going to be straight shooters.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So, that's why we use polygraph as a tool to say, hey, if you knew something about, you know, let's hope not, but if she were to be dead at this point, if you had any knowledge of that, we'd want to know that. Because then we need to redirect resources elsewhere.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Also, if you have nothing to do with that, we want to prove that for you, too.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: Because then that allows us to take that spotlight that you feel is on you right now and shake it somewhere else.

CSSN COPELAND: It's not even about the spotlight. At the end of the day, it's life. Like, cool. But it is just more so, like, the shit I have going on now and then, this top on top of it. So, it's just, like, this right here is just a knocker.

SA MANN: Yeah. No, your--your glass is full.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: I feel you. So, what--what do you think we can accomplish today? What do you have the bandwidth for?
CSSN COPELAND: I just, like, if you guys got questions, cool. At the end of the day, I'm--I'm trying to--the biggest thing I'm trying to knock off is just seeing what the captain has to say. I just want to get one piece done. I'm just slowly trying to get things, you know. I'm just slowly trying to get things off of my plate. Because at the end of the day. Like, everything I have going on is going nowhere at this point.
SA GEREL: I gotcha. So, not to, I--I guess diminish what you're saying, like, that's important. And I think, you know, if I was sitting in your same shoes and I want that answer. Like, "Hey, just like--like you said, I'm going to own it. Tell me what I got to do to own it."

I think we're--we would miss an opportunity here to help get more off your plate if we didn't at least offer you this again. No one can sit here and say, "Hey, gun to your head, you got to sit down and do it." But I do think that this helps move some stuff off your plate. So, today, in theory, you could take this off your plate, and you can take the mast off your plate, and hopefully that's two things that help push you in a more positive direction.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But at the end of the day, you guys are still going to come for questions.

SA GEREL: I don't know. I--I mean, I--I----

CSSN COPELAND: It's still going nowhere.

SA MANN: They may. But, you know, as Dave they've kind of mentioned earlier, the question that we want to know is really, and--and I think, you know, we'll give this more poly. Like, if I were to give you some sort of polygraph, if I was going to say, "Hey, like--like here's what we need answered it," it'd be what he asked you the other day. Did you cause her death? Or did, you know, is she dead? Like, do--do you have actual intimate knowledge of that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Because then if you--if you're not a part of that, and you know, if--if maybe she is still alive out there somewhere, or if she is unfortunately deceased to this point, we know that you had nothing to do with it. So, then those questions about you, who you are, where you were, what you did, all of that. You know, it's an investigation like you said, people are going to look at everything thoroughly.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: But then there's other people that need to look at other things that they need to look at, you know. Was this, at some point, somebody else who did something malicious or foul? Did she

just run away? Maybe she just had enough of it. Would it be an unfortunate case? Maybe it was a suicide. We don't know. But that's why we're trying to work through, and you're not--I know you feel. Like, "Hey, the spotlight's on you." You're not the only person that people are trying to highlight and get answers for.

So, I won't sit here and say that no one's going to come knocking on your door and asking you a question. But I would highly anticipate that this puts a lot of those questions at bay, because everyone's going to go, "Hey, Copeland's not the bad guy that did something bad to Angie. You know, Jay's not that guy."

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day--at the end of the day, it's, like, you still got people looking at you. It doesn't matter, regardless.

SA MANN: What makes you think that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, for instance, I walk into work, you got people looking at me crazy. The CO, for example.

SA MANN: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just, like, it's not going to go anywhere. All right, cool. The situation gets done, and handled where people are still going to have their opinion not knowing the full facts and everything.

SA MANN: Yeah. The court of public opinion is damning, right? Like, unfortunately, we can't change that. What we will do. Like,

David said, is we'll give results to everybody that matters. And I--I mean, I think, you know what the--the E-3 underground is alive and well. So, once somebody finds out that, "Hey. Like, Jay didn't do bad things. This was all just false accusations." If that is the case, that's going to resonate. People are going to hear that.

So, you know, are you going to ever going to be able to stop people looking at you for something? No, that's reality. Somebody's always going to have their opinion of you. Someone may love you, someone may hate you. It is what it is.

But, and--and I know that this is kind of a foreign concept in the sense of polygraph. Most people are. Like, yeah, I mean, I think I know what it is. I think I'd be willing to do it. And--and it's not that we want to sit here and slam you with a bunch of questions. What we want to do is give you an opportunity to, in theory, and or minimize those questions that are going to come about you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: At least from us. Right? Like, I can't control what somebody's opinion of you is going to be. All I can do is tell that person, "Hey, Jay didn't do the thing that you're saying he thinks he did. He's proven that." And you know, if they just want to keep that opinion because they don't like you, or if they, you know, do

like you enough and they go, "Oh, well that's great to know. Like, I'm glad I can trust this guy. Like, he's not somebody."

So, you know, I--I think there are two sides to that coin. I just want to make sure that you've seen both.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: I know in your world right now, the easy side to go to is, like, this is all bad, and I--I get it, especially considering your family situation. Not being able to see your dad, but hopefully putting this piece behind it means that all you got to worry about is get through that mast. You know, take whatever punishment they decide to give you. Then, if this is all gone away and you're part--you're--you're not a part of it anymore, hopefully then they can see the need for you to go take some leave, see your family, you know, check in on dad, and go from there.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So.

SA GEREL: Yeah, investigations. Like, you know, there's--there's only a few things we can do to prove what we call proving a negative. Like, you can say all day long, I didn't do it. And people either have to believe that or not believe that. So, we're looking for evidence, but one thing that we can offer is, "I didn't do it, and I passed my polygraph."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know what I--I mean? So, then like they've got something else to. Like, "Well, dang, maybe you didn't do it." So, it definitely adds a lot to--it's something you can proactively do to give credence to what you're telling folks. So, I--Tyler may have already said that, but. You follow about that later or not yet? Did--does it give you any other thought on trying it today?
CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't feel like I can take that shit today. Like, it's just, I'm telling you. Like, I got too much shit going on.
SA GEREL: I gotcha. I gotcha. And--and--and frankly, I am concerned about your sleep and your food and--and your mental health. Like, those are things that would, even as you said, I'll take it and then, I--I heard that stuff. I might not want to give it to you today, any because--because those things would be important for me to know that you have--that you're coming in with a good day.

So, two of the things that could consider with you. Thing number one, you may not feel like today's a good day for it, but are you seeing that maybe sometime in the future it could be?
CSSN COPELAND: Most definitely.
SA GEREL: Okay. Cool. Love that. Okay. Next thing, there are some details that we maybe could capture that might help. The--some things you know. Because you you--you--as I told you, you're

probably the last person that we know of that saw her. So, when we reviewed that first interview or the one that they brought you here to talk about, we watched it, and--and--and I appreciate you doing that, but there's a couple things that we were kind of curious about that might help us help them.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Are you cool--can you cover some of the details with this? Good with that? Okay. Good.

So, what's your--what--what's your hard timeframe? When--when do you--you want to be done with this today?

CSSN COPELAND: As fast as possible. Like, do you you--do you--you guys know what time it is?

SA GEREL: Yeah. It's 9:20.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I--I will tell you that, like, we're what--do you have a scheduled time for your mast?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't know if it's before or after lunch. Lunch starts at eleven o'clock, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I guess it's probably going to be done after.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I--I think that's more likely. They--they'll likely have no trouble waiting on you. Like, if we get a little

delayed, but I--I don't think we're going to have to delay you that long.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Anything that you needed to absolutely do before your mast?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really think so.

SA GEREL: Okay. I just want to take care of your time. I appreciate you--you working with us. You've got a lot of stressors, and I--I understand. Do you feel like any of those stressors are more important than finding Angie?

CSSN COPELAND: Can you say that again?

SA GEREL: Yeah. I know you've got a lot of things that are stressing you. You've got the traffic court. You've got the--the--the other---we haven't talked about this yet, but we know about the other investigations. We--we know you got some things that are kind of stressing you, but are--are any of those things more important to you than helping to find Angie?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: Okay. I didn't think so. I mean, if it feels like you didn't know her. Like, super well, but I think you knew her enough where you'd probably be concerned about her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And that's the vibe I'm getting. So, it's good to hear that because--because that--that makes me feel very comfortable with--with, you know.

CSSN COPELAND: And then at the end of the day, I'm answering questions, like you said, everybody else asks. If I wanted to leave, I could left at any given moment.

SA GEREL: Yeah. [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, I'm taking the time to talk to you guys, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. I--I figured, but I--I wanted to kind of check--check your thoughts on that. Okay. Good. All right. So, as--as--as best you can tell us about, like you--you, well, actually, let me even go before that. How did you meet Angie?

CSSN COPELAND: CSA school. We're the same rate?

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: We went to A-school together. When I checked into the command, it was her and another CS that I knew. Angie is, like, I didn't really go up and talk to her, but she is, like, you know, when you look at someone, they're, like, that person looks familiar, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: That's how I saw her. And then, my homeboy, JJ, walked up to me. I was, like, "Oh, shit." And from there, me and

him were talking, and then, later down, it was, like, a couple days afterwards, that's when she came up to me and asked me if I--what class I was in in A-school.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there I was, like, "I knew you looked familiar," and then from there we were talking. I mean, there's been previous times before that where we've hungen out. We've gone out to eat. We've went to Dave and Busters. We've--yeah.

SA GEREL: So, how long ago was that A-school? When was that? Like, two year or so?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, almost two years ago.

SA GEREL: Two--two years ago. Okay. You've known her for a long time.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Were you all--where did--where did, after A-school, where did you--you serve with her at? Or were you on the same ship or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. After A-school, I went--that's when I was on the Truman, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, A-school, the Truman for, and then, you--did you work in your rate. Like, as--as a CS?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. And then how--how much did you keep in contact with, V/A.R.

CSSN COPELAND: I never had her contact until I got onto the--the DDG I'm on now.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, the barge.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What did you feel about the barge? What's that like?

CSSN COPELAND: It's ass.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I'm not going to say, like, the ship is ass, but it--it's ass.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Because, it's, like, being. Like, I guess it's just transitioning from--from the carrier life to a DDG.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't like it.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I've heard that before. I've done investigations on the barge, and I'm. Like, this doesn't feel like a very comfortable place.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. No.

SA GEREL: Do--do they make y'all sleep on the barge sometimes?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. People, I mean, if somebody has duty, they have a berthing for that. Or there's some people that don't have barracks.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: That way you getting a ride so they stay--they stay on the barge.

SA GEREL: Okay. I gotcha. All right, so--so got on the barge, kind of met back up with--with--with Angie. Tell me about that, like, when you first kind of came back in contact with her. What--what, what--what was your relationship like?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, just work. That's about it. I know we would come in. Like, "Morning, how you doing?" type of thing.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: You know, same thing with the whole watch. Just, you know, saying good morning to everybody, just talking.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And one thing about me is, like, if I work with you, I'm going to have to be obligated to talk to you. So, it's either. Like, you can either hate me or not. Cool. If not, I'm going to just still say good morning.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: If you choose not to talk to me, you choose not to. But towards me and Angie, it was acquaintances. Like, we were--we were good. Cordial.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Everything was cool.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. That's very good. Fast forward just a--a smidge because I'm momentarily curious about this. So, where do you think she's at?

CSSN COPELAND: If I--I couldn't tell you. I know when she left, she left. I know she was saying she was mad at Gil. I mean, the night of you know, she was mad as fuck. That's all. Sorry for cussing, but----

SA GEREL: No, no, that, that's----

CSSN COPELAND: You know, she was on a--calling a lot of people. I know she had called her ex, that lived in Texas.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And she was saying, like, how he fucked up, how he can't do this, can't do that. She's always spending money on him. Always sending him money. And I'm just sitting there. Like, cool. And, I had talked to the dude. He was pretty chill, pretty cool. And then, from there, that's when she just started calling other people.

SA GEREL: Why was she so mad at Gil?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, they got into an argument, so they got into an argument about a bike helmet that Gil had gave V/A.R.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And V/A.R. said that she saw some dude, or not some dude, but some female getting on his bike when she went on a walk.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And the--the day that he picked the female up, I'm guessing he was asking for the bike helmet back, and V/A.R. was asking, "Why specifically the bike helmet if you gave it to me?" And he was just, like, "Oh, it reminds me of all the times and all the places we could've gone together."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: "And things we could've done." So--so it's, like, he was basically saying it's more of like a--like a memory.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, she doesn't want to give--give him back the bike helmet. They was just going back and forth arguing, and that's when he said--he was just, like, "Fuck it, just keep the helmet." He's. Like, "You can just keep it. I don't want it anymore."

SA GEREL: Okay. So--so, what--what--what, I--I don't fully understand like why that made her so upset.
CSSN COPELAND: Because, obviously, she was--in her eyes, she thought that he was going to give it to another female to ride on his bike. Obviously, they've dated.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And, you know.
SA GEREL: Sounds like jealousy. Is that the right word for how she was feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, if that's how you want to put it. Yeah.
SA GEREL: Well, I don't know. I--I'm just trying to figure it out. But--but she--she was concerned with this other female and Gil.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: And. Like, whatever he was doing with her. But I don't want to put words in the--what--that's why I kind of want to know what your thoughts are as to why she was so mad.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's what I would think, obviously. Or she's mad because, obviously, I don't know if they're trying to fix the relationship or if they're still talking.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I knew they dated, you know, and she talked to another dude.
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, that's not my business. That's totally their business. I mean, cool. Like, y'all can do what y'all want to do. But I'm not going to get myself involved in their situation.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, you don't know where--where she's at. Did you see or ever hear anything from her that makes you think that she would just not go to work and disappear? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, I don't really text her. Like, usually when I leave people, I just be. Like, "If you need something, just call or text me," and I just leave it like that.

SA GEREL: Okay. Now I know that all of us can be tempted at times to cover for friends and family. Like, if they do something and they're, like, "Oh man, I'm gonna--I got your back." I--I don't know if that's happening here, but I--I would hope that, if there's something that you know of, something she may have wanted to do, you would let us know. Is anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I mean, the only person that I know that talks to her on daily is Gillespie and Rich.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Those are the two main people that she talks to at work.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, if you want more, you probably have to ask them or talk to them.

SA GEREL: Sure.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But those are the two people that she talks to. Like, pretty much on daily, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and they have and they--they will. Like, keep talking to them. But there are times--this is my thinking. You--you--you, of course, make your own thoughts, but, even though we may feel tempted to help other people, sometimes it's more important to actually not. You know, so in this case, you've got tons of people looking for her, including her family.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: And worried sick about her. In this instance, I--I would suggest that it's more important to, if there's something that you could feel tempted to hide on her behalf, that you wouldn't do that with us right now, even if you have already.

CSSN COPELAND: Fuck no. I mean, you see the situation I'm in. I'm not--like, at the end of the day, if somebody fuck up, that's on them.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. Okay. I appreciate you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: I--I got that vibe from you, but I wanted to make sure that we were seeing that in the same way. Because I mean, I definitely have been around some people, or maybe even myself sometimes been. Like, I'm not going to ever hurt that person, and--and I'm not going to tell. The--the police or anybody about something that person did. Because I care that much, like a loyalty thing.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, you see how big it's getting. At the end of the day, I mean, I've told both of you what I have going on in my life.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm--I'm at this point, I'm not helping nobody put something like that.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: If they leave, I'm snitching, like yeah. This person left. I'm sorry, but I'm telling.

SA GEREL: Well, and I thank you. And I wouldn't even call it that. It's just, like, you care enough----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----about the person. Let's go ahead and get this squared away so someone, you know, doesn't get any extra smoke. That's good.

All right, so let's unfortunately think about some possibilities for---well, let's--let's presume for a second that maybe something bad happened to her. Do you have, like, a list--we all have this list of angels and demons. People that are. Like, there's no way these people would've done anything bad to her. I'm not so sure about these people. The--the demons and I--we might want to be looking more at them.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Who--who--who is your angels and demons in terms of who could have--who--who--well, let's start with angels.

Who would you say, like, there's no way this person did anything bad to her?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I can't really determine that. I mean, I know there's people she talks to, but at the end of the day, I don't jurisdict everybody she hangs out with.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I don't--I couldn't honestly tell you that from a get go. I mean, I know the people that we work with, you know, she talks to, and the only two that I see her talk to when we're at work is Gillespie and Rich.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GEREL: And--and they give you a little, grace on this. Oh, I'm not going to hold your feet to the fire and say, like, "Oh, he said that they couldn't have done it, so, there's no way they did it." I--I mean, you're not God. You don't know all the things.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, but I--but I would--but sometimes those instincts are pretty important. Right? So--so you may feel. Like, I know Gil, I mean, he's not perfect, but, like, I would be shocked if he did anything bad like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Or you might say, like, Gil's suspicious. I mean, you might want to be looking at Gil.

W Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know what I mean? So, like, I'm not going to--we wouldn't let people know, like that Copeland said, "Look at Gil."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Or whomever. But--but your--your--everyone's instincts can be pretty darn important. So, like, if you have any instincts, good or bad, towards the people that have been mentioned around her, we'd appreciate to hear about it.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, at the end of the day, I don't really know those two like that. I mean, I know JJ is somebody we work with.

There's Garcia and Miguel, Buco. Like, when we're at work, we work. Cool. You know, time to time we joke around and bullshit.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: That's, you know, that's just our way. Like, theoretically for CS's to, you know, get through our day.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, we--we're the first people to walk on the ship, last people to leave, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: You know, that's just one way we get through work. As far as Gillespie and Mitch, I don't--Rich, I don't really know them like that, so.

SA GEREL: So, those dudes are CS's?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no, no, no. I don't know what their rate is.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, going into a DDG and they got, you know. Like, STGs and stuff like that. I don't know what those rates are.

SA GEREL: Okay. Gotcha. So, they don't work with y'all.

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no, no. I know. Like, they, you know, they come in the galley and they talked back--they be in the back talking to V/A.R.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: You got. Like, CS1 or CS2 walk--walk in the galley, and they walk through and see them back there.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then, obviously, they asked--asked them to get out the galley.

SA GEREL: What was V/A.R. first ship? I mean, is it the one that you all are on, or is it a different ship?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it's the ship we're on now.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you mentioned JJ. Who--what--who's that? Say that full name again, please.

CSSN COPELAND: JJ?

SA GEREL: Yeah. Who's that?

CSSN COPELAND: He's somebody, a CS.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, all those names besides Rich and----

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: ----Gillespie, those are all CS's.

SA GEREL: Okay. I got you. You said a bunch names. I just want to make sure I'm understanding the--the same people or different people. So, do you know JJ's full name?

CSSN COPELAND: It's, like, Edison Jean Jaques or something like that.

SA GEREL: Jaques. Okay. All right. And who else did you mention?

CSSN COPELAND: Buco.

SA GEREL: Buco. Okay. And is Buco a CS?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GEREL: And----

CSSN COPELAND: Garcia and Miguel.

SA GEREL: Garcia and Miguel. So--so these folks are people around you all?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GEREL: Do you categorize them as suspicious or not suspicious?

CSSN COPELAND: They're not suspicious.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right. Just kind of people you work with?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. Any suspicious people?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, it's limited in. Like, from my point of view.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know anybody around V/A.R. you know, that's, like, aggressive or somebody that could hate V/A.R.

SA GEREL: Okay. The--the--the girl with--with the bike helmet, do you know her name?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: You know, even. Like, a nickname, or, like, do you know anything about her at all?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I believe she is a civilian.

SA GEREL: A civilian.

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't know who she is, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I remember Gillespie telling me, like, his little portion on it, and then, when V/A.R. came over and she was talking about it. That's--that's the only thing that I know about it.

SA GEREL: Okay. How does V/A.R. how--how does V/A.R. feel about that girl?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, she didn't really know the female, so she was just, like, categorizing her as a bitch?

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was, like, "Yeah, I can't believe he's trying to get my helmet for something. Like, for a bitch."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I was just, like, I mean, at the end of the day, that's how men are sometimes.

SA GEREL: Did--did--did you ever hear V/A.R. talk about getting. Like, pestered by anybody? Like, blown up or, like, tons of messages or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. Nah. She's never mentioned anything like that. I mean, as far as her phone, she was on the phone with her ex from Texas.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's the only person I talked to, and then, from there, she was, like, just calling.

SA GEREL: So, it brings another curiosity about the Texas ex. Like, what--what the world prompted her to call him that night?

CSSN COPELAND: She was basically saying, like, you know, like everybody has their person they go to.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I guess that was her person that she goes to when things happen to her. You know, somebody she needs to talk to.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's what she said. She was, like, basically. Like, she's going to call--she was, like, "Copeland," she was, like, "This is my ex from Texas." And she was, like, basically. Like, that's her right-hand man.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, sounds like she wasn't mad at him.

CSSN COPELAND: No. No.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. Cool. Okay. So, she was kind of calming down and talking through her frustrations.

CSSN COPELAND: Venting, venting to him, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. I got it. All right. Well, I appreciate it. I-- I got sidetracked on a bunch of specific questions, so sorry about that.

CSSN COPELAND: You're fine.

SA GEREL: All right, so I think I'm going to have him start kind of talking more about those--the--the the weekend. But before I do that, did you have any questions about the stuff we've covered so far?

SA MANN: Just with, I guess, V/A.R. like what was your guys, the extent of your--how would you. Like, describe your relationship? Like, what'd you guys?

CSSN COPELAND: We were just work people, like people that work together.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That's literally what I would describe it.

SA MANN: Oh. Do you guys ever get into. Like, the maybe want to date, hookup, connect scene?

CSSN COPELAND: Not even--not even thought about that.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: All right. I was curious, kind of what--how you guys were inter-weaved. Like, friends, dating, relationship. Kind of just, we hook up because can. Whatever it is.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she knows that, and I wouldn't do nothing with her. At the end of the day. Like, we work together.

SA MANN: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

SA MANN: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, me personally, I had a bad experience with a CS, and after that, like I--I told myself I can't get with a CS. Like, they're cool to hang out with, but physically dating with CS, I can't do that shit no more.

SA MANN: Can you tell me a little about that?

CSSN COPELAND: So, there was a female that was on the DDG that I'm on now.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And we were talking for a little bit, and we started taking it a little more serious. And there it came to a time where she had a seizure on the barge. So, as soon as I got off work, I went and picked her up. And I was on my way home, and my--my tire blew up on the highway, and my rim cracked.

So, I called my homeboy to come pick me up, and I took--I called the towing company to tow the car to the nearest shop where I can get--get my tire fixed.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, basically, I was asking, do they have a spare tire? And they were saying they don't have spare tires. And--and able, for me to get a tire for my rim, I would have to have, like, a good rim because my rim split.

SA MANN: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was, like, fuck. So, my homebody took me to the junk yard. We went to the junk yard. I picked up a spare tire from there, and I called the dealership, I got my car from, and--and he gave me a number for a welder, and he welded the rim together, and then, from there, I ended up buying a tire from there, and I got it all fixed, same day and everything. Cool. And she was with--she was with us the--the whole time.

So, I get home, and she came home with me, and I laid down on the couch, like I fell asleep. And, you know, she's. Like, she wants--obviously wants attention. She's. Like, "Can you talk to me for a little bit?" This, that, and the third? And I was, like--I was, like, "Can you give me, like, just, like, 15 minutes? Like I'm--I'm tired as fuck. Like, you've seen everything I just did today."

So, she was like--like, "All right, cool." And, so, she sat down. I wake up and she's talking shit on the phone with her sister about me. So, I was, like, "All right, cool. Like, you are--are

just going to sit here and be disrespectful in my face. You can leave." She was, like, "All right, fuck you, then."

She left, realized she had nowhere to go, so she's sitting outside my door, banging on my door for, like, eight hours. I just told her, I was, like, "Goodnight. Like, you chose to leave. I'm not opening the door. And you left and did what you did. You blew up, projected, and did what you did. I'm not coming to open the door."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, she's talking about she's going to go get the RA to come open my door. This, that, and the third. I'm just, like, I just kept saying, "Goodnight, goodnight, goodnight." And it came about. Like, five, six o'clock. My roommate was going to go get breakfast, and she pushed my roommate out the way and bombarded my room with a knife in her hand.

SA MANN: Jeez.

CSSN COPELAND: She broke everything. Like, all my electronics in my room. She fucking destroyed my room. She tried to stab me. There was a whole shit show. And then, from there. I think it was, like, almost a week straight, she slashed my tires every day, and every day I had to fucking fix that shit.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: On top of that, coming to work. So, on that part, it was a whole shit show. And after that, I'm. Like, I--I can't fuck with a CS no more.

SA GEREL: What's that girl's name?

CSSN COPELAND: Richardson.

SA GEREL: Richardson. Okay. She's on the barge?

CSSN COPELAND: No, not no more. They took her off the barge because she--she had a seizure, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She's in some command on base.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Yeah. It sounds. Like, yeah, it didn't sound good. Did she catch any charges from that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GEREL: Did you tell anybody?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, they had the MAs involved. I talked to NCIS on the, not this building, but it's a building, it was the precinct. That's what it was. They took me to the precinct.

SA GEREL: Oh, gotcha.

SA MANN: On base.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. And I talked to a detective from there.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Did she pay you back or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Not that I--not yet. I--I don't know how that----

SA MANN: How long ago was it?
CSSN COPELAND: This was a couple months ago.
SA MANN: Okay. Yeah.
SA GEREL: All right.
SA MANN: Yeah, I guess obviously that's a rough lesson to learn, but expensive one.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: But--but it is just kind of a, not, I guess for lack of better. Like, picking up things at work just didn't make sense anymore. Like, just try to keep work and life like that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: Personal life a little separate from a relationship perspective.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, on top of that, you know, when I was on the carrier, I talked to people, and I also talked to. Like, you know. Like, the higher-ups, first classes, and they always said never date a CS. At the end of the day----
SA MANN: Okay. So, what--how would you describe then the relationship you have with V/A.R. Like, what would you guys say you are?
CSSN COPELAND: Just friends. I mean, we work together. Cool. You know, if we, you know, do something outside of work or, you know,

like sometimes we go eat or just find something fun to do. Go bowling or something.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, that's what we did last time. Before this time, we hung out. It was me and two other CS's, but they weren't on our ship and----

SA MANN: This past weekend, or the----

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. Not this past weekend. It was months ago.

SA MANN: Oh, okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, when I first--when I got back from deployment.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: And, she--we went out and, my homeboy picked--no, my homegirl picked me up and my homeboy that I previously met that--that day, we all went out and we went to Dirty Buffalo and then, we went to Dave and Buster's. And there's been another time I think we went out and we were watching a football game, too.

So, it's been a couple times we hung out previous to her coming over, so we just work together. I do the same with everybody I work with. Like, if y'all want to pop out, do something for the weekend or something, just go find something chill to do, we can always do that.

SA MANN: Okay. Did you guys ever hook up at any point?

CSSN COPELAND: Never. Not one point.
SA MANN: Oh, would you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, I already told you, fucking with a CS--
--
SA MANN: No, I mean, like, CS aside. Like, did you, like--she a pretty girl. You're, like, "Hey, this is----"
CSSN COPELAND: I don't really look at her like that.
SA MANN: No. Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: So, I think I said this at the beginning, but just to kind of reiterate it, when you're talked to by people like us, police or authorities. Like, there's always going to be a little temptation to make sure you're, like, "Oh shit, this is kind of rough. I--I feel like I need to make sure I do--do what I can to protect myself." That's very normal, very natural.

So, with that being said, though. Like, particularly Tyler and I as polygraph examiners, when we talk to you today, we--we may use a lot of what we talk about if--when you come back, right? I love that you want to come back because I think that's a good way you can help yourself to relieve some of this stress.

So, but it's really crucially important that we get. Like, the best truth. The truth is the truth. Right? It is what it is.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But sometimes when you get talked to by multiple people. Like, it's very normal for you to remember different things, to have things you want to add some clarifications. That's just normal stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: If you--I'd like to encourage you to do that with us today. So, if there's something that you know, you said before, and you're, like, "I know I said that, but I kind of wish I could have said it a little differently," you can. All right? You can say it differently.

We want--we want to help you the best way we can, and that's only we can do is working with the full truth.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, like, if there's something that might come in and feel like they may get mad about that, or it may come across as making me, like, dishonest, whatever, I don't want you to worry about that. It's--it's me asking you to be very strong and courageous to trust us like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But I'm only saying that because I'm an old dude and I talk to a lot of folks, and then--and that I'm also a human. So, like, I get that instinct to be cautious and careful with what you say. Because you--you don't want to get any further trouble. I get

it. You just have to trust us to know that we aren't worried about you, we're worried about her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, there might be some things that you could add more details to, and I just really encourage you to do that.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as what?

SA GEREL: Well, particularly about what we're going to get into, which is, like, I'd like you to walk us through. Like, the--the weekend. So, from--from the night that you all made arrangements to make the tacos and salsa----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----kind of start there and then, give us. Like, the best absolute account of--of what happened between then and when she went missing.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, because again, like we're seeing some things that we--we think could be important, but some of them may not even know it's important yet.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But because you spent a lot of time with her around then you prob--you almost a hundred percent know things that will help us find her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's why we're--we're going through it multiple times. You did a good job last time, but I'd like you just to have that--that comfort. Like, if you need to add or change a few of those details, please do.

CSSN COPELAND: Because everything I said from the last time they talked to me is pretty much the same.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and--and what--what I'd like--we--we have this thing that we do and--and we call it a timeline. And--and it comes in a little different, but it's very helpful because of the way the human brain works. It--it's part of a--a method that we call scientific interviewing. Sometimes it's helpful, sometimes it's not. But it--it, I think in this case you really might be able to find some more details that could help the case.

So, all it is--is we'll put a piece of paper right here. We'll get. Like, a beginning of the--the timeframe register and then the end of it. And we'd like you--did you bring sticky notes?

SA MANN: I think they're still in the car. We can find some here.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: I'll see if I can. S

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. Thank you. I'll keep explaining it.

[SA Mann departed the room at timestamp 1:05:00.]

SA GEREL: And--and so, how we do it is you just get these little yellow sticky notes and--and on the paper. Like, we'd like you to

write. Like, the memory you have and put it on the timeline. Like, where you think it goes in order.

And then, it doesn't have to be. Like, from, it doesn't have to be. Like, any particular way. Just as you think of stuff. Like, as you think of it, write it, put it down, and then go to the next thing. "Okay, I remember this." Write it down. Put it down where you think it goes in order, and--and just do that which will allow us to get the--a good picture of kind of how you remember the--the timeframe, with her that worked out.

CSSN COPELAND: So, like, I'm writing or, like, writing words.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Or I'm drawing,

SA GEREL: No, not drawing. Just words.

CSSN COPELAND: Oh.

SA GEREL: So, like, you know, I don't want to give too many examples because it's actually good for you to--to--to use your own words and thoughts. But as an example. Like, if you want to have--like, if you have a memory about the grocery store. Like, Food Lion or whatever it is, and--and then, put a Food Lion. And then, you see what I mean? And--and then, you can get--be as descriptive as you want, or you can be as general like that as you want. You can put "grocery store."

And then, just kind of put it in the order of things are, and then, that'll help us to kind of probably develop some other questions that you can help us with.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Is that cool?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: He'll back with that in a second. I'll go and your space ready.

[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 1:06:22.]

SA MANN: All right. We got a few. We can probably find some more if we need to, for now.

SA GEREL: Nice. Good work.

SA MANN: I mean, it's not a ton, but we can hunt out some more. I'm sure that was just a quick ask.

You getting--you get a ride over here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: You have a car? I know you said. Like, you had one, but you do you still got it.

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. It's fucked up.

SA MANN: Oh. What's wrong now?

CSSN COPELAND: The head gasket.

SA GEREL: Oh, so it's not just a fixed tire anymore, huh? Okay. So, how you been getting around normally now?

CSSN COPELAND: Either my roommate drops me off, and my home boy will text me home.

SA MANN: Okay. Have you been driving at all?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA MANN: No? Okay. Do you have access to a car you can even drive?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I mean, like, my roommate, you know, sometimes my roommate, he'll let me drive his car if I need to go grab something to eat, or sometimes he'll take me there.

SA MANN: What's he got?

CSSN COPELAND: He drives a Jeep.

SA MANN: Okay. I--I might have a marker. No, I don't. All right.

SA GEREL: All right. So, kind of already explained to him the general idea. Let's kind of consider this the beginning of our timeframe. And when--when did you have that evening? Do you know when you were preparing the salsa?

CSSN COPELAND: Can you say that again?

SA GEREL: Yeah. When--when did you--what day did you----

SA MANN: When you were making tacos.

SA GEREL: Yeah, when were you making tacos?
CSSN COPELAND: Thursday. I believe it was Wednesday transitioning to Thursday.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, Wednesday. I don't know if you think of it this way, but do you think of it in terms of. Like, calendar dates? Do you remember what date that was? If you don't, that's okay.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: Okay. So--so, let's just go ahead and call that Wednesday. All right. And then, as many details as you can provide from Wednesday through----
SA MANN: Let's say the entirety of that week?
SA GEREL: Yeah. The entire weekend. So, we'll--we'll cut the weekend off, like----
SA MANN: Monday morning.
SA GEREL: ----Monday morning. All right. So, Wednesday through Monday.
SA MANN: You went to work Monday after?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I went to work Sunday as well, so.
SA MANN: Okay. Gotcha.
CSSN COPELAND: Well, I just--I didn't work Monday or Sunday, but I had to check in.
SA MANN: Right.
CSSN COPELAND: I was still being marked UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. And, if you need more space, we'll make it, and we'll get more of these if you need it, but you can go ahead and get started, and, to--have the thought, put down something that helps us know what that thought is and just place it wherever you feel like you can go send into the week. Okay?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like, for instance. Like, the whole weekend. Like, I ain't do shit.
SA GEREL: I know.
CSSN COPELAND: I just stayed home, so.
SA GEREL: So, I know this might feel like Why do they even care about all that? Every little detail is--is important. I mean, some stuff that we may don't know, stuff that you don't know.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: So--so again, as much as you can put in there.
SA MANN: Sometimes memory, too, like you--you and Angie could have had a thousand conversations that weekend and then, there'll be something that just by writing this down, you go, "Oh man, I remember she mentioned whatever." And that'll help us find some directionality. So, we're just--I know it seems kind of goofy. We're. Like, "Hey, do all this." But it--it is truly--the brain is a powerhouse. Right?
It's a machine doing all kinds of things. This will help maybe pull up some of those things that we just don't feel are pertinent.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: So, that's why we're asking. It's not--I know that you're probably. Like, what in the world are these guys doing? But we're trying to help that brain find those little things that could help us pivot to figure out where she's at.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, for instance, me, like, I'm not, like, the type of person to--I don't know. Because. Like, when I talk----
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: ----that's what brings back memories. Like, me writing things down because I'm not, like, really the type of person--I don't like reading. I don't like books.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm. Like, more about outgoing person. Like, outdoors, like doing all this, like, it is cool, but it's, like, I don't think that'll refresh my memory.
SA MANN: How about this? If you talk it and we write it, and then, we'll just figure out where it goes timewise? Does that work for you?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, that's fine. I mean, I don't have--have a problem writing either, but I'm just letting you know that.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Let's let him give it a go. I--I mean, I appreciate you sharing that----

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I'm willing to do it.
SA GEREL: ----and--and we--we've got no--we've got nothing to lose about trying this.
CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
SA GEREL: So--so it may--it may help with your memory, it may not, but--but it--it is a good attempt and we thank you for giving it a go.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah.
SA MANN: And if you want, if it's easier, we can stick this on the wall, and you can write it out. I don't know. Whatever you----
CSSN COPELAND: It's fine.
SA MANN: Okay. Whatever will help you.
SA GEREL: Yeah. I'll get out of your way. So, let me go run and try to find some more of this.
SA MANN: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Where is it at in the car, by the way, just in case it as a last ditch effort.
SA MANN: They probably just floating around the truck somewhere, but----
SA GEREL: Okay.
SA MANN: Then, we'll make that--I just tossed them in there, so I-- I don't even know if they--actually, let me see if I have a-- sometimes I throw a sticky pad in here. Or not that one. This one.

That'll work.

SA GEREL: Oh, that's good. Yeah. That's good. Perfect.

SA MANN: I forgot I had that in there. See, using it on me. Little memory keys. Right? We can even do it for this.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: A little big. But it's all right.

While you're doing this, too, is there something we can get you to eat? Snacks or something? Just kind of power. I know you brought some in your hat like that jerky.

CSSN COPELAND: No, I--I'm fine.

SA MANN: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't even know that was in my pocket.

SA MANN: Oh, well, there you go. Surprise.

SA GEREL: And, in this room, I can also offer you an apple and crackers, Captain's wafers.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

So, like, when you say, like, Wednesday through Monday. Like, this is what happened each day?

SA GEREL: Yeah. However, really want to kind of tackle it. But you--you can--yes, please. Just as you think through those several days, of--of your--of your memories, just put them down as you--as you recall. And it does not have to be in order. So, you can, if

you think of something that happened Saturday, "Man, this happened right there."

SA MANN: So, it's easier. You can use these. They just--I don't know if that'll help, but I--I don't know if the stickers all messed up on those.

CSSN COPELAND: I--I just--yeah. Yeah. It is just, like, it's staggered weirdly.

SA MANN: Oh, okay. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

SA GEREL: I am sure that's not a rat.

SA MANN: Old buildings. If it makes you feel any better, this place probably isn't much better than a barge, and we're stuck here, so. SA GEREL: Hey, Copeland, you're doing a great job. We're going to give you the room for a minute, just to give you a little privacy. Here's your other pad if you if you run out the stickies. You can use these, too, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. Thank you.

SA GEREL: We'll come check on you in a few minutes. All right?

CSSN COPELAND: All right. Thank you. You mind if I--you mind just handing me the beef jerky stick?

SA GEREL: Of course, yeah. You--you want an apple or the Captain's wafers.

SA MANN: No, no. We can get you. Like, chips, crackers, whatever.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm good. Thank you.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 1:19:40.]

[SA Mann and SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 1:45:20.]

SA GEREL: Hey Copeland. All right. Looks like you did some good work here. Work here. How you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm doing all right.

SA GEREL: Okay. Good. I'm going to let you put your head down. How you feeling?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm tired.

SA GEREL: So, you said you didn't get any--you didn't get any sleep at all last night? Like, did--did you try?

CSSN COPELAND: I sleep--I mean, on top of that, I have a roommate, so he's the game screaming so.

SA GEREL: Oh, man.

CSSN COPELAND: He doesn't--he doesn't like--so his schedule is a lot easier.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: He literally stays up gaming the whole night.

SA MANN: And you have to listen to it.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, he usually gets off the game around. Like, when he has to go to work.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, he goes to work and then sleeps the entire day.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, he stays up all night screaming, and I don't think I closed my eyes--it was maybe around. Like, three, four o'clock.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When I actually got into the bed, because I was setting up the whole entire time for my uniform.

SA GEREL: Yeah, uniform. Did you touch sleep at least and catch a few--few moments?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. All right.

SA MANN: Yeah. So, good work. It looks like. Talk--talk us through. What do--do you--what do you got here?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, from the start to finish, is everything got correlated each day of?

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I believe the first through the third one is Wednesday.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from the third to the fourth one is Thursday to Friday. And then, from there, each--I believe I have each day on.

SA GEREL: Okay. What's that one say? Cleanup and something Angie helped?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She helped me clean up, and then she left.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, this is, do you--you remember about this, like what time or approximately?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't.

SA GEREL: Like, morning, midday, afternoon.

CSSN COPELAND: I think it was sometime in the morning.

SA GEREL: Okay. What day was that?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday.

SA MANN: About--so it was the night after you guys had hung out?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. Can you--do you need more paper or space or anything? I don't want to limit it.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's pretty much. Like, everything that I could. Like, just write down like that. I mean, I--I obviously. Like, I was just keeping it. Like, limited. But as long as you have questions, I'll answer them.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. So--so if you thank you for that, it's really good detail. I really appreciate you doing

that. So, any other details you can add to the phone calls that she started having? Like, that--that Wednesday night,

CSSN COPELAND: I think the first phone call started off with her calling her--her ex from Texas.

SA GEREL: When--when--when that happened, how was she--was she I--I--what was her--what was her emotional state. Like, when she started calling her?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine. Like, before she even started talking. Like, she was, she was, like, checking in on him, seeing how he was doing, and then, from there, that's when she told me to come over and meet him, and she was basically saying, like, we kind of looked the same.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, we have, like, the same body build, complexion--like, skin complexion. And she was saying, like, if I--if I was to get to know him. Like, would be. Like, good friends or whatever.

SA GEREL: So, she said, come over and meet him. Like, was it FaceTime or something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They were----

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you saw him on the phone?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there. Like, I was, like, "What's good bro?" And he was, like, "What's good?" And then, I just introduced myself, and she introduced me to him. And he kept--we kept it pretty cordial and then, from there, that's when they started talking.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, help me understand a little before that, you said that she uses her ex as kind of. Like, her--her main go to. I might have misunderstood, but I--I was kind of under the impression she--she was upset before that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That's when we started talking about Gil.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like in his incident. Like, that's when we first started talking about it, and she was, like, "No fucking way." You know, and just talking. She was, like, "I got a call, so and so," whatever her ex's name is.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then, that's when she was, like, "Oh, this is my ex from Texas." And then, she hopped on FaceTime, and then, from there, she was, like, "Come over so you can meet him." And that's when I met him.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, the--the Gil stuff, how--how long would that conversation with Gil happen before that FaceTime with the ex?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably. Like, seven minutes.

SA GEREL: Okay. Before that seven minutes, how was she acting?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was cool. Like, we were listening to music, and then, from there, she was teaching me how to make the tacos. Like, it was, like, corn--corn tacos.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: Once she put oil in a pan.
SA GEREL: Nice.
CSSN COPELAND: And she would let the, like, the tortilla like--like when it started softening and then, I would fold it in half.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there, I would put it on a plate, and then, I would put cheese in there, the taco meat, and then, whatever condiments I wanted, and then, the salsa.
SA GEREL: Okay. Were they good?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was good. The salsa, that shit was spicy as fuck though. When you eat it. Like, it is good.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
SA MANN: It hurts later. Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. And then, like--like a couple of minutes later, you start feeling in your stomach, and that shit--that shit will hurt.
SA GEREL: Did she make it. Like, from scratch?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Oh, nice. All right. So, before that, she was acting cool. Sometimes, when someone goes from cool to not cool, something triggered it. Do you--do you know what triggered the cool to not cool?

CSSN COPELAND: The bike helmet. Like, when she was talking about the bike helmet, that's what triggered it.

SA GEREL: So, she heard--did--well, tell me about that bike helmet. How did she--how did the bike helmet come up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. She was, I guess, texting Gil or some shit, and she had mentioned something, and she was, like, "You want to hear something crazy?" I was, like, "What's up?" And then, that's when she started talking about the Gil thing. And I was, like--I was, like--well, I was, like, "I'm not really going to get y'all situation, but that's crazy. Because he had told me today about such and such."

And that's when I told her about the--the conversation that I had with him on the mess decks about the female that had his bike or that drove on his bike. And she was, like, that's--that, like, she was, like, "That's fucking crazy."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, "Come look at this. And she was, like, showing me the text of when he was asking for the bike helmet

back and shit. And then, from there, I'm guessing she just put two and two together.

SA GEREL: Oh. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's what caused her blow up about the bike helmet.

SA GEREL: Okay. Gotcha. All right. And so, after that phone call with the ex, what--how did the night go from there?

CSSN COPELAND: I was just cooling and I was just sitting on the couch, just listening to music while she's over there just calling everybody. Just left and right, just calling people. And then, I remember my roommate had walked in, and he walked in because he--I believe he came from the airport, from leave or some shit.

SA GEREL: Is it your actual roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Oh, no, no, no. It's the people from across the room. So, inside the room, there's four people per room.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: But not four people per room, but it's four people in the room. SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But two people per--per room.

SA GEREL: Gotcha. So, you can----

CSSN COPELAND: It was the dude that lives across.

SA GEREL: You know their names?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know his name. I think it's like--his name is, fuck, fuck, fuck. I think it's, like, something Cruz. I think his last name is Cruz.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he's--he's Mexican. And. Like, he walked in, he is like--he's. Like, "Yo, everything good?" He's like--he looked at her, he is, like, "She good?" I was, like, "Bro, just--just let her have a moment." I'm just sitting on the couch, just cooling. And he was, like, "All right, bro." He's. Like, "if something pop off or you need me, just come knock on the door. I was, like, "All right, cool."

From there, she just kept making other phone calls and shit, and I told her, "I--I--I'm going to just go ahead to sleep. So, if you--if you want to go to sleep, then go ahead," and from there, that's when I went to sleep. By the time I woke up, she was in the bed, and that's when Chief was on the door.

So, I thought it was my roommate. Because sometimes when I close the door or if the door closes, my roommate either knocks or he fiddles with the handle.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, I thought it was him. So, I was, like, "Hold on." And I opened the door, and it's my Chief and he's. Like, "What's going on?" And I was, like, "Morning, Chief." And then,

obviously, I see it's daylight, so I'm. Like, "Fuck." And he was, like, "Yeah." He was, like, "Having a late start, huh? I was, like, "Yes, Chief," and then, from there, he just told me to clean up and then, find a way to work. He's. Like, "Do I got a way to work?" I was, like, "Yeah. Obviously, when my roommate gets here, he can take me."

But by the time my roommate got home, they were off work. So, that's when the bullshit on my behalf started. And I thought we had a blind turnover because last week we had a--a 96, so I was working that weekend. And how it worked, I would--the processes is if I was working, then I would--I would have to come in at 4:30. And if I wasn't. Like, a regular turnover.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Like, for instance, today I came in at 7:30 for turnover.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, I thought I didn't have to come in Friday. Cool. They didn't really say nothing. And then, Saturday hits, and they tell me I'm UA. I'm not, you know, me being a junior Sailor, not knowing the full details about being marked UA, so I'm not thinking it's a big deal. I was just, like, all right, cool. Like, they'll just see me Monday.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I'll explain what the fuck happened over the weekend. And then, Sunday hits, that's when more bullshit happens. You know, they had the MAs come get me out of my--my room, and they're basically asking me, like, I'm being marked UA. My command is looking for me and so on. So, I was, like, "All right, cool."

Then, after they left, I called my Chief, and I was, like, "Yo, Chief." I was, like, "Obviously, this is getting out of hand. You know, you guys marking UA and whatnot, whatnot." And my Chief was basically--he, you know, I'm not going to say because you know it, it's him and it's me, but he was telling me, "Go in Monday, because it--it is not really going to make a difference or whatever." But he was, like, "If you want to go in today, you--you know, it's your choice."

So, I was, like, "Yeah, I already got my uniform and shit on, so--so I'll just go in and, you know, see whatever they--they can do. Like, you know. And he was, like, "All right." But he was basically telling me, like, I didn't have to go in. Like he said, I still could waited until Monday, but----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----it would've made shit worse from--from what they said. But, you know, I went in, checked in with the CDO. The CDO was, like, yeah, my parents had called, and she called the command and she called the base. She was worried because I didn't answer

her call. So, so. I was, like, "Yeah, I talked to her." She wasn't-- you know, she put belt to ass on me, so.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: From there, they made me do a urinalysis, and then, from urinalysis, I went back home. Well, after I had left, I--I went to Chipotle. It was me and my two roommates that's across the room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And they took me to Chick-fil-A. We went to Chick-fil-A. We all got something to eat, went back home, ate, and then, the morning comes, I wake up, you know, a little early, and I'm trying to book a Uber, trying to book a Z-trip. Nothing's popping up. Because obviously the--the Truman just got back. So----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----I'm guessing it's hella busy. So, I called--I called Chief Parker, and I was, like, "Morning, Chief." He's. Like, what's going on?" And I was, like, "Do you--you think it's possible--" I was, like, "Do you think, you know, you can give me a ride? Because I tried booking so, and so, and it's not working." But that's when I was, like, "I think it's just because the Truman's back."

So, he was, like, "Yeah." He was, like, "I'm almost at work." But he was, like, "You're fine, I'll come grab you." So, he came

and grabbed me, and then, from there, I went to work. Chain of Command was just asking. Like, why was I UA, why I--I didn't answer calls and shit. And then, after that, finished work and then, I--I went home.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then as the days went by, that's when everything started getting serious. Like NCIS, and everybody started talking to me.

SA GEREL: Yeah. When did you start thinking that--that--that Angie might be part of that? Like, when did you, when did--did you start ever thinking about her as far as the UA thing?

CSSN COPELAND: When I got to work and they basically told me that the both of us has been marked UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, is that the first time that that came to mind?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. All right, so let's back up a little bit. On the--the night. So, you guys--Wednesday tonight, you guys are chilling. You watch her go through some stuff. You stayed calm. You--you room roommate comes in and--and says, "Everything cool?" And you're, like, "Yeah." He's. Like, "Let me know if you need help." Was that uncommon? Did he ever have that kind of comment to you before? Like, where he is asking you if, like, you know, the girl's okay or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I mean, at the end of the day. Like, he walked in and saw somebody crying.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like, if you were--I'm not saying like----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----you know, theoretically if you were, you know, my roommate and you walk in to see somebody, you know, just sitting there crying, you would ask is everything----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----okay?

SA GEREL: Is everything okay? No, I--I gotcha. All right. Was there--tell me about when she stopped crying. Was there a timeframe when she calmed down?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, yeah. Afterwards, when I told her. Like, "I'm about to. Like, go to sleep. I was, like, "It's getting late as fuck." I was, like, "I work." And--and she was, like, "Yeah, you're right." And from there, she had just sat down, and I was just, like, "If you need something, then I would just be in bed. Like, you come grab me."

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, around that time, like, she was still crying, but she was also, like, you know, I just told her. Like, "You--you got to chill. Because you know, I got people in the room."

SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: "And if you start making--like, you start getting louder and--and shit, obviously like they're going to wake up."
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: I was, like, "Just, like, if you need to go outside, go ahead." Cool. And I was, like, from there, "I'm go to sleep." And she was, like, "All right." And that's when I went to sleep.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. And what--what happened after you went to sleep with her? Or what else happened? Did she stay in the same place, or did she move, or what--what happened there?
CSSN COPELAND: She stayed--she went to bed and then, when I woke up, that's when Chief was knocking on the door.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there, he was just asking. Like, I need to get to work and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: That's when I told him. Like, "I'll get to work," but obviously, my roommate coming late as fuck, I couldn't, so.
SA GEREL: Gotcha. Gotcha. So--so we've heard, and read some accounts of like when--when you were first talked to by NCIS and kind of how you shared that stuff. And we watched the--the video of that--where the video, you talking to them this last time, which is more detailed.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: And then, this is very helpful too. So, a couple things, and this is normal, so don't worry, but there's a couple things that are just a little different in that. And so, we're trying to understand why. So--so one of the things that is a little different, and some of this is also compared to some of the people are saying that they saw. Some of your roommates and things like that.

But what--we have reason to think that somebody claims they saw you and her in the common room, at least in some portion of being unclothed. Help us understand that.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's what the female had said to me. She said my Chief walked in and saw both of us. Like, with no clothes on. And I was, like, that's not true because obviously my Chief knocked on the door.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And he was--he was, like, knocking on the door and shit and playing with the handle. I thought it was my roommate. I opened the door and I had a full conversation with him.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And--and like I was telling you, that's when the other detective. Like, that's when she, like--I felt like she was, like, antagonizing me. Like that's when she started playing her

role, and she's sitting there. Like, basically trying to make it seem like I'm lying or some shit. "Oh, so you're just going to sit here and actually call your Chief a liar?"

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Well, I think maybe that could have been a misconception, too. Like that could have come from a roommate, not Chief, like somebody that was seeing you guys. Because my understanding, the first time you talked to everybody, you said you--you guys had been drinking that night?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She--she had, you know, a couple shots and then, I had about two shots of the buzz ball.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: From there, I was chilling.

SA MANN: Okay. What'd you guys do that night, though? Like, did you party hang out? Like, you're getting late into the hours?

CSSN COPELAND: We were just listening music and she was making her phone calls and shit and whoever she was on the phone with. As far as me, I told her. Like, "I'm--I'm chilling, I'm cooling. Because I--I got work," and she understood. I have work. Like, I mean, at the end of the day, we both work together. We're both CS's. Like, they know the fucking hours we work.

SA MANN: Well, why--I mean, I guess it's kind of. Like, that brings up what--a question of them. Like, why would somebody say

that you two are partially or completely unclothed, laying on the floor in the living room area?
CSSN COPELAND: I don't know who would've said that, but as far as when I woke up, when my Chief walked into the room, we were both----
SA MANN: I think you guys were in bed, obviously. Yeah. But, like, prior to that, any time throughout the night, were you guys out in the common area?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. We were in the common area the whole--pretty much the whole night until I basically told her I--I was going to sleep.
SA MANN: Did you guys ever take your clothes off?
CSSN COPELAND: I never did. I mean, I know----
SA MANN: Did she?
CSSN COPELAND: ---when I was in my room, I changed my clothes. I know she didn't either.
SA MANN: Okay. What was she--was she clothed when she was in bed with you, and no clothes?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. When she was in bed, she took her clothes off.
SA MANN: Okay. And. Like, what does that mean? Like everything? Did she have undergarments on. Like, bras and underwear?
CSSN COPELAND: No, she just took her top off, and she had her pants and everything on and her underwear. When I woke up, I just had my

shirt--I just had my pants on, shirt off, because that's usually how I sleep. You can ask my roommate. It's either I sleep with--in my underwear, and just nothing. Well, just my underwear, or sometimes I'll sleep like with a tank top, shorts.

But for the respect of me having a female on my bed, I had shorts on, so.

SA GEREL: This might be a dumb question. It is a dumb question, but I'm going to ask it anyway. Was your roommate there? Like---

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: He was in the room that whole night?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. His name's Sean. Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, when she got in bed with you, did you know she got in bed with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I was dead asleep, and I didn't know until, obviously, I woke up and Chief was knocking on the door, and that's when I opened the door and, you know, we had our conversation.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. That's, I--I appreciate you sharing that. And then, that's you--you know--you you--you--you know probably why some of this might be suspicious to people.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You--you have a bit of a reputation as far as being a ladies' man. Like you--you girls like you. I don't know if that's true or not, but----

CSSN COPELAND: I just be chilling, man.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: If something happens, you know, sometimes it happens, man.

SA GEREL: Well, you--you know, you live your life----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----and then, the--the best you can and--and no criticism or judgment, and then, even maybe a jealousy on that. But--but, this is kind of the reputation you have. So--so with that perspective and to have, like, a--an attractive female who hops in bed with you, I think some people would presume that if you had a chance to have sex with her, you might would do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Most people probably would. If, you know, fully consensual and stuff like that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, I don't know if that's something that you'd be comfortable talking about, or maybe you've been uncomfortable talking about that. I actually do feel like you or--or have a--a--a

gentleman side of you too. So, you don't want to kiss and tell kind of stuff. And--and I respect that.

But again, it's a detail that if there's something like that that happened a bit more, it might make more sense. And--and if we have a--a person and not your Chief, but a person says that they saw you both unclothed in the common room and then, the Chief finds you unclothed in the bed, it kind of just becomes a little more understandable.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: It definitely doesn't mean anything more than you guys had consensual sex. You--you know, as far as that goes. But--but it would help us to understand that a little more. Is there--is there more you want to share about that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's as far as it went. I told her I was going to sleep and shit, and that's pretty much how it went. Obviously, when I woke up, Chief came in, told me, just make sure when I get to work, I--I get to work and shit. From there, I was, like, "All right, cool.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA MANN: Did Chief say anything to her?

CSSN COPELAND: He, obviously, he was, like, "Is V/A.R. in there?" And I moved out the way I was, like, "Yeah, she's right there." He saw her laying down and then, he was, like, "All right, cool. Just

make sure, you know, she gets home and then you get to work." He was just mainly worried about. Like, for me, getting to work. Because, obviously, I was supposed to be there at a certain time.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I'm not there. And then, obviously, I didn't go in the rest of the day, so now I'm being marked UA.

SA MANN: Gotcha. So, again, I know the--the sex piece is always a fun conversation. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Like, I surely want to go talk to NCIS about all my sexcapades.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: But, you know, it's not like we want to ask you, we have to. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: Like--like we're trying to let you have a private life, too. But it is important just to make sure, if something happened between you two sexually, that we're aware of that because that does explain things.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: So, and like I said, I know, you know, people have said you've got a little--little bit of game in the tank, so it sounds like you do all right, but----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: ----all that said, you know, if she happened to be one of them. Like, you know, it--it one way or another don't matter whether you did--didn't, but we just want to make sure we have the--
--
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: ----factual status of it. Aside from that, so I kind of want to start working, I think we both do, towards like what now. Right? So, Chief's there. You're, like, well, I guess, I'm just, like, at this point, like you said, not knowing what you don't know, you're, like, "Does it matter if I go to work today or the next day? I--trouble's trouble."

So, Chief leaves. Walk us through the rest of that morning.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Chief left, and then, after that, she woke up. I was, like, "You just want to help me clean, so obviously. Like, I can get to work." She was, like, "Yeah, cool." So, she started helping me clean, and then, from there, I cleaned up my room and shit.

Picked up. Like, my shoes and shit. Put them up--put them up, and then, from there, she left. I was, like, "If you need something, just call or text me." Cool. Got you. She left, and then I called my roommate and I'm asking him. Like, "What time are you getting off?" And he was telling me he doesn't know yet because

my--with his squadron, their shit is, it's a little different. Like, they have a day schedule, night schedule. Like, day schedule comes in at a certain time, leaves at a certain time. Night schedule--I don't know what time, but night schedule, and I don't know what schedule he was on.

So, by the time he got home, I just called Chief around dinner time when he told me to come in, I was, like, "I'm--I'm still waiting on my roommate." And he was, like, "All right, cool." So, I just sat down and I went to sleep until he got there. By the--the time he got there, I looked at the time I was, like, "Fuck." I was just, like, well, I'll just go in Monday and obviously tell them what happened.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't know, like if you don't show up to work one day, you have to, you know, go the next day and be. Like, I'm here.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I just--I was just, like, fuck it. I went to sleep and then, the weekend proceeds, and then, obviously, Sunday or Saturday, they tell me I'm UA. And then, Sunday the MAs come through and shit, and then, from there I go to the--the barge and then--go to the CDO and shit. Tell him, "I'm--I'm here."

And then, Monday hits the next thing that we both were UA, and I was, like, bro, what the fuck? And then, now that's all this.

SA MANN: Yeah. How--how was she when you left, or I'm sorry, when she left, how--how was she acting?
CSSN COPELAND: She was good. Like, she was just like acting normal and shit. Like, how she usually does when she's at work or, like, you know, energetic and shit. And then, she--she was just, like, "Cool. If you need something, just call or text me, or some shit." And she was, like, "All right, bye." And then from there, I finished touching up. Like, putting the dishes in the dishwasher, and that's when I called my roommate asked him. Like, what time's he getting off and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay. How did she feel about the Chief seeing her in your bed?
CSSN COPELAND: At the time she was asleep, so--so I don't really think she cared that much. I mean, she--when she woke up and shit, I was, like, "Chief was in here," and she was, like, "All right." And I was, like, "Yeah. So, I got to start getting ready for work."
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, obviously, I don't think she cared that much.
SA GEREL: All right. I don't know the rules for your barracks. Is that something that's allowed?
CSSN COPELAND: What females?
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. You can have females in your room.
SA GEREL: All right. So, the fact that she's in your bed is not just an instant problem, it's a, you know--it's allowed is what you're saying?
Did you think the Chief was upset by that or should have--have been upset? Not should have been. But was he upset?
CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. He was just telling me, like, make sure I get to work and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. And how did she feel, or did she make any comment at all about the fact that she--she was in bed with you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. She didn't say anything. She just woke up and shit. But by the time she woke up. Like, I was already up like--like cleaning my room and shit because Chief just walked in.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, did--did you ever feel like interested in asking her what that was about? Like, why she just climbed in bed with you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, that's not--not the first time I slept with a female or had a female. Like, in my bed.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: There's been times where I had hella people in my room and, you know.
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, they want to sleep on the bed, all right, cool. And this was a female, she just want to sleep on it. Cool. Like, you go to sleep on the floor, you know. I--I usually sleep on the bed, I'll sleep on the floor, vice versa. Like, this is not the first female that I've had in my room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I've had many people. Like, groups of people in my room, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. Yeah. No, thank you for tolerating those questions. You--you--you, as I said, you know, kind of why they might be suspicious to some people.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And I know they're not easy question to answer, but it--it helped us to kind of get a better sense for that. All right. Now we're--we're also taking a little bit of a look at what--at least they thought they heard you say the first time they talked to you, which was not the time you came here, as far as when she left.

So--so, it feels. Like, I think you said, you drove her back to her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. I don't--I don't--I believe I could have said that too, but I was thinking I didn't obtain my roommate's car because my roommate always was at work, so,

SA GEREL: Okay. Help--help me understand that. So, like, we definitely seem to have, like a strong perspective of what it was now. So, help me understand the difference here. Like, why you said that, that first time versus what you're saying now.

CSSN COPELAND: After I actually. Like, taking the time to actually process what happened as things got more serious, obviously, I had to get my story and timeline straight. So, obviously, my roommate didn't have his car.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or I didn't have my roommate's car because he was at work.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, when I knocked on the door, he was not in his room. He was gone, so.

SA GEREL: All right. All right. Okay. Is there any part of you that feels like that could have happened?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you--okay. Gotcha. So, you just had more time, and I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I'm just trying to make sure I'm understanding you right. So--so you're saying that you had time to think about it? Think about your story and timeline, and that's when you realized you didn't drive her?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Because my roommate wasn't home and I was, like, "Okay, why did I say I took her home? Obviously, if my roommate's not home."

SA GEREL: Okay. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, obviously, when I come in, I switched it up and you guys are going to think it's switched, but at the same time----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't have my roommate's car, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. No, again. You're reasonable. And you can kind of see why that might seem suspicious, but you're answering it and you're talking about it, so I appreciate that. I mean, sometimes that happens right when we remember something a little differently.

So, it is--it is a very important detail, in terms of, because that is the last moments, right, that you remember from her.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So--so that's always going to be an important topic when someone goes missing. What's the last thing we can figure out as far as someone sees her or talked to her? Like, that's why I keep asking how is she--how was she acting? All right.

SA MANN: I think kind of fast forwarding from that, so that--when's the last time you actually like eyes on her?

CSSN COPELAND: When she was leaving. Obviously, I was, like, "I'm getting ready for work and shit."
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And she walked out the door. I was just telling her before she left. Like, "If you need something, just call, text, and shit."
SA GEREL: Did she say anything about what she was doing when she left? Was there a conversation at all?
CSSN COPELAND: No. It was just, "Have a good day and shit." Like, you guys, all the people I hang out with, too. Like, if I'm leaving and shit, like I--I said the same thing. In the case you my boy, if you need something, just call, text me. Safety and if you need something. Like, I got you.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, can you kind of, then--just so she leaves. Can we start just kind of walking through your day a little bit, then? Like, step by step? And if you mess something up, miss something, go back, rewind, and add it in there because this is a great start. Right?
But now we want to kind of start filling in just to see maybe there's something that you're going to recall, remember that'll help point us in the right direction. So, like, she departs, what comes next for you that day?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I finished cleaning, like I said. I was putting. Like, the rest of the dishes that was out into the dishwasher. Just wiping the counters and shit. Vacuuming, sweeping, and then, from there, I was waiting for my roommate.

SA GEREL: What'd you do while you waited?

CSSN COPELAND: I was just watching TV and then, from there, I laid down and then, by the time I woke up, I was, like, "Fuck." Because it was too fucking late. But I called my Chief around dinner time and I--I told him. Like, "I'm still waiting for my roommate." So, he was, like, all right, whenever he gets there, just let me know, whatever."

SA GEREL: What do--do you mean you say you. Like, woke up? Like, took a nap or?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, yeah.

SA GEREL: Not the--this isn't referring back to the morning. I just want to make sure I--I--I'm not confusing.

CSSN COPELAND: Oh, yeah. But yeah, I was just telling him. Like, I was waiting for my roommate----

SA GEREL: Just past time.

CSSN COPELAND: ----yeah. For the time waiting, I just went to sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay. And that was on the couch, you said?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. By the time--no, no, no. It was in my room. Like on my bed.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: By the time he got back, it was too late.

SA MANN: What time was that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know.

SA MANN: Just----

CSSN COPELAND: Like, by the time I woke up, it was--dinner was done.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And by the time, like, dinner starts. Like, our chain of command leaves, so I already knew before----

SA MANN: Are you talking about. Like, on the ship, like when you guys would be preparing dinner?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Like, but the barge, so.

SA MANN: Or the barge, okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I called him to verify. I was telling him. Like, "I don't think I'm going to make it." I--I told him I was just waiting for my roommate, and he said, "Whenever he gets there, just show face."

SA MANN: What time does dinner room for you guys on the barge?

CSSN COPELAND: 15 and. Like, 1530. And it ends around 17. So, we usually get off around, depending on how fast we clean, like 1730, 1745.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, by the time I woke up, it was--it was--dinner was done.

SA GEREL: It was after that. Sometime after 5:30 that night. Conceivably?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. Was your roommate back at that point?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I just woke up late.

SA GEREL: Gotcha.

W2: And then, from there, I was just, like, it's no need to argue or nothing, shit. And I was just, like, "Fuck it." And I was, like, when Monday comes, I'll just explain to. Like, what happened. But, obviously, I couldn't because I was freaking UA.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: They waited to tell me Saturday

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So----

SA MANN: So, what then. Like, you wake up, it's too late to go to work. What do you do with your Friday night?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I just stayed home, like in the building. I was, like, going to the--the lounge and shit. Just chilling on my phone, on TikTok and shit. Because I'm--I'm telling you. Like, my roommate is one--one hard person to deal with.

Like, it's--it's--it is like sad, like how certain people live, and he's just one of those people that is just like--like you worried for. It's, like, when I first checked into the room, I think. Like, that first week I slept on the couch.

SA GEREL: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Because he just--the way he lives is filthy.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: He uses the bathroom, doesn't flush the toilet. He's never taken a shower ever since I've been there. The only time he's taken a shower was the first day that I entered the room, and I--I don't even think he took a shower. He just had the water running. He gets off work as soon as he gets off work, he takes off his clothes in the bathroom, and puts on the same pair of clothes he's been wearing for I don't even know how long.

He doesn't wash his clothes. He doesn't clean anything. He just keeps using. Like, for instance, I'll go to the store or some shit. I'll buy some food, or I'll buy like cups of shit. He doesn't ask to use it. All right. It's, like, you know, it's a

couple things. A couple, you know, I'm not going to argue. You know? Cool. I'm going to just let him do him.

So, it's just, like, every day I walk in and it's, like, I go in the room and the room just fucking stinks. Like, every--someone I'm going to fucking Walmart getting hella Febreze, hella. Like, shit filter out the room and his fucking stink is overpowering that shit.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just, like, bro, I don't know what to do. So--so I just fucking sleep on the couch. Or sometimes I'll just go on the--the lounge or I'll have, like, my homeboys come pick me up and go out. Like, pretty much every weekend we're--we're outside or some shit.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or they would just come over and we'll chill.

SA GEREL: So, do you go out that weekend as well then?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I stayed home. Like some days, like----

SA MANN: On Friday, Saturday, obviously Sunday, you went to work?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But this weekend I stayed in. I wasn't trying to go outside. I--I remember last weekend I touched out for a little bit, but I mainly stayed inside at my homeboy's crib.

SA MANN: Where is that?

CSSN COPELAND: The PPV off base. So, we just stayed there pretty much the whole weekend, just chilling.
SA MANN: Is--when you say PPV, I know that's, like, the private, but is it, is he in like--like a legitimate house-house or is he in kind of an apartment set up? Like, what's his----
CSSN COPELAND: It's just like my barracks.
SA GEREL: Oh, same thing, just off base.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Okay. And that's where you were, what, Saturday?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I'm saying, like, the--not this last week.
SA MANN: Oh, the weekend before. Okay. Well, what about that weekend? Like, that Saturday?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That whole weekend, I stayed in the building. While I was just chilling. Like, in the lounge room or some shit, like on TikTok and Instagram, and then, when Sunday hit and I was taking a shit, that's when the MAs came and they basically told me, like, I'm UA and I need to report to my command. But the whole weekend I literally stayed home.
SA MANN: So, who can kind of help us account for that time? Seeing you in the building, talking to you, interacting with you?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, one, I mean, whatever MAs were there, I'm not sure what MAs were there.
SA MANN: I know Sunday, but I mean, like, Friday, Saturday.

CSSN COPELAND: You got Miss Mary, the front desk.
SA GEREL: Okay. She's there on the weekends as well.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure about the weekends. I--I mean, obviously, the Truman got back, so I'm guessing she had to come in because people needed barracks, but usually she's there Monday through Friday, and sometimes over the weekend. I don't know really how their schedule works.
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, I remember Chief was saying, I know they have like--like eight hour shifts and shit. That's. Like, their duty days or whatever, so.
SA GEREL: Did she see you? Did you talk to her?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. We physically--we physically talked.
SA GEREL: When was that?
CSSN COPELAND: I believe it was, like, almost every day of the week. I remember she walked in, and I was sitting there, and she was, like--she was, like, "Are you in this building?" I was, like, I was, like, "Yes, ma'am." I started smiling and she was, like--she was, like, "What room are you in?" I was, like, "335." And she started laughing. She was, like, "Oh." She was, like, "What are you doing?" I was, like, "I--I'm just chilling." And she already knows my story about my roommate. So, she already knows. Like, I don't really associate. Like, how my roommate lives. So, like, if

it gets to a certain point or too bad, I just leave the room or I just stay on the couch.

SA GEREL: You guys, when did you have that conversation with her? I believe that was Friday or Saturday. It was one of the two. And then, I remember when I was taking the shit, I remember she tried to open the door. I was out by the lounge, and she opened the--she tried to open the door, and I was, like, I'm--I'm here using the--the restroom. And she was like--like, "Who's that?" And I--I said, "Copeland." And she was, like, "Oh, okay." And she--she kept walking. I believe that was--that was Sunday. So, I'm pretty sure she can account for me--seeing me during the weekends.

SA MANN: Okay. And where did you. Like, did you not go out and get food? Anything?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I got hella food in the house.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I rarely go out to eat. I got hella food at the house.

SA MANN: Did anyone have a conversation with you about Angie at any point that weekend?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't think so. Rather than when Chief and them text me saying that I need to report to the ship. Rather than that, you know, I had other people text me, like asking if I was good. I answered my phone. Like most people know. Like,

especially my chain of command, when I'm off, I'm off. I--I don't associate work and all that shit.

So, when I--especially, you know, you can talk to CS2 about that too. Like, because even with the incident with the female trying to stab me and shit, and when--when they were calling me and shit, I don't answer my phone for them. Like, I don't really, I don't really like my chain of command. Like, my second classes, they're cool, but when it comes to my first class, I don't fuck with my first class.

So, like, even when my first class texts, I don't text him. So, yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. So, Friday was just filled with TikTok and Instagram.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Same with Saturday and then Sunday as well. That's literally how my whole weekend was. I was just stayed at home in the barracks. And then, obviously, Sunday, that's when the MA's came. So, a little halfway through my day, I was----

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----getting ready to leave.

SA GEREL: So, what's something you think that you can tell us that's going to help us figure out where Angie's at?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I got no clue. I mean, obviously, you guys are, I've done everything you could so far. You've questioned me. You

fucking destroyed my whole fucking room. Damn near three days consecutive. And you guys got all my shit and so it's, like, at this point I--I--I got nothing else to offer. I--I don't know.

SA MANN: I think the biggest, obviously, you know. Like, gap points are the ones that we got to fill in. Right? So, like--like I said, just logically speaking through this to you to try and give you the best idea of what we've got to accomplish, it's a lot of time, but you just being on your own. Right?

And I'm not saying that you're making that up. Maybe you we're just hanging out in the lounge the whole time, but it leaves a lot of open doors. Right? Because, you know, so maybe somebody could see you for a minute or an hour. You know, there's some other things I think that are maybe important to that conversation that we want to have.

But ultimately, as we sit here right now, so you know, you look at Thursday morning when you guys wake up and it's Chief's there. Like, "Hey man, get to work." There's the entirety of Thursday, entirety of Friday, entirety Saturday, and partial of it a Sunday where it's tough to account for where you are. Right?

Because there's nothing, maybe other than a person at some point, maybe seeing you. So, we really want you to kind of think and go back and say, "Hey, where was I? Who was there? What--what helps lock in your version of what's happened?" which we want to be

the truthful one. And--and we want to be able to verify that that helps. Right?

When you tell us something and we can go bounce it off something else, we go, great. That's what happened.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like I'm saying, I mean, miss Mary obviously, try this lady, she saw me. I remember--I can't recall if this was Saturday or Sunday, but I remember when I was sitting in the lounge, there was a--there was a white male that walked in. He offered me a bag of chips. I was, like, "Oh, I'm good." But they made him come into the lounge because they were waxing the floor.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, he tried to leave a couple times and they kept telling to come back and tell they're done waxing the floor. So, I had another encounterment with another male inside the lounge.

SA MANN: What day was that?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I said it was either Saturday or Sunday.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: bI couldn't recall which--which day it was. They also had hella--hella workers up there as well. So, they were waxing the floor. They obviously saw me. They--they told the both of us that we can leave now and then, I was, like, cool. I just walked down to my room.

SA MANN: Okay. Walking this back a little bit, too, because you know, it's--it's not completely off the table. Right? But generally if somebody, and--and, you know, I'm not saying this happened, but if somebody were to harm themselves or just say, "Hey, I'm going to go off the radar, like I'm going to disappear," there's signs, right? It's hard to, especially for, you know, 20-year-old kid, 21-year-old girl, whatever she is at the--at this point, to really do all that without somebody kind of having some stamp. She's so, you know, just like you, it's that social media, you're always ingrained, you're on there.

So, it's--it's rare that somebody would just gone, right? Like without a trace. So, that's why we're asking a lot of these, probably to you, ambiguous, some kind of odd questions. It's because it's a, you know, there always a time for something to break from the norm, but more common is somebody ends up given some indicators, given some signs.

Something to provide a reason for, this is why I'm going to go do this, or this is why I'm going to disappear. This is why I feel like I need to go harm myself, or whatever it may be, if that's what happened. And I--I think at this point, you know, I know you have a special spot in your heart for family, and obviously that's what's eaten away at you a lot today.

But having now seen, you know, Angie's mom and just the--the--the immense amount of pain that she seems to be in, having no idea, if nothing else, I think we all owe her just the best time talking through this, so we can to try and make sure that we're not missing any small stone to turnover.

Because for that hope that she has. Right? Like--like we're going to sit here and--and say, we--we need to do everything we can to try and find this girl.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: And, you know, that may unfortunately come down to alive or not.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: But, it gives a sense of closure, and I think that family piece is really going to be the motivator. Because, especially, you know, I can imagine if that happened to you, your mom was worried, but it was just a--a simple baby UA, but they still know where you are. And you guys, you alluded to that conversation happened.

And so, think about her mom now and how long has it been, you know, we're talking over a week and not having a single word of your daughter. You used to talk to her every day. Like, that's--that's tough. So, I know that family thing hits, and that's why we're just probably, it feels like bludgeon in you with a lot of questions that

seem repetitive or redundant, but we're just trying to spark something.

Maybe it comes out a different way. Maybe you've got some detail that was buried before that it circles back. You're, like, "Oh, you know what?" And that's what we really want to do with you. That's what these kind of tools are for. That's why we do it. Because it's bigger than you. Bigger than me, bigger than him. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: You know, like let's say this was nefarious. Crime piece aside, if you could say something or do something that matters at this point. Like, that matters, but finding her matters more, right? So, I think that's--that's everybody's goal here. And I know you sort of said earlier. You have your own aspirations for----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----what's with her. But, you know, if you were able to send her a message now and maybe move the--move the needle or get her back or figure out where she was, what--what do you think you could say in that area that would help?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, not much. I mean, shit. Like I said, when she left, I told her if she needs something, just call or text me. I mean, I text her after Chief had said--after Chief had notified me

that we both were UA. And I text, I was, like, "Bro. Like, you good? Like they marked fricking, both of us UA."

And--and at first I was, like, mad because I was, like, what the fuck?

SA GEREL: What do you mean?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I was mad because I was, like, "Why the fuck did like Chief Mark, both of us UA?" At that point, I was pissed. Honestly, I was more pissed at Chief. But at the end of the day. Like, I can't argue. At the end of the day, like----

SA GEREL: So, you sent her that text?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I was just, like, I--I text her. I was saying--I was, like, "Bro, is you good? Like, they're freaking marking us both UA."

SA MANN: What'd she say to that?

CSSN COPELAND: She didn't say anything.

SA MANN: Could you tell if she--she read it?

CSSN COPELAND: Hm?

SA MANN: You know, like you get the little things where it says hey, like if somebody read this or didn't read it?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Her shit was on Do Not Disturb.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just, like, all right, cool. And then, from there, that's when the days proceeded. And then, they ended up taking my phone and shit.

SA MANN: You say her hers was on Do Not Disturb. What do you mean? Like, the phone, the--like, entire. Like, you can see that on the message?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It says phone--her number was silenced.

SA MANN: Oh. So, you send somebody that text, it'll tell you. Like, they're not getting it.

CSSN COPELAND: No, it'll tell you. Like, for instance. Like, my phone stays on Do Not Disturb. And through the settings, you can either have it to allow you to have your phone. Like, show up. Like, on Do Not Disturb.

SA MANN: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: Or sometimes you could just receive the messages and it isn't. Like, you know, notify them back and your phone will not-

---

SA MANN: Oh, so you're saying her setting was set, so when you sent it----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----you immediately knew?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. When I sent on the message at the bottom, it was saying her--her shit was silences.

SA MANN: Okay. Did you ever go back and look and see if she read it?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I just texted. I mean, at the end of the day, if somebody sends me a text and if you reply, you reply. If you don't----

SA MANN: No, I got it. You can't follow up on everything.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: All right.

SA GEREL: In terms of those phone settings, how do you keep your phone settings? I think you just said a little bit. You--you have yours on Do Not Disturb?

CSSN COPELAND: My phone stays on Do Not Disturb 24-7.

SA GEREL: Do you share your location with your--with your people?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I mean, like the group of people I used to hang out with, I would turn my settings. Like, I would share my location just for like going out and shit. So, we know where each other are. Like--like, for instance. Like, we'll go somewhere and then, we'll regroup or like go to a party.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: We go here just seeing what--what options are happening or, like, what's going on tonight, and then, we regroup and shit.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, it sounds like that's a setting you turn on, turn off depending on the circumstances.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, there's a female I talked to and my--my location stay on for her, but most of the--the time before that my location home was off.
SA MANN: Who's, who's that?
CSSN COPELAND: A female back at home.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Yeah. So, one of the things that we may have reason to understand is that your location settings turned off over the weekend, and it helps--help me understand that, like, why over the weekend you would've turned off your location sharing?
CSSN COPELAND: Because I mean, obviously, one thing about me is I don't like people getting in my business. I remember that somebody in the group chat said something of my location. Like, they stalked me and shit. I was, like, bro, so I turned that shit off.
SA MANN: When did they say that?
CSSN COPELAND: It was in a group chat, like, bro on the group chat.
SA MANN: Yeah. Yeah. But I mean, when did somebody say something about your location in the chat that made you turn it off?
CSSN COPELAND: During the weekend. Like, if I'm at home, why do they look at my location? Like, cool. I mean, it could have came

to the crib or some shit or texted me, like, I'm on the way to the crib. All right, cool.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But if you're just watching. Like, target watching where I'm at, that's--I find that a little suspect.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's not--that's not comfortable.

SA MANN: Oh, yeah. So, do you remember doing that, though? This weekend?

Okay. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: Location was on for like one--one or two people.

SA MANN: The whole weekend.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was, like, because we were out, so they had my location. It was, like, two people. Because we were hanging out with some people at my homeboy's crib, and I kept my location on. But that was not--not this previous weekend, but the weekend before that, like, when we were out and then, obviously, sometimes--usually I would turn it off. Or sometimes. Like, certain people, I share my location just for 24 hours, or sometimes I'll keep it indefinitely, or however you say that shit.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, eventually, I'll turn that shit off.

SA MANN: But the girl from back home always on.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, ours is different. So, she has me on Life 360.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, on Snapchat. Like those--they just have my number. SA MANN: Do you still have Life 360 on there?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: And so, obviously that--you'd have to go and. Like, turn that off in the app separate to----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----kill it. So, would she--like, would that be on throughout that weekend? So, when they look at that phone data specifically, they're going to see. Like, here I am.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's why we're asking. It's very helpful. So, if we have people that can say, yeah, we saw Copeland here, here, here throughout the weekend. Of course, the helps a lot.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And we're working on that. The phone is great too because you know, if it--it'll show where it's at, so they'll able to see where the phone's at, which is also very helpful. That's why we're asking.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I gotcha.

SA GEREL: But we're--we're trying to help you the best we can on--
on those details. It sounds like sometimes you're not super good
with names, so if you--if you could think of any other names like
that. You said you--you ran into one white dude over the weekend
who gave you a bag of chips. He--he offered.
CSSN COPELAND: He didn't give----
SA GEREL: Offered. Okay. Anything else you can tell us about that
instance? That would be very helpful.
CSSN COPELAND: Shit, I've never seen the dude a day in my life, so.
SA GEREL: Okay. Did he seem like a young guy? Like a----
CSSN COPELAND: He looked like--yeah, he looked like he was young.
Like, anywhere from out of high school to, I'd say, like, 20 to 21.
SA GEREL: Like, a Sailor is what you----okay. So, you've never
seen him before?
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: So, what prompted him to offer you chips? Did you say
anything in conversation or?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, the--they told him to go in there and
then he walked in there and he was, like, "What's up?" I said,
"What's good?" And then he sat down. He was just on his phone.
And then he tried to leave, and he came back, and you could tell he
was, like, catching an attitude. And I was, like, "You good?" He

was, like, "Nah, they keep fucking turning me around," because he's trying to get to his room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But they keep turning him around. He was, like, "I almost slipped by, but he saw him in the corner."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I was, like, "Oh shit, bro." I started laughing. He was, like, "You want a bag of chips?" I was, like, "What--what kind of chips do you have?" And he started naming all the shit he had in there. I was, like, "Nah, I'm good." I was, like, "I--I usually like to eat hot. Like, hot chips and shit."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: He was, like, "Okay." I was, like, "Yeah." And from there, I think he tried to leave like one more time. They turned him around and then, after that, they allowed us to leave.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. In--in terms of your phone, and again, just to make sure you've, you've tested your memory as much as you can. If--if we were at see Ping in any other parts of Tidewater. Like, in another city over the weekend, any--any way we can--you can help us understand that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, the location and shit has been on for, on Life 360, so I'm sure you can look through the app and see----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----where, what's been the whole weekend.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as, like, my settings for Apple and shit, I don't know how that works for--I don't know how that shit works.

SA GEREL: But if it. Like, showed up like in Hampton or Suffolk or something, or downtown Norfolk. Like, did--did any--any chances you could remember. Like, being in a different place?

CSSN COPELAND: I've been home the whole weekend.

SA GEREL: Okay. I know you're trying hard to remember. I just wanted to give you a chance to give your thoughts on it.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not really thinking, I just know.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I was home the whole weekend.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Okay.

SA GEREL: Did you loan your phone to anybody?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm.

SA GEREL: Did--did you loan your phone to anybody? Anybody have your phone but you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I just had it.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Was there any time you were. Like, away from your phone for a period of time?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, usually my phone stays with me.
SA MANN: Was there any break of that usual, like, that weekend where you maybe left it in your room for a while? Like, had to go charge it because it died, or you went and did something else?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, I mean, sometimes if it dies, then it just die, and then, whenever I get to charge it, then I charge it. I'm not, like, the type of person that's, like, "Oh, I need my phone." You know, if I don't have it, I don't have it.

But, like, I mean, sometimes there's, like, people I need to call or some shit, and I'll text him and shit. And other than that, I'm not like a type of person that's, like, "Oh, I'm going to die if I don't have my phone, so."

SA GEREL: All right. Do you have--do you have more than one phone? Did they understand that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I told them I had another phone, but it's broke. That's why I had bought a--sold the phone that I have now. The black one?
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: That's my phone. I had one before that, and it broke. So, through my AT&T, I basically got another phone through my insurance.

SA GEREL: Okay. And they were basically saying, like, I got 31 days to turn it in or else, basically, I got to charge my next bill.
SA MANN: When--when did it break the other phone?
CSSN COPELAND: A couple months ago.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, a while ago?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. It was a while ago.
SA GEREL: What--what happened to it? How did it break?
CSSN COPELAND: I dropped it. I mean, obviously, I don't have a case on my phone, so I dropped it and that's it. The whole front and the back----
SA MANN: That's a bad day.
CSSN COPELAND: ----completely shattered.
SA GEREL: That is a bad day.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: All right. Do you have more before I do a quick little transition?
SA MANN: No, I'm good.
SA GEREL: I want to make sure that we do take good care of your time and respectful like we talked about. So, you've been super cooperative and helpful, and we appreciate that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: How are are you feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. You need anything from us? You need more water or more food? You need a bathroom break?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Do you mind if I use the restroom?
SA GEREL: Of course. Let's take care of that. And then, we'll want to make sure it's cleared out? We have little game plan after that. And then, we'll get--we'll get you to the next thing. Any questions for me?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, you're doing okay. Now, as far as, like, I--I know you were a little low asleep and just kind of stressed out. Do you feel like you're able to hear things, make decisions, recall things properly? Do you do you feel like you're--in your--like able to be as you normally are?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, tell--tell me if that changes. Okay. I--I want to talk to Copeland, you know, who's fully attentive and remembering and thinking. I--I don't want any other version where you're just, like, ah, you know, I don't feel good enough to actually talk or think about this stuff. Your mental health important to me.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Who do you talk to when you feel like you need a little talking to? Like, you need a boost.

CSSN COPELAND: My homeboy's name's JJ, like the CS I work with you.
SA GEREL: You talked to JJ?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, that's my--my dude to go to.
SA GEREL: How about family, friends, anything like that?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean----
SA GEREL: Well, yeah, JJ's your friend. But any family or, like, parents or?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, family wise I go to my mom.
SA GEREL: All right.
SA MANN: Yeah. You're good. The door's just locked on this.
SA GEREL: That's okay.
SA GEREL: Run around and get her her open.
[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland departed the room at timestamp 2:43:40.]
[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland entered the room at timestamp 2:45:17.]
SA MANN: Need anything?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA MANN: I know, you know, there's a lot that we're talking through and going through. Our best interest at this point is your best interest in that we want to try to give you a chance to rule some things out, too. So, I think we've got some other steps that we

want to talk through here shortly about how we can get some things from you that'll help us do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: So, we're going to walk you through what that entails, probably as well.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. For sure. And again, thank you for helping us as much as you can.

W Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we're trying to get a couple of things, not that we need them right now, but we might need them pretty quickly in the future. One of those, when we start looking for, like DNA and things like that, we got to be able to exclude people that would naturally have DNA in certain places.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Do you mind giving us some of your DNA?

CSSN COPELAND: What do you--you mean by that?

SA GEREL: Just get a swab of your mouth. They have it on--on samples in case they need to compare anything.

CSSN COPELAND: When.

SA GEREL: Like, right now. Yeah. So, it is a simple process. So, if you said, "Yeah, I'm cool with that," the other agent would come

in and take a little swab, get inside of your mouth, and then we have it for the case as it calls.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as my DNA for what?

SA MANN: So, it just rules you out. Right? Like, if so, if they find some DNA and they're, like, hey, we don't know whose this is. Like say there's a--a drop of blood, a tear or something, and we want to know, "Hey, was she here?" Well, if it's yours, we don't have your DNA that to run it against, right? So, we'll know it's yours. If it's hers, we--she's not here. Right? We can't get hers. So, we can at least say, "Hey, it isn't his, maybe it's hers," or something like that. So, it gives us just an idea of are we looking at the right places to try and find her?

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

SA GEREL: You cool with that?

SA MANN: That's sound good. I mean, it's just basically it's like--like a big Q-tip, but they just----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: It doesn't hurt anything.

SA MANN: No. It's just a cotton swab.

SA GEREL: It's even less intrusive than like the COVID test if you've had any of those.

SA MANN: Yeah. We're not shoving things into your brain to make sure you don't got COVID.

SA GEREL: So, okay. Well, here's that form. So, this is--it's called Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure. All it is is they're getting it for the main concept of it if they have to look or compare things, in the search for Angie. Okay?

So, the thing that you're actually getting is--is DNA, and it's in that swab. Feel free to review of it if you're good with that, just give me a good signature right here.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm signing where?

SA GEREL: Right here. You got any questions about it?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. I'll give this to the--the lady and then, she'll be here to go grab that.

SA MANN: So, she's coming in. She's going to wear a mask. She's going to be like up in your junk. So, not that she's sick or anything, but just to make sure you

CSSN COPELAND: You want me to sit or stand?

SA: No, you're fine. You can just sit--sit right there.

SA MANN: It's just a long Q-tip.

SA: Yeah. I'm just going to get your cheek cells in there. So, shouldn't hurt at all, but if I do, just let me know. I'm just going to do basically four swabs total. Just two and two.

Okay. This open mouth. I'm just going to get all the corners here.

SA MANN: Two down. Got a little cotton mouth like now.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Got water. Wash that down once you're done. Don't take a sip quite yet.

SA GEREL: Yeah, when she's done. Do you need more?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I got a little bit in there.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah, just get that cotton out of the mouth.

SA: But still not as bad as the dentist, I feel like.

SA MANN: Oh, no, it's not. We were talking COVID test like I disappears into your brain right there.

SA: Yep.

SA MANN: I--I think I literally----

SA: Perfect. Thank you.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

SA: Do you have the time--what time it is?

SA MANN: It is 1133.

SA: 1133. Thank you.

SA MANN: Yes, ma'am.

SA: Perfect. Thank you.

SA MANN: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All good, sir?

SA GEREL: Hold tight.

SA MANN: You got water out? No, I--I mean, technically yes, whenever you want. You can always say no. But, if you're willing to hang out for a little bit, I think we're want talk through a couple things, or if your good with that.

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. So, 1130 since you can't see time. So, what--what questions you got for us?

CSSN COPELAND: Nothing.

SA GEREL: Okay. We've covered some--some similar stuff you've already talked about, a couple of new things, and sometimes that will prompt a question or, like, if you--you want some clarification on what we know about what's happening? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. I appreciate that. I just want to, as I mentioned to you, make sure you--you know, that we're trying to be good hosts. So, I don't want to just bombard you with questions about giving you chance to talk a little bit, too. Free--free talk.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: What I think would be good if we have a few of the other agents that are involved in the case. It'd probably be good for Tyler and I to walk out and just kind of get our--our--our heads together as to make sure we've answered all the questions we can with you today.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: I--I think we getting real, real close. Do you have anything you want to ask him about before we do that?
SA MANN: No. I mean did were--were you hanging on to something there? Because I feel like there's kind of that pause, like, "Oh, maybe." Like you--you got anything that's sort of resonating?
CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I--I was just thinking, like, do I got any questions for y'all? I don't--there's not really much. At the end of the day, y'all are doing your jobs, so.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Yeah. We appreciate it much.
SA MANN: Perfect.
SA GEREL: Well, no, just thank you for understanding that. I mean, I hope even though it is part of us doing our jobs, hopefully you--you believe and feel that we treated you good. Certainly tried to, and you certainly treated us good. So, thank you for that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir. All right, well, give us a few minutes. You--you want some water while you're waiting on this?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, please.
SA GEREL: I don't think it'll be too long. I mean, I think it's probably going to be----

SA MANN: Yeah, we'll get you some water.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Fifteen minutes or so, we're moving on to----
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, please.
SA GEREL: You want a minute or more food? Did you eat your beef stick?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay.
[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 2:53:20.]
[SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 2:55:18.]
SA GEREL: Okay. I got you another water. Yeah, we only have a couple more questions. And so, your car is jacked up. Is that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Where's it at?
CSSN COPELAND: It's not my car, it's my homeboy's car, but I'm sure he has it now.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: It was the--the head gasket was fucked up, but my car is totaled and so----
SA GEREL: Okay. The one that you consider your car, the totaled one?
CSSN COPELAND: No, my car, like, my actual car is totaled, so.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, it's like just gone.

CSSN COPELAND: Gone, yeah.
SA GEREL: All right. How do you get around without your--your car?
CSSN COPELAND: Either my roommate takes me to work, and the days my roommate doesn't take me to work, then I have somebody within my ship come and pick me up.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 2:53:20.]
SA MANN: Come on in.
SA GEREL: So, Sean, your roommate takes you around?
CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no.
SA MANN: In case you want that.
CSSN COPELAND: Thank you. Not Sean. The African guy.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: With the car.
SA GEREL: Oh, okay. You ride with him a lot. Any other cars that you frequently use? Like, if you're just trying to go to the store or anything?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, whenever I need to go to the store or some shit, I--I use my roommate, like, I ask him. You know? Do you think you can take me to the store? Or can I use your car to go to the store?
SA GEREL: Okay. What kind of car does he drive?
CSSN COPELAND: A white Jeep.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right. And then any other cars that you've been driving, like, in the last couple months?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. What, you mentioned the traffic thing? Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What--what kind of car were you involved with in the traffic thing?

CSSN COPELAND: A Dodge Challenger, and that was all the way back in February.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That is while back. What--what happened with that? I know I'm--it is nothing to do with what we're talking about, but I'm just curious what happened.

CSSN COPELAND: I was speeding.

SA GEREL: Okay. You got a--you got a public defender?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, I clearly can't talk to her because I don't have my phone.

SA GEREL: So, now people don't normally get public defenders for, like, a speeding, like did, were you drinking or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I got what I got--it was a reckless driving.

SA GEREL: Oh, reckless.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I was going 118 in a 55.

SA GEREL: What?

SA MANN: Cruising.
SA GEREL: All right, well that's none of my business, but I hope that turns out okay for you. Well, can you borrow a friend's phone to call that attorney?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I don't, I--I, me personally, I don't know. Because I don't have--like, the attorney she called a couple of weeks ago.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: And I told her, I was, like, "Yeah, I'm at work right now." And she was, like, "Oh, I'm sorry. And she was asking me, like, "What's a good time?" And I was, like, "You can call the next day because I'm off."
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, "All right." I've never heard from her again.
SA GEREL: Yeah. They can be hard to get a hold of. Well, I encourage you to keep trying. Again, none of my business, but yeah. Keep trying. Ship phone, base phone, barracks phone. Whatever you can find.
But what questions do you have for us?
CSSN COPELAND: Nothing as of right now.
SA GEREL: And thank you for--for talking to us today. I'm going to give you last thoughts. I hope that we can talk again. I hope that

we can get--get a chance to interact with you a day that you're feeling better, maybe a little less stressed, and maybe consider the polygraph.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: It is one of the few things out there that can say, like, "I didn't do it, and let me help you prove it." Like, that's one of the few things that actually does that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, again, like you're going to have people that are, you know, until--until we find her, you're going to have people that are speculating and saying stuff. You know the truth in your heart. You don't let them bother you anymore than it's going to bother you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: But you might be able to tell them one day, like, "I'm telling you, I--I didn't do it, plus I passed my polygraph." You know, that means a lot to some people. So, just kind of keep that in mind. And then, we are here for you. So, you can even, let--do you have contact information for NCIS? Do you have anybody's contact number from here?

CSSN COPELAND: I have the--the male that I talked to. Not the male, I think it was just the female.

SA GEREL: The shorter one.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. So, you can call her and you can say, whatever you want to say, but if you change your mind and say, like, "I'm ready, let them know that I'll take it." We will get to you soon as we can after you make that call, and we might check back in with you if it's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Just to see how you're feeling about whether you feel like you could be ready to do that. Obviously, if we find her, then--then that might not be--we may have to never do that. But if--while the--while the--the search is on, it could be very, you know, again, probably help you in people looking.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Any questions about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. Thank you for thinking about it. I--I really appreciate that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Tyler, you got anything?

SA MANN: I--I don't think so. I mean, if you hear something, let somebody know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: Like I--I guess, you know, I'd be remiss if I--I didn't ask, like, what would you--what--what do you want to, what do you think the perfect outcome here is?

CSSN COPELAND: Shit, I don't--I don't know. As much as you guys knows, that's as much as I know. So, I--I----

SA MANN: Oh no, but I mean, like, take all that off the table. How--how do you want to see this end?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, hopefully y'all find her and she's okay.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's the only thing that everybody's worried about right now. Because obviously nobody knows where her whereabouts are right now, so.

SA MANN: Sure. So, that's part of the--the reason we ask you to keep doing your part to make that happen. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: So, you know, if you hear something small, large, anywhere between, tell somebody, please.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: All right. Otherwise, I think you've got some things to tend this afternoon, unfortunately, but yeah. Good luck with that.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: If you will give us some time to coordinate, you--somebody dropped you off here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. My--I believe my lieutenant's out there.

SA MANN: Oh, is he still here?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I hope so, shit.

SA MANN: We have a phone, I think, if he's not. So we'll--let--give us a few minutes to get a hold of him. Are you good? Just hanging tight for a few minutes here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. I mean, if you want to put your head down, take a nap. Like, we can, I'll get this out of the way.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: Put it up here. All right. So, feel free to jump over there if you want to put your head down or something, but catch up on some of that sleep you've been missing.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA MANN: We'll be right back. Thank you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, no problem.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 3:01:38.]

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

SA GEREL: That all right?

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA GEREL: No problem.

[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 3:02:27.]
SA MANN: You're good, man. I'm just going to hang in here.
CSSN COPELAND: Is he out there or here, or is he on his way?
SA MANN: No, we just called him, though, so he should be on his way. I think they--we asked them to give him a ring before we came in, I know that. But we'll, I'm going to pull this so I can just make sure, because I need my phone. Hey man, what's happening? So, just give me a second.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA MANN: I'll be back with you here shortly. Okay?
CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
[SA Mann departed the room at timestamp 3:02:49.]
[SA Mann and SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 3:04:16.]
SA GEREL: All right. Your lieutenant's here. All right, last--last--last call. Any questions? You got anything we can help you with?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: How you feeling? I know other than what we already talked about. How you feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I mean, I'm just going with the flow. Just trying----
SA GEREL: Okay. So, you seem like you're under a little bit of stress, but you seem like you got it together. You seem strong.

But I--I--I've been along before and I--I don't want to make any assumptions. So, you know, I--I care about your mental health.

Do you have any worries that you would--any worries about hurting yourself or anybody else?

CSSN COPELAND: Not nobody else. I mean, after that day, I feel like I'm straight. I mean, I'm holding it together, but----

SA GEREL: Okay. And you said you had no worries about anybody else. How about yourself?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I'm fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you you--you may or may not know, but, like, your command's got access to resources, like, if you need to talk. Like, I was asking you earlier who you talked to when you get--need to get stuff off your mind. Don't keep stuff bottled in. You know, if you need to go talk to a chaplain or a counselor, there's nothing wrong with that.

You--you--you've been through some things that would cause anybody to feel a certain kind of way. So, like, don't--don't be hero. You can talk to people if you need to. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: But you good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: You strong?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: All right. Let's go.

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

SA MANN: I said, let's get you on out of here. Got that water?

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: So, cover with all your stuff should be there. Make sure it's all there before you walk out.

[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland departed the room at timestamp 3:05:58.]

SA MANN: Concluded at 1148. Command--member released to command.

[End of interview.]

[END OF PAGE]

MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER

Place: NCIS Norfolk, U-40

Date: 6 June 2025

I Jermiah Taylor Copeland have been advised by David Jarrell & Tyler Mann

that I am suspected of: making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CSSN [redacted] V/A.R.

I have also been advised that:

JTC (1) I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all;

JTC (2) Any statement I make can be used against me in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceeding;

JTC (3) I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by me at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as my counsel at no cost to me, or both;

JTC (4) I have the right to have my retained lawyer and/or appointed military lawyer present during this interview; and

JTC (5) I may terminate this interview at any time, for any reason.

JTC I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me.

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 6 June 2025 / 0900

Witnessed: [redacted]

NCIS 5580/20 (REV. 6-2021)

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. On 31May25, NCIS initiated an investigation regarding a missing person report. The missing person was later identified as V/ A. R.), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). According to witnesses, V/ A. R. was last seen with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95 at his barracks located at Willis Manor (Building X-2), Room 335, 9712 Virginia Ave, Norfolk, VA on board Naval Station Norfolk. Reporting Forensic Consultant (RFC) responded to Building X-2, Room 335 to identify and document any suspected bloodstains and other items of potential forensic value on scene.

2. ARRIVAL, JURISDICTION, AND AUTHORIZATION

2.1. On 03Jun25 at approximately 2004 hours, Reporting Forensic Consultant (RFC), Participating Agents (PAs) Joy NAROWSKI, Alison FOX, Brandon MOORE, Ashley ULLOM, Lauren GODETTE and Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Danielle ORTIZ arrived at Building X-2, see figure 1. NCIS maintains primary jurisdiction. NCIS conducted a search of S/COPELAND's residence pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS).

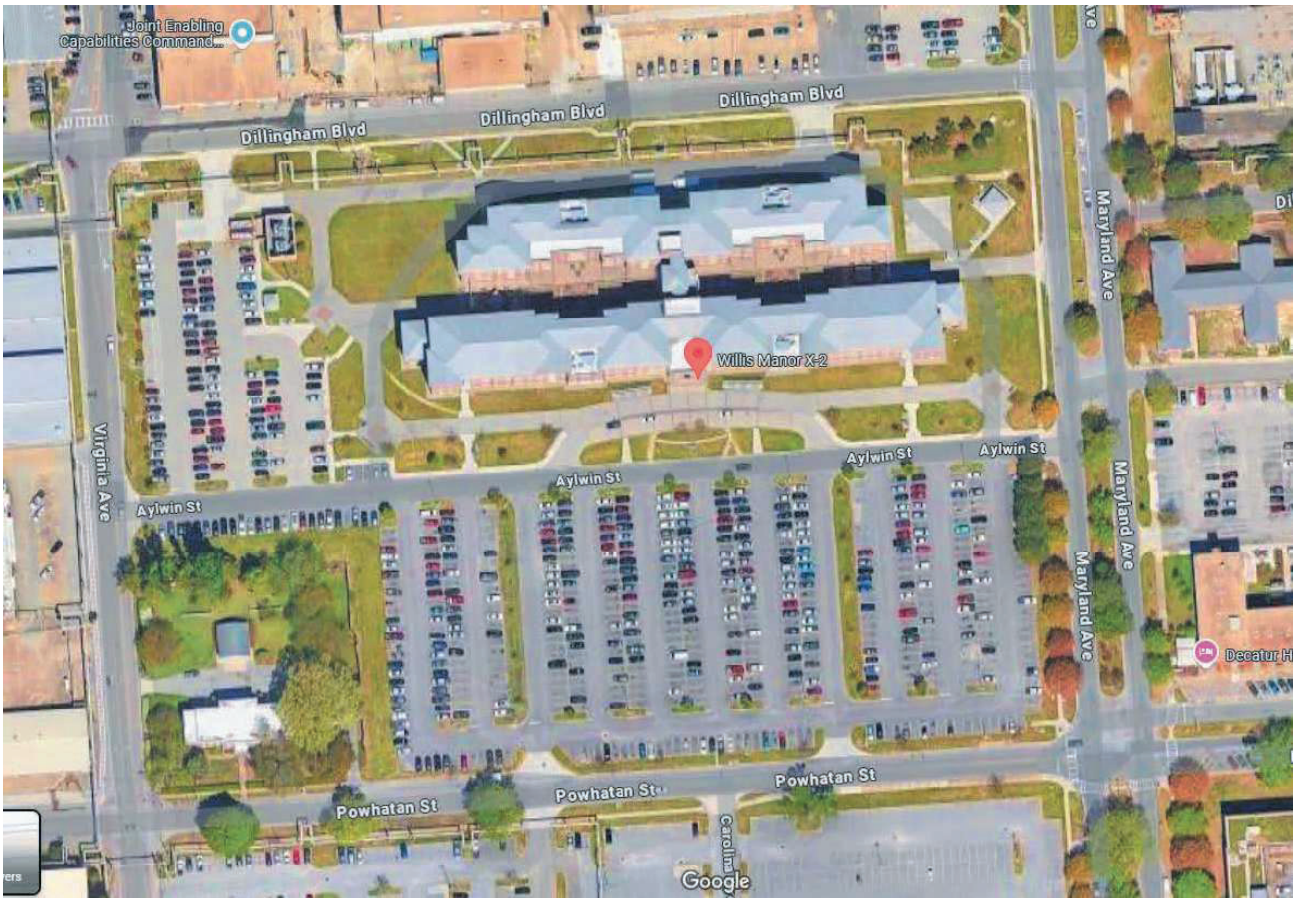


Figure 1: Google Maps aerial image of Willis Manor, Building X-2, on board Naval Station Norfolk, VA (retrieved from Google Maps 20Jul25).

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3. SCENE OBSERVATIONS—BUILDING X-2, ROOM 335

3.1. Building X-2 is a Navy unaccompanied housing military barracks with five floors containing multiple residences, see figure 2. Building X-2 has a parking lot located to the south of the building. Building X-2 is positioned in between Virginia Avenue and Maryland Avenue. Room 335 is located in the east wing, on the third floor, along the south side of the building.



Figure 2: Google image of Willis Manor, Building X-2, on board Naval Station Norfolk, VA (retrieved from Google Images on 20Jul25).

3.2. Upon entering Room 335, RFC observed a foyer which led into the kitchen. South of the kitchen was a living room. RFC observed a broken coffee table in the living room. The coffee table also contained two red plastic cups and an opened bottle of "Uptown Cocktails" Strawberry Margarita ready-to-drink cocktail. Parallel to the kitchen and living room were two suites containing two single beds running along the east and west end of the residence. S/COPELAND was assigned to Suite B. Suite B contained two single beds, two desks, two closets, two sink vanities, and a single half bathroom which contained a toilet and shower. S/COPELAND's bed and closet were identified with a placard labeled as "BA". S/COPELAND's bed and desk were located along the east wall of the suite. North of S/COPELAND's bedroom, RFC observed a foyer leading into the closet and bathroom. RFC created a digital sketch displaying the layout of Room 335, see figure 3.

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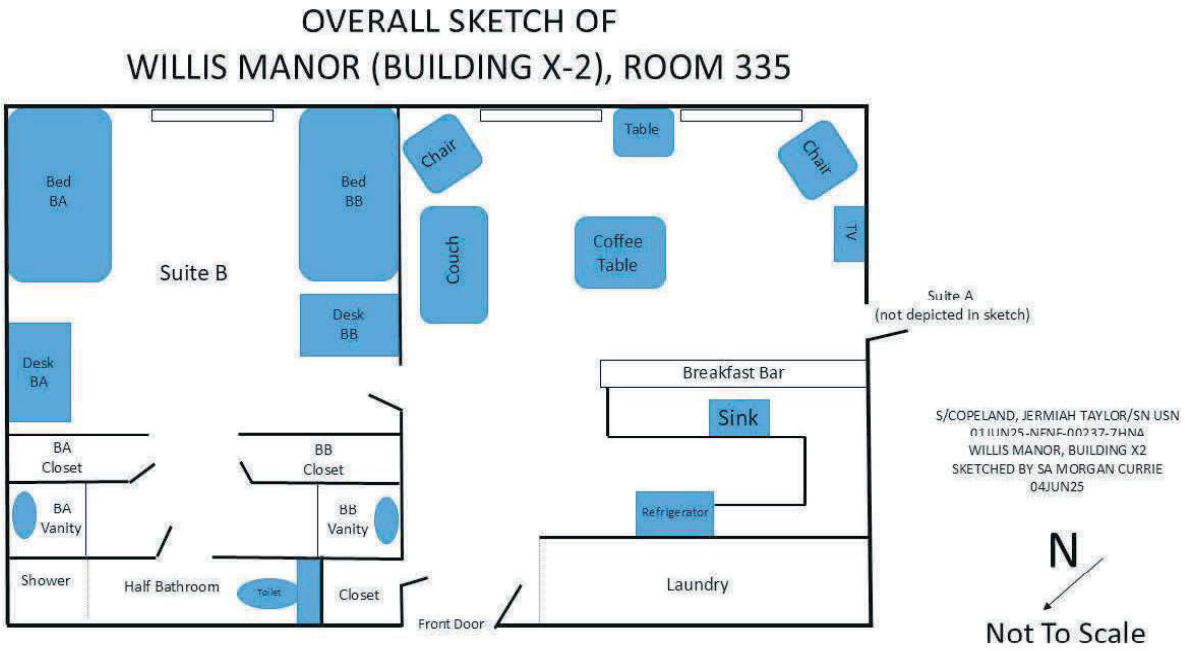


Figure 3: Digital sketch created by RFC of Room 335.

3.3. Figures 4-7 are photographs of Room 335 common area which contained a kitchen and living room.



Figure 4: Photograph of doorway of Room 335 (DSC_0008.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

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Figure 5: Photograph of kitchen inside Room 335 (DSC_0012.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).



Figure 6: Photograph of living room, kitchen and Suite A doorway (DSC_0022.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

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Figure 7: Photograph of living room, kitchen and Suite B doorway (DSC_0021.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

4. SCENE OBSERVATIONS—ROOM 335, SUITE B

4.1. RFC entered Suite B, see figures 8-14, and observed two single beds, two desks, two closets, two sink vanities, and a single half bathroom which contained a toilet and shower shared by the assigned suitemates. According to SSA ORTIZ, YN3 Sean MONAGHAN (YN3 MONAGHAN), USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron (HM 12), is the sole suitemate with S/COPELAND. SSA ORTIZ relayed YN3 MONAGHAN's belongings are assigned to bed, sink and closet labeled "BB" while S/COPELAND's belongings are assigned to bed, sink and closet labeled "BA".



Figure 8: Photograph of Suite B doorway (interior view), including the bed and desk belonging to YN3 MONAGHAN (DSC_0028.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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Figure 9: Photograph of beds and desk inside Suite B (DSC_0027.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

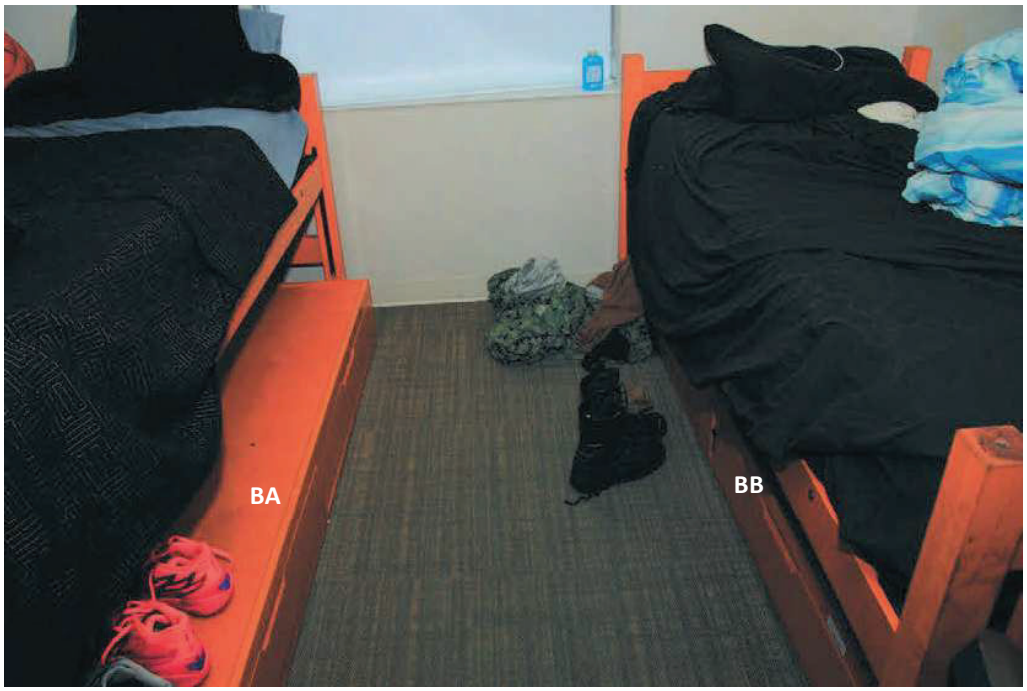


Figure 10: Photograph of beds inside Suite B (DSC_0033.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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Figure 11: Photograph of bed and desk BA inside Suite B (DSC_0024.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).



Figure 12: Photograph of bed and desk BA inside Suite B, and foyer leading into closet and bathroom (DSC_0029.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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Figure 13: Photograph of closet doors, half bathroom door and bathroom sink vanity (DSC_0060.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).



Figure 14: Photograph of closet doors "BB" and "BA" (Left: DSC_0057.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25, Right: DSC_0055.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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5. SCENE OBSERVATIONS—HALF BATHROOM INSIDE SUITE B

5.1. RFC entered the half bathroom within Suite B and did not identify any visible bloodstain evidence within this area of the residence.

6. BLUESTAR APPLICATION—SINK VANITY

6.1. RFC was notified by PA NAROWSKI that she observed a suspected bloodstain on the northeast wall above the vanity sink belonging to S/COPELAND, see figure 15. PA NAROWSKI and the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Major Case Response Team (MCRT) conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood on the stain using a Hemastix blood reagent test strip, yielding positive results. PA NAROWSKI and the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT documented the suspected bloodstain and seized a swab from the area. These actions are documented under a separate report.

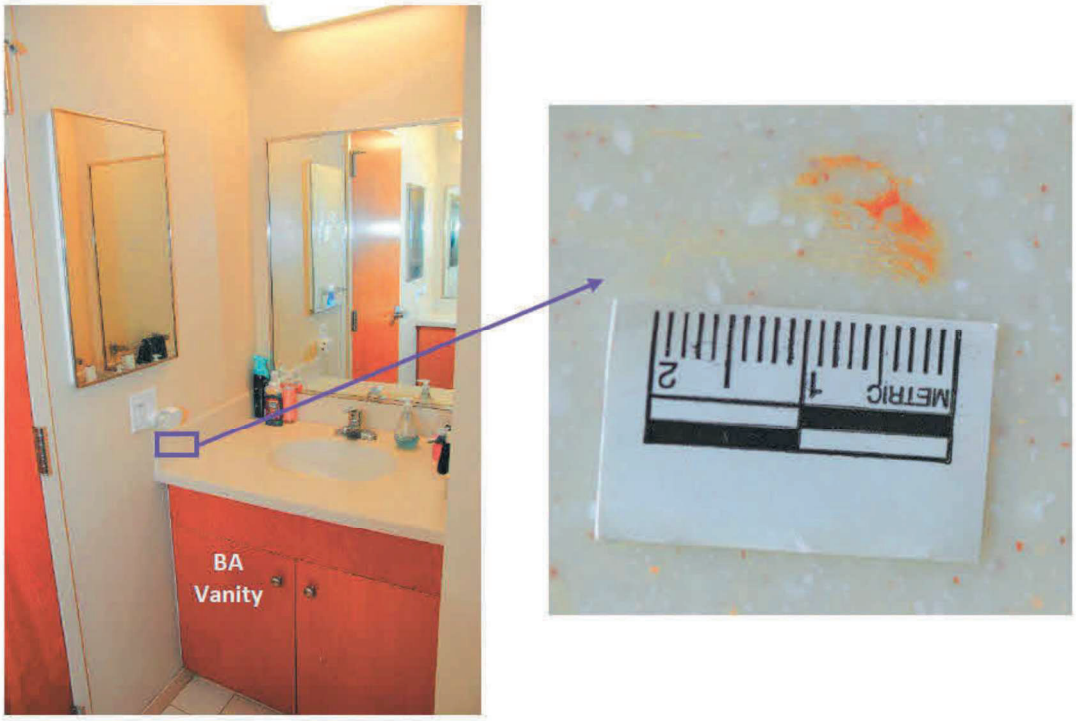


Figure 15: Photograph of sink vanity "BA" with callout to suspected bloodstain on northeast wall (Left: DSC_0053.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25, Right: DSC_0228.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text, line, arrow and box added).

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6.2. Listed on the Bluestar Forensics website, Bluestar is a chemical reagent which reveals the presence of blood in a large or minute/diluted quantity. The reaction occurs when Bluestar interacts with the heme component of blood producing a blue luminescence. False positives can occur when Bluestar comes in contact with household chemicals such as detergents, bleach or copper, per the Bluestar Forensic website, producing a white or faded blue luminescence. Prior to using Bluestar throughout the scene a control sample test was conducted producing a positive reaction.

6.3. RFC then conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood using a Bluestar forensic kit along the sink vanity and sink bowl belonging to S/COPELAND, yielding positive results. RFC attempted to capture photographs of the Bluestar reaction on the sink bowl prior to the collection of items deemed as forensic value but was unsuccessful. RFC collected a swab from the stain within this area and entered it into the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Evidence Custody System under Evidence Custody Document Number JQNT4:

Item# NAH9K—One (1) swab taken from inside bathroom sink bowl containing suspected blood after Bluestar application

7. BLUESTAR APPLICATION—CLOSET BA

7.1. The NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT completed a scene documentation of Room 335 which included photographs, a scene sketch, and notes. Several items of evidence were identified and seized. These actions are documented under a separate report. During the scene documentation, the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT requested assistance from Virginia Department of Emergency Management K9 Kira and Handler Andrew PISKE to identify human remains and/or other items of potential forensic value in the captioned investigation. K9 Kira and Handler PISKE conducted a search of Room 335, Suite B. K9 Kira and Handler PISKE alerted to the closet area labeled “BA”. RFC did not observe biological matter or suspected bloodstains in the closet with the unaided eye and subsequently the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT effected photographic coverage, see figure 16. RFC and the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT conducted a visual search of the belongings inside the closet and did not observe biological matter or suspected bloodstains. The NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT removed all belongings from the closet, see figure 17.

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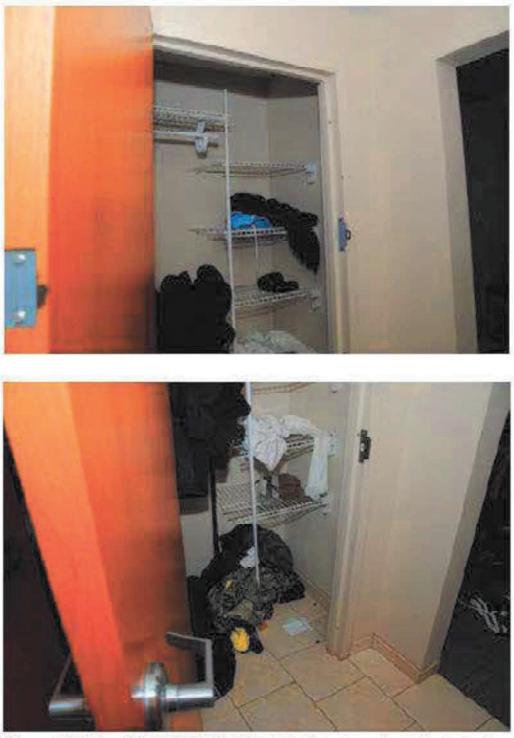


Figure 16: Photograph of Closet "BA" with S/COPELAND's belongings inside, interior view (Top: DSC_0041.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25, Bottom: DSC_0042.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

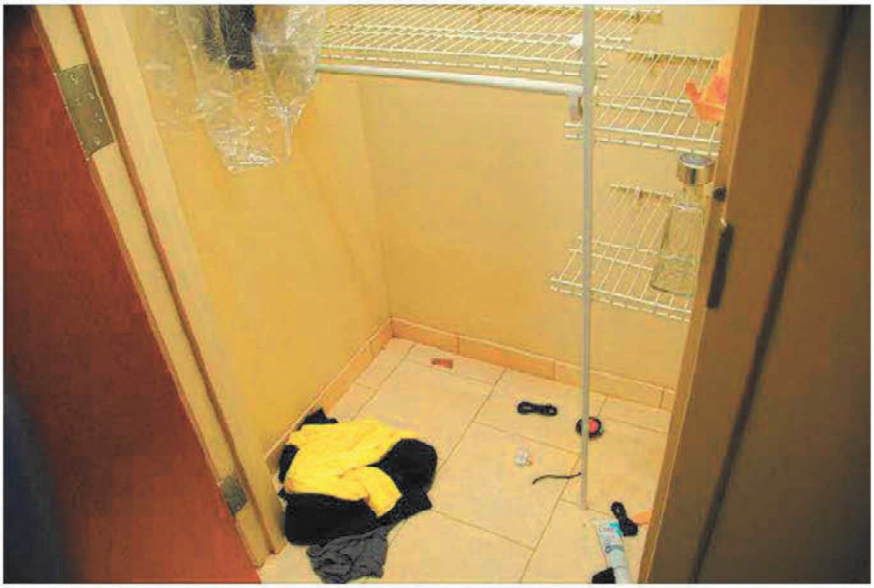


Figure 17: Photograph of Closet "BA" with belongings removed (DSC_0204.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 04Jun25).

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7.2. RFC then conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood using a BLUESTAR forensic kit, yielding positive results. RFC effected photographic coverage, see figure 18, and collected swabs from the stains within this area and entered it into the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Evidence Custody System under Evidence Custody Document Number JQNT4:

- Item# 0TXF0—Four (4) swabs taken from left rear corner of closet for suspected blood after Bluestar application



Figure 18: Photograph of Bluestar reaction inside closet "BA" (Top: MLC_0959.nef).

8. BLUESTAR APPLICATION—SUITE B BEDROOM

8.1. RFC conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood using a BLUESTAR forensic kit along the carpet, adjacent to Closet "BA", into the doorway of Suite B, yielding positive results, see figures 19-21. Subsequently on 10Jun25, the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT collected several items deemed as forensic value to include the carpeted areas which tested positive for the presence of blood using the BLUESTAR forensic kit. These actions are documented under a separate report.

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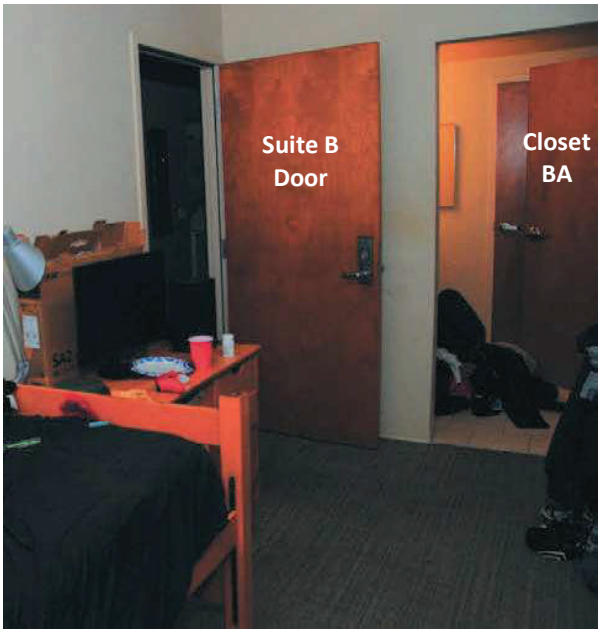


Figure 19: Photograph of carpeted area between Closet "BA" and doorway of Suite B (DSC_0241.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 04Jun25; text added).



Figure 20: Photograph of Bluestar reaction from foyer near closet "BA" to Suite B carpeted area (Top: MLC_0962.nef-cropped, brightness increased by 10%).

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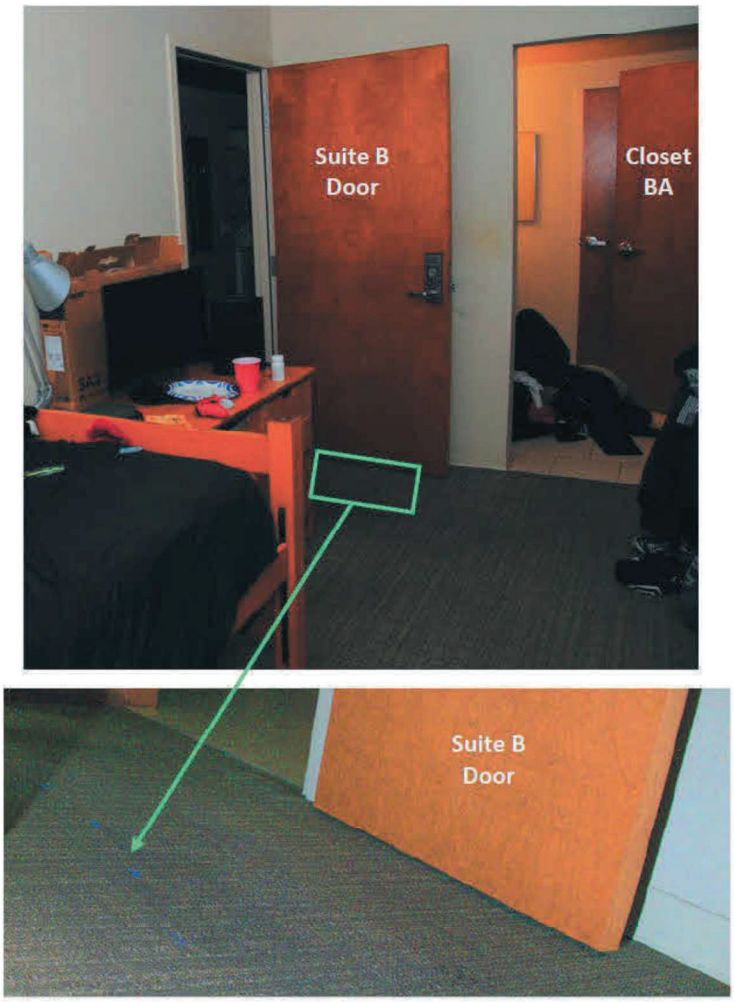


Figure 21: Photograph of Bluestar reaction on carpeted area inside Suite B (Top: DSC_0241.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 04Jun25; Bottom: MLC_0965.nef-cropped; text, line, arrow and box added).

8.2. RFC observed a heavy concentration of Bluestar in the closet, forming a linear trail that gradually faded as it extended between Suite B and the living room. RFC attempted to capture photographs of the BLUESTAR reaction in the living room but was unsuccessful.

9. PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

9.1. On 04Jun25, RFC took a series of photographs utilizing an NCIS issued a Nikon Z 6II camera (SN# 3068881) with a Nikon SB-5000 external flash. A total of eighteen (18) color photographs were exposed and subsequently downloaded onto one (1) Compact Disc-Recordable (CD-R); Enclosure (A) pertains. RFC entered the CD-R into the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Evidence Custody System under Evidence Custody Document Number 27C4G:

Item# 2UEEH: One (1) CD-R Containing (18) Photographs of Bluestar Reaction

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10. SCENE RELEASE

10.1. At approximately 0138 hours on 04Jun25, all NCIS personnel locked and secured the residence and departed the scene.

ENCLOSURE(S)

(A) One (1) CD-R Containing (18) Photographs of Bluestar Reaction/04Jun25

Morgan Currie
Special Agent / Forensic Consultant
Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)
Technical Services Field Office (TSFO)
Office of Forensic Support – Norfolk

Administratively reviewed by: Jeffrey Kierman
Supervisory Special Agent / Forensic Consultant
Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)
Technical Services Field Office (TSFO)
Office of Forensic Support – TSFQ

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 09JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[PII]

RESULTS OF SECONDARY INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN

1. On 09Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) Tyler MANN conducted an interview of YN3 Sean MONAGHAN, USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 12 (HM 12), pursuant to the missing person investigation involving CSSN [V/A.R.] (V/[V/A.R.] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of YN3 MONAGHAN was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. As background, YN3 MONAGHAN is the roommate of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, who was the last known individual to see V/[V/A.R.] before she went missing. It is believed V/[V/A.R.] was last seen in the room shared by S/COPELAND and YN3 MONAGHAN.

4. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Wednesday, 28May25, he arrived at his barracks room around 1900 from traveling back home to New Jersey. YN3 MONAGHAN stated when he arrived, he did not see anyone in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN continued S/COPELAND got home that night around 2200; however, YN3 MONAGHAN stated he had watch early the next morning, so he was already half asleep. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he does remember seeing a lighter-skinned female with short hair; however, he did not recognize her, nor did he know who she was. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Thursday, 29May25, he woke up around 0500 to get ready for work, and he noticed no one was in his room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he walked out into their common space at approximately 0640 and observed S/COPELAND asleep on the floor of the living room in his underwear with a girl he did not recognize. Of note, YN3 MONAGHAN was shown a picture of V/[V/A.R.] by PA; however, he relayed he did not get a good enough look at the individual on the floor to positively identify her as V/[V/A.R.] YN3 MONAGHAN stated he returned from work around 1300, and no one was in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, around 2000, he saw S/COPELAND and asked him if him and the female from that morning had been naked, to which S/COPELAND relayed they had been in their underwear. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he saw S/COPELAND again that night in the common space around 2200 when he went to make food. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND did sleep in their room that night.

5. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Friday, 30May25, he woke up around 0600 when

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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S/COPELAND left and then woke up again around 0900 when a representative (NFI) from S/COPELAND's Command came looking for him; however, he was not in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated the next time he saw S/COPELAND was when he returned to the room around 2200-2300. YN3 MONAGHAN confirmed S/COPELAND slept in their room that night.

6. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Saturday, 31May25, he noticed S/COPELAND left early in the morning again, although he was not sure what time. YN3 MONAGHAN continued he was woken up at approximately 1200, when the Masters-at-Arms (MAs) came looking for S/COPELAND and again, he was not in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND returned to the room late at night again; however, he was not sure of the exact time.

7. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Sunday, 01Jun25, S/COPELAND received a call from his command around 1000, needing him to come in to work. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he was unsure how S/COPELAND got to work that day. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND returned to the room at approximately 2200-2300.

8. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Monday, 02Jun25, he was questioned by the "homicide unit" while at work and on Tuesday, 03Jun25, NCIS "raided" their barracks room and took S/COPELAND. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, following the "raid" by NCIS, he asked S/COPELAND what NCIS was looking for, to which S/COPELAND responded, "I don't know, they're tripping." YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Monday he noticed S/COPELAND was very skittish. YN3 MONAGHAN explained he walked into their room and when he opened the door, S/COPELAND looked startled and stated, "Oh, you scared me."

9. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND does have a car; however, it gets repairs done to it a lot. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND's "crazy ex slashed the tires." YN3 MONAGHAN described the car as being small, rectangular, and black with four doors. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he drives a 2011 Toyota Camry with a New Jersey license plate number PII . YN3 MONAGHAN stated he has never let S/COPELAND borrow his car nor has he ever given him permission to use his car for any reason. YN3 MONAGHAN revealed he does leave his keys in places S/COPELAND could access them, usually on his desk in their room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on 03Jun25, he did believe his car had moved parking spots and was so suspicious about the incident he texted his mom.

10. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he did see S/COPELAND with a rolling suitcase a couple months ago. YN3 MONAGHAN described the suitcase as one that came up to his thigh, black, and had a handle for wheeling around. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND usually kept this suitcase locked in his closet; however, stated he had not seen it in "awhile."

11. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he has not noticed anything in their room being out of place. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he deep cleaned their room on Monday, 02Jun25, where he noticed the bathmat in front of the toilet had a stain in one

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **09JUN25**

corner, he believed to be blood. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed this was not unusual to him because S/COPELAND had female friends over who would often leave tampons in their bathroom, and blood sometimes got on the floor. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, because he thought nothing of this, he placed the bathmat in the washing machine to be cleaned. YN3 MONAGHAN provided a hand drawn sketch of the bathmat to depict where he observed the blood; Enclosure (B) pertains. YN3 MONAGHAN also provided a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to enter his barracks room and collect the bathmat which will be documented under separate cover.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/09JUN25
(B) HAND DRAWN SKETCH BY YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN, OF STAIN LOCATED ON BATHMAT/09JUN25

REPORTED BY: ASHLEY ULLOM, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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US v. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN



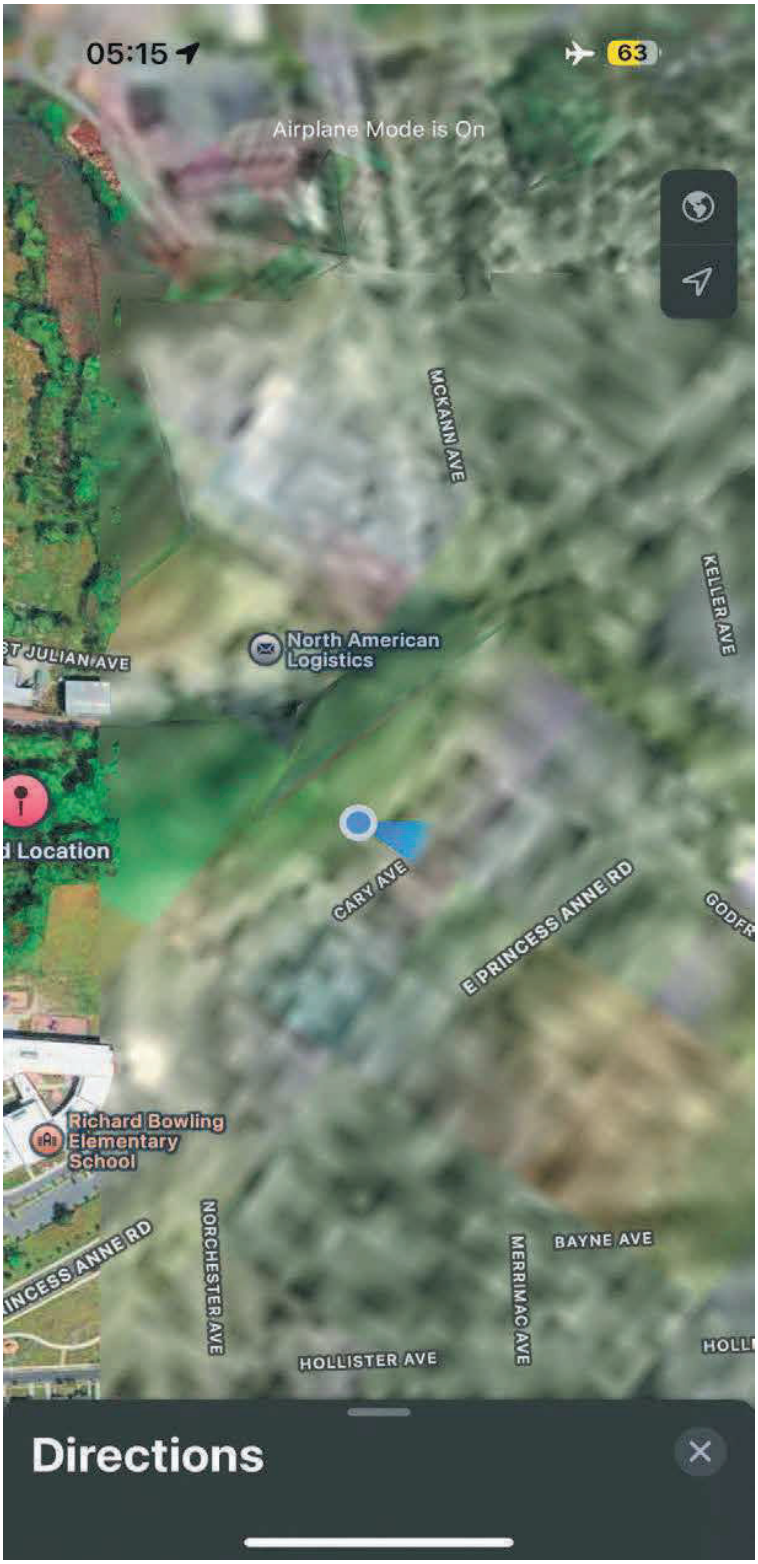
Exhibit 133 ENCLOSURE A

DVD-R:

INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN

09JUN25

SEAN MICHAEL MONAGHAN 6/21/2025
SECTION WHERE BLOOD STAIN WAS AROUND


05:15
63
Airplane Mode is On
MCKANN AVE
KELLER AVE
North American Logistics
ST JULIAN AVE
Location
CARY AVE
E PRINCESS ANNE RD
Richard Bowling Elementary School
NORCHESTER AVE
MERRIMAC AVE
BAYNE AVE
HOLLISTER AVE
Directions

Click to Review Screenshot Image Report

2. The examination revealed the image files named IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG are located in the \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\132APPLE directory of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The directory \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\ and its subdirectories are the default location where all user created images and videos are stored on an Apple iPhone. The DCIM folder is also the default location for screenshots taken and saved by an iPhone user. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND either purposely or accidentally took the screenshot named IMG_2621.PNG on 02Jun25, at 5:15:21 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND either purposely or accidentally took the screenshot named IMG_2622.PNG on 02Jun25, at 5:15:25 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	IMG_2621.PNG
File Extension	.PNG
Created Date/Time	6/2/2025 5:15:22.000 AM
Last Accessed Date/Time	6/2/2025 5:15:22.000 AM
Last Modified Date/Time	6/2/2025 5:15:22.000 AM
Size (Bytes)	4,868,791
Skin Tone Percentage	7.5
Original Width	1290
Original Height	2796
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 1290 ImageHeight: 2796 DateTimeOriginal: 06/02/2025 05:15:21
MD5 Hash	84189d5d588a52efdb047b7d59af1efd
SHA1 Hash	5028272075763484 87bd4760e3dc3fbe753cbdf6
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	399761

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\132APPLE \IMG_2621.PNG
Recovery method	Parsing











INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

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Volume 19 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 19 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE LIX (Pages 424) through AE LXI (Page 259)).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **27 July 26**

The Court hereby finds good cause to seal Preliminary Hearing Exhibit (PHE) 47a, page 3; PHE 47b, pages 8 and 10; Prosecution Exhibit (PE) 34, pages 3, 13, 15, 24, 26; PE 36, pages 9, 11, and 12; Appellate Exhibit (AE) LIX, pages 424 and 426; and AE LXI, page 348; all of which depict extremely sensitive images CS3 A.R.'s body.[1]

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** PHE 47a, page 3; PHE 47b, pages 8 and 10; PE 34, pages 3, 13, 15, 24, 26; PE 36, pages 9, 11, and 12; AE LIX, pages 424 and 426; and AE LXI, page 348.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 27th day of July 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

[1] *See* Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 1113(a), Discussion, "Upon request or otherwise for good cause shown, a military judge may seal matters at his or her discretion."



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

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F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

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BACKGROUND: On 31May25, NCIS was contacted by Norfolk Police Department (NPD) in reference to a missing person's report. NPD relayed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was attempting to make a missing person's report regarding CSSN V/A.R. (V/ V/A.R. USN, DDG 95. NCIS subsequently contacted Command who advised V/ V/A.R. and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were in a status of Unauthorized Absence (UA) beginning on Thursday, 29May25. Command advised they believed V/ V/A.R. and S/COPELAND were involved romantically, but did not know to what extent. On 01Jun25, NCIS made contact with Naval Station Norfolk Base Police to conduct a welfare check on the rooms of S/COPELAND and V/ V/A.R. Base Police stated they found S/COPELAND in his barracks room; however, received no answer at V/ V/A.R. door when they knocked. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and was able to gain entry to V/ V/A.R. barracks room, in which she was not located. Subsequently, NCIS' Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) initiated cell phone pings on V/ V/A.R. mobile phone, which yielded no location data due to the phone possibly being powered off. NCIS conducted an interview of S/COPELAND who stated V/ V/A.R. came over to his barracks on Wednesday, 28May25. S/COPELAND stated V/ V/A.R. stayed the night and the next day, 29May25, FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room because he failed to report for work. S/COPELAND stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle and drove V/ V/A.R. back to her barracks around 1000 on 29May25. During the interview of S/COPELAND, he signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellular device which was provided to NCIS Digital Forensic Examiners (DFE) for review. The DFE observed a screenshot on the device of S/COPELAND of a saved marked location near Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA. During the course of this investigation, NCIS would launch search teams near known phone pings and last locations of both V/ V/A.R. and S/COPELAND. On 09Jun25, subsequent to receiving the screenshot from the DFE, NCIS conducted a foot search of the area near the marked location and discovered a black duffel bag containing human remains, later identified through DNA as V/ V/A.R.

JURISDICTION AND ARRIVAL: At approximately 1700, NCIS arrived to the location of Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA, and conducted a foot search around the Broad Creek neighborhood and Richard Bowling Elementary School. Figure [1] is the screenshot of the marked location utilized by NCIS. At 1735, Reporting Agent (RA) received a phone call from Participating Agent (PA) Tiffany MARTINEZ stating a bag had been located off of a brush covered path behind a row of townhomes. Due to the location of the bag, at 1740, NCIS initiated contact with the Norfolk Police Department (NPD) who responded to the scene to assist. A copy of the NPD incident report detailing their response is appended as Enclosure (A).

SCENE SECURITY: Upon arrival to the scene, no other persons were present in the area but residents going about their daily routine. The area which was searched was not secured prior to arrival and was an open, wooded area, behind a school and residential community. NCIS participants divided into groups and ultimately located the bag by following the smell. Once the duffel bag was located, Andrew PISKE, CIV, K9 Handler, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), and K9 Kyra, Certified Human Remains Detection Dog, approached the bag where she presented a positive alert to PISKE. An aerial topography image of the area searched by PISKE and K9 Kyra is appended as Enclosure (B). NCIS partially unzipped the bag to verify its contents to which human remains were observed. NPD was immediately contacted, and all searching immediately ceased. Due to rain, at approximately 1755, to protect the duffel bag, PISKE placed a black tarp over the bag. Figure [2] is a photo of the overall brush area where the remains were located. Figure [3] is a photo of the duffel bag in place. Figure [4] is the approximate GPS location of the duffel bag after conducting the foot search with the assistance of CalTopo. Figure [5] is the confirmation of the human remains inside the bag.

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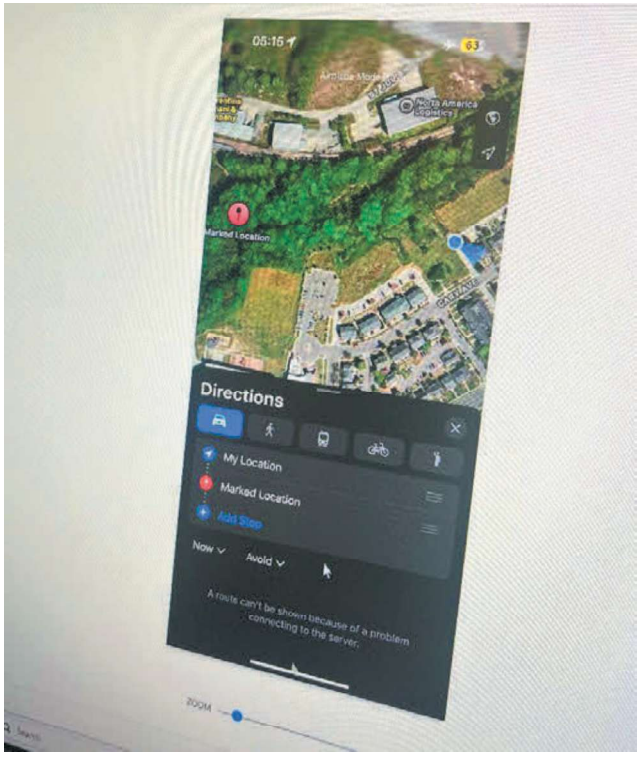


Figure [1]: Screenshot of the marked location (retrieved from phone of S/COPELAND)



Figure [2]: Overall photo of the brush topography (DSC_6939)

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U.S. ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION LABORATORY
4930 N 31ST STREET, FOREST PARK, GA 30297

DNA Report

USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Request: 0001_0002

To SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
NFFO NCIS NORFOLK FIELD OFFICE
1329 BELLINGER BLVD
BLDG U-40
Norfolk, VA 23511

Date of Report: 10 June 2025
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237
Service: DNA

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

The following results are opinions and interpretations formed using accepted scientific and professional practices. Only those exhibits below were examined for this report. Selection of the item(s) and the examination(s) conducted were based on the information available at the time of the request. If the investigative needs change, please contact USACIL at USACILCM@army.mil or 404-469-5150.

1. Blood was identified on Exhibit 6 (closet swabs/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS) and Exhibit 9 (swabs placard D/SCENE-stairwell).

2. No blood was identified on the following Exhibits:

Exhibit 5 (swabs placard L/SCENE-stairwell)
Exhibit 7 (swabs placard A/SCENE-stairwell)
Exhibit 8 (swabs placard E/SCENE-stairwell)
Exhibit 10 (swabs placard H/SCENE-stairwell).

3. DNA extraction procedures were performed on the following:

Exhibit 2 (buccal swabs/MANAGBON)
Exhibit 6 (closet swabs/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS)
Exhibit 9 (swabs placard D/SCENE-stairwell)
Exhibit 11 (buccal swabs/WILLIAMS)
Exhibit 12 (buccal swabs/COPELAND)
Exhibit 13 (buccal swabs/GORDILLOCRUZ)
Exhibit 14 (buccal swabs/CALISSE)
Exhibit 15.1 (swab of tongue scraper/SCENE - V/A.R. RESIDENCE)
Exhibit 16 (toothbrush/SCENE - V/A.R. Z RESIDENCE)
Exhibit 17.1 (swab of water bottle/SCENE- V/A.R. RESIDENCE).

4. Based on DNA results from other exhibits/circumstances of the case, no further testing was performed on the swab of tongue scraper/SCENE - V/A.R. RESIDENCE.

5. The DNA profile from the swab of water bottle believed to be from V/A.R. originates from an unknown individual that genetically types as female.

ANAB ANSI National Accreditation Board ACCREDITED ISO/IEC 17025 FORENSIC TESTING LABORATORY

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CUI Category: LEI/PRVCY
Limited Dissemination Control: FEDCON
POC: Records Custodian, 404-469-5150

000584_COPELAND

6. A DNA mixture was detected from the closet swabs/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS.

a. The DNA mixture is interpreted as originating from two individuals.

b. The DNA profile from the swab of water bottle believed to be from RESENDIZ and COPELAND are included as contributors to this mixture.

c. MANAGBON, WILLIAMS, GORDILLOCRUZ and CALISSE are excluded as contributors to this mixture.

7. The DNA profile detected from swabs placard D/SCENE-stairwell matches the DNA profile from the swab of water bottle believed to be from RESENDIZ. COPELAND, MANAGBON, WILLIAMS, GORDILLOCRUZ and CALISSE are excluded as contributors to this DNA profile.

8. The DNA profile from the toothbrush/SCENE - V/A.R. RESIDENCE will not be used for comparison purposes due to the results from other exhibits and/or case circumstances.

9. If necessary, these DNA results may be compared to other potential DNA contributors when suitable standards for comparison and/or elimination are submitted to the laboratory.

10. No DNA profiles were eligible for submission to CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

TECHNICAL NOTES

1. DNA profiles were detected using PCR (polymerase chain reaction) technology on twenty-one autosomal STR (short tandem repeat) loci, two Y-chromosome loci (DYS391, Y-indel) and a gender identification locus from the Applied Biosystems GlobalFiler kit.

2. Match will be used when complete genotypes are obtained at all loci included in the amplification kit, and all of the detected alleles are the same as those in the reference being compared.

Consistent with will be used when genetic information is missing at one or more loci included in the amplification kit (a partial profile), but all of the detected alleles are the same as those in the reference being compared.

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE

Unless otherwise noted, evidence received in this case will be returned according to laboratory policy. Items may have been altered to take samples required for examination or to recover materials from the item. If recovered evidence was collected and preserved during laboratory examinations, the material is being returned with the item from which it originated.

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CUI

USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237

Request: 0001_0002
Date of Report: 10 June 2025

[redacted]

KERRY MAYNARD
Forensic Biologist
Office: (404) 469-4776
kerry.l.maynard.civ@army.mil

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION IN LIMINE (M.R.E. 404(b) AND M.R.E. 413)** **5 DEC 2025**

RESPONSE

1. The evidence detailed in the Government's 5 November 2025 Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 404(b) and 413 notice[1] is admissible under those rules. The Accused is alleged to have committed various offenses over the course of several months in the Navy. These include sex-related offenses, assaults (including strangulations), false official statements, obstruction of justice, and murder.

2. The noticed evidence encompasses this misconduct as well as some pre-service misconduct and is admissible under M.R.E. 404(b) and 413 to support the Government's case in prosecuting the charged offenses. While much of this evidence is already admissible as relating to charged offenses, the Government seeks to argue its connections at trial under these rules.

BURDEN

3. The proponent of the evidence bears the burden of proving its admissibility.[2] The Government bears that burden here.

FACTS

4. The Accused is charged with several similar offenses across five separate victims within eleven months.[3]

5. For ABHAN C.R., the Accused is charged with aggravated and abusive sexual contact[4] as well as strangulation under Articles 120 and 128, UCMJ.[5]

---

1. Encl. 1.
2. *United States v. Palmer*, 55 M.J. 205, 208 (C.A.A.F. 2001) (citing *United States v. Shover*, 45 M.J. 119, 122 (C.A.A.F. 1996)).
3. Charge Sheet.
4. The Government intends to withdraw this Specification, as it is a lesser included offense of the Specification for aggravated sexual contact.
5. Charge Sheet.

a. On 23 June 2024, ABHAN C.R. was with her boyfriend on the mess decks of USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). After he left to go to bed, the Accused sent Snapchat messages to ABHAN C.R. seeking to speak with her about her relationship with her boyfriend. ABHAN C.R. agreed. The two went to the fantail and the Accused told ABHAN C.R. that her boyfriend was not treating her properly and that she should date him instead. ABHAN C.R. declined.[6]

b. After a short period of time passed while discussing her relationship, the Accused began to pretend to arrest her.[7] The Accused forced ABHAN C.R.'s hands behind her back and grabbed her vulva over the clothing.[8] ABHAN C.R. punched the Accused in the stomach.[9] In response, the Accused stated he heard that ABHAN C.R. liked to be choked and applied pressure to her neck with a hand, restricting her breathing. ABHAN C.R. pushed the Accused's hand away, but he kept replacing it and applying pressure.[10] The Accused simultaneously kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breasts, buttocks, and vulva over the clothing.[11] After about a minute, the Accused stopped.[12] ABHAN C.R. advised she was going to bed and left the Accused on the fantail.[13] ABHAN C.R. reported the incident to her boyfriend and filed a formal report on 26 July 2024.[14] ABHAN C.R.'s boyfriend described observing bruising on ABHAN C.R's after the incident.[15]

6. For CSSN S.S., the Accused is charged with sexual assault, indecent recording, indecent broadcasting, and obstruction of justice under Articles 120, 120c, and 131b, UCMJ.[16]

a. On the evening of 4 November 2024, the Accused arrived at a bar and began to hang out with CSSN S.S. and others during a liberty call in Oslo, Norway.[17] CSSN S.S. was extremely intoxicated and could not recall the events of the evening.[18] The next day, several individuals approached her and told her that the Accused had shown them a video he recorded on his phone of him having sex with her in the bathroom of the bar the night prior.[19] CSSN S.S. was described as bent over and the Accused was penetrating her vagina from behind with his

6. Encl. 2.
7. Encl. 2.
8. Encl. 2.
9. Encl. 2, 3.
10. Encl. 2, 3.
11. Encl. 2, 3.
12. Encl. 2, 3.
13. Encls. 2, 3.
14. Encl. 2.
15. Encls. 3, 4.
16. Charge Sheet.
17. Encls. 5, 6, 7.
18. Encl. 5, 6, 9.
19. Encls. 5, 6, 10, 11.

penis.[20] It was not clear if CSSN S.S. was conscious.[21] CSSN S.S. did not recall this occurring and confronted the Accused over the phone, who denied having sex with her or recording the encounter.[22]

b. After he was accused of sexual assault by CSSN S.S., the Accused became inconsolable.[23] He stated his "life was over," refused to return to the ship, and repeatedly tried to kill himself.[24] Specifically, he walked in front of approximately three trains to do so.[25] Security from the ship had to retrieve him.[26]

c. After a report was made on 6 November 2024 by CSSN S.S., a search of the Accused was conducted to obtain his cell phone.[27] The Accused advised he did not have the phone and had given it to CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN.[28] A search of the Accused's person did not return the device.[29] CSSN Cousins was questioned about the phone immediately after and he denied that the Accused had provided him with his phone at any point.[30] A search of CSSN Cousin's person was conducted and the Accused's phone was not found.[31] A search was then conducted of the Accused's berthing, rack, and locker spaces.[32] No cell phone was found.[33] CSSN Cousins advised he believed the Accused got rid of the phone in the bathroom on the liberty boat back to the ship after he was accused of sexual assault by CSSN S.S.[34]

d. On 18 November 2024, the Accused admitted to having consensual sex with CSSN S.S. in an interview with NCIS.[35] In this interview, the Accused repeated that he had given his phone to CSSN Cousins before stating his phone had fallen out of pocket, shattered, and was lost.[36]

e. On 20 December 2024, the Accused was interviewed by NCIS again.[37] The Accused advised he obtained a new phone while in a port call in Marseille, France and provided NCIS

20. Encl. 6, 10, 11.
21. Encl. 6.
22. Encl. 5, 7, 8.
23. Encls. 12, 13.
24. Encls. 8, 12, 13.
25. Encls. 13, 14.
26. Encls. 13, 14.
27. Encl. 15.
28. Encl. 15.
29. Encl. 15.
30. Encl. 15.
31. Encl. 15.
32. Encl. 16.
33. Encl. 16.
34. Encl. 13.
35. Encl. 14
36. Encl. 14.
37. Encl. 17.

with digital evidence he was able to access via iCloud.[38] Despite showing videos from that night to NCIS, the Accused advised he no longer had access to the video he took of his sexual encounter with CSSN S.S.[39]

7. For CSSN S.R., the Accused is charged with domestic violence for strangulation and a violent offense under Article 128b, UCMJ.[40]

a. On 11 April 2025, CSSN S.R., was dating the Accused and was on his barracks room couch with him while he was asleep.[41] While on the couch, she learned that the Accused was also dating someone else.[42] She then woke the Accused up and confronted him.[43] When she sought to leave, the Accused pushed her down on the couch and strangled her with both hands for about ten seconds while "smiling."[44] CSSN S.R. felt like this was a completely different version of the Accused and described him as "just anger."[45]

8. For Y.J., the Accused is charged with sexual assault under Article 120, UCMJ.[46]

a. Y.J. was at the Accused's barracks room with two other Sailors on 25 May 2024.[47] When the Accused arrived, the Accused pulled Y.J. into his barracks room and asked Y.J. to perform oral sex.[48] She refused because she was tired.[49] The Accused then penetrated her vagina without her consent[50]. She asked him to "stop."[51] The other two Sailors could hear him telling her to stop and entered the room to break them up.[52] One Sailor then took Y.J. home.[53]

9. For CS3 A.R., the Accused is charged with murder, false official statement, and obstruction of justice.[54]

a. On 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. left work in the morning, shopped at Target with a friend, and later went to the barracks room of the Accused to cook tacos.[55] CS3 A.R. arrived at the

38. Encl. 17.
39. Encl. 17.
40. Charge Sheet.
41. Encls. 18, 19.
42. Encls. 18, 19.
43. Encls. 18, 19.
44. Encls. 18, 19.
45. Encls. 18, 19.
46. Charge Sheet.
47. Encl. 20, 21.
48. Encl. 20.
49. Encl. 20, 21.
50. Encl. 20, 21.
51. Encl. 20, 21.
52. Encl. 20, 21.
53. Encl. 21.
54. Charge Sheet.
55. Encl. 22.

Accused's barracks room on the evening of 28 May 2025 onboard Naval Station Norfolk.[56]

b. At 2322 on 29 May 2025, CS3 A.R. uncharacteristically sent a text message to an ex-boyfriend (who was also a co-worker that she remained friends with), HT3 Michael Gillispie, USN that read "Fuck you."[57] CS3 A.R. was non-responsive to HT3 Gillispie after that message, despite numerous attempts by HT3 Gillispie to contact her.[58]

c. At 0214 on 29 May 2025, CS3 A.R. called an ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel Rich, USN. ET3 Rich explained that CS3 A.R. was "freaking out" and requesting to be picked up "ASAP."[59] She was frantic and crying and just kept repeating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible.[60] It was like she was having a panic attack.[61] A frantic male voice came on the phone and asked how far away he was, to which ET3 Rich replied he was 10-15 minutes away.[62] The phone was handed back to CS3 A.R., ET3 Rich told her he was on his way, and the call ended.[63] CS3 A.R. always shared her location with ET3 Rich, but ET3 Rich did not know who she was with or what room she was in exactly.[64] ET3 Rich had explained she has had panic attacks in his presence before and that an unwanted sexual advance could be a trigger.[65]

d. When ET3 Rich passed through the gate at approximately 0228, he called CS3 A.R. repeatedly, but she did not answer her phone.[66] ET3 Rich then notified base police of the situation and connected with HT3 Gillispie to help search for her.[67] Despite hours of searching, CS3 A.R. was not located.[68] Her phone stopped pinging at 0456 on 29 May 2025, indicating it was dead or turned off.[69]

e. At 0201 on 29 May 2025, the Accused opened a recipe on his phone for tacos he had just made in his notes application at 0146 and engaged briefly with a couple of other apps.[70] His phone was then placed in a locked state from 0202 on 29 May until 0243 on 29 May.[71] Beginning shortly after he created the recipe for tacos, his heart rate increased from 61 bpm to 125 bpm at 0152.[72] It remained increased until approximately 0237, when it decreased to 69

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56. Encls. 23, 24.
57. Encls. 25, 26.
58. Encls. 25, 26.
59. Encls. 27, 28.
60. Encls. 27, 28.
61. Encls. 27, 28.
62. Encls. 27, 28.
63. Encls. 27, 28.
64. Encls. 27, 28.
65. Encls. 27, 28.
66. Encls. 27, 28.
67. Encls. 25, 27, 28.
68. Encls. 25, 27, 28.
69. Encl. 29.
70. Encl. 30 at 69-72.
71. Encl. 30 at 70.
72. Encl. 30 at 74-75.

bpm before spiking again to 130 bpm at 0307.[73] From 0211 until 0719, the Accused received several phone calls and text messages, as well as communications from Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Telegram, and Gmail.[74] He responded only to a single Snapchat message at 0329.[75]

f. The Accused's barracks room comprised of a common area flanked on either side by two bedrooms.[76] Each bedroom contained two roommates.[77] The Accused shared a room with YN3 Sean Monoghan, USN.[78] The other bedroom was occupied by PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN, and AR John Calisse, USN.[79] AR Calisse reported hearing karaoke between the Accused and an unknown female around 0200 on 29 May 2025, but did not investigate.[80]

g. PSSN Gordillocruz arrived back to the barracks room at approximately 0400.[81] He advised that all of the lights were off and he did not see anyone at that time.[82] At around 0500, YN3 Monoghan got up to go to work and he realized that no one was in the Accused's bed.[83] He departed his bedroom at approximately 0640 and saw the Accused on the floor of the living room asleep with a girl he did not recognize, both in a state of undress.[84] Between 0530 and 0645, both PSSN Gordillocruz and AR Calisse departed their room.[85] They observed a female laying nearly fully naked with her breasts exposed on the floor of the common area with CSSN Copeland laying naked face up with his head on her torso or thigh.[86] AR Calisse was surprised they did not wake up when they entered the room.[87] Later that morning, AR Calisse asked PSSN Gordillocruz if they were breathing and neither were sure as neither looked too closely.[88] YN3 Monoghan "couldn't tell."[89] YN3 Monoghan asked the Accused later if they were naked.[90] The Accused laughed it off and said they were in underwear.[91]

h. The Accused's phone was in a prolonged locked state from 0329 until 0728 and was in regular use from 0728 until approximately 1150, primarily viewing pornography.[92] The

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73. Encl. 30 at 74-75.
74. Encl. 30 at 76.
75. Encl. 30 at 76, 187.
76. Encl. 24.
77. Encls. 31-33.
78. Encl. 32.
79. Encls. 31, 33.
80. Encl. 33.
81. Encl. 31
82. Encl. 31.
83. Encl. 32.
84. Encls. 31, 33.
85. Encls. 31, 33.
86. Encls. 31, 33.
87. Encl. 34.
88. Encl. 34.
89 Encl. 34.
90 Encl. 34.
91 Encl. 34.
92. Encl. 30 at 60-61, 91-102.

Accused read incoming messages and received incoming calls during that time, but he did not respond.[93] The Accused did several actions on his device in this window.[94] Most notably, at 0753, the Accused takes two photographs from the perspective of his roommates bed[95] and at approximately 0825-0901, the Accused received calls, including from "Brad Parker," but did not answer or respond.[96] At 0854, the Accused got up and moved around before placing his phone into a locked state from 0858-0901.[97]

i. At 0852, FCC Bradley Parker, USN, arrived at the barracks room of the Accused to determine why he was not at work on the ship.[98] At the time, FCC Parker was aware the CS3 A.R. was also missing and was seeking help the night prior.[99] He had learned this from ET3 Rich and HT3 Gillispie.[100] FCC Parker said that the Accused "took a good minute" to answer the door and appeared to have just woken up when he answered the door.[101] He told the Accused to come to work, but the Accused told FCC Parker he was not alone and provided he was with CS3 A.R.[102] FCC Parker then observed CS3 A.R. on the Accused's bed wrapped in a blanket with her feet exposed.[103] FCC Parker provided inconsistent accounts about how CS3 A.R. acknowledged him in that moment and went back to sleep.[104] But of note, the room was extremely dark with the lights off and FCC Parker's view to the bed would have been obstructed by the Accused in the doorway.[105] FCC Parker and the Accused then spoke in the common area and he told him to ensure that CS3 A.R. was taken care of and to come to work.[106] FCC Parker left after only being present for a few minutes.[107]

j. The Accused told FCC Parker that CS3 A.R. had come over after calling him looking for someone to talk to, but she forgot her phone when he picked her up.[108] He told FCC Parker they fell asleep watching movies.[109] The Accused also advised his alarm did not go off because his phone had died overnight and he overslept and that he had a ride to work.[110]

k. The Accused's phone then recorded physical activity, including steps, from 0923-

93. Encl. 30 at 74-105.
94. Encl. 30 at 74-105.
95. Encl. 30 at 88-90.
96. Encl. 30 at 91.
97. Encl. 30 at 92-93.
98. Encl. 35.
99. Encl. 35.
100. Encl. 35.
101. Encl. 35.
102. Encl. 35.
103. Encl. 35.
104. Encl. 35.
105. Encl. 35.
106. Encl. 35.
107. Encl. 35.
108. Encl. 35.
109. Encl. 35.
110. Encl. 35.

0933 while in a locked state.[111] At 0934, the Accused flipped back and forth between his Snapchat application and his messages, but did not respond to anything previously received.[112] The Accused was on and off of his phone the remainder of the day and repeatedly ignored nearly all incoming communications.[113] YN3 Monoghan returned to the barracks room at approximately 1300 and did not see CS3 A.R. or the Accused.[114] When he saw the Accused later that night, he asked him if he and the female from that morning had been naked.[115] The Accused responded that they had been in their underwear.[116]

l. The Accused spoke with FCC Parker at 1241 and he advised he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks.[117] But no one said that they permitted the Accused to borrow their car, particularly AR Calisse who the Accused ordinarily borrows a vehicle from.[118] At 1310, the Accused searched for directions to "Bermuda."[119] The Accused did not come into work and advised FCC Parker at 1636 "I had to wait for my roommate."[120]

m. Despite repeated notifications to come to the ship over the weekend, the Accused did not do so.[121] Although it is possible that the Accused was in Hampton, VA, based on cell tower data at some points over the next few days, geolocation information from his iPhone suggests the Accused did not leave his barracks or the immediate vicinity until the afternoon of 1 June 2025.[122] YN3 Monoghan described the Accused's actions as unusual that weekend, with him leaving very early and returning very late.[123]

n. On the afternoon of 1 June 2025, base police searched the barracks for the Accused and located the Accused in a bathroom near a lounge in the barracks and advised him to report to work.[124] The Accused did so before returning to his barracks around 2100.[125] After he checked into work, the Accused texted CS3 A.R. "Yoo are you okay???" and "They marked us both UA" at 0701 on 1 June 2025.[126]

o. The Accused then asked to borrow AR Calisse's car, a white Jeep, and AR Calisse

111. Encl. 30 at 94.
112. Encl. 30 at 96.
113. Encl. 30.
114. Encl. 32.
115. Encl. 32.
116. Encl. 32.
117. Encl. 35.
118. Encl. 33.
119. Encl. 30 at 120.
120. Encl. 35.
121. Encl. 35.
122. Encl. 30 at 123-132.
123. Encl. 32.
124. Encl. 36.
125. Encls. 30, 31, 33.
126. Encl. 23.

agreed that was okay and gave him the keys that night.[127] At approximately 0418 on 2 June 2025, the Accused left the base and traveled south down Hampton boulevard.[128] As he traveled, he searched for 'Parks" and "Trails."[129] The Accused then pulled into a parking lot near a wooded area from 0436-0440 before turning around.[130] AR Calisse's Jeep was photographed on a street camera at 0440 at the same time geolocation data marked the Accused at that point.[131] At 0447, the Accused marked a location on Apple Maps and looked for directions to that location.[132] He then put his phone in Airplane mode at 0448.[133] At approximately 0500, the Accused stopped behind 2852 Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA and moved within a wooded area near the location that he had just marked on Apple Maps.[134] He departed at approximately 0515 and contemporaneously took a screenshot of the pinned location in the wooded area.[135] He took his phone off of airplane mode at 0516.[136] The Accused then went to McDonald's near base at approximately 0533 before returning to his barracks.[137]

p. AR Calisse's car keys were not on the counter that morning when AR Calisse sought to drive to work.[138] AR Calisse called the Accused and the Accused told him he had run out to get food.[139] AR Calisse ultimately met him in the barracks parking lot as he drove AR Calisse's Jeep back to him at approximately 0630 with food in hand.[140]

q. On 9 June 2025, investigators went to the location that the Accused had marked in his phone on 2 June 2025 and discovered the decomposed remains of CS3 A.R. in a black suitcase.[141] The bag matches a bag that the Accused was known to own and had been photographed with.[142] A search of the Accused's barracks found a small amount of CS3 A.R.'s blood in the Accused's closet and in the stairwell near the Accused's barracks room down the stairs leading to the parking lot of the barracks.[143] BlueStar indicated wheel tracks consistent with that bag from the Accused's closet leading to his barracks room front door.[144]

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127. Encl. 33.
128. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
129. Encl. 30 at 30.
130. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
131. Encl. 30 at 34.
132. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
133. Encl. 30 at 57.
134. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
135. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
136. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
137. Encl. 30 at 26-56.
138. Encls. 33, 34.
139. Encls. 33, 34.
140. Encls 33, 34.
141. Encl. 37.
142. Encl. 38.
143. Encls. 39-41.
144. Encl. 39.

r. The Accused spoke with NCIS on 1 June, 3 June and 6 June 2025.[145] On 1 June, he advised he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room.[146] On 3 June, the Accused told investigators he never said that, and that CS3 A.R. had left under her own power.[147] He also denied knowing that CS3 A.R. had made a call for help.[148] The Accused advised repeatedly he did not know where CS3 A.R. was.[149] The Accused made additional, significant and material false statements detailed below.

s. During the interview on 3 June, a contemporaneous search of the Accused's barracks room discovered an iPhone and an Apple watch.[150] The Accused advised that the phone in his barracks room did not work.[151] The items were not seized or collected at that time.[152] On 8 June 2025, the Accused took a photo of himself in the mirror with the phone he claimed did not work.[153] When he was taken into custody on 9 June, the phone was nowhere to be found (but the Apple watch was located).[154]

t. Just before going into custody on 9 June 2025, the Accused told another Sailor, CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN, that CS3 A.R. and he were making out and she wanted to go further, but he declined.[155] CS2 Taylor was under the impression that the Accused was describing these events as if they were in his bed together and doubted that the Accused was being truthful.[156]

u. Two autopsies were conducted in this case.[157] Neither reached a conclusive cause of death.[158] While both autopsies were somewhat limited by the decomposition of CS3 A.R.'s remains, the second autopsy was extremely limited due the remains having decomposed further, having already been subjected to an autopsy, and having been embalmed.[159] Based on their observations, blunt force trauma, stabbing, shooting, death by natural causes, and overdose could effectively be ruled out, although the second pathologist stated that evidence of blunt force trauma may have simply decomposed.[160] Both medical examiners opined that death by asphyxiation, such as by strangulation or suffocation, was possible.[161] CS3 A.R.'s blood alcohol

145. Encls. 42-46.
146. Encl. 42.
147. Encls. 43, 44.
148. Encls. 43, 44.
149. Encls. 42-46.
150. Encl. 47.
151. Encl. 47.
152. Enc. 47.
153. Encl. 47, 48.
154. Encl. 47.
155. Encl. 49.
156. Encl. 49.
157. Encls. 50-55.
158. Encls. 50-55.
159. Encls. 50-55.
160. Encls. 50-55.
161. Encls. 50-55.

concentration was .083 and was potentially inflated due to insect activity.[162] No drugs were in CS3 A.R.'s system.[163] One medical examiner also opined that it was not unusual for people to mistake dead bodies for living people.[164]

10. The Accused was also accused of misconduct on two separate occasions just prior to joining the Navy. The relevant portions of those allegations are as follows:

a. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused him of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone.[165] Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone after he admitted to recording it, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away preventing him from giving it to investigators.[166] The Accused's mother advised that she told the Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead.[167] The Accused then advised he had misplaced the phone.[168] The phone was never recovered.[169]

b. In June 2022, L.L. alleged that the Accused was at her home and they were sitting on the couch together.[170] The Accused touched her vulva with his hand without her consent, despite her continually moving his hand away and telling him "no."[171] She described him as having an "evil grin" while he did so.[172] He also pressured her to hug and kissed her without her consent.[173] The Accused told investigators that he was with L.L. on the couch but denied touching her inappropriately and denied kissing L.L. without consent, only that he attempted to kiss her.[174] The Accused also told investigators that L.L. had sent him nude photographs and messages asking to be "fucked," but when asked, the Accused advised he did not have those messages.[175]

11. Additional facts as needed will be discussed below.

LAW

12. "Evidence of any other crime, wrong or other act is not admissible to prove a person's character in order to show that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with the

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162. Encls. 50-51.
163. Encl. 52.
164. Encl. 51.
165. Encl. 56.
166. Encl. 56.
167. Encl. 56
168. Encl. 56.
169. Encl. 56.
170. Encl. 57.
171. Encl. 57.
172. Encl. 57.
173. Encl. 57.
174. Encl. 57.
175. Encl. 57.

character."[176] But, "[t]his evidence may be admissible for another purpose, such as proving motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake, or lack of accident."[177] "This Court has consistently stated that evidence of uncharged bad acts may not be introduced *solely* to show that an accused has a propensity to commit crimes of the type charged."[178] Moreover, "evidence . . . intrinsic to the charged offense . . . is not barred by Mil. R. Evid. 404(b)."[179]

13. In *United Sates v. Reynolds*, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) articulated a three-part test for determining when charged or uncharged misconduct can be admitted under this rule:

1. Does the evidence reasonably support a finding by the court members that [the accused] committed prior crimes, wrongs or acts?

2. What fact of consequence is made more or less probable by the existence of this evidence?

3. Is the probative value substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice?[180]

14. All three prongs must be satisfied for evidence to be admissible.[181] Evidence cannot be admissible when it poses an unfair risk that the fact finder could convict the accused on an improper basis.[182]

15. In evaluating the first prong, "[t]he task for the military judge is to determine whether there is sufficient evidence for a reasonable court member to believe that the

176. M.R.E. 404(b)(1)
177. M.R.E. 404(b)(2).
178. *United States v. Morrison*, 52 M.J. 117 (C.A.A.F. 1999) (citing *United States v. Miller*, 46 M.J. 63, 65 (C.A.A.F. 1997); *United States v. Castillo*, 29 M.J. 145, 150 (C.M.A. 1989); *United States v. Hicks*, 24 M.J. 3, 7 (C.M.A. 1987); *United States v. Rappaport*, 22 M.J. 445, 447 (C.M.A1986)) (emphasis added).
179. *United States v. Perez*, 2009 CCA LEXIS 360, (A. Ct. Crim. App. May 7, 2009) (unpublished) (citing *United States v. Metz*, 34 M.J. 349, 351 (C.M.A. 1992); *United States v. Williams*, 900 F.2d 823, 826 (5th Cir. 1990); *United States v. Coleman*, 78 F.3d 154, 156 (5th Cir. 1996)*;* Edward J. Imwinkelried, *Uncharged Misconduct Evidence*, § 6:24 (2006)).
180. *United States v. Reynolds*, 29 M.J. 105, 109 (C.M.A. 1989) (quoting *United States v. Mirandes-Gonzales*, 26 M.J. 411 (C.M.A. 1988); *United States v. Ferguson*, 28 M.J. 104, 108 (C.A.A.F. 1989); *United States v, Hicks*, 24 M.J. 3, 7 (C.M.A. 1987), *cert. denied*, 484 U.S. 827 (1987)) (internal alterations and quotations omitted).
181. *Reynolds*, 29 M.J. at 109.
182. *Old Chief v. United States*, 519 U.S. 172, 180 (1997).

accused in fact committed the extrinsic [act]."[183] "The standard for meeting this factor is quite low."[184]

16. Prong two is met if evidence is being admitted for a basis other than propensity under M.R.E. 404(b)(2). This includes evidence offered to prove motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake, or lack of accident, among others.[185] Some grounds, such as intent, are "*always* at issue in a criminal case—even when the defense chooses not to contest it."[186]

17. As the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) articulated in *United States v. Greene-Watson*, an analysis of prong two is twofold: (1) is a fact of consequence (such as an element of an offense) more likely with this evidence and (2) does it fall under a proper basis under M.R.E. 404(b).[187]

18. Prong three requires this Court to utilize the M.R.E. 403 balancing test.[188] This includes weighing (a) the strength of proof for the uncharged misconduct; (b) the probative weight of the evidence; (c) the potential for less prejudicial evidence; (d) distraction to the factfinder; (e) the time needed to prove the prior conduct; (f) temporal proximity; (g) the frequency of the misconduct and (h) the presence or lack of intervening circumstances; and (i) relationship between the parties.[189]

19. Notably, *res gestae* evidence is separate from evidence offered under M.R.E. 404(b). *Res gestae* evidence is admissible as long as it does not fail the M.R.E. 403 balancing test or other rule of evidence.[190] "*Res gestae*" is defined as "[t]he events at issue, or other events contemporaneous with them."[191] The CAAF has explained, "*[r]es gestae* evidence is vitally important in many trials. It enables the factfinder to see the full picture so that the evidence will not be confusing and prevents gaps in a narrative of occurrences which might induce unwarranted speculation."[192]

20. M.R.E. 404(b) not only permits the factfinder to consider uncharged misconduct for the purposes specified in the rule, but also allows the factfinder to consider charged

183. *United States v. Robles-Ramos*, 47 M.J. 474, 476 (C.A.A.F. 1998) (citing *United States v. Mirandes-Gonzales*, 26 M.J. 411, 414 (C.M.A. 1988)).
184. *United States v. Dorsey*, 38 M.J. 244, 246 (C.M.A. 1993).
185. Mil. R. Evid. 404(b)(2).
186. *United States v. Wilson*, 84 M.J. 383, 393 (C.A.A.F. 2024).
187. *United States v. Greene-Watson*, 85 M.J. 340, 346-48 (C.A.A.F. 2024).
188. *See* M.R.E. 403.
189. *United States v. Wright*, 53 M.J. 476, 482 (C.A.A.F. 2002) (internal citations omitted).
190. *United States v. Hasan*, 84 M.J. 181, 218 (C.A.A.F. 2024)
191. *Id*. 218 n.28 (internal citations omitted).
192. *Id*. (quoting *Metz*, 34 M.J. at 351).

conduct to draw permitted inferences regarding other charged conduct.[193] The Military Judge's Benchbook provides an instruction specific for this type of evidence under Note 2 of the "Spillover" instruction contained in Instruction 7-17:

> I just instructed you that you may not infer the accused is guilty of one offense because (his) (her) guilt may have been proven on another offense, and that you must keep the evidence with respect to each offense separate. However, there has been some evidence presented with respect to (state the offense) (as alleged in (The) Specification (___) of (The) (Additional) Charge (___) that also may be considered for a limited purpose with respect to (state the other offense) (as alleged in (The) Specification (___) of (The) (Additional) Charge (___)).
>
> This evidence, that (state the evidence that may be considered under MRE 404(b)) may be considered for the limited purpose of its tendency, if any, to:
>
> (identify the accused as the person who committed the offense of _____);
>
> (prove a plan or design of the accused to_____);
>
> (prove knowledge on the part of the accused that_____);
>
> (prove that the accused intended to _____);
>
> (show the accused's awareness of (his) (her) guilt of the offense of _____);
>
> (prove the motive of the accused to _____);
>
> (show that the accused had the opportunity to commit the offense of _____);
>
> (rebut the contention of the accused that his participation in the offense of _____ was the result of (accident) (mistake) (entrapment));
>
> (rebut the issue of _____ raised by the defense); (and/or)
>
> (_____) with respect to the offense of (state the offense) (as alleged in (The) Specification (___) of (The) (Additional) Charge (___).
>
> You may not consider this evidence for any other purpose and you may not conclude or infer from this evidence that the accused is a bad person or has

193. *Untied States v. Hyppolite*, 79 M.J. 161, 164-67 (CAAF 2019); *United States v. Tanksley*, 54 M.J. 169, 175 (C.A.A.F. 2000 (overruled on other grounds by *United States v. Inong*, 58 M.J. 460, 464 (C.A.A.F. 2003)).

criminal tendencies, and that therefore (he) (she) committed the offense(s) of (_____).[194]

21. In contrast to M.R.E. 404(b), "M.R.E. 413 is an **exception** to the ordinary rule that evidence of uncharged misconduct or prior convictions is generally inadmissible and may not be used to show an accused's propensity or predisposition to commit charged misconduct."[195] This means, for example, that "evidence of either a prior sexual assault conviction or uncharged sexual assaults can be used to prove than an accused has a propensity to commit sexual assault."[196] Under M.R.E. 413, "members are permitted to consider testimony of past victims alleging that an accused perpetrated a sex offense upon them in order to infer that an accused has the propensity to commit the charged sex offense."[197]

22. Admission under M.R.E. 413 is predicated on three threshold findings:

l. The accused is charged with a sexual offense;

2. The evidence proffered is evidence of the defendant's commission of another offense sexual offense; and

3. The evidence is relevant under Rules 401 and 402.[198]

23. The second prong requires proof that the other offense occurred by a preponderance of the evidence.[199]

24. A "sexual offense" means an offense punishable under the UCMJ, or a crime under federal or state law, involving: (1) any conduct prohibited by Article 120; (2) any conduct prohibited by 18 U.S.C. chapter 109A; (3) contact, without consent, between any part of the accused's body, or an object held or controlled by the accused, and another person's genitals or anus; (4) contact, without consent, between the accused's genitals or anus and any part of another person's body; (5) contact with the aim of deriving sexual pleasure or gratification from inflicting death, bodily injury, or physical pain on another person; or (6) an attempt or conspiracy to engage in conduct described above.[200]

25. The Court must also apply the Military Rule of Evidence 403 balancing test to evidence seeking admission under M.R.E. 413.[201] Some of the factors to be examined when conducting a

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194. Military Judge's Benchbook (Version 2.62, updated 19 Nov 2025).
195. *United States v. Hills*, 75 M.J. 350, 354 (C.A.A.F. 2016) (internal citations omitted) (emphasis added).
196. *Id*. (citing *United States v. James*, 63 M.J. 217, 220-22 (C.A.A.F. 2006)).
197. *Id*. (citing *United States v. Wright*, 53 M.J. 476, 480 (C.A.A.F. 2000)).
198. M.R.E. 413(a); Wright, 53 M.J. at 482 (citing, *United States v. Guardia*, 135 F.3d 1326, 1328 (10th Cir. 1998).
199. *United States v. Solomon*, 72 M.J. 176, 179 (C.A.A.F. 2013) (citing *Wright*, 53 M.J. at 482).
200. M.R.E. 413(d).
201. *Wright*, 53 M.J. at 482.

balancing test: "[s]trength of proof of prior act - conviction versus gossip; probative weight of evidence; potential for less prejudicial evidence; distraction of factfinder; and time needed for proof of prior conduct[;] . . . temporal proximity, frequency of the acts; presence or lack of intervening circumstances; and relationship between the parties."[202]

26. In *United States v. Wright*, CAAF noted, "Mr. David J. Karp, a drafter of the Rules, has stated: 'It is not expected, however, that evidence admissible pursuant to proposed Rules 413-15 would often be excluded on the basis of Rule 403. Rather, the effect of the new rules is to put evidence of uncharged offenses in sexual assault … cases on the same footing as other types of evidence that are not subject to a special exclusionary rule. The presumption is in favor of admission.'"[203]

ARGUMENT - M.R.E. 404(b) EVIDENCE

27. It is not clear from the Defense's motion on this issue if they are challenging the admission of all evidence noticed under M.R.E. 404(b), or only the Accused's history of strangulation, his history of routinely manipulating investigators by telling "half-truths," and evidence that he smiles when he assaults women. Regardless, the Government will address each set of noticed evidence in turn below.

28. Overall, each noticed set of evidence is admissible for a purpose other than propensity and therefore can be properly argued under M.R.E. 404(b). The Defense's repeated fears of the violent effect arguing this evidence under proper M.R.E. 404(b) bases would have on the case only underscores its extremely high probative value. Any danger of unfair prejudice would not substantially outweigh the heavy probative value of this evidence. And finally, an instruction can be given in the format cited above. The Defense's motion should be denied.

A. The Accused's history of strangulation.

29. The Accused's history of strangulation as it relates to his actions toward ABHAN C.R. in the sole Specification of Charge II and CSSN S.R. in Specification 1 of Charge V, as well as the Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. in the sole Specification of Charge VII is highly probative of common scheme, motive, and intent for the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder). These facts incorporate charged misconduct and are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. Both the strangulation of ABHAN C.R. and the strangulation of CSSN S.R. were reported separately by each victim and neither had knowledge of the other. Both described being strangled by the Accused. And while a conclusive cause of death has not been pathologically identified for CS3 A.R., all the evidence

202. *Id*. (internal citations omitted).
203. *Wright*, at 482-483 (citing 70 Chicago-Kent L. Rev. 15, 19 (1994)).

taken together strongly supports that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. to death on 29 May 2025. The Government, as outlined in our bill of particulars, intends to argue that this was the act that caused CS3 A.R.'s death as follows:[204]

(1) Circumstantial evidence supports that the Accused murdered CS3 A.R. on 29 May. This includes that the Accused was the last to be seen with her alive, repeatedly lied to investigators, considered escaping, largely ignored incoming messages and calls for days, kept her body in his suitcase in his closet, hid evidence, and later hid her body in a wooded area.

(2) Forensic and other evidence supports that CS3 A.R. was killed in a manner that would not result in blood-producing injuries or other obvious superficial trauma, such as strangulation. CS3 A.R. was spending time with the Accused on the evening of 28 May 2025 into the early hours of 29 May 2025. CS3 A.R. made a panicked call for help at 0214 to ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, on 29 May 2025 while she was with the Accused. The Accused took the phone and asked ET3 Rich how far away he was. CS3 A.R. was never heard from by her loved ones again. Between 0152-0230, the Accused's heart rate rapidly increased and stayed between 125-128 bpm, spiking again at 130 bpm at 0307. The Accused's suitemate reported hearing what he believed to be karaoke in the common room around that time but did not investigate. The blood found at the scene was limited to the closet area where the Accused stored the body, suggesting no blood-producing injury occurred and eyewitnesses did not observe any obvious wounds on CS3 A.R.'s body just hours after she was murdered. In fact, they believed she was asleep. Strangulation left little trace and also prevented CS3 A.R. from calling out for help from the Accused's roommates.

(3) Pathological evidence also supports that strangulation was the cause of death. The remains of CS3 A.R. were recovered outdoors approximately 10 days after she was murdered. CS3 A.R's remains were heavily decomposed. CS3 A.R.'s remains underwent two autopsies. Blunt force trauma was ruled out by the first autopsy and both ruled out shooting or stabbing. The second autopsy, when CS3 A.R.'s remains were further decomposed, noted that any evidence of blunt force trauma would have decomposed. After toxicological testing, each autopsy determined there was no evidence of death resulting from the use of a controlled substance or other medication/alcohol. In light of these findings, the most likely cause of CS3 A.R.s death is asphyxiation (strangulation or suffocation). However, absent affirmative evidence of asphyxiation, neither pathologist was able to state that was the cause of death and both ruled the cause of death was undetermined. The forensic and other evidence provided above provides all of the affirmative evidence needed to bridge that gap.

(4) As discussed in Section C below, the Accused also had a strong motive to murder CS3 A.R. at the time he did so.

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than

204. *See* Gov. Resp. to Def. Mot. to Dismiss for Failure to State an Offense (5 Dec 2025).

just propensity. The Accused's history of strangulation is offered to establish common scheme, motive, and intent for the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII.

i. The Accused has a demonstrated history of using strangulation to exert control over women to get them to comply. The Accused strangled ABHAN C.R. when she resisted his sexual advances. In that case, the Accused used strangulation to exert control over ABHAN C.R. and obtain his desired sexual gratification. The Accused similarly strangled CSSN S.R., his intimate partner, when she confronted him about his infidelity. The Accused did so again to gain control of his victim, in this case to stop her from arguing with him. As evidenced by these two occasions, the Accused is quick to use strangulation to assert control over a situation to get what he wants.

ii. The Accused applied this common scheme and again exerted control over CS3 A.R.. He did so, because when she called ET3 Rich, the Accused realized that she was going to report him for another Article 120, UCMJ offense on top of the two that he already knew NCIS was investigating (as discussed in Section C below). He then strangled her, just as he did with ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. But this time, he strangled CS3 A.R. to the point of death to control her and prevent her from reporting misconduct to either ET3 Rich or the Accused's suitemates.

iii. The Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. was approximately one month after his strangulation of CSSN S.R. All three strangulation events occurred within a year of each other and reflect a common scheme of controlling women to get them to comply.

(2) Reasoning in support of motive for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted above, the Accused sought control over both ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. The Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. was motivated by the same desire for control.

(3) Reasoning in support of intent for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in above, the Accused used strangulation as a method to assert control over his victims. Specific to CS3 A.R., the Accused intended to control CS3 A.R. by strangling her to death, for the reasons discussed in Section C below.

(4) Reasoning in support of lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII. This evidence of the Accused's common scheme of strangulation of female victims will also be

offered to show that CS3 A.R.'s death was not an accident. While there is no evidence to suggest CS3 A.R. died of natural causes, committed suicide, or otherwise unintentionally overdosed as suggested by the Defense in many of their filings, this evidence of strangulation establishes her death was not an accident but an intentional action of the Accused. Moreover, the Accused demonstrated with ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. that he could strangle someone and stop short of killing them. That the Accused was capable of this demonstrates he did not unintentionally strangle CS3 A.R. for too long and accidentally murder her.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value is not substantially outweighed by any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. The time needed to prove it is limited as the Government intends to admit all of this evidence at trial regardless. These acts occurred within a year of eachother. There were limited intervening circumstances as the evidence abuts in time. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as it is based on the charged misconduct. And using charged misconduct to prove charged misconduct under M.R.E. 404(b) in this manner does not affect the presumption of innocence or burden of proof. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and does not substantially outweigh the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

30. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

B. That a bystander would have heard a louder method of murder than strangulation or other asphyxiation.

31. Evidence that two friends in the common area of the Accused's barracks room heard Y.J. telling the Accused to "stop" penetrating her vagina and entered the room to stop the Accused from continuing as it relates to knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder). These facts incorporate charged misconduct and are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, this other act occurred. These events were reported by Y.J. and are corroborated by a witness who responded to her request for the Accused to "stop."

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. That others heard a victim ask the Accused to "stop" from another room within the Accused's barracks room is offered to establish knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII. The above-described interaction with Y.J. occurred only 4 days prior to the night CS3 A.R. was murdered and both events took place in the same barracks room. For the reasons detailed in Section C, the Accused had a motive to murder CS3 A.R. This event with Y.J. was fresh on his mind and the Accused knew that his suitemates would be able to hear CS3 A.R. cry

for help. The Accused also knew that his suitemates may be able to hear him murder CS3 A.R. if he chose a loud mechanism for doing so. As a result, the Accused was motivated to murder CS3 A.R. before his suitemates responded and he did so by strangulation because he knew it would be quiet.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value outweighs any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. The time needed to prove it is limited as the Government intends to admit all of this evidence at trial regardless. These acts occurred within days of each other. There were limited intervening circumstances as the evidence was merely days apart. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as it is based on the charged misconduct. And using charged misconduct to prove charged misconduct under M.R.E. 404(b) in this manner does not affect the presumption of innocence or burden of proof. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

32. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

C. The Accused's extreme reaction to an allegation of sexual assault.

33. In July of 2024, the Accused was accused of sexual misconduct by ABHAN A.R. and was aware he was under investigation by NCIS for that accusation. He stated that ABHAN A.R. "put a case on" him.[205] In November of 2024, the Accused was accused by CSSN S.S. of a separate sexual assault and other offenses. The Accused reported that he "caught a case"[206] and told her that his life was ruined. Nearly immediately after this accusation, he became inconsolable, threatened to kill himself, and repeatedly attempted to genuinely kill himself by walking in front of approximately three trains before being recovered by ship security and brought back to the ship. This evidence is offered to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault) and both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting). These facts incorporate charged misconduct and are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. The Accused's actions after being confronted by CSSN S.S. were observed by eyewitnesses and members of the ship had to recover him and return him to the ship to stop his attempted self-harm. The Accused statements to CSSN S.S. about his desire to kill himself are recorded in text messages.

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. The Accused's reaction to an allegation of sexual assault is offered to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident with respect to the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) and consciousness of guilt for the for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual

205. Encl. 58.
206. Encl. 12.

Assault) and both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Broadcasting and Recording):

(1) Reasoning in support of motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII.

i. When CSSN S.S. made accusations against the Accused in November 2024, the Accused immediately demonstrated he was willing to take extreme and violent measures by attempting to kill himself.

ii. CS3 A.R. made a panicked call to ET3 Rich for help at 0214 on 29 May and the Accused took the phone to ask how far ET3 Rich was; a call the Accused denies occurred despite call records to the contrary.[207] It is evident from that call that the Accused had done something to CS3 A.R. to cause distress. The Accused murdered CS3 A.R. shortly after that call.

iii. That call was prompted by an unwanted sexual advance and the Accused murdered her to prevent her from making a report. After CS3 A.R. went missing, the Accused self-servingly told investigators that nothing sexual occurred that night between the two of them and laughed off his roommates suggestion that they were naked.[208] Comparatively, the Accused advised another Sailor, CS2 Taylor, that CS3 A.R. and he were making out, but that he had turned her down after she wanted to go further and this upset her. Both of these statements conflict with the accounts of the Accused's roommates, who described the Accused and CS3 A.R. as nearly-fully naked on top of each other on the floor of the common area later on the morning of 29 May. Consistent with their nudity and illuminated by the Accused's self-serving false and half-true statements (a common scheme detailed below) to CS2 Taylor, his roommate, and investigators, sexual conduct occurred between the Accused and CS3 A.R. Given the nature of CS3 A.R.'s plea for help to ET3 Rich and the noise heard by AR Calisse, that sexual conduct was unwanted.

v. Motivated to prevent another report being made against him, the Accused made a decision to murder CS3 A.R. after his unwelcome advance. On the call, the Accused asked ET3 Rich how far away he was to determine how long he had to prevent another case against him from being reported. CS3 A.R. was never heard from again despite significant search efforts from interested parties immediately following the call.

vi. Just as he had an extreme and violent response to a second reported allegation against him from CSSN S.S., here he formed the premeditated intent to murder CS3 A.R. before she could make a third report, as discussed above. The Accused's lies about that evening combined with CS3 A.R.'s call for help and their state of undress that morning are strong evidence that CS3 A.R. was the victim of sexual non-consensual sexual advances. Her demonstrating that she was

207. Encl. 59.
208. Encls. 32, 43.

going to reach out for help by calling ET3 Rich provided a motive for the Accused to control her, ensure she did not report him, and to commit premeditated murder.

(2) Reasoning in support of intent for the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted above, the Accused formed the premeditated intent to murder CS3 A.R. because he did not believe he could overcome a third reported allegation. He was willing to kill himself after CSSN S.S.'s allegation, underscoring the extreme intent he is capable of. Anything less than murder would have been insufficient as it would have left her as a witness against him.

(3) Reasoning in support of lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted above, this evidence of the Accused's extreme desire to avoid an allegation even if by suicide establishes that CS3 A.R.'s death was not an accident, but the result of an intentional action of the Accused.

(4) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for the for Specification 3 of Charge I and both Specifications of Charge III. The Accused's instant and extreme response by attempting suicide after he was accused of this charged misconduct by CSSN S.S. demonstrates a consciousness of guilt as to his actions towards her.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value outweighs any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. The time needed to prove it is limited as the Government intends to admit all of this evidence at trial regardless. These acts occurred within months of each other. There were limited intervening circumstances as the evidence abuts in time. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as it is based on the charged misconduct. And using charged misconduct to prove charged misconduct under M.R.E. 404(b) in this manner does not affect the presumption of innocence or burden of proof. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

34. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

D. The Accused's history of telling half-truths to mislead investigators.

35. Evidence of the Accused's history of telling half-truths to mislead investigators. The Accused has described himself as a "king manipulator"[209] and applies that manipulating behavior to the criminal investigations pending against him. These lies, while nearly entirely *res gestae*[210] are individually offered as consciousness of guilt, but this is not merely lying. When put together it can be seen that over the course of five separate investigations and several more interviews with investigators, the Accused demonstrated a calculated pattern of manipulative, intentional deceit. This evidence, discussed below, is offered to establish common scheme and consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I (Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault),

209. Encl. 60 at 15:01.
210. The Government contends that only the pre-service conduct is not *res gestae*.

the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as intent for both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement). These facts incorporate both uncharged and charged misconduct and are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

(1) During two separate investigations into pre-service misconduct, the Accused made misleading statements as follows:

i. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused him of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone after he admitted to recording it, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away preventing him from giving it to investigators. The Accused's mother advised that she told the Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced the phone. The phone was never recovered. This was an incontrovertible lie to investigators, contrary to the Defense's argument otherwise. Indeed, the Accused took an additional step to mislead his mother as well as investigators.

ii. In June 2022, L.L. alleged that the Accused was at her home and they were sitting on the couch together. The Accused touched her vulva with his hand without her consent, despite her continually moving his hand away and telling him "no." He also pressured her to hug and kissed her without her consent. The Accused gave a half-true statement to investigators, agreeing that he was with L.L. on the couch but denied touching her inappropriately and denied kissing L.L. without consent, only that he attempted to kiss her. The Accused also told investigators that L.L. had sent him nude photographs and messages asking to be "fucked," but when asked the Accused advised he did not have those messages.

(2) The accused made misleading statements during investigations into ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.S. as follows:

i. The Accused made half-true statements about strangling ABHAN C.R. and his sexual interest in her. ABHAN C.R. told investigators that after talking with the Accused, the Accused strangled her, touched her intimate areas, and attempted to kiss her. The Accused downplayed the sexual nature of his interaction with ABHAN C.R. and that he strangled her, only admitting that he lightly choked her.[211] Specifically, when asked by NCIS about this misconduct, he told investigators:

A. That they were "flirting," but he also denied being romantically or sexually

211. Encl. 61.

interested in her.[212]

B. When asked if he strangled ABHAN C.R., he stated "oh okay yeah I have but it wasn't like a weird way," and stated he put one hand around her neck without applying any pressure after she pinched his arm.[213] The Accused also admitted that he told ABHAN C.R. that he heard she liked to be choked.[214] Nonetheless, the Accused denied any sexual touching or attempted sexual touching took place.[215]

ii. The Accused made half-true statements by admitting to recording and broadcasting a sexual encounter with CSSN S.S. but conveniently lied about the whereabouts of his phone and later "lost" the recording of that encounter when he got a "new" phone.

iii. The Accused also denied any misconduct when initially confronted by CSSN S.S. (who had no memory of the event) and told CSSN S.S. that they did not have sex, despite later admitting they did once it became clear that others were reporting they had seen the video.

(3) After an investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused made several half-true statements to mislead during the early days of CS3 A.R.'s disappearance and follow-on investigation. Most notably:

i. On 29 May 2025:

A. The Accused told FCC Parker that early on the morning of her disappearance, CS3 A.R. was having personal issues and was seeking help, so he picked her up and brought her to his barracks room to discuss them. But this is not why or how they were together. CS3 A.R. came to the Accused's barracks room to make tacos and hang out on the evening of 28 May 2025. CS3 A.R. only made a call for help at 0214 on 29 May 2025 to ET3 Rich, discussed above, and no one else. FCC Parker was aware CS3 A.R. was seeking help that night because he had spoken to ET3 Rich. The Accused advised him that CS3 A.R. had called several people and he was the first to get to her. The Accused turned CS3 A.R.'s call for help to ET3 Rich into a narrative to make himself look better and more trusted while he concealed her dead body on his bed. This was all done in an effort to manipulate FCC Parker.

B. According to FCC Parker, the Accused was acting like he had just woken up and took a significant amount of time to answer the door, further indicating he had been sleeping. But the Accused had been awake since at least 0728, as

212. Encl. 61.
213. Encl. 61.
214. Encl. 61.
215. Encl. 61.

demonstrated by his record of watching pornography nearly constantly from 0728-1150 that morning. Instead, he was concealing CS3 A.R.'s body and concocting a narrative. Relatedly, the Accused told FCC Parker his phone died and his alarm did not go off which is why he was not at work. But his phone was on and charged.

C. The Accused told FCC Parker he had a ride to work to get him to leave. He did not and he did not check in to work until 1 June 2025.

ii. On 1 June 2025:

A. The Accused told investigators that while CS3 A.R. was at his barracks room on 29 May 2025, PSSN Gordillocruz came into the common area to ask if CS3 A.R. was okay as she was upset.[216] But PSSN Gordillocruz did not say this occurred.[217] He stated he arrived to the unit around 0400 but the lights were off and he did not see anyone in the dark common area.

B. The Accused maintained his lie that FCC Parker woke him and CS3 A.R. up on 29 May 2025 when he came to the room around 0900.[218] CS3 A.R. was already dead and the Accused was already awake, as noted above.

C. The Accused told investigators he borrowed his roommate's car and dropped CS3 A.R. back at her barracks around 1000 on 29 May 2025. The Accused provided later that CS3 A.R. left of her own accord. None of the Accused's roommates allowed him to borrow a vehicle at that time. And, perhaps most notably, CS3 A.R. was already dead. There is no evidence to suggest she left the barracks room while alive.

iii. On 3 June 2025:

A. During this interview of the Accused, an iPhone was found during a contemporaneous search in his barracks room. The Accused told investigators the phone did not work, but investigative efforts later determined that it did work and this had been a lie.

B. As discussed above, the Accused provided his encounter with CS3 A.R. was not a sexual encounter, but CS3 A.R. was described as partially naked by the Accused's roommates and he told CS3 Taylor that CS3 A.R. and he had begun making out in his bed and she wanted to go further sexually, but the Accused stopped it. As detailed above, this is not true.

C. The Accused told investigators that CS3 A.R. did not make a call for help or

216. Encl. 42.
217. Encl. 31.
218. Encl. 42.

to be picked up. But she called ET3 Rich in a panic at 0214 asking to be picked up and the Accused took the phone to speak with him.

D. The Accused told investigators CS3 A.R. spent a significant amount of time on the phone with an ex-boyfriend from Texas, but there is no evidence to suggest that occurred.[219]

E. The Accused re-iterated his lie about PSSN Gordillocruz checking on CS3 A.R. to ensure she was okay.[220]

F. The Accused stated he slept in his bed with CS3 A.R. and denied being naked on the floor of the common area. But they were found on the common area floor by all three roommates in a state of undress before being seen in the Accused's bed by FCC Parker later that morning.

G. The Accused stated his unauthorized absence (UA) status was a big misunderstanding and he did not know he was UA because he was not scheduled to work.[221] But FCC Parker repeatedly told him to check in over the weekend.

H. The Accused denied telling investigators he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room on 29 May 2025, in contrast with her previous statement.

I. The Accused denied knowing where CS3 A.R. was.

iii. On 6 June 2025:

A. The Accused re-iterated several of his 3 June lies, including that CS3 A.R. called an ex-boyfriend from Texas, that nothing sexual occurred, that FCC Parker woke him up, and that he did not know CS3 A.R. was.[222]

B. The Accused also acknowledged he did not drop CS3 A.R. off as stated previously.[223]

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. These statements were made by the Accused to investigators or other witnesses and are often corroborated by other investigative actions.

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. The Accused's history of telling half-truths as a "king manipulator" is offered to

219. Encl. 42.
220. Encl. 44 at 13.
221. Encl. 44 at 31.
222. Encl. 44 at 45.
223. Encl. 46 at 80.

establish common scheme and consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I (Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault), the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as intent for both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement). Contrary to the Defense's repeated assertions, **this evidence is not being offered to show intent for premeditated murder** (and never was).

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I, the sole Specification of Charge II, both Specifications of Charge III, Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. The Accused's common scheme of providing half-true information in a calculated manner demonstrates a pattern with the goal of misleading investigators after he "get[s his] story and timeline straight."[224] The sheer number of half-truths across various investigations demonstrates he is a deliberate liar—a "king manipulator"[225]—and he uses this scheme of different types of lies as noted above to delay and obfuscate investigations. This is a very particular method of lying. That he consistently gives enough information to admit to an event without inculpating himself of the most serious misconduct, fabricates accounts where he believes he will not be challenged, and misleads investigators as to the state of the evidence demonstrates a willful scheme to mislead that becomes more probative the more it is replicated. That these lies often contain some level of the truth makes his lies about what happened between himself and CS3 A.R. particularly illuminating, as he is the only witness still alive. And because this is a common scheme, these lies are more easily distilled down to what actually occurred, as described above, such as the fact that the Accused made the unwanted sexual advance on CS3 A.R. and not the other way around as he described to CS2 Taylor.

(2) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I, the sole Specification of Charge II, both Specifications of Charge III, Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. For the reasons outlined above, the Accused's history of half-truths demonstrates an intentional pattern of misleading investigators to exculpate himself, demonstrating a consciousness of guilt for his misconduct for whichever offense was then under investigation.

(3) Reasoning in support of intent for both Specifications of Charge VI. The Accused's repeated history of half-truths to mislead investigators and others demonstrates that his false statements to investigators in these Specifications are intentional.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's

224. Encl. 46 at 105.
225. Encl. 60 at 15:01.

probative value outweighs any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. The time needed to prove it is limited as, aside from the preservice misconduct, the Government intends to admit all of this evidence to support the charged offenses at trial regardless. The pre-service misconduct will be simple to prove through a handful of witnesses and will be limited only to the relevant conduct described here and as outlined in our notice under M.R.E. 413 discussed below. The pre-service misconduct also occurred within just over two years of the charged misconduct's beginning. All acts occurred within merely three years of each other. There were limited intervening circumstances as the evidence demonstrates a consistent path over three years. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as it is primarily based on the charged misconduct. And using charged misconduct to prove charged misconduct under M.R.E. 404(b) in this manner does not affect the presumption of innocence or burden of proof. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

36. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

E. The Accused's history of hiding his phone from investigators when under criminal investigation.

37. As discussed below, the Accused has a demonstrated history of hiding his phone when placed under investigation and this history is offered to establish common scheme and lack of accident for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice) and consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), all Specifications of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder). These facts primarily incorporate charged misconduct, are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. The Accused has a history of hiding his phone from investigators when under criminal investigation.

i. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused the Accused of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away, preventing him from giving it to them. The Accused's mother advised that she told the Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced his phone. His phone was never recovered.

ii. In November 2024, after CSSN S.S. accused the Accused of misconduct, he hid his cell phone from investigators and lied and said he had given it to a friend before saying it was lost. When he later provided digital evidence to investigators, he advised he had gotten a "new" phone that contained digital evidence from the time of the allegation, but apparently no longer had the video in question.

iii. On 3June 2025, when questioned about the disappearance of CS3 A.R., the Accused advised that the cell phone found in his barracks room would not turn on. However, investigative steps later determined that the phone was operational at the time. When investigators sought to seize that phone on 9 June 2025, the phone was missing from the Accused's belongings and never recovered. [226]

iv. The Accused has also conducted online research on what a phone search can return, including queries such as: on 25 May 2025 (1) "can police fet [ph.] infirmation [ph.] from reset phone;" (2) "ncis took my phone;" and (3) "can ncis take your phone off allegations."[227] He intentionally hides his phones because he knows they are of high evidentiary value.

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. These facts are supported by the accounts of criminal investigators and the Accused's own statements, as well as a digital extraction of one of the Accused's phones.

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. This evidence of the Accused hiding his phone when placed under investigation is offered to establish common scheme for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice) and consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), all Specifications of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme and lack of accident for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV. The Accused has demonstrated a common scheme of lying and hiding his phone when under investigation for an offense that he perceives may result in his phone being seized. He did this with the pre-service allegations against him in May 2022, he did it again with the allegations of CSSN S.S. in November of 2024, and he did it most recently when being investigated for crimes related to the disappearance of CS3 A.R. This evidence also supports that him misplacing his phone is not an accident, but an intentional effort to obstruct justice (as charged).

(2) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I, both Specifications of Charge III, all Specifications of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI the sole Specification of Charge VII. The Accused hides his phone intuitively because it contains incriminating information on it. The Accused's online search history supports that belief. That he lied and hid his phone repeatedly from investigators indicates a consciousness of guilt for all offenses related to both CSSN S.S. and CS3 A.R. Moreover, his Google search history supports that he did so with the specific intent to limit an investigation into misconduct.

226. The Accused also told investigators on 6 June that the phone was broken. Encl. 46 at 132.
227. Encl. 62.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value is not substantially outweighed by any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. The time needed to prove it is limited as the Government intends to admit most of this evidence at trial regardless. The pre-service misconduct will be simple to prove through a limited number of brief witnesses. The pre-service misconduct occurred within two and a half years of the relevant charged misconduct's beginning. All acts occurred within merely three years of each other. There were limited intervening circumstances as the evidence demonstrates a consistent plan over three years. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as it is primarily based on the charged misconduct. And using charged misconduct to prove charged misconduct under M.R.E. 404(b) in this manner does not affect the presumption of innocence or burden of proof. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

38. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

F. The Accused's history of recording and broadcasting sexual encounters without consent.

39. The Accused recorded and broadcast a sexual encounter with a female victim in high school in May of 2022 without her consent, as detailed above. This evidence is offered to establish common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting). These facts are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. These facts are supported by the accounts of witnesses and the Accused's own statements.

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. This evidence of the Accused recording and broadcasting sexual encounters is offered to establish common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III. The Accused has demonstrated a common scheme of recording and broadcasting sexual encounters without consent, just as he did with CSSN S.S. This evidence also supports that the Accused knew when he recorded and broadcast his encounter with CSSN S.S. that this conduct was wrongful absent her consent and that doing so without her consent was intentional.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value outweighs any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and

highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. This misconduct will be simple to prove through a limited number of brief witnesses. The pre-service misconduct occurred within two and a half years of the relevant charged misconduct. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as its presentation will be brief. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

40. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

G. The Accused makes an "evil" grin when assaulting women.

41. The Accused makes an "evil" grin when assaulting women. The Government seeks to introduce this evidence to establish motive and intent for Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation). These facts are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. This account is from a victim of the Accused's pre-service misconduct, L.L. She alleges that while he touched her vulva without consent, he had an "evil" grin.

b. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. This "evil" grin by the Accused is offered to prove motive, intent, and identity with respect to Specification 1 of Charge V.

(1) Reasoning in support of motive and intent for Specification 1 of Charge V. CSSN S.R. described the Accused as smiling while he strangled her. This description mirrors the "evil" grin described by L.L., establishing further that the Accused intends to exercise control and enjoys and intends nonconsensual touching of women.

c. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value outweighs any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. This misconduct will be simple to prove through a limited number of brief witnesses. The pre-service misconduct occurred within three years of the relevant charged misconduct. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as its presentation will be brief and we are seeking to introduce it under M.R.E. 413 as well, discussed below. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

42. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

H. The Accused's various actions after murdering CS3 A.R.

43. The Government believes the below evidence outlining various actions of the Accused

related to CS3 A.R.'s murder are *res gestae*, but offers them here in an abundance of caution. The Government intends to introduce the below evidence to establish consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder). These facts are supported by the evidence, are offered for a valid basis under M.R.E. 404(b), and have an extremely high probative value that is not outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.

a. This includes:

(1) The Accused hid in various barracks lounges from 29 May 2025-1 June 2025 after he murdered CS3 A.R. When security from the ship came to find him on 1 June 2025, he hid in the bathroom on the fifth floor of his barracks. The Accused's roommate also stated that the Accused was leaving very early and returning very late over that weekend, which was highly unusual for him.

(2) During the period of 29 May 2025 to 1 June 2025, the Accused was in an unauthorized absence status and was repeatedly notified that he needed to check-in, but he ignored those requests. Indeed, despite dozens of inquiries as to his whereabouts from both his ship and his friends that the Accused viewed on his phone, the Accused generally did not answer his phone or respond to text messages from 29 May 2025 until 1 June 2025.[228]

(3) The Accused encouraged his roommate to leave the room, which was an unusual request.[229]

(4) The Accused disposed of CS3 A.R.'s body in a wooded area on 2 June 2025. The Accused turned his phone on Airplane mode after he decided where to place the body and turned it off of Airplane mode when he was done placing her in the woods. Specifically, he placed his phone on Airplane mode at 0448 on 2 June 2025 when he drove to a pinned location (where the body was found) and turned it off at 0516 when he left the site.

(5) At 1311 the day he murdered CS3 A.R., the Accused searched for a trip to "Bermuda."[230] In the days following his murder of CS3 A.R., the Accused searched online for "virginia airport" on 3 and 10 June 2025 and "norfolk airport" on 3 June 2025.[231]

(6) As discussed in detail above, during the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused lied about various things, including: (1) that he dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks on 29 May 2025, (2) that he did not know where CS3 A.R. was, (3) that the iPhone found in his room on 3 June 2025 did not work, (4) that CS3 A.R. did not call anyone for a ride from his barracks room on 29 May 2025, (5) that CS3 A.R. was on the phone with her ex-boyfriend from Texas on 29 May 2025, (6) that CS3 A.R. had wanted to go further sexually when they were together on 29 May 2025, but he declined, and (7) that he slept with CS3 A.R.

228. Encl. 30.
229. Encl. 30, 35.
230. Encl. 30 at 120.
231. Encl. 30 at 188.

in his bed that night and not on the floor.[232]

(7) The Accused laughed off that he was naked to his roommate, in contrast to what he told CS3 Taylor and despite them being seen naked together on the floor of the common area that morning.

(8) The Accused hid and/or destroyed his second iPhone prior to going to the brig on 9 June 2025, as discussed above.

(9) The Accused called and texted CS3 A.R. on 1 June 2025 asking where she was and notifying her of her UA status despite knowing she was deceased and her body was in his closet.[233]

b. As to prong one of the *Reynolds* test, these other acts occurred. It is either from data extracted from the Accused's phone, from the Accused's own statements, or from statements of eyewitnesses.

c. This evidence satisfies the second *Reynolds* prong as it is relevant for a basis other than just propensity. These actions by the Accused in the hours and days following the murder of CS3 A.R. are offered to show consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. These actions include an intent to flee, an attempt to mislead, and an attempt to hide from investigators and others. They were taken close in time to the disappearance of CS3 A.R. and are those taken by someone with a guilty conscience.

d. Looking at the third prong of the *Reynolds* test for this set of evidence, the evidence's probative value is not substantially outweighed by any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. The time needed to prove it is limited as the Government intends to admit all of this evidence at trial regardless. These acts occurred within days of eachother. There were no limited intervening circumstances as the evidence abuts in time. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as it is based on the charged misconduct. And using charged misconduct to prove charged misconduct under M.R.E. 404(b) in this manner does not affect the presumption of innocence or burden of proof. As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government in proving the charged misconduct.

44. Thus, this evidence satisfies all three prongs of the *Reynolds* test and should be admitted.

232. Encl. 44 at 29.
233. Encls. 8, 30.

ARGUMENT AS TO M.R.E. 413 EVIDENCE

45. The Government intends to introduce the following propensity evidence as relevant to the charged sexual misconduct in Specifications 1 and 4 of Charge I (Aggravated Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault).

a. In June 2022, the Accused touched L.L.'s vulva without consent despite her repeatedly removing his hand and telling him "stop" and "no." This account is from a victim of the Accused's pre-service misconduct, L.L., and depicts an aggravated (or abusive) sexual contact.[234] The Government withdraws its notice to introduce kissing L.L. without consent as direct evidence under M.R.E. 413, but it is *res gestae* of the aggravated sexual contact that occurred.

b. The evidence establishes that this offense occurred by more than a preponderance of the evidence.[235] L.L., at 15 years old, immediately reported a detailed sexual offense to her parents and later to police. The event occurred without eyewitnesses. And her brother, who did not witness the contact itself, provided that just prior to the alleged contact that L.L. was with the Accused on the couch and she seemed "slightly uncomfortable," had "worried eyebrows," and was "scooching" away from the Accused.[236] There was also no motive to fabricate as surmised by the Defense—L.L.'s brother invited the Accused over, not her. The Accused also provided misleading statements to investigators, such as advising she had sent messages to him that he no longer had as discussed above.

c. This propensity evidence is relevant to Specification 1 of Charge I. Specifically, the Accused's actions towards ABHAN C.R. in these charged offenses nearly mirror the Accused undeterred approach to sexual gratification with L.L. In both cases, the Accused ignored the victim's request to stop and his hands being repeatedly removed and continued with his unwanted sexual contact (including non-consensual kissing).

d. This propensity evidence is also offered as relevant to Specification 4 of Charge I. Specifically, the Accused refused to take no for an answer from Y.J., just as he did with L.L. In both cases, he continued with his sexual goals despite that objection.

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234. The Defense notes that they do not have all of the discovery for this event. The Government is in the process of producing it. The Defense's tactical decision to file this motion without production having occurred.

235. The Defense suggests that the prosecution needs to independently verify the accounts of the Oak Harbor Police Department's detectives. There is no basis in law for that suggestion, particularly this early in litigation and absent any discrediting information about those officers being present. The police provided a thorough report with a detailed account of L.L.'s statement. There is no basis to doubt it's veracity. Moreover, the Government is endeavoring to meet the speedy trial demands of the Accused by leaning forward and providing discovery and evidence as it becomes available.

236. Encl. 57 at 7.

e. And finally, the evidence's probative value outweighs any risk of unfair prejudice. The proof of this evidence is strong and highly probative of the charged misconduct for the reasons outlined above. Despite the dichotomy repeatedly presented by the Defense about this being an event long in the Accused's past when he was just a minor, these acts overlapped within **just about two years (26 months)** of each other. The probative value of an event does not change on someone's 18th birthday. Indeed, in the case cited by the Defense on this point, *United States v. Berry*, **eight years** passed from the offense the Government sought to admit and the charged offense (13 years old versus 21) and even that time range was not alone enough to find error.[237] Moreover, the time needed to prove this offense is limited and can be done with a limited number of witnesses (two). There was no ongoing dating relationship between any of these victims and all three events were one-time events with each victim. This evidence will also not distract the factfinder as its usage will be limited to the relevant bases described above and as explained in the M.R.E. 404(b) section above. It will also not be the crux of the Government's case, as occurred in *Berry*.[238] As such, any danger of unfair prejudice is extremely limited and not overcome by the high probative value this evidence provides the Government's case.

REQUESTED RELIEF

46. The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion in limine under M.R.E. 404(b) and 413.

WITNESSES & ENCLOSURES

47. The Government submits the following enclosures as evidence in support of its motion**:**

1. Notice under M.R.E. 404(b) and 413 dated 5 November 2025.
2. Results of Interview of ABHAN C.R. dated 6 August 2024.
3. Excerpts of Transcript of Interview with ABHAN C.R. dated 6 August 2024.
4. Results of Interview of CSSN Fernando Cuestabravo, USN dated 6 August 2024.
5. Results of Preliminary Interview of CSSN S.S. dated 6 November 2024.
6. Results of Interview of CSSA Jacqueline Bita, USN dated 6 November 2024.
7. Results of Interview of CSSN S.S. dated 7 November 2024.
8. Screenshot of Text Messages Between CSSN S.S. and Accused.
9. Results of Interview of CSSN Alexis Rodgers, USN, dated 8 November 2024.

237. *United States v. Berry*, 61 M.J. 91, 96-97 (C.A.A.F. 2005).
238. *Id*. at 97.

10. Results of Interview of CSSN Jada Knight, USN, dated 8 November 2024.

11. Results of Interview of CSSA Jakobie Gant, USN, dated 8 November 2024.

12. Results of Interview of CDR Brett Ballard, USN, dated 6 November 2024.

13. Results of Interview of CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN, dated 6 November 2024.

14. Results of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 18 November 2024.

15. Results of Attempt to Locate Phone dated 6 November 2024.

16. Results of Second Attempt to Locate Phone dated 6 November 2024.

17. Results of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 20 December 2024.

18. Results of Interview of CSSN S.R. dated 7 July 2025.

19. Excerpts of Transcript of Interview with CSSN S.R. dated 7 July 2025. The Government intends to supplement with an official transcript prior to the Article 39(a).

20. Results of Interview of Y.J. dated 24 June 2025

21. Results of Interview of AEAN Jdyn Bradford, USN, dated 5 Aug 2025.

22. Results of Interview of CSSN Gladis Garcia-Barrera, USN, dated 2 June 2025.

23. Text Message History of CS3 A.R. and the Accused.

24. Photos of the Accused's Barracks Room.

25. Results of Interview of HT3 Michal Gillispie, USN, dated 8 June 2025.

26. Text Messages Between CS3 A.R. and HT3 Michael Gillispie, USN.

27. Results of Interview of ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, dated 7 June 2025.

28. R.C.M. 701 Summary of Interview with ET3 Daniel Rich, USN dated 5 September 2025.

29. CS3 A.R. T-Mobile Search Warrant Results dated 5 June 2025.

30. Digital Forensic Evidence Report dated 12 August 2025 and Additional Reports.

31. Results of Interview of PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz USN, dated 3 June 2025.

32. Results of Interview of YN3 Sean Monoghan, USN, dated 9 June 2025 and excerpts from Transcript of 12 July 2025 Interview.

33. Results of Interview of AR John Calisse, USN, dated 3 June 2025.

34. Excerpt of Transcript of Interview of AR John Calisse, USN, dated 3 June 2025.

35. Combined Results of Interview of FCC Bradley Parker and Digital Media, dated 3 and 5 June 2025 and Transcript Excerpt from 3 June.

36. Results of Interview of Ms. Mary Benson dated 6 June 2025.

37. Investigative Action Detailing Search of Wooded Area on 9 June 2025.

38. Digital Evidence of Accused with Bag.

39. Investigative Action Detailing Blood Found in Stairwell.

40. Investigative Action Detailing Blood Found in Barracks Room.

41. DNA Testing Results Confirming DNA of Blood was CS3 A.R.

42. Results of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 1 June 2025.

43. Results of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 3 June 2025.

44. Transcript of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 3 June 2025.

45. Results of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 6 June 2025.

46. Transcript of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 6 June 2025.

47. Affidavit of Special Agent Jessica Gokey dated 3 September 2025.

48. Evidence Regarding Missing iPhone.

49. R.C.M. 701 Summary of Interview of CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN, dated 5 September 2025.

50. Autopsy of CS3 A.R. dated 10 June 2025.

51. R.C.M. 701 Summary of Interview of Dr. Fernanda Lameira, dated 29 July 2025.

52. E-mail dated 13 November 2025 from Dr. Fernanda Lameria.

53. Autopsy of CS3 A.R. dated 28 June 2025.

54. R.C.M. 701 Summary of Interview of Dr. Nemanja Rodic, dated 22 October 2025.

55. E-mail dated 24 November 2025 from Dr. Nemanja Rodic.

56. Oak Harbor Police Report – K.M.B. Allegations.

57. Oak Harbor Police Report – L.L. Allegations.

58. Results of Interview of CSSN Jaelen Owens, USN, dated 16 August 2024.

59. T-Mobile Call Log Between ET3 Rich and CS A.R.

60. Excerpt of Recorded Brig Call dated 11 August 2025.

61. Results of Interview of CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, dated 16 August 2024.

62. Google Search History from Accused's Phone.

ORAL ARGUMENT

48. The Government requests oral argument.

[redacted]
Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **USN**	**NOTICE UNDER** **M.R.E. 404(b) AND 413** **5 NOV 25**

1. Pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme, motive, and intent for the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

a. The Accused's history of strangulation as it relates to his actions toward ABHAN C.R. in the sole Specification of Charge II and CSSN S.R. in Specification 1 of Charge V, as well as the evidence consistent with the Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. in the sole Specification of Charge VII discussed in detail below.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. Both the strangulation of ABHAN C.R. and the strangulation of CSSN S.R. were reported separately by each victim and neither had knowledge of the other. Both described being strangled by the Accused. The evidence supports that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. as well. The medical examiner determined that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation. The medical examiner also ruled out blunt force trauma, stabbing, or shooting as potential causes of death and there were no findings to suggest suicide, overdose, or death by natural causes. CS3 A.R. made a panicked call for help at 0214 to ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, on 29 May 2025 while she was with the Accused. The Accused took the phone and asked ET3 Rich how far away he was. CS3 A.R. was never heard from by her loved ones again. Between 01:52:58-2:30:23, the Accused's heart rate rapidly increased and stayed between 125-128 bpm, spiking again at 130 bpm at 03:07:06. The Accused's suitemate reported hearing what he believed to be karaoke in the common room around that time, but did not investigate. The blood found at the scene was limited to the closet area where the Accused stored the body, suggesting no blood-producing injury occurred and eyewitnesses did not observe any obvious wounds on CS3 A.R.'s body just hours after she was murdered. In fact, they believed she was asleep. As discussed in paragraph 3.c.(1) below, the Accused also had a strong motive to murder CS3 A.R. at the time he did so.

c. The Accused's history of strangulation is offered to establish common scheme, motive, and intent for the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), Specification 1 of Charge V

(Domestic Violence – Strangulation), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII.

i. The Accused has a demonstrated history of using strangulation to exert control over women to get them to comply. The Accused strangled ABHAN C.R. when she resisted his sexual advances. In that case, the Accused used strangulation to exert control over ABHAN C.R. and obtain his desired sexual gratification. The Accused similarly strangled CSSN S.R., his intimate partner, when she confronted him about his infidelity. The Accused did so again to gain control of his victim, in this case to stop her from arguing with him. As evidenced by these two occasions, the Accused is quick to use strangulation to assert control over a situation to get what he wants.

ii. The Accused applied this common scheme and again exerted control over CS3 A.R. by strangling her, just as he did with ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. In the case of CS3 A.R., the Accused decided to strangle her to control her and prevent her from reporting misconduct to either ET3 Rich or the Accused's suitemates, as discussed in paragraph 2(c)(1) below.

iii. The Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. was approximately one month after his strangulation of CSSN S.R. All three strangulation events occurred within a year of each other and reflect a common scheme of controlling women to get them to comply.

(2) Reasoning in support of motive for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 1.c.(1) above, the Accused sought control over both ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. The Accused's strangulation of CS3 A.R. was motivated by the same desire for control.

(3) Reasoning in support of intent for the sole Specification of Charge II, Specification 1 of Charge V, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 1.c.(1) above, the Accused used strangulation as a method to assert control over his victims. Specific to CS3 A.R., the Accused intended to control CS3 A.R. by strangling her to death, for the reasons discussed in paragraph 2.c.(1) below.

(4) Reasoning in support of lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII. This evidence of the Accused's common scheme of strangulation of female victims will also be offered to show that CS3 A.R.'s death was not an accident. While there is no evidence to suggest CS3 A.R. died of natural causes, committed suicide, or otherwise unintentionally overdosed, this evidence of strangulation establishes her death was not an accident but an intentional action of the Accused. Moreover, the Accused demonstrated with ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. that he could strangle someone and stop short of killing them. That the Accused was

capable of this demonstrates he did not unintentionally strangle CS3 A.R. for too long and accidentally murder her.

2. Pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

a. On 25 May 2025, Y.J. was in the Accused's barracks room. Two friends in the common area heard her telling the Accused to "stop" penetrating her vagina and entered the room to stop the Accused from continuing.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These events were reported by Y.J. and are corroborated by the witnesses who responded to her request for the Accused to "stop."

c. That others heard a victim ask the Accused to "stop" from another room within the Accused's barracks room is offered to establish knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of knowledge and motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII. The above-described interaction with Y.J. occurred only 4 days prior to the night CS3 A.R. was murdered and both events took place in the same barracks room. For the reasons detailed in paragraph 3.c.(1) below, the Accused had a motive to murder CS3 A.R. This event with Y.J. was fresh on his mind and the Accused knew that his suitemates would be able to hear CS3 A.R. cry for help. The Accused also knew that his suitemates may be able to hear him murder CS3 A.R. if he chose a loud mechanism for doing so. As a result, the Accused was motivated to murder CS3 A.R. before his suitemates responded and he did so by strangulation because he knew it would be quiet.

3. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault) and both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

a. In July of 2024, the Accused was accused of sexual misconduct by ABHAN A.R. and was aware he was under investigation by NCIS for that accusation. He stated that ABHAN A.R. "put a case on him." In November of 2024, the Accused was accused by CSSN S.S. of a separate sexual assault and other offenses. The Accused reported that CSSN S.S. "put a charge" on him and that he "caught a case." He told her that his life was ruined. Nearly immediately after this accusation, he became inconsolable, threatened to kill himself, and repeatedly attempted to genuinely kill himself by walking in front of approximately three trains before being recovered by ship security and brought back to the ship.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. The Accused's actions after being confronted by CSSN S.S. were observed by eyewitnesses and

members of the ship had to recover him and return him to the ship to stop his attempted self-harm. The Accused statements to CSSN S.S. about his desire to kill himself are recorded in text messages.

c. The Accused's reaction to an allegation of sexual assault is offered to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident with respect to the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of motive for the sole Specification of Charge VII.

i. When CSSN S.S. made accusations against the Accused in November 2024, the Accused immediately demonstrated he was willing to take extreme and violent measures by attempting to kill himself.

ii. CS3 A.R. made a panicked call to ET3 Rich for help at 0214; a call the Accused denies occurred despite call records to the contrary. It is evident from that call that the Accused had done something to CS3 A.R. to cause distress. The Accused murdered CS3 A.R. shortly after that call.

iii. That call was prompted by an unwanted sexual advance and the Accused murdered her to prevent her from making a report. After CS3 A.R. went missing, the Accused self-servingly told investigators and his roommate that nothing sexual occurred that night between the two of them. Comparatively, the Accused advised another Sailor, CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN, that CS3 A.R. and he were making out, but that he had turned her down after she wanted to go further and this upset her. Both of these statements conflict with the accounts of the Accused's roommates, who described the Accused and CS3 A.R. as partially naked on top of each other on the floor of the common area later on the morning of 29 May. Consistent with their nudity and illuminated by the Accused's self-serving false and half-true statements (a common scheme detailed below) to CS2 Taylor, his roommate, and investigators, sexual conduct occurred between the Accused and CS3 A.R. Given the nature of CS3 A.R.'s plea for help, that sexual conduct was unwanted.

v. Motivated to prevent another report being made against him, the Accused made a decision to murder CS3 A.R. after his unwelcome advance. On the call, the Accused asked ET3 Rich how far away he was to determine how long he had to prevent another case against him from being reported. CS3 A.R. was never heard from again despite significant search efforts from interested parties immediately following the call.

vi. Just as he had an extreme and violent response to a second reported allegation against him from CSSN S.S., here he formed the premeditated intent to murder CS3 A.R. before she could make a third report, as discussed in paragraph 1.b. While the Government cannot say specifically what that unwanted sexual advance was, the Accused's lies about that evening combined with CS3 A.R.'s cry for help

and their state of undress that morning indicate that something inappropriate occurred and provided a motive for him to commit premeditated murder.

(2) Reasoning in support of intent for the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 2.c.(1) above, the Accused formed the premeditated intent to murder CS3 A.R. because he did not believe he could overcome a third reported allegation. He was willing to kill himself after CSSN S.S.'s allegation, underscoring the extreme intent he is capable of. Anything less than murder would have been insufficient as it would have left her as a witness against him.

(3) Reasoning in support of lack of accident for the sole Specification of Charge VII. As noted in 2.c.(1) above, this evidence of the Accused's extreme desire to avoid an allegation even if by suicide establishes that CS3 A.R.'s death was not an accident, but the result of an intentional action of the Accused.

(4) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for the for Specification 3 of Charge I and both Specifications of Charge III. The Accused's instant and extreme response by attempting suicide after he was accused of this charged misconduct by CSSN S.S. demonstrates a consciousness of guilt as to his actions towards her.

4. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme and consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I (Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault), the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as intent for both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement):

a. The Government believes the below evidence is *res gestae*, but offers it here in an abundance of caution. Evidence of the Accused's history of telling half-truths to mislead investigators. The Accused has described himself as a "king manipulator" and acknowledged an intent to "get [his] story straight" and applies that manipulating behavior to the criminal investigations pending against him. This is not merely lying. Over the course of five separate investigations and several more interviews with investigators, the Accused has demonstrated a calculated pattern of (1) admitting only uncontroverted facts, (2) shifting when he realizes he is challenged with credible evidence or investigative steps, (3) fabricating favorable events where possible, and (4) never admitting to the most serious misconduct for which there is only one witness (the victim).

(1) During two separate investigations into pre-service misconduct, the Accused made misleading statements as follows:

i. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused him of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone after he admitted to recording it, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away preventing him from giving it to investigators. The Accused's mother advised that she told the

Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced the phone. The phone was never recovered. This evidence meets categories (1) and (2).

ii. In June 2022, L.L. alleged that the Accused was at her home and they were sitting on the couch together. The Accused touched her vulva with his hand without her consent, despite her continually moving his hand away and telling him "no." He also pressured her to hug and kissed her without her consent. The Accused gave a half-true statement to investigators, agreeing that he was with L.L. on the couch but denied touching her inappropriately and denied kissing L.L. without consent, only that he attempted to kiss her. The Accused also told investigators that L.L. had sent him nude photographs and messages asking to be "fucked," but when asked the Accused advised he did not have those messages. This evidence meets categories (1)-(4).

(2) The accused made misleading statements during investigations into ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.S. as follows:

i. The Accused made half-true statements about strangling ABHAN C.R. and his sexual interest in her. ABHAN C.R. told investigators that after talking with the Accused, the Accused strangled her, touched her intimate areas, and attempted to kiss her. The Accused downplayed the sexual nature of his interaction with ABHAN C.R. and that he strangled her, only admitting that he lightly choked her. Specifically, when asked by NCIS about this misconduct, he told investigators:

A. That they were "flirting," but he also denied being romantically or sexually interested in her. This evidence meets category (1).

B. When asked if he strangled ABHAN C.R., he stated "oh okay yeah I have but it wasn't like a weird way," and stated he put one hand around her neck without applying any pressure after she pinched his arm. The Accused also admitted that he told ABHAN C.R. that he heard she liked to be choked. Nonetheless, the Accused denied any sexual touching or attempted sexual touching took place. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

ii. The Accused made half-true statements by admitting to recording and broadcasting a sexual encounter with CSSN S.S. but conveniently lied about the whereabouts of his phone and later "lost" the recording of that encounter when he got a "new" phone. CSSN S.S. alleged she was sexually assaulted while incapable of consenting and that the Accused recorded and broadcast the sexual assault to others without her consent. The Accused admitted to sex with CSSN S.S. but said it was consensual, said that the interaction seemed "too good to be true," told investigators he did not know if CSSN S.S. was aware he was recording, and admitted to showing others the recording. When asked about his phone, the Accused lied to investigators about its whereabouts. Specifically, he told NCIS another Sailor had the phone, but that Sailor denied ever having it and investigators were unable to locate it after

searching. When the Accused acquired a "new" phone, he recovered digital evidence for investigators, but no longer had the video of his sexual encounter with CSSN S.S. This evidence meets categories (1)-(4).

iii. The Accused also denied any misconduct when initially confronted by CSSN S.S. (who had no memory of the event) and told CSSN S.S. that they did not have sex, despite later admitting they did once it became clear that others were reporting they had seen the video. This evidence meets categories (2) and (3).

(3) After an investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused made several half-true statements to mislead during the early days of CS3 A.R.'s disappearance and follow-on investigation. Most notably:

i. On 29 May 2025:

A. The Accused told FCC Bradley Parker, USN, that early on the morning of her disappearance, CS3 A.R. was having personal issues and was seeking help, so he picked her up and brought her to his barracks room to discuss them. But this is not why or how they were together. CS3 A.R. came to the Accused's barracks room to make tacos and hang out on the evening of 28 May 2025. CS3 A.R. only made a call for help at 0214 on 29 May 2025 to ET3 Rich, discussed above, and no one else. FCC Parker was aware CS3 A.R. was seeking help that night because he had spoken to ET3 Rich. The Accused advised him that CS3 A.R. had called several people and he was the first to get to her. The Accused turned CS3 A.R.'s call for help to ET3 Rich into a narrative to make himself look better and more trusted while he concealed her dead body on his bed. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

B. According to FCC Parker, the Accused was acting like he had just woken up and took a significant amount of time to answer the door, further indicating he had been sleeping. But the Accused had been awake since at least 0728, as demonstrated by his record of watching pornography nearly constantly from 0728-1150 that morning. Instead, he was concealing CS3 A.R.'s body and concocting a narrative. Relatedly, the Accused told FCC Parker his phone died and his alarm did not go off which is why he was not at work. But his phone was on and charged. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

C. The Accused told FCC Parker he had a ride to work to get him to leave. He did not and he did not check in to work until 1 June 2025. This evidence meets category (3).

ii. On 1 June 2025:

A. The Accused told investigators that while CS3 A.R. was at his barracks room on 29 May 2025, PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN, a suitemate of the Accused, came into the common area to ask if CS3 A.R. was okay as she was upset.

But PSSN Gordillocruz denied this occurred. He states he arrived to the unit around 0400 but the lights were off and he did not see anyone in the dark common area. This evidence meets categories (1) and (3).

B. The Accused maintained his lie that FCC Parker woke him and CS3 A.R. up on 29 May 2025 when he came to the room around 0900. CS3 A.R. was already dead and the Accused was already awake, as noted above. This evidence meets categories (1), (3), and (4).

C. The Accused told investigators he borrowed his roommate's car and dropped CS3 A.R. back at her barracks around 1000 on 29 May 2025. The Accused provided later that CS3 A.R. left of her own accord. None of the Accused's roommates allowed him to borrow a vehicle at that time. And, perhaps most notably, CS3 A.R. was already dead. There is no evidence to suggest she left the barracks room while alive. This evidence meets categories (1) and (3).

iii. On 2 June 2025:

A. During this interview of the Accused, an iPhone was found during a contemporaneous search in his barracks room. The Accused told investigators the phone did not work, but investigative efforts later determined that it did work and this had been a lie. This evidence meets category (3).

B. As discussed above, the Accused provided his encounter with CS3 A.R. was not a sexual encounter, but CS3 A.R. was described as partially naked by the Accused's roommates and he told CS3 Taylor that CS3 A.R. and he had begun making out in his bed and she wanted to go further sexually, but the Accused stopped it. As detailed above, this is not true. This evidence meets category (3) and (4).

C. The Accused told investigators that CS3 A.R. did not make a call for help or to be picked up. But she called ET3 Rich in a panic at 0214 asking to be picked up and the Accused took the phone to speak with him. This evidence meets category (3).

D. The Accused told investigators CS3 A.R. spent a significant amount of time on the phone with an ex-boyfriend from Texas, but there is no evidence to suggest that occurred. This evidence meets category (3).

E. The Accused re-iterated his lie about PSSN Gordillocruz checking on CS3 A.R. to ensure she was okay. This evidence meets category (3).

F. The Accused stated he slept in his bed with CS3 A.R. and denied being naked on the floor of the common area. But they were found on the common area floor by all three roommates in a state of undress before being seen in the Accused's bed by FCC Parker later that morning. This evidence meets

category (3).

G. The Accused stated his unauthorized absence (UA) status was a big misunderstanding and he did not know he was UA because he was not scheduled to work. But FCC Parker repeatedly told him to check in over the weekend. This evidence meets category (3).

H. The Accused denied telling investigators he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room on 29 May 2025, in contrast with her previous statement. This evidence meets category (3) and (4).

I. The Accused denied knowing where CS3 A.R. was. This evidences meets categories (3) and (4).

iii. On 6 June 2025:

A. The Accused re-iterated several of his 2 June lies, including that CS3 A.R. called an ex-boyfriend from Texas, that nothing sexual occurred, that FCC Parker woke him up, and that he did not know CS3 A.R. was. This evidence meets categories (3) and (4).

B. The Accused also acknowledged he did not drop CS3 A.R. off as stated previously. This evidence meets category (2).

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These statements were made by the Accused to investigators or other witnesses and are often corroborated by other investigative actions.

c. The Accused's history of telling half-truths as a "king manipulator" is offered to establish common scheme and consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I (Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault), the sole Specification of Charge II (Strangulation), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Premeditated Murder) as well as intent for both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I, the sole Specification of Charge II, both Specifications of Charge III, Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. The Accused's common scheme of providing half-true information in a calculated manner demonstrates a pattern with the goal of misleading investigators after he "get[s his] story straight." The sheer number of half-truths across various investigations demonstrates he is a deliberate liar—a "king manipulator"—and he uses this scheme of different types of lies as noted above to delay and obfuscate investigations. This is a very particular method of lying. That he consistently gives enough information to admit to an event without inculpating himself of the most serious

misconduct, fabricates accounts where he believes he will not be challenged, and misleads investigators as to the state of the evidence demonstrates a willful scheme to mislead that becomes more probative the more it is replicated. That these lies often contain some level of the truth makes his lies about what happened between himself and CS3 A.R. particularly illuminating, as he is the only witness still alive. And because this is a common scheme, these lies are more easily distilled down to what actually occurred, as described in paragraph 2.c.(1).ii, such as the fact that the Accused made the unwanted sexual advance on CS3 A.R. and not the other way around as he described to CS2 Taylor.

(2) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specifications 1-3 of Charge I, the sole Specification of Charge II, both Specifications of Charge III, Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. For the reasons outlined in paragraph 3.c.(1) above, the Accused's history of half-truths demonstrates an intentional pattern of misleading investigators to exculpate himself, demonstrating a consciousness of guilt for his misconduct.

(3) Reasoning in support of intent for both Specifications of Charge VI. The Accused's repeated history of half-truths to mislead investigators and others demonstrates that his false statements to investigators in these Specifications are intentional.

5. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme and lack of accident for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice) and consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), all Specifications of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

a. The Accused has a history of hiding his phone from investigators when under criminal investigation.

i. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused the Accused of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away, preventing him from giving it to them. The Accused's mother advised that she told the Accused to put his phone on her dresser, but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced his phone. His phone was never recovered.

ii. In November 2024, after CSSN S.S. accused the Accused of misconduct, he hid his cell phone from investigators and lied and said he had given it to a friend before saying it was lost. When he later provided digital evidence to investigators, he advised he had gotten a "new" phone and no longer had the video in question.

iii. On 2 June 2025, when questioned about the disappearance of CS3 A.R., the Accused advised that the cell phone found in his barracks room would not turn on. However, investigative steps later determined that the phone was operational at the time. When investigators sought to seize that phone on 9 June 2025, the phone was missing from the Accused's belongings and never recovered.

iv. The Accused has also conducted online research on what a phone search can return, including queries such as: (1) "can police fet [ph.] infirmation [ph.] from reset phone;" (2) "ncis co cosign my phone;" and (2) "what do police do when they seuze [ph.] your phone;" (4) "ncis took my phone;" and (5) "can ncis take your phone off allegations."

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These facts are supported by the accounts of criminal investigators and the Accused's own statements, as well as a digital extraction of one of the Accused's phones.

c. This evidence of the Accused hiding his phone when placed under investigation is offered to establish common scheme for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice) and consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I (Sexual Assault), both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), all Specifications of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme and lack of accident for Specifications 1 and 3 of Charge IV. The Accused has demonstrated a common scheme of lying and hiding his phone when under investigation for an offense that he perceives may result in his phone being seized. He did this with the pre-service allegations against him in May 2022, he did it again with the allegations of CSSN S.S. in November of 2024, and he did it most recently when being investigated for crimes related to the disappearance of CS3 A.R. This evidence also supports that him misplacing his phone is not an accident, but an intentional effort to obstruct justice.

(2) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specification 3 of Charge I, both Specifications of Charge III, all Specifications of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI the sole Specification of Charge VII. The Accused hides his phone intuitively because it contains incriminating information on it. The Accused's online search history supports that belief. That he lied and hid his phone repeatedly from investigators indicates a consciousness of guilt for all offenses related to both CSSN S.S. and CS3 A.R. Moreover, his Google search history supports that he did so with the specific intent to limit an investigation into misconduct.

6. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

a. The Accused recorded and broadcast a sexual encounter with a female victim in high school in May of 2022 without her consent.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. These facts are supported by the accounts of witnesses and the Accused's own statements.

c. This evidence of the Accused recording and broadcasting sexual encounters is offered to establish common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting):

(1) Reasoning in support of common scheme, knowledge, and intent for both Specifications of Charge III. The Accused has demonstrated a common scheme of recording and broadcasting sexual encounters without consent, just as he did with CSSN S.S. This evidence also supports that the Accused knew when he recorded and broadcast his encounter with CSSN S.S. that this conduct was wrongful absent her consent and that doing so without her consent was intentional.

7. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish motive and intent for Specification 1 of Charge V (Domestic Violence – Strangulation):

a. The Accused makes an "evil" grin when assaulting women.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. This account is from a victim of the Accused's pre-service misconduct, L.L. She alleges that while he touched her vulva without consent, he had an "evil" grin.

c. This "evil" grin by the Accused is offered to prove motive, intent, and identity with respect to Specification 1 of Charge V.

(1) Reasoning in support of motive and intent for Specification 1 of Charge V. CSSN S.R. described the Accused as smiling while he strangled her. This description mirrors the "evil" grin described by L.L., identifying the Accused as the perpetrator and establishing further that the Accused enjoys and intends nonconsensual touching of women.

8. Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following evidence to establish consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

a. The Government believes the below evidence outlining various actions of the Accused related to CS3 A.R.'s murder are *res gestae*, but offer them here in an abundance of caution. The Government provides notice of the following evidence:

(1) The Accused hid in various barracks lounges from 29 May 2025-1 June 2025 after he murdered CS3 A.R. When security from the ship came to find him on 1 June 2025, he hid in the bathroom on the fifth floor of his barracks. The Accused's roommate also stated that the

Accused was leaving very early and returning very late over that weekend, which was highly unusual for him.

(2) During the period of 29 May 2025 to 1 June 2025, the Accused was in an unauthorized absence status and was repeatedly notified that he needed to check-in, but he ignored those requests. Indeed, despite dozens of inquiries as to his whereabouts from both his ship and his friends that the Accused viewed on his phone, the Accused generally did not answer his phone or respond to text messages from 29 May 2025 until 1 June 2025.

(3) The Accused encouraged his roommate to leave the room, which was an unusual request.

(4) The Accused disposed of CS3 A.R.'s body in a wooded area on 2 June 2025. The Accused turned his phone on Airplane mode after he decided where to place the body and turned it off of Airplane mode when he was done placing her in the woods. Specifically, he placed his phone on Airplane mode at 04:48:08 on 2 June 2025 when he drove to a pinned location (where the body was found) and turned it off at 05:16:13 when he left the site.

(5) At 1311 the day he murdered CS3 A.R., the Accused searched for a trip to "Bermuda." In the days following his murder of CS3 A.R., the Accused searched online for "virginia airport" on 3 and 10 June 2025 and "norfolk airport" on 3 June 2025.

(6) As discussed in detail above, during the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused lied about various things, including: (1) that he dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks on 29 May 2025, (2) that he did not know where CS3 A.R. was, (3) that the iPhone found in his room on 3 June 2025 did not work, (4) that CS3 A.R. did not call anyone for a ride from his barracks room on 29 May 2025, (5) that CS3 A.R. was on the phone with her ex-boyfriend from Texas on 29 May 2025, (6) that CS3 A.R. had wanted to go further sexually when they were together on 29 May 2025, but he declined, and (7) that he slept with CS3 A.R. in his bed that night and not on the floor.

(7) The Accused told his roommate nothing sexual occurred between himself and CS3 A.R. on 29 May 2025, in contrast to what he told CS3 Taylor and despite them being in a state of undress together on the floor of the common area that morning.

(8) The Accused hid and/or destroyed his second iPhone prior to going to the brig on 9 June 2025, as discussed above.

(9) The Accused turned off location services on his phone on 29 May 2025, including Life360 which had been on constantly for approximately one year and shared with another person.

(10) The Accused called and texted CS3 A.R. on 1 June 2025 asking where she was and notifying her of her UA status despite knowing she was deceased and her body was in his closet.

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that these other acts occurred. It is either

from data extracted from the Accused's phone, from the Accused's own statements, or from statements of eyewitnesses.

c. These actions by the Accused in the hours and days following the murder of CS3 A.R. are offered to show consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), both Specifications of Charge VI (False Official Statement), and the sole Specification of Charge VII (Murder):

(1) Reasoning in support of consciousness of guilt for Specification 2 of Charge IV, both Specifications of Charge VI, and the sole Specification of Charge VII. These actions include an intent to flee, an attempt to mislead, and an attempt to hide from investigators and others. They were taken close in time to the disappearance of CS3 A.R. and are those taken by someone with a guilty conscience.

9. Pursuant to M.R.E. 413, the Government provides notice that it seeks to introduce the following propensity evidence as relevant to the charged sexual misconduct in Specifications 1, 2, and 4 of Charge I (Abusive and Aggravated Sexual Contact and Sexual Assault).

a. In June 2022, the Accused touched L.L.'s vulva and kissed her without consent despite her repeatedly removing his hand and telling him "stop" and "no."

b. The above-cited evidence provides good faith that this other sexual misconduct occurred. This account is from a victim of the Accused's pre-service misconduct, L.L.

c. This propensity evidence is offered as relevant to Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge I. Specifically, the Accused's actions towards ABHAN C.R. in these charged offenses nearly mirror the Accused undeterred approach to sexual gratification with L.L. In both cases, the Accused ignored the victim's request to stop and his hands being repeatedly removed and continued with his unwanted sexual contact.

d. This propensity evidence is also offered as relevant to Specification 4 of Charge I. Specifically, the Accused refused to take no for an answer from Y.J., just as he did with L.L. In both cases, he continued with his sexual goals despite that objection.

10. For any specific evidentiary Bate Stamp citations, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (757) 341-4545 or at Christopher.dempsey2@navy.mil.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06AUG24

CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF [redacted]

1. As background, on 26Jul24 NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, of an unrestricted reported of sexual assault aboard the ship that occurred on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. MA1 CORTESELLI reported [redacted]), USN, CVN 75, reported CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe.

2. On 06Aug24 at approximately 2030 hours, [redacted] was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) aboard CVN 75, while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q. IT2 Morgan RODRIGUEZ, USN, Uniform Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, was present for the entirety of the interview.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. [redacted] related she is in a relationship with CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, CVN 75, and was in the mess decks with him in the early morning hours of 23Jul24 when he stated he was going to sleep. [redacted] stated after CSSN CUESTABRAVO left, she began receiving SnapChat snaps from S/COPELAND, who stated he was headed to the ship and expressed he wanted to talk to her about CSSN CUESTABRAVO. [redacted] agreed, and stated S/COPELAND arrived and requested the pair go somewhere private to talk.

5. After arriving to the area of the fantail, S/COPELAND told [redacted] that CSSN CUESTABRAVO was talking to other women and asserted CSSN CUESTABRAVO was not treating [redacted] the way she should be treated. [redacted] related S/COPELAND suggested SHE engage in a relationship with him (S/COPELAND) to "get back at" CSSN CUESTABRAVO. [redacted] stated she told S/COPELAND she did not "do those types of things." [redacted] recalled discussing her relationship with S/COPELAND for a short period of time before S/COPELAND began to play a "game" with her wherein he pretended to arrest her. [redacted] stated S/COPELAND forced her hands behind her back and grabbed her vulva over the clothing.

6. [redacted] related she turned around and punched S/COPELAND in the stomach.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **06AUG24**

V/C.R. related S/COPLEAND told her he heard she liked to be choked, at which time S/COPELAND applied pressure to her neck with one hand so that it was difficult for V/C.R. to breathe. V/C.R. recalled pushing S/COPELAND's hand away from her throat but that he would immediately replace it and keep applying pressure. While applying pressure to her neck, V/C.R. recalled S/COPELAND kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breasts, buttocks, and vulva over the clothing. V/C.R. related the physical contact lasted approximately a minute before S/COPELAND stopped of his own accord. V/C.R. stated she told S/COPELAND she was going to bed and left the fantail.

7. V/C.R. recalled being unsure if she should tell CSSN CUESTABRAVO because she was worried about his reaction, but texted him about what happened. V/C.R. stated CSSN CUESTABRAVO encouraged her to report the incident. V/C.R. stated she called the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) phone number she found on a poster aboard the ship, and was informed to get in touch with shipboard SAPR personnel. V/C.R. stated she did not know how, so CSSN CUESTABRAVO reported the incident to Security. V/C.R. stated she had bruising on her neck that CSSN CUESTABRAVO observed, but that it was now gone.

8. V/C.R. stated she told her Chief, CSC Gregory SIMMONS, USN, CVN 75, about the incident. V/C.R. related CSSN Jalen OWENS, USN, CVN 75, told CSSN CUESTABRAVO that S/COPELAND told her (CSSN OWENS) that V/C.R. had reported him.

9. V/C.R. provided RA screen shots of the texts she sent to CSSN CUESTABRAVA via Air Drop, and signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) denoting her consent; Enclosure (B) pertains. The screen shots were subsequently placed on an NCIS Photographic Template for inclusion into the case file; Enclosure (C) pertains.

11. At the conclusion of the interview, V/C.R. was provided a DD Form 2701 Victim Witness Assistance Pamphlet (VWAP).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF V/C.R. 06AUG24
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY V/C.R. 06AUG24
(C) NCIS PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE/06AUG24

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **06AUG24**

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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[redacted]

V/C.R.: Yeah. And then, so after that, he was, like, "Oh yeah, you know, you should like, get back at him." And I was, like, "Oh, I don't do this. I don't do stuff like that."

SA DUFFY: [Affirmative response.]

V/C.R.: And he's, like, "Well, you should." And he's, like, "Well, I know the perfect person you can get back at him with." And he's, like, "Me." And I was, like, "Like for what?" I was, like, I don't do stuff like that.

And after that, then, like, a little later, like, after we was talking, he started, like--he got in my face. He got close to me----

SA DUFFY: [Affirmative response.]

V/C.R.: ----or whatever. And I, like, I pushed him because I don't like people in my face, like, close up to me.

003444_COPELAND

So, I, like, pushed him away. And he was, like, "Push me again. Push me again. [Inaudible 0:10:00]." And then, like, after that, he grabbed me or whatever. And then, like, he put his hand, like--he asked me, he's, like, "Do you like being choked out?" I was, like, "Who told you, like, something like that?" He was, like, nobody." I was, like, "Whatever."

And then, like, after that, like, he put his hand around my neck. And then, like, I tried to get his hand off my neck, and he, like, kept going and, like, I go to push him. And he was, like, "Keep pushing me, then I'm going to keep going harder." So, then he kept squeezing it, and he, like--he started, like, touching my, like, areas too.

SA DUFFY: Okay. So, we don't have to use any words you're uncomfortable with, but I'm just trying to establish. So, when you say "your areas" and you're showing me your breasts.

[redacted]: [Affirmative response.]

SA DUFFY: Okay. Over the clothes. Under the clothes. Something else?

[redacted]: Over.

SA DUFFY: Over the clothes?

[redacted]: [Nods head in the affirmative.]

SA DUFFY: Anywhere besides your breasts?

[redacted]: [Affirmative response.]

SA DUFFY: Where?

V/C.R.: Like, my front and back.

SA DUFFY: Oh, okay. So, was he, like, touching your vulva? Like, over the clothes?

V/C.R.: [Affirmative response.]

SA DUFFY: And then also your buttocks as well?

V/C.R.: [Affirmative response.]

SA DUFFY: Okay. Like, running his hands over? Is he grabbing? Can you describe that to me?

V/C.R.: He was, like, just, like, grabbing me.

SA DUFFY: Grabbing. And then, you were talking about the fact that he had grabbed you by the neck.

V/C.R.: [Affirmative response.]

SA DUFFY: And tell me about that. How that felt.

V/C.R.: Okay. So, when he grabbed me, like, he grabbed me and then, like--so when I kept pushing him, like, he just kept, like, going, squeezing and then, like--like--like this. And it pushed up and pushed pressure and, like, I had bruises around my neck at first.

And then, I had, like, like, it was hurting right here. But it went away.

SA DUFFY: Do you--did you happen to take any pictures of your bruise?

V/C.R.: No, I didn't even notice it was there, and my boyfriend told me. He was, like, "Oh, I see, like, a little bruise, like, right here.

SA DUFFY: And what's your boyfriend's name?

V/C.R.: Jeffrey R-N-A-N-D-O C-U-E-S-T-A-B.

SA DUFFY: You said V or B?

V/C.R.: B.

SA DUFFY: [Affirmative response.]

V/C.R.: R-A-B-O.

SA DUFFY: Okay, what's his rate and rank?

V/C.R.: CSSN.

SA DUFFY: Okay. So, you said that he had his hands. It really hurt. Sounds like he was applying a lot of pressure. Was it just one hand? Two hands?

V/C.R.: One.

SA DUFFY: One hand? Okay. And were you able to breathe during that period of time?

V/C.R.: Not, like, a lot. But just a little.

SA DUFFY: Okay. This is going to sound like a strange question, but what does your body feel like at that time?

V/C.R.: I feel like I couldn't, like--my nose hurt. It felt like I was suffocating.

SA DUFFY: Okay. Did you experience anything like anything, like, tingling in your hands and your feet or anything else like that?

V/C.R.: [Shakes head in the negative.]

SA DUFFY: Any stars in your vision?

V/C.R.: [Shakes head in the negative.]

SA DUFFY: Okay. How long--and I know it's hard to estimate time in situations like this, but how long do you think that you felt pressure on your neck for?

V/C.R.: Probably, like, a minute. But, like, he kept, like, putting his hands around my neck. Like, it wasn't just, like, he just kept it there. Like, he did like that and then, like, when I, like, pushed his hand away, like, he put it right back.

SA DUFFY: Okay. And, while he was applying pressure to your neck, you're saying that he was touching your--your breast area, your vulva, your buttocks all over the place.

V/C.R.: [Affirmative response.]

SA DUFFY: Okay. What--was he doing anything else, like that body-wise?

V/C.R.: Oh, well, he did, like, he, like, after he, like, grabbed me, like, when he was grabbing my neck, he, like, kissed me.

SA DUFFY: Okay. This is going to sound like a weird question, but he kissed you where?

V/C.R.: Right here on my lips.

SA DUFFY: On your lips. Okay. And what happened next?

V/C.R.: Well, like, after I just kept, like, you know, pushing him away or whatever, then, like, he tried to, like, talk to me after that. And then, I was, like, "I got to go to sleep." So, like, I just left.

And then, after that, like, as soon as I left, I, like, texted my boyfriend and told him, like, "I got to tell you something tomorrow." Like, I was--I didn't want to, like, really tell him but, like, I was, like, "Oh, he might do something." Like, you know.

And then, like, I told him, he was, like, about to go and, like, handle it. I was, like, "No." He was, like, "Well, like, you need to report this then." So, that's when I called the girl. The thing on the poster.

SA DUFFY: The SAPR number?

V/C.R.: Yeah. [redacted]

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 16AUG24

CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN FERNANDO CUESTABRAVO, USN

1. As background, on 26Jul24 NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, of an unrestricted reported of sexual assault aboard the ship that occurred on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. MA1 CORTESELLI reported [redacted] V/C.R. [redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe. During the course of the investigation, CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was identified as having information in reference to the investigation.

2. On 16Aug24 at approximately 2000 hours, CSSN CUESTABRAVO was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) and MAC Adam NORMAN, USN, CVN 75 aboard CVN 75, while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q.

3. CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated he and V/C.R. have been dating and the two consider themselves to be boyfriend and girlfriend. CSSN CUESTABRAVO recalled at approximately 0200 hours on 24Jul24, he received text messages from V/C.R. indicating something bad had happened. Later that morning, CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated V/C.R. disclosed S/COPELAND had strangled her, grabbed her, and "touched her everywhere." CSSN CUESTABRAVO related V/C.R. never mentioned S/COPELAND being creepy or weird prior to the incident. CSSN CUESTABRAVO recalled observing bruises on one side of V/C.R.'s neck related to the strangulation. CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated neither he nor V/C.R. took pictures of the bruises.

4. CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated he encouraged V/C.R. to report the incident. When V/C.R. was unable to contact Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR), CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated he went to the Security Department on 26Jul24 to report the offense.

5. CSSN CUESTABRAVO related he tries to avoid S/COPELAND, but S/COPELAND has made several attempts to talk to CSSN CUESTABRAVO about the incident. CSSN CUESTABRAVO recalled telling S/COPELAND he would not speak about it.

6. CSSN CUESTABRAVO stated CSSA Deontae WILLIAMS, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) approached him after the incident and asked him if it was true S/COPELAND "fucked his girl." CSSN CUESTABRAVO opined S/COPELAND told CSSA WILLIAMS what had happened.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF PRELIMINARY INTERVIEW OF [redacted] V/S.S.

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S. [redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours.

2. On 06Nov24, Reporting Agent (RA) met with [redacted] V/S.S. in Medical spaces aboard the ship prior to her Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) in order to glean preliminary information in reference to the assault.

3. [redacted] V/S.S. recalled she went to Heidi's Bier Bar Oslo located at Fridtjof Nansens plass 8, 0160 in Oslo, Norway, on 04Nov24 in the evening hours with a group of sailors. [redacted] V/S.S. stated she became extremely intoxicated and could not recall the events of the evening. The following day, [redacted] V/S.S. stated multiple individuals approached her and stated S/COPELAND was showing others a video of him having sex with her. [redacted] V/S.S. stated she did not recall having any sexual contact with S/COPELAND. [redacted] V/S.S. stated she called S/COPELAND later that day and he denied having sex with her or recording the sexual encounter. [redacted] V/S.S. stated S/COPELAND threatened to kill himself via text following the phone call.

4. [redacted] V/S.S. requested a full interview in reference to the offense take place the following day.

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA JACQUELINE BITA, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CSSA Jacqueline BITA, USN, CVN 75, was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 06Nov24 at approximately 1030 hours, CSSA BITA was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CSSA BITA recalled leaving the ship with a group of sailors including [redacted] for liberty in the evening hours of 04Nov24. CSSA BITA stated she did not plan to drink alcohol that evening and was more focused on finding a place to eat. CSSA BITA recalled arriving at an unknown club and stated [redacted] began to drink alcohol with other sailors. Later in the evening, CSSA BITA recalled S/COPELAND arrived to the bar though he was not part of the original group. CSSA BITA stated [redacted] was intoxicated and CSSA BITA observed S/COPELAND assisting [redacted] to the bathroom. CSSA BITA stated she did not observe [redacted] acting flirtatious with S/COPELAND at that time or any point in the evening.

4. Later, CSSA BITA stated she was talking to SR Jada KNIGHT, USN, VAW 126, in the bar and S/COPELAND approached them and said something to the effect of "you'll never believe what happened, if I show you you can't tell anyone." CSSA BITA recalled S/COPELAND then showed the two women a video on his cellular telephone of S/COPELAND having sexual intercourse with [redacted]. CSSA BITA described the video as showing S/COPELAND's face before capturing [redacted] bent over. CSSA BITA stated [redacted]'s face was not in the video, but she was easily identified by her hair and the gray sweatshirt she was wearing that actually belonged to CSSA BITA. CSSA BITA related [redacted] had borrowed her sweatshirt before leaving the ship. CSSA BITA stated she observed [redacted]'s bare buttocks in the video and though she could not see S/COPELAND's penis it was clear by the motion of S/COPELAND he was having sexual intercourse with [redacted]. CSSA BITA opined she could not tell if [redacted] was conscious in the video and stated she did not look very closely because she did not want to see a video of someone else engaging in sexual intercourse.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **06NOV24**

5. CSSA BITA stated she and SR KNIGHT were "shocked" by the video and stated S/COPELAND seemed happy and was laughing. At the time, CSSA BITA assumed the sexual encounter was consensual and had no information to the contrary.

6. CSSA BITA stated V/S.S. had to be carried back to Fleet Landing due to intoxication. CSSA BITA stated V/S.S. was speaking very slowly and had trouble walking. CSSA BITA opined it was clear V/S.S. was intoxicated and theorized V/S.S. did not remember any events from the evening. CSSA BITA stated she was on a different liberty boat back to the ship than V/S.S. but stated she knew V/S.S. threw up when she returned back to the ship.

7. CSSA BITA stated the following day, V/S.S. approached her and stated she did not remember any events from the evening prior due to intoxication and also told CSSA BITA that V/S.S. had confronted S/COPELAND about the sexual intercourse and video via telephone. CSSA BITA related V/S.S. stated S/COPELAND denied the accusations. CSSA BITA opined S/COPELAND "knew he messed up and was trying to save himself." CSSA BITA further opined it was clear from interacting with both parties S/COPELAND was "in his right mind" that evening and V/S.S. was not.

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 07NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF [redacted]V/S.S.

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted]V/S.S., USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours.

2. On 07Nov24 at approximately 1115 hours, [redacted]V/S.S. was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was present for the entirety of the interview.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. [redacted]V/S.S. stated she knew S/COPELAND well prior to the assault and stated they became "really good friends" after he got to the ship. [redacted]V/S.S. stated he never expressed a romantic or sexual interest in her prior. [redacted]V/S.S. explained she and S/COPELAND work different shifts and stated she is on day shift in the galley and he is on night shift.

5. [redacted]V/S.S. stated she left the ship on 04Nov24 with a group of other Culinary Specialists and her liberty buddy was CSSN Alexis RODGERS, USN, CVN 75. [redacted]V/S.S. recalled they left the ship at approximately 1900 hours and walked to a mall, which was closed. At that time [redacted]V/S.S. stated the group moved to another bar but the group felt there were too many drunk sailors there so they eventually walked to Heidi's Bier Bar in Oslo, Norway. [redacted]V/S.S. stated the group began to drink alcohol and she estimated she had three (3) shots of tequila before "blacking out."

6. [redacted]V/S.S. stated others speculated she had been drugged, but [redacted]V/S.S. did not think that was likely. [redacted]V/S.S. stated she ate a normal dinner before leaving the ship at approximately 1900 hours. [redacted]V/S.S. stated she took the shots with a period of time between them and could not explain why she blacked out.

7. [redacted]V/S.S. stated she has some memories of the evening to include

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **07NOV24**

S/COPELAND dancing with her and her friends. V/S.S. recalled after the evening, CSSN McKenzie SAUNDERS, USN, CVN 75, told CSSN Shamel EADDY, USN, CVN 75, she found V/S.S. in the bathroom following the assault. V/S.S. stated she did not remember how she got back to the ship but recalled throwing up upon her return.

8. The following morning, V/S.S. stated she woke up for work and did not feel well. When she used the bathroom, V/S.S. recalled she had vaginal pain and swelling and addition to cramps that felt similar to menstrual cramps. V/S.S. recalled at the time, she was not concerned because she was unaware of the incident with S/COPELAND. Later, V/S.S. stated she began to hear rumors that S/COPELAND was claiming he had sex with her in a bathroom at the bar and recorded the intercourse and was showing other people.

9. V/S.S. stated she and her boyfriend, CSSN EADDY, were discussing the rumors in the evening hours with CSSA Nicholas SPIVEY, USN, CVN 75. V/S.S. related she decided to call S/COPELAND and confront him about the rumors and CSSA SPIVEY provided her S/COPELAND's phone number. V/S.S. stated CSSA SPIVEY left before she called S/COPELAND but CSSN EADDY remained with her while she called S/COPELAND from the first class mess. V/S.S. stated CSSN EADDY attempted to record the entirety of the conversation but his phone died approximately one (1) minute in.

10. V/S.S. related she called S/COPELAND and confronted him about the rumors, which he emphatically denied. V/S.S. recalled after the phone call, he continued to text her and threatened to kill himself. V/S.S. agreed to provide RA with screen shots of the text messages via Air Drop, and signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) denoting her intentions; Enclosure (B) pertains. Six (6) screen shots of the text messages were subsequently placed on an NCIS Photograph Template for their inclusion into the case file; Enclosure (C) pertains.

11. At the conclusion of the interview, V/S.S. was provided a DD Form 2701 Initial Information for Victims and Witnesses of Crime.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF V/S.S./07NOV24
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY V/S.S./07NOV24
(C) NCIS PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE/07NOV24

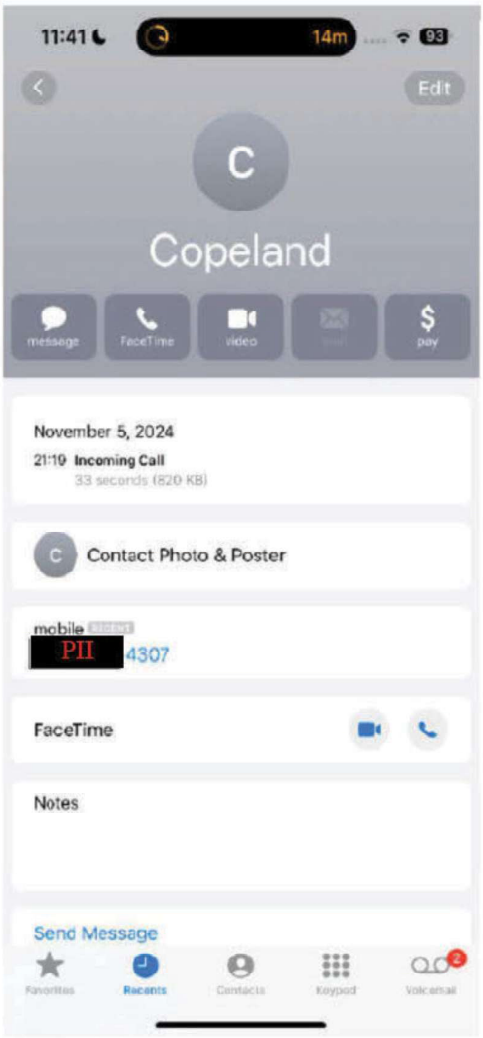
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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **07NOV24**

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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1. OFFICE CODE: NFXQ

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA	SA BERNADETTE DUFFY

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:

SCREEN SHOT OF TEXT MESSAGE PROVIDED BY V/ S. S. ON 07NOV24

6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:

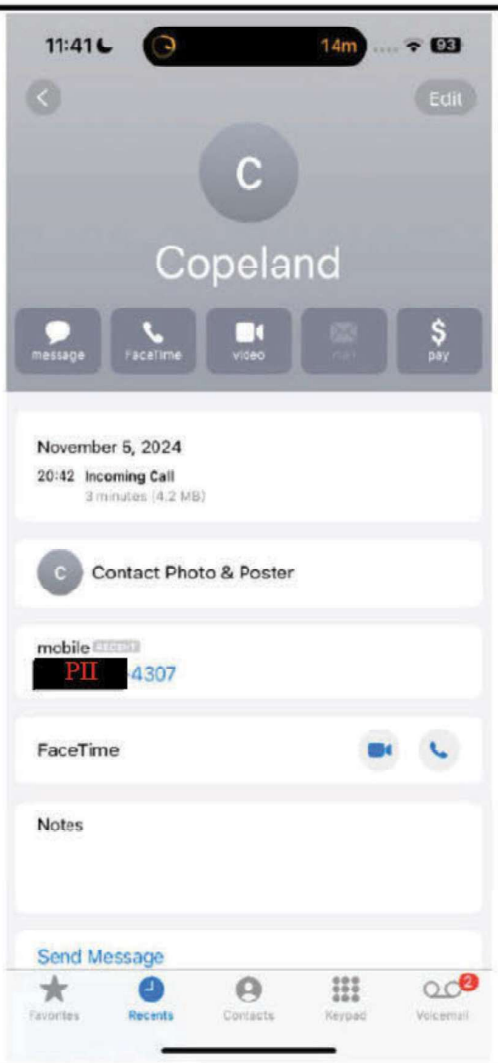
07NOV24

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (1) OF (6)

000023_COPELAND

ENCLOSURE (C)



1. OFFICE CODE: NFXQ

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA	SA BERNADETTE DUFFY

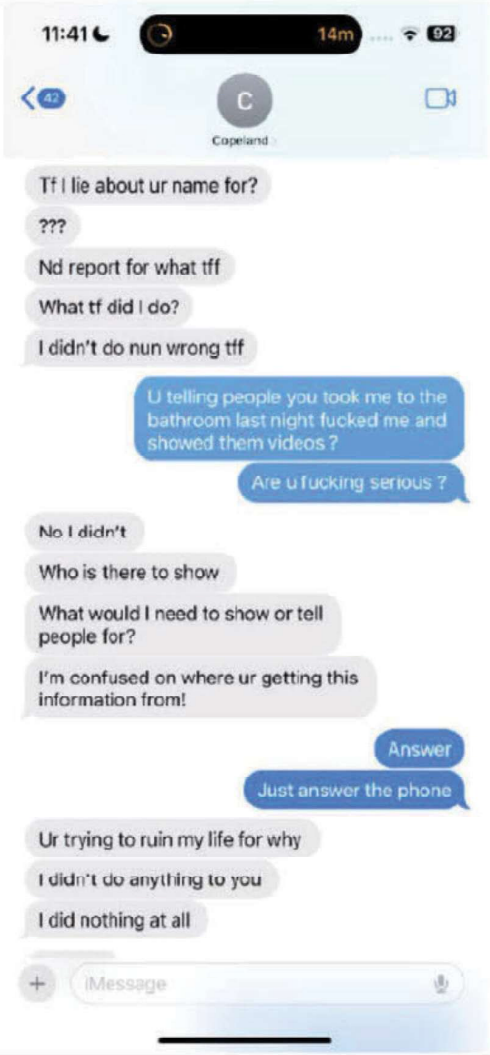
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:

SCREEN SHOT OF TEXT MESSAGE PROVIDED BY V/ S. S. ON 07NOV24

6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:

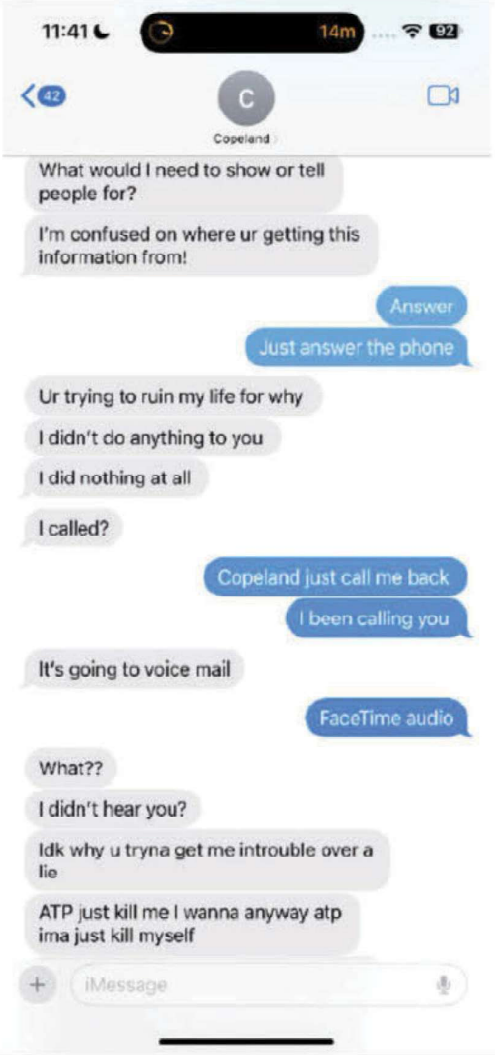
07NOV24

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE



1. OFFICE CODE: NFXQ		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: SA BERNADETTE DUFFY
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: SCREEN SHOT OF TEXT MESSAGE PROVIDED BY [redacted] ON 07NOV24		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 07NOV24

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE



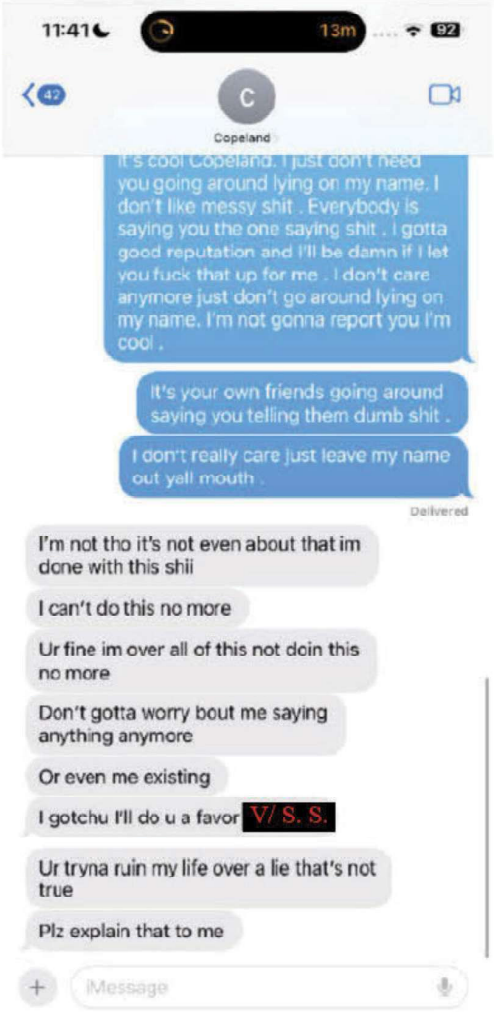
1. OFFICE CODE: NFXQ		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: SA BERNADETTE DUFFY
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NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE



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NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE



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NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 08NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN ALEXIS RODGERS, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S., USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CSSN Alexis RODGERS, USN, CVN 75, was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 08Nov24 at approximately 1630 hours, CSSN RODGERS was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CSSN RODGERS stated she was liberty buddies with [redacted] V/S.S. on 04Nov24. CSSN RODGERS explained she and [redacted] V/S.S. were coworkers but not particularly close. CSSN RODGERS recalled she and a group of other sailors including [redacted] V/S.S. left the ship at approximately 2000 hours and went to a bar called Heidi's. CSSN RODGERS recalled [redacted] V/S.S. began drinking alcohol; CSSN RODGERS recalled she had approximately three (3) shots of liquor and stated [redacted] V/S.S. had more than that. CSSN RODGERS related she did not know exactly how much [redacted] V/S.S. drank but recalled she was drunk.

4. CSSN RODGERS recalled seeing S/COPELAND arrive with another group of sailors but could not recall what time. CSSN RODGERS stated she did not see any interaction between S/COPELAND and [redacted] V/S.S.. CSSN RODGERS recalled when it was time to leave the bar before liberty expiration, she and SR Jada KNIGHT, USN, CVN 75, and CSSA Jacqueline BITA, USN, CVN 75, had to assist [redacted] V/S.S. back to the ship due to her level of intoxication. CSSN RODGERS stated [redacted] V/S.S. did not seem to recall where she was.

5. CSSN RODGERS stated she did not hear about a video concerning [redacted] V/S.S. and S/COPELAND, but [redacted] V/S.S. told CSSN RODGERS the next day she did not have sex with S/COPELAND. CSSN RODGERS stated the group took an Uber to Fleet Landing, but could not recall who had paid for it.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 18NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JADA KNIGHT, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S., USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CSSN Jada KNIGHT, USN, VAW 126, was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 18Nov24 at approximately 2100 hours, CSSN KNIGHT was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CSSN KNIGHT stated on the evening of 04Nov24, her liberty buddy was CSSA Jacqueline BITA, USN, CVN 75. CSSN KNIGHT stated she and CSSA BITA went to a different bar before eventually ending up at Heidi's. CSSN KNIGHT related [redacted] V/S.S. was already present at the bar and observed her dancing. CSSN KNIGHT observed [redacted] V/S.S. did not appear to be "that drunk."

4. Approximately thirty (30) minutes after arriving at the bar, CSSN KNIGHT recalled she was approached by S/COPELAND who told her not to tell anyone about what he was going to show her. CSSN KNIGHT recalled S/COPELAND showed her a video of him having sexual intercourse with [redacted] V/S.S. in a bathroom stall. CSSN KNIGHT stated [redacted] V/S.S.'s face was not present in the video but S/COPELAND indicated she was depicted. CSSN KNIGHT opined she would have been able to identify [redacted] V/S.S. regardless due to [redacted] V/S.S.'s "big butt." CSSN KNIGHT recalled the video depicted S/COPELAND's smiling face in the camera before panning to [redacted] V/S.S.'s buttocks and back while his penis thrusted in and out of her vagina. CSSN KNIGHT also recognized the gray sweatpants and sweatshirt [redacted] V/S.S. was wearing.

5. The next day, CSSN KNIGHT stated [redacted] V/S.S. brought the video up to CSSN KNIGHT and she stated she had seen it. CSSN KNIGHT stated she did not tell [redacted] V/S.S. about the video earlier because she assumed [redacted] V/S.S. remembered having sexual intercourse with S/COPELAND. CSSN KNIGHT stated [redacted] V/S.S. did not appear to be drunk enough to have not remembered the incident, and CSSN KNIGHT related she would have said something earlier if she had known [redacted] V/S.S. did not remember.

6. CSSN KNIGHT related she had photographs and videos from the night of the

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **18NOV24**

incident that depicted S/COPELAND and V/S.S.. CSSN KNIGHT showed RA a video of V/S.S. taking a shot with CSSN KNIGHT and some other female sailors present. CSSN KNIGHT indicated the video was taken after S/COPELAND showed CSSN KNIGHT the video of him having sex in the bathroom with V/S.S.. CSSN KNIGHT agreed to provide the video and photographs to RA via Air Drop, and signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) denoting her intentions; Enclosure (A) pertains. Three (3) live photographs and one (1) video were subsequently transferred to a CD-R for inclusion into the case file; Enclosure (B) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY CSSN KNIGHT/18NOV24
(B) CD-R CONTAINING THREE (3) PHOTOGRAPHS AND ONE (1) VIDEO/18NOV24

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 08NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]PII[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSA JAKOBIE GANT, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CSSA Jakobie GANT, USN, CVN 75 was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 08Nov24 at approximately 1930 hours, CSSA GANT was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CSSA GANT recalled he was not out with the group of sailors including S/COPELAND and [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] on 04Nov24. CSSA GANT stated the next day on 05Nov24, he was approached by S/COPELAND, who stated he had sexual intercourse with [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] and seemed excited about it. CSSA GANT related S/COPELAND stated [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] kissed S/COPELAND's neck and had sexual intercourse. CSSA GANT stated he was happy because S/COPELAND seemed happy, but conflicted because he knew [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] was dating their mutual friend CSSN Shamel EADDY, USN, CVN 75.

4. CSSA GANT recalled S/COPELAND showed him a video depicting S/COPELAND having sexual intercourse with [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted]. CSSA GANT described the video as from S/COPELAND's point of view, initially pointing the camera at himself before panning over [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted]. CSSA GANT related [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted]'s face was not visible but her buttocks and back were. CSSA GANT recalled feeling very uncomfortable after watching the video because [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] did not appear conscious or in a comfortable position. CSSA GANT stated in the video [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] was face down against a toilet.

5. CSSA GANT stated after [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] reported the offense, S/COPELAND came to him and told him [redacted]V/S.S.[redacted] had "put a case on" S/COPELAND and asked CSSA GANT for advice. CSSA GANT related he told S/COPELAND to tell the truth. CSSA GANT had not seen S/COPELAND with his cellular telephone since S/COPELAND first showed CSSA GANT the video on 05Nov24.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CDR BRETT BALLARD, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S. , USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CDR Brett BALLARD, USN, Executive Officer (XO), Helecopter Sea Combat Squadron 11 (HSC 11), was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 06Nov24 at approximately 1130 hours, CDR BALLARD was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CDR BALLARD stated he was functioning as the Senior Shore Patrol representative on 05Nov24 when he was notified of a sailor, later identified as S/COPELAND, refusing to return back to the ship. CDR BALLARD notified Reporting Agent (RA) of the incident at approximately 2141 hours and Security Personnel responded with CDR BALLARD to bring S/COPELAND back to the ship. At the time of the incident, it was unknown S/COPELAND had been accused of sexual assault.

4. Upon arrival, CDR BALLARD stated CSC Jonathan GEORGE, USN, CVN 75, and S/COPELAND's liberty buddy CSSN Kaulise COUSINS, USN, CVN 75, were following S/COPELAND and attempting to convince him to come back to the ship. CDR BALLARD stated Security Personnel brought S/COPELAND back to the duty van and S/COPELAND was driven to Fleet Landing with no further issues.

5. CDR BALLARD stated CSSN COUSINS related S/COPELAND was drinking at a bar and left to take a phone call. When S/COPELAND returned, he told CSSN COUSINS his "life was over" because he "caught a case" and would not come back to the ship. According to CDR BALLARD, CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND had a sexual encounter the night prior with an unknown individual. CDR BALLARD could provide no further details.

6. CDR BALLARD opined S/COPELAND had been drinking but was able to walk. CDR BALLARD could not recall seeing S/COPELAND in possession of a cellular telephone during the interaction.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN KAULISE COUSINS, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted]V/S.S., USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CSSN KAULISE COUSINS, USN, CVN 75, was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 06Nov24 at approximately 1400 hours, CSSN COUSINS was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CSSN COUSINS stated he and S/COPELAND are friends, and met in approximately September 2024 when CSSN COUSINS arrived to the ship. CSSN COUSINS stated he was liberty buddies with S/COPELAND on 05Sep24 but not on 04Sep24. CSSN COUSINS recalled he and S/COPELAND were at a bar in Oslo, Norway in the evening hours and recalled S/COPELAND was in a good mood. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND stated he had sexual intercourse with [redacted]V/S.S. the night prior and seemed happy about the interaction. CSSN COUSINS recalled S/COPELAND stated [redacted]V/S.S. had been "kissing on him" and stated he had sex with her in a bathroom at a bar. CSSN COUSINS recalled being happy for his friend, but stated he personally felt badly about it because he knew [redacted]V/S.S. had a boyfriend on the ship.

4. CSSN COUSINS recalled S/COPELAND left the bar to take a phone call, and when he returned he was very upset saying [redacted]V/S.S. "put a charge on" him and that his life was ruined. CSSN COUSINS related S/COPELAND felt that because he is black, the Command would "fuck him over" and it was going to "fuck up his whole career." CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND stated he was going to kill himself in Oslo because there was no point in living. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND refused to come back to the ship and left the bar.

5. CSSN COUSINS stated CSC Jonathan GEORGE saw CSSN COUSINS attempting to have S/COPELAND come back to the ship and attempted to help. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND walked in front of approximately three (3) trains and opined S/COPELAND was attempting to kill himself. CSSN COUSINS recalled Shore Patrol and Security arrived and escorted S/COPELAND back to the ship.

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CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **06NOV24**

6. When asked directly, CSSN COUSINS stated he never had S/COPELAND's cellular telephone and could not speculate as to why S/COPELAND indicated he did. CSSN COUSINS emphatically denied ever taking S/COPELAND's cellular telephone. CSSN COUSINS stated he last saw S/COPELAND on his phone at approximately 2200 hours speaking to his parents. CSSN COUSINS recalled on the liberty boat, S/COPELAND attempted to go outside and CSSN COUSINS refused to let him. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND went to the bathroom aboard the ferry and was there the entire ride back to the ship. CSSN COUSINS speculated S/COPELAND got rid of the phone in the bathroom on the liberty boat.

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 18NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S., USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours.

2. On 18Nov24 at approximately 2230 hours, S/COPELAND was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of, and waived, his Article 31b Rights utilizing a Military Rights Waiver form; Enclosure (B) pertains.

5. S/COPELAND related on 04Nov24 while in port in Oslo, Norway, he went to an unknown bar with other Culinary Specialists in the evening hours before liberty expiration. S/COPELAND stated approximately an hour in to the evening, he had approximately two (2) drinks and would not consider himself intoxicated when [redacted] V/S.S. came up to him at a table he was sitting at and kissed his ear and his neck. S/COPELAND opined [redacted] V/S.S. was acting completely normal though he could not estimate how drunk she was. S/COPELAND recalled he was sitting at the table with CSSR Deontae WILLIAMS, USN, CVN 75, and CSSN Kaulise COUSINS, USN, CVN 75. S/COPELAND recalled [redacted] V/S.S. took S/COPELAND by the hand and requested he accompany her to the bathroom. S/COPELAND stated he walked to the bathroom with her and attempted to wait outside, but [redacted] V/S.S. took him by the hand and pulled him into a bathroom stall in the women's restroom.

6. S/COPELAND stated [redacted] V/S.S. faced away from him in the stall and pulled her pants down before bending over. S/COPELAND stated he pushed his penis into her vagina and opined [redacted] V/S.S. was consenting to the contact. S/COPELAND stated he took his phone out and began to record a video of the sexual interaction. S/COPELAND stated he did not know if [redacted] V/S.S. was aware

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of him recording as she was facing away from him. S/COPELAND stated the intercourse lasted approximately twenty (20) minutes and that he did not ejaculate because the interaction seemed to be "too good to be true." When asked to explain, S/COPELAND stated he viewed V/S.S. as a sister and that she had never shown any interest in him sexually. S/COPELAND stated he did not use a condom. Following the interaction, S/COPELAND stated he and V/S.S. exited the bathroom and everything was "normal" between the two.

7. S/COPELAND recalled showing the video to CSSN COUSINS and CSSN Jada KNIGHT, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), without V/S.S.'s knowledge. S/COPELAND stated he showed the video to others because he was excited. After the group left the bar, S/COPELAND recalled V/S.S. threw up on the liberty boat on the way back to the ship.

8. The day following the sexual intercourse, S/COPELAND stated he was out in Oslo, Norway, with CSSN COUSINS when he received a phone call and text messages from V/S.S.. S/COPELAND related V/S.S. told him "if you want to run your mouth I'm going to put you on report." S/COPELAND opined CSSN Shamel EADDY, USN, CVN 75, found out about the sexual encounter and became upset which spurred V/S.S. to report the sexual encounter as a sexual assault. S/COPELAND recalled this made him very upset and he told CSSN COUSINS he would not return to the ship. S/COPELAND initially denied efforts to harm himself, but then admitted to walking in front of motor vehicles intentionally.

9. S/COPELAND stated he gave his cellular telephone to CSSN COUSINS and did not know what CSSN COUSINS did with it. S/COPELAND denied throwing it away on purpose and stated it was lost after his phone fell out of his pocket and the screen shattered. S/COPELAND stated he lost his Air Pod during the same incident and showed RA his Air Pod case with one Air Pod to verify the story.

10. S/COPELAND agreed to provide a sample of his DNA via a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS); Enclosure (C) pertains. RA swabbed the inside of S/COPELAND's mouth and placed the swabs into the NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) evidence locker under log number 0012-24.

11. At the conclusion of the interview, S/COPELAND was turned over to command representative CSC Shayquan JONES, USN, CVN 75, at approximately 2342 hours.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **18NOV24**

S/COPELAND/18NOV24
(B) ARTICLE 31B FORM SIGNED BY S/COPELAND/18NOV24
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY
S/COPELAND/18NOV24

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE CELLULAR TELEPHONE

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S. , USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of this investigation is was reported the alleged nonconsensual encounter was recorded and broadcast by S/COPELAND via his cellular telephone.

2. On 06Nov24 at approximately 0930 hours, Reporting Agent (RA) made contact with S/COPELAND in Security Spaces aboard the ship. S/COPELAND was escorted to Security by CSCM Aneuris ROBLES, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75). RA introduced herself as a Special Agent and requested to search the person of S/COPELAND for his cellular telephone. S/COPELAND stated he did not have his cellular telephone and had given it to his friend, CSSN Kaulise COUSINS, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), but consented to a search of his person. Due to the exigent nature of the search, a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure was not presented to S/COPELAND. The search yielded negative results.

3. RA made contact with CSSN COUSINS in Supply Spaces aboard the ship at approximately 1000 hours. RA identified herself as a Special Agent and requested to search the person of CSSN COUSINS for the cellular telephone belonging to S/COPELAND. CSSN COUSINS consented to the search and stated he never possessed the cellular telephone. Due to the exigent nature of the search, a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure was not presented to CSSN COUSINS. The search yielded negative results.

4. Both CSSN COUSINS and S/COPELAND were retained in Security and Supply spaces.

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE (PASS)

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S. [redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours.

2. On 06Nov24 at approximately 1210 hours, S/COPELAND was moved to the NCIS Office aboard CVN 75 located at 02-88-4-Q by MA1 Anthony SPIRITO, USN, CVN 75. S/COPELAND was previously retained in Security spaces following report of the allegations made by [redacted] V/S.S. [redacted].

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. Reporting Agent (RA) requested S/COPELAND permit a search of his personal spaces aboard the ship to include berthing, rack, and locker spaces for his cellular telephone. S/COPELAND agreed and signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) at 1215 hours; Enclosure (B) pertains.

5. RA searched the berthing, rack, and locker spaces belonging to S/COPELAND in his presence located at 2-210-0-L. No cellular telephone was located. The search was concluded at 1300 hours.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE PRELIMINARY INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND/06NOV24
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY S/COPELAND/06NOV24

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 20DEC24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF SECOND INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein [redacted] V/S.S. , USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. S/COPELAND was initially interviewed in reference to the offense on 18Nov24 and he requested a follow-up interview.

2. On 20Dec24 at approximately 1900 hours, S/COPELAND was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of, and waived, his Article 31b Rights utilizing a Military Rights Waiver form; Enclosure (B) pertains.

5. S/COPELAND stated he purchased a new cellular telephone while in port in Marseille, France, and requested to provide RA digital evidence he was able to access via iCloud. S/COPELAND stated the video he took of his sexual intercourse with [redacted] V/S.S. was taken on Instagram Reels, and that the video automatically deleted after a period of time not being posted. S/COPELAND stated he chose to use Instagram to take the video because the app was already open on his phone when he entered the bathroom.

6. S/COPELAND showed RA videos of [redacted] V/S.S. being hugged by him and her sitting at a table with him. S/COPELAND indicated the videos were taken following the sexual intercourse in the bathroom stall. S/COPELAND also provided the screen shots of [redacted] V/S.S. texting him on 05Nov24, which were consistent with screen shots provided by [redacted] V/S.S. .

7. S/COPELAND signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to provide RA with the videos and screen shots; Enclosure (C) pertains. Two (2) videos and two (2) screen shots were subsequently

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **20DEC24**

transferred to a CD-R for inclusion into the case file; Enclosure (D) pertains.

8. At the conclusion of the interview, S/COPELAND was turned over to command representative CS2 Veronica ATKINS, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), at approximately 1939 hours.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED SECOND INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND/20DEC24
(B) ARTICLE 31B FORM SIGNED BY S/COPELAND/20DEC24
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY S/COPELAND/20DEC24
(D) CD-R CONTAINING TWO (2) VIDEOS AND TWO (2) PHOTOGRAPHS/20DEC24

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 07JUL25

CONTROL: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN SHAKYRA RICHARDSON, USN

1. On 07JUL25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY conducted an interview of [redacted] V/S.R., USN, Naval Station Norfolk (NAVSTA NORFOLK), VA, at NCISRA Norfolk, VA, regarding her prior relationship with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

2. As background, [redacted] V/S.R. was identified as a prior girlfriend of S/COPELAND who may possess information relevant to the investigation.

3. The interview of [redacted] V/S.R. was recorded using an audio/video recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. [redacted] V/S.R. stated she and S/COPELAND began dating circa MAR25, and the relationship lasted for approximately one (1) month. [redacted] V/S.R. stated she met S/COPELAND while assigned to DDG-95, and worked together. According to [redacted] V/S.R., the relationship began as a friendship and developed into a romantic relationship. [redacted] V/S.R. described S/COPELAND initially as "a cool person." [redacted] V/S.R. stated most of their interactions occurred while under the influence of alcohol, as S/COPELAND regularly encouraged drinking. [redacted] V/S.R. reported the relationship ended due to S/COPELAND becoming violent and dishonest about his involvement with his ex-girlfriend, identified as "Dess" (NFI).

5. [redacted] V/S.R. stated on 11APR25, while in S/COPELAND's barracks room, located at Willis Manor building X-2, Room 335, Naval Station Norfolk, VA, she accessed S/COPELAND's phone and discovered messages which indicated S/COPELAND was still in a relationship with his ex-girlfriend. Upon confronting S/COPELAND, [redacted] V/S.R. stated he became "visibly upset". According to [redacted] V/S.R., S/COPELAND pushed her onto the couch and placed both hands around her neck for approximately four to five (4-5) seconds. [redacted] V/S.R. stated while she was being strangled, S/COPELAND smiled and appeared "extremely angry", stated, "it was like he was someone else." [redacted] V/S.R. reported after S/COPELAND released her, she broke his PlayStation 5 out of anger and exited the room. [redacted] V/S.R. stated she attempted to retrieve her belongings but was denied reentry by S/COPELAND. According to [redacted] V/S.R., her personal items were never recovered.

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CONTROL:07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA **07JUL25**

6. [redacted] stated S/COPELAND's roommate (NFI) falsely reported to the responding law enforcement personnel she attempted to stab S/COPELAND and was the aggressor, despite being the victim. [redacted] stated when she explained the incident to law enforcement, she was discouraged from reporting the strangulation, as they stated it would "just make the situation worse" (NFI). Following the interview, [redacted] requested an investigation be initiated for the details she provided to NCIS.

7. At the conclusion of the interview, [redacted] was provided a Victim Witness Assistance Pamphlet (VWAP).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: CONTAINING INTERVIEW OF [redacted],
USN/07JUL25

REPORTED BY: FRITZNER PHILEMON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT EXERPT
CSSN [redacted] V/S.R. [redacted] USN INTERVIEW DATED 7 JULY 2025

00:05:37: Special Agent: All right, so like I said, whenever you walked in, you are not in trouble. I'm conducting an investigation into Jermiah Copeland. You know who that is? OK, um I don't know. If you you've heard. I know there's a lot of there's a lot of news coverage of it, but it's involving the death around [redacted] V/ A. R. [redacted]. As such, I went into his background and I noticed that there was a police report involving you two. Now, I don't care what you did. I'm going to flat out say it right now. I don't care what you did. I don't care after effect what happened to you. I want to know what led up to that, if there's anything to tell, involving Jermiah and, like, his background and what you know of him, if that's OK? OK.

00:06:27: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** I didn't really, like, know too much of him. Like, it basically started after I went to his phone and found out he had my girlfriend and a son.

00:06:34: Special Agent: you said then a son?

00:06:37 [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** Yeah

00:06:38: Special Agent: Ok

00:06:39: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** He didn't like that I went to his phone. So he was like, oh, you invading my privacy, this that and the third. I tried to leave him. He literally like pushed me on the couch and put his hands around my neck and started choking me and he started laughing afterwards at me. I like out of anger, I picked up his Xbox and I broke it and it went from there. He also got his roommate to try and lie on me and was like oh she tried to stab me this that and the third. Basically the MAs searched me and searched my room and they didn't find anything. They didn't find me guilty about the night. But yeah I did break his Xbox. Only thing he did was put his hands around my neck and choke me.

00:07:14: Special Agent: OK, do you remember when this was?

00:07:17: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] April 11th?

00:07:18: Special Agent: April 11th of this year,

00:07:19 [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** Yes.

00:07:21: Special Agent: OK. How long had y'all been dating?

00:07:25: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** Since March.

00:07:27: Special Agent: OK, so not too long.

00:07:28: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** (shakes head no)

00:07:34: Special Agent: OK.

00:07:38: Special Agent: When you went through his phone and saw that he had another girlfriend, do you recall her name?

00:07:43: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** No, he just called her Dess.

00:07:45: Special Agent: Des?

00:07:45: [redacted] V/ S. R. [redacted] **:** Des DESS.

00:07:47: Special Agent: OK.

00:07:48: Special Agent: Des.

00.07:50: Special Agent: OK.

00:07:50: Special Agent: Do you know anything about her? Where she went from?

00:07:52: [redacted] **:** Yeah, they had a couple conversations. We have each other up right now.

00:07:55: Special Agent: OK.

00:07:58: [redacted] **:** She just one of those. She's going to stay regardless, so

00:08:02: Special Agent: I got you. OK. Is she from around here? You know where she's from?

00:08:07: [redacted] **:** His hometown, where he lives.

00:08:09: Special Agent: OK. Is the son with Dess?

00:08:15: [redacted] **:** No.

00:08:15: Special Agent: OK.

00:08:15: [redacted] **:** That's just his girlfriend.

00:08:17: Special Agent: I've got it. My man's got a lot of girlfriends. Got it.

00:08:20: [redacted] **:** I know.

00:08:22: Special Agent: OK.

00:08:24: Special Agent: Do you know the mother of his son. by chance?

00:08:27: [redacted] **:** No.

00:08:28: Special Agent: OK. Do you know how old he is?

00:08:29: [redacted] **:** I think he's 2 or 4. I forgot. It's one of those.

00:08:32: Special Agent: All right. OK. Do you know his name?

00:08:37: [redacted] **:** No.

00:08:38: Special Agent: OK. No worries. OK. So, you and Copeland started dating in March. How did you guys meet?

00:08:46: [redacted] **:** The ship.

00:08:47: Special Agent: The ship? OK. Which ship?

00:08:48: [redacted] **:** JAMES E. WILLIAMS.

00:08:49: Special Agent: The WILLIAMS. OK. All right. Can you tell me - And so you're CS and so is he. You guys, were you guys on the same shift or separate?

00:09:03: [redacted] **:** I was daily duty. So I was working Monday through Friday, from 7 to 12. We just got close because he was the only person I was like, really comfortable with in the galley at the time.

00:09:17: Special Agent: OK, so how did this, how did your dating relationship start? Did you guys like go out or just came over or whatever?

00:09:28: [redacted] **:** He texted me. No, he didn't text me, actually. He asked me if I went to hang out after work. And I was like, sure. We went to his place. Um, we ended up getting drunk and it went from there.

00:09:42: Special Agent: OK, OK, all right, so you - March you guys started dating then April 11th was whenever you went through his phone and what did he - what all did he say to you? And like, how did he say it after he found you going through his phone?

00:09:59: V/ S. R. **:** Like before I went through his phone, I was like asking him, do you still talk to her? Do you still talk to her? He's telling me no, you don't talk to her. So he's basically like going back and forth between both of us, telling each other he don't talk to us. So she's constantly texting me like, hey, are you with Jermiah? Hey, Jermiah been texting me. So I'm like, why she's still worried about you? I was just curious. That's what made me go through his phone. And after that he's like, OK, so why are you touching my phone? It's not your phone. It's not your business dot dot dot [sic] of he's basically avoiding why he was with her and me at the same time. So.

00:10:29: Special Agent: So I gotcha. OK, When he was saying this, was he yelling at you? Or is it like how we're talking right now?

00:10:36: V/ S. R. **:** He was talking in a calm voice.

00:10:37: Special Agent: OK.

00:10:40: Special Agent: What transpired right before he pushed you?

00:10:43: V/ S. R. **:** Me trying to get up and we...

00:10:45: Special Agent: OK, so you're trying to get up off the couch and just leave?

00:10:50: V/ S. R. **:** Mmhmm..

00:10:52: Special Agent: How did he push you?

00:10:56: V/ S. R. **:** Both hands?

00:10:57: Special Agent: OK, like on your chest?

00:10:58: V/ S. R. **:** It wasn't a hard push.

00:11:00: Special Agent: It was enough to knock you off your feet.

00:11:03: V/ S. R. **:** Yeah.

00:11:03: Special Agent: OK. Did you have any bruises from that?

00:11:07: V/ S. R. **:** (Shakes head no). I just had a hickey on my neck.

00: 11:09: Special Agent: OK.

00:11:10: Special Agent: Was the Hickey from an actual Hickey or was it from the strangulation?

00:11:14: V/ S. R. **:** (Shakes head yes,) It was a hickey.

00:11:16: Special Agent: OK, cool. Just checking. Um, so when he strangled you, did he use both hands?

00:11:23: V/ S. R. (Shakes head yes) Yeah, It was both hands.

00:11:25: Special Agent: OK. Can you kind of explain to me what, like what you were thinking at that moment?

00:11:31: V/ S. R. **:** I don't know. It wasn't him. Like I I never seen this side of him.

00:11:34: Special Agent: OK.

00:11:36: V/ S. R. **:** He was always there for me when I had seizures or whenever after the hospital. So for him to do that, it didn't seem right to me.

00:11:43: V/ S. R. **:** OK, OK.

00:11:46: Special Agent: OK, OK. At any point did you lose consciousness?

00:11:51: V/ S. R. **:** (Indicates no)

00:11:52: Special Agent: Can you describe to me what, like, you were seeing him?

00:11:56: V/ S. R.: Him. He was smiling.

00:11:59: Special Agent: OK. Did your vision start to like, come in? Like, were you losing peripheral vision at all?

00:12:05: V/ S. R.: (Shakes head no)

00:12:05: Special Agent: OK, good. I'm glad to hear that at least. About how long do you think he did that?

00:12:12: V/ S. R.: Probably like 10 seconds, it wasn't that long.

00:12:17: Special Agent: Could you still breathe a little bit or were you completely - could not breathe at all?

00:12:20: V/ S. R.: (Indicates No, Shakes head no).

00:12:29: Special Agent: Are you OK?

00:12:29: V/ S. R.: I just don't want to be talking about him.

00:12:33: Special Agent: Is it because of this situation or just everything that's happened since?

00:12:36: V/ S. R.: Because of this situation.

00:12:41: Special Agent: OK. Do you need a minute? You good? OK.

00:12:53: Special Agent: Did you feel at any point that your life was in danger?

00:12:56: V/ S. R.: I don't know. It just wasn't him.

00:13:00: Special Agent: Ok, just like a different like a different personality, or?

00:13:10: V/ S. R.: I don't want to like be one of those girls that's like, oh, that's not him, but it didn't seem like him, I feel like it was just anger. I'm not sure. I don't know what it was.

00:13:26: Special Agent: And you've never seen him that angry before?

00:13:27: V/ S. R.: (Shakes head no).

00:13:30 V/ S. R.: OK. When he was strangling you, you said that he was smiling? Was he saying anything to you?

00:13:37: V/ S. R.: He was smiling.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 24JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

INTERVIEW OF [redacted V/Y.J.], CIV

1. On 24JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) conducted a cold call in an attempt to identify the owner of the phone number "[redacted PII]-7057", who was thought to be a minor child engaged in sexual activity with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

2. [redacted V/Y.J.], CIV, was identified as being a 19-year-old who was sexually assaulted by S/COPELAND. This interview was not recorded due to the circumstances surrounding the cold call. RA did ask [redacted V/Y.J.] if she would come in for a formal interview however, she declined but proceeded to explain the sexual assault over the phone.

3. During the phone call, [redacted V/Y.J.] stated she knew S/COPELAND and had a one-night stand with him sometime in the beginning of the summer in 2025. [redacted V/Y.J.] described S/COPELAND as giving off "weird vibes" and he would constantly ask her to come over.

4. [redacted V/Y.J.] explained on the night of the sexual assault, she had been picked up by two other males, Omar (NFI) and Jaden (NFI). After being picked up by them, [redacted V/Y.J.] said they drove her back to S/COPELAND's barracks room located on Naval Station Norfolk and they engaged in a consensual 3-way. [redacted V/Y.J.] explained S/COPELAND was not present however, he did return to his barracks room sometime between 0500-0600. [redacted V/Y.J.] stated the 3-way was over and she was very tired. However, when S/COPELAND arrived at his barracks room, [redacted V/Y.J.] said he grabbed her by the arm and pulled her into his room. [redacted V/Y.J.] stated S/COPELAND wanted her to give him "head" or oral sex, and [redacted V/Y.J.] said she told S/COPELAND "no" and that she was "tired." [redacted V/Y.J.] explained S/COPELAND then attempted to penetrate her vagina and she stated it was painful and hurt when S/COPELAND penetrated her. [redacted V/Y.J.] said she told S/COPELAND to "stop." [redacted V/Y.J.] explained Omar was at the door and could hear her telling S/COPELAND to stop. [redacted V/Y.J.] further explained Omar entered the room and was able to get [redacted V/Y.J.] out of the situation. [redacted V/Y.J.] said she told Omar "Thankyou" and left the barracks room.

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **24JUN25**

5. V/Y.J. stated she had not spoken to S/COPELAND since the sexual assault occurred but when the "sailor girl" further clarified as V/A.R. V/A.R.), USN, DDG-95, went missing she spoke to Omar and Jaden in person, and they had discussed the circumstances around her disappearance. V/Y.J. could not give details as to what they exactly talked about, however, V/Y.J. explained both Omar and Jaden stopped being friends with S/COPELAND due to V/A.R. missing.

6. At the conclusion of the interview, RA asked V/Y.J. if she would be willing to participate in the investigation. V/Y.J. stated she was not sure if she wanted to participate.
RA did open a separate investigation into S/COPELAND, which is documented under CCN: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA.

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05AUG25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

INTERIVEW OF AEAN JDYN BRADFORD, USN

1. On 05AUG25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Lisa CARROLL conducted an interview of AEAN Jdyn BRADFORD, USN, USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN-69) in regard to the captioned investigation.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. AEAN BRADFORD stated LSSA Omeri SMOOT, USN, CVN-69, and [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted], CIV were all hanging out in CSSN Jermiah COPELAND's (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95) barracks room on 25MAY25. AEAN BRADFORD explained S/COPELAND was not in the barracks room but returned around 0300-0400. AEAN BRADFORD stated when S/COPELAND entered the barracks room he went right to [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] and gave her a hug. AEAN BRADFORD stated the next thing he realized, as he was on a phone call, S/COPELAND and [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] were in S/COPELAND's bedroom and the door was locked. AEAN BRADFORD stated he could hear [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] say "no" and that she was "tired". AEAN BRADFORD explained he and LSSA SMOOT kept telling S/COPELAND to stop, and eventually S/COPELAND opened the door. AEAN BRADFORD observed [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] on the floor of S/COPELAND's room in what was described as someone who may have "rag dolled" onto the floor. AEAN BRADFORD explained [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] did not have a shirt on but did have a bra and pants on. AEAN BRADFORD stated S/COPELAND told everyone to get out of the barracks room due to him having to go to work. AEAN BRADFORD explained he took [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] home and on the way home [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] told him S/COPELAND attempted to make her perform oral sex on S/COPELAND.

4. AEAN BRADFORD expressed his concerns for [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted]. AEAN BRADFORD further clarified he was not going to let [redacted] V/Y.J. [redacted] stay there as he was concerned what S/COPELAND might do to her if left alone with her. AEAN BRADFORD stated he never confronted S/COPELAND about the assault and did not speak to him

Controlled By: NFNF - RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK
CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **05AUG25**

again until after he had gone missing and was found.

5. RA continued the interview of AEAN BRADFORD however, the rest of the interview conducted surrounded the events leading up to the disappearance and death of [redacted], USN, DDG-95 and will be documented under that investigation.

6. RA asked AEAN BRADFORD to provide a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for a screenshot of the conversation between himself and [redacted], showing the time and date of the incident; Enclosure (B) pertains.

7. AEAN BRADFORD provided the screen shot which confirmed the day he picked up [redacted] being 24MAY25 at approximately 2341. This screenshot has been placed on a template and appended as Enclosure (C).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC OF INTERVIEW/05AUG25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE/05AUG25
(C) PHOTO TEMPLATE/05AUG25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 02JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA, USN

1. On 02JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Carrie JOHNSON interviewed CSSN Gladis GARCIA-BARRERA, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) regarding the whereabouts of [V/A.R.], USN, DDG-95. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA was identified as a friend of [V/A.R.].

2. The interview was conducted inside a government vehicle outside of CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA's barracks building, SP-29, onboard Naval Station Norfolk (NAVSTA Norfolk). RA and PA JOHNSON identified themselves via credentials.

3. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that she only became close with [V/A.R.] over the last month or so, and that they hung out together for the first time outside of work on 24MAY25. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she mostly communicates with [V/A.R.] on text message or Instagram. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA said the last time she received any communication from [V/A.R.] was via Instagram at 2244 hours on Wednesday night, 28MAY25.

4. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA recalled that on 28MAY25, she and [V/A.R.] ended their shift at 0815 and upon being released from the ship, took an Uber to Target together. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that [V/A.R.] ordered the Uber on her phone. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA could not recall which Target they went to, but remembered there was a Food Lion next to it. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she and [V/A.R.] both purchased yoga mats and weights because they both wanted to exercise more. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised they purchased other things, such as grocery items, etc. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that [V/A.R.] purchased her Target items with a tap-to-pay feature on her phone, which CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA believed to be linked to [V/A.R.]'s "Navy cash card."

5. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that when she and [V/A.R.] left target, CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA ordered a Z-Trip ride which was supposed to arrive at 1141; however, the vehicle was late, so they took another Z-Trip ride at 1202 hours. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised the Z-Trip took them through Gate 22 of Naval Station Norfolk, dropped off CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA, then dropped [V/A.R.] off. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated she requested that [V/A.R.] let her know when she was back safely, which [V/A.R.] did. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that later in the afternoon, [V/A.R.] mentioned going to the barracks room of Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95 to cook

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tacos and sent her a couple of pictures of food. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA was unsure of the relationship between S/COPELAND and V/A.R., and did not know S/COPELAND very well. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that she heard S/COPELAND "had a case" from the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) involving V/S.R." (NFI) and heard that S/COPELAND was supposed to go to jail for speeding and evading. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not know any other details regarding S/COPELAND's previous case.

6. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that on the morning of Thursday, 29MAY25, HT3 Michael Davontae GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95 messaged her around 0454 am requesting her to call him. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she did call HT3 GILLESPIE, who was V/A.R.'s ex-boyfriend, and HT3 GILLEPSIE expressed his concerns for V/A.R. because the previous evening V/A.R. sporadically texted him "fuck you."

7. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA was asked about V/A.R.'s mental health. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised she had heard V/A.R. had mental health issues and had been admitted to the "5th floor" before (the "5th floor" is a term referring to the psychiatric unit at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP)). CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not know of any suicide attempts by V/A.R. and denied that V/A.R. communicated any suicidal ideations. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that there were times when V/A.R. would stop talking to people, but only in person and not for this long. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised that V/A.R. had recently suggested the two of them take a trip to New York to go shopping. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that V/A.R. had a friend in New York referred to as "Flacko" (NFI) which CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA advised was the term for "skinny" in the Spanish language. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not know anything more about "Flacko." CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that she did hear that V/A.R. made comments to HT3 GILLESPIE regarding going AWOL and mentioned New York.

8. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA also advised that V/A.R. was closest to CSSN Junrojel MIGUEL, USN, DDG-95. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA stated that V/A.R. texted CSSN MIGUEL a concerning text message. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA had a screenshot of part of the text message and showed RA. RA observed the partial text message (from V/A.R. to CSSN MIGUEL) which stated that V/A.R. was scared of men and indicated that she felt uncomfortable around several people on the ship who V/A.R. referred to as "CS1" who V/A.R. alleged would grab her phone out of her hands and look through her gallery; "RS2" who told V/A.R. he loved her and wanted a hug; and "BM1" who wanted a secret relationship with V/A.R. after finding out she and HT3 GILLESPIE broke up. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA identified CS1 as CS1 Darrell HOWELLEL (NFI) and RS2 HART (NFI). CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA did not recall BM1's name but knew he was on DDG-95 along with CS1 and RS2.

9. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA listed other relevant individuals: ET3 RICH (NFI) is an ex-boyfriend of V/A.R.. CSSN Jean JAQUAEZ ("JJ") (NFI) was identified

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as a friend of V V/A.R.

10. CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA provided the following contact information for V/ A. R. :
Phone number: PII
Instagram: 19itsyafavoritegirl

11. At the conclusion of the interview, CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to view her iPhone 12, specifically any communications with V/ A. R. . The PASS form and review of the extraction of CSSN GARCIA-BARRERA's iPhone will be documented in a subsequent Investigative Action.

REPORTED BY: LISA CARROLL, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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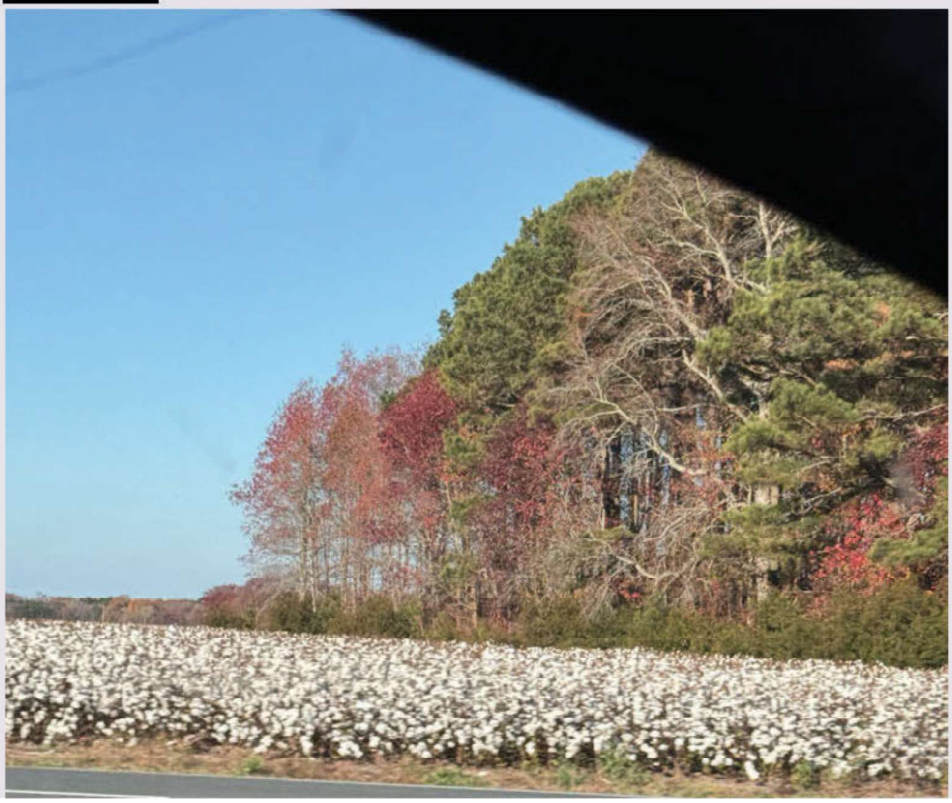
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IOS IMESSAGE/SMS/MMS

CHAT PARTICIPANTS	
Number of participants	2
Display names	PII 0672 Local User
Local user	Local User
CONVERSATION DETAILS	
Number of messages	32
First message sent date/time	2/24/2025 8:11:27.000 AM
Last message sent date/time	6/1/2025 7:01:42.000 PM
Case time zone	Eastern Standard Time

PII 0672

↘ Received
2/24/2025 8:11:27.000 AM

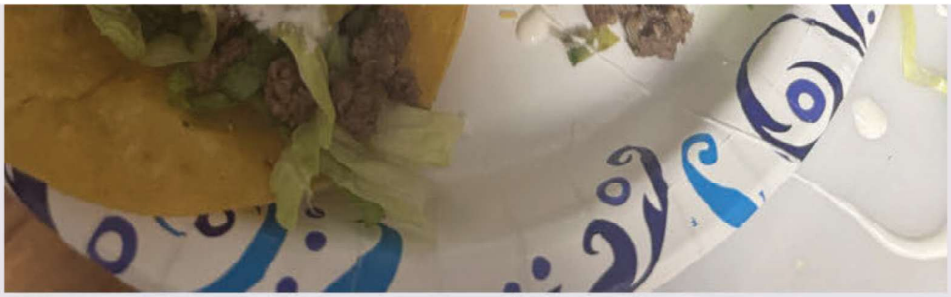




PII 0672

↘ Received
3/1/2025 4:41:00.000 PM





Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Damn that looks bomb
↖ Sent
3/1/2025 5:19:11.000 PM

[redacted]
It was
↘ Received
3/1/2025 7:03:58.000 PM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
That's goodie
↖ Sent
3/1/2025 7:07:43.000 PM

[redacted]
Broski has she texted you
↘ Received
3/11/2025 10:42:04.000 AM

[redacted]
Keely she texted me this morning talking about she got a new number and stuff
↘ Received
3/11/2025 10:42:33.000 AM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Naw she didn't text me
↖ ent
3/11/2025 11:22:27.000 AM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Why she keep switching her #
↖ Sent
3/11/2025 11:22:39.000 AM

+[redacted]
Idk man it's like the 3rd time

↘ Received
3/11/2025 11:23:42.000 AM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
That's what I'm sayin within last month

↖ Sent
3/11/2025 11:29:25.000 AM

-[redacted]
Garcia says you needa clean the grill

↘ Received
4/29/2025 1:17:04.000 PM

+[redacted]
Since you used it

↘ Received
4/29/2025 1:17:08.000 PM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
You on base still??

↖ cnt
5/28/2025 7:34:27.000 PM

+[redacted]
Yeah why what's up are you okay

↘ Received
5/28/2025 7:36:39.000 PM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Yeah you told me to tell you if I'm still making tacos

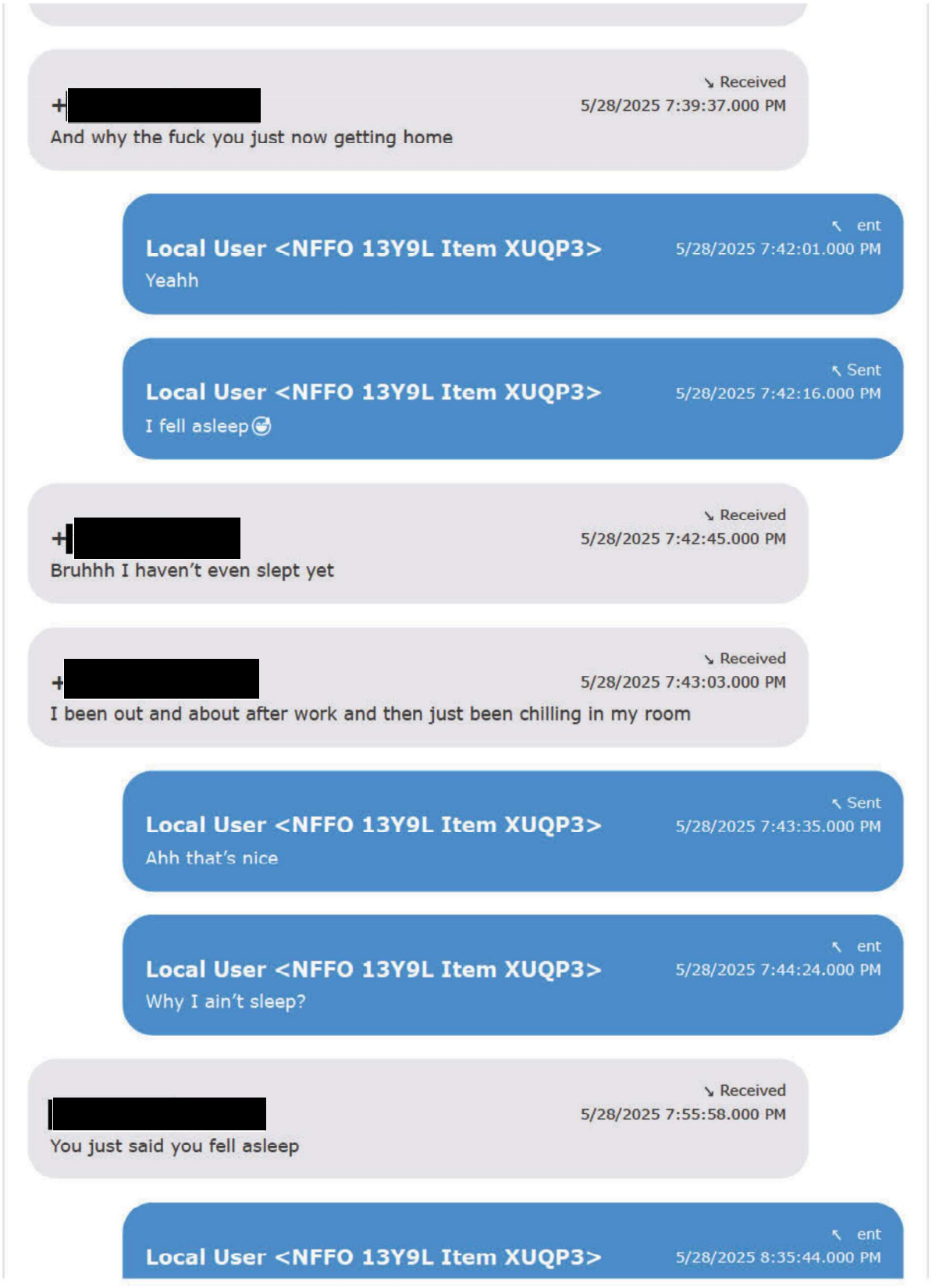
↖ ent
5/28/2025 7:38:05.000 PM

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
I got home

↖ Sent
5/28/2025 7:38:10.000 PM

+[redacted]
Are you still gonna make tacos

↘ Received
5/28/2025 7:39:29.000 PM


↘ Received
+[redacted]
5/28/2025 7:39:37.000 PM
And why the fuck you just now getting home
↖ ent
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
5/28/2025 7:42:01.000 PM
Yeahh
↖ Sent
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
5/28/2025 7:42:16.000 PM
I fell asleep
↘ Received
+[redacted]
5/28/2025 7:42:45.000 PM
Bruhhh I haven't even slept yet
↘ Received
+[redacted]
5/28/2025 7:43:03.000 PM
I been out and about after work and then just been chilling in my room
↖ Sent
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
5/28/2025 7:43:35.000 PM
Ahh that's nice
↖ ent
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
5/28/2025 7:44:24.000 PM
Why I ain't sleep?
↘ Received
[redacted]
5/28/2025 7:55:58.000 PM
You just said you fell asleep
↖ ent
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
5/28/2025 8:35:44.000 PM

I'm On my way! Back to base

↘ Received
5/28/2025 8:36:41.000 PM
+[redacted]
OKAY

↘ Received
5/28/2025 8:57:19.000 PM
-[redacted]
□

↘ Received
5/28/2025 8:57:21.000 PM
[redacted]
No message content to display.

↖ Sent
6/1/2025 7:01:25.000 PM
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Yoo are you okay???

↖ ent
6/1/2025 7:01:42.000 PM
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
They marked us both UA


335


335






R

PERFECT













U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 08JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE, USN

1. On 08Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) Tyler B. MANN conducted a follow-up interview of HT3 Michael Davontae GILLESPIE, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) at NCISRA Norfolk, VA to develop additional information pertaining to the captioned investigation. Prior to initiating the interview, RA and PI identified themselves to HT3 GILLESPIE as a Special Agent and Investigator, respectively.

2. RA recorded this interview using an audio and video recording tool. This report serves as a summary of the interview and should not be treated as a verbatim account of the information discussed. A digital copy of the recorded interview is available on the optical disc appended to this report as Enclosure (A).

3. HT3 GILLESPIE identified himself as a former romantic partner and friend to [redacted V/A.R.]. HT3 GILLESPIE and [redacted V/A.R.] dated for approximately five months in 2024, with their relationship ending in approximately Nov24. HT3 GILLESPIE identified ET3 Daniel David RICH Jr., USN, DDG 95, as the individual who dated [redacted V/A.R.] after him. HT3 RICH could not provide information regarding precisely how much time elapsed between the end of his romantic relationship with [redacted V/A.R.] and the beginning of her romantic relationship with ET3 RICH but noted that their relationship had also ended prior to [redacted V/A.R.]'s disappearance. HT3 GILLESPIE reported that despite [redacted V/A.R.]'s romantic entanglement with ET3 RICH, he had engaged in intimate acts with her on at least two occasions since the end of their relationship, in or around Feb25 and in May25.

4. HT3 GILLESPIE last interacted with [redacted V/A.R.] in person on Wednesday morning, 28May25, at work aboard DDG 95. HT3 GILLESPIE admitted that the conversation with [redacted V/A.R.] became contentious, as he raised the topic of [redacted V/A.R.] returning a motorcycle helmet he previously gave to her. HT3 GILLESPIE noted there were specific care instructions for motorcycle helmets, and [redacted V/A.R.] did not ride independent of their rides together, nor did she own a motorcycle herself. [redacted V/A.R.] expressed frustration with HT3 GILLESPIE's request, and HT3 GILLESPIE withdrew the specific request for the helmet but continued to discuss the logistics of retrieving other items belonging to him from [redacted V/A.R.]'s barracks.

5. HT3 GILLESPIE next interacted with [redacted V/A.R.] during the late afternoon or evening of Wednesday, 28May25, via telephone. HT3 GILLESPIE reported [redacted V/A.R.] called him, and they spoke cordially about how the remainder of

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her day went. According to HT3 GILLESPIE, V/A.R. informed him that she had a very good day, and that she had gone to Target with CSSN Gladis GARCIABARRERA, USN, DDG 95 for a shopping trip after work. HT3 GILLESPIE noted that V/A.R. had communicated with him in this manner while they dated, as she enjoyed having someone to discuss her activities with.

6. HT3 GILLESPIE reported he had duty onboard DDG 95 during the night of 28-29May25, including a specific watch shift in the later hours of the night and early morning. HT3 GILLESPIE reported receiving a text message reading "Fuck you" from V/A.R. sometime within the 2300-0000 hours timeframe. HT3 GILLESPIE was unsure of the specific time V/A.R. sent the message, as he only received it upon returning to the upper decks of DDG 95 from conducting watch on the lower levels of the ship where he did not receive cell signal.

7. Upon receiving the message, HT3 GILLESPIE became confused and subsequently concerned about V/A.R.'s well-being. The discrepancy between their earlier telephonic conversation and the text message was jarring, and HT3 GILLESPIE became concerned V/A.R. may be experiencing what he referred to as "an episode." HT3 GILLESPIE elaborated that V/A.R. suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS), associated with sexual abuse she suffered from a relative. HT3 GILLESPIE explained obliquely that he and V/A.R. had dealt with similar traumatic events in the past, and their shared experiences drew them together and helped them support one another. HT3 GILLESPIE began attempting to call and text V/A.R. multiple times, without success. HT3 GILLESPIE reported that at some point, exact time not recalled, he noticed an iPhone notification indicating V/A.R. had placed her phone on "Do Not Disturb" mode.

8. Between 0100-0200 hours on 29May25, HT3 GILLESPIE attempted to call ET3 RICH to enlist his assistance in reaching out to V/A.R. and ensure her safety. HT3 GILLESPIE explained that ET3 RICH would also be aware of the occasional severity of V/A.R.'s "episodes" and could take appropriate action while HT3 GILLESPIE was stuck on duty aboard the ship; however, ET3 RICH did not answer HT3 GILLESPIE's phone calls.

9. HT3 GILLESPIE reported that sometime around after 0300 hours, exact time not recalled, he was able to depart duty to begin looking for V/A.R. himself. HT3 GILLESPIE had historically shared his own location with V/A.R. via the iPhone's "Find My" application and been able to observe V/A.R.'s location, as well. After receiving V/A.R.'s text message, HT3 GILLESPIE had opened the "Find My" application, and noted V/A.R.'s cell phone was in vicinity of "X2." As a note, X2 is also identifiable as Willis Manor, a barracks located onboard Norfolk Naval Station at 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511. By the time HT3 GILLESPIE departed the ship, he no longer had access to V/A.R.'s location but traveled to X2 as her last known location.

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **08JUN25**

10. Upon arriving to the X2 barracks, HT3 GILLESPIE learned from the front desk workers that he was not the only individual who had recently asked about V/A.R. ; ET3 RICH had been at X2 earlier. HT3 GILLESPIE and ET3 RICH met at the X2 barracks shortly thereafter to search together. ET3 RICH had enlisted the assistance of Masters-at-Arms (MAs) from base police, and accompanied them to Miller Hall, V/A.R. 's assigned barracks, to look for her in her room. HT3 GILLESPIE stayed at X2 and was joined by other MAs to continue searching for V/A.R. there.

11. HT3 GILLESPIE learned from CSSN GARCIABARRERA, at a time not specifically recalled or reported, that V/A.R. had intended to spend the evening of 28May25 hanging out with S/COPELAND, a fellow culinary specialist from DDG95. HT3 GILLESPIE indicated that he reported this information to the MAs, who attempted to locate V/A.R. and S/COPELAND in a room identified by a Resident Assistant (RA), not further identified, as assigned to S/COPELAND. HT3 GILLESPIE accompanied the MAs and an RA to a barracks room located on the second deck of X2 but did not find V/A.R. or S/COPELAND. HT3 GILLESPIE noted the barracks suite inspected by the MAs and RA was empty, clean, and seemed largely uninhabited. As a note, S/COPELAND's actual barracks room was located on the third deck of the X2 building.

12. HT3 GILLESPIE noted his calls and texts to V/A.R. 's cell phone stopped being delivered at approximately 0430 hours on 29May25. HT3 GILLESPIE believed V/A.R. 's cell phone battery may have died, or the phone was turned off, at this time. HT3 GILLESPIE had to suspend his search for V/A.R. sometime between 0600 and 0700 hours, as he had a scheduled dental appointment at approximately 0800 hours. HT3 GILLESPIE provided information to ET3 RICH indicating MAs had entered S/COPELAND's barracks room and failed to find either S/COPELAND or V/A.R. .

13.HT3 GILLESPIE reported having no further contact with V/A.R. after her phone died. HT3 GILLESPIE, ET3 RICH, and CSSN GARCIABARRERA continued to communicate with one another about her disappearance and were unconvinced by the DDG 95 Command report indicating that V/A.R. had been found and was safe on 29May25. HT3 GILLESPIE noted that S/COPELAND was the last person seen with V/A.R. and was therefore the individual that most likely knew what happened to V/A.R. .

14. On Sunday, 01Jun25, HT3 GILLESPIE confronted S/COPELAND aboard DDG 95 and surreptitiously recorded the interaction with his iPhone. HT3 GILLESPIE showed RA and PI the video and provided a copy to PI. In that recorded interaction, S/COPELAND appeared to identify himself as the individual who asked ET3 RICH how long it would take for him to arrive when V/A.R. called ET3 RICH at 0214 hours on 29May25. S/COPELAND claimed that V/A.R. stayed with him after that phone call before leaving later that morning. HT3 GILLESPIE challenged S/COPELAND, informing him that he'd entered a room

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **08JUN25**

believed to be S/COPELAND's looking for V/A.R. at which point it becomes clear that HT3 GILLESPIE and the MAs entered a room on the incorrect floor. S/COPELAND then claimed that following a visit to his room by an unidentified "Chief" he had "dropped her off" outside her building. S/COPELAND told HT3 GILLESPIE that she, V/A.R., "was tripping" and crying while they were together. S/COPELAND also claimed that V/A.R. had begun consuming alcohol before he arrived, and that all he consumed was a "Buzzball or two."

15. HT3 GILLESPIE signed Permissive Authorizations for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cell phone, an iPhone XR with serial number DX3FJFRQKXKN, his car, a blue 2004 Ford Mustang with Virginia license plate PII, his motorcycle, a Kawasaki Z650 with North Carolina license plate PII. The signed PASS forms for the execution of those searches are documented in separate reports. HT3 GILLESPIE noted that he had a fellow USN member friend staying with him at his barracks and therefore declined to immediately provide a PASS for his barracks. HT3 GILLESPIE noted he remained willing to permit a search of his barracks at a later time.

16. HT3 GILLESPIE signed a PASS for his Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA), via buccal swap, which was executed following his interview; Enclosure (B) pertains. The DNA swabs were collected and placed into evidence under ECD #HA9UT and item #455TC.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING RECORDED INTERVIEW OF HT3 GILLESPIE/08JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE/08JUN25

REPORTED BY: DEVIN RUIC, Special Agent
OFFICE: OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE REGARDING HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE'S IPHONE

1. On 03JUN25, HT3 Micheal GILLESPIE, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) authorized the search of his personally owned Apple iPhone XR, Serial Number # DX3FJFRQKXKN, by signing a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS); Enclosure (A) pertains. Subsequently, on 03JUN25, HT3 GILLISPIE's cellular device was manually reviewed and revealed the following pertinent information:

2. Text Messages:
-Numerous text messages between HT3 GILLESPIE and contact [redacted V/A.R.] with telephone number [redacted PII] 0672. The messages beginning on 27MAY25 appear to show plans of HT3 GILLESPIE responding to the residence of [redacted V/A.R.] and retrieving clothing and a helmet. The last message sent from [redacted V/A.R.] is on "Wednesday" at 23:22 hours. HT3 GILLESPIE continues to send numerous texts but receives no response.

3. Phone Calls:
-HT3 GILLESPIE appears to miss a Facetime Audio call from [redacted V/A.R.] on "Wednesday". HT3 GILLESPIE makes numerous calls to [redacted V/A.R.] following the missed call.

4. Video Recorded Interaction
-HT3 GILLESPIE sent a video recorded interaction between him and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95. HT3 GILLESPIE reported this interaction was recorded without S/COPELAND's knowledge. The video's metadata indicates it was created on 01JUL25 at approximately 2004 hours. In the video, you can see S/COPELAND's nametag. S/COPELAND indicates [redacted V/A.R.] [redacted V/A.R.], USN, DDG 95 stayed overnight in his room and left the following morning. S/COPELAND stated "chief" walked in his room and instructed S/COPELAND to drop [redacted V/A.R.] off at her room. S/COPELAND advised he dropped her off at her building at approximately 1300 hours, however, she walked towards the front or side of the building. S/COPELAND advised while [redacted V/A.R.] was in his room the night prior, she was "tripping" and described a moment wherein [redacted V/A.R.] called someone she used to talk to in Texas and indicated he did "things" to her and questioned why he did those "things". S/COPELAND stated his roommates were also home in their rooms at the time and he and [redacted V/A.R.] were in the living room. S/COPELAND stated [redacted V/A.R.] consumed alcohol prior to them meeting and he only consumed approximately two (2) cups of "Buzzball". S/COPELAND stated when [redacted V/A.R.] was crying, one of the aforenoted roommates came in and asked if everything was ok.

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

S/COPELAND advised he didn't answer his phone because it was set to "Do Not Disturb".

5. Internet Searches
-RA reviewed the search history of HT3 GILLESPIE. RA observed the "Private Tab" of the Safari Application. There was no observable search history.

6. A total of 25 digital photograph screenshots and one (1) video depicting an interaction between HT3 GILLESPIE and S/COPELAND was captured via Airdrop. All photographs and videos were placed on a DVD-R; Enclosure (B) pertains. Five (5) photographs were appended to a NCIS Photo Template; Enclosure (C) pertains.

7. Nothing further to report.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE REGARDING HT3 GILLESPIE'S PHONE/03JUN25
(B) DVD-R CONTAINING 25 PHOTOGRAPHS AND ONE VIDEO FROM HT3 GILLESPIE'S CELLULAR DEVICE/03JUN25
(C) NCIS PHOTO TEMPLATE CONTAINING FIVE (5) PHOTOGRPAHS/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: NIGAL M TUFT-WILLIAMS, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Date : 03JUN25

I, MICHAEL GILLESPIE, after being advised by SPECIAL AGENT NIGAL TEAT-WILCOX that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into MISSING PERSONS CASE, have been requested to permit a search of my IPHONE XR BLACK.

I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made.

This search may be conducted on 03JUN25 by NCIS, and I hereby give my permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes.

I make this decision freely and voluntarily, and it is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to me.

[redacted] Signed: [redacted] 1544 03JUN25

Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

SA C. Weaver [redacted]

Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Command Representative

TIMES OF SEARCH

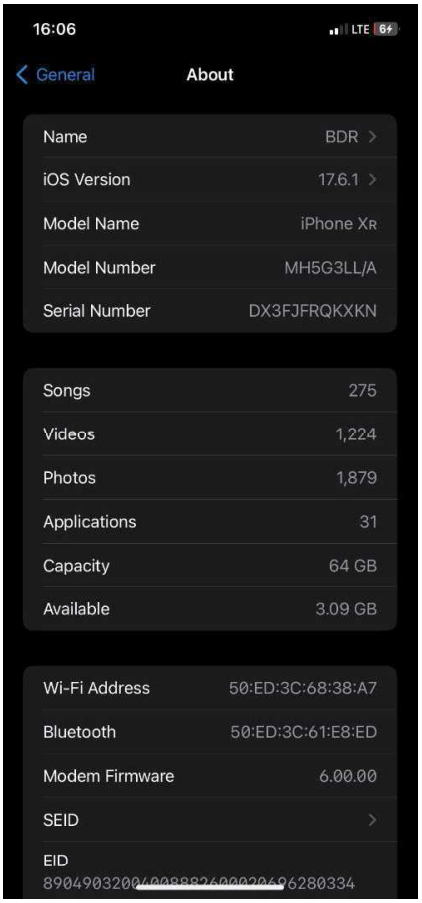
Start : 03JUN25 1547 hours

End : 03JUN25 1616 hours

NCIS 5580/21 (Rev. 7-2021)

ENCLOSURE A

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNV

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
PHOTOGRAPH SCREENSHOTS RECEIVED FROM HT3 GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS 03JUN25**

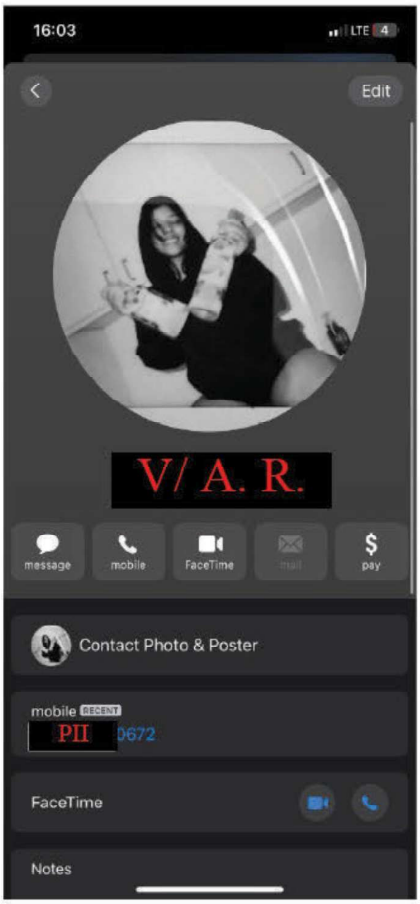
NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (1) OF (5)

ENCLOSURE (C)

000247_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	NM TUFT-WILLIAMS

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
PHOTOGRAPH SCREENSHOTS RECEIVED FROM HT3 GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25	NM TUFT-WILLIAMS 03JUN25

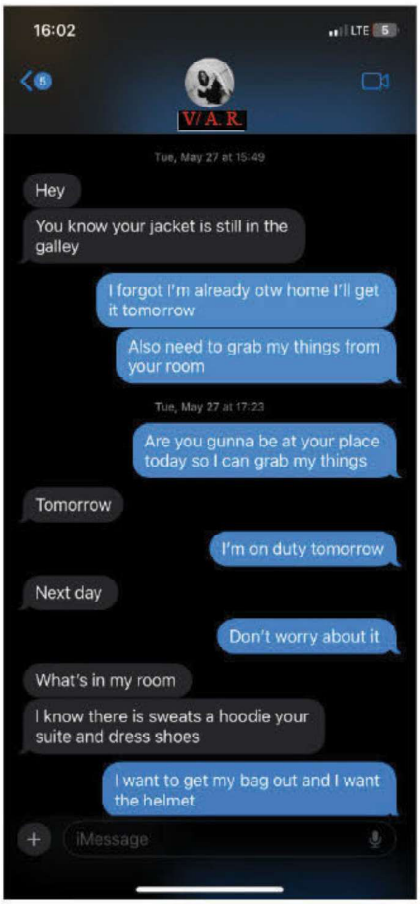
NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (2) OF (5)

ENCLOSURE (C)

000248_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
PHOTOGRAPH SCREENSHOTS RECEIVED FROM HT3 GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS 03JUN25**

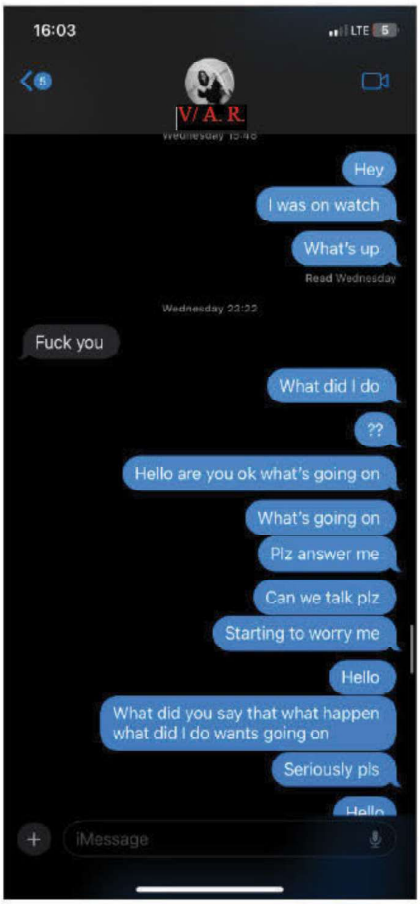
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PHOTOGRAPH (3) OF (5)

ENCLOSURE (C)

000249_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
PHOTOGRAPH SCREENSHOTS RECEIVED FROM HT3 GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS 03JUN25**

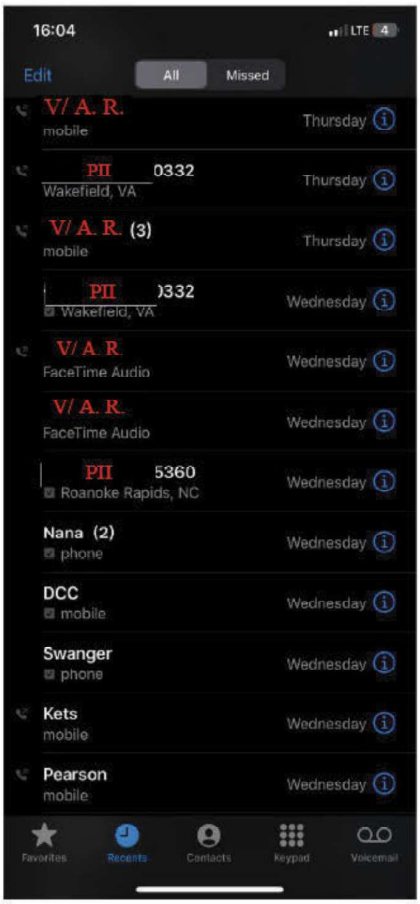
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PHOTOGRAPH (4) OF (5)

ENCLOSURE (C)

000250_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	NM TUFT-WILLIAMS

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
PHOTOGRAPH SCREENSHOTS RECEIVED FROM HT3 GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25	NM TUFT-WILLIAMS 03JUN25

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (5) OF (5)
000251_COPELAND

ENCLOSURE (C)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 07JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN

1. On 07JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Devin RUIC conducted an interview of ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), regarding the captioned investigation involving [redacted V/A.R.], USN, DDG-95, and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95.

2. RA recorded the interview of ET3 RICH using an audio/visual recording system, and RA downloaded a digital copy onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. ET3 RICH stated he first met [redacted V/A.R.] circa SEP24 when he went "cranking" to assist the Culinary Specialists aboard DDG-95. The term "cranking" was used to describe a temporary duty unrelated to ET3 RICH's traditionally rated duties.

4. ET3 RICH stated [redacted V/A.R.] would have days where she had "little panic attacks" and would want to go for a drive to Virginia Beach or to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. ET3 RICH recalled [redacted V/A.R.] would sometimes start having "panic attacks" when they would consume alcohol. [redacted V/A.R.] would talk about her father, who was in prison, and would become concerned for her own safety when discussing his future release from prison. ET3 RICH believed [redacted V/A.R.]'s father was in prison because [redacted V/A.R.] "reported him," and believed her father had forced her to take drugs and "forced himself" on her. ET3 RICH indicated [redacted V/A.R.] claimed her father intended to "find her" upon his release from prison.

5. ET3 RICH stated there are certain "cues" with [redacted V/A.R.] that resulted with "panic attacks" in the past. ET3 RICH clarified [redacted V/A.R.] often displayed these cues during the "build-up to sex." ET3 RICH stated if [redacted V/A.R.] was not "feeling it" and sexual contact continued, [redacted V/A.R.] would have a "meltdown." ET3 RICH stated he had an experience with [redacted V/A.R.] where she "pushed away" and locked herself in the bathroom. ET3 RICH explained that during this incident, both he and [redacted V/A.R.] had still been clothed, but had begun to engage in an intimate act. ET3 RICH recalled having to "talk her down" through a bathroom door in hopes of calming her down. ET3 RICH relayed another incident when they were talking about [redacted V/A.R.]'s father, wherein she ran out of his room, and he looked for her for 30 minutes until she came back.

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6. ET3 RICH relayed V/A.R. was in a relationship with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, until DEC24. ET3 RICH stated a lot of V/A.R. 's belongings were in HT3 GILLESPIE's room while they were dating. After V/A.R. and HT3 GILLESPIE broke up, ET3 RICH helped V/A.R. move her stuff out of HT3 GILLESPIE's room. ET3 RICH relayed he started dating V/A.R. circa DEC24 and believed they broke up circa MAY25. ET3 RICH stated while he was in a relationship with V/A.R., they would primarily sleep in his room. ET3 RICH stated he and V/A.R. broke up because she was "going through some stuff" and wanted to "work on herself."

7. ET3 RICH relayed on 29MAY25, he received a call from V/A.R. at 0214 hours local time and she was "freaking out" and requested a "pick-up ASAP." ET3 RICH remembered V/A.R. was crying and having a "meltdown." ET3 RICH recalled hearing "car noises" and believed V/A.R. may have been outside. V/A.R. passed the phone to another individual who ET3 RICH later "found out" was S/COPELAND. ET3 RICH relayed the person V/A.R. passed the phone to asked how long it would take for ET3 RICH to arrive, to which ET3 RICH responded he was about ten to fifteen minutes away. ET3 RICH relayed he went through the gate to Norfolk Naval Station at 0228 hours and attempted to call V/ V/A.R. multiple times, but she did not pick up. ET3 RICH checked V/A.R. 's location and saw that it was outside of the "X2 building" near the rounded driveway drop off area located in front of the building. As a note, the X2 building is also identifiable as Willis Manor, a barracks located onboard Norfolk Naval Station at 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511. ET3 RICH stated V/A.R. was not there, and her phone was not there, and he started "freaking out a little bit." ET3 RICH showed pictures of V/A.R. to people working at the front desk of X2, not further identified by ET3 RICH, but they were unsure if they recognized seeing her. ET3 RICH checked the front area of X2 to see if he could see her phone in the grass and did not find it. ET3 RICH went back inside X2; the individuals working the front desk suggested he call his command and the local precinct on base to report his concerns.

8. ET3 RICH attempted to call the base police office, but did not receive a response. ET3 RICH drove to base police and notified them of the situation. ET3 RICH estimated he called HT3 GILLESPIE around 0300 hours while he was with base police and HT3 GILLESPIE joined him at X2 around 0430 hours to help look for V/A.R. . ET3 RICH added HT3 GILLESPIE called him earlier on 29MAY25 at 0120 and 0143 hours, but he was asleep and missed the calls. ET3 RICH did not know why HT3 GILLESPIE called him that morning, but presumed it had to do with HT3 GILLESPIE's own concern for V/A.R. . ET3 RICH stated HT3 GILLESPIE was coming off duty from the ship that morning. ET3 RICH remembered he had to end the call with HT3 GILLESPIE because his Command Duty Officer (CDO) was calling him back.

9. ET3 RICH believed V/A.R. 's phone died around 0430 hours on 29MAY25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **07JUN25**

due to her phone's location no longer saying "Live" and instead showing "Last Location" in his iPhone's "Find My" application.

10. Around 0500 hours, HT3 GILLESPIE stayed at X2 to continue looking for V/A.R. and ET3 RICH drove to V/A.R.'s barracks at Miller Hall, accompanied by two Masters-at-Arms (MAs) and waited for the Resident Advisors (RA) to arrive and unlock her door. ET3 RICH relayed the MAs accessed V/A.R.'s room around 0630 hours, but V/A.R. was not there. ET3 RICH stated the MAs did not permit him to go into her room but he peeked his head in and noticed the room looked like a photo or video of a "Fit Check" V/A.R. sent to her friend CSSN Gladys GARCIABARRERA, USN, DDG-95 on 28MAY25. ET3 RICH noticed the only thing that appeared missing was her backpack. ET3 RICH remembered HT3 GILLESPIE met him at Miller Hall to assist in searching. ET3 RICH remembered going back to X2 with HT3 GILLESPIE after searching Miller Hall. ET3 RICH estimated he concluded his search and left base to go to work around 0730 hours.

11. ET3 RICH stated HT3 GILLESPIE called him between 0800 and 0900 hours on 29MAY25 and told ET3 RICH he had checked S/COPELAND's room and did not see V/A.R. and S/COPELAND in the room. ET3 RICH recalled hearing from HT3 GILLESPIE that "the bed was made" and nothing looked "messed up." ET3 RICH believed it was possible HT3 GILLESPIE found out V/A.R. was with S/COPELAND from CSSN GARCIABARRERA.

12. ET3 RICH recalled there was an "All Hands Call" around 1000 hours on 29MAY25 and remembered a Chief pulled him aside and told him V/A.R. was found with S/COPELAND in S/COPELAND's room and that he could "relax." ET3 RICH learned FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, was the person who found S/COPELAND and V/A.R. and messaged him via "GroupMe." FCC PARKER told him V/A.R. was "ok and safe" and affirmed he had seen V/A.R. that day.

13. ET3 RICH stated he recently attempted to find V/A.R.'s location on the morning of 07JUN25 as well as when he was at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) on 06JUN25. ET3 RICH stated ETC Donald ACKLEY, USN, DDG-95 escorted him to NMCP for a Command Referral to Behavioral Health. ET3 RICH relayed he attempted to sign into V/A.R.'s Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) account and her email account a few times on 03JUN25 or 04JUN25 on his laptop and desktop while at his barracks; ET3 RICH explained he had attempted to login to V/A.R.'s accounts using saved passwords, as V/A.R. previously borrowed and used the laptop. ET3 RICH further explained he had attempted the logins on both the barracks-wide Wi-Fi network, and on his own Wi-Fi network later in his room.

14. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for the collection of his DNA via buccal swabs; Enclosure (B) pertains. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure of his MSI brand

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **07JUN25**

Laptop, SN: K2309N0254935, documented in a separate report; Enclosure (C) pertains. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for his Apple iPhone 14 Pro, SN: M1YXLVYPWD, documented in a separate report; Enclosure (D) pertains.

15. Subsequent to the completion of this interview, PA accompanied ET3 RICH to his barracks room to facilitate the execution of the signed PASS. During that search, NCIS personnel identified instructional paperwork associated with pregnancy tests in his room. ET3 RICH explained that in approximately MAR25, exact date not recalled, he and V/A.R. had engaged in unprotected sex after consuming alcohol and afterward ET3 RICH could not recall whether he "pulled out" to avoid ejaculating in V/A.R.. ET3 RICH and V/A.R. acquired multiple pregnancy tests from a local CVS, located in the vicinity of the Old Dominion University Campus, and waited approximately two weeks before conducting the tests. ET3 RICH reported that the test results were negative, indicating V/A.R. had not become pregnant from the incident.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

DOD ID: PII
DOB: PII
PHONE NUMBER: PII

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/07JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE FOR DNA BUCCAL SWABS FROM ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/07JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF ET3 DANIEL RICH'S MSI BRAND LAPTOP SN: K2309N0254935/07JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF ET3 DANIEL RICH'S APPLE IPHONE 14 PRO SN: M1YXLVYPWD, USN/07JUN25

REPORTED BY: CORRIE FYLE, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**R.C.M. 701(a) DISCLOSURE**

On 5 September 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, in the presence of Ms. Marie Rendell and Special Agent Jessica Gokey, NCIS, at RLSO MIDLANT. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

ET3 Rich received a call from CS3 A.R. at 0214 on 29 May 2025 that woke him up. He stated she sounded was like she was having a panic attack. She was frantic and crying. She kept repeatedly stating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible. At some point, a male who he later assumed to be CSSN Copeland, took the phone and asked how far away he was. It was not clear if the phone was passed to him or taken from her. ET3 Rich told the male that he would be there in about 10 minutes. The male replied "all right" and CS3 A.R. was then put back on the phone. She continued to be frantic and repeatedly stated she needed to be picked up. She also told ET3 Rich that she loved him. ET3 Rich hung up after telling her he was on the way.

While the male was on the phone with ET3 Rich, his tone was frantic as well, although not as frantic as CS3 A.R.

CS3 A.R. has had panic attacks in ET3 Rich's presence before. ET3 Rich opined that one possible trigger for her panic attacks would be a sexual advance.

ET3 Rich stated he had previously speculated that CS3 A.R. was outside based solely on the location of her phone according to her shared location. He advised he only believed that he heard car noises in the background because of that belief and that the background noise he heard could very well have been something else.

ET3 Rich also advised he had learned only after speaking with CS3 A.R.'s roommate later on that CS3 A.R. had lost her room key. He did not recall CS3 A.R. mentioning anything to him about having lost her room key or being locked out of her room on the phone call. He only recalled her repeatedly stating that she needed to be picked up.

A separate investigative action of this conversation will not be documented by NCIS.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[PII]

RESULTS OF 18 USC 2703(D) ORDER AND SEARCH WARRANT TO T-MOBILE FOR
[V/A.R.]

1. On 04JUN25, LCDR Paul S. LAPLANTE, USN, Military Judge, signed a Court Order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2703(d) to T-Mobile for telephone number [PII]-0672 for telephone records pertaining to [V/A.R.], USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). Additionally, on 04JUN25, NCIS requested T-Mobile records pertaining to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, under exigent circumstances.

2. On 04JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) served the Court Order T-Mobile; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. On 05JUN25, RA submitted an Exigent request form to T-Mobile for telephone number [PII]-0672; Enclosure (B) pertains. Additionally, on the same day, RA submitted a Search Warrant to T-Mobile; Enclosure (C) pertains.

4. On 05JUN25, T-Mobile provided the records pertaining to telephone number [PII]-0672. A review of the T-Mobile subscriber information revealed the account belongs to [V/A.R.] with an address of [PII], [PII]. The account is currently active and the service start date was 02MAY24.

5. T-Mobile provided timing advances with device location, CDR mediations, and data sessions. A review of the records revealed [V/A.R.] has an Apple iPhone 15 pro max. The last timing advance for the Apple iPhone 15 pro max was on 28MAY25 at 2323 EST hours. The last data session was on 29MAY25 at 0456 EST hours. The last cell tower communication was on 29MAY25 at 0455 EST hours.

6. Prior to the last cell tower communication, [V/A.R.] made calls to the following telephone numbers: [PII]-9482, [PII]-1144, and [PII]-3074. Telephone calls to and from telephone number [PII]-9482 occurred on 29MAY25 between 0009 EST hours and continued beyond her last cell tower communication for a total of approximately 189 times. Telephone calls to and from telephone number [PII]-1144 occurred on 29MAY25 between 0214 EST hours and beyond her last cell tower communication for a total of approximately 26 times. Telephone calls to [PII]-3074 occurred on 29MAY25 between 0359 EST hours and 0402 EST hours for approximately 3 times.

7. The results of the search warrant revealed the information provided

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **05JUN25**

pursuant to the Exigent request.

8. A copy of the results were placed on a CD-R and is appended as Enclosure (D).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) SIGNED 18 USC 2703(D) ORDER TO T-MOBILE FOR
V/A.R. /04JUN25
(B) EXIGENT REQUEST FORM TO T-MOBILE/04JUN25
(C) SIGNED SEARCH WARRANT TO T-MOBILE FOR V/A.R. /05JUN25
(D) CD-R: 18 USC 2703(D) RESULTS FROM T-MOBILE FOR
V/A.R. /05JUN25

REPORTED BY: TIFFANY L MARTINEZ, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 2 LAST DO V2 LNN

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SUMMARY

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, Supervisory Digital Forensic Examiner (SDFE) John DAVISON, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic examination based on a verbal request on 04Jun25, and a written request dated 17Jun25, from Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, NCISRA Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of the following device based on the request:

a. iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

2. The case agent request specified the analysis of the following specific activity
   a. Conduct a digital forensic examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

3. The examination of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND disclosed the artifacts:
   a. Communications from a phone number and social media accounts identified as belonging V/ A. R.
   b. Geolocation data from 28May25 to 02Jun25, to include location where the remains of V/ A. R. were recovered.
   c. Route traveled on 02Jun25, by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to location where the remains of V/ A. R. were recovered.
   e. Screenshots of marked location from 02Jun25, near location where the remains of V/ A. R. were recovered.
   d. Three large thumbnails of images of S/COPELAND with a black luggage
   d. Text messages and phone calls from 28May25 to 03Jun25.
   e. Timeline analysis for 29May25
   f. Voicemails and audio recordings
   g. Google searches conducted by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND
   h. Contact information
   i. User Account information

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SEARCH AUTHORIZATION

1. On 04Jun25, Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) executed by S/COPELAND, dated 04Jun25.

Click for a copy of the PASS.

1. Between 05Jun25 and 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

1. Between 10Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 10Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

EVIDENCE

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 for examination from SA Caroline ROBINSON, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

2. DFE BUSH copied the GrayKey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to a Seagate hard drive with serial number Z9A4RSFN. On 12Jun25, DFE BUSH enter the hard drive into evidence under NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO K8J9D Item 8JY7H to the Temporary Evidence Locker, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

FORENSIC ACQUISITION AND VERIFICATION

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained a full file system extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Graykey Extraction Tool OS version 1.26.3.31482045, App Bundle: 6.3.1.31921520. SA ROBINSON provided DFE BUSH the Personal Identification Number (PIN) 980377 to access the device. The device was isolated from network connectivity via airplane mode and could not be write-protected due to established forensic processes. The digital forensic extraction was verified through established forensic processes.

WORKING COPY

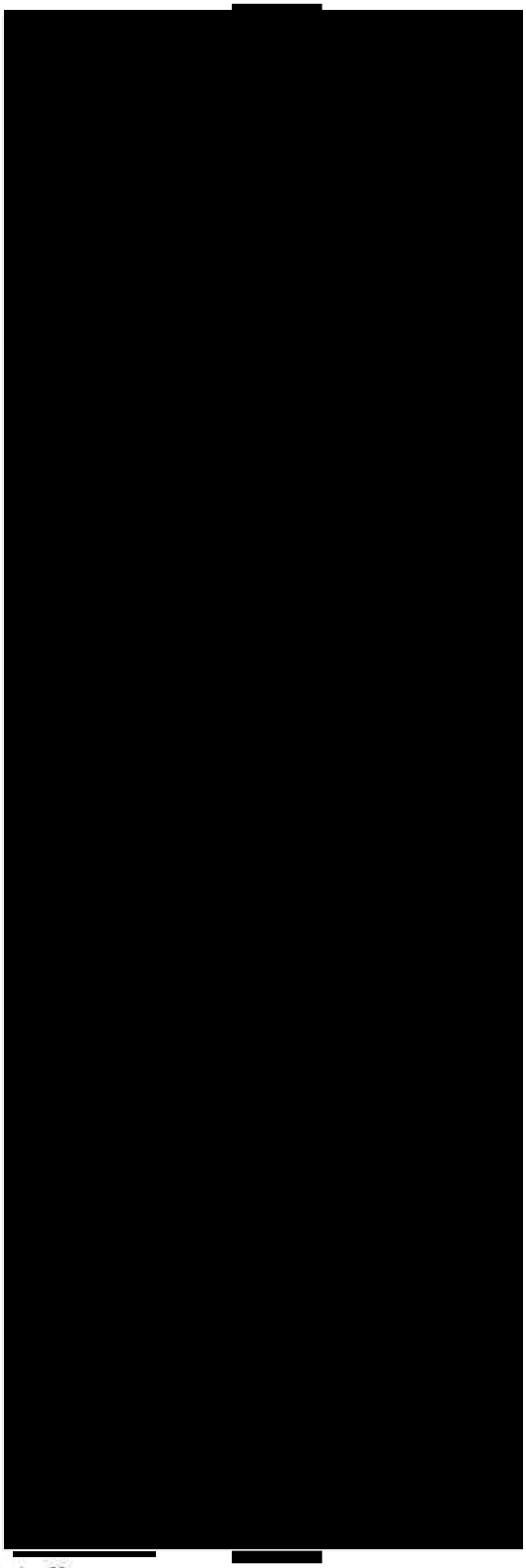
1. On 05Jun25, SDFE DAVISON obtained a working copy of the Graykey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND from DFE BUSH for examination.

EXAMINATION DETAILS

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of an iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using Magnet Axiom Version 9.2.1.44383, Magnet Axiom Version 9.4.1.45125, Cellebrite Inseyets Physical Analyzer version 10.5.0.1027, and ILEAPP version 2.2.0. The Apple ID associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max listed as [redacted]and the Directory Services Identifier (DSID) listed as 17163425203. A DSID is a unique numerical value associated with an Apple ID account to ensure each account has a unique number in case a user changes an email address associated with an Apple account. The phone number associated with device is [redacted]PII-4307 and the device phone name is listed as "Jermiah's iPhone." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot from the device information displayed in Axiom and took a screenshot of the Graykey Extraction report.

EVIDENCE SOURCE DETAILS

IMEI(s)	351581978522229, 351581978648941
Device Name	Jermiah's iPhone
Display Name	Jermiah's iPhone
ICCID	89012807331823007607
IMSI	310280182305102
Advertising ID	228E0C78-ADDA-42BC-8491-438E690FBEAF
Location Services Enabled	True
Last Cloud Backup Date/Time	5/26/2025 3:18:07.000 PM
OS Version	18.3.1
iCloud Account Present	Yes
Find My iPhone Enabled	Yes
AirDrop ID	fc14e3a2e3be
Timezone	America/New_York
MAC Addresses	CC:81:7D:85:0B:AD, CE:81:7D:88:F6:A5, CE:81:7D:88:F6:5A, 5A:12:30:7B:44:6C
Synced To iCloud	Yes
All Aliases	[redacted]
Selected Aliases	[redacted]
Blocked Users	[redacted]



SMS Forwarding Enabled	**Yes**
Device Phone Name	**Jermiah's iPhone**

Device Phone Number	[redacted]
Apple ID	[redacted]
DSID	11163425203
Model	D84AP
Setup Date	5/6/2025 8:50:54.000 AM
Setup Type	RestoredFromDevice
Source artifact	iOS Device Information
	iOS Messages Preferences
	Owner Information

GRAYSHIFT



GrayKey Progress Report

GrayKey Serial Number: d270b0d5d4a10614
GrayKey Software: OS Version: 1.26.3.31482045, App Bundle: 6.3.1.31921520
Report generation time: 2025-06-05 00:23:21 UTC

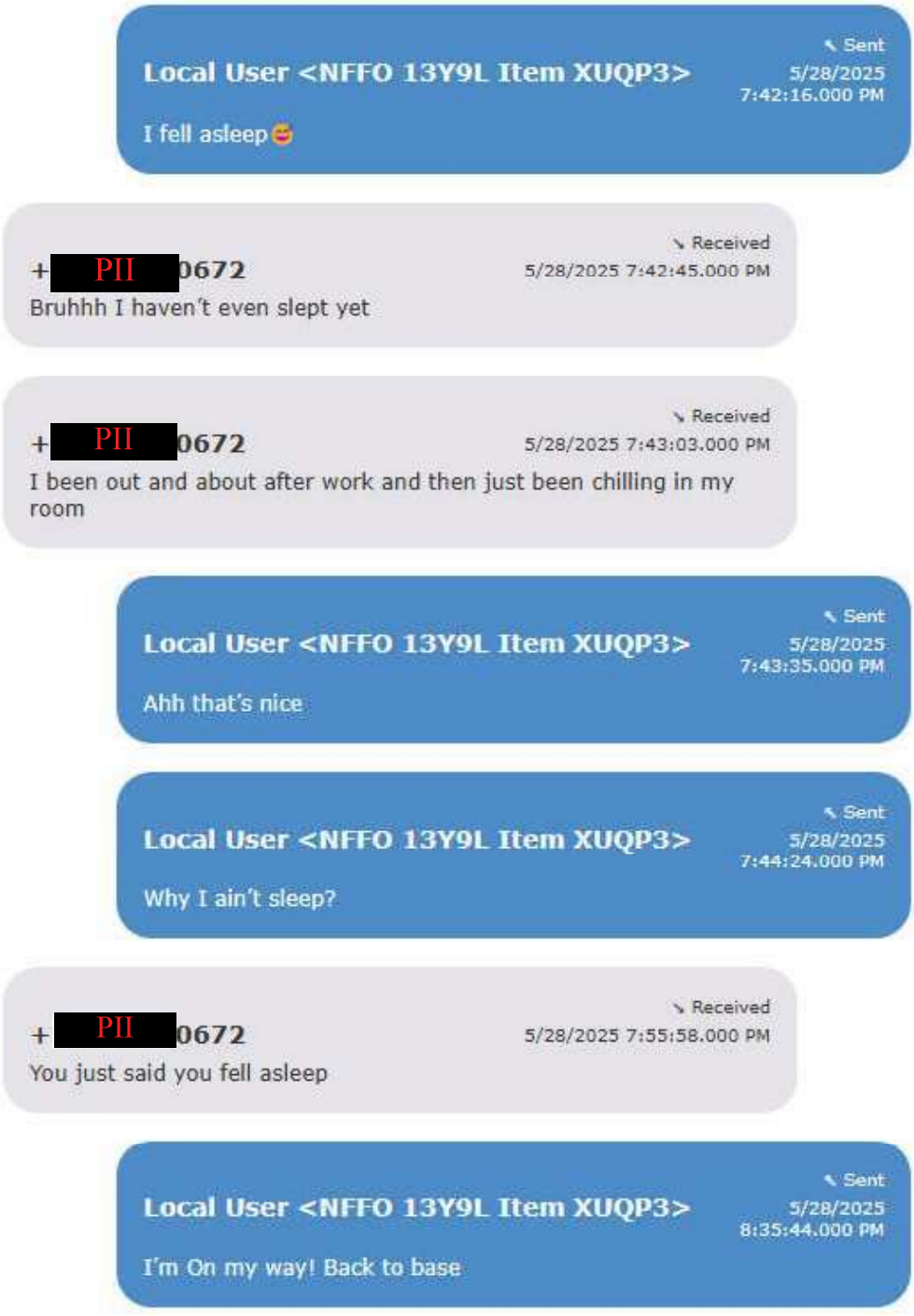
Target Device Information

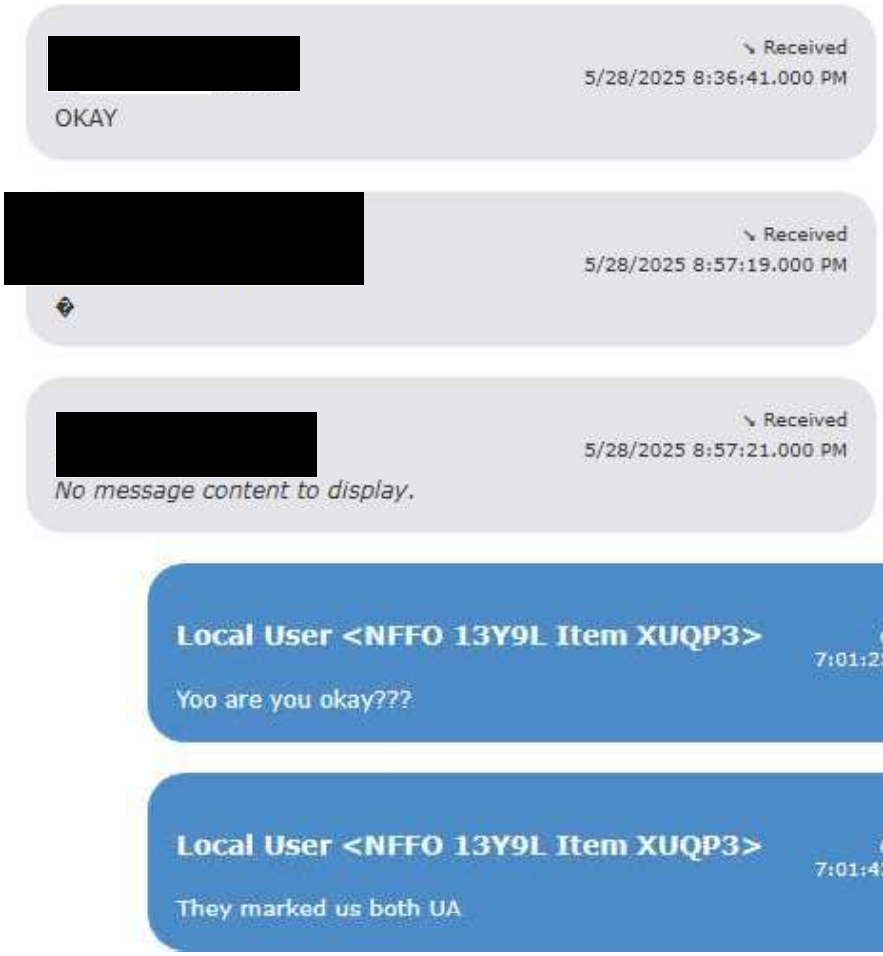
Device Name	Jermiahs iPhone
Software Version	18.3.1 [22D72]
Model	iPhone 15 Pro Max [iPhone16,2 D84AP]
Unique Device ID (UDID)	00008130-000658C23E43001C
Serial Number	R2C0VNLJQV
Unique Chip ID (ECID)	1786441151741980
WiFi MAC Address	cc:81:7d:85:0b:ad
Bluetooth MAC Address	cc:81:7d:89:15:a5
Phone Number	[redacted]
IMEI	351581978522229
IMEI(2)	351581978648941
Data Partition Size	207.48GB (207481585664 bytes)
Last Lock State	Unlocked
Graykey Agent Version	6.3.1
Backup State	iCloud Backup, Last Backup Date: 2025-05-26 19:18:07 UTC
Owner Name	Jermiah Copeland
Accounts	[redacted]

COMMUNICATIONS WITH V/ A. R. CELLULAR PHONE

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted the entire text history between the user of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -0672 identified as belonging V/ A. R. The text history starts on 24Feb25 with the last text sent by the user of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND on 01Jun25, at 7:01:42 PM. The text messages sent by iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND on 01Jun25, were not received nor read by the user of the cellular phone belonging V/ A. R. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots displayed in Axiom that are excerpts from the entire text history.


Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:34:27.000 PM
You on base still??
+ PII 0672
Received
5/28/2025 7:36:39.000 PM
Yeah why what's up are you okay
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:38:05.000 PM
Yeah you told me to tell you if I'm still making tacos
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:38:10.000 PM
I got home
+ PII 0672
Received
5/28/2025 7:39:29.000 PM
Are you still gonna make tacos
+ PII 672
Received
5/28/2025 7:39:37.000 PM
And why the fuck you just now getting home
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:42:01.000 PM
Yeahh


Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:42:16.000 PM
I fell asleep
+ PII 0672
Received
5/28/2025 7:42:45.000 PM
Bruhhh I haven't even slept yet
+ PII 0672
Received
5/28/2025 7:43:03.000 PM
I been out and about after work and then just been chilling in my room
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:43:35.000 PM
Ahh that's nice
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
7:44:24.000 PM
Why I ain't sleep?
+ PII 0672
Received
5/28/2025 7:55:58.000 PM
You just said you fell asleep
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/28/2025
8:35:44.000 PM
I'm On my way! Back to base



Recipient(s)	Message Sent D...	Message	Status	Message Delivered...	Message Read Date...
[redacted]	6/1/2025 7:01:42.000 PM	They marked us both UA	Sent		
	6/1/2025 7:01:25.000 PM	Yoo are you okay???	Sent		
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>	5/28/2025 8:57:21.000 PM		Received		
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>	5/28/2025 8:57:19.000 PM	◆	Received and Read		5/28/2025 8:58:03.000 PM

Click to Review Text Messages

2. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted the entire call log history between the user of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number [redacted] dentified as belonging V/ A. R. The last successful phone call occurred on 28May25, at 8:56:42 PM, with a call duration of 11 minutes and 15 seconds. The two outgoing phone calls on 01Jun25, at 07:02 AM, are listed as answered for 5 and 6 seconds. SDFE DAVISON also noted this anomaly on other devices examined attempting to communicate to V/ A. R. cellular phone. However, T-Mobile cellular records confirmed V/ A. R. cellular phone was not

connected to the carrier's network at this time. Record number 7 and 8 should reflect unanswered. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

[redacted]

Direction	Call Type	Call Status	Call Date/Time	Call Duration
Outgoing	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	3/1/2025 3:45:04.234 PM	00:00:00
Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	3/1/2025 3:45:11.128 PM	00:00:00
Outgoing	FaceTime Video	Answered	3/1/2025 3:58:43.894 PM	00:01:10
Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	3/11/2025 10:41:28.777 AM	00:00:00
Outgoing	FaceTime Video	Answered	5/28/2025 7:44:51.109 PM	00:04:31
Outgoing	FaceTime Video	Answered	5/28/2025 8:56:42.788 PM	00:11:15
Outgoing	Phone	Answered	6/1/2025 7:02:00.058 PM	00:00:05
Outgoing	Phone	Answered	6/1/2025 7:02:10.058 PM	00:00:06
Outgoing	Phone	Unanswered	6/1/2025 7:03:14.727 PM	00:00:00
Outgoing	Phone	Unanswered	6/1/2025 7:03:38.875 PM	00:00:00

Click to Review Call Logs

3. The user of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save the name of the contact with phone numbe[redacted] in the address book. The InteractionC log recorded the first interaction with the phone number[redacted] on 24Feb25, and the last incoming successful communication on 28May25, at 8:57:21 PM. The examination revealed the last incoming successful interaction was a text message sent by the user of [redacted] V/ A. R. phone. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Identifier	+[redacted]0672
Display Name	+[redacted]0672
Created Date/Time	2/24/2025 8:11:43.744 AM
First Incoming Interaction Date/Time	2/24/2025 8:11:27.583 AM
Last Incoming Interaction Date/Time	5/28/2025 8:57:21.310 PM
First Outgoing Interaction Date/Time	3/1/2025 5:19:11.995 PM
Last Outgoing Interaction Date/Time	3/1/2025 7:07:46.795 PM
Incoming Interaction Count	40
Outgoing Interaction Count	4
Artifact type	InteractionC Contacts
Item ID	154062

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\People\interactionC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

4. The examination revealed the Snapchat user name “angelina244506” sent a friend request to the Snapchat account on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND on 28May25, at 11:51:08 PM. The Snapchat account associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND is listed with a Snapchat user name as “jermiah1738” with an email account registered as [redacted] and a display name listed as “Jermiah Copeland.” The file named EEE5B9FB-F794-EDF8-43EE-36009D03BC6F.png was the original Bitmoji or emoji image related to the Snapchat user name “angelina244506” in the Snapchat App when the friend request was sent. The file named EEE5B9FB-F794-EDF8-43EE-36009D03BC6F.png was created on the device at on 28May25, at 11:51:10 PM. A Bitmoji are customizable cartoon avatars that Snapchat users can create and link to their accounts. The user usually choses a "zipper mouth" pose or expression for their Bitmoji to convey that the user doesn't want to talk about something or that they are keeping a secret. The Snapchat user name “angelina244506” appears to change the account’s Bitmoji or emoji image to the file named ba84c31cd6397c15534c237a861d177d at 11:51:26.000 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

User Name	[redacted]
User ID	c3ea6d37-d840-46cc-9ea6-996c2d3a20bc
Contact Type	App Native
Artifact type	Snapchat Contacts
Item ID	1074513

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application\B55E0D41-55AC-4E93-BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A\Documents\user_scoped\4e34c043a66b30156d7eba488ec284b87b7c27c8c0cdec8fcbb8f248c47ad4bf\DocObjects\primary.docobjects
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Title	[redacted]
Body	wants to be your friend!
Recorded Date/Time	5/28/2025 11:51:08.966 PM
Notification Date/Time	5/28/2025 11:51:11.790 PM
GUID	AE6B28D1-5852-4025-862A-9C1E5161DF46
Bundle ID	com.toyopagroup.picaboo
Optional Text	2b6dc3ee-7e59-4b17-88df-2bed0542e97f
Artifact type	User Notification Events
Item ID	640753

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\DuetExpertCenter\streams\userNotificationEvents\local\768225069972772

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**EEE5B9FB-F794-EDF8-43EE-36009D03BC6F.png**
File Extension	**.png**
Created Date/Time	**5/28/2025 11:51:10.000 PM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**5/28/2025 11:51:10.000 PM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/28/2025 11:51:10.000 PM**
Size (Bytes)	**43,422**
Skin Tone Percentage	**20.3**
Original Width	**204**
Original Height	**203**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 204** **ImageHeight: 203**
MD5 Hash	**aeed783ebdcee5333d63a78914da05a8**
SHA1 Hash	**e6c02fd13262b0acaf16815838ed82e442b4699e**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	167008

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Intents\Images \EEE5B9FB-F794-EDF8-43EE-36009D03BC6F.png
Recovery method	Parsing



FILE DETAILS

File name	**ba84c31cd6397c15534c237a861d177d**
Logical size	**5,534 bytes**
Created	**5/28/2025 11:51:26.000 PM**
Accessed	**5/29/2025 9:34:01.000 AM**
Modified	**5/28/2025 11:51:26.000 PM**
MD5 hash	**115f39170d3d42378ca556f6a69a380b**
SHA256 hash	**823968f77d3be11761c88c2248b3224e7a9bc0bdb148d d0152fd793a3d3535ef**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var \mobile\Containers\Data\Application \B55E0D41-55AC-4E93-BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A \Documents\com.snap.file_manager_4_SCContent_ \ba84c31cd6397c15534c237a861d177d**
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3



5. The examination revealed the user of phone numbe [redacted] dentified as belonging to V/ A. R. shared location services with the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND on 28May25, at 8:57:19 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Title	[redacted]
Body	**Started Sharing Location**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/28/2025 8:57:19.367 PM**
Notification Date/Time	**5/28/2025 8:58:03.995 PM**
GUID	**3D1BFDF8-192C-40FE-9DDB-878AEF971390**
Bundle ID	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Optional Text	[redacted]
Artifact type	User Notification Events
Item ID	640686

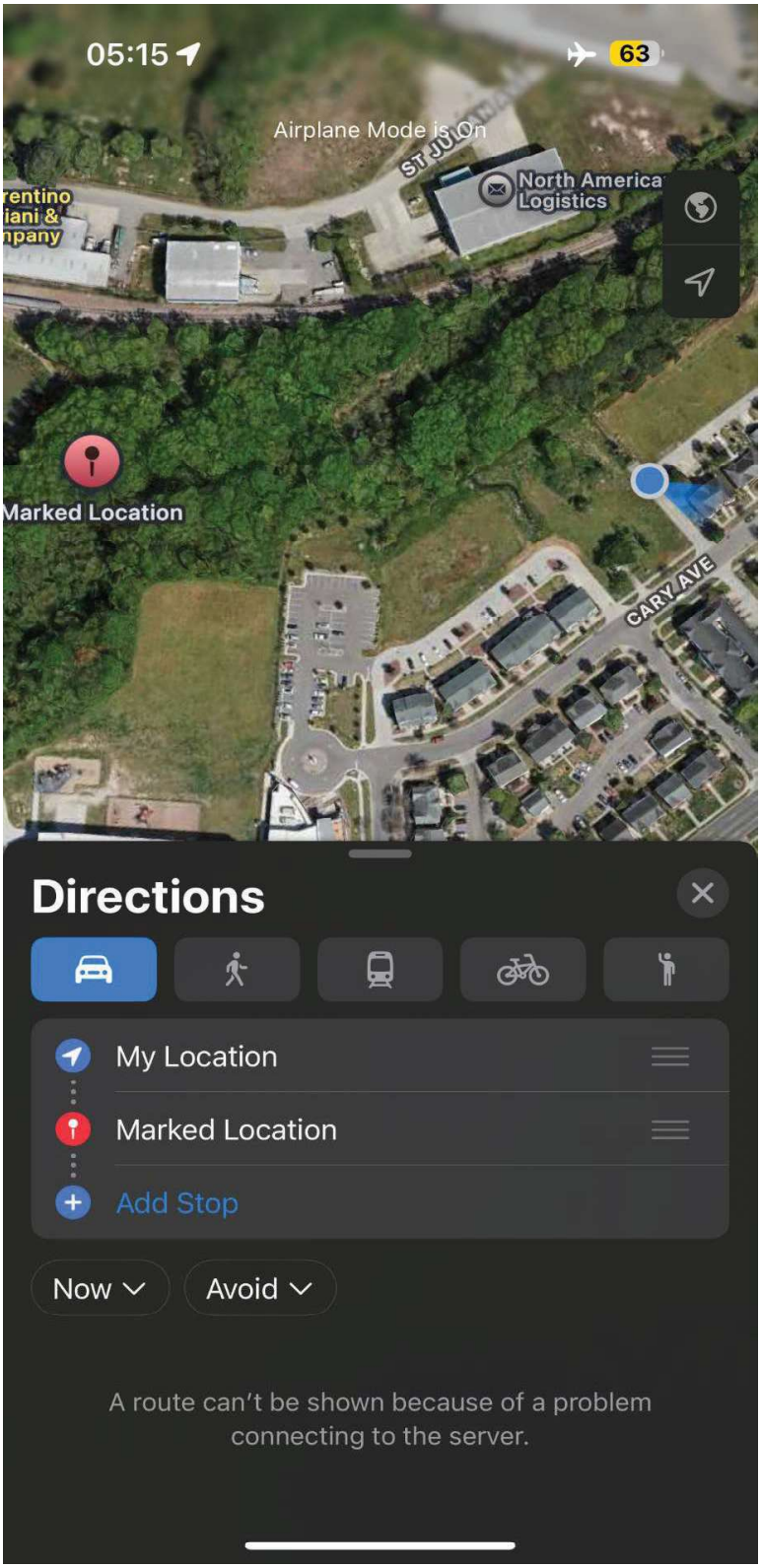
EVIDENCE INFORMATION

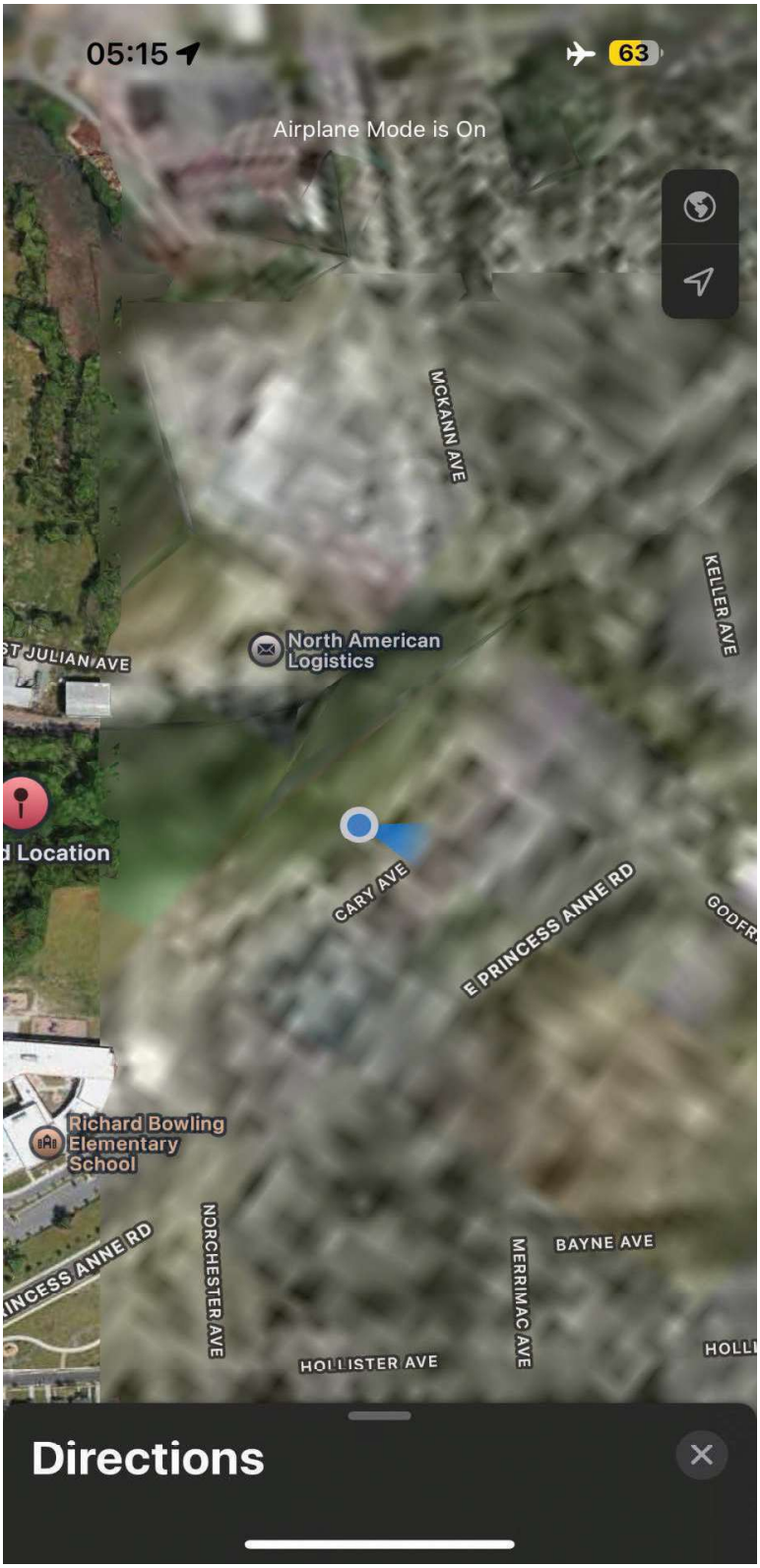
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\DuetExpertCenter \streams\userNotificationEvents\local \768225069972772
Recovery method	Parsing

MARKED LOCATION IMAGE FILES

1. ON 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON located and extract two image files during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The image files named IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG are located in the \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\132APPLE directory of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The image file named IMG_2621.PNG

appears to be a screenshot of an Apple maps App with the street name Cary Ave visible in the image. The device also appears to be in Airplane mode and time of day is 05:15 according to the visible image. The blue circle appears to be the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and appears to be facing towards the house on Cary Ave. The following are the image files containing the screenshots named IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG in order.


05:15
63
Airplane Mode is On
North America Logistics
Marked Location
CARY AVE
Directions
My Location
Marked Location
Add Stop
Now
Avoid
A route can't be shown because of a problem connecting to the server.


05:15
63
Airplane Mode is On
MCKANN AVE
KELLER AVE
North American Logistics
ST JULIAN AVE
d Location
CARY AVE
E PRINCESS ANNE RD
Richard Bowling Elementary School
NORCHESTER AVE
BAYNE AVE
MERRIMAC AVE
HOLLISTER AVE
Directions

Click to Review Screenshot Image Report

2. The examination revealed the image files named IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG are located in the \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\132APPLE directory of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The directory \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\ and its subdirectories are the default location where all user created images and videos are stored on an Apple iPhone. The DCIM folder is also the default location for screenshots taken and saved by an iPhone user. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND either purposely or accidentally took the screenshot named IMG_2621.PNG on 02Jun25, at 5:15:21 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND either purposely or accidentally took the screenshot named IMG_2622.PNG on 02Jun25, at 5:15:25 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**IMG_2621.PNG**
File Extension	**.PNG**
Created Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:15:22.000 AM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:15:22.000 AM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:15:22.000 AM**
Size (Bytes)	**4,868,791**
Skin Tone Percentage	**7.5**
Original Width	**1290**
Original Height	**2796**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 1290** **ImageHeight: 2796** **DateTimeOriginal: 06/02/2025 05:15:21**
MD5 Hash	**84189d5d588a52efdb047b7d59af1efd**
SHA1 Hash	**502827207576348487bd4760e3dc3fbe753cbdf6**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	399761

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\132APPLE \IMG_2621.PNG
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**IMG_2622.PNG**
File Extension	**.PNG**
Created Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:15:26.000 AM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:15:26.000 AM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:15:26.000 AM**
Size (Bytes)	**4,334,502**
Skin Tone Percentage	**5.4**
Original Width	**1290**
Original Height	**2796**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 1290** **ImageHeight: 2796** **DateTimeOriginal: 06/02/2025 05:15:25**
MD5 Hash	**aab5c40816a59879688ae305d07587f2**
SHA1 Hash	**3a2d988be6133c0f17508663e98c53956fc839af**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	399762

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

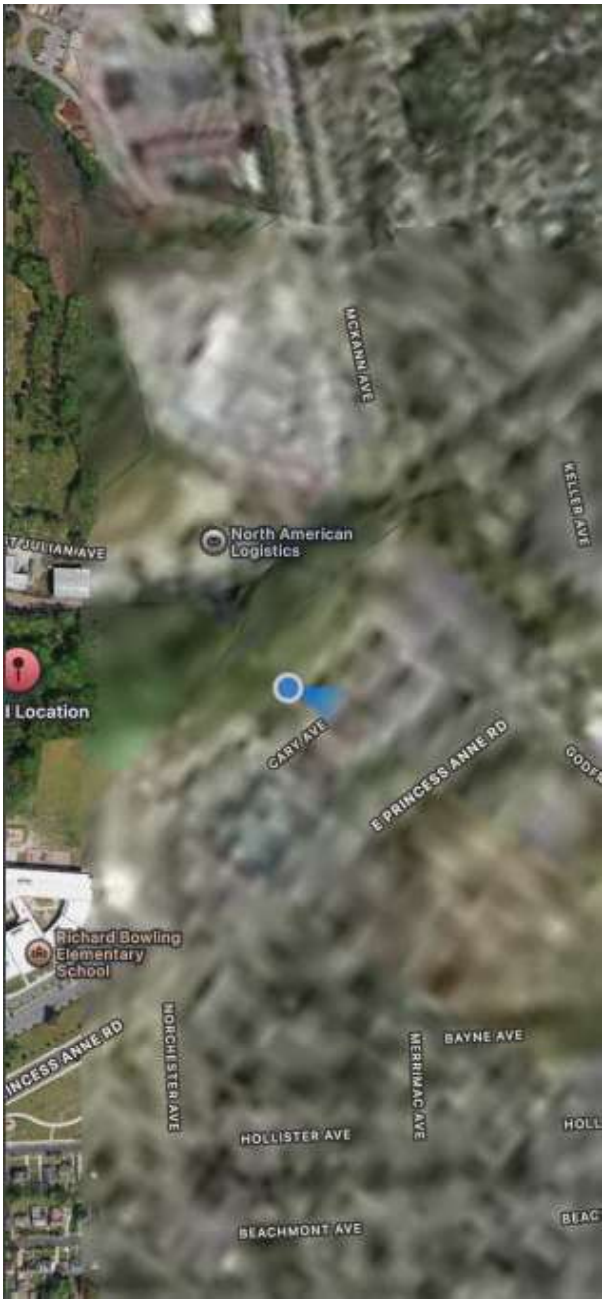
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\132APPLE \IMG_2622.PNG
Recovery method	Parsing

SCREENSHOT SERVICES

1. SDFE DAVISON recovered and extracted four Adobe Acrobat files and one plist file during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The examination revealed the iPhone's operating system (iOS) created four temporary Adobe Acrobat files in the directory \private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application\563F7D58-5717-4071-9581-1E918177BF20\tmp\ during the creation of the image files IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG identified above. The device's iOS created the files on 02Jun25, at 5:15:21 AM, and 5:15:25. AM, as a result of the screenshot services for iOS. Axiom recovered the files as a result of carving which in this case is a result of a deleted temporary file. The file names and date/time stamps are the original data associated with the files. Axiom carved and recovered the actual data contained within the file which in this case consists of images used to create the

screenshots named IMG_2621.PNG and IMG_2622.PNG. Apple uses plist files to store structured data for App configuration settings, user preference settings, data serialization, and system settings. The plist file named, “com.apple.mobile_container_manager.metadata.plist” in the directory zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application \563F7D58-5717-4071-9581-1E918177BF20\ contains data for screenshot services. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.


ST JULIAN AVE
North American Logistics
Marked Location
CARY AVE
Jordan-Newby Anchor Branch at Broad Creek
E PRINCESS ANNE RD
Richard Bowling Elementary School
Unity Lutheran Church
NORCHESTER AVE
E PRINCESS ANNE RD
HOLLISTER AVE


MCKANN AVE
KELLER AVE
North American Logistics
I Location
CARY AVE
E PRINCESS ANNE RD
Richard Bowling Elementary School
NORCHESTER AVE
BAYNE AVE
MERRIMAC AVE
HOLLISTER AVE
BEACHMONT AVE



Click to Review Screenshot Services Report

HEALTH DATA FOCUS 02JUN25

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted health data to include Apple Health Floors, Apple Health Steps, Apple Heart Rate, Apple Resting Heart Rate, Apple Watch Worn hours, and Apple Health Distance during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. SDFE Davison saved the data for Apple Health Floors, Apple Health Steps, and Apple Health Distance from 28May25, at approximately 9:00PM, until 02Jun25, at approximately 6:00AM. SDFE DAVISON also saved the Apple Heart Rate from 28May25, at approximately 8:00PM, until the last entry on 29May25, at 12:29:33 PM. SDFE DAVISON saved the Apple Resting Heart Rate history from 13May25 to 29May25 at 12:29:33 PM. SDFE DAVISON saved the health data to the folder named "(a) Health Data" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The folder contains a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet named "Health Data.xlsx" which contains the report. The examination revealed the Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm was paired with the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND while the last recorded data was on 29May25, at 12:29:33 PM. The Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm appears not to be worn by a user associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND after this date/time. SDFE DAVISON created a timeline analysis of the heath data recorded on 02Jun25 from 3:45:10 AM to 5:57:20 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND walked 365 steps for a distance of 78.85 meters or 258 feet and 8.3307 inches on 02Jun25, between 05:02:25 AM and 05:12:14AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the health data.

EXAMINER'S NOTE: The date/time stamps recorded on Apple iPhones health data like steps and distance are generally accurate. However, the date/time stamps may not always be precise as delays and discrepancies can occur. Therefore, the specific date/time stamps below may not

accurately reflect the precise date/time of a specific activity due to the way Apple iPhones record health data.

Record	Tags	Floors/ Distance (meters)/ Steps Taken	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time	Duration (Minutes)
217	Steps	330	6/2/2025 3:45:10.000 AM	6/2/2025 3:55:09.067 AM	9.99
181	Health Distance	227.54	6/2/2025 3:45:10.000 AM	6/2/2025 3:55:09.067 AM	9.99
22	Health Floors	2	6/2/2025 3:55:06.506 AM	6/2/2025 3:55:26.990 AM	
180	Health Distance	55.31	6/2/2025 3:55:09.067 AM	6/2/2025 4:02:08.988 AM	7.0
218	Steps	70	6/2/2025 3:55:09.067 AM	6/2/2025 4:02:08.988 AM	7.0
182	Health Distance	148.94	6/2/2025 4:05:56.878 AM	6/2/2025 4:11:55.337 AM	5.97
219	Steps	237	6/2/2025 4:05:56.878 AM	6/2/2025 4:11:55.337 AM	5.97
183	Health Distance	14.46	6/2/2025 4:28:45.292 AM	6/2/2025 4:38:06.108 AM	9.35
220	Steps	20	6/2/2025 4:28:45.292 AM	6/2/2025 4:38:06.108 AM	9.35
184	Health Distance	257.63	6/2/2025 5:02:25.696 AM	6/2/2025 5:12:14.588 AM	9.81
221	Steps	365	6/2/2025 5:02:25.696 AM	6/2/2025 5:12:14.588 AM	9.81
185	Health Distance	78.85	6/2/2025 5:13:05.792 AM	6/2/2025 5:20:54.364 AM	7.81
222	Steps	104	6/2/2025 5:13:05.792 AM	6/2/2025 5:20:54.364 AM	7.81
186	Health Distance	27.82	6/2/2025 5:24:39.679 AM	6/2/2025 5:28:37.817 AM	3.97
223	Steps	52	6/2/2025 5:24:39.679 AM	6/2/2025 5:28:37.817 AM	3.97
187	Health Distance	237.86	6/2/2025 5:47:47.486 AM	6/2/2025 5:57:20.972 AM	9.56
224	Steps	356	6/2/2025 5:47:47.486 AM	6/2/2025 5:57:20.972 AM	9.56
23	Health Floors	2	6/2/2025 5:49:17.076 AM	6/2/2025 5:49:37.559 AM	

GEOLOCATION DATA 02JUN25 0400-0600

1. On 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON located geolocation data during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The examination revealed a cached location recorded on the device on 02Jun25, at 5:14:51 AM, with a latitude of 36.8586915425567 and a longitude of -76.2544464206239. SDFE DAVISON visited the website https://www.gps-coordinates.net/ to determine an approximate address of the latitude and longitude coordinates. The website resolved the coordinates near the address 2842 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23504. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom and the data displayed in the website https://www.gps-coordinates.net/.

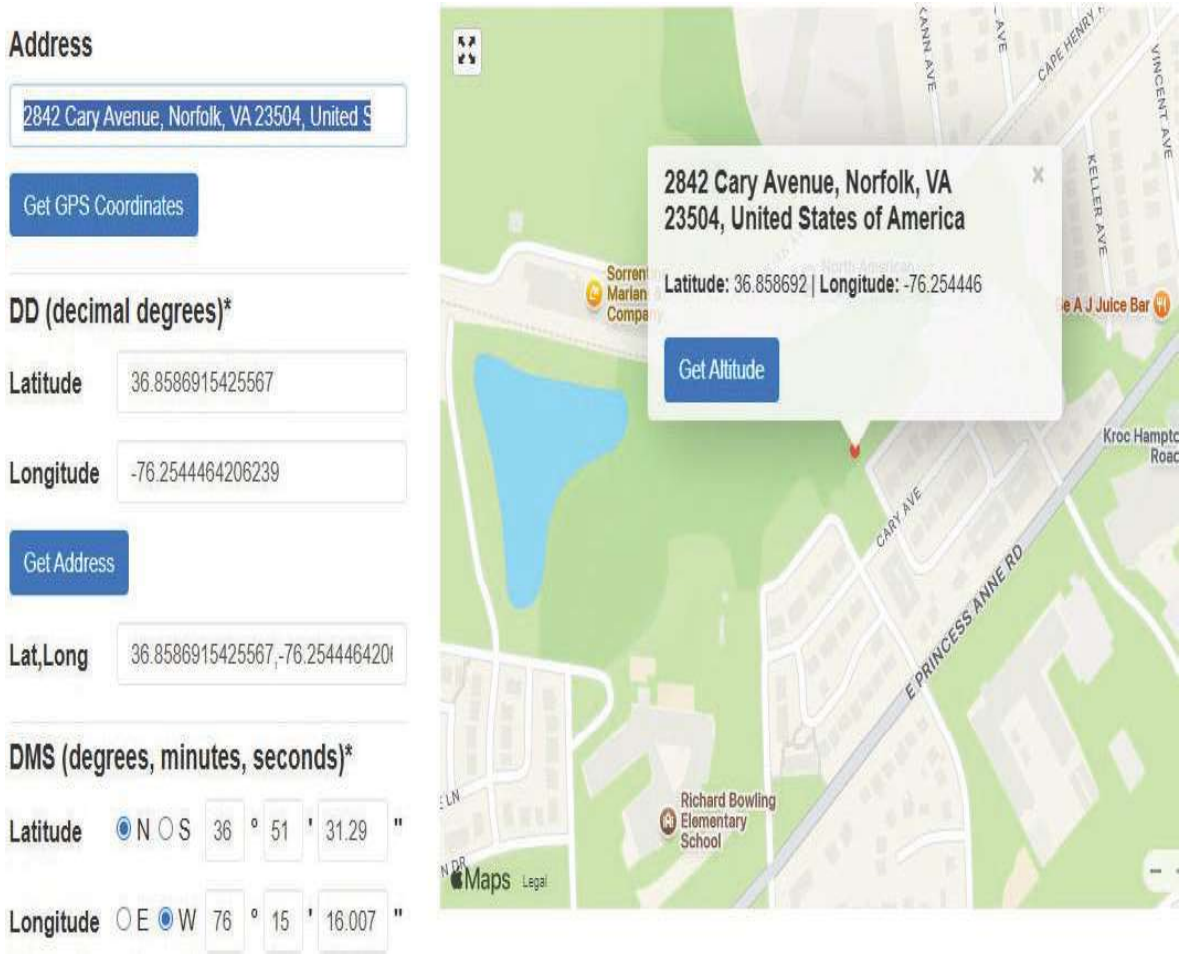
DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

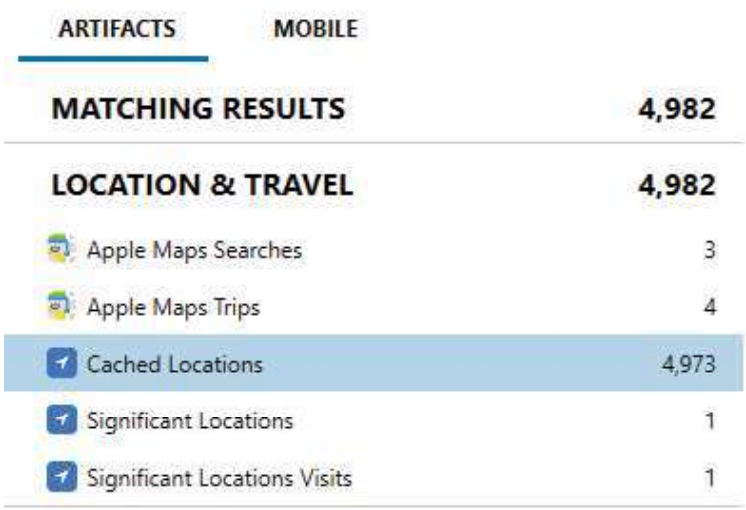
Latitude	**36.8586915425567**
Longitude	**-76.2544464206239**
Accuracy (m)	**12.2885636467086**
Altitude (m)	**7.5534259629363**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**18.335994720459**
Speed (m/s)	**2.18263292312622**
Timestamp Date/Time	**6/2/2025 5:14:51.492 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	286998

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Caches \com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZRTCLLOCATIONMO(Z_PK: 421024)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

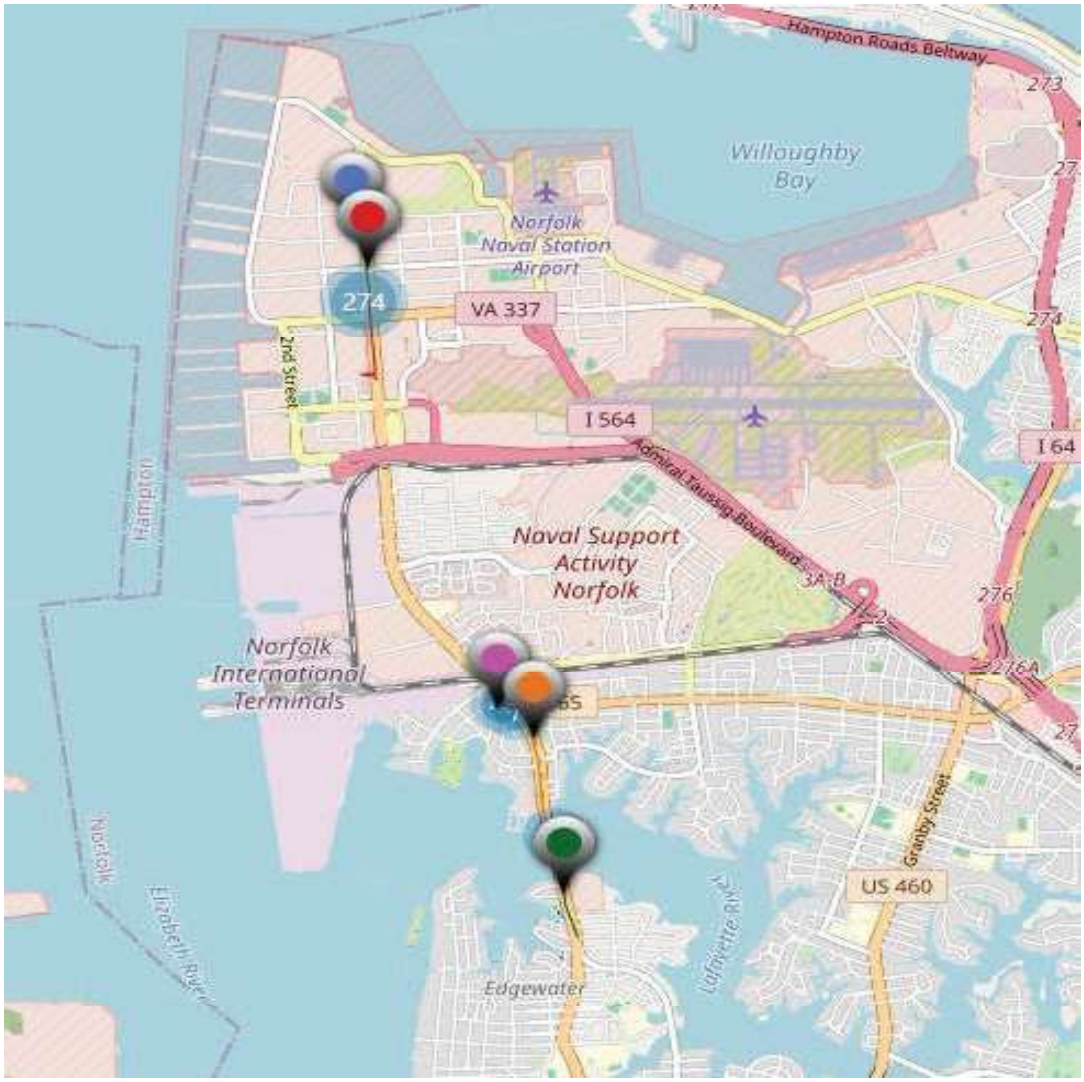


2. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted 4982 location and travel artifacts during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The location and travel artifacts consist of Apple Map Searches, Apple Map Trips, Cached Locations, Significant Locations, and Significant Location Visits with a time filtered for 02Jun25, between 04:00 AM and 06:00 AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.

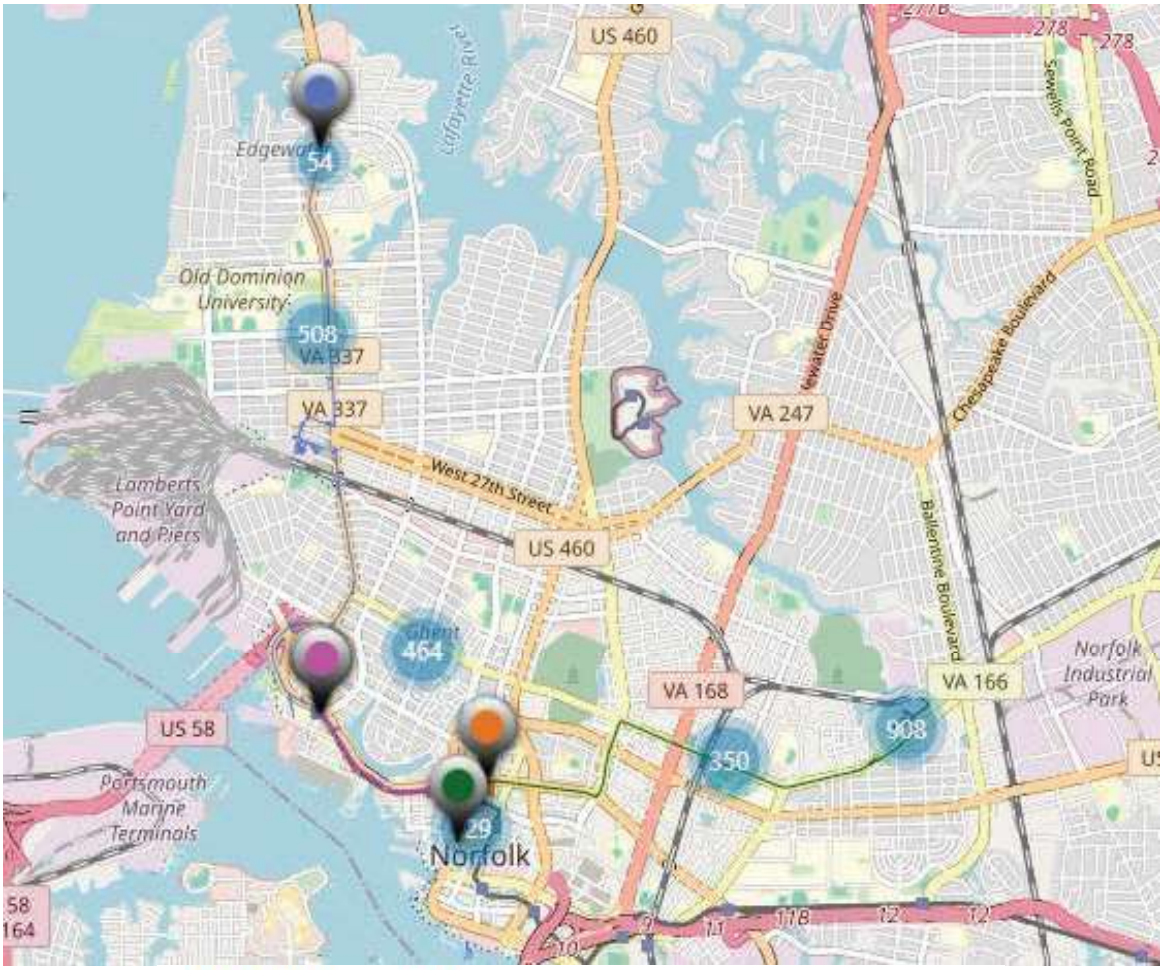


Click to Review Geolocation Report

3. The examination of the 4982 location and travel artifacts revealed a route the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND traveled on 02Jun25, between 04:00 AM and 06:00 AM. SDFE DAVISON created three route videos using Axiom Route View. SDFE DAVISON exported and saved the three videos to a folder named "(b) Geolocations" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The video file named "route_export_part1.mp4" represents the first portion of the route traveled by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The first portion of the route starts on 02Jun25, at 04:00 AM and ends at 04:32 AM. Between 4:18 AM (end of red route) and 4:29 AM (start of pink route), the precise location and route traveled by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND is unknown since the device did not record enough geolocation data during this timeframe. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



4. The video file named "route_export_part2.mp4" represents the second portion of the route traveled by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The second portion of the route starts on 02Jun25, at 04:32 AM, and ends at 05:16 AM. While the device was traveling, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND conducting a search for Parks in Norfolk and Trails in Norfolk. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Search Term	**Parks**
Address	**Norfolk**
Created Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:32:56.637 AM**
Artifact type	**Apple Maps Searches**
Item ID	576454

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Shared\AppGroup\F6722C27-1174-4CF2-BCAC-6826D33E4225\Maps\MapsSync_0.0.1
Recovery method	Parsing

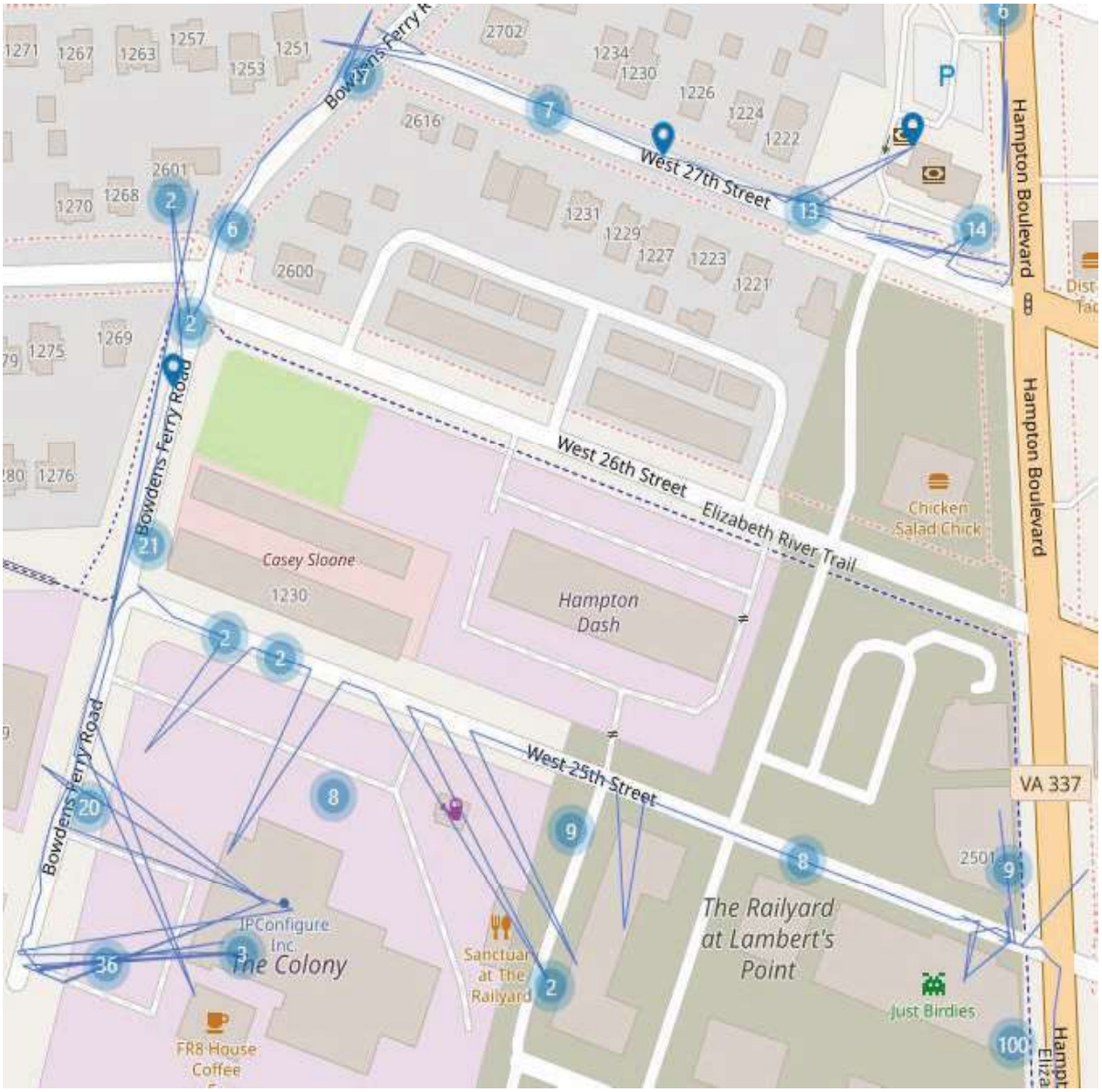
ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Search Term	**Trails**
Address	**Norfolk**
Created Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:33:48.243 AM**
Artifact type	**Apple Maps Searches**
Item ID	**576458**

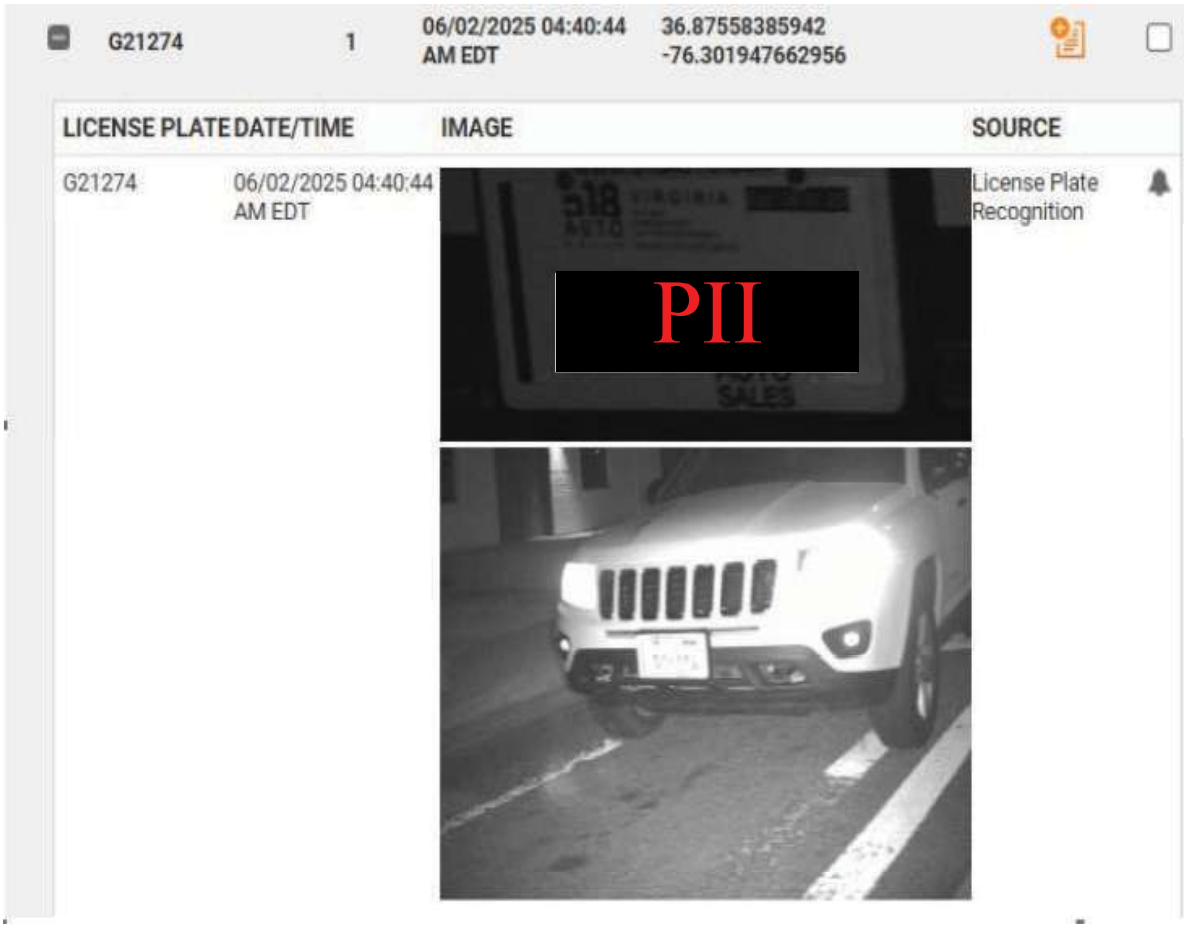
EVIDENCE INFORMATION

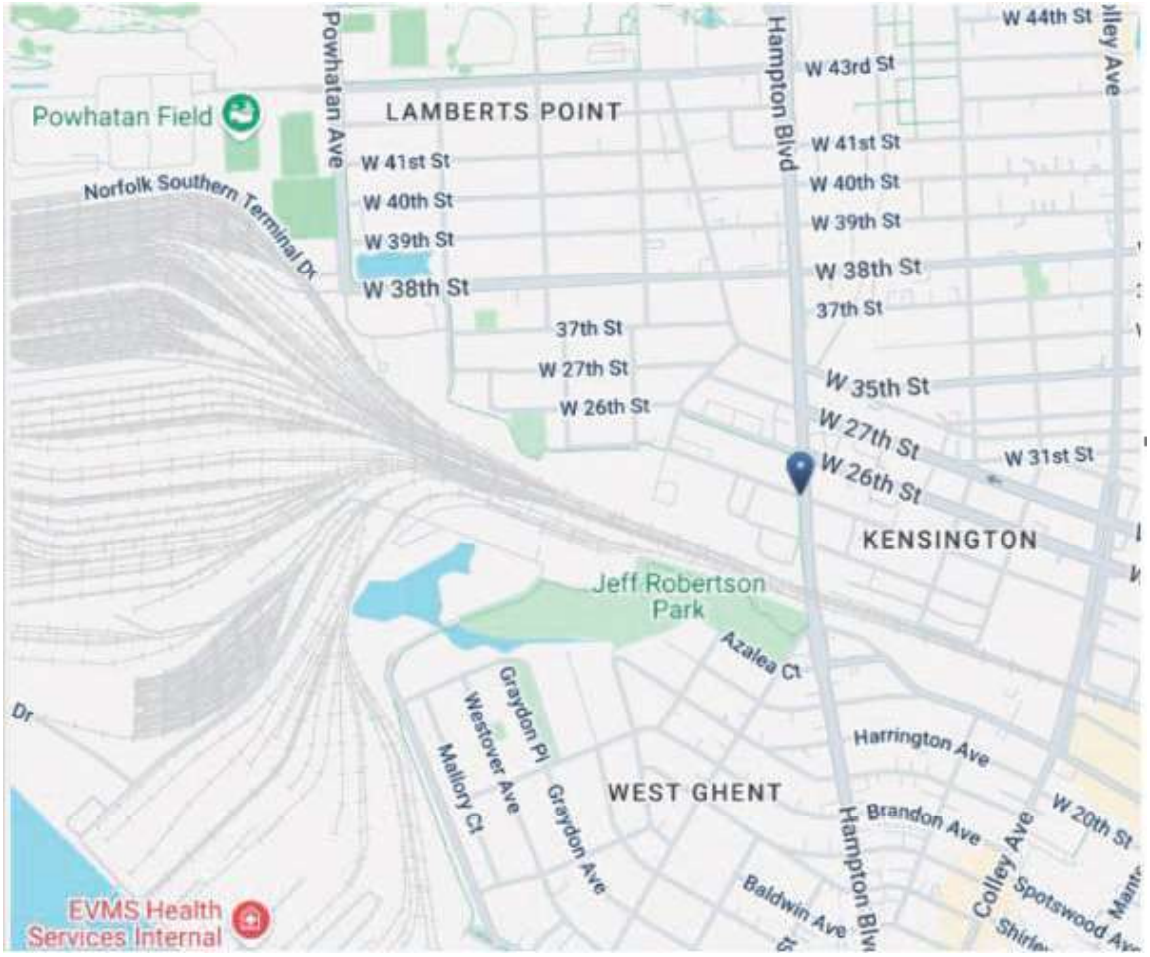
Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Shared\AppGroup\F6722C27-1174-4CF2-BCAC-6826D33E4225\Maps\MapsSync_0.0.1**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

5. The examination of the second portion revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND traveled on West 27th Street, Norfolk, by the Langley Federal Credit Union, 2701 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA, on 02Jun25, at approximately 04:36 AM. The device continued to travel on Bowdens Ferry Road, Norfolk, VA, then onto West 25th Street, Norfolk, VA. The device started to travel South again on Hampton Blvd starting at approximately 04:40 AM. The fluctuations in the blue lines are location and travel artifacts with varying geolocation accuracy. An examiner must rely on all of the available data to rebuild an accurate picture of a route traveled. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



6. On 13Jun25, Investigative Analyst (IA) Mary OAKLEY, NCISRA Yorktown, VA, provided SDFE DAVSION an image from the Vigilant Database System, which she received from the Newport News Police Department, VA. The image shows a white vehicle with temporary Virginia License plate number PII taken on 02Jun25, at 04:40:44AM. The picture was taken near West 25th street and Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the image file.


G21274
1
06/02/2025 04:40:44 AM EDT
36.87558385942
-76.301947662956
LICENSE PLATE
DATE/TIME
IMAGE
SOURCE
G21274
06/02/2025 04:40:44 AM EDT
License Plate Recognition
PII



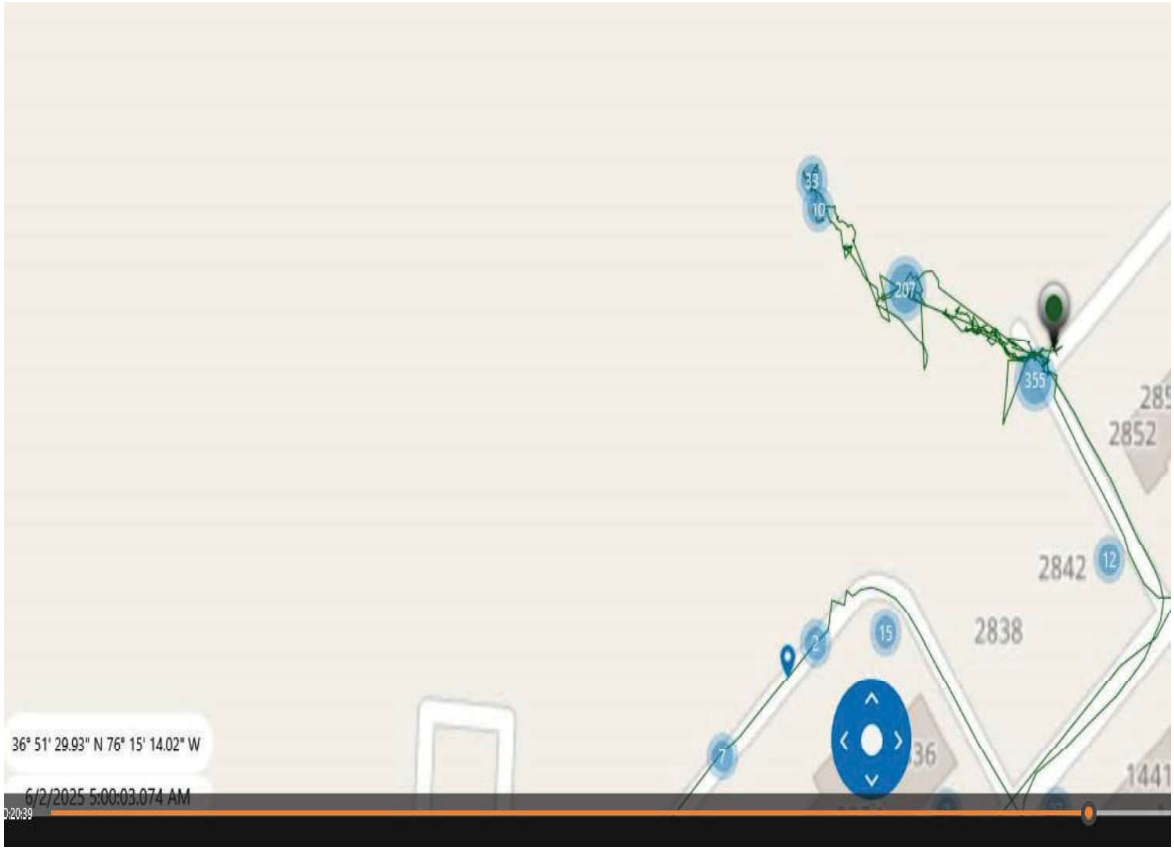
7. The examination of the second portion also revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND traveled on Granby Street, Norfolk, on 02Jun25, at approximately 04:45 AM. The device continued to travel on College Place, Norfolk, VA, then onto Boush Street, Norfolk, VA. The device started to travel East again on West Brambleton Ave, Norfolk, starting approximately 04:48 AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



8. The examination of the second portion also revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND entered Merrimac Ave, Norfolk, VA, near the Broad Creek Apartments on 02Jun25, at approximately 04:56 AM. The device traveled around the residential area until appearing to stop behind 2852 Cary Ave, Norfolk, VA, on 02Jun25, at approximately 05:00 AM. According to the health data reported above, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND began to record health data steps and distance on 02Jun25, at approximately 05:02:25 AM. The light blue circles with the white numbers in the images below represent the number of location and travel artifacts records in the area. The lower the number of artifacts represents the lower confidence in the data to place a device in a specific area. Conversely, the higher the number of artifacts represents the higher confidence in the data to place a device in a specific area. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded 635 location and travel artifacts on 02Jun25, between 5:00:11 AM and 5:15:42 AM, near the area of 2852 Cary Ave, Norfolk, VA. Based on the extremely high number of 635

location and travel artifacts, the examination revealed with extremely high confidence the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was in this location on 02Jun25, between 5:00:11 AM and 5:15:42 AM. SDFE DAVISON took screenshots of the data as displayed in Axiom and the video.





9. The examination revealed the first artifact recorded in the area was a cached location recorded on the device on 02Jun25, at 5:00:11 AM, with a latitude of 36.8586565668269 and a longitude of -76.2542549822841. SDFE DAVISON visited the website https://www.gps-coordinates.net/ to determine an approximate address of the latitude and longitude coordinates. The website resolved the coordinates near the address 2852 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23504. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom and the data displayed in the website https://www.gps-coordinates.net/.

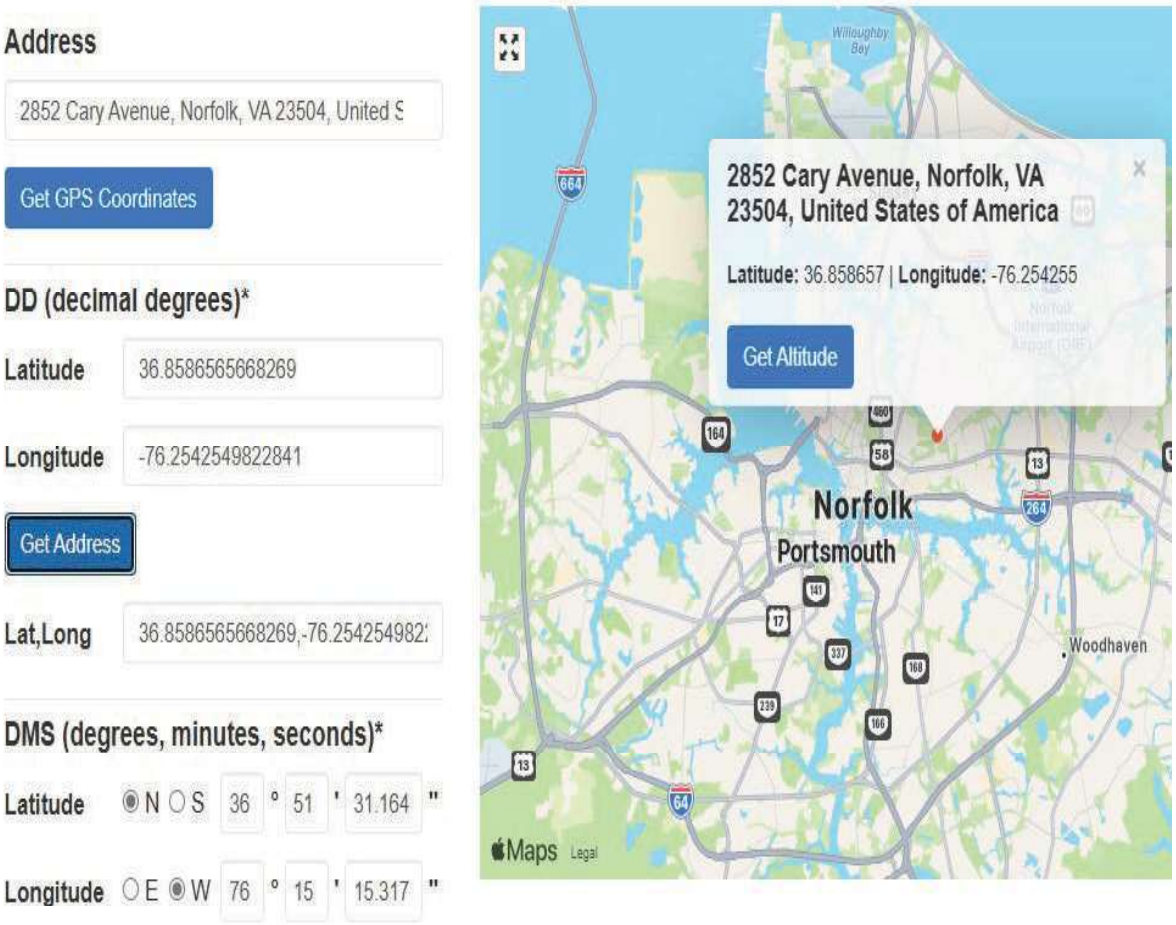
DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

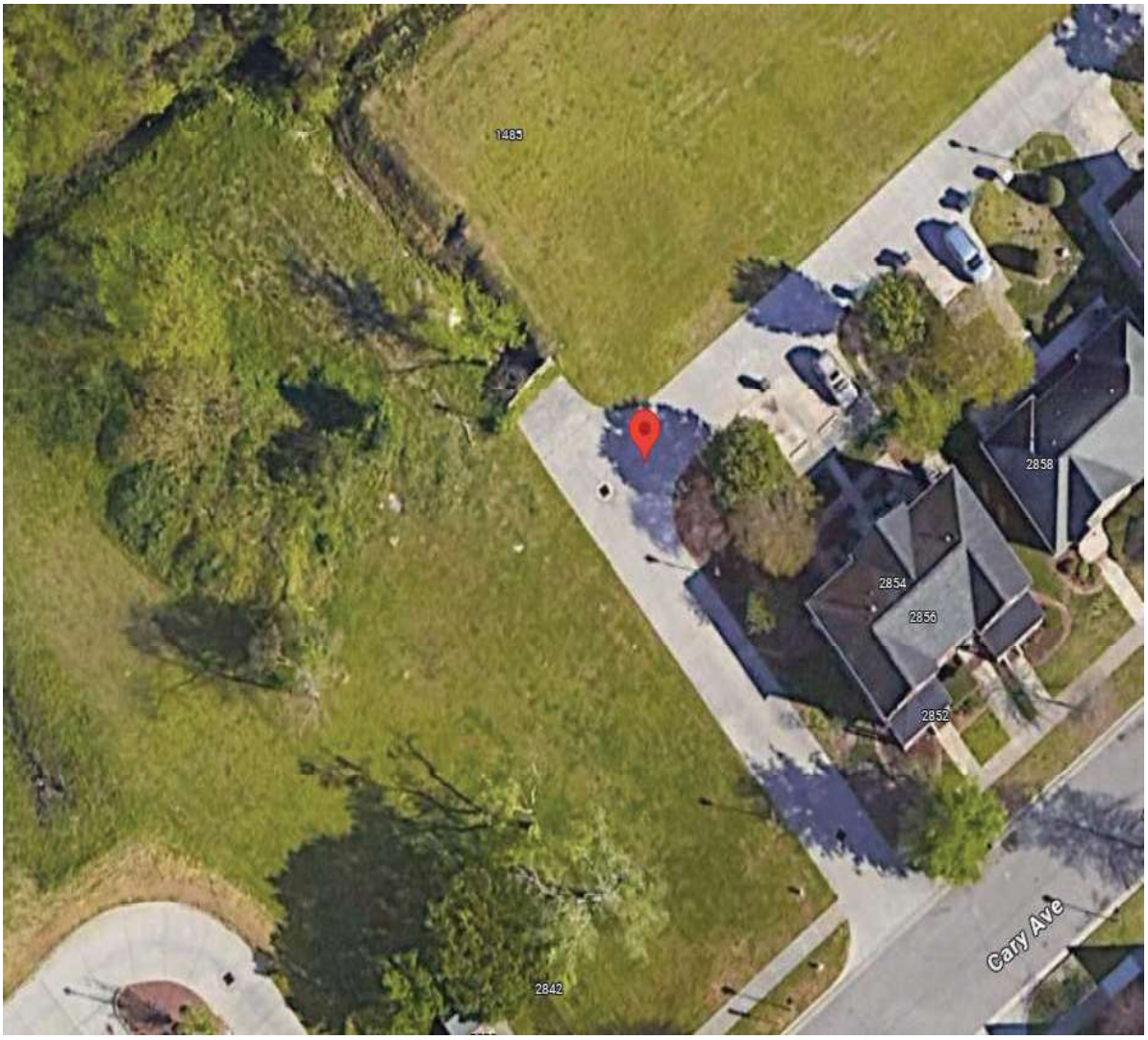
Latitude	36.8586565668269
Longitude	-76.2542549822841
Accuracy (m)	2.17346270927512
Altitude (m)	4.39380321186036
Altitude Accuracy (m)	3.0
Direction	322.299926757813
Speed (m/s)	0.0
Timestamp Date/Time	6/2/2025 5:00:11.000 AM
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	286023

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Caches \com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZRTCLLOCATIONMO(Z_PK: 420453)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3



10. SDFE DAVISON visited Google Maps with website address https://www.google.com/maps/ and entered the latitude of 36.8586565668269 and a longitude of -76.2542549822841 into Google Maps search function. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the area as displayed in Google Maps layers.



11. The examination revealed the last artifact recorded in the area was a cached location recorded on the device on 02Jun25, at 5:15:34 AM, with a latitude of 36.8585963908018 and a longitude of -76.2542297475689. On 13Jun25, SDFE DAVISON visited the website https://www.gps-coordinates.net/ to determine an approximate address of the latitude and longitude coordinates. The website resolved the coordinates near the address 2852 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23504. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	36.8585963908018
Longitude	-76.2542297475689
Accuracy (m)	2.57647018551187
Altitude (m)	4.09938742686063
Altitude Accuracy (m)	3.0
Direction	136.626916411902
Speed (m/s)	2.12394713406014
Timestamp Date/Time	6/2/2025 5:15:34.999 AM
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	287141

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Caches \com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZRTCLLOCATIONMO(Z_PK: 421120)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

12. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded artifact Item ID 286920 in the area as a cached location on 02Jun25, at 5:10:32.999 AM. The cached location has a latitude of 36.858794493743 and a longitude of -76.2547692449198 with an accuracy of 3.30219342916624 meters or 10 feet and 10.0076 inches. On 13Jun25, SDFE DAVISON visited Google Maps with website address https://www.google.com/maps/ and entered the coordinates. SDFE DAVISON took screenshots of the data as displayed in Axiom and as displayed in Google maps layers.

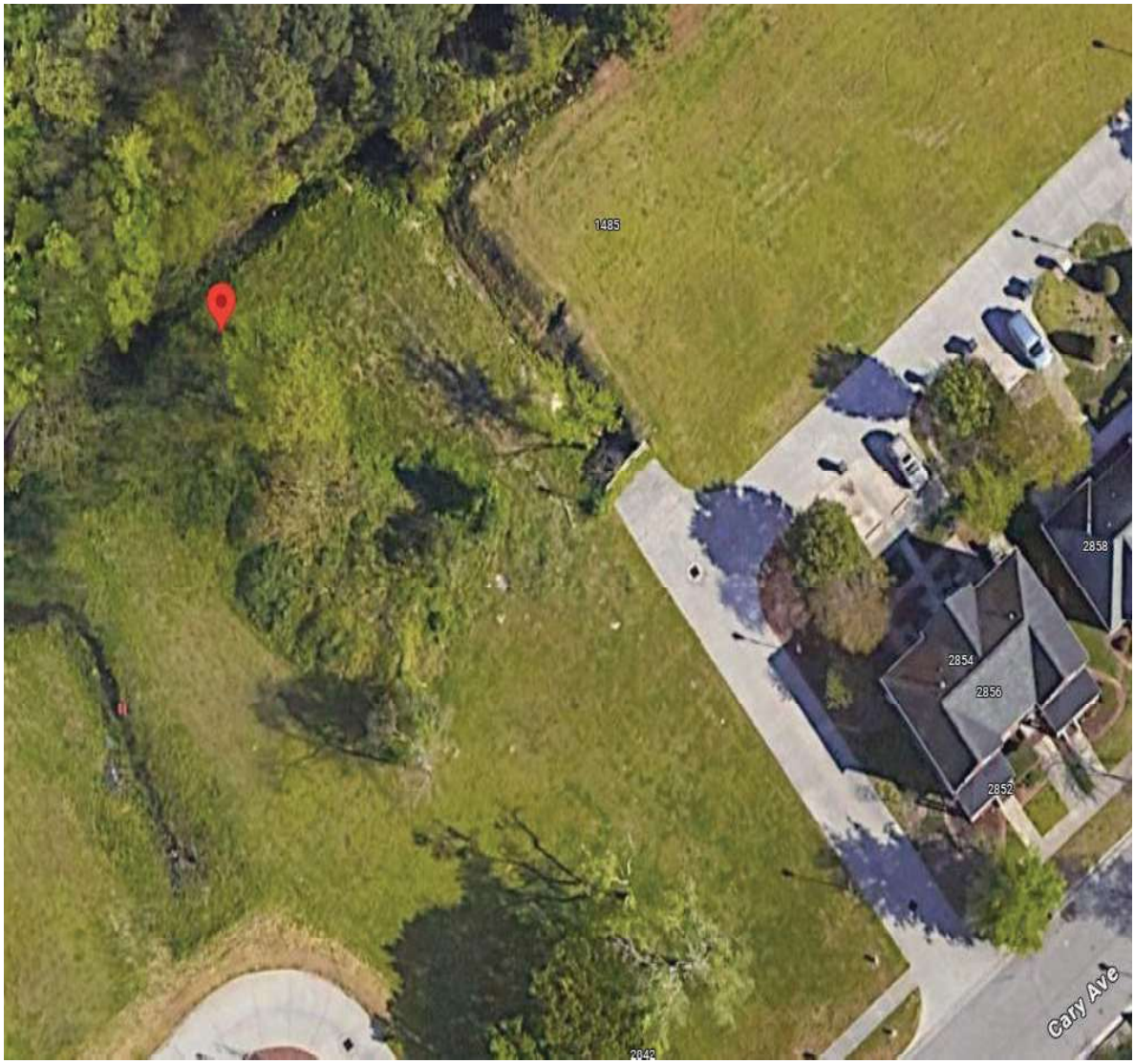
DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

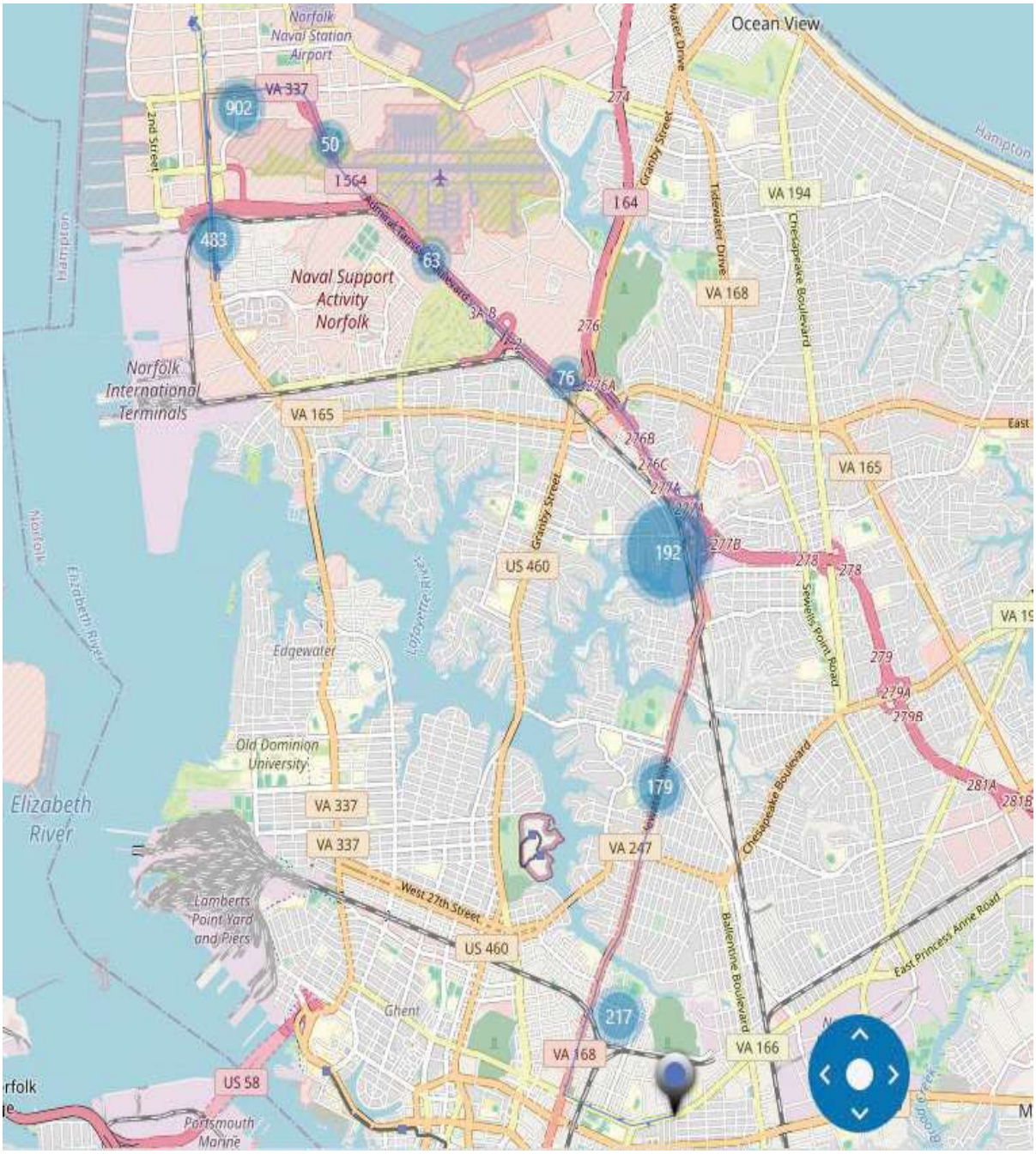
Latitude	36.858794493743
Longitude	-76.2547692449198
Accuracy (m)	3.30219342916624
Altitude (m)	4.77955871913582
Altitude Accuracy (m)	3.0
Speed (m/s)	0.17978067328381
Timestamp Date/Time	6/2/2025 5:10:32.999 AM
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	286920

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

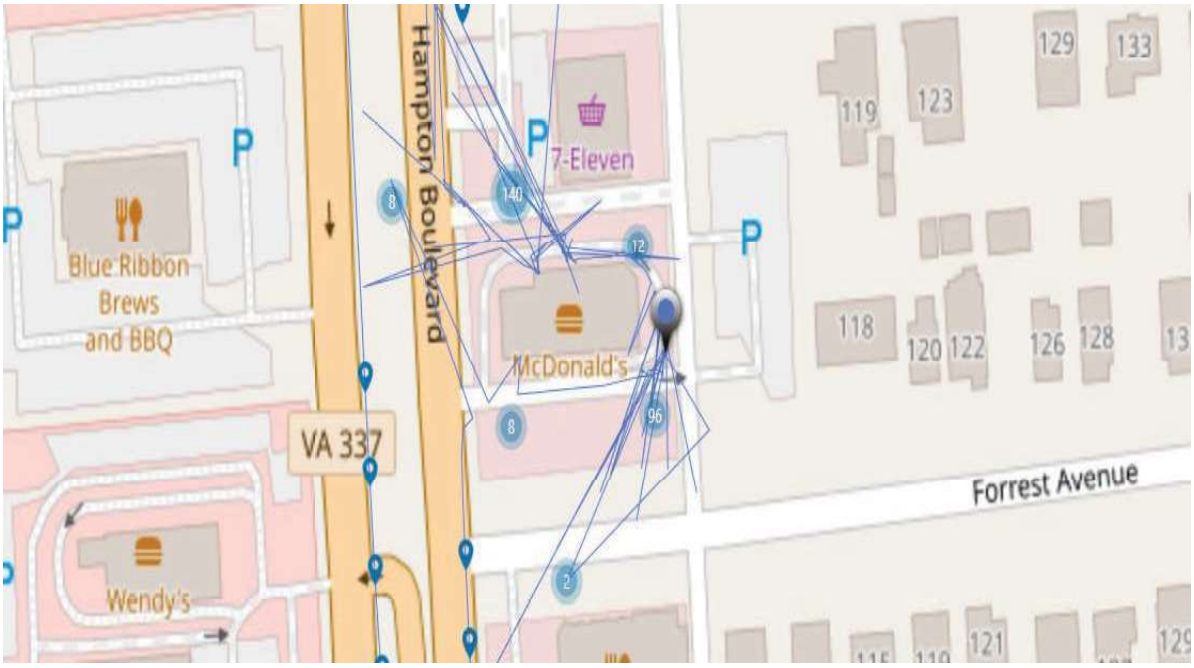
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Caches \com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZRTCLLOCATIONMO(Z_PK: 420954)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3



13. The video file name “route_export_part3.mp4” represents the final portion of the route traveled by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The third portion of the route starts on 02Jun25, at 05:16 AM, and ends at 05:58 AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



14. The examination of the third portion revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND traveled to the McDonald's restaurant at 8300 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, on 02Jun25, entered at approximately 05:33 AM, and exited the McDonald's at approximately 05:37 AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



15. The examination of the third portion revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND traveled and entered Gate 2 NAS Norfolk, VA, on 02Jun25, at approximately 05:42 AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot of the data as displayed in Axiom.



MARKED LOCATION TIMELINE

1. SDFE DAVISON located and exported timeline data concerning when the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND tagged the geolocation coordinates with the longitude 36.858536 and latitude -76.256816. The coordinates are displayed in the screenshot in the image file named IMG_2621.PNG identified above although the screenshot was not captured until later. The geolocation coordinates resolve to the wooded area in the vicinity of 2852 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23504. SDFE DAVISON saved all timeline location data to a folder named (c) Tagged Location Data on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The folder contains a Microsoft Excel file named, "Marked location Timeline Analysis.xlsx" which consists of the timeline report. The examination revealed that on 02Jun25, at 4:47:13 AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was located approximately near the corner of College Place and Boush Street, Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as display in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.850312757729**
Longitude	**-76.2917290636136**
Accuracy (m)	**3.54225873139757**
Altitude (m)	**3.62044929992408**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**3.0**
Direction	**293.100677490234**
Speed (m/s)	**1.97243570661196**
Timestamp Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:13.998 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	285058

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Caches \com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite**
Recovery method	**Parsing**
Deleted source	
Location	**Table: ZRTCLLOCATIONMO(Z_PK: 419687)**
Evidence number	**NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3**



2. The examination revealed that on 02Jun25, at 4:47:14 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device using either the phone's facial biometrics or the PIN. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND kept the phone in an unlocked status until 02Jun25, at 4:57:06 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as display in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**Unlocked**
Start Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:14.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:57:06.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:57:06.445 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Device Lock States
Item ID	226323

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 56748)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

3. On 02Jun25, at 4:47:21 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to start using the Apple Maps App. The Apple Maps App was opened on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND until 4:57:06 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as display in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.Maps**
Start Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:21.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:57:06.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:57:06.361 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	167286

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 56747) Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 2)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

4. On 02Jun25, at 4:47:32 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to start browsing map locations using Apple Maps. The user appears to continue browsing map locations until the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND marks a location in Apple Maps on 02Jun25, at 4:47:50 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND marks the longitude of 36.858536 and latitude of -76.256816 as the geolocation coordinates. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND then appears to request navigational directions to the marked location on 02Jun25, at 4:47:52 AM. On 02Jun25, at approximately 4:47:56AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to start traveling again. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom and visited the website address https://maps.apple.com/?ll=36.858536,-76.256816&q=Marked%20Location to provide a visual representation of the marked location.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Labels	7-Eleven Affordable Towing & Recovery of Norfolk AutoZone Barraud Park CVS Pharmacy Calvary Cemetery Citgo Dollar General Dollar Tree Longshoreman Hall O'Reilly Auto Parts Shoop Park Smoke & vape Waffle House Walmart Neighborhood Market Wawa Winks Lash & Beauty Bar bp
Accessed Date/Time	6/2/2025 4:47:32.000 AM
Size (Bytes)	1,017
Artifact type	iOS Maps
Item ID	630172

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Caches\com.apple.geod\Vault\MapTiles\MapTiles.sqlitedb
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: data(rowid: 41880) Table: access_times(rowid: 41880)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Labels	**Richard Bowling Elementary School**
Accessed Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:35.000 AM**
Size (Bytes)	**282**
Artifact type	iOS Maps
Item ID	627727

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Caches\com.apple.geod\Vault\MapTiles\MapTiles.sqlitedb
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: data(rowid: 39926) Table: access_times(rowid: 39926)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Labels	**Sorrentino Mariani & Company**
Accessed Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:35.000 AM**
Size (Bytes)	**278**
Artifact type	iOS Maps
Item ID	627730

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

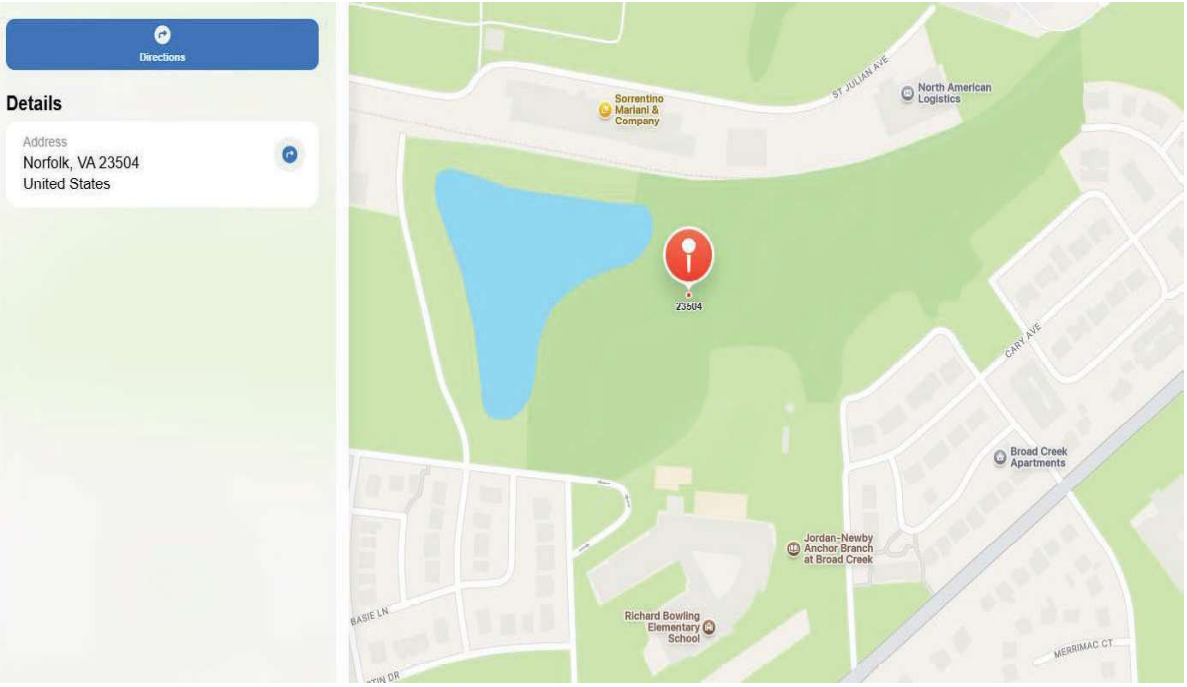
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Caches\com.apple.geod\Vault\MapTiles\MapTiles.sqlitedb
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: data(rowid: 39929) Table: access_times(rowid: 39929)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.Maps**
Activity Type	**com.apple.Maps**
URL	**https://maps.apple.com/?ll=36.858536,-76.256816&q=Marked%20Location**
Event Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:50.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:48:38.494 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Activities**
Item ID	282604

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 56740) Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 36277)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Type	**PlaceCardTap**
Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:50.880 AM**
Action	**GET_DIRECTIONS**
Location Name	**23504**
City	**Norfolk**
State/Province	**VA**
ZIP/Postal Code	**23504**
Country	**United States**
Artifact type	Apple Maps - Biome App Intents
Item ID	798596

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\App.Intent\local\770384691348320
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	File Offset 416728
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Bundle ID	**com.apple.Maps**
Type	**Navigation**
Recorded Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:52.000 AM**
GUID	**529E7DAE-2D13-43B7-8C7F-D6D8A34B3C19**
Artifact type	Biome Application Intents
Item ID	798605

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\App.Intent\local\770384691348320
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	File Offset 418396
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.8503379026954**
Longitude	**-76.2917722172768**
Accuracy (m)	**4.01498245028085**
Altitude (m)	**4.07436991017312**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**3.0**
Direction	**293.100677490234**
Speed (m/s)	**1.48103499871239**
Timestamp Date/Time	**6/2/2025 4:47:56.999 AM**
Artifact type	**Cached Locations**
Item ID	**285111**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\Caches \com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite**
Recovery method	**Parsing**
Deleted source	
Location	**Table: ZRTCLLOCATIONMO(Z_PK: 419740)**
Evidence number	**NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3**



AIRPLANE MODE

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted 15 Airplane mode events during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND activated Airplane mode on the device on 02Jun25, at 4:34:41AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND then set the device's Airplane mode to off on 02Jun25, at 4:36:54 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND again activated Airplane mode on the device on 02Jun25, at 4:48:08 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND then set the device's Airplane mode to off on 02Jun25, at 5:16:13 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in the Cellebrite Report.

3	**Start time:** 6/2/2025 5:16:13 AM(UTC-4) **End time:**	Airplane Mode	AirplaneModeOff		**Source:** Biome **Source file:** 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip/private/var/mobile/Library/Biome/streams/restricted/Device.Wireless.AirplaneMode/local/7682286777719675 : 0x1FF28
4	**Start time:** 6/2/2025 4:48:08 AM(UTC-4) **End time:**	Airplane Mode	AirplaneModeOn		**Source:** Biome **Source file:** 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip/private/var/mobile/Library/Biome/streams/restricted/Device.Wireless.AirplaneMode/local/7682286777719675 : 0x1FF38
5	**Start time:** 6/2/2025 4:36:54 AM(UTC-4) **End time:**	Airplane Mode	AirplaneModeOff		**Source:** Biome **Source file:** 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip/private/var/mobile/Library/Biome/streams/restricted/Device.Wireless.AirplaneMode/local/7682286777719675 : 0x1FF48
6	**Start time:** 6/2/2025 4:34:41 AM(UTC-4) **End time:**	Airplane Mode	AirplaneModeOn		**Source:** Biome **Source file:** 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip/private/var/mobile/Library/Biome/streams/restricted/Device.Wireless.AirplaneMode/local/7682286777719675 : 0x1FF58

Click to Read Airplane Mode Report

COMMUNICATIONS WITH 619-451-7956 CALISSE, JOHN

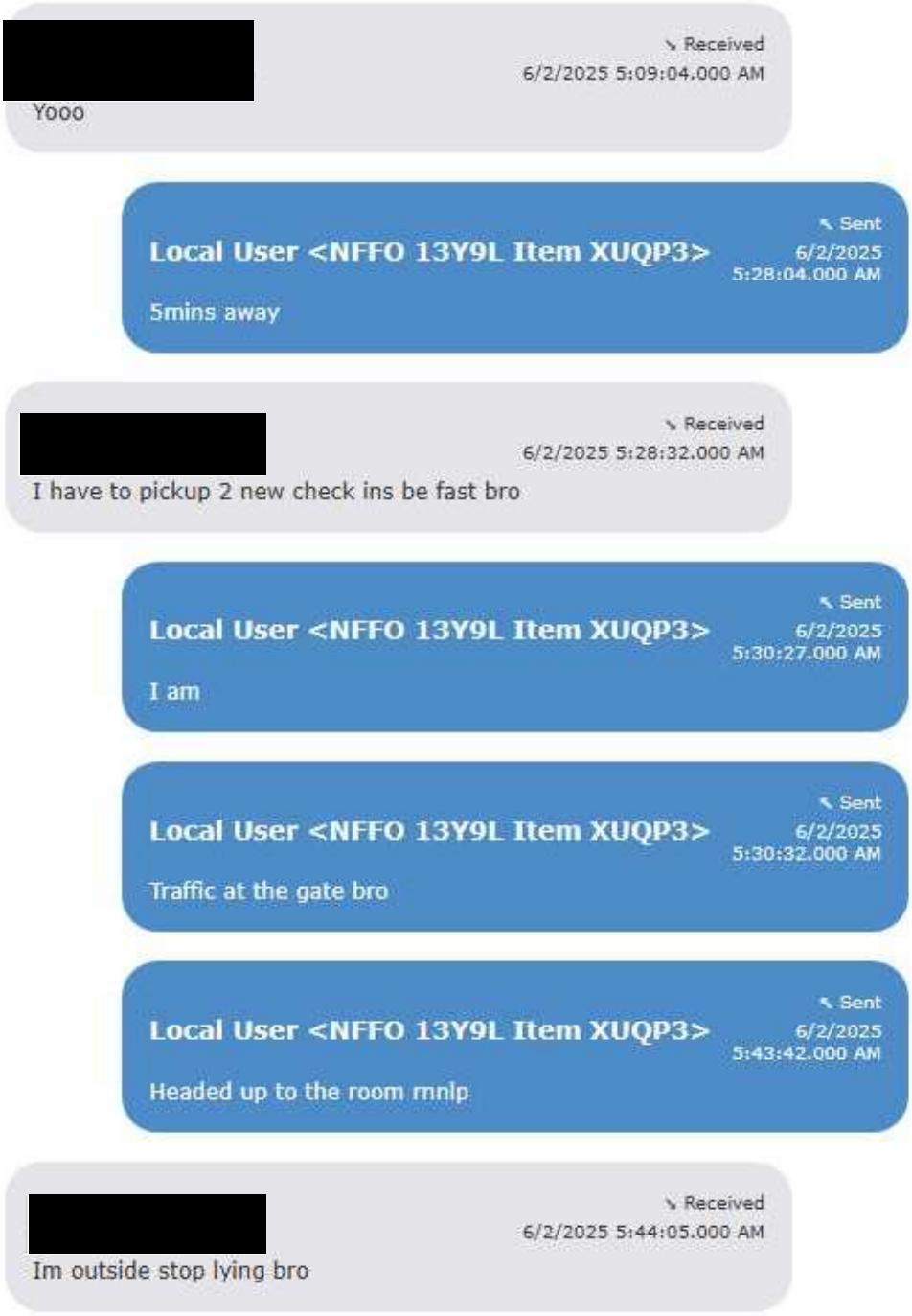
1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -7956 between 05May25, at 9:56:28 PM, to 02Jun25, at 5:44:05 AM. The phone number PII -7956 is also listed as the Partner Name of CALISSE, JOHN although the name is not listed in the contacts address book on the device. On 02Jun25, at 5:30:32 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to

S/COPELAND texted "Traffic at the gate bro." On 02Jun25, at 5:43:43 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND texted "Headed up to the room rnnlp.," while on 02Jun25, at 5:43:43 AM, the user of phone number [redacted] also listed as the Partner Name of CALISSE, JOHN replied, "Im outside stop lying bro." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history and the Partner Name.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Local User	**Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>**
Partners	[redacted]
Partner Name	**CALISSE,JOHN**
Direction	**Incoming**
Call Type	**Phone**
Call Status	**Unanswered**
Call Date/Time	**5/25/2025 4:53:22.038 AM**
Call End Date/Time	**5/25/2025 4:53:22.038 AM**
Call Duration	**00:00:00**
Application Name	**com.apple.Telephony**
Service Provider Country Code	**US**
Artifact type	iOS Call Logs
Item ID	21595



Click To Review Text Messages

2. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted call logs between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number [redacted] between 30May25, at 12:25:39 AM, to 02Jun25, at 6:48:39 PM. The entire call log history starts on 18May25, at 6:32:40 AM, with an attempted call on 02Jun25, at 6:48:39 PM. The entire call log history is available upon

request. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND made a telephone call to phone number PII -7956 on 02Jun25, at 5:16:58 AM, with a call duration of 12 seconds. On 02Jun25, at 5:09:04 AM, the user of phone number PII -7956 previously sent a text, "Yooo" to the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots displayed in Axiom.

Partners	Direction	Call Type	Call Status	Call Date/Time	Call End Date/Time	Call Duration
[redacted]	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/30/2025 12:25:39.037 AM	5/30/2025 12:25:42.837 AM	00:00:04
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/30/2025 1:27:06.030 AM	5/30/2025 1:27:09.369 AM	00:00:03
	Outgoing	Phone	Unanswered	5/30/2025 2:59:18.006 AM	5/30/2025 2:59:18.006 AM	00:00:00
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/31/2025 4:57:52.027 AM	5/31/2025 4:57:55.002 AM	00:00:03
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/31/2025 5:01:08.032 AM	5/31/2025 5:01:10.299 AM	00:00:02
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/31/2025 5:45:18.032 AM	5/31/2025 5:45:25.260 AM	00:00:07
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/31/2025 5:45:46.029 AM	5/31/2025 5:46:27.758 AM	00:00:42
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	6/1/2025 5:49:31.058 PM	6/1/2025 5:50:12.518 PM	00:00:41
	Outgoing	FaceTime Video	Answered	6/1/2025 6:22:09.745 PM	6/1/2025 6:25:00.294 PM	00:02:51
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	6/1/2025 7:58:57.060 PM	6/1/2025 7:59:57.450 PM	00:01:00
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	6/2/2025 5:16:58.037 AM	6/2/2025 5:17:09.579 AM	00:00:12
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	6/2/2025 5:46:21.051 AM	6/2/2025 5:46:59.666 AM	00:00:39
	Outgoing	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	6/2/2025 6:48:39.853 PM	6/2/2025 6:48:39.853 PM	00:00:00

LOCKED AND UNLOCKED STATES

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted all locked and unlocked events logged on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND between 28May25, at 8:56:20 PM, and 02Jun25, at 6:54:32 AM. SDFE DAVISON color coded all events in the file named "Biome Keybag Lock States 28May_2Jun25.xlsx" for viewing purposes of this report. SDFE DAVISON created the color legend below to represent locked and unlocked states. The examination disclosed the phone was in a locked state for more than one hour for a total of 24 hours, 34 minutes and, 56 seconds between 28May25, at 8:56:20 PM, to 02Jun25, at 6:54:32 AM. SDFE DAVISON also filtered the times in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and took the following screenshot.

Color Legend			
State	Duration	State	Duration
Locked	Less than One Hour	Unlocked	Less than One Hour
Locked	More than One Hour	Unlocked	More Than One Hour

1	State	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time	Recorded Date/Time	Duration
51	Locked	5/29/2025 12:42:24 AM	5/29/2025 1:46:44 AM	5/29/2025 1:46:47.210 AM	1:04:20
61	Locked	5/29/2025 3:29:24 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:08 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:09.503 AM	3:58:44
103	Locked	5/29/2025 11:12:44 PM	5/30/2025 12:24:36 AM	5/30/2025 12:24:39.662 AM	1:11:52
111	Locked	5/30/2025 1:33:28 AM	5/30/2025 2:58:36 AM	5/30/2025 2:58:36.794 AM	1:25:08
113	Locked	5/30/2025 3:00:00 AM	5/30/2025 4:32:44 AM	5/30/2025 4:32:47.212 AM	1:32:44
115	Locked	5/30/2025 4:33:44 AM	5/30/2025 6:25:16 AM	5/30/2025 6:25:17.204 AM	1:51:32
169	Locked	5/30/2025 11:40:00 PM	5/31/2025 1:55:00 AM	5/31/2025 1:55:02.140 AM	2:15:00
171	Locked	5/31/2025 1:55:52 AM	5/31/2025 3:29:36 AM	5/31/2025 3:29:37.336 AM	1:33:44
173	Locked	5/31/2025 3:30:08 AM	5/31/2025 4:57:08 AM	5/31/2025 4:57:08.991 AM	1:27:00
197	Locked	5/31/2025 6:32:04 AM	5/31/2025 9:55:28 AM	5/31/2025 9:55:30.384 AM	3:23:24
241	Locked	6/1/2025 1:49:08 AM	6/1/2025 5:38:00 AM	6/1/2025 5:38:01.166 AM	3:48:52
418	Locked	6/2/2025 2:27:20 AM	6/2/2025 3:29:56 AM	6/2/2025 3:29:56.835 AM	1:02:36
501					
502				Total	24:34:56

Click to Review All Locked/Unlocked States

2. SDFE DAVISON filtered the locked and unlocked states for the events logged on 02Jun25, starting at approximately 04:00AM and ending at approximately 06:00 AM. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device using either the phone's facial biometrics or the PIN on 02Jun25, between 5:14:52 AM and 5:25:32 AM. As reported above, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND made a telephone call to phone number PII -7956 (Partner Name of CALISSE, JOHN) on 02Jun25, at 5:16:58 AM with a call duration of 12 seconds. SDFE DAVISON also noted the locked and unlocked states on 02Jun25, between 4:57:56 AM and 5:14:52 AM. As reported above, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded 635 location and travel artifacts near the area of 2852 Cary Ave, Norfolk, VA, during this time frame. SDFE took the following screenshot as displayed in Microsoft Excel.

1	State	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time	Recorded Date/Time	Duration
27	Locked	6/2/2025 4:57:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:03:04 AM	6/2/2025 5:03:06.801 AM	0:05:08
28	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:03:04 AM	6/2/2025 5:03:36 AM	6/2/2025 5:03:38.881 AM	0:00:32
29	Locked	6/2/2025 5:03:36 AM	6/2/2025 5:03:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:03:53.741 AM	0:00:16
30	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:03:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:04:16 AM	6/2/2025 5:04:16.323 AM	0:00:24
31	Locked	6/2/2025 5:04:16 AM	6/2/2025 5:05:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:05:58.563 AM	0:01:40
32	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:05:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:12 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:15.709 AM	0:00:16
33	Locked	6/2/2025 5:06:12 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:30.205 AM	0:00:16
34	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:06:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:57.116 AM	0:00:28
35	Locked	6/2/2025 5:06:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:06:57.520 AM	0:00:00
36	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:06:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:07:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:07:55.774 AM	0:00:56
37	Locked	6/2/2025 5:07:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:09:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:09:53.053 AM	0:02:00
38	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:09:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:10:08 AM	6/2/2025 5:10:11.550 AM	0:00:16
39	Locked	6/2/2025 5:10:08 AM	6/2/2025 5:10:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:10:28.127 AM	0:00:20
40	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:10:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:10:48 AM	6/2/2025 5:10:50.426 AM	0:00:20
41	Locked	6/2/2025 5:10:48 AM	6/2/2025 5:14:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:14:54.462 AM	0:04:04
42	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:14:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:25:32 AM	6/2/2025 5:25:33.622 AM	0:10:40
43	Locked	6/2/2025 5:25:32 AM	6/2/2025 5:26:44 AM	6/2/2025 5:26:44.886 AM	0:01:12
44	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:26:44 AM	6/2/2025 5:26:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:26:57.613 AM	0:00:12
45	Locked	6/2/2025 5:26:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:26:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:26:57.729 AM	0:00:00
46	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:26:56 AM	6/2/2025 5:27:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:27:31.124 AM	0:00:32
47	Locked	6/2/2025 5:27:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:27:48 AM	6/2/2025 5:27:50.475 AM	0:00:20
48	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:27:48 AM	6/2/2025 5:28:16 AM	6/2/2025 5:28:17.721 AM	0:00:28
49	Locked	6/2/2025 5:28:16 AM	6/2/2025 5:30:08 AM	6/2/2025 5:30:11.726 AM	0:01:52
50	Unlocked	6/2/2025 5:30:08 AM	6/2/2025 5:30:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:30:54.135 AM	0:00:44
51	Locked	6/2/2025 5:30:52 AM	6/2/2025 5:31:28 AM	6/2/2025 5:31:29.616 AM	0:00:36

Click to Review 02Jun25 Locked/Unlocked States

3. SDFE DAVISON filtered the locked and unlocked states for the events logged between 28May25, at 8:56:20 PM and 30May25, at 12:24:36 AM. The examination disclosed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was in a locked state for over one hour on 29May25, between 12:42:24 AM to 1:46:44 AM, and between 3:29:24 AM to 7:28:08 AM. SDFE DAVISON also filtered all times the device was in a locked state for over 15 minutes between 28-29May25. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

1	State	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time	Recorded Date/Time	Duration
25	Locked	5/28/2025 10:11:28 PM	5/28/2025 10:27:32 PM	5/28/2025 10:27:34.395 PM	0:16:04
41	Locked	5/28/2025 11:19:00 PM	5/28/2025 11:51:12 PM	5/28/2025 11:51:15.469 PM	0:32:12
43	Locked	5/28/2025 11:51:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:09:16 AM	5/29/2025 12:09:16.969 AM	0:17:24
49	Locked	5/29/2025 12:26:08 AM	5/29/2025 12:41:16 AM	5/29/2025 12:41:18.820 AM	0:15:08
51	Locked	5/29/2025 12:42:24 AM	5/29/2025 1:46:44 AM	5/29/2025 1:46:47.210 AM	1:04:20
57	Locked	5/29/2025 2:02:20 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:16 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:19.032 AM	0:40:56
59	Locked	5/29/2025 2:43:28 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:48 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:49.491 AM	0:45:20
61	Locked	5/29/2025 3:29:24 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:08 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:09.503 AM	3:58:44
75	Locked	5/29/2025 11:35:00 AM	5/29/2025 11:50:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:50:59.410 AM	0:15:56
77	Locked	5/29/2025 11:53:04 AM	5/29/2025 12:11:36 PM	5/29/2025 12:11:36.794 PM	0:18:32
89	Locked	5/29/2025 12:49:48 PM	5/29/2025 1:05:44 PM	5/29/2025 1:05:46.414 PM	0:15:56
103	Locked	5/29/2025 11:12:44 PM	5/30/2025 12:24:36 AM	5/30/2025 12:24:39.662 AM	1:11:52

Click to Review 28-29May25 Locked/Unlocked States

TIMELINE ANALYSIS 29MAY25

1. SDFE DAVISON conducted a timeline analysis of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND for all events occurring on 29May25, between 1:50:16 AM and 1:12:01 PM. A timeline analysis of all device events is an extremely complex process, and a digital forensic examiner must report all pertinent data and user activity. However, a digital forensic examiner cannot report all data which occurs on the device since a report will not be represented in a clear and concise manner. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded over 15,000 pieces of data for all events occurring on the device on 29May25, between 1:50:16 AM and 1:12:01 PM. All 15,000 pieces of data are available upon request. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted 1,371 pieces of data during the timeline analysis of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. SDFE DAVISON saved the data to a folder named "(d) 29May25 Timeline" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The folder contains a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet named "29May25 Timeline Items.xlsx" and an Adobe Acrobat file named "report.pdf." Axiom created the Adobe Acrobat file and the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet based on items tagged by SDFE DAVISON. SDFE DAVISON edited the Microsoft Excel to assist in viewing purposes of this report. SDFE DAVISON also created a color legend to assist in identifying different types of data in the report. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as display in the Excel spreadsheet.

Color Legend				
DEVICE STATES				
USER INTERACTION/AUTOMATIC BY USER ACTIONS			NO USER INTERACTION	
Biome Keybag Lock States	Unlocked		KnowledgeC Device Lock States	Locked
KnowledgeC Device Lock States	Unlocked		Biome Keybag Lock States	Locked
KnowledgeC Screen Backlight States	Screen on		KnowledgeC Screen Backlight States	Screen off
KnowledgeC Application Usage			PowerLog Application State	Suspended
Biome Application Focus			PowerLog Application State	Background
KnowledgeC Notification Usage				
PowerLog App Usage	Focus Seconds			
PowerLog Application State	Active			
PowerLog Camera State	On			
Apple Heath Data			GEOLOCATION AUTOMATIC AND USER INTERACTION	
Apple Health Distance			Apple Maps - Biome App Intents	
Apple Health Steps			Cached Locations	
			Biome Application Intents	PlaceCardTap
AUTOMATIC NOTIFICATIONS DISPLAYED ON USER SCREEN			COMMUNICATIONS AUTOMATIC USER INTERACTION	
User Notification Events			Communication	
			Email & Calendar	
OPERATING SYSTEM AUTOMATIC			Social Networking	
File system	Folder		InteractionC Interactions	
File	.plist		Application Usage	InteractionC Contacts
MULTIMEDIA USER INTERACTION AND AUTOMATIC			BATTERY LIFE	CHARGING
Media	Audio		PowerLog Battery Level	UNPLUGGED
Media	Videos		Biome Device Plugged-in States	PLUGGED IN
File	.MP4		PowerLog Battery Level	PLUGGED IN
File	.MOV			
File	CachedMedia - Pornography			
Media	Pictures			
Media	iOS Snapshots			
File	.ktx			
File	.png			
File	.jpg			

Click to Review Adobe Report

2. The examination of all timeline events for 29May25, revealed the device was located near Willis Manor X-2, Norfolk, VA, based on Geolocation data. The device appeared to remain in the area of Willis Manor X-2 until the completion of the timeline analysis at approximately 1:15PM. SDFE DAVISON tagged four geolocation points between 1:59:12 AM, and 11:00:08 AM, as a part of the timeline analysis; however, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded 4,021 geolocation points with the overwhelming majority near Willis Manor X-2. The examination revealed the 3921 Cached Locations recorded on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND were near Willis Manor X-2. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

LOCATION & TRAVEL 4,021

Apple Maps - Biome App Intents	4
Apple Maps Searches	1
Cached Locations	3,921
iOS Maps	95



OPEN LOCATION IN

Latitude **36.9503**

Longitude **-76.3207**

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.950343976077**
Longitude	**-76.3206553362767**
Accuracy (m)	**34.0**
Altitude (m)	**9.77582987751294**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**2.0**
Timestamp Date/Time	**5/29/2025 1:50:02.371 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	216460



OPEN LOCATION IN

Latitude **36.9503**

Longitude **-76.3207**

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.9502864940436**
Longitude	**-76.3206915547234**
Accuracy (m)	**9.11408852641023**
Altitude (m)	**12.430949600935**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**14.9376034579561**
Timestamp Date/Time	**5/29/2025 4:30:09.809 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	219323



OPEN LOCATION IN

Latitude **36.9503**

Longitude **-76.3208**

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.9502968178737**
Longitude	**-76.320750299786**
Accuracy (m)	**34.0**
Altitude (m)	**8.86128206650536**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**30.0**
Timestamp Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:39:31.382 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	220961



OPEN LOCATION IN

Latitude **36.9503**

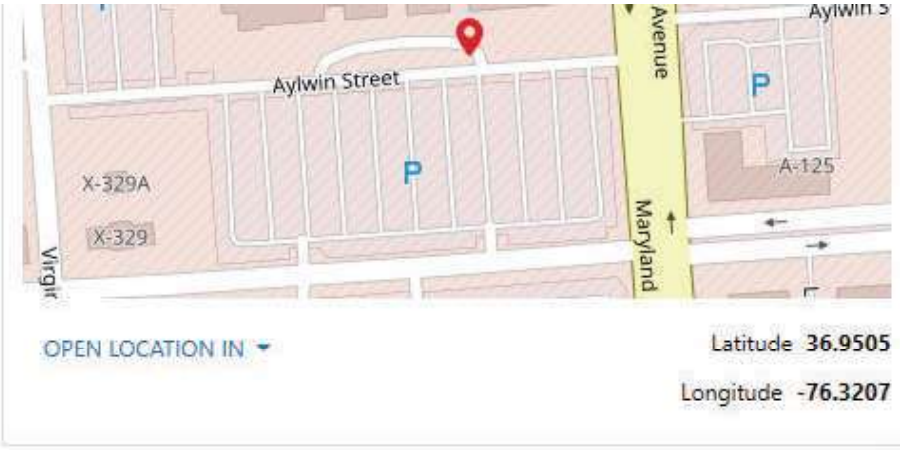
Longitude **-76.3208**

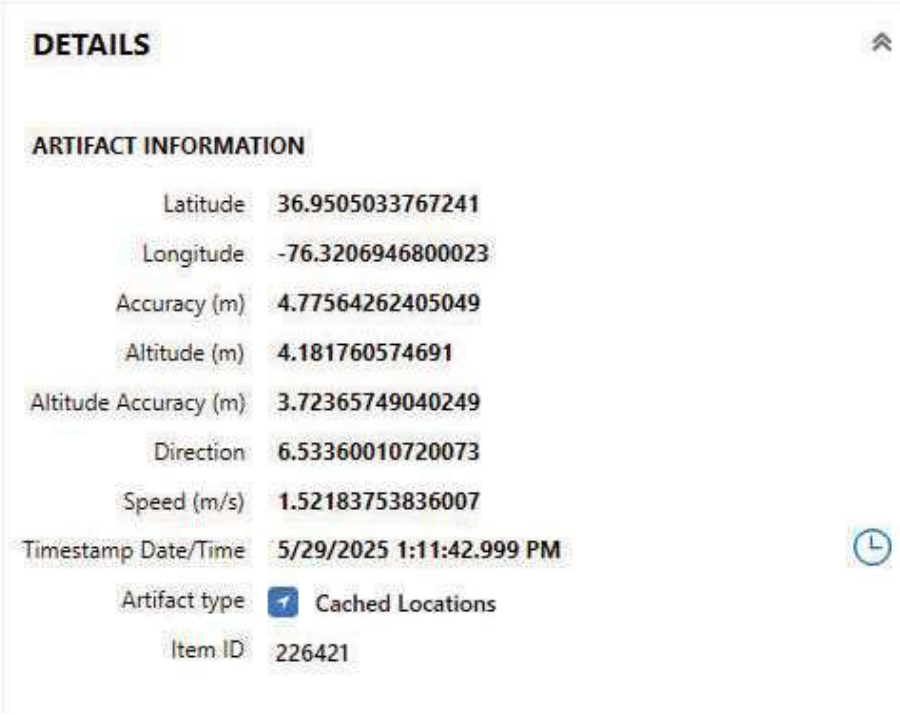
DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.95028305**
Longitude	**-76.32083129**
Accuracy (m)	**61.3333333333333**
Altitude (m)	**9.5**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**30.0**
Timestamp Date/Time	**5/29/2025 11:37:24.629 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	224124

EVIDENCE INFORMATION





29MAY25 1:50AM to 7:28AM

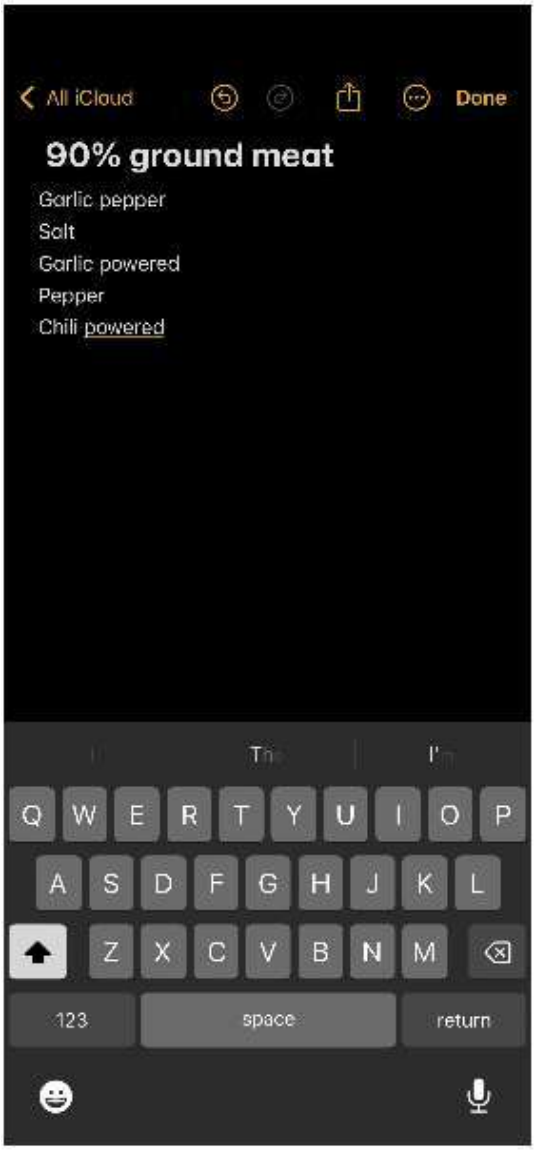
1. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was mostly in a locked state between 1:50:28 AM and 7:28:08 AM. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was in an unlocked state for 2 minutes and 16 seconds during this timeframe. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND had limited interaction with the device. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND used the Apple Notes App at 2:01 AM, and reviewed a note titled "90% ground meat." The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND previously created the note on 29May25, at 1:46:57 AM. The user then brought to focus the Cash App for two seconds at 2:02 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND then brought to focus Snapchat for three seconds at 2:02:10 AM. Between 3:28:50 AM and 3:29:12 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max

belonging to S/COPELAND brought the Snapchat App back to focus and responded to a message from the Snapchat user name “luv.layna22” at 3:29:05 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Microsoft Excel.

LOCKED/UNLOCKED STATES

1	State	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time	Recorded Date/Time	Duration
54	Unlocked	5/29/2025 1:50:04 AM	5/29/2025 1:50:28 AM	5/29/2025 1:50:28.166 AM	0:00:24
55	Locked	5/29/2025 1:50:28 AM	5/29/2025 2:01:16 AM	5/29/2025 2:01:20.094 AM	0:10:48
56	Unlocked	5/29/2025 2:01:16 AM	5/29/2025 2:02:20 AM	5/29/2025 2:02:22.953 AM	0:01:04
57	Locked	5/29/2025 2:02:20 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:16 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:19.032 AM	0:40:56
58	Unlocked	5/29/2025 2:43:16 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:28 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:29.912 AM	0:00:12
59	Locked	5/29/2025 2:43:28 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:48 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:49.491 AM	0:45:20
60	Unlocked	5/29/2025 3:28:48 AM	5/29/2025 3:29:24 AM	5/29/2025 3:29:24.149 AM	0:00:36
61	Locked	5/29/2025 3:29:24 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:08 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:09.503 AM	3:58:44

APPLE NOTES


All iCloud
Done
90% ground meat
Garlic pepper
Salt
Garlic powered
Pepper
Chili powered
Q W E R T Y U I O P
A S D F G H J K L
Z X C V B N M
123
space
return

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Title	**90% ground meat**
Folder	**iCloud / Notes**
Created Date/Time	**5/29/2025 1:46:57.039 AM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/29/2025 1:48:04.813 AM**
Body	**90% ground meat** **Garlic pepper** **Salt** **Garlic powered** **Pepper** **Chili powered**
Summary	**Garlic pepper**
Encrypted	**No**
Note ID	**B6F7C8B8-3F04-449C-BA95-A022A0B964A1**
Artifact type	Apple Notes
Item ID	483158

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Containers\Shared \AppGroup\7123E3B3-E361-4690-9658- E38643420C6C\NoteStore.sqlite
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	
Location	Table: ZICNOTEDATA(Z_PK: 35) Table: ZICCLOUDSYNCINGOBJECT(Z_PK: 1) Table: ZICCLOUDSYNCINGOBJECT(Z_PK: 88)
Evidence number	NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

CASH APP



DETAILS

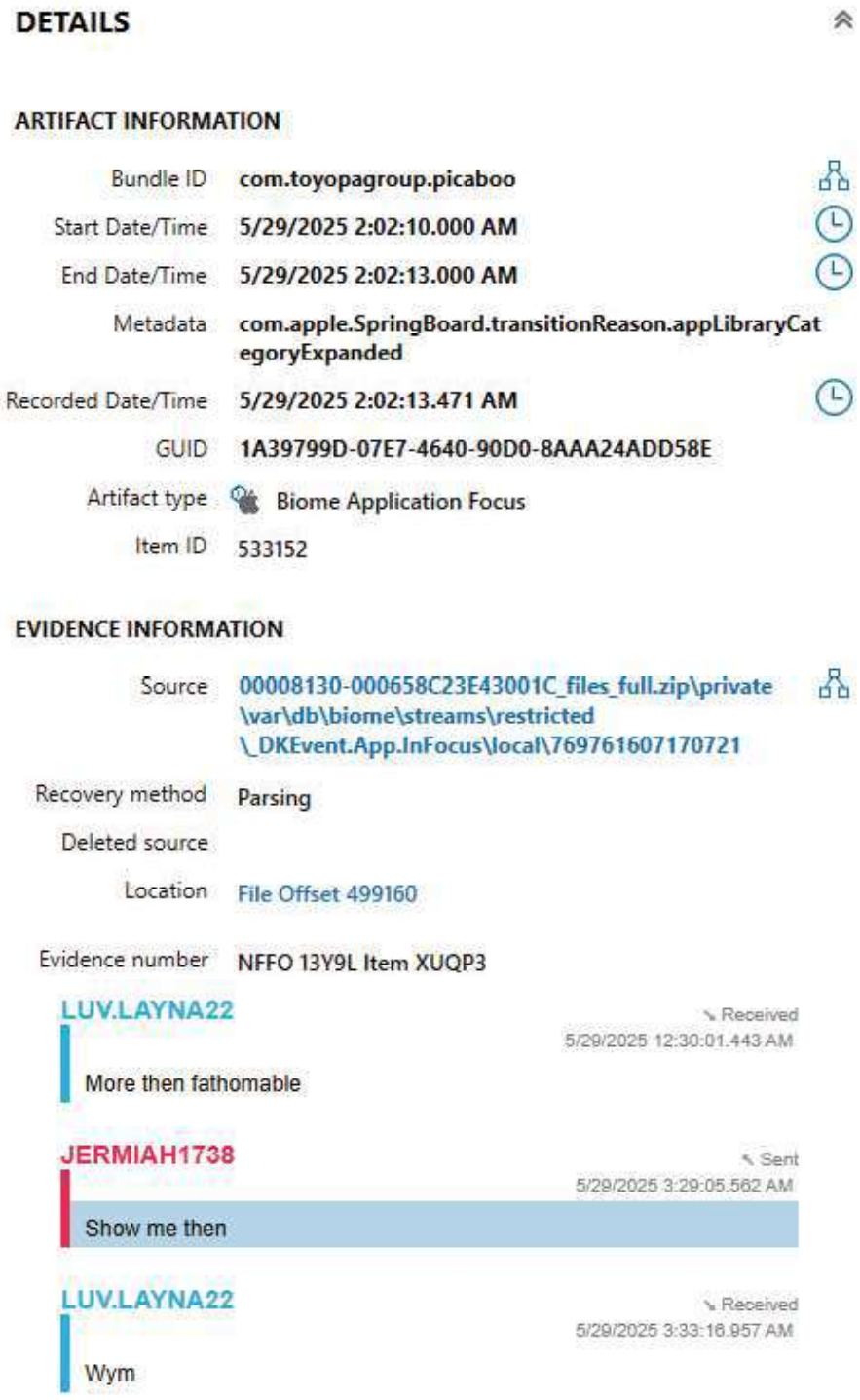
ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Bundle ID	com.squareup.cash
Start Date/Time	5/29/2025 2:02:06.000 AM
End Date/Time	5/29/2025 2:02:08.000 AM
Metadata	com.apple.SpringBoard.transitionReason.appLibraryCategory
Recorded Date/Time	5/29/2025 2:02:08.410 AM
GUID	1A973736-CDDE-449C-89D7-40876A760787
Artifact type	Biome Application Focus
Item ID	533150

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.App.InFocus\local\769761607170721

SNAPCHAT



2. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was wearing the Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm as noted by the recorded Heart Rates in the Apple Health Data. On 29May25, between 1:48:01 AM and 3:07:06 AM, the individual wearing the

Apple Watch paired with the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND had 13 Heart Rate events recorded. The individual's lowest heart rate was recorded at 61 Beats Per Minute (BPM) at 1:48:01 AM, while the individual's highest heart rate was recorded at 130 BPM at 3:07:06 AM. The individual then stopped wearing the Apple Watch SE sometime before 4:00AM. The exact time the individual stopped wearing the Apple Watch SE is unknown as the Apple Health database records worn times once per hour on the hour.

Tags	Floors/ Distance (meters)/ Beats Per Minute/ Steps Taken	Start Date Time/ Taken Time	End Date Time	Heart Rate Context/ Duration (Minutes)
Health Distance	87.4	5/29/2025 1:40:35.545 AM	5/29/2025 1:49:28.376 AM	8.88
Steps	106	5/29/2025 1:40:35.545 AM	5/29/2025 1:49:28.376 AM	8.88
Heart Rate	61	5/29/2025 1:48:01.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	17.06	5/29/2025 1:48:18.027 AM	5/29/2025 1:48:25.711 AM	0.13
Steps	23	5/29/2025 1:48:18.027 AM	5/29/2025 1:48:25.711 AM	0.13
Heart Rate	125	5/29/2025 1:52:58.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	128	5/29/2025 1:58:22.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	100.09	5/29/2025 1:59:09.999 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:20.690 AM	9.18
Steps	130	5/29/2025 1:59:09.999 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:20.690 AM	9.18
Health Distance	98.94	5/29/2025 2:01:14.846 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:22.464 AM	7.13
Steps	144	5/29/2025 2:01:14.846 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:22.464 AM	7.13
Heart Rate	125	5/29/2025 2:09:31.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	35.34	5/29/2025 2:09:42.668 AM	5/29/2025 2:16:55.754 AM	7.22
Steps	48	5/29/2025 2:09:42.668 AM	5/29/2025 2:16:55.754 AM	7.22
Health Distance	44.57	5/29/2025 2:13:11.817 AM	5/29/2025 2:22:35.325 AM	9.39
Steps	69	5/29/2025 2:13:11.817 AM	5/29/2025 2:22:35.325 AM	9.39
Heart Rate	122	5/29/2025 2:15:46.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	46.35	5/29/2025 2:20:00.199 AM	5/29/2025 2:28:50.683 AM	8.84
Steps	60	5/29/2025 2:20:00.199 AM	5/29/2025 2:28:50.683 AM	8.84
Heart Rate	126	5/29/2025 2:21:30.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	18.64	5/29/2025 2:24:12.676 AM	5/29/2025 2:33:51.863 AM	9.65
Steps	26	5/29/2025 2:24:12.676 AM	5/29/2025 2:33:51.863 AM	9.65
Heart Rate	129	5/29/2025 2:28:04.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	128	5/29/2025 2:30:23.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	105.5	5/29/2025 2:33:48.096 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:32.126 AM	9.73
Steps	119	5/29/2025 2:33:48.096 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:32.126 AM	9.73
Heart Rate	69	5/29/2025 2:37:32.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	64.63	5/29/2025 2:39:09.393 AM	5/29/2025 2:47:46.720 AM	8.62
Steps	95	5/29/2025 2:39:09.393 AM	5/29/2025 2:47:46.720 AM	8.62
Health Distance	44.08	5/29/2025 2:45:17.221 AM	5/29/2025 2:51:44.090 AM	6.45
Steps	51	5/29/2025 2:45:17.221 AM	5/29/2025 2:51:44.090 AM	6.45
Heart Rate	75	5/29/2025 2:53:19.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	78	5/29/2025 2:56:24.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	23.69	5/29/2025 2:56:54.043 AM	5/29/2025 2:57:19.656 AM	0.43
Steps	32	5/29/2025 2:56:54.043 AM	5/29/2025 2:57:19.656 AM	0.43
Heart Rate	67	5/29/2025 3:02:17.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	130	5/29/2025 3:07:06.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	39.14	5/29/2025 3:26:18.770 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:11.462 AM	1.88
Steps	58	5/29/2025 3:26:18.770 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:11.462 AM	1.88

1	Watch Worn Start Time	Hours Worn	Last Watch Worn Hour Time	Hours Off Before Next Worn Start Time
2	12-May-25 4:00:00 AM	29	13-May-25 9:00:00 AM	21
3	14-May-25 6:00:00 AM	58	16-May-25 6:00:00 PM	24
4	17-May-25 6:00:00 PM	10	18-May-25 2:00:00 AM	2
5	18-May-25 4:00:00 AM	6	18-May-25 10:00:00 AM	18
6	19-May-25 4:00:00 AM	46	21-May-25 2:00:00 AM	2
7	21-May-25 4:00:00 AM	36	22-May-25 6:00:00 PM	7
8	22-May-25 11:00:00 PM	96	26-May-25 11:00:00 PM	20
9	27-May-25 7:00:00 PM	33	29-May-25 4:00:00 AM	7
10	29-May-25 11:00:00 AM	1	29-May-25 12:00:00 PM	

Click to Review Health Data Report

3. Between 2:11:02 AM and 5:33:52 AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received incoming communication announcements from Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Telegram, and Gmail. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not respond or check any of the communications other than responding to the Snapchat user name "luv.layna22" identified above.

4. Between 5:40:10 AM and 7:19:03 AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received incoming communication attempts from phone calls and text messages. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not respond to any of the attempted communications as the device was still in a locked state. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocks the device at 7:28:08 AM. SDFE DAVISON took a screenshot from the report as a representative sample. SDFE DAVISON attached the full report in the link below.

Sender / Partners	Sender Name /Partner Name	Direction	Type /Call Type	Message Sent Date/Time Call Date/Time	Message /Call Duration	Status /Call Status	Message Read Date/Time Call End Date/Time
PII 6007	TAYLOR KIARRA	Incoming	Phone	5/29/2025 6:58:29.655 AM	00:00:00	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:58:29.655 AM
6007	TAYLOR KIARRA	Incoming	Phone	5/29/2025 6:58:35.059 AM	00:00:00	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:58:35.059 AM
7602	CS2 Bryant		iMessage	5/29/2025 7:03:32.000 AM	Where you at?	Received	
8519	Aaliyah De La Cruz		iMessage	5/29/2025 7:07:13.000 AM	Copland are you okay	Received and Read	6/2/2025 5:30:15.000 AM
8519	Aaliyah De La Cruz		iMessage	5/29/2025 7:07:16.000 AM	Where are you	Received and Read	6/2/2025 5:30:15.000 AM
9482	WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	5/29/2025 7:14:30.913 AM	00:00:00	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:14:30.913 AM
9482		Incoming	FaceTime Audio	5/29/2025 7:14:50.488 AM	00:00:00	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:14:50.488 AM
9482			iMessage	5/29/2025 7:18:56.000 AM	Hey bro	Received and Read	5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM
9482			iMessage	5/29/2025 7:19:03.000 AM	Look I need you to reply	Received and Read	5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM

Click to Review Incoming Communication Attempts

29MAY25 7:28AM to 11:50AM

1. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was mostly in an unlocked state between 7:28:08 AM and 11:50:56 AM. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was in a locked state for 47 minutes and 44 seconds during this timeframe. The longest time the device was in a locked state was between 11:35:00 AM and 11:50:56 AM, for a total of 15 Minutes and 56 seconds. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND used the apps Apple iMessage, TikTok, Twitter, Snapchat, and Apple Photos during this timeframe. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND primarily used the Apple Photos App between 7:55:12 AM and 11:31:47 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Microsoft Excel.

	State	Start Date/Time	End Date/Time	Recorded Date/Time	Duration
62	Unlocked	5/29/2025 7:28:08 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:48 AM	5/29/2025 7:28:48.689 AM	0:00:40
63	Locked	5/29/2025 7:28:48 AM	5/29/2025 7:38:48 AM	5/29/2025 7:38:48.983 AM	0:10:00
64	Unlocked	5/29/2025 7:38:48 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:20 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:22.948 AM	0:00:32
65	Locked	5/29/2025 7:39:20 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:56 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:58.967 AM	0:00:36
66	Unlocked	5/29/2025 7:39:56 AM	5/29/2025 8:53:00 AM	5/29/2025 8:53:01.571 AM	1:13:04
67	Locked	5/29/2025 8:53:00 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:12 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:15.919 AM	0:05:12
68	Unlocked	5/29/2025 8:58:12 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:28 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:29.715 AM	0:00:16
69	Locked	5/29/2025 8:58:28 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:44 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:46.177 AM	0:03:16
70	Unlocked	5/29/2025 9:01:44 AM	5/29/2025 9:23:48 AM	5/29/2025 9:23:48.270 AM	0:22:04
71	Locked	5/29/2025 9:23:48 AM	5/29/2025 9:33:44 AM	5/29/2025 9:33:47.227 AM	0:09:56
72	Unlocked	5/29/2025 9:33:44 AM	5/29/2025 11:31:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:31:59.616 AM	1:58:12
73	Locked	5/29/2025 11:31:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:34:44 AM	5/29/2025 11:34:44.117 AM	0:02:48
74	Unlocked	5/29/2025 11:34:44 AM	5/29/2025 11:35:00 AM	5/29/2025 11:35:00.897 AM	0:00:16
75	Locked	5/29/2025 11:35:00 AM	5/29/2025 11:50:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:50:59.410 AM	0:15:56

2. The examination revealed that on 29May25, at 7:28:08 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device by either the phone's facial biometrics or the PIN. The user then began to use the Apple iMessage App at 7:28:10 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not respond to any previous text messages received and stopped using the Apple iMessage App at 7:28:38 AM. At 7:28:38 AM, the device then displayed two user notification events of previously received text messages from Aaliyah De La Cruz and CS2 Bryant. Between 7:28:48 AM and 7:38:48 AM, the phone was then placed back into a locked state. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:28:10.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:28:38.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:28:38.887 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175532

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Title	**Aaliyah De La Cruz**
Body	**Copland are you okay**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:07:13.292 AM**
Notification Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:28:38.791 AM**
GUID	**6C86CB36-176D-4904-B934-3C0E09037575**
Bundle ID	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Optional Text	[redacted]
UUID	**F19CDB38-B76F-4131-9BEB-C9E87F12DF53:ABPerson**
User ID	[redacted]
Artifact type	User Notification Events
Item ID	640884

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\DuetExpertCenter\streams\userNotificationEvents\local\768225069972772
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Title	**CS2 Bryant**
Body	**Where you at?**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:03:32.287 AM**
Notification Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:28:38.797 AM**
GUID	**97EA1B35-E7EE-493D-9FCB-E1309E993A87**
Bundle ID	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Optional Text	[redacted]
UUID	**F245F867-BB87-4A61-B0F1-AAD5FFE52CF3:ABPerson**
User ID	[redacted]
Artifact type	**User Notification Events**
Item ID	**640885**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\DuetExpertCenter \streams\userNotificationEvents\local \768225069972772**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

3. Between 7:38:48 AM and 7:39:20 AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device and used the Apple iMessage App between 7:38:49 AM and 7:39:13 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not respond to any previous text messages received. The device was then again placed in a locked state between 7:39:20 AM and 7:39:59 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:38:49.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:39:13.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:39:13.187 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175530**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db**
Recovery method	**Parsing**
Deleted source	

4. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device at 7:39:56 AM, and the device remained in an unlocked state for 1 hour, 13 minutes, and 4 seconds until going into a locked state at 8:53:00 AM. Between 7:39:59 AM and 7:41:08 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was active on the Apple iMessage App and read incoming messages from phone number 910-549-9482 at 7:40:44 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not respond to the text messages. The health database recorded health steps and distance events at 7:39:51AM. A cached locations record event logged at 7:41:03 AM, placed iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND the near Willis Manor X-2. The user momentarily switched to the TikTok App before utilizing the Twitter App between 7:41:56 AM and 7:52:55 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots.

Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	It's important
Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	Need you to pick up
Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	Yo
Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	Yo
Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	Very important
Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	Hey bro
Message Read Date/Time		Communication	Sender	Recipient(s)	Message
5/29/2025 7:40:44.000 AM	User communication	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS	PII 9482	["Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3...	Look I need you to reply

Health Distance	4.61	5/29/2025 7:39:51.086 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:56.206 AM	0.09
Steps	7	5/29/2025 7:39:51.086 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:56.206 AM	0.09



OPEN LOCATION IN

Latitude **36.9505**

Longitude **-76.3207**

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.9505476733097**
Longitude	**-76.3206907320705**
Accuracy (m)	**8.93342872222436**
Altitude (m)	**4.20221134554595**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**3.0**
Direction	**4.818969813508e-16**
Speed (m/s)	**0.801326930522912**
Timestamp Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:41:03.998 AM**
Artifact type	Cached Locations
Item ID	221135

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.atebits.Tweetie2**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:41:56.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:52:55.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:52:55.241 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175490**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	**Parsing**

5. Between 7:41:56 AM and 7:52:55 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was using the Twitter App. While the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was using twitter, the device received two incoming FaceTime audio calls and one cellular phone call from the phone number [redacted] The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer the phone calls while on the Twitter app. At 7:53:04 AM, the user then switched to the Snapchat App and appears to switch between the use of the iPhone's back camera to the front camera in the Snapchat App at 7:53:17 AM. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to take two pictures while using Snapchat based on the camera being active and the .jpg file extension. Snapchat saved the images named A4FF562B-4659-4E70-83E4-F07433AF8A8C.jpg and A5BD5969-9F93-4394-BD12-5A4FB27937C3.jpg. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND then replied to Snapchat user nam [redacted] at 7:53:55 AM. This reply was the last communication send by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND until 12:44:35 PM when the user called the phone numbe [redacted]. The user then switched back to the Twitter App between 7:54:14 AM and 7:55:10 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom and the 29May25 Timeline Excel spreadsheet.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.atebits.Tweetie2**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:41:56.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:52:55.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:52:55.241 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175490**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

TWITTER FEED

ceceswetdreams	âœ¨ Bratty Goddess âœ¨ AQUARIUS â™¡ï¸ Booking ðŸ“§ bookyoulovecece@gmail.com â€¼ï¸ HIGHLIGHTS TABâ€¼ï¸ ðŸ†URBAN X 2024 WINNER 4 MOST AMAZING ASSðŸ† DM fee is $30 ðŸ’¸
justdarren43	For a spicy shout out, hit the follow button and DM me! For my content, linkâ€™s below!
itsmeganluxy	brazilian ðŸ‡§ðŸ‡· | dm for my menu ðŸ’¦ | GET ALL MY FULL UNCENSORED CONTENT HERE: https://t.co/L1m7PqBdOC
spoileddbratty	Brat. Findom. Princess treatment onlyðŸ’¸
milfinainteasy	26 â™¡ï¸ | RESPOND ON LINKS BELOW â™¡ï¸ | MDNI ðŸ”ž
OnlyTuMami	Adult content creatorðŸŽ‚ðŸ”ž/ I'm your favorite latin girl @TumamiOnly ðŸ”¥ My OF is more funðŸ˜œCLICK THE LINK BELLOW!ðŸ˜ˆðŸ’¦â¬‡ï¸
bbyfrmvenus	your virtual girlfriend. Instagram @ 333venus__
ShyHotWifeCpl	NSFW 21+ Only! MILF Hotwife. All real amateur content. Just a husband and wife that like to share.
violetsaucy	(21+ ONLY) OFFICIAL ACCOUNT â€¼ï¸ â™¡ï¸ Anime Enthusiast â™¡ï¸ Thicc Waifu â™¡ï¸ @Fleshlight Girl â™¡ï¸ YouTuber â™¡ï¸ Gamer â™¡ï¸ @Vixen Angel â™¡ï¸ Agent: @ocmodeling â™¡ï¸ PR: @therubpr
stephaniehxox	just a girl who likes to get freaky ðŸ˜ˆ FREE access to my VIP OF ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜³
stephbabyyxo	come and see what iâ€™m all about ðŸ˜ˆ i made my VIP OF free through this link ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜›
softdahliaxoxo	the upgrade you didnâ€™t know you needed ðŸ˜ˆ FREE access to my VIP OF ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ¥µ
thejazjizzes	your online anime gf serving milkers ðŸ˜ˆ link to my FREE uncensored content ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜³
sexylexxxyp	puerto rican baddie serving more than just body ðŸ˜ˆ it doesnâ€™t get freakier than my VIP OF so i made it free here ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜³
imsammorgan	the fun side of your fantasies ðŸ˜ˆ come play with me i just made a free OF ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜›
onlymimirose	your new british obsession ðŸ¥µ FREE film partner application and link to my VIP OF ðŸ˜³ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼
thejennaleexx	you probably know me from instagram || model ðŸ’¦ FREE link to my VIP OF ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜³
itskateholland	your new gamer gf ðŸ˜ back uppp: @thekateholland ðŸ™ˆ come see why iâ€™m top 0% ðŸ˜ˆ apply to be my film partner here ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼
alexisreidxo	come and take a walk on the wild side ðŸ˜› i made my VIP OF free exclusively through this link ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜³
celinedijon	Your favourite trans creator âœ¨ 18+ ONLY âœ¨ 0.1% âœ¨ Talk to me on my FREE PAGE. âœ¨ I only respond on OF (I am not on any dating sites) NO COLLABS ðŸ«¶ðŸ»
sexytabbyxo	it gets even better than this ðŸ˜ˆ i only respond on OF ðŸ¥µ film partner applications ðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼
thekennedykay	iâ€™m more than your average girl next door ðŸ˜ˆ find out why the neighbors love me ðŸ˜›ðŸ¥µ apply to film with me hereðŸ‘‡ðŸ¼ðŸ˜³

SNAPCHAT

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:04.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:54:11.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:54:11.978 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175482

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**On**
Camera Type	**Back**
Bundle ID	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/23/1970 10:14:20.925 PM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:15.337 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:15.582 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205653

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**Off**
Camera Type	**Back**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/23/1970 10:14:23.117 PM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.529 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.773 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205654

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**On**
Camera Type	**Front**
Bundle ID	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/23/1970 10:14:23.244 PM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.656 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.900 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205655

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**Off**
Camera Type	**Back**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/23/1970 10:14:23.117 PM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.529 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.773 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205654

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**On**
Camera Type	**Front**
Bundle ID	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/23/1970 10:14:23.244 PM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.656 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:17.900 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205655

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

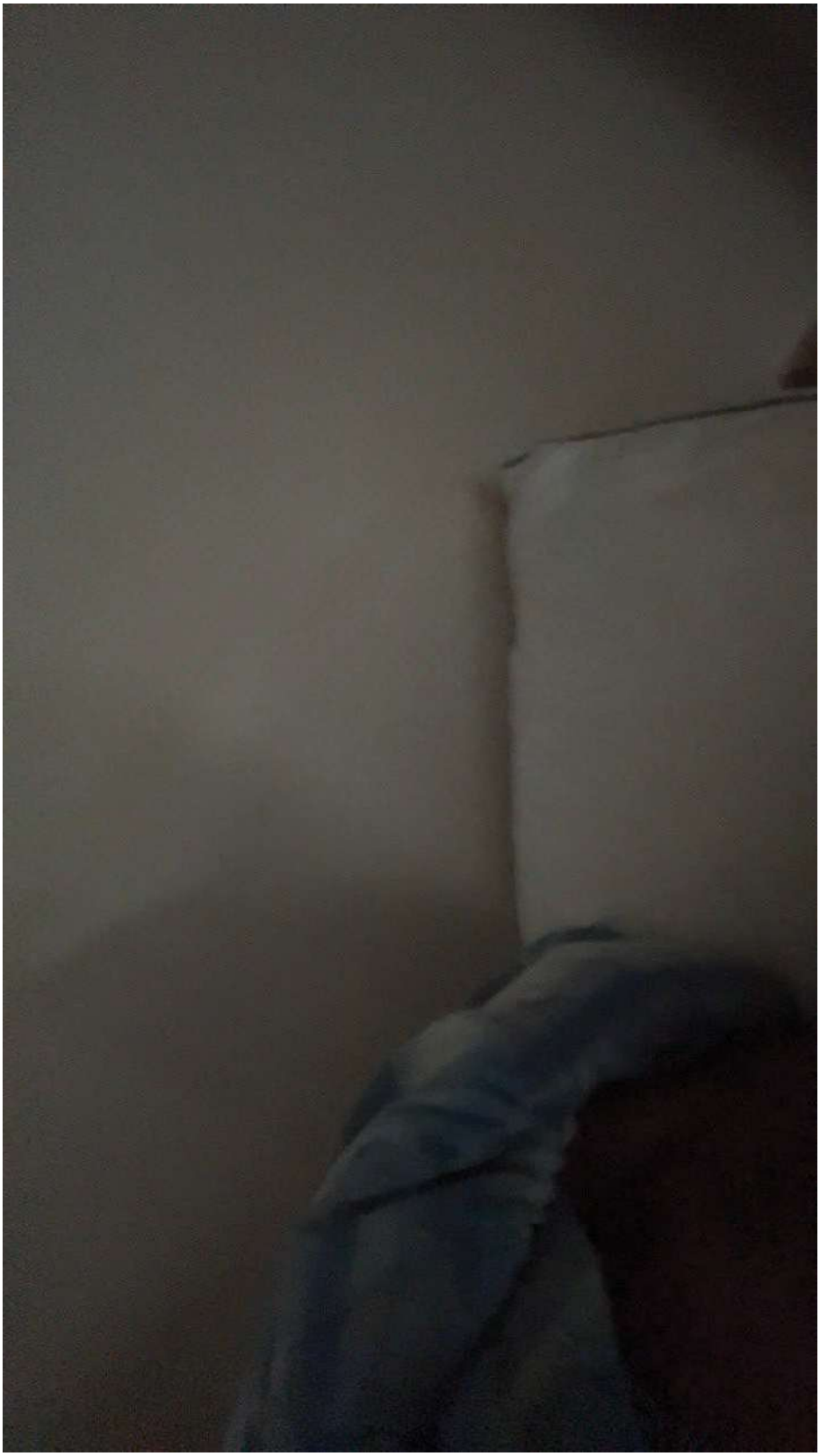
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**A4FF562B-4659-4E70-83E4-F07433AF8A8C.jpg**
File Extension	**.jpg**
Created Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:18.000 AM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:18.000 AM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:53:18.000 AM**
Size (Bytes)	**108,236**
Skin Tone Percentage	**0.0**
Original Width	**720**
Original Height	**1280**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 720** **ImageHeight: 1280**
MD5 Hash	**fca9400f5fd3fe43748562852f08cf60**
SHA1 Hash	**b8e36c1919ebd6a43a90703453c5f0aeb92a5ff8**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	782390

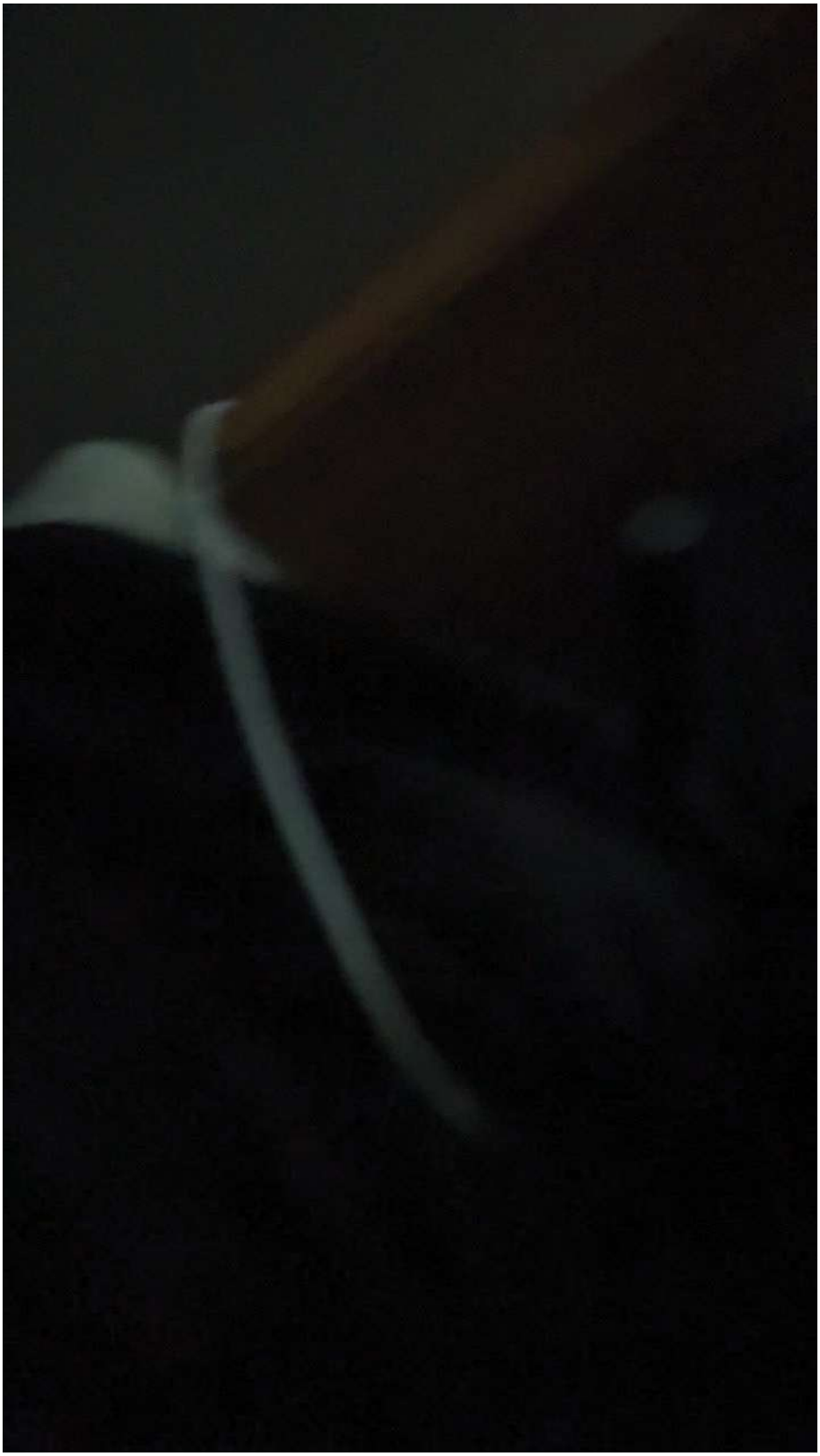
EVIDENCE INFORMATION

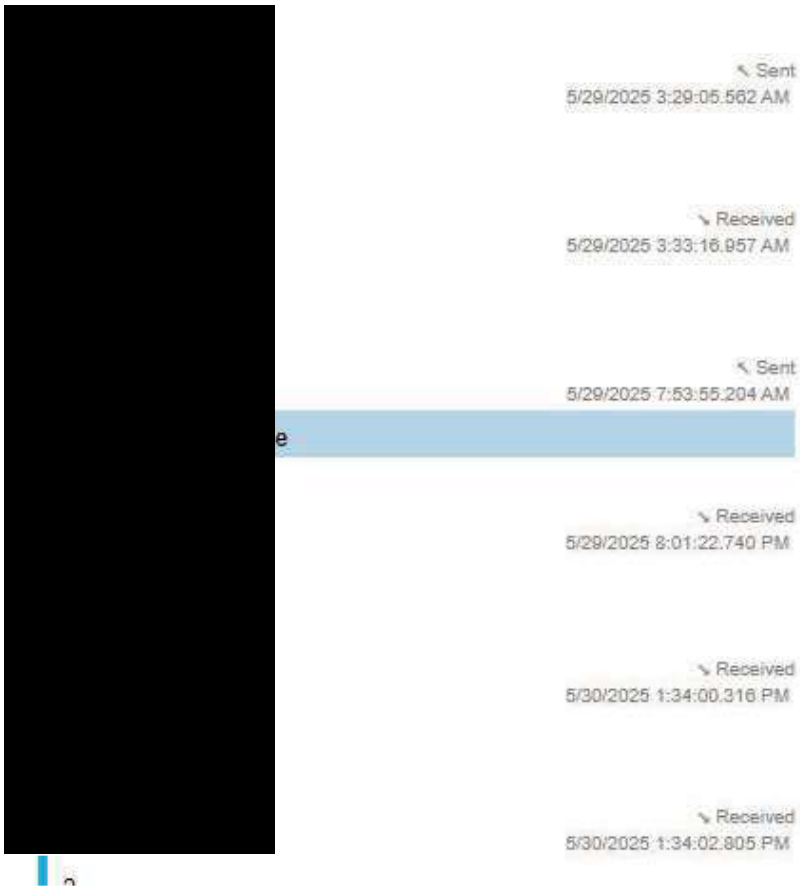
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application\B55E0D41-55AC-4E93-BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A\Library\Caches\A4FF562B-4659-4E70-83E4-F07433AF8A8C.jpg
Recovery method	Parsing



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**A5BD5969-9F93-4394-BD12-5A4FB27937C3.jpg**
File Extension	**.jpg**
Created Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:54:07.000 AM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:54:07.000 AM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:54:07.000 AM**
Size (Bytes)	**88,500**
Skin Tone Percentage	**1.9**
Original Width	**720**
Original Height	**1280**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 720** **ImageHeight: 1280**
MD5 Hash	**bc7391bbd86c90deab9834b56cd1ae50**
SHA1 Hash	**1057117d4cc251942bd973096eca828e17686d34**
Artifact type	**Pictures**
Item ID	**782391**





CALL LOGS

[redacted]	Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:50:20.681 AM	5/29/2025 7:50:20.681 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:50:23.192 AM	5/29/2025 7:50:23.192 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:50:30.992 AM	5/29/2025 7:50:30.992 AM	00:00:00

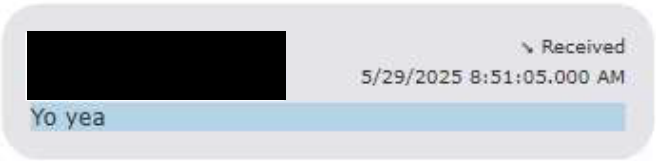
6. The examination of the Apple Photos App for the time period of 7:55:12 AM until 11:31:47 AM, revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was viewing adult pornography. Between 7:55:12 AM and 8:25:54 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was primarily using the Apple Photos App. While the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was viewing adult pornography, the device received an incoming phone call from "Brad Parker." The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received an additional four incoming calls until 9:01:12 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer or respond to any of the incoming phone calls. Between 8:25:56 AM and 8:26:03 AM, the user switched to the Apple iMessage App from the Apple Photos App. The user did not respond to any previously received text messages nor did the user appear to read any unread text messages. Between 8:26:05 AM and 8:52:51 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND started to use the Apple Photos App again. While the user was viewing pornography, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received two text messages the phone number [redacted] at 8:51 AM. The user did not respond to the text messages. Between 8:53:00 AM and 8:58:12 AM,

the device was putted into a locked state for 5 minutes and 12 seconds. While the device was in a locked state, the health database recorded health steps and distance events at 8:54:33 AM. The user then unlocked the device for 16 seconds then placed the device back into a locked state between 8:58:28 AM and 9:01:44 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots:

CALL LOGS

BRAD PARKER	[redacted]	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:59:41.796 AM	5/29/2025 7:59:41.796 AM	00:00:00
		Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:25:55.786 AM	5/29/2025 8:25:55.786 AM	00:00:00
WIRELESS CALLER		Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:29:08.193 AM	5/29/2025 8:29:08.193 AM	00:00:00
		Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:50:24.483 AM	5/29/2025 8:50:24.483 AM	00:00:00
WIRELESS CALLER		Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 9:01:12.025 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:12.025 AM	00:00:00

TEXT MESSAGES





ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.mobileslideshow**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 7:55:12.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:25:44.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:25:45.069 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175459**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.mobileslideshow**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:25:52.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:25:54.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:25:54.656 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175460

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:25:56.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:26:03.000 AM**
ecorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:26:03.529 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175553

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.mobileslideshow**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:26:05.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:52:51.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 8:52:52.004 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175447**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

Locked	5/29/2025 8:53:00 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:12 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:15.919 AM	0:05:12
Unlocked	5/29/2025 8:58:12 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:28 AM	5/29/2025 8:58:29.715 AM	0:00:16
Locked	5/29/2025 8:58:28 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:44 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:46.177 AM	0:03:16

Health Distance	41.6	5/29/2025 8:54:33.714 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:41.307 AM	7.13
Steps	64	5/29/2025 8:54:33.714 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:41.307 AM	7.13

7. Between 9:01:44 AM and 9:23:48 AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device and was using the Apple Photos App to view pornography between 9:01:47 AM and 9:22:49 AM. While the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was viewing pornography, the device received phone calls from "JEAN JACQUES,ED" and phone number [redacted]The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer or respond to any of the incoming phone calls. Prior to the device being placed in a locked state, the health database recorded health steps and distance events at 9:22:05 AM. Between 9:23:48 AM and 9:33:44 AM, the device was putted into a locked state for 9 minutes and 56 seconds. While the device was in a locked state, the health database recorded health steps and distance events at 9:33:46 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.mobileslideshow**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:01:47.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:02:13.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:02:13.267 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	175443

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.mobileslideshow**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:02:13.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:22:49.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:22:49.478 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	175431

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

CALL LOGS

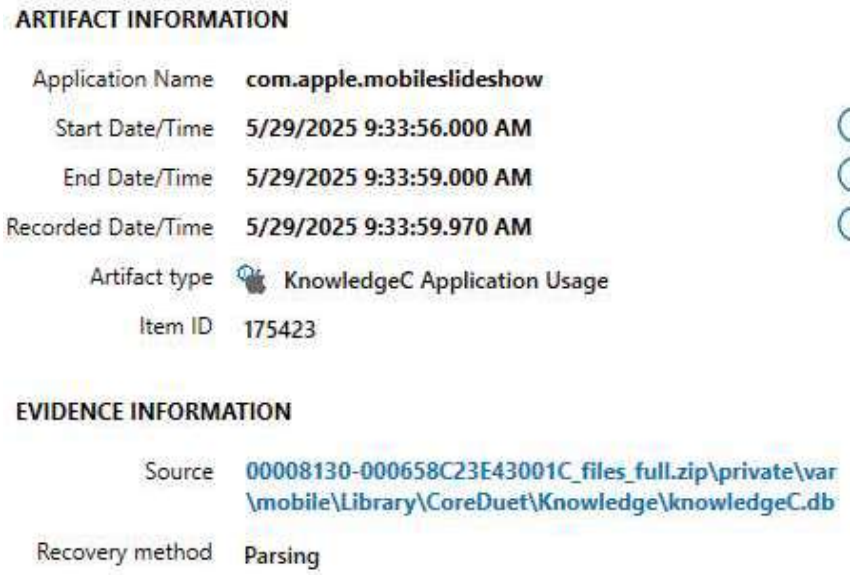
JEAN JACQUES,ED	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 9:05:16.934 AM	5/29/2025 9:05:16.934 AM	00:00:00
WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 9:12:15.076 AM	5/29/2025 9:12:15.076 AM	00:00:00

HEALTH DATA

Health Distance	112.13	5/29/2025 9:22:05.299 AM	5/29/2025 9:24:54.296 AM	2.82
Steps	159	5/29/2025 9:22:05.299 AM	5/29/2025 9:24:54.296 AM	2.82
Health Distance	13.69	5/29/2025 9:33:46.912 AM	5/29/2025 9:33:59.716 AM	0.21
Steps	23	5/29/2025 9:33:46.912 AM	5/29/2025 9:33:59.716 AM	0.21

8. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device using either the phone's facial biometrics or the PIN on 29May25, between

9:33:44 AM and 11:31:56 AM. The device remained in an unlocked state for 1 hour, 58 minutes, and 12 seconds. At 9:33:56 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND started using the Apple Photos App to view pornography for three seconds until putting the App in the background at 9:33:59 AM. Between 9:34:00 AM and 9:34:18 AM, the user then briefly switched to the Snapchat App for six seconds, then switched briefly to the Apple iMessage app for seven seconds, then switched again back to Snapchat App for two seconds, then switched back again to the Apple iMessage app for three seconds. The user did not respond to any previously received messages. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did access two pictures in the Snapchat App at 9:34:01AM. The image file named 64A9B299-1EEB-7C3C-AE7F-21A6884B13F0.png is a thumbnail image created on the device at 9:34:01 AM. The file is located in the private\var\mobile\Library\Intents\Images\ directory. The purpose of the directory and this thumbnail appears to enable apps like Snapchat to integrate with iOS system features like Siri, shortcuts, and Spotlight. Specifically, this directory holds images associated with intent-related actions, such as group chat display thumbnails, or other visual assets that apps donate to the system for use in contextual suggestions. The original image appeared to be previously uploaded to the Snapchat app as the device's camera was not turned on for use with the Snapchat app until 9:34:13AM, and the file is saved as a .png file extension. The file named ba84c31cd6397c15534c237a861d177d was accessed on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND at 9:34:01 AM, which appears to indicate the user accessed the Snapchat message from the user name "angelina244506." The snapchat message history was not recovered during the examination. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots displayed in Axiom in chronological order.



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:00.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:06.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:06.103 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175412

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	64A9B299-1EEB-7C3C-AE7F-21A6884B13F0.png
File Extension	.png
Created Date/Time	5/29/2025 9:34:01.000 AM
Last Accessed Date/Time	5/29/2025 9:34:01.000 AM
Last Modified Date/Time	5/29/2025 9:34:01.000 AM
Size (Bytes)	59,392
Skin Tone Percentage	47.1
Original Width	180
Original Height	180
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 180 ImageHeight: 180
MD5 Hash	ce1228bf16701289f588a707f5a78d99
SHA1 Hash	5577d8d0a2eb69beeb5b7dbd22ed2e83b0cebf5b
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	163364

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Intents\Images\64A9B299-1EEB-7C3C-AE7F-21A6884B13F0.png
Recovery method	Parsing



FILE DETAILS

File name	**ba84c31cd6397c15534c237a861d177d**
Logical size	**5,534 bytes**
Created	**5/28/2025 11:51:26.000 PM**
Accessed	**5/29/2025 9:34:01.000 AM**
Modified	**5/28/2025 11:51:26.000 PM**
MD5 hash	**115f39170d3d42378ca556f6a69a380b**
SHA256 hash	**823968f77d3be11761c88c2248b3224e7a9bc0bdb148dd0152fd793a3d3535ef**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application\B55E0D41-55AC-4E93-BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A\Documents\com.snap.file_manager_4_SCContent_\ba84c31cd6397c15534c237a861d177d**
Evidence number	**NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3**



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:06.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:13.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:13.230 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175399

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:13.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:15.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:15.620 AM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175398

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**On**
Camera Type	**Front**
Bundle ID	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/23/1970 11:55:19.171 PM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:13.583 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:13.827 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205659

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:15.000 AM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:18.000 AM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 9:34:18.023 AM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175393**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

9. Between 9:34:18 AM and 11:31:47 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND used the Apple Photos App to view adult pornography. The user viewed both pornographic images and videos during this timeframe and previously viewed adult pornography between 7:55:12 AM until 9:33:56 AM except for interruptions identified above. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND viewed pornography primarily from videos and images saved to the device by the user in the \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\ subdirectories and from the iCloud account for the Apple ID listed as [redacted] The user also watched a small number of adult pornographic videos on Twitter and Tiktok. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted the adult pornographic images and videos to the folder named "(e) Pornography" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The folder contains a file name "report.pdf" which consists of the main page of the report. The examination also revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND started charging the phone at 11:08:17 AM until 12:12:27 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom.

BATTERY CHARGING

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

GUID	583C4431-426A-464E-B998-A2DFA6C55AA9
Start Date/Time	5/29/2025 11:08:17.000 AM
End Date/Time	5/29/2025 12:12:27.000 PM
Recorded Date/Time	5/29/2025 12:12:27.115 PM
Artifact type	Biome Device Plugged-in States
Item ID	529386

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Device.IsPluggedIn\local\762147266476412
Recovery method	Parsing

10. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND viewed pornographic videos related to the iCloud account for the Apple ID listed as [redacted]. The iCloud videos cannot be viewed when exported from Axiom as iOS appears to store the files as a compound file or concatenated file. A compound file or concatenated file is a single file that actually contains two or more different types of files inside. A compound file or concatenated file is not intended for an individual to interact with the file and is usually used for internal use or system integration. iOS in this case appears to use the compound file or concatenated file to allow Apple Photos App to view videos stored in an iCloud account. The compound files or concatenated files in this case contain a plist file followed by a video file. As identified above, Apple uses plist files to store structured data for App configuration settings, user preference settings, data serialization, and system settings. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND watched 35 pornographic videos from the iCloud account. The file names all start with naming convention "CachedMedia-" followed by numbers and/or letters. The files are all stored in the directory \private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\PhotoCloudSharingData\Caches\CachedMedia. A small number of the CacheMedia files were corrupt and could not be recovered. However, the file name associated with those files in the plist file resolves back to image files on the system associated with adult pornography. SDFE DAVSION manually carved 12 files to provide a representative sample of the pornography viewed by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. SDFE DAVISON also provided two files which were corrupt and could not be carved; however, SDFE DAVISON provided the image files resident on the device which resolved back to the files named in the plist file. SDFE DAVISON saved the files to a folder named "(f) Compound Files" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom to show the manual carving process.

MAIN INDEX FOR iOS FOR ICLOUD

diskcacherepository.plist

NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

PREVIEW

COLLAPSE ALL FIND

root
[0] lastmodtime = 770611691.729295
[1] automaticallyManagesSize = 1
[2] checkedinlist
[0] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/Af_tmvjHNkzK1ze0q6s_unTTvkZWAX6aUmxKvy-_LmZ0IlJBU750oVSa/IMG_0967.medium.MP4 = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-jB8j3S
[1] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/AVhuCPfsy7wgyRu3ZsD4D2_FjBJDAfU96fu-PO8Ut7_FcqFm9_H5RTWK/IMG_3765.MOV = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-Hx3MNT
[2] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/ARf4aYST9rzjynrOhtqwfVSEtGAPATKNrxANHGFRjDD0m_mtXwFfM44F/IMG_2022.MOV = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-A0pOWy
[3] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/ATmUNpZr04TvidV5p3TKnTvZCprOAc-zPBk060DKWWbBw2MbHZa2cedd/IMG_6832.medium.MP4 = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-73NCK1
[4] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/Ab5PsoYZLcZ2s15VxtsXw94hRhCYASy_GnxFgTUgP_vO0aARKUz-Tvvo/IMG_1319.medium.MP4 = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-zSp3xy
[5] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/AaeB9bBU7QdFicv-kTBPZhC2FqC1AfgbSu3rtyZYPfYqhmMpenMhVMHO/IMG_1219.MP4 = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-CMTkHi
[6] https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/AfA4sgF1YP6npv6wkZ9t7hn-_EfRAVrmMre4wwmOj_ttstNwFnjrPkAE/IMG_5489.medium.MP4 = /var/mobile/Media/PhotoData/PhotoCloudSharingData/Caches/CachedMedia-4QvbRL

MANUAL CARVE OF PLIST FILE

Source private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\PhotoCloudSharingData\Caches\CachedMedia-HZCz1f
nt offset 6908
election 1275

FIND COPY SELECTION SAVE SELECTION Encoding US-ASCII

□? p @ q @ ` r @ ? s @ ? t □ <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?> <!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd"> <plist version="1.0"> <dict> <key>FileName</key> <string>IMG_8077.MP4</string> <key>Last-Modified</key> <string>Thu, 29 May 2025 13:03:12 GMT</string> <key>MIME Type</key> <string>video/mp4</string> <key>Size</key> <integer>1907999</integer> <key>URL</key> <string>https://cvws-h2.icloud-content.com/B/AVzCLED_T1Ibe5gKnE0VhbPzbdQRARclrg5D99A08cJSvOscMEp7dIow/IMG_8077.MP4?o=Ak453XcrQypFlsDiqa7HHnp-fpVnAMIL6l3oYbWrMGmp&v=1&x=3&a=CAogErDlhBUkI86-_Bw1HYL_vjWFm82VNpujR5fStmith5M5bxCk8Y7h8TIYpoHBs_IyIgEAUgTzbdQSWgR7dIqwaicq8IHILVYOVEEWSHkzABky-oYBMlk1NVvtlgsg_6lfaxCQEEfn1NyJwvUPbkz2fhRszHGW-D6ZCL2o_zEoi4xcmNAqA_cF0GATQo7v10c3w&c=1710609532&fl=&r=D0201DA2-CA05-1020-97ED-1F500DCF2613&k=A_Muhrgm2c7?C1NkoQwarw&ckc=com.apple.photos.cloud&ckz=PrimarySync&y=1&p=40&s=4F4hkL9mU7-n3AxO-mU4y5kpLb4&og=1up%20Autoplay%20Movie%20Stream#YnBsaXN0MDDRAQJfEBt5ZWVvbWlibmR1ZEZvcklbWVyc2l2U1vZGUQAAgLKQAAAAAAAAEBAAAAAAAAAAMAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAr</string> <key>Version</key> <integer>1</integer> <key>must-validate</key> <false/> <key>no-cache</key> <false/> </dict> </plist>

EXAMINER NOTE: The plist file identifies the iCloud storage location and file name in the iCloud as in this example the file name "IMG_8077.MP4."

HAND CARVE OF THE MP4 VIDEO FILE

View TEXT HEX

Source private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\PhotoCloudSharingData\Caches\CachedMedia-HZCz1f
Current offset 8192
Current selection 771

GO TO FIND HIDE DECODING COPY SELECTION SAVE SELECTION

```
0007950  4E 30 4D 44 44 52 41 51 4A 66 45 42 74 53 5A 57 4E 76 62 57 31 6C 62 6D 52 6C 5A 45 5A 76   N0MDDRAQJfEBtSZW
0007980  63 6B 6C 74 62 57 56 79 63 32 6C 32 5A 55 31 76 5A 47 55 51 41 41 67 4C 4B 51 41 41 41 41   ckltbWVyc2l2ZU1v
0008010  41 41 41 41 45 42 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 4D 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41   AAAAEBAAAAAAAAAA
0008040  41 41 41 41 41 41 41 41 72 3C 2F 73 74 72 69 6E 67 3E 0A 09 3C 6B 65 79 3E 56 65 72 73 69 6F   AAAAAAAr</string
0008070  6E 3C 2F 6B 65 79 3E 0A 09 3C 69 6E 74 65 67 65 72 3E 31 3C 2F 69 6E 74 65 67 65 72 3E 0A   n</key>..<intege
0008100  09 3C 6B 65 79 3E 6D 75 73 74 2D 76 61 6C 69 64 61 74 65 3C 2F 6B 65 79 3E 0A 09 3C 66 61   .<key>must-valic
0008130  6C 73 65 2F 3E 0A 09 3C 6B 65 79 3E 6E 6F 2D 63 61 63 68 65 3C 2F 6B 65 79 3E 0A 09 3C 66   lse/>..<key>no-c
0008160  61 6C 73 65 2F 3E 0A 3C 2F 64 69 63 74 3E 0A 3C 2F 70 6C 69 73 74 3E 0A 00 1D 40 08 73 74   alse/>.</dict>.<
0008190  63 73 [redacted] 00 00 18 66 74 79 70 69 73 6F 6D 00 00 00 01 69 73 6F 6D 69 73 6F 34 00 00 35 A3   cs....ftypisom..
00081C0  6D 6F 6F 76 00 00 00 6C 6D 76 68 64 00 00 00 00 E3 A8 5A 30 E3 A8 5A 30 00 06 BA A8 00 5B   moov...lmvhd....
00081F0  E0 00 00 01 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00   à...............
0008220  00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 40 00 00 00 00 00 00   ..............@.
0008250  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 03 00 00 00   ................
0008280  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 15 69 6F 64   ..............iod
00082B0  00 00 00 00 10 07 00 4F FF FF 29 FE FF 00 00 1F 74 74 72 61 6B 00 00 00 5C 74 6B 68 64   .......Oÿÿ)þÿ...
00082E0  00 00 03 00 00 00 00 E3 A8 5A 30 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 5B 84 20 00 00 00 00 00   .......ã¨Z0.....
0008310  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00   ................
0008340  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 40 00 00 00 02 D0 00 00 00 05 00 00 00 00 00 00 1F 10 6D 64 69   .........@....
0008370  61 00 00 00 20 6D 64 68 64 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 E3 A8 5A 30 00 00 EA 60 00 0C 73 80 55   a... mdhd.....
00083A0  F4 00 00 00 00 00 33 68 64 6C 72 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 76 69 64 65 00 00 00 00 00 00 00   Ä.....3hdlr.....
```

EXAMINER NOTE: An .mp4 video file's header is ftypisom as displayed above.

11. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND terminated the Apple Photos App at 11:31:47 AM. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was placed into a locked state between 11:31:56 AM and 11:34:44 AM for 2 minutes and 48 seconds. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was briefly put into an unlocked state between 11:34:44 AM and 11:35:00 AM for 16 seconds. The user did not interact with any Apps during this brief unlock state. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND then entered into a locked state between 11:35:00 AM and 11:50:56 AM for 15 minutes and 56 seconds. While the device was in a locked state, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received two incoming FaceTime Video calls from the phone numbe[redacted]The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer the calls. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom and the locked state Excel spreadsheet.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Bundle ID	**com.apple.mobileslideshow**
Process ID	**1518**
State	**Terminated**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/24/1970 1:52:53.451 AM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 11:31:47.863 AM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 11:31:48.107 AM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Application State
Item ID	1208117

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

Unlocked	5/29/2025 9:33:44 AM	5/29/2025 11:31:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:31:59.616 AM	1:58:12
Locked	5/29/2025 11:31:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:34:44 AM	5/29/2025 11:34:44.117 AM	0:02:48
Unlocked	5/29/2025 11:34:44 AM	5/29/2025 11:35:00 AM	5/29/2025 11:35:00.897 AM	0:00:16
Locked	5/29/2025 11:35:00 AM	5/29/2025 11:50:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:50:59.410 AM	0:15:56

[redacted]	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:47:16.361 AM	5/29/2025 11:47:16.361 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:49:43.249 AM	5/29/2025 11:49:43.249 AM	00:00:00

29MAY25 11:50AM to 1:13PM

1. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was mostly in a locked state between 11:50:56 AM and 1:13PM for 1 hour, 4 minutes, and 28 seconds during this timeframe. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND had limited interaction with the device. Between 11:52:27 AM and 11:57:08 AM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received incoming FaceTime video calls from the phone number [redacted] and incoming phones call from "Brad Parker." The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer or respond to the phone calls until 12:44:35 PM. Between 11:54:22 AM and 12:42:26 PM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received four text messages. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not immediately respond to the text messages. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots.

76	Unlocked	5/29/2025 11:50:56 AM	5/29/2025 11:53:04 AM	5/29/2025 11:53:05.363 AM	0:02:08
77	Locked	5/29/2025 11:53:04 AM	5/29/2025 12:11:36 PM	5/29/2025 12:11:36.794 PM	0:18:32
78	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:11:36 PM	5/29/2025 12:11:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:11:52.396 PM	0:00:16
79	Locked	5/29/2025 12:11:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:24 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:25.931 PM	0:00:32
80	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:12:24 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:44 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:45.680 PM	0:00:20
81	Locked	5/29/2025 12:12:44 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:32.099 PM	0:09:48
82	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:22:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:54.152 PM	0:00:20
83	Locked	5/29/2025 12:22:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:36:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:36:33.766 PM	0:13:40
84	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:36:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:37:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:37:57.745 PM	0:01:24
85	Locked	5/29/2025 12:37:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:40:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:40:56.874 PM	0:03:00
86	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:40:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:41:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:41:10.509 PM	0:00:12
87	Locked	5/29/2025 12:41:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:44:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:44:08.423 PM	0:03:00
88	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:44:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:49:48 PM	5/29/2025 12:49:50.606 PM	0:05:40
89	Locked	5/29/2025 12:49:48 PM	5/29/2025 1:05:44 PM	5/29/2025 1:05:46.414 PM	0:15:56
90	Unlocked	5/29/2025 1:05:44 PM	5/29/2025 1:40:24 PM	5/29/2025 1:40:25.778 PM	0:34:40

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Sender	PII 3796
Sender Name	**Bitch**
Recipient(s)	**Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>**
Message Sent Date/Time	**5/29/2025 11:54:22.000 AM**
Message	**Interesting**
Message GUID	**5E591904-187D-4755-A4DD-6E4D9FE11547**
Type	**iMessage**
Status	**Received and Read**
Message Read Date/Time	**5/29/2025 6:51:40.000 PM**
Chat ID	PII 796
Artifact type	iOS iMessage/SMS/MMS
Item ID	386815

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 12:06:21.000 PM
Is Resendes okay?

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 12:13:43.000 PM
Also, let me know when you are on your way in

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 12:42:26.000 PM
Call me

	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:52:27.604 AM	5/29/2025 11:52:27.604 AM	00:00:00
RAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:52:42.442 AM	5/29/2025 11:52:42.442 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:52:54.720 AM	5/29/2025 11:52:54.720 AM	00:00:00
RAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:53:01.597 AM	5/29/2025 11:53:01.597 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:53:16.664 AM	5/29/2025 11:53:16.664 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:53:40.722 AM	5/29/2025 11:53:40.722 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:54:06.001 AM	5/29/2025 11:54:06.001 AM	00:00:00
	Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:57:08.364 AM	5/29/2025 11:57:08.364 AM	00:00:00
RAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:42:03.025 PM	5/29/2025 12:42:03.025 PM	00:00:00
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/29/2025 12:44:35.052 PM	5/29/2025 12:44:52.012 PM	00:00:17
	Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/29/2025 12:45:04.032 PM	5/29/2025 12:49:16.973 PM	00:04:13

2. At 11:50:56 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the phone and used the Apple iMessage App between 11:51:01 AM and 11:52:55 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to interact with the text message from the phone number [redacted] at 11:51:58 AM. The user did not respond to the text messages. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to interact with the text message from the phone number [redacted] dentified as belonging V/ A. R. at 11:52:47 AM. The user did not respond to the text messages. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was placed into a locked state between 11:53:04 AM and 12:11:36 PM for 18 minutes and 32 seconds. At 11:53:29 AM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was wearing the Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm as noted by the recorded Heart Rates in the Apple Health Data. On 29May25, between 11:53:29 AM and 12:29:33 PM, the individual wearing the Apple Watch paired with the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND had nine Heart Rate events recorded. The exact time the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND started wearing the Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm device is unknown, but the first recorded event is at 11:53:29 AM. The last recorded event indicating the user was wearing the watch is at 12:29:33 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Title	[redacted]
Action Type	**com.apple.Messages**
Service	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 11:51:58.678 AM**
Content Link	**sms://open?service=(null)&recipient=+19105499482**
Metadata	**__kIMChatRegistryUserActivityLastMessageKey** **Look I need you to reply** **__kIMChatRegistryContinuityURLKey** **sms://open?service=(null)&recipient=+19105499482**
GUID	**C6BAC427-E2E0-4787-92BE-A05A81317C02**
Artifact type	Biome User Activity
Item ID	801745

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\UniversalRecents.UserActivity.Metadata\local\769881111917767
Recovery method	Parsing

Heart Rate	84	5/29/2025 11:53:29.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	84	5/29/2025 11:55:39.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	81	5/29/2025 12:01:29.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	86	5/29/2025 12:05:28.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	85	5/29/2025 12:12:36.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	83	5/29/2025 12:14:43.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	94	5/29/2025 12:23:19.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	88	5/29/2025 12:27:39.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	84	5/29/2025 12:29:33.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	0.5	5/29/2025 2:08:08.349 PM	5/29/2025 2:08:10.910 PM	0.04
Steps	1	5/29/2025 2:08:08.349 PM	5/29/2025 2:08:10.910 PM	0.04
Health Distance	13.57	5/29/2025 4:53:24.654 PM	5/29/2025 4:53:32.336 PM	0.13
Steps	21	5/29/2025 4:53:24.654 PM	5/29/2025 4:53:32.336 PM	0.13

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

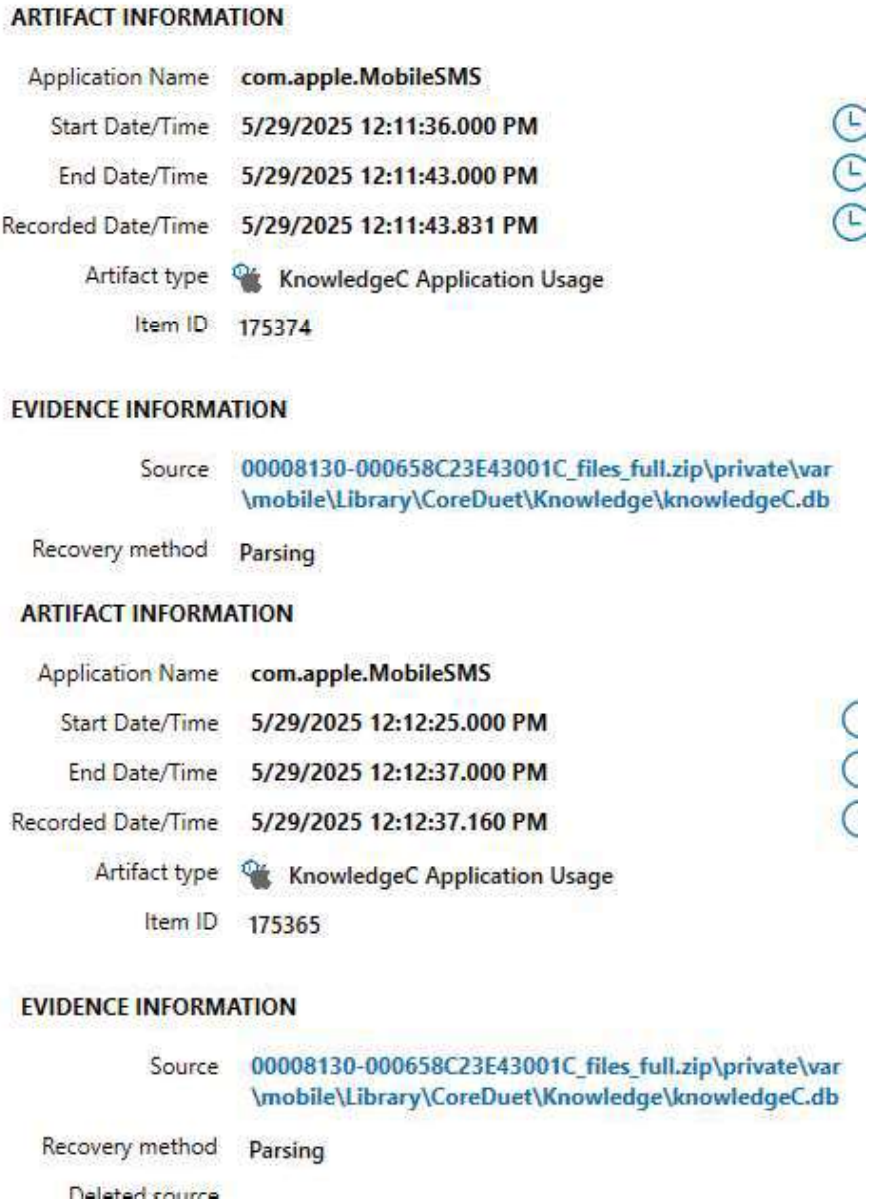
Title	[redacted]
Action Type	com.apple.Messages
Service	com.apple.MobileSMS
Recorded Date/Time	5/29/2025 11:52:47.993 AM
Content Link	sms://open?service=(null)&recipient=+12542030672
Metadata	__kIMChatRegistryUserActivityLastMessageKey OKAY __kIMChatRegistryContinuityURLKey sms://open?service=(null)&recipient=+12542030672
GUID	432794DB-6C8D-470B-9E97-C993468F164A
Artifact type	Biome User Activity
Item ID	801747

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\UniversalRecents.UserActivity.Metadata\local\769881111917767
Recovery method	Parsing

3. At 12:11:04 PM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received a Snapchat message from the Snapchat user name [redacted] At 12:11:36 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the phone for 16 seconds. The user did not check the Snapchat message or reply. The user had the Apple iMessage app active until 12:11:43 PM, then the device was placed into a locked state at 12:11:52 PM. The user did not respond to any previous messages or send any messages. Between 12:11:52 PM and 12:12:24 PM, the device was in a locked state for 32 seconds. At 12:12:24 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the phone for 20 seconds. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND used the Apple iMessage app between 12:12:25 PM and 12:12:37 PM. The user did not respond to any previous messages or send any messages. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was placed into a locked state between 12:12:44 PM and 12:22:32 PM for 9 minutes and 48 seconds. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots.

78	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:11:36 PM	5/29/2025 12:11:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:11:52.396 PM	0:00:16
79	Locked	5/29/2025 12:11:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:24 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:25.931 PM	0:00:32
80	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:12:24 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:44 PM	5/29/2025 12:12:45.680 PM	0:00:20
81	Locked	5/29/2025 12:12:44 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:32.099 PM	0:09:48



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:11:36.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:11:43.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:11:43.831 PM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175374

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:12:25.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:12:37.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:12:37.160 PM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175365

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing
Deleted source	

4. At 12:22:32 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the phone for 20 seconds. The user had the Apple iMessage App active between 12:22:35 PM and 12:22:45 PM. The user did not respond to any previous messages or send any messages. Between 12:22:52 PM and 12:36:32 PM, the device was in a locked state for 13 minutes and 40 seconds. Between 12:36:32 PM and 12:37:56 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the phone for 1 minute and 24 seconds. The user had the Apple iMessage App active between 12:36:48 PM and 12:36:52 PM. The user did not respond to any previous messages or send any messages. Between 12:36:52 PM and 12:36:58 PM, the user switched to the Cash App. Between 12:37:02 PM and 12:37:49 PM, the user switched to Snapchat app although the user did not respond to any previous messages. The examination

revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to take two pictures while using Snapchat based on the camera being active and the .jpg file extension. Snapchat saved the image named 50391EFB-141E-499C-8AE8-186C17E5FB28.jpg and 61DC607F-A66C-413A-AEB8-73125AAF3DA7.jpg. The user then appears to watch two videos on Snapchat of women on a boat. Between 12:37:56 PM and 12:40:56 PM, the device was in a locked state for 3 minutes. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots.

82	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:22:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:22:54.152 PM	0:00:20
83	Locked	5/29/2025 12:22:52 PM	5/29/2025 12:36:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:36:33.766 PM	0:13:40
84	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:36:32 PM	5/29/2025 12:37:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:37:57.745 PM	0:01:24
85	Locked	5/29/2025 12:37:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:40:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:40:56.874 PM	0:03:00
86	Unlocked	5/29/2025 12:40:56 PM	5/29/2025 12:41:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:41:10.509 PM	0:00:12
87	Locked	5/29/2025 12:41:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:44:08 PM	5/29/2025 12:44:08.423 PM	0:03:00

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:22:35.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:22:45.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:22:45.575 PM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	**175361**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:36:48.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:36:52.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:36:52.956 PM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175353

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.squareup.cash**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:36:52.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:36:58.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:36:58.849 PM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175354

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:02.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:49.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:49.311 PM**
Artifact type	KnowledgeC Application Usage
Item ID	175348

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

State	**On**
Camera Type	**Front**
Bundle ID	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Monotonic Date/Time	**1/24/1970 2:58:10.056 AM**
Baseband Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:03.364 PM**
Display Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:04.712 PM**
Artifact type	PowerLog Camera State
Item ID	1205664

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\containers\Shared\SystemGroup\ED8F26C0-2087-4233-87E0-36542B194F74\Library\BatteryLife\Archives\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL.gz\powerlog_2025-05-29_B73F1445.PLSQL
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**50391EFB-141E-499C-8AE8-186C17E5FB28.jpg**
File Extension	**.jpg**
Created Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:06.000 PM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:06.000 PM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:06.000 PM**
Size (Bytes)	**118,219**
Skin Tone Percentage	**69.9**
Original Width	**720**
Original Height	**1280**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 720** **ImageHeight: 1280**
MD5 Hash	**895f27a5be1ec3982fe31b1f897e5fb3**
SHA1 Hash	**ea380e32efdd42d08981a7de5ecdb096f2cd387f**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	782034

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application\B55E0D41-55AC-4E93-BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A\Library\Caches\50391EFB-141E-499C-8AE8-186C17E5FB28.jpg**
Recovery method	Parsing

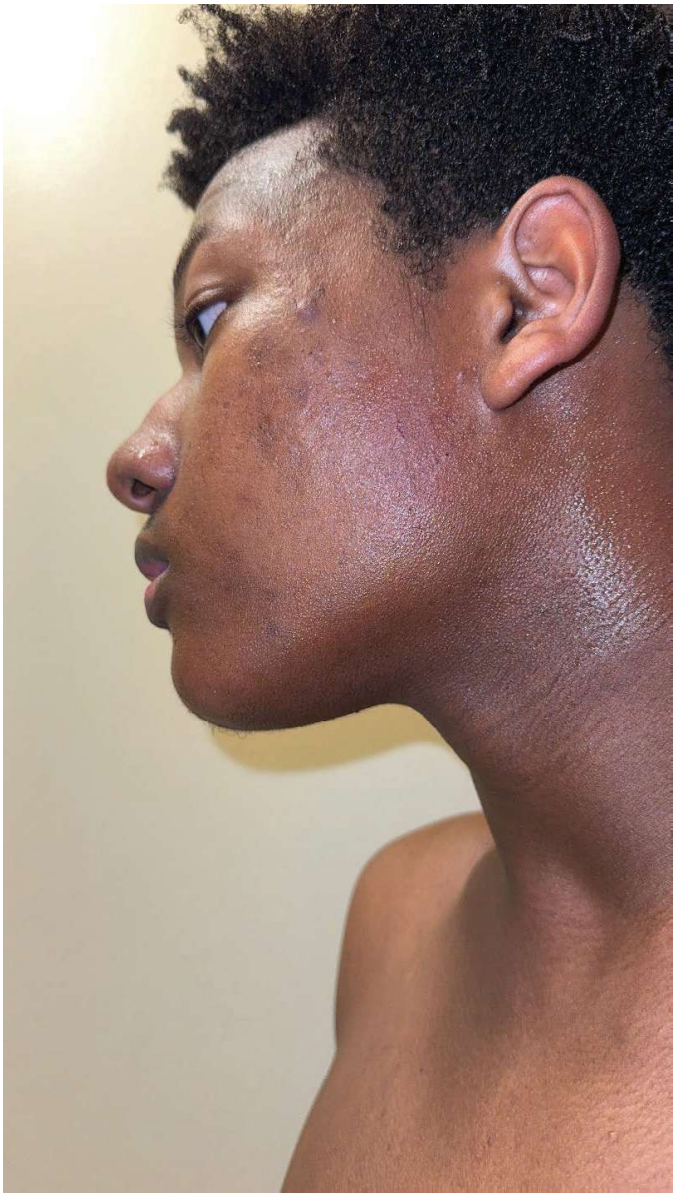


ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**61DC607F-A66C-413A-AEB8-73125AAF3DA7.jpg**
File Extension	**.jpg**
Created Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:16.000 PM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:16.000 PM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:37:16.000 PM**
Size (Bytes)	**1,060,594**
Skin Tone Percentage	**75.7**
Original Width	**3840**
Original Height	**2160**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 3840** **ImageHeight: 2160**
MD5 Hash	**b3774a687a936c5bda263c797c25b1f4**
SHA1 Hash	**84feaac452e0a630dd1b932d60f1c6602597a873**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	782123

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Data\Application\B55E0D41-55AC-4E93-BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A\Library\Caches\61DC607F-A66C-413A-AEB8-73125AAF3DA7.jpg



5. At 12:40:56 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the phone for 12 seconds. The user had the Snapchat app active between 12:40:56 PM and 12:40:58 PM for 2 seconds. The user then switched to the Apple iMessages app between 12:40:58 PM and 12:41:01 PM. The user did not respond to either Snapchat or text messages. Between 12:41:08 PM and 12:44:08 PM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND was in a locked state for 3 minutes. At 12:42:03 PM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received an incoming phone call from "Brad Parker." At 12:42:26 PM, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received a text message from "Brad Parker." The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer the call. At 12:44:08 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocked the device until 12:49:48 PM. The user then

initiates two phone calls to "Brad Parker." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.toyopagroup.picaboo**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:40:56.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:40:58.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:40:58.594 PM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	175346

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Application Name	**com.apple.MobileSMS**
Start Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:40:58.000 PM**
End Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:41:01.000 PM**
Recorded Date/Time	**5/29/2025 12:41:01.956 PM**
Artifact type	**KnowledgeC Application Usage**
Item ID	175342

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

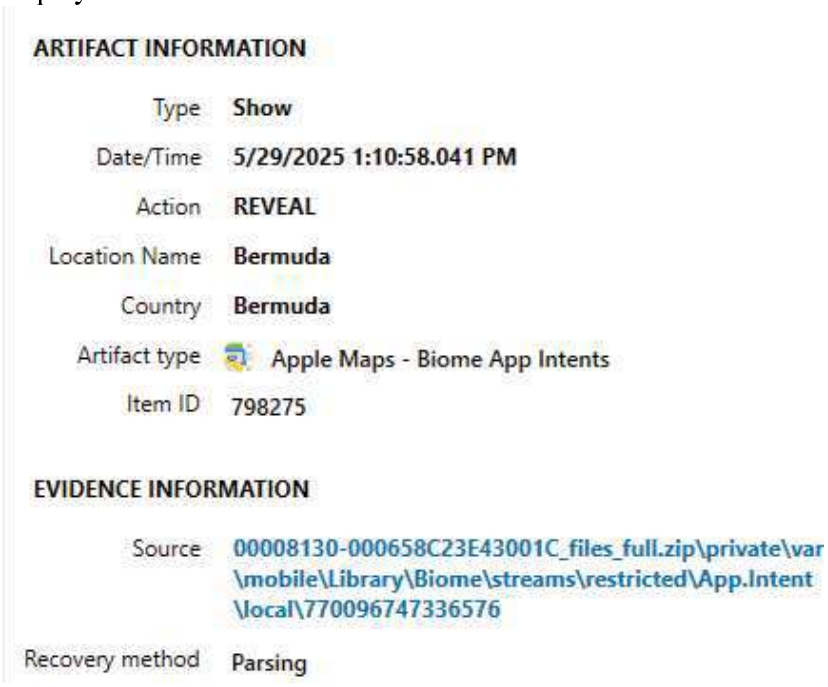
Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Recovery method	Parsing

[redacted] ↘ Received 5/29/2025 12:42:26.000 PM

Call me

[redacted]	BRAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:42:03.025 PM	5/29/2025 12:42:03.025 PM	00:00:00
		Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/29/2025 12:44:35.052 PM	5/29/2025 12:44:52.012 PM	00:00:17
		Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/29/2025 12:45:04.032 PM	5/29/2025 12:49:16.973 PM	00:04:13

6. After the phone call with "Brad Parker," the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND is put in a locked state between 12:49:48 PM and 1:05:44 PM for 15 minutes and 56 seconds. At 1:05:44 PM, the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND unlocks the device. Between 1:05:57 PM and 1:10:52 PM, the user of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND interacted with Snapchat and Instagram app although the user did not respond to any messages. Between 1:10:52 PM and 1:12:01 PM, the user of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND interacted with the Apple Maps App. The user did an attempt for directions to Bermuda and searched for Chick-Fil-A in Norfolk. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Type	**Show**
Date/Time	**5/29/2025 1:10:58.041 PM**
Action	**REVEAL**
Location Name	**Bermuda**
Country	**Bermuda**
Artifact type	Apple Maps - Biome App Intents
Item ID	798275

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\App.Intent\local\770096747336576
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Type	**PlaceCardTap**
Date/Time	**5/29/2025 1:10:59.116 PM**
Action	**GET_DIRECTIONS**
Location Name	**Bermuda**
Country	**Bermuda**
Artifact type	Apple Maps - Biome App Intents
Item ID	798281

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Biome\streams\restricted\App.Intent\local\770096747336576
Recovery method	Parsing

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Search Term	**Chick-fil-A**
Address	**Norfolk**
Created Date/Time	**5/29/2025 1:11:29.355 PM**
Artifact type	Apple Maps Searches
Item ID	576450

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Containers\Shared\AppGroup\F6722C27-1174-4CF2-BCAC-6826D33E4225\Maps\MapsSync_0.0.1
Recovery method	Parsing

GEOLOCATION DATA

1. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not contain any geolocation data other than locations near Willis Manor X-2 between 29-31May25. The geolocation data does not include cell tower data identified below. The Cached locations being considered for this assessment are based on accuracy measurements of 2 to 4 meters. The examination revealed two geolocations recorded in the device near the Vista Point Center, NSA Norfolk, on 30May25. However, the accuracy for each logged Cached location had an accuracy of over 2774 meters and are not considered accurate visited locations. The examination also disclosed a significant number of the 2316 Cached locations on 30May25 are over 800 meters

and are not considered accurate visited locations. The examination also revealed a significant number of Cached Locations on 31May25 had large accuracy measurements and are not considered accurate visited locations. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

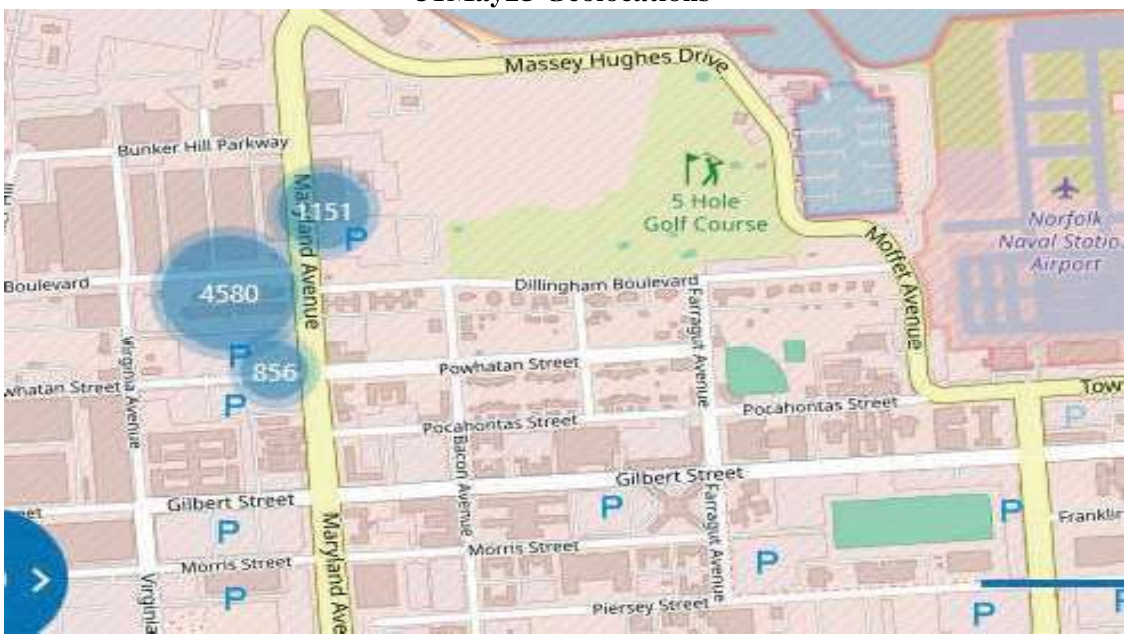
29May25 Geolocations



30May25 Geolocations

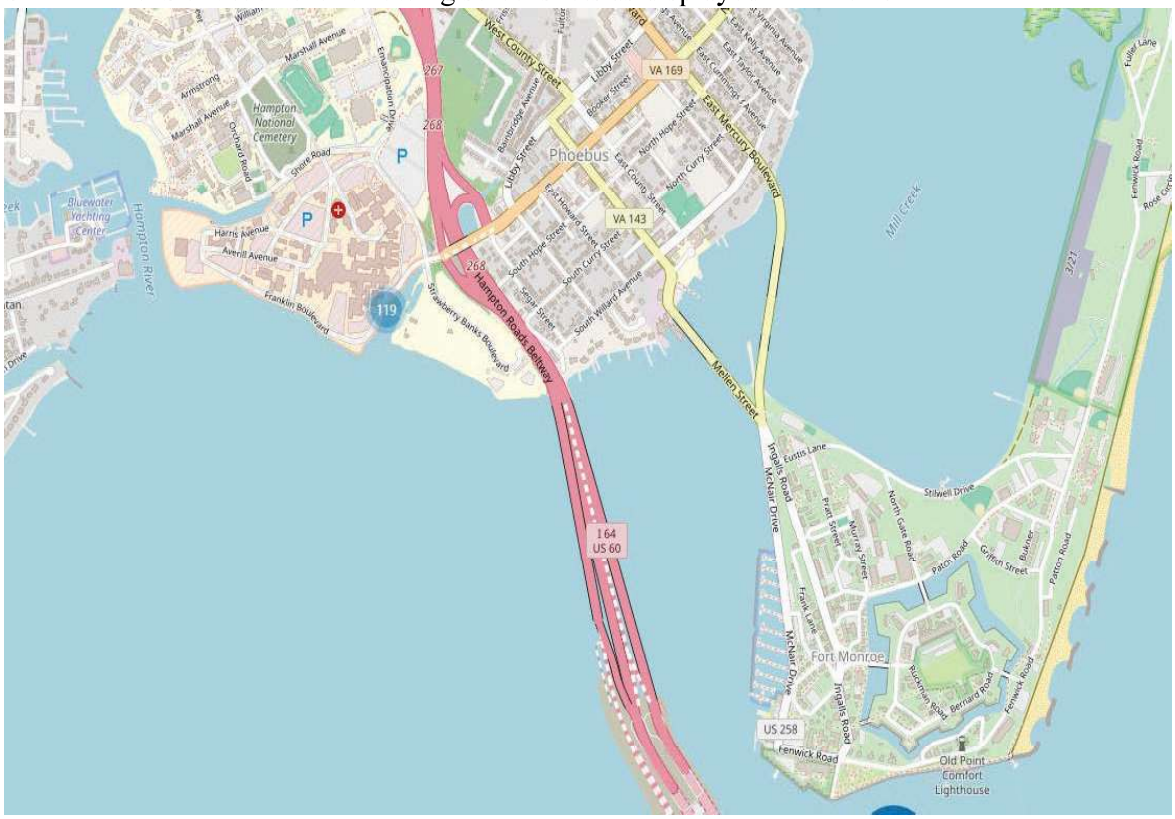


31May25 Geolocations



2. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded 119 Cached locations near Hampton, VA, on 01Jun25, between 12:12:31 PM and 12:21:23 PM. The exact location in Hampton cannot be determined as the accuracy of the Cached locations are between 2205 and 2206 meters which is approximately 1.3 miles. Based on the I-64 Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel being 3.5-mile corridor according to Wikipedia.org, the geolocations

appear to be somewhere in Hampton, VA. The geolocation data for this timeframe did not contain enough data to determine routes and specific locations. Additionally, the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND recorded cached locations near Willis Manor X-2 within several milliseconds and seconds of the cached locations recorded in Hampton, VA. The examination revealed the Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm identified above appears to record the geolocations near Willis Manor X-2 during this timeframe. The examination revealed the Apple Watch SE (2nd generation) Cellular - 40mm appears to be turned on and kept on a charger between 30May25, at 5:57:36 PM and 04Jun25, at 3:46:25 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.

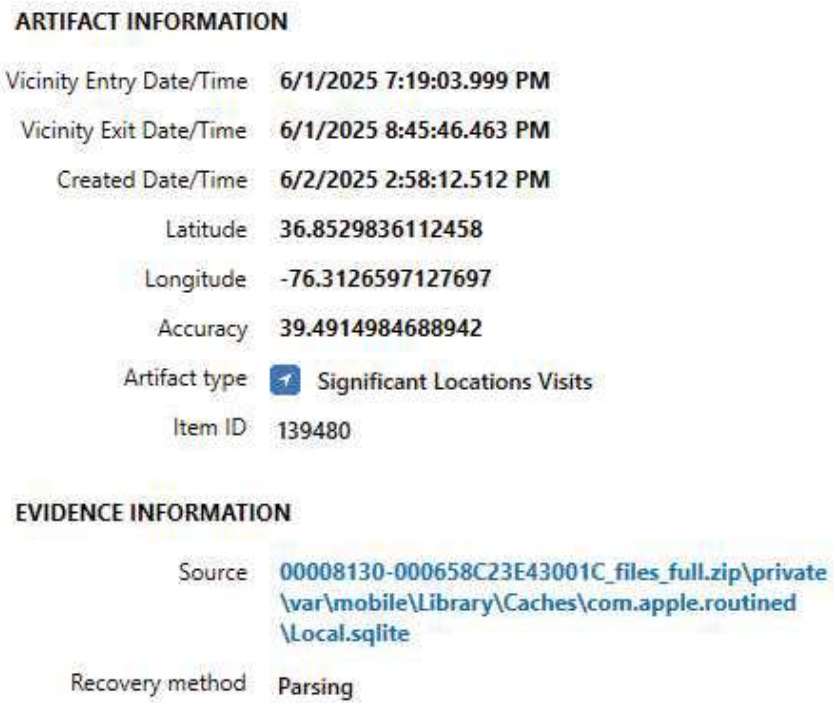


User Notification Events

Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	5/30/2025 5:57:36.389 PM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	5/30/2025 6:01:00.280 PM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	5/31/2025 11:24:56.794 AM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	6/1/2025 1:20:36.485 AM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	6/1/2025 12:13:19.111 PM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	6/1/2025 1:30:36.137 PM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	6/2/2025 4:29:21.320 AM
Low Power Mode Off	Apple Watch battery sufficiently charged	6/4/2025 3:46:25.370 PM

Click to Review Hampton Cached Locations

3. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND traveled from Willis Manor X-2 to Harper Ave, Portsmouth, VA, on 01Jun25 between 6:55 PM and 9:23 PM. The examination revealed the device remained at the signification location between 7:19:03 PM and 8:45:46 PM. The examination also revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appeared to travel to a Chipotle on Hampton Blvd, between 8:59:45 PM and 9:09:43 PM. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND remained near Willis Manor X-2 for the remainder of the day on 01Jun25. The iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND also remained near Willis Manor X-2 on 02Jun25, between 12:00 AM and approximately 4:13 AM until the device started traveling as reported above. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Vicinity Entry Date/Time	**6/1/2025 7:19:03.999 PM**
Vicinity Exit Date/Time	**6/1/2025 8:45:46.463 PM**
Created Date/Time	**6/2/2025 2:58:12.512 PM**
Latitude	**36.8529836112458**
Longitude	**-76.3126597127697**
Accuracy	**39.4914984688942**
Artifact type	**Significant Locations Visits**
Item ID	139480

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Caches\com.apple.routined\Local.sqlite**
Recovery method	**Parsing**

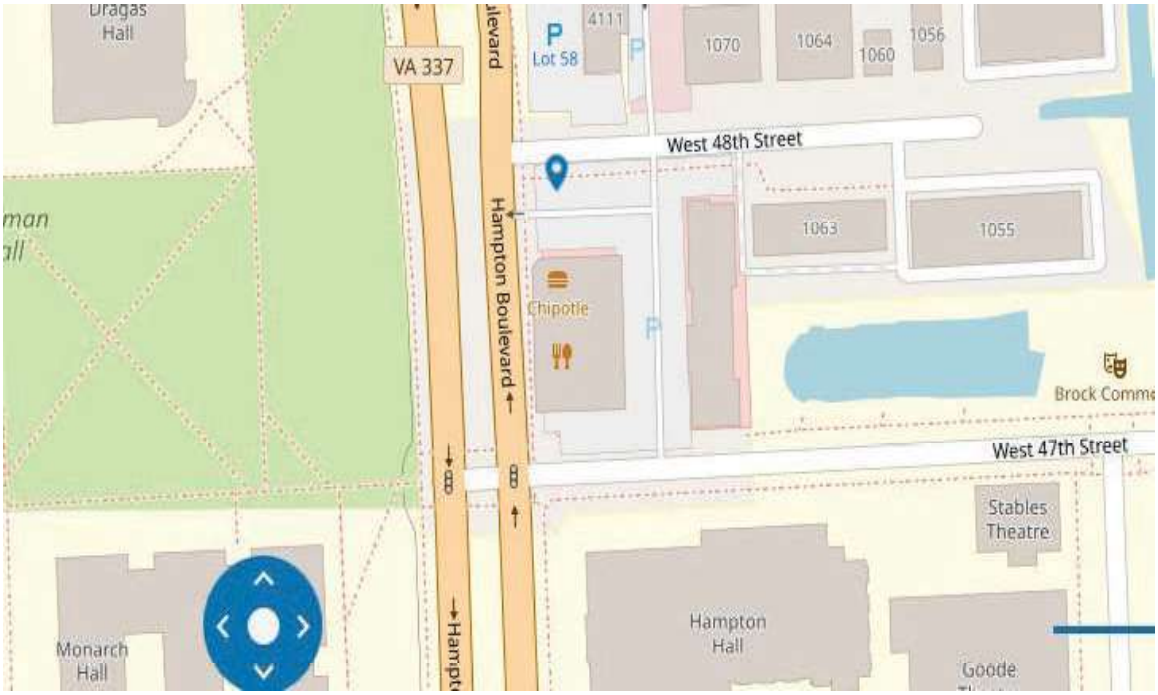


ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Vicinity Entry Date/Time	**6/1/2025 8:59:45.999 PM**
Vicinity Exit Date/Time	**6/1/2025 9:09:43.533 PM**
Created Date/Time	**6/2/2025 2:58:12.512 PM**
Latitude	**36.8869044448531**
Longitude	**-76.3022567347288**
Accuracy	**22.5185401011051**
Artifact type	**Significant Locations Visits**
Item ID	**139495**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Caches\com.apple.routined\Local.sqlite**
Recovery method	**Parsing**



ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Latitude	**36.9503392666398**
Longitude	**-76.3207493227094**
Accuracy (m)	**24.0**
Altitude (m)	**1.74516553491354**
Altitude Accuracy (m)	**30.0**
Timestamp Date/Time	**6/1/2025 11:59:53.068 PM**
Artifact type	**Cached Locations**
Item ID	**281699**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	**00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Caches\com.apple.routined\Cache.sqlite**
Recovery method	**Parsing**



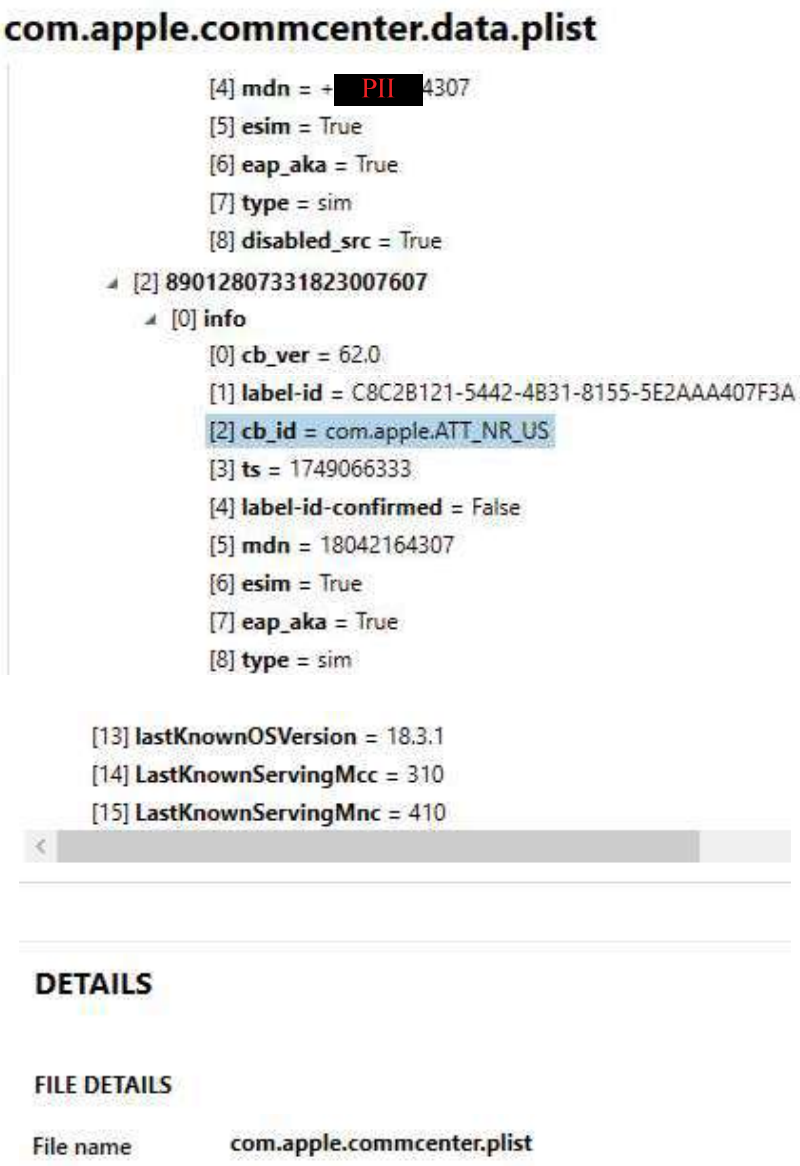
CELL TOWER DATA

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted 467 cell tower connections during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The examination revealed the cell tower date/time stamps are inaccurate as iOS appears to write cell tower connections to the database file named "cache_encryptedB.db" in a batch operation. The examination revealed the system does not write at any specific time during the day; however, the iOS appears to write the cell tower data to the database when determined by a process in the location services. If exact date/time stamps are needed for cell tower data, the data should be obtained through AT+T which appears to be the service carrier for this device. The examination revealed the only cell tower connection data still resident on the device is between 31May25, at 6:27:40 AM until 03Jun25, at 6:06:04 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom.

BATCH OPERATION

CellID	Loca...	Mobile Country Code	Mobile Network Code	Timestamp Date/Time	Latit...	Longit...	Range
29006626	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91877746	-76.27916717	1414.0
28993818	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91226577	-76.2082901	1414.0
29027086	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.9160614	-76.21259307	4830.0
28963874	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.93432617	-76.25600433	8387.0
28946213	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.8816452	-76.26101684	1414.0
25668105	5633	310	410	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.92055511	-76.23904418	1414.0
29027596	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91488265	-76.25396728	1414.0
10866443	21749	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.94799423	-76.25917816	1823.0
29027094	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91056823	-76.22588348	1414.0
27716247	5633	310	410	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.9302864	-76.25039672	1414.0
32718595	21747	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.90299987	-76.23345947	1414.0
28974609	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.89720916	-76.22078704	1414.0
13644803	21747	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.90807342	-76.26055145	1414.0
25621512	5657	310	410	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.89867782	-76.22540283	1414.0
28966682	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.94155883	-76.24756622	1414.0
28991770	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.88087463	-76.27435302	1414.0
11490312	21747	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.88163757	-76.27501678	1414.0
29027598	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91531372	-76.25502014	1414.0
10883080	21747	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.9097023	-76.27342224	1414.0
28998178	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.89764785	-76.24101257	1414.0
27654294	5633	310	410	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.94059371	-76.24124908	21387.0
28993826	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.94065475	-76.22374725	3372.0
32710605	21747	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.90425109	-76.23034991	1414.0
25621733	5657	310	410	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.8953514	-76.23908996	9332.0
11485954	21747	310	260	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91996002	-76.2098236	10200.0
28998160	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.88944244	-76.23064422	1414.0
29006614	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.9082756	-76.26947784	2024.0
29027618	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.9031372	-76.26860046	7568.0
28993819	28933	311	480	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.91487884	-76.20864868	1414.0
25693193	5633	310	410	6/2/2025 8:41:25.587 AM	36.9028778	-76.25216674	1414.0

SERVICE CARRIER

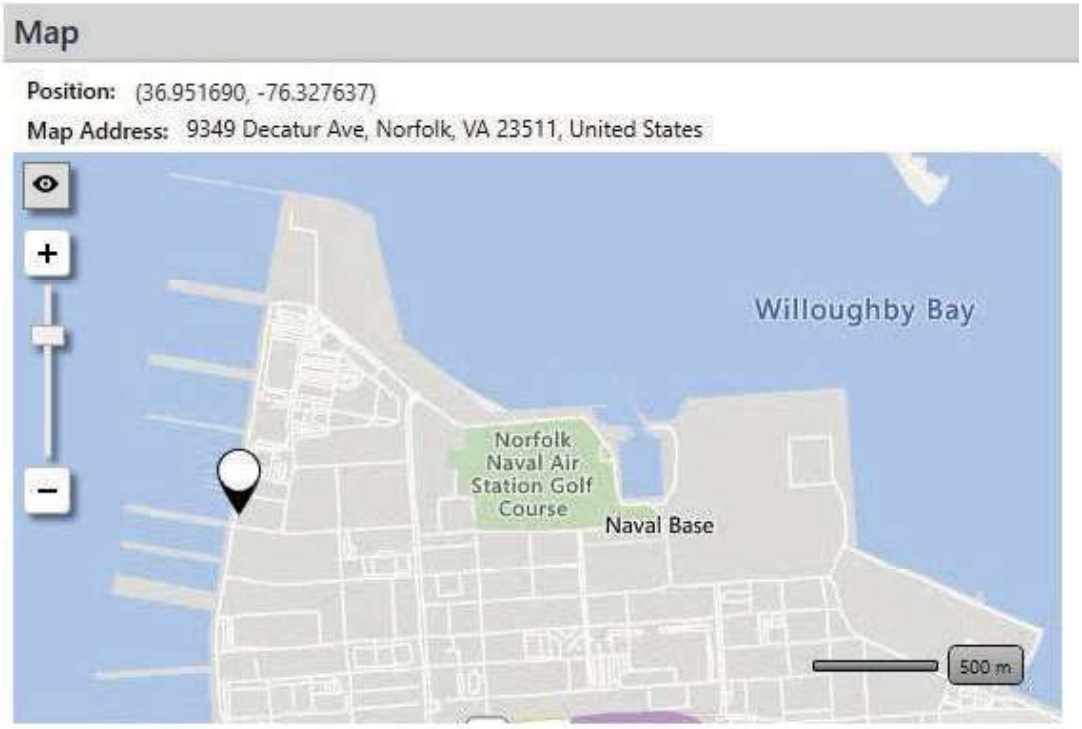


Click to Review Cell Tower Report

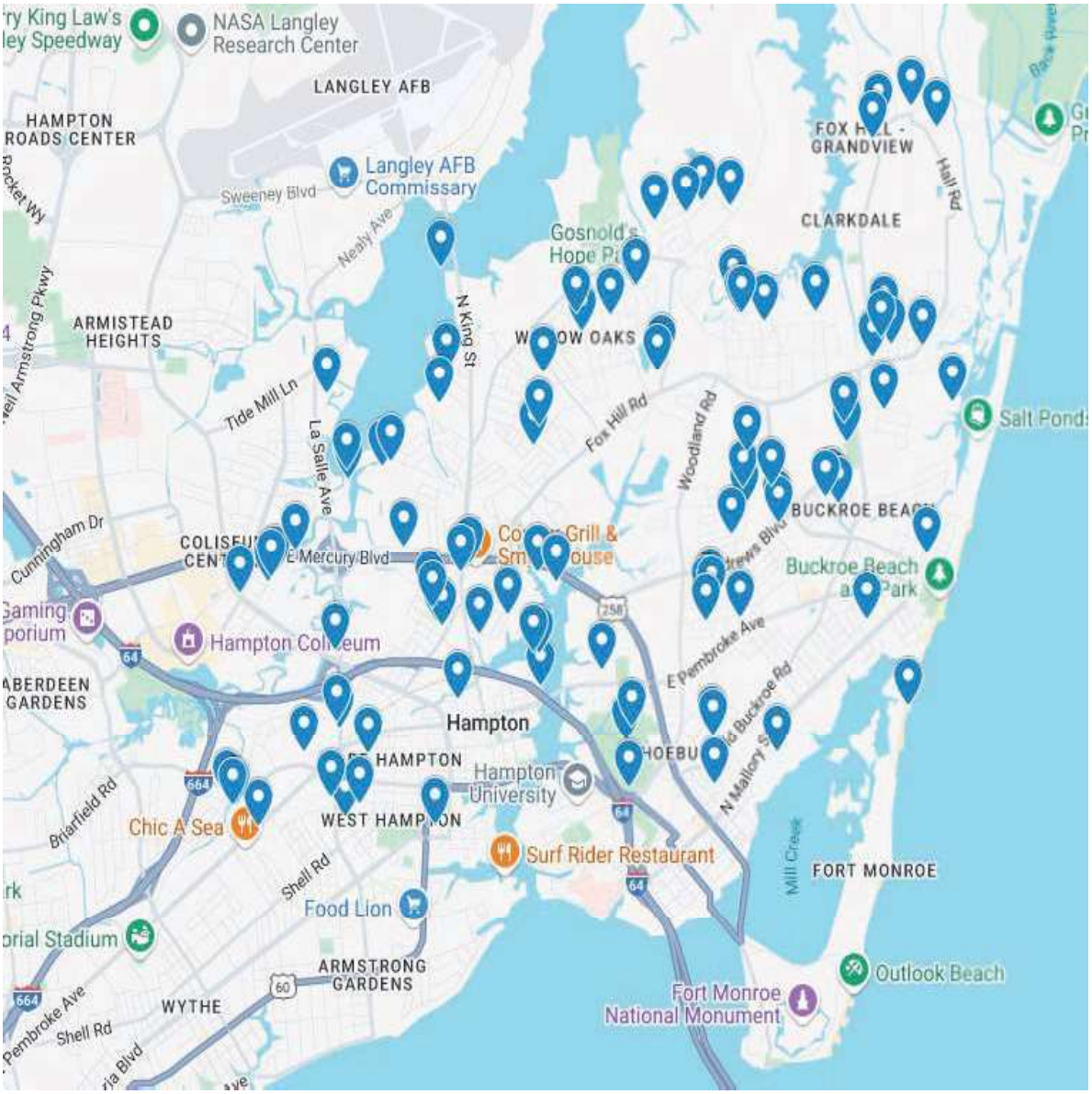
2. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND logged cell tower connections in a batch operation two times on 31May25, at 6:27:40 AM and at 8:03:11PM. The examination revealed the device maintained one cell tower connection record at 6:27:40 AM. The cell tower for this time was recorded in Norfolk Naval Base. The examination revealed the device maintained 100 cell tower connection records at 8:03:11PM. The cell tower connections for all 100 entries were recorded in Hampton, VA. SDFE DAVISON uploaded the latitude and longitude coordinates into google maps for the 8:03:11PM entries. The examination of cached locations identified above did not disclose any locations other than

locations near Willis Manor X-2. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Physical Analyzer and as displayed in Google Maps.

31May25, 6:27:40 AM

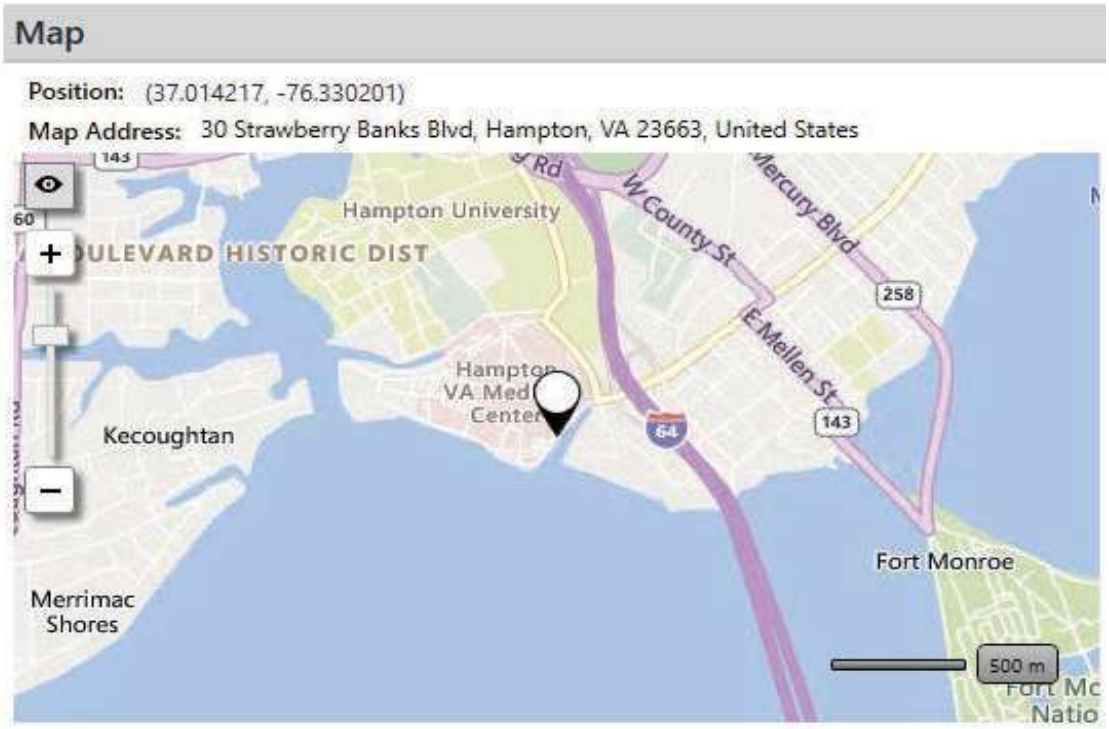


31MAY25 8:03:11PM

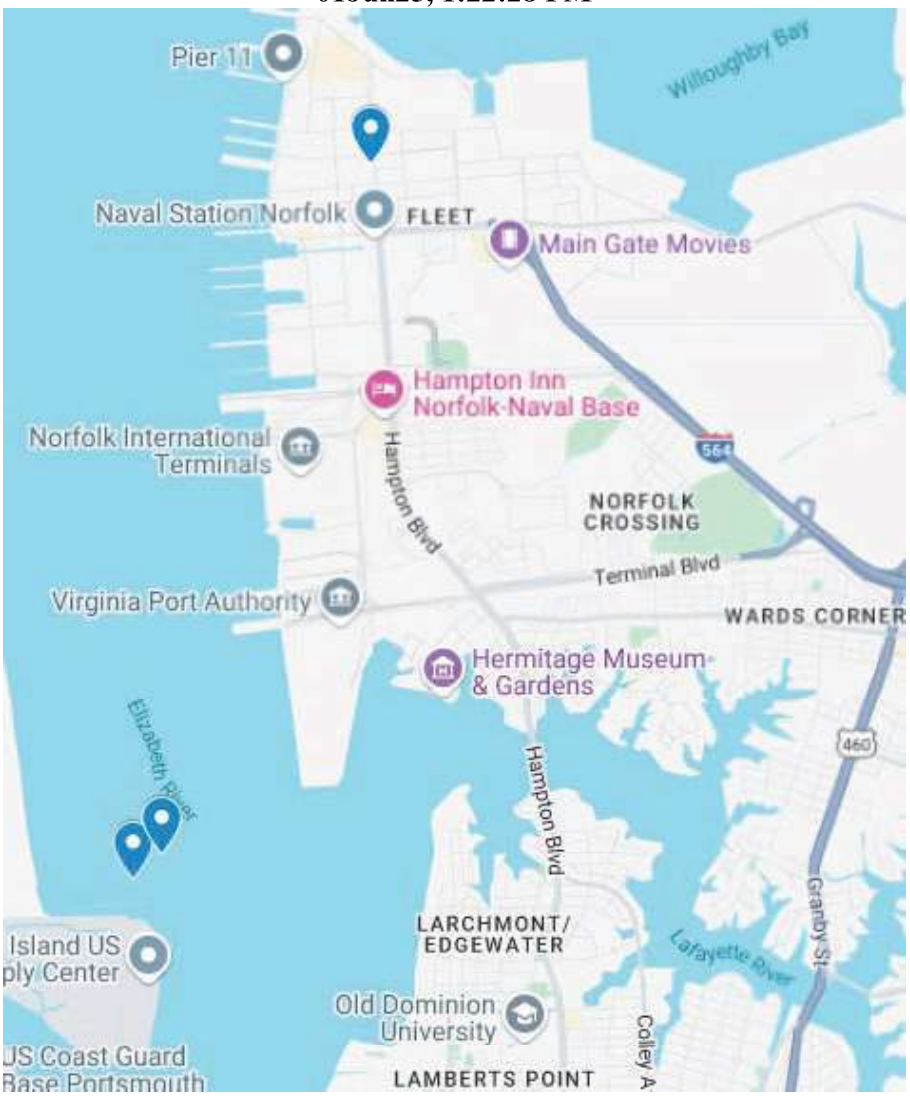


3. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND logged cell tower connections in a batch operation three times on 01Jun25, at 12:12:31 PM, at 1:22:28 PM, and at 9:30:31PM. The examination revealed the device maintained one cell tower connection record at 12:12:31 PM. The cell tower for this time was recorded in Hampton, VA. The examination revealed the device maintained three cell tower connection records at 1:22:28 PM. The cell towers for this time were recorded in Norfolk, VA, and possibly Portsmouth, VA. The examination revealed the device maintained 101 cell tower connections record at 9:30:31PM. The cell towers for this time contained 101 entries in Hampton, VA, and in Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Physical Analyzer and as displayed in Google Maps.

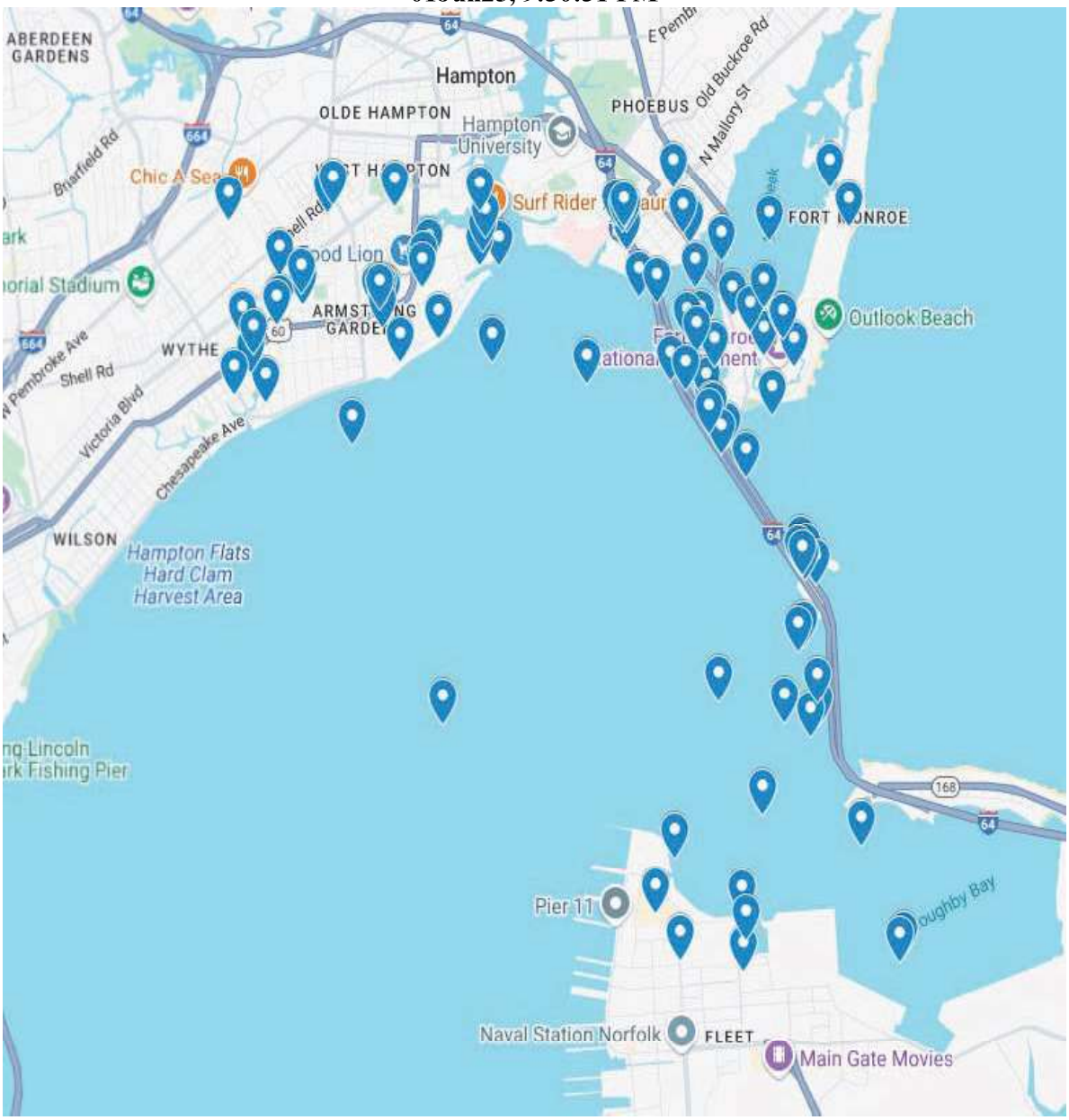
01Jun25, 12:12:31 PM



01Jun25, 1:22:28 PM



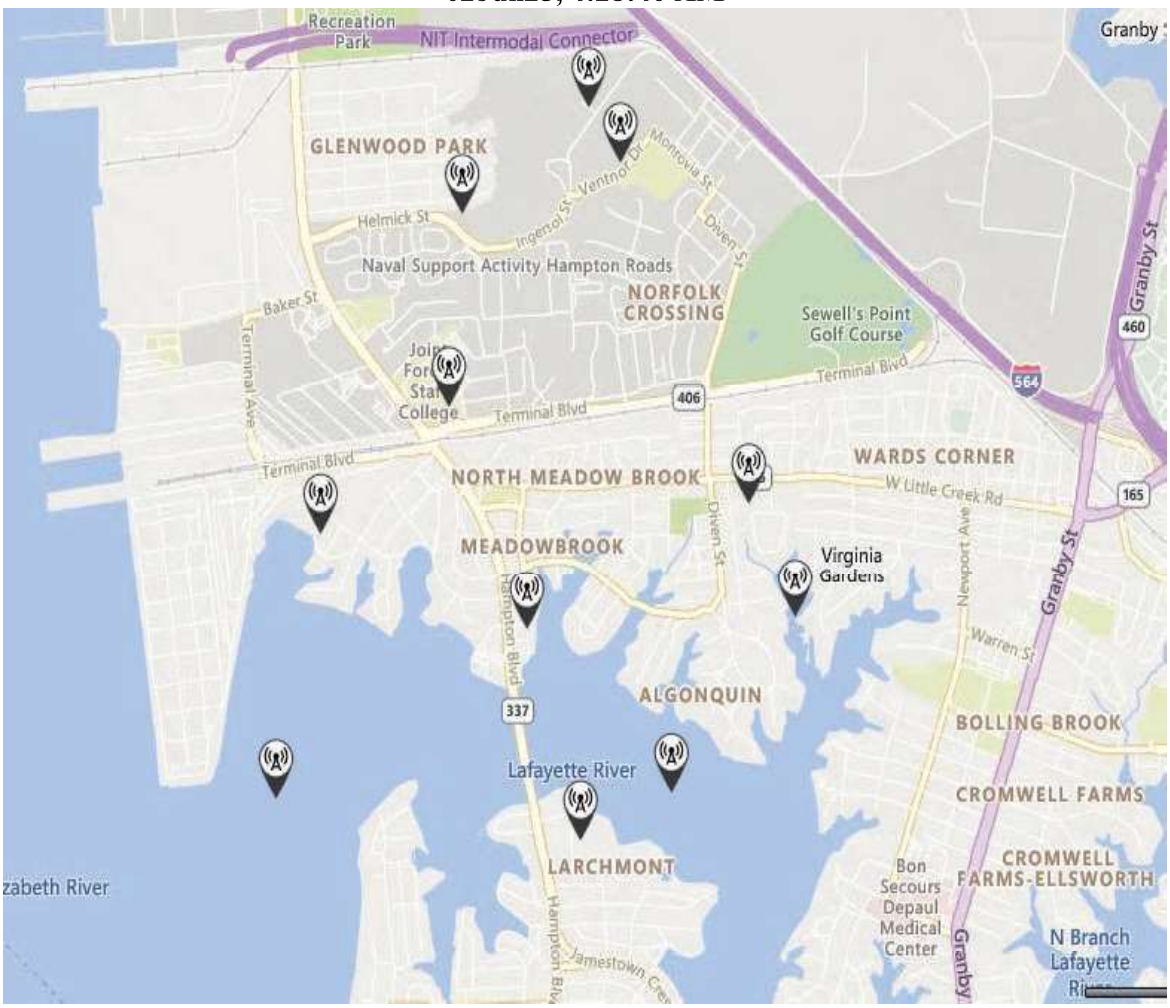
01Jun25, 9:30:31 PM



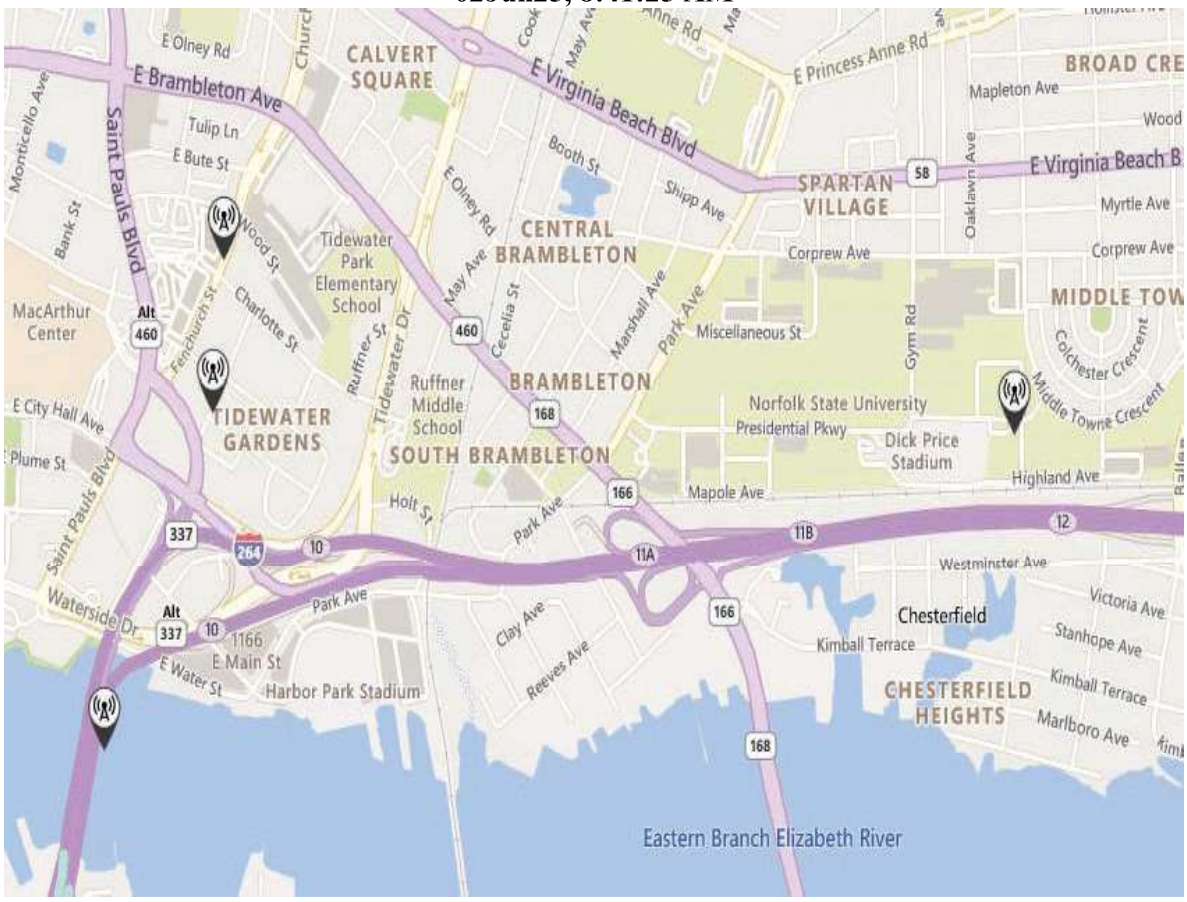
4. The examination revealed the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND logged cell tower connections in a batch operation nine times on 02Jun25, at 4:28:40 AM, at 8:41:25 AM, at 8:47:37 AM, at 8:50:51 AM, at 8:56:59 AM, at 4:59:23 PM, at 5:58:32 PM, at 5:59:34 PM, and at 8:14:24 PM. The examination revealed the device maintained 14 cell tower connection records at 4:28:40 AM. The cell towers for this time were recorded in Norfolk, VA. The examination revealed the device maintained 100 cell tower connection records at 8:41:25 AM. The cell towers for this time were recorded in Norfolk, VA. The examination revealed the device maintained four cell tower connection records at 8:47:37 AM. The cell towers for this time were recorded in Norfolk, VA. The examination revealed the device maintained one cell tower

connection record at 8:50:51 AM. The cell towers for this time were recorded in Norfolk, VA. The examination revealed the cell tower connection records for entries at 8:56:59 AM, at 4:59:23 PM, at 5:58:32 PM, and at 5:59:34 PM were recorded in the Norfolk and Portsmouth area. The examination revealed the device maintained 101 cell tower connection records at 8:14:24 PM. The cell towers for this time were recorded in Norfolk, VA, Chesapeake, VA, and Virginia Beach, VA. The examination of the 8:14:24 PM entries disclosed one cell tower connection record near 1327 Herbert Collins Way, Norfolk VA. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Physical Analyzer and as displayed in Google Maps.

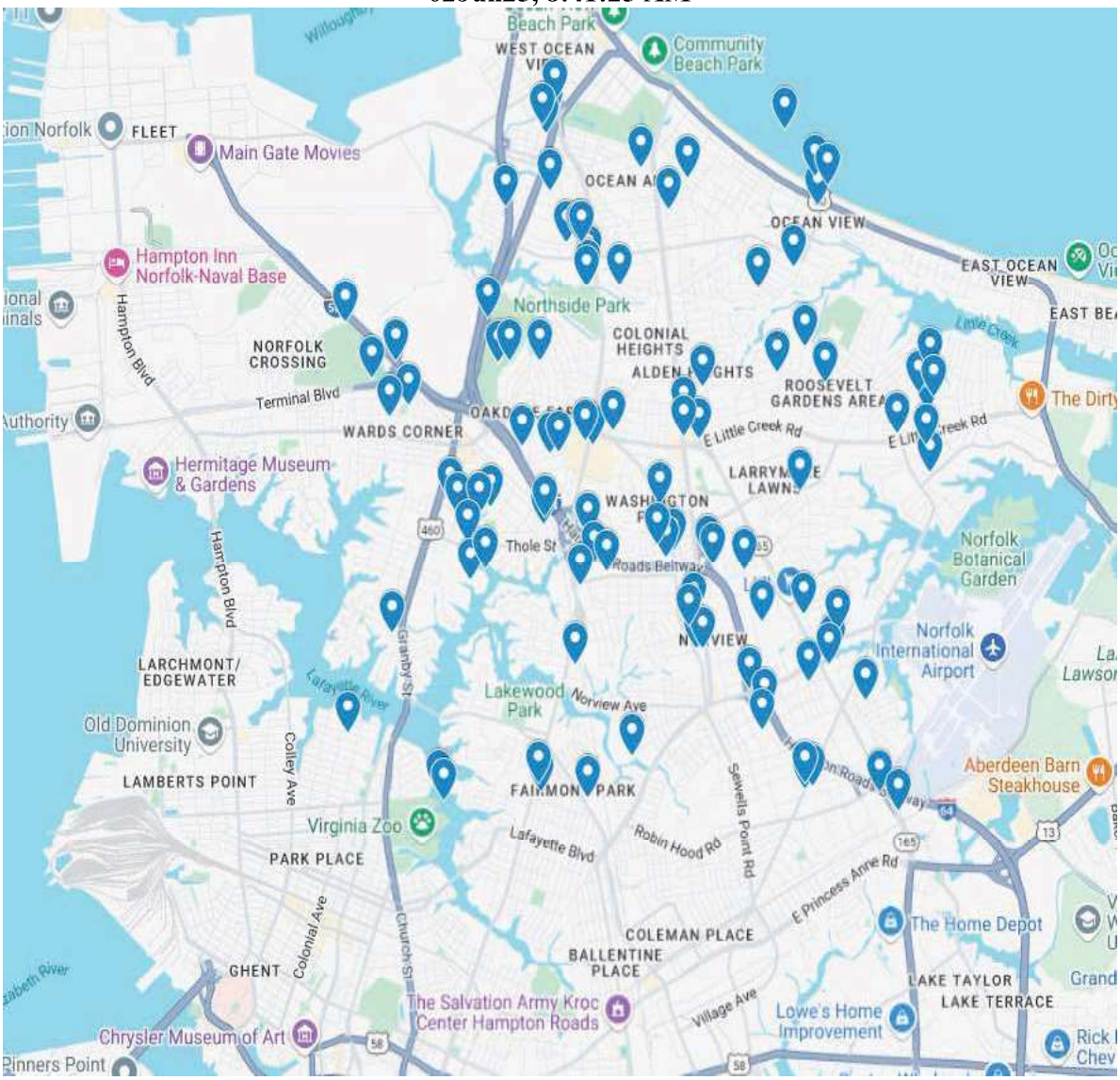
02Jun25, 4:28:40 AM



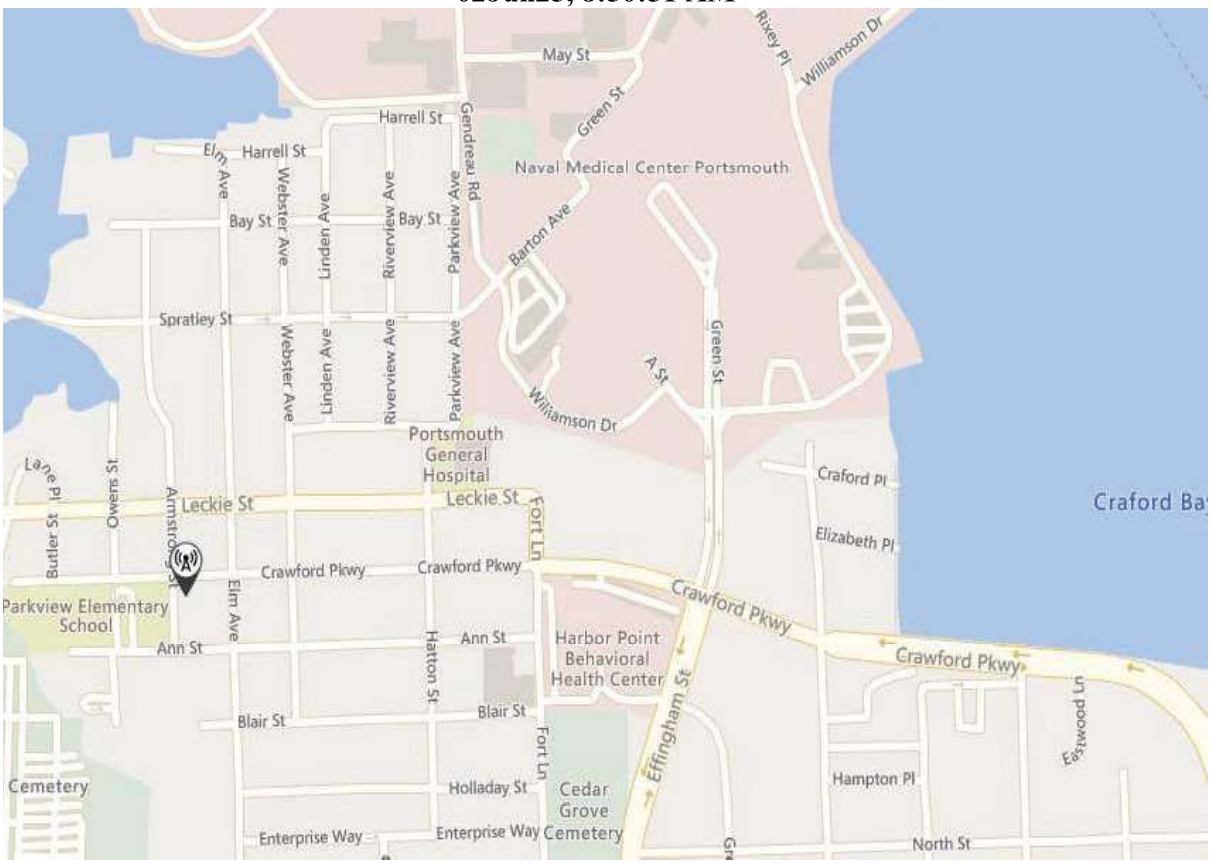
02Jun25, 8:41:25 AM



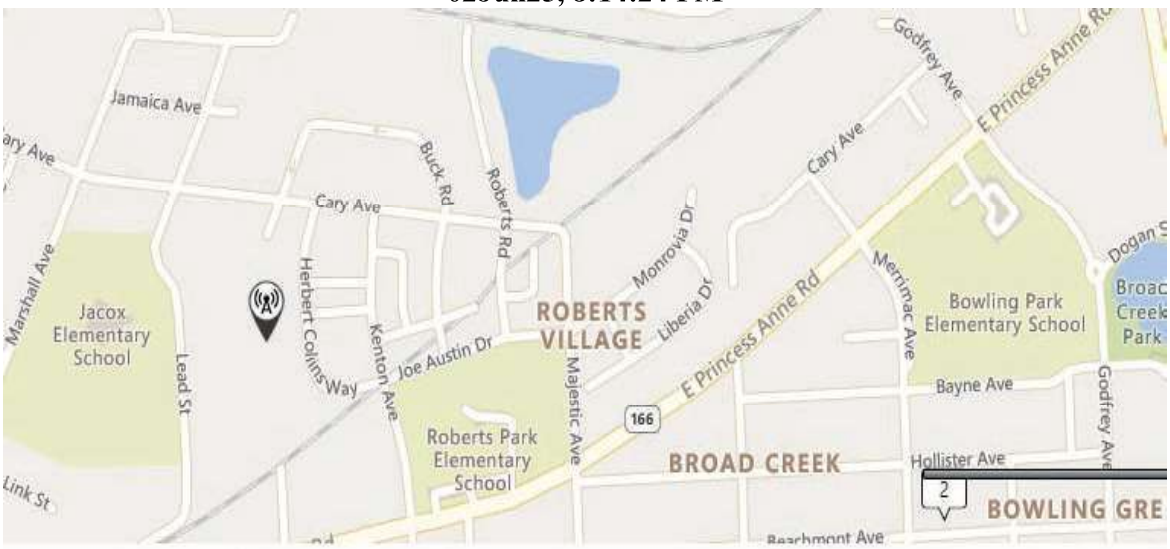
02Jun25, 8:41:25 AM



02Jun25, 8:50:51 AM



02Jun25, 8:14:24 PM



time	Position	Map Address
	(36.856388, -76.262047)	1327 Herbert Collins Way, Norfolk, VA 23504-3041, United States
	(36.853530, -76.237023)	1023 Norfolk Sq, Norfolk, VA 23502, United States
	(36.839859, -76.214783)	146 Kimberly Ln, Norfolk, VA 23502, United States
	(36.864215, -76.210724)	1210 N Military Hwy, Norfolk, VA 23502, United States

LUGGAGE IMAGE FILES

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted three thumbnail images during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The iPhone appears to name all the thumbnail images with the same of name of "5005.jpg." Each thumbnail image is located in the corresponding subdirectories of the \private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\Thumbnails\V2\DCIM\101APPLE\ directory. The specific directory in which the thumbnail file named "5005.jpg" resides contains the original file name of the image, movie, or Apple's live files. The three original file names from each thumbnail image resolves back to IMG_1111.HEIC, IMG_1114.HEIC, and IMG_1112.mov. SDFE DAVISON conducted a search for each original file, however, the examination did not recover the original files. SDFE DAVISON inserted the thumbnail files directly into this document.

IMG_1111.HEIC

LL EVIDENCE ▸ 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip ▸ private ▸ var ▸ mobile ▸ Media ▸ PhotoData ▸ Thumbnails ▸ V2 ▸ DCIM ▸ 101APPLE ▸ IMG_1111.HEIC

Name	Type	File...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified	MFT...	MD5 hash	Ch
5005.JPG	File	JPG	58,966	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM		03062e1418645738ad713446170defc6	



IMG_1114.HEIC

ALL EVIDENCE ▸ 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip ▸ private ▸ var ▸ mobile ▸ Media ▸ PhotoData ▸ Thumbnails ▸ V2 ▸ DCIM ▸ 101APPLE ▸ IMG_1114.HEIC

Name	Type	File...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified	MFT...	MD5 hash	Ch
5005.JPG	File	JPG	47,925	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM		f180d199fff81d48559e0deef9f9ec2e	



IMG_1112.mov

.L EVIDENCE ▸ 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip ▸ private ▸ var ▸ mobile ▸ Media ▸ PhotoData ▸ Thumbnails ▸ V2 ▸ DCIM ▸ 101APPLE ▸ IMG_1112.MOV

Name	Type	File...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified	MFT...	MD5 hash	Cha
5005.JPG	File	JPG	53,236	3/8/2024 4:09:36.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	3/8/2024 4:09:36.000 PM		2967ea4db201bf8d7915bae3a8699e89	



2. The thumbnail files for IMG_1111.HEIC and IMG_1114.HEIC were created on 29Dec23. The thumbnail file for IMG_1112.mov was created on 08Jun24. The examination revealed the thumbnail file for IMG_1112.mov appears to be created due to the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND accessing and downloaded the original file in an iCloud account since the image is visually similar to the file IMG_1111.HEIC and the file is consecutively named to IMG_1112. All three thumbnails were last accessed on 05Jun25, at exactly 8:46:21 AM. All of 627 thumbnails in the \private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\Thumbnails\V2\DCIM\101APPLE\ directory and its subdirectories were accessed on 05Jun25, between 8:46:21 AM and 8:46:23 AM. The

examination revealed an automated process accessed the files and is most likely contributed to an iCloud backup. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom.

Name	Type	File e...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified
5005.JPG	File	JPG	130,889	12/29/2023 6:24:05.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 6:24:05.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	123,281	12/29/2023 6:32:15.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 6:32:15.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	58,966	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	53,236	3/8/2024 4:09:36.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	3/8/2024 4:09:36.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	49,116	12/29/2023 7:42:21.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:21.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	47,925	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	55,743	12/29/2023 7:50:38.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:50:38.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	77,068	12/29/2023 7:51:21.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:51:21.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	36,327	12/29/2023 8:09:54.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:09:54.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	31,072	12/29/2023 8:10:03.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:03.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	49,794	12/29/2023 8:10:11.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:11.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	38,135	12/29/2023 8:10:35.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:35.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	32,599	12/29/2023 8:10:52.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:52.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	54,421	12/29/2023 8:11:03.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:03.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	54,065	12/29/2023 8:11:16.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:16.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	47,698	12/29/2023 8:11:26.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:26.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	37,341	12/29/2023 8:11:42.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:42.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	59,704	12/29/2023 8:11:52.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:52.000 PM

Click to Review the Thumbnail Report

TEXT MESSAGES

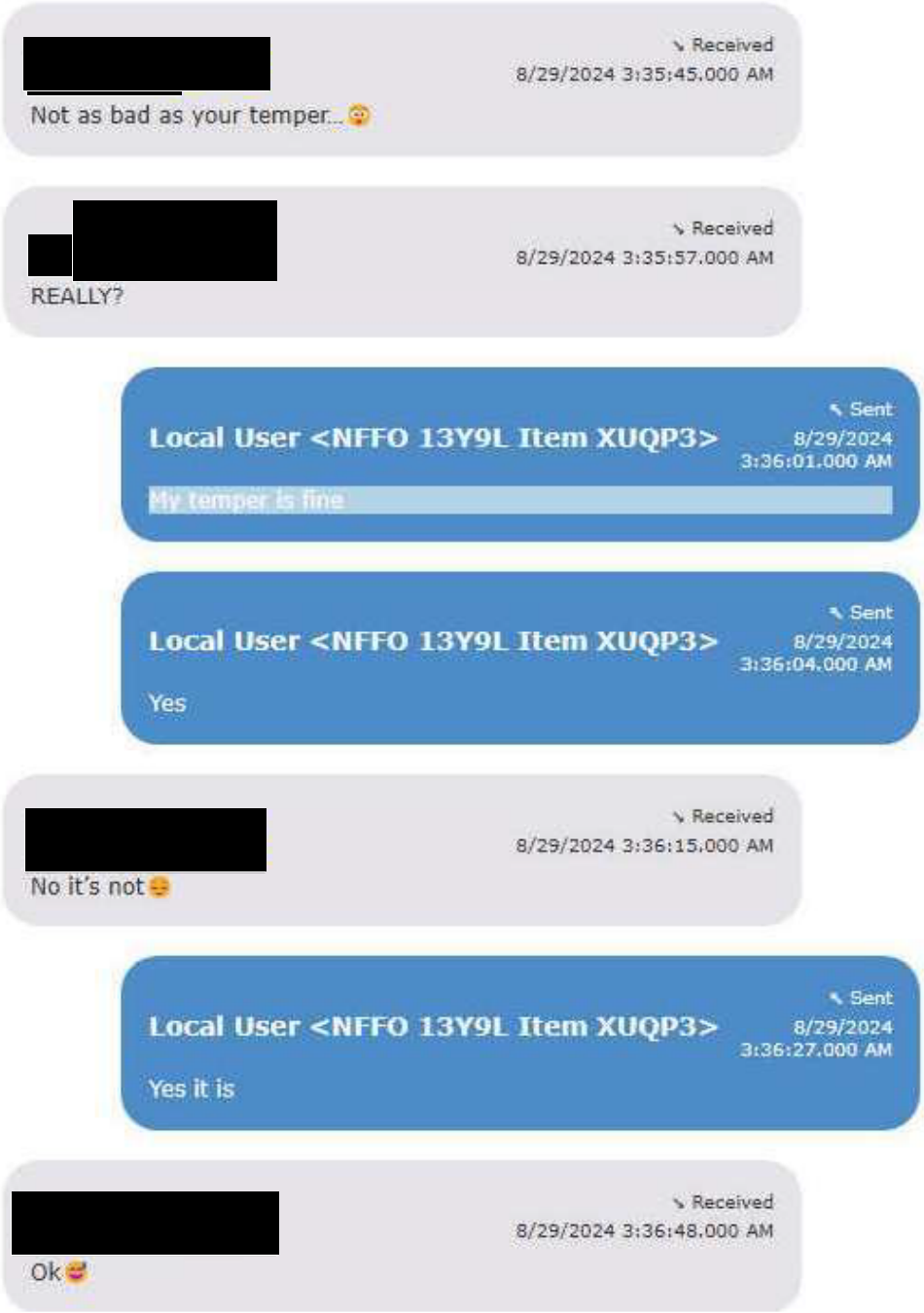
1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number 360-720-3796 between 02May25, at 2:29:25 AM, to 03Jun25, at 9:03:13 PM. SDFE DAVISON also located and extracted text messages from 29Aug24 and 03Sep24. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND saved the first name for the phone number [redacted] in the contacts address book as "Bitch." The user of phone number [redacted] further identified herself as "Desiclali Ramirez-Vasquez." The entire text history starts on 22Aug24, at 5:57:17 AM with the last text message sent on 03Jun25, at 9:03:13 PM. The entire text history is available upon request. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

First Name	**Bitch**
Phone Number(s)	[redacted]
Created Date/Time	**8/20/2024 8:47:15.000 AM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**4/18/2025 9:25:00.000 PM**
Artifact type	Apple Contacts - iOS
Item ID	**16265**

EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Library\AddressBook \AddressBook.sqlitedb
Recovery method	**Parsing**


[redacted]
Received
8/29/2024 3:35:45.000 AM
Not as bad as your temper...
[redacted]
Received
8/29/2024 3:35:57.000 AM
REALLY?
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
8/29/2024 3:36:01.000 AM
My temper is fine
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
8/29/2024 3:36:04.000 AM
Yes
[redacted]
Received
8/29/2024 3:36:15.000 AM
No it's not
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
8/29/2024 3:36:27.000 AM
Yes it is
[redacted]
Received
8/29/2024 3:36:48.000 AM
Ok

[redacted] ↘ Received
9/3/2024 3:32:23.000 PM
Desiclali Ramirez-Vasquez
[redacted] PII

PII 3796 ↘ Received
9/3/2024 5:02:31.000 PM
SEND ME MY CHAMELEON!!!!!

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 2:27:20.000 PM
I'm not playing

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 2:27:24.000 PM
Answer the fucking phone

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 6:35:33.000 PM
...

[redacted] ↘ Received
5/29/2025 6:42:11.000 PM
Click to play the audio attachment.

DOUBLE CLICK TO PLAY AUDIO

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/30/2025 8:00:29.000 PM
switched phones is crazy

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 8:59:43.000 AM
If you don't answer by today, then that's how Ik you're fw someone else, like you're not slick at allllll like I said last time, js lmk. Have me looking stupid asf calling you

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:00:42.000 AM
Cuz clearly you in the same persons room like you were yesterday & you're STILL not answering

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:10:18.000 AM
ANSWER

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:10:21.000 AM
ANSWER

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:10:23.000 AM
ANSWER

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:11:09.000 AM
IVE BEEN BLOWING UP YOUR PHONE SINCE YESTERDAY, The LEAST you could do is fucking answer n lmk wsp so im not wasting my time on you.

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:21:02.000 AM
JERMIAH JS ANSWER

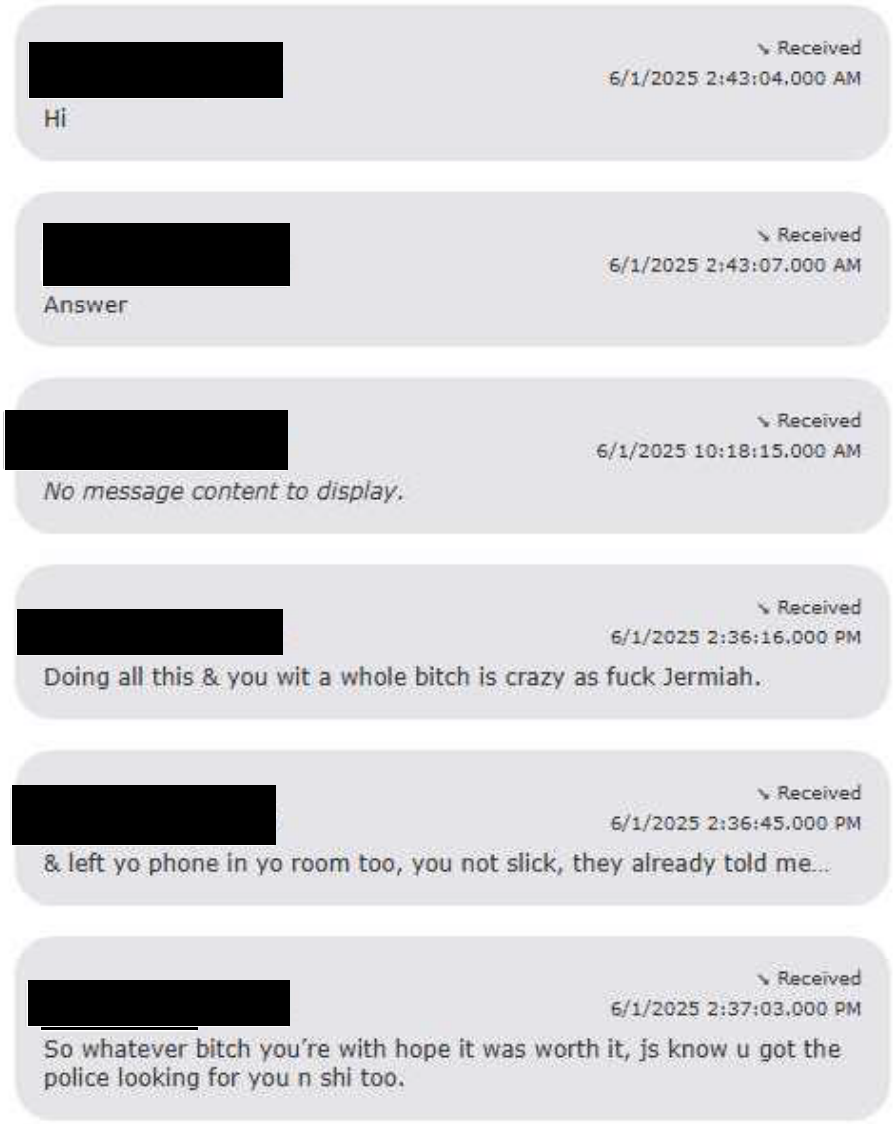
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:21:15.000 AM
All I need is an answer

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:21:24.000 AM
Like wtf are u doing bruh

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:21:39.000 AM
Js lmk n ill leave u alone cuz now you doing the most

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:21:49.000 AM
Deadass.

[redacted]
↘ Received
5/31/2025 9:35:09.000 AM
Hellloooooooooooooo



Click to Review the Text Report

2. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted Snapchat messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Snapchat user name [redacted] and Snapchat user name "desi.rv" between 16May25, at 7:35:14 PM, to 03Jun25, at 8:39:05 PM. The entire Snapchat history starts on 06Mar23, at 2:03:19 AM with the last text message sent on 03Jun25, at 8:39:05 PM. The entire text history is available upon request. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 20 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

(Place or Places of Trial)

On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Date or Dates of Trial)

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

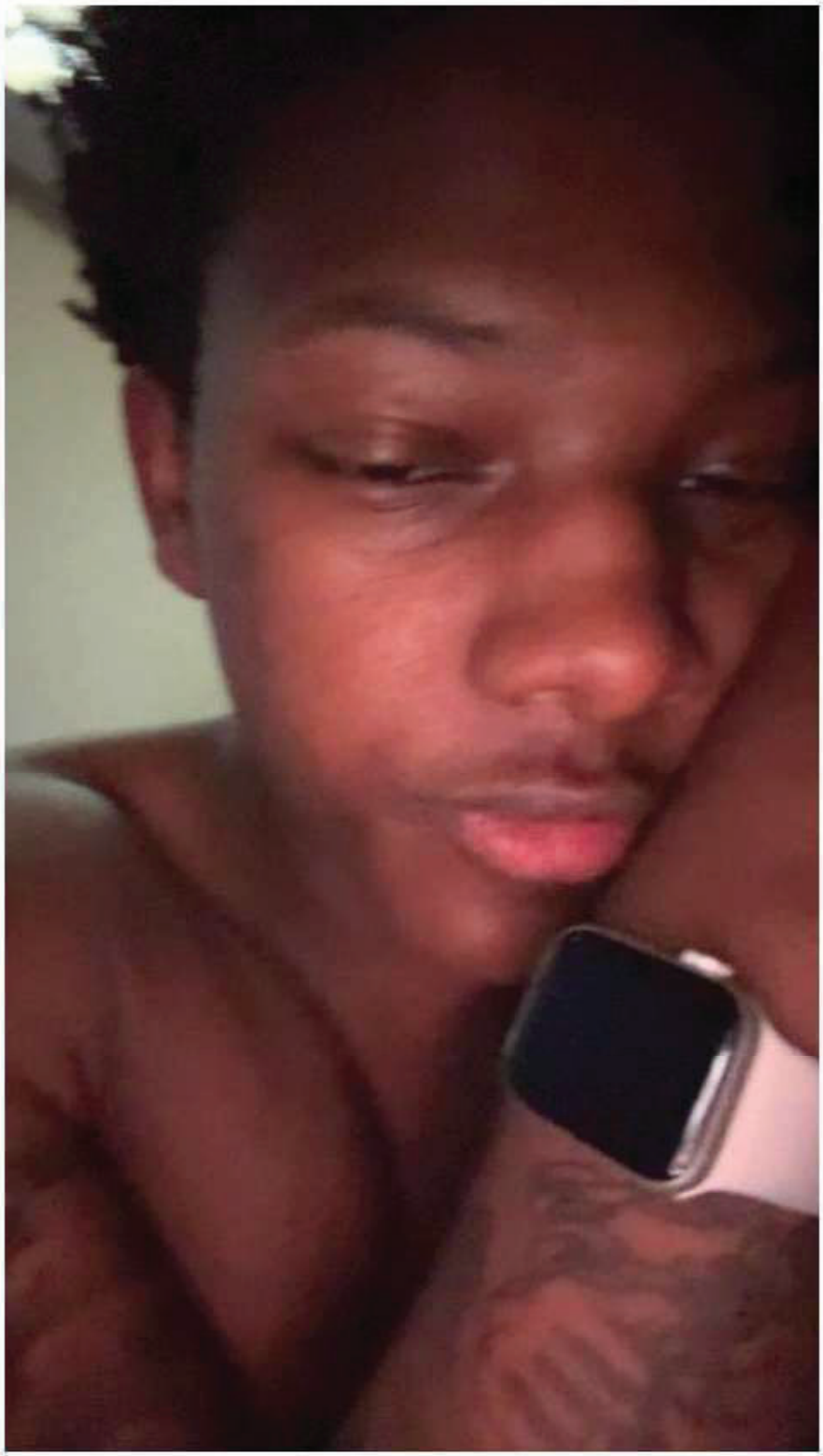
Cover Page Volume 20 of 25, and Appellate Exhibit (AE LXI (Page 260 through Page 499)).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

JERMIAH1738

Sent
5/24/2025 3:40:43.455 PM



DESI.RV
& you wit a whole nother bitch
Received 6/1/2025 1:45:10.114 PM

DESI.RV
That's on you ship
Received 6/1/2025 1:45:13.902 PM

DESI.RV
Crazy
Received 6/1/2025 1:45:15.415 PM

DESI.RV
Left yo phone at yo place n shi so I couldn't track yo location n took your other phone wit you
Received 6/1/2025 1:45:33.021 PM

DESI.RV
Crazy Jermiah
Received 6/1/2025 1:45:37.182 PM

DESI.RV
what girl are you fw on yo ship
Received 6/1/2025 10:49:22.227 PM

JERMIAH1738
I'm not actually
Sent 6/1/2025 10:49:29.088 PM

DESI.RV
Or in your barracks
Received 6/1/2025 10:49:31.543 PM

DESI.RV
Genuinely I wanna know
Received 6/1/2025 10:49:44.391 PM

DESI.RV
you back to fw ole girl
Received 6/1/2025 10:49:54.536 PM

Click to Review the Snapchat Report

3. The examination revealed the photo sent by the Snapchat user name "jermiah1738" on 24May25, at 3:40:43 PM, had an original file name of 1DE98B6D-B87A-4910-93A7-70E55CA63237.jpg. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to take the picture using the Snapchat App on 24May25, at 5/24/2025 3:40:41 PM. The picture depicts S/COPELAND wearing a suspected Apple Watch.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

File Name	**1DE98B6D-B87A-4910-93A7-70E55CA63237.jpg**
File Extension	**.jpg**
Created Date/Time	**5/24/2025 3:40:41.000 PM**
Last Accessed Date/Time	**5/24/2025 3:40:41.000 PM**
Last Modified Date/Time	**5/24/2025 3:40:41.000 PM**
Size (Bytes)	**157,211**
Skin Tone Percentage	**71.0**
Original Width	**720**
Original Height	**1280**
Exif Extraction Status	**Complete**
Exif Data	**Extraction Result: Complete** **ImageWidth: 720** **ImageHeight: 1280**
MD5 Hash	**c3a29ab52bfd34c687501116614fc847**
SHA1 Hash	**159f5ebb00ef047f901161f37e880c65a8aafb12**
Artifact type	Pictures
Item ID	781823

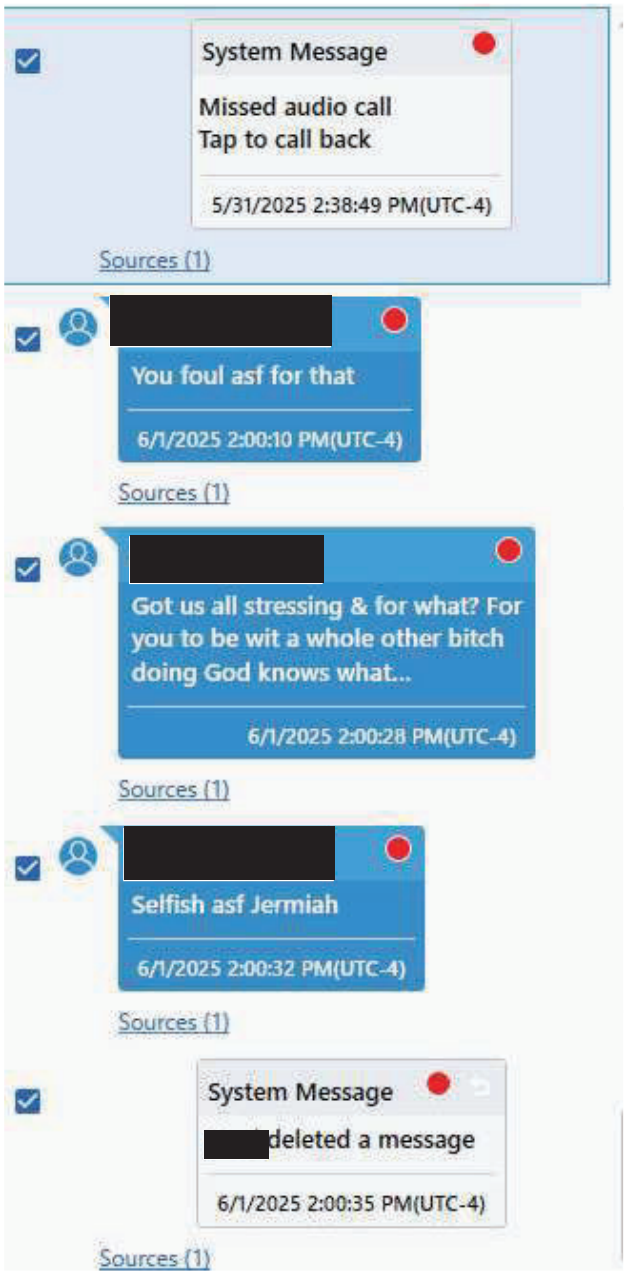
EVIDENCE INFORMATION

Source	00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip \private\var\mobile\Containers\Data \Application\B55E0D41-55AC-4E93- BDF3-50DC2CB68E4A\Library\Caches \1DE98B6D- B87A-4910-93A7-70E55CA63237.jpg
Recovery method	Parsing

Click to Review the Picture Report

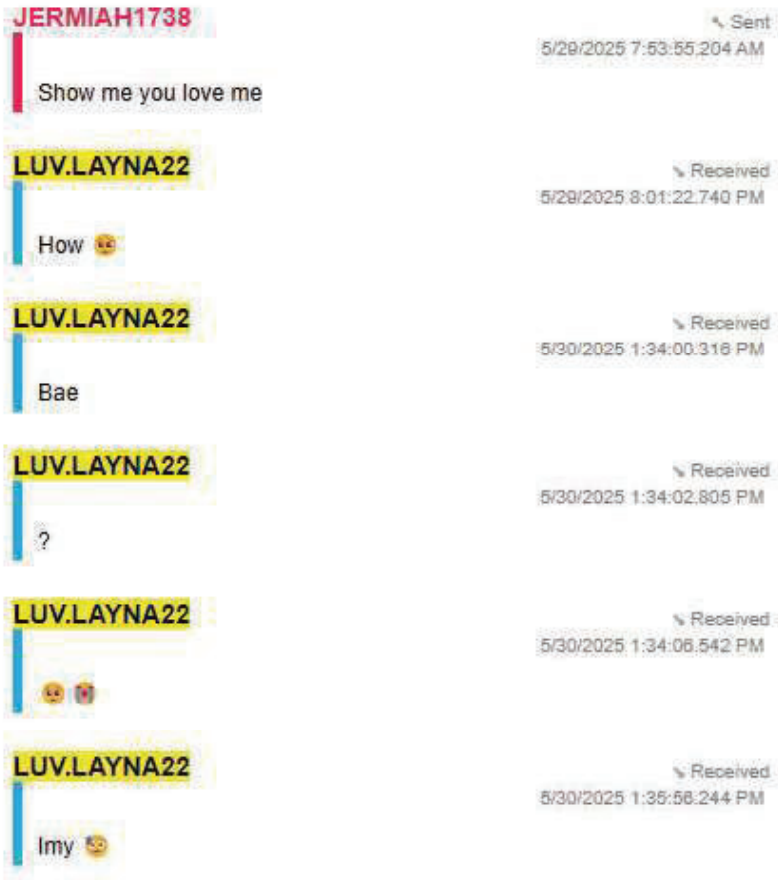
4. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted Facebook Messenger communications between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Facebook user name "Jermiah Copeland" and Facebook user name "Desi Ramirez" between 29May25, at 2:11:03 PM, to 01Jun25, at 2:00:35 PM. The entire Facebook Messenger history starts on 06Mar23, at

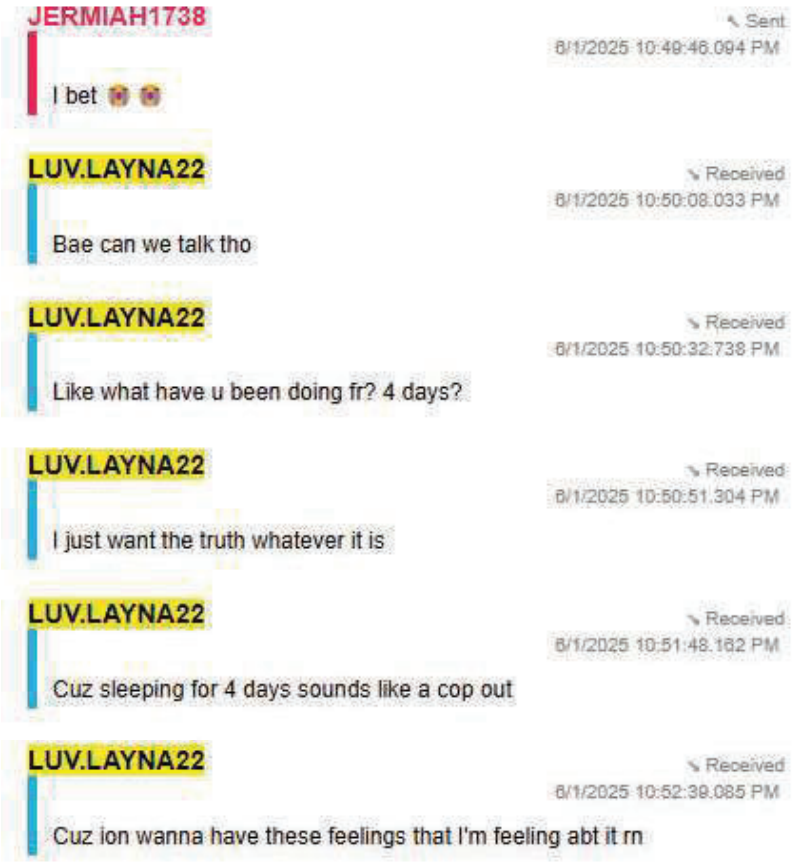
2:03:19 AM with the last message sent on 01Jun25, at 2:00:35 PM. The entire text history is available upon request. The Facebook user name "Jermiah Copeland" had a Facebook Account identification number listed as 100018805532505 while the Facebook user name "Desi Ramirez" had a Facebook Account identification number listed as 100013072903968. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Cellebrite Inseyets Physical Analyzer, which are excerpts from the entire text history.



Click to Review the Report

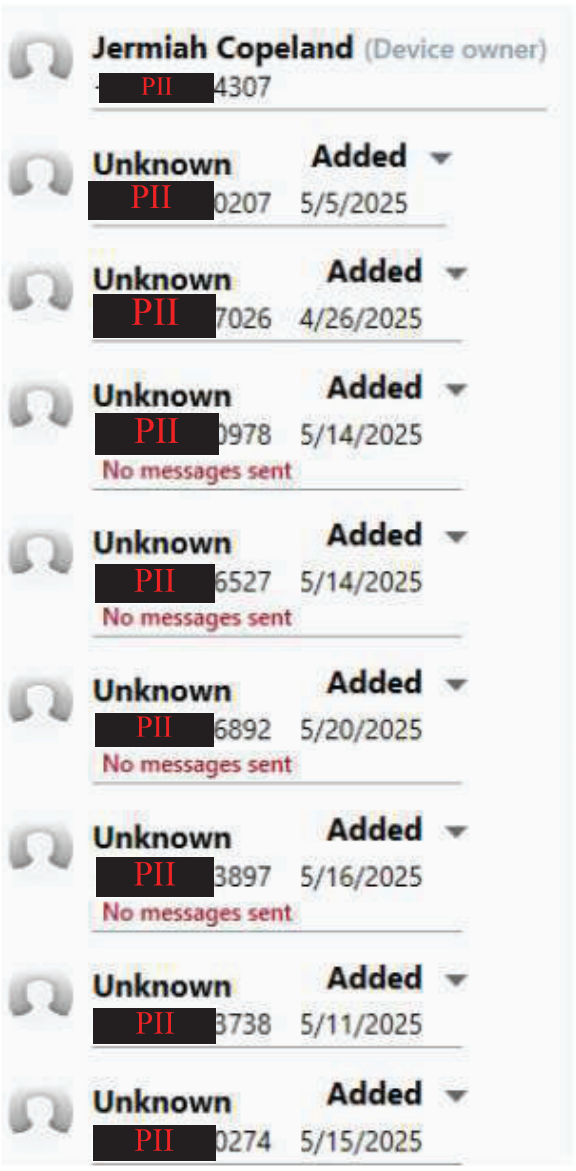
5. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted Snapchat messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Snapchat user name “jermiah1738” and Snapchat user name “luv.layna22” with a display name listed as “malayna” between 25May25, at 6:55:40 AM, to 03Jun25, at 7:54:43 PM. The entire Snapchat history starts on 21May21, at 2:22:45 AM with the last text message sent on 03Jun25, at 7:54:43.527 PM. The entire text history is available upon request. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.

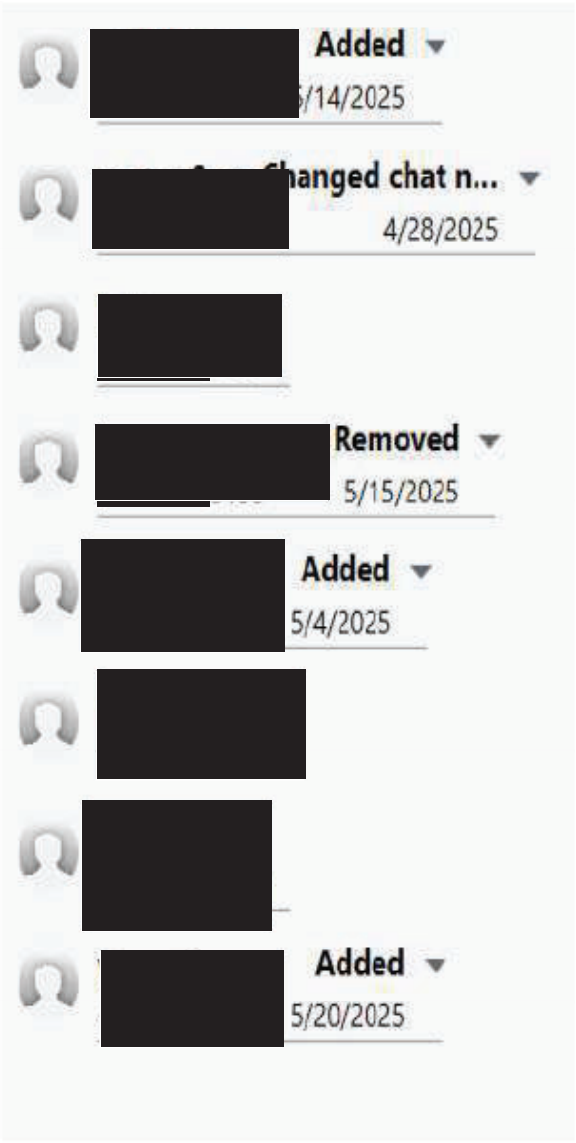


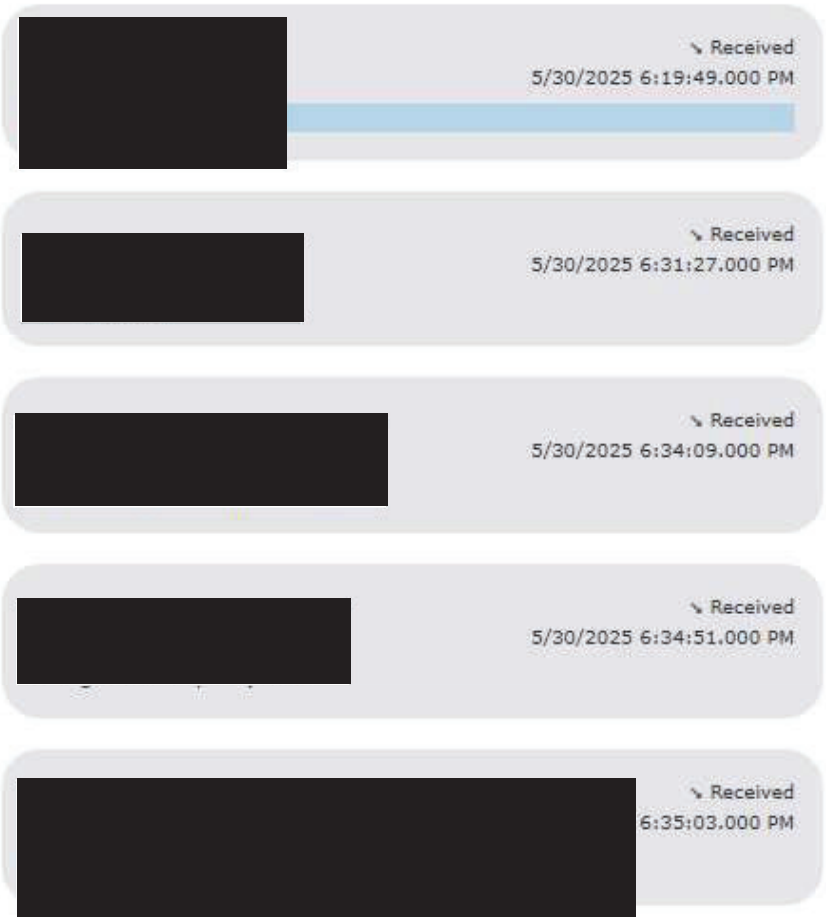


Click to Review the Report

6. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted group text messages with the conversation name of "Summer 25" between 30May25, at 6:19:49 AM, to 01Jun25, at 6:15:19 AM. The entire text history starts on 26Apr25, at 8:58:04 PM with the last text message sent on 03Jun25, at 9:03:13 PM. The entire text history is available upon request. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND is a member of the group with the conversation name of "Summer 25" along with 16 other current phone numbers. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom and Physical Analyzer, which are excerpts from the entire text history.


Jermiah Copeland (Device owner)
PII 4307
Unknown Added
PII 0207 5/5/2025
Unknown Added
PII 7026 4/26/2025
Unknown Added
PII 0978 5/14/2025
No messages sent
Unknown Added
PII 6527 5/14/2025
No messages sent
Unknown Added
PII 6892 5/20/2025
No messages sent
Unknown Added
PII 3897 5/16/2025
No messages sent
Unknown Added
PII 3738 5/11/2025
Unknown Added
PII 0274 5/15/2025

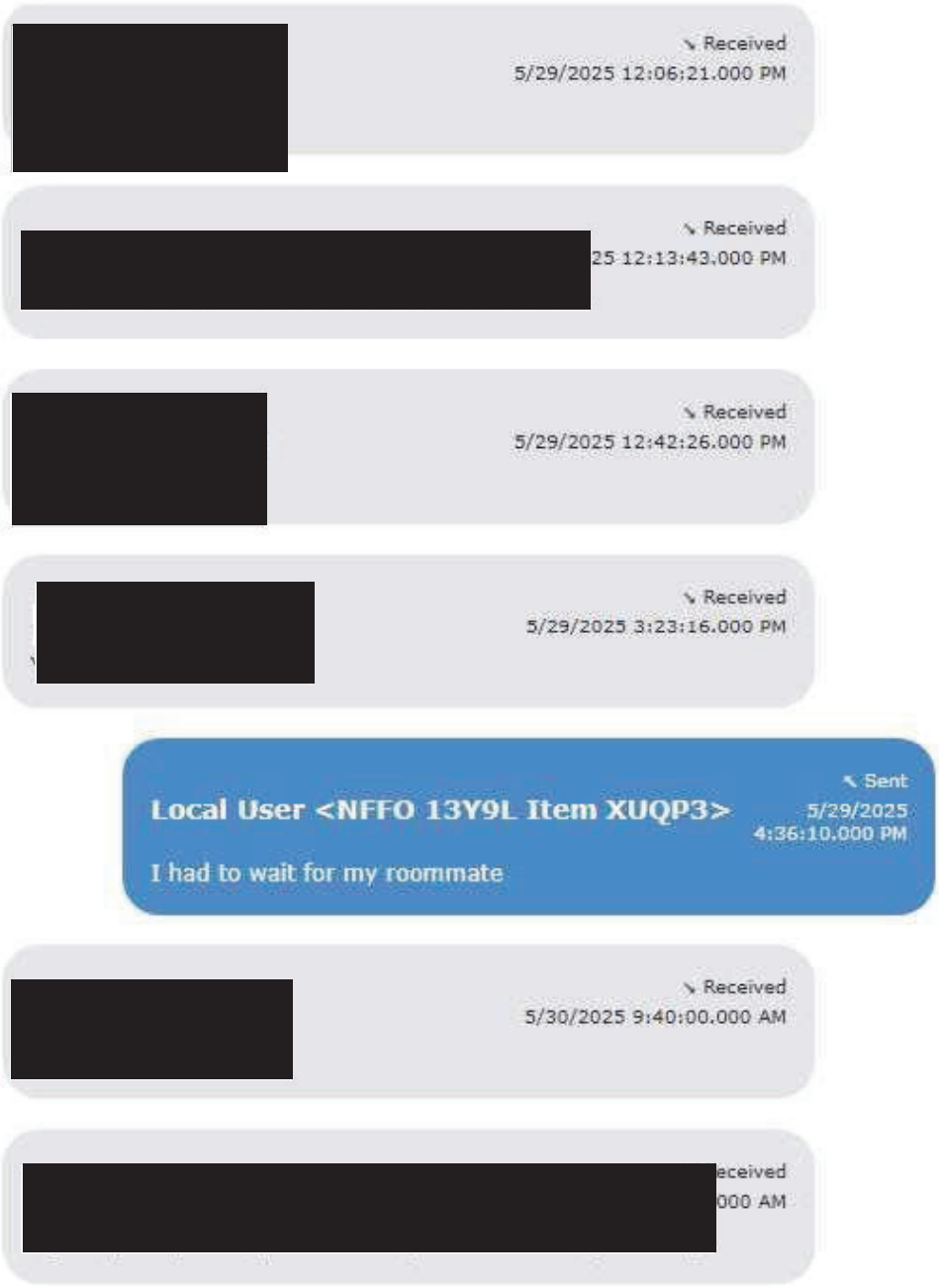

[redacted] Added
/14/2025
[redacted] anged chat n...
4/28/2025
[redacted]
[redacted] Removed
5/15/2025
[redacted] Added
5/4/2025
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] Added
5/20/2025



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EXAMINER NOTE: DOUBLE CLICK AUDIO IN REPORT

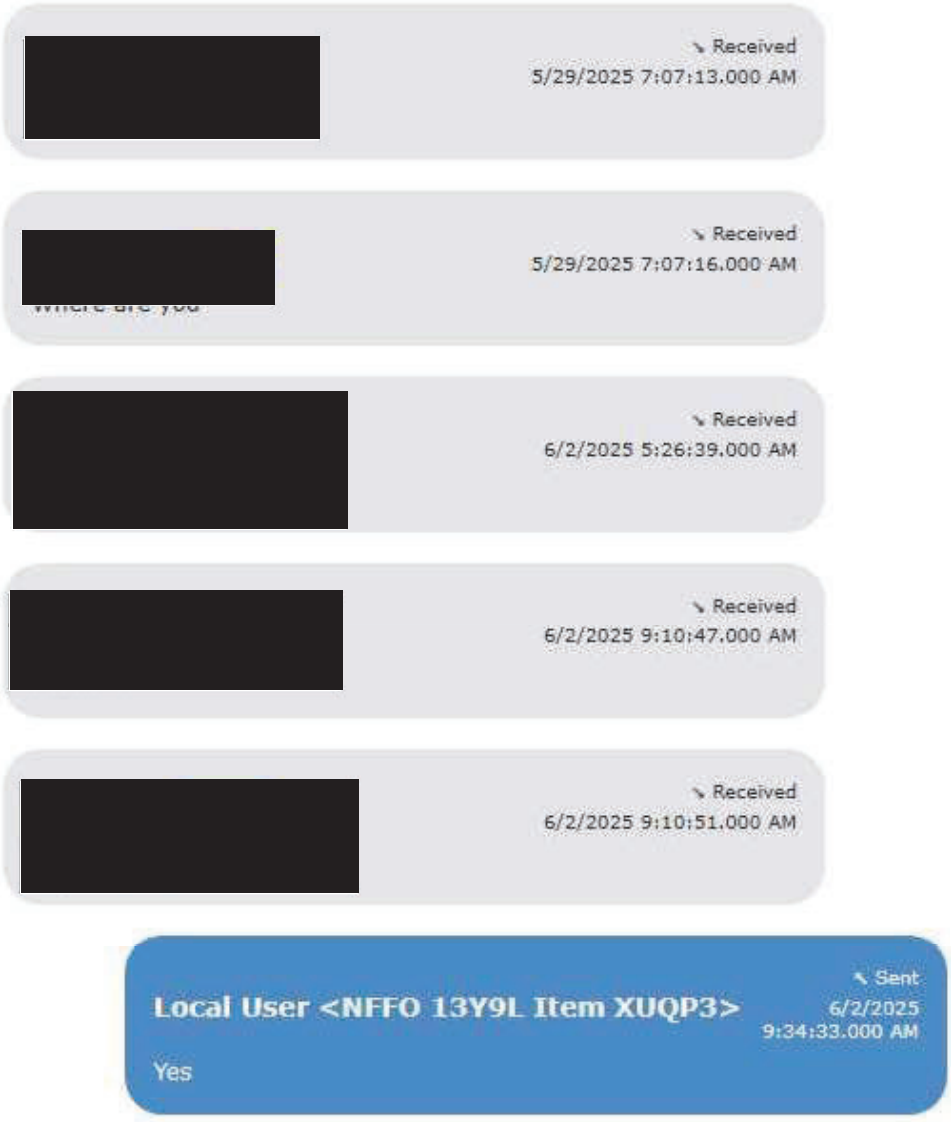
7. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number [redacted]PII[redacted]-1599 between 17Mar25, at 8:51:56 AM, to 30May25, at 2:27:21 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.


[redacted]
Received
5/29/2025 12:06:21.000 PM
[redacted]
Received
25 12:13:43.000 PM
[redacted]
Received
5/29/2025 12:42:26.000 PM
[redacted]
Received
5/29/2025 3:23:16.000 PM
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
5/29/2025
4:36:10.000 PM
I had to wait for my roommate
[redacted]
Received
5/30/2025 9:40:00.000 AM
[redacted]
eceived
000 AM



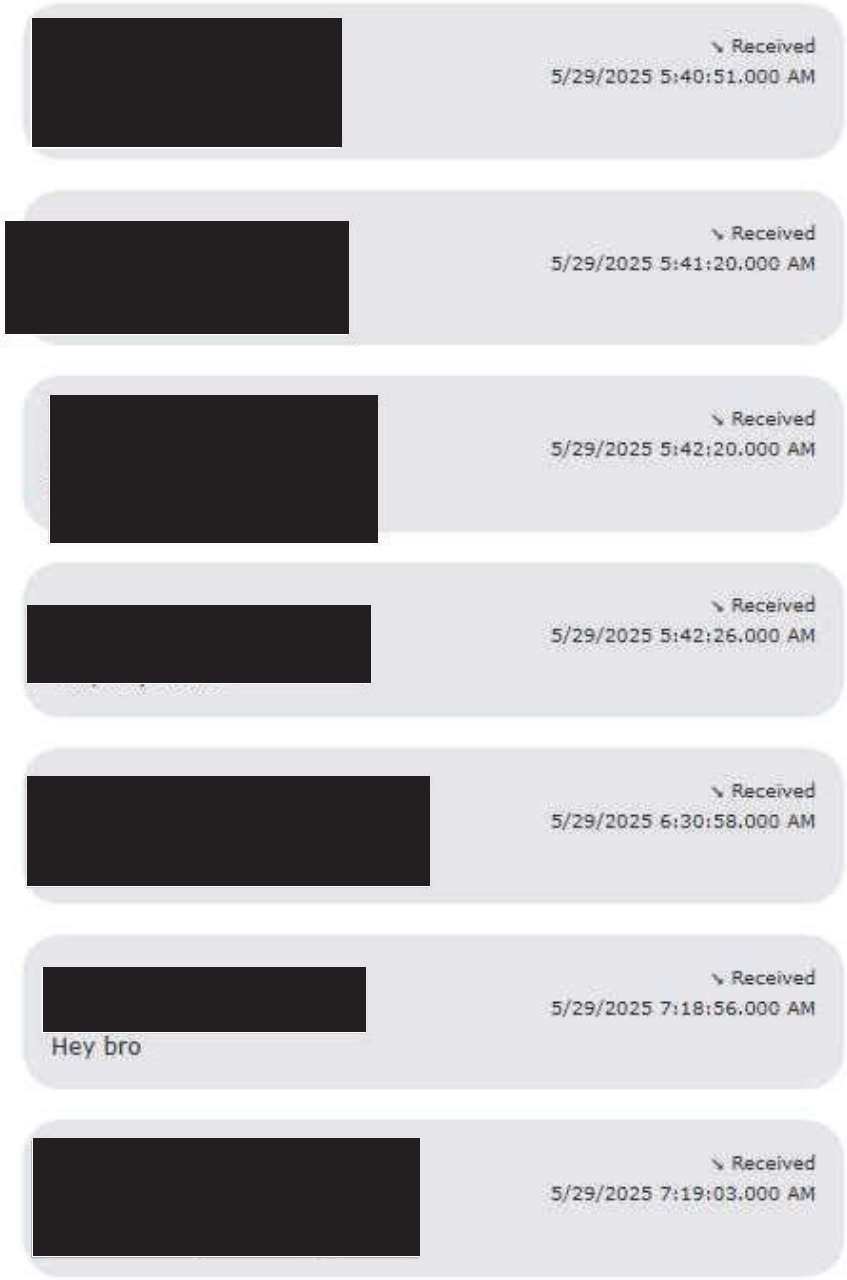
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8. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -8519 with a display name listed as "Aaliyah De La Cruz" between 23May25, at 9:57:06 AM, to 03Jun25, at 11:00:23 AM. The entire text history starts on 26Mar25, at 7:21:40 AM with the last text message sent on 03Jun25, at 11:00:23 AM. The entire text history is available upon request. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.



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9. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number [redacted] PII -9482 between 06Mar25, at 7:18:27 PM, to 01Jun25, at 11:58:54 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save a name associated with the phone number in the contacts address book. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.


[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 5:40:51.000 AM
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 5:41:20.000 AM
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 5:42:20.000 AM
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 5:42:26.000 AM
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 6:30:58.000 AM
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 7:18:56.000 AM
Hey bro
[redacted]
↘ Received
5/29/2025 7:19:03.000 AM



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10. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted Snapchat messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Snapchat user name “jermiah1738” and Snapchat user name “saltypey” between 15May25, at 10:00:57 PM, to 03Jun25, at 7:54:51 PM. The entire Snapchat history starts on 05Feb25, at 2:46:02 AM, with the last text message sent on 03Jun25, at 7:54:51 PM. The entire text history is available upon request. The Snapchat user name “saltypey” had a display name listed as “Peyton Salter.” SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
5/16/2025 5:00:54.282 PM
No message content to display.

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
5/28/2025 2:24:29.327 PM
No message content to display.

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
5/29/2025 2:16:22.018 PM
No message content to display.

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
5/31/2025 11:55:41.265 AM
No message content to display.

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
6/3/2025 2:21:42.974 AM
No message content to display.

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
6/3/2025 2:22:18.107 AM
about time

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
6/3/2025 2:22:21.274 AM
No message content to display.

JERMIAH1738
↖ Sent
6/3/2025 3:01:49.591 AM
Wym?

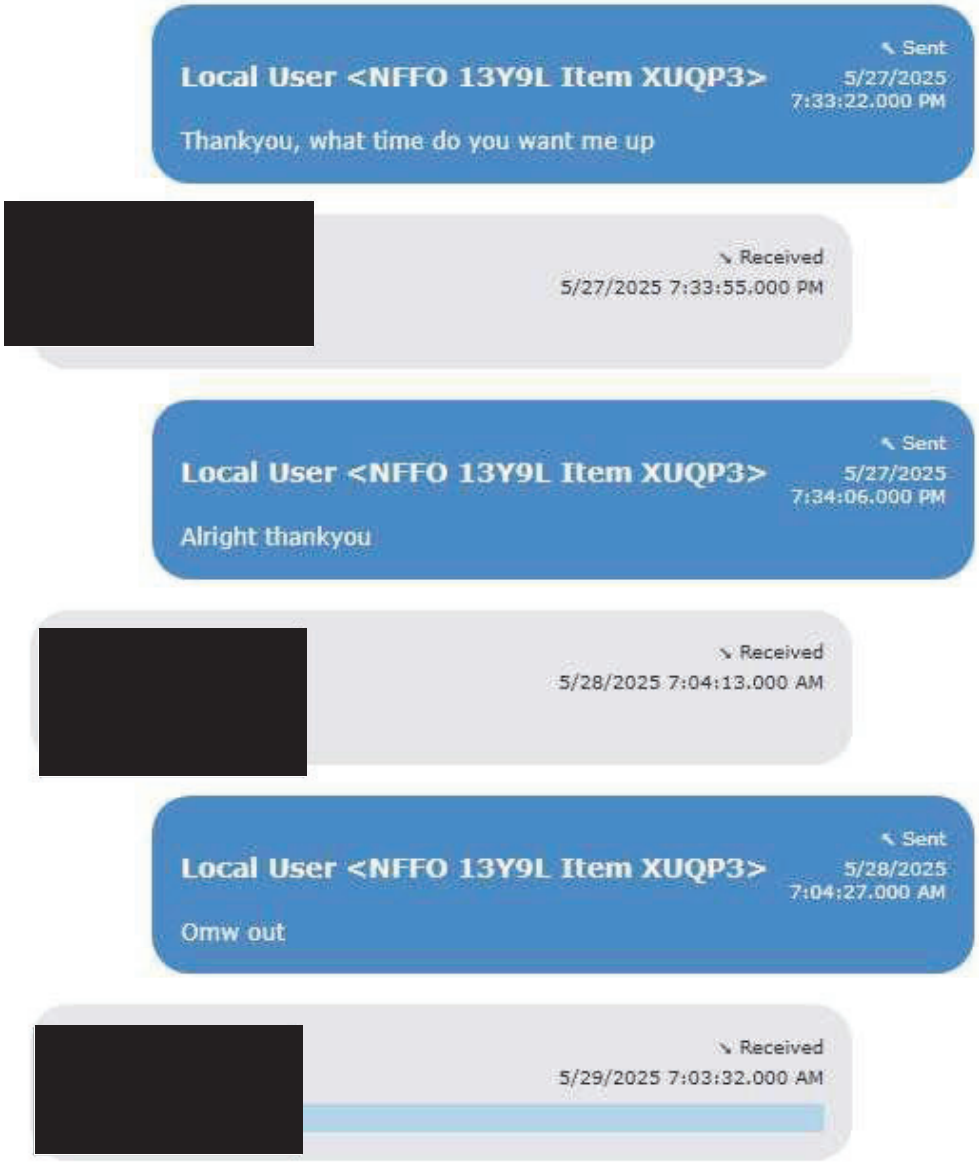
SALTYPEY
↘ Received
6/3/2025 3:02:17.212 AM
almost a whole week on delivered is crazy

SALTYPEY
↘ Received
6/3/2025 3:02:24.585 AM
No message content to display.



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11. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number 757-407-7602 with a display name listed as "CS2 Bryant" between 03Feb25, at 7:35:17 AM, to 29May25, at 7:03:32 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.



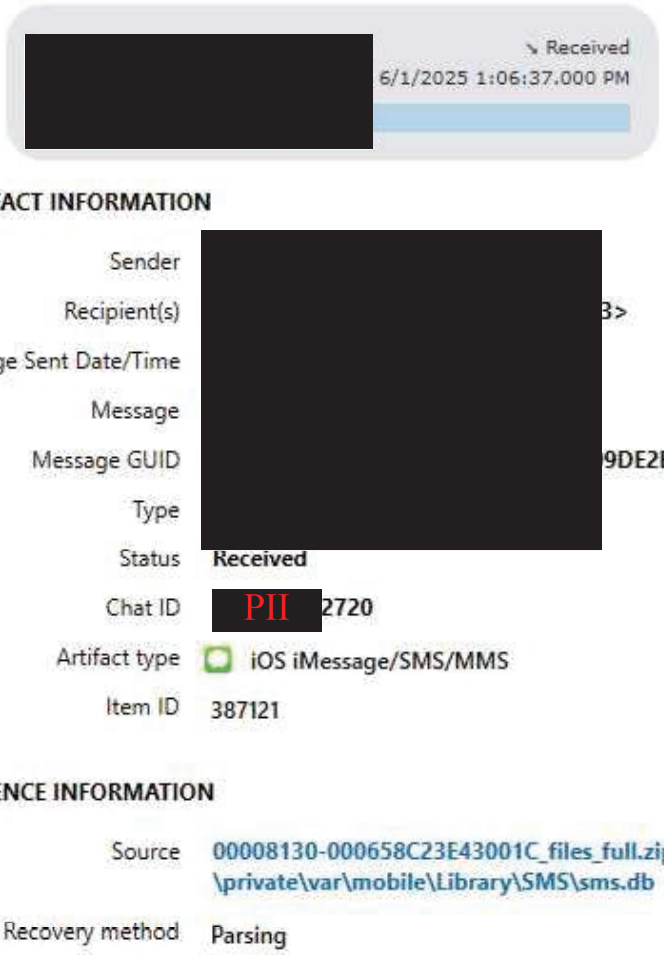
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12. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -9995 between 27Jan25, at 12:18:27 PM, to 30May25, at 2:25:56 PM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save a name associated with the phone number in the contacts address book. However, the user of the phone number PII -9995 self-identified as "CS1 btw." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.

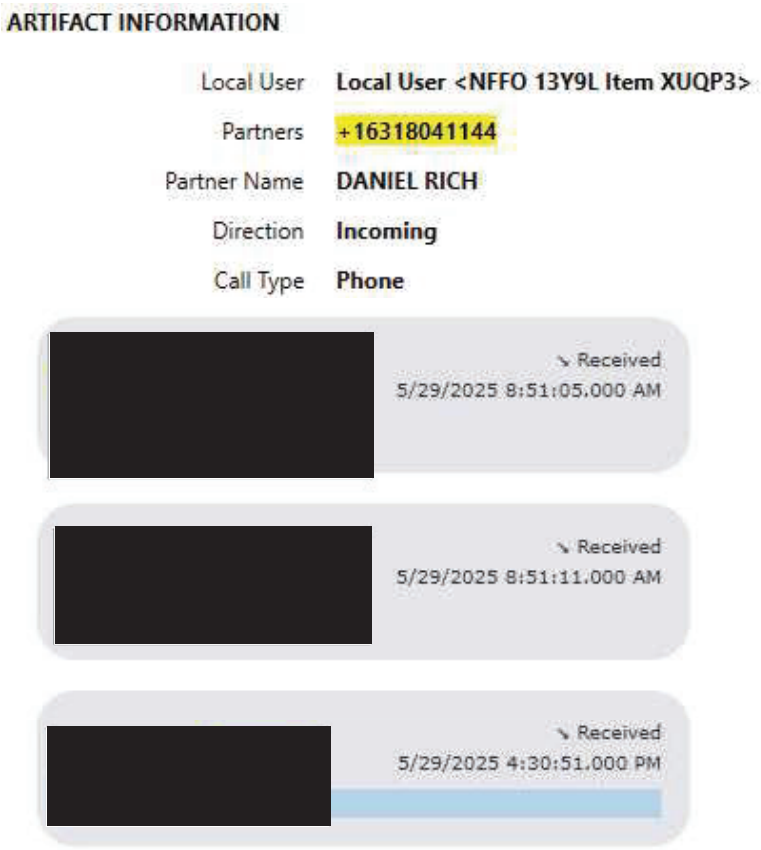


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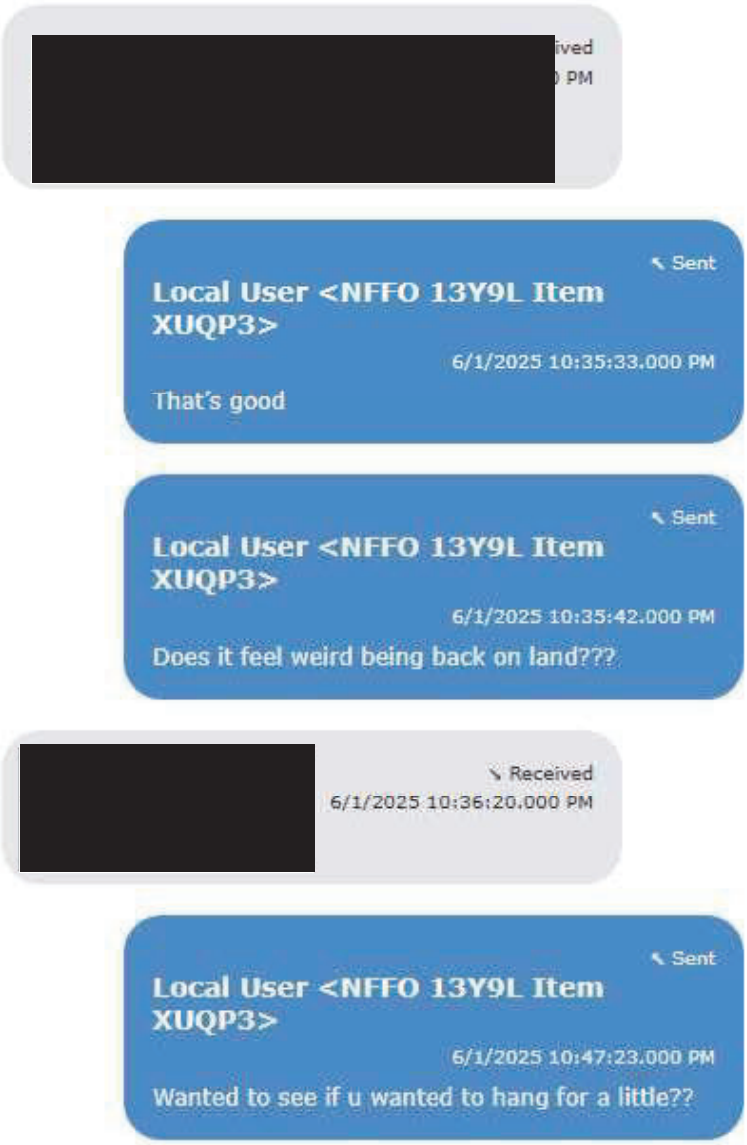
13. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted a text message from phone number PII -2720 on 01Jun25, at 1:06:37 PM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received the message, but the user did not read nor respond to the text. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save a name associated with the phone number in the contacts address book. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.



15. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text message from phone number [PII]-1144 with a phone display name listed as "DANIEL RICH" on 29May24, between 8:51:05 AM to 4:30:51 PM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND received the message, but the user did not read nor respond to the text. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save a name associated with the phone number in the contacts address book. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots displayed in Axiom.

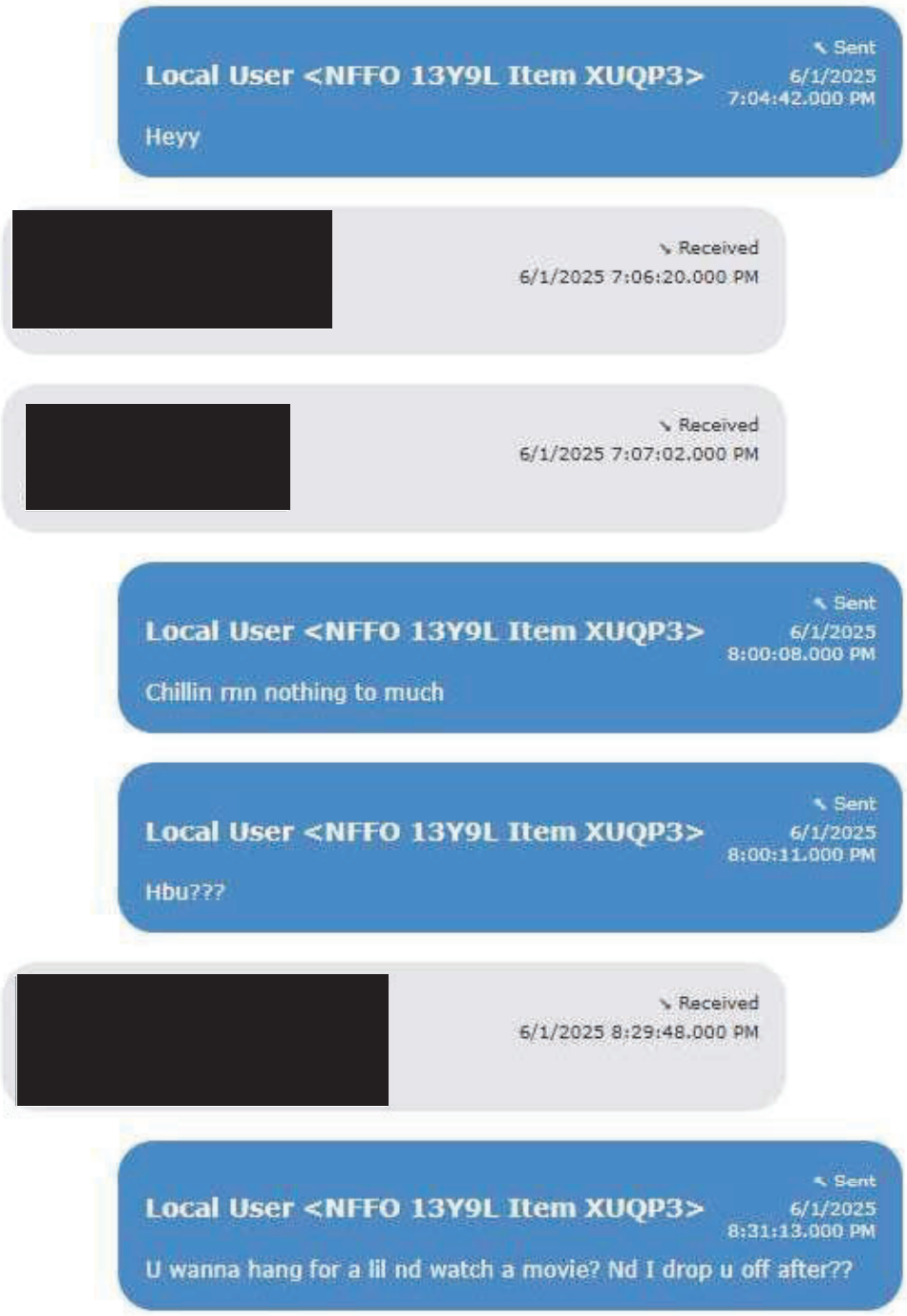


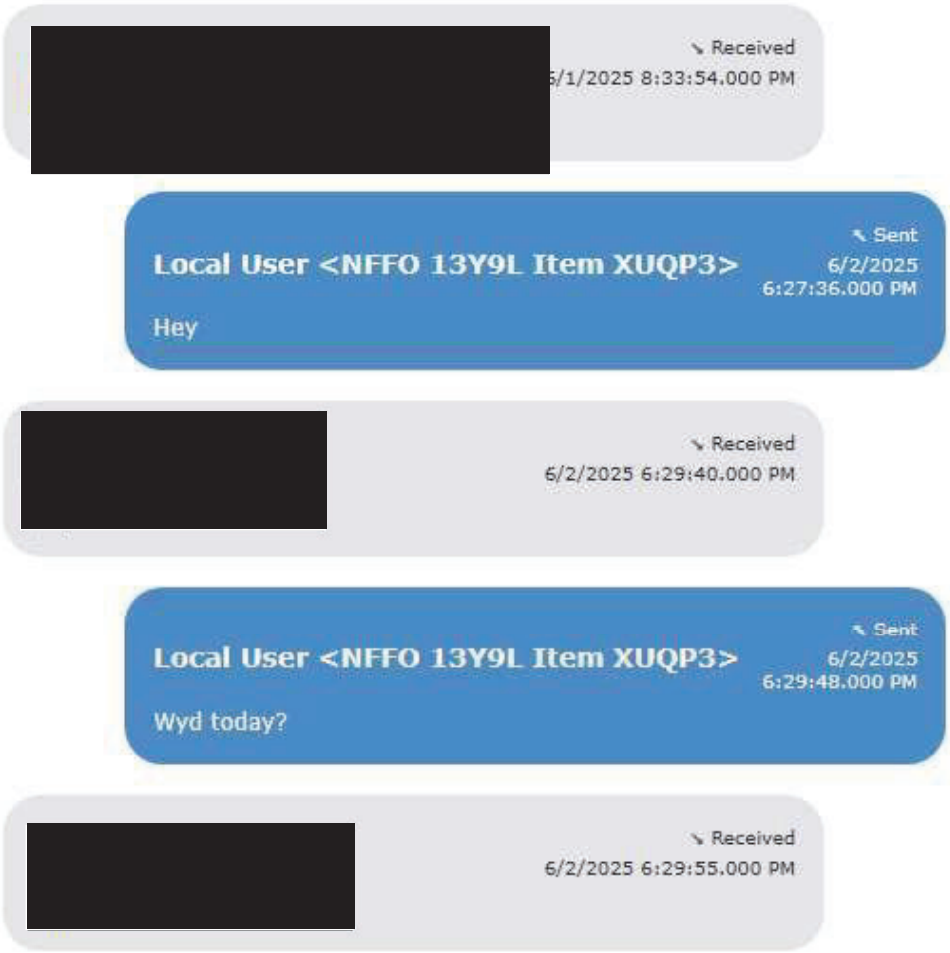
14. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number [PII]-0411with a display name listed as "Sarah Cook" between 27Sep24, at 11:25:08 PM, to 01Jun25, at 10:47:23 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.



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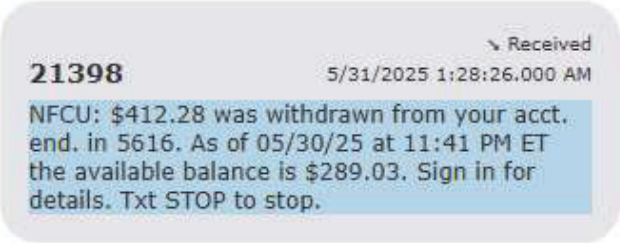
15. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -7057 between 11May25, at 11:06:55 AM, to 02Jun25, at 6:46:42 PM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save a name associated with the phone number in the contacts address book. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom, which are excerpts from the entire text history.

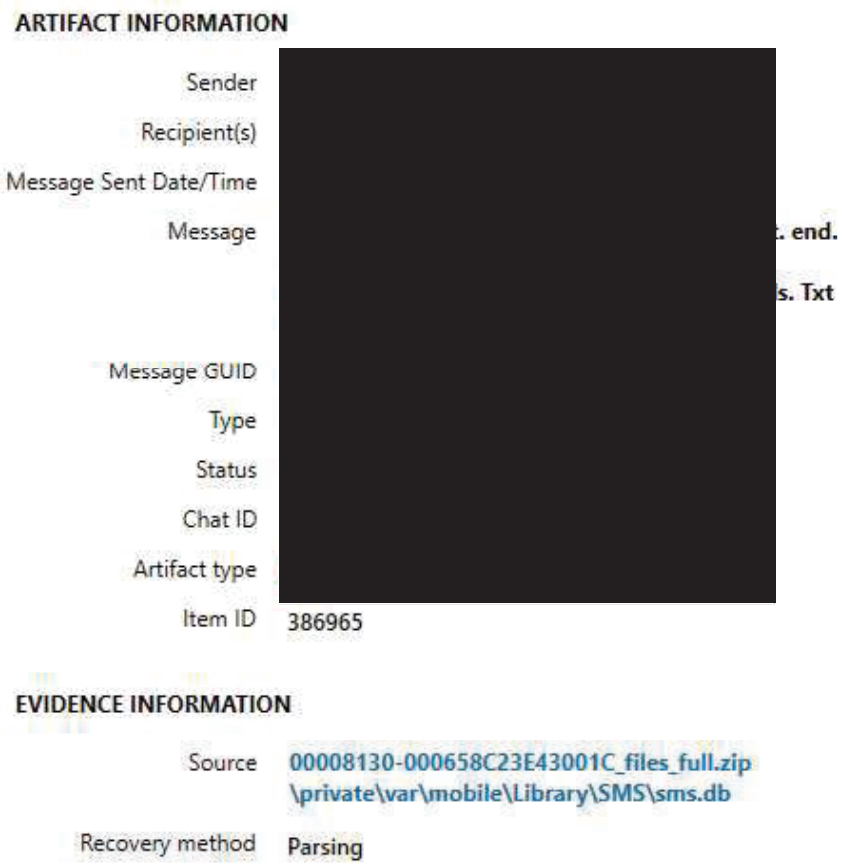

Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
6/1/2025
7:04:42.000 PM
Heyy
[redacted]
Received
6/1/2025 7:06:20.000 PM
[redacted]
Received
6/1/2025 7:07:02.000 PM
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
6/1/2025
8:00:08.000 PM
Chillin mn nothing to much
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
6/1/2025
8:00:11.000 PM
Hbu???
[redacted]
Received
6/1/2025 8:29:48.000 PM
Local User <NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3>
Sent
6/1/2025
8:31:13.000 PM
U wanna hang for a lil nd watch a movie? Nd I drop u off after??



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16. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted a text message from a SMS short code 21398 on 31May25, at 1:28:26 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.





17. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -9504 with a display name listed as Tinkkk between 24May25, at 1:16:04 AM, to 31May25, at 9:52:28 AM.

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18. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -6597 with a display name listed as Vinny S between 07May25, at 8:34:57AM, to 02Jun25, at 7:24:33 PM.

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19. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted text messages between the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND and phone number PII -3128 with a display name listed as Irbin Cruz between 30May25, at 1:56:22 PM, to 02Jun25, at 2:07:29 AM.

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CALL LOG HISTORY

1. SDFE DAVION located and extracted all call log history between 28May25, at 7:19:48 PM, to 03Jun25 8:19:14 PM, during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The entire call log history starts on 02Dec24, at 11:49:20 AM, with the last call log on 03Jun25 8:19:14 PM. The entire call log history is available upon request. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not answer any of the 112 incoming calls on 29May25. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND made five outgoing calls on 29May25, to the phone numbers PII -1599 and PII -3796. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots from an Excel Spreadsheet.

INCOMING CALLS 29MAY25

1	Record	[redacted]	Partner Name	Direction	Call Type	Call Status	Call Date/Time	Call Duration
12				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:31:44.924 AM	00:00:00
13				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:32:17.003 AM	00:00:00
14				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:34:00.486 AM	00:00:00
15				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:34:27.935 AM	00:00:00
16				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:36:50.728 AM	00:00:00
17				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 1:01:26.574 AM	00:00:00
18				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 1:00:36.917 AM	00:00:00
19				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 1:23:22.423 AM	00:00:00
20			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:40:10.996 AM	00:00:00
21			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:40:39.034 AM	00:00:00
22			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:41:30.233 AM	00:00:00
23			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:41:48.139 AM	00:00:00
24			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:41:58.050 AM	00:00:00
25			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:42:25.013 AM	00:00:00
26				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:42:46.519 AM	00:00:00
27			JEAN JACQUES,ED	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:42:50.940 AM	00:00:00
28			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:45:44.964 AM	00:00:00
29			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:49:12.290 AM	00:00:00
30				Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:51:31.844 AM	00:00:00
31			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:04:51.823 AM	00:00:00
32			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:06:43.188 AM	00:00:00
33			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:30:47.010 AM	00:00:00
34				Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:31:01.778 AM	00:00:00
35			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:48:42.214 AM	00:00:00
36			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:50:33.596 AM	00:00:00
37			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:48:48.312 AM	00:00:00
38			JEAN JACQUES,ED	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:53:53.688 AM	00:00:00
39			TAYLOR KIARRA	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:58:29.655 AM	00:00:00
40			TAYLOR KIARRA	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:58:35.059 AM	00:00:00
41			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:14:30.913 AM	00:00:00
42				Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:14:50.488 AM	00:00:00
43				Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:50:23.192 AM	00:00:00
44				Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:50:20.681 AM	00:00:00
45			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:50:30.992 AM	00:00:00
46			BRAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:59:41.796 AM	00:00:00
47				Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:25:55.786 AM	00:00:00
48			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:29:08.193 AM	00:00:00

49	[redacted]			Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:50:24.483 AM	00:00:00
50			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 9:01:12.025 AM	00:00:00
51			JEAN JACQUES,ED	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 9:05:16.934 AM	00:00:00
52			WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 9:12:15.076 AM	00:00:00
53				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:49:43.249 AM	00:00:00
54				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:47:16.361 AM	00:00:00
55				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:52:27.604 AM	00:00:00
56			BRAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:52:42.442 AM	00:00:00
57				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:52:54.720 AM	00:00:00
58			BRAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:53:01.597 AM	00:00:00
59				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:53:16.664 AM	00:00:00
60				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:53:40.722 AM	00:00:00
61				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:54:06.001 AM	00:00:00
62				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:57:08.364 AM	00:00:00
63			BRAD PARKER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 12:42:03.025 PM	00:00:00
66				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 1:53:57.667 PM	00:00:00
67				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 1:54:35.868 PM	00:00:00
68				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:04:13.190 PM	00:00:00
69				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:04:41.960 PM	00:00:00
70			BRYANT,JOSHUA	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:05:01.051 PM	00:00:00
71				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:05:41.134 PM	00:00:00
72				Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:06:29.554 PM	00:00:00
73			Spam Risk	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:06:15.618 PM	00:00:00
74			BRYANT,JOSHUA	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:06:05.039 PM	00:00:00
75				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:06:46.786 PM	00:00:00
76				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:08:43.980 PM	00:00:00
77				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:09:02.872 PM	00:00:00
78				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:09:25.385 PM	00:00:00
79				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:09:56.199 PM	00:00:00
80				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:09:40.913 PM	00:00:00
81			Desi Ramirez	Incoming	FaceBook Messenger	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:11:03.488 PM	00:00:00
82	[redacted]			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:11:49.852 PM	00:00:00
83				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:16:56.585 PM	00:00:00
84				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:17:31.091 PM	00:00:00
85				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:18:39.545 PM	00:00:00
86				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:18:05.610 PM	00:00:00
87				Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:21:24.456 PM	00:00:00

88	[redacted]		Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:21:58.771 PM	00:00:00
89			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:23:10.212 PM	00:00:00
90			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:22:35.660 PM	00:00:00
91			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:24:05.947 PM	00:00:00
92			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:25:11.430 PM	00:00:00
93			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:24:43.473 PM	00:00:00
94			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:25:48.812 PM	00:00:00
95			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:26:31.577 PM	00:00:00
96			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:27:28.688 PM	00:00:00
97			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:28:08.010 PM	00:00:00
98			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:28:55.278 PM	00:00:00
99			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:29:31.704 PM	00:00:00
100			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:30:05.518 PM	00:00:00
101			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 2:30:30.269 PM	00:00:00
102			Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:29:39.410 PM	00:00:00
103		DANIEL RICH	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:30:36.049 PM	00:00:00
104		DANIEL RICH	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:30:57.031 PM	00:00:00
105		DANIEL RICH	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:31:02.037 PM	00:00:00
106		WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:31:48.032 PM	00:00:00
107		WIRELESS CALLER	Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:31:57.035 PM	00:00:00
108			Incoming	Phone	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:32:02.037 PM	00:00:00
109			Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 4:32:32.288 PM	00:00:00
110			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:20:56.702 PM	00:00:00
111			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:31:42.533 PM	00:00:00
112			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 5:48:02.684 PM	00:00:00
113		Desi Ramirez	Incoming	FaceBook Messenger	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:32:43.259 PM	00:00:00
114		Desi Ramirez	Incoming	FaceBook Messenger	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:32:27.554 PM	00:00:00
115		desi.rv	Incoming	Snapchat	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:33:04.529 PM	00:00:00
116			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:34:16.458 PM	00:00:00
117		_desiirv	Incoming	Instagram	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:34:43.979 PM	00:00:00
118			Incoming	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:37:13.588 PM	00:00:00
119		_desiirv	Incoming	Instagram	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:39:28.620 PM	00:00:00
122			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:32:17.893 PM	00:00:00
124			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 7:32:55.657 PM	00:00:00
125			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 8:38:30.304 PM	00:00:00
126			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 10:00:57.566 PM	00:00:00
127			Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:31:56.705 PM	00:00:00
128	[redacted]		Incoming	FaceTime Video	Unanswered	5/29/2025 11:37:30.738 PM	00:00:00

OUTGOING CALLS 29MAY25

1	Record	Partner Name	Direction	Call Type	Call Status	Call Date/Time	Call Duration
64	[redacted]		Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/29/2025 12:44:35.052 PM	00:00:17
65			Outgoing	Phone	Answered	5/29/2025 12:45:04.032 PM	00:04:13
120			Outgoing	FaceTime Audio	Unanswered	5/29/2025 6:58:15.501 PM	00:00:00
121			Outgoing	FaceTime Audio	Answered	5/29/2025 6:43:45.336 PM	00:14:15
123			Outgoing	FaceTime Audio	Answered	5/29/2025 6:58:21.266 PM	00:05:00

Click to Review the Report

VOICEMAILS

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted four Voicemails left on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. SDFE DAVISON saved the voicemails to the folder named "(g) Voicemails" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The folder contains a file name "report.pdf" which consists of the main page of the report. The callers left the voicemail on the device between 29May25, at 2:06:44 PM and 01Jun25, at 3:26:00 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom and imported the voice recordings.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Sender [redacted]
Sent Date/Time
Transcript
Type
Duration (Seconds)
Artifact type iOS Voice Mail
Item ID 136971



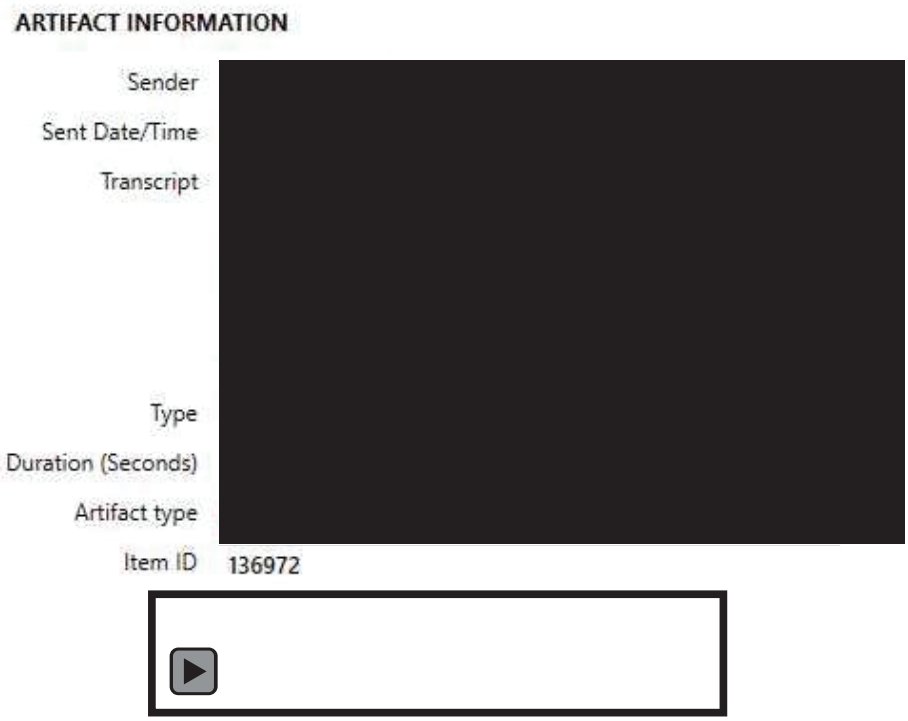
DOUBLE CLICK TO PLAY AUDIO

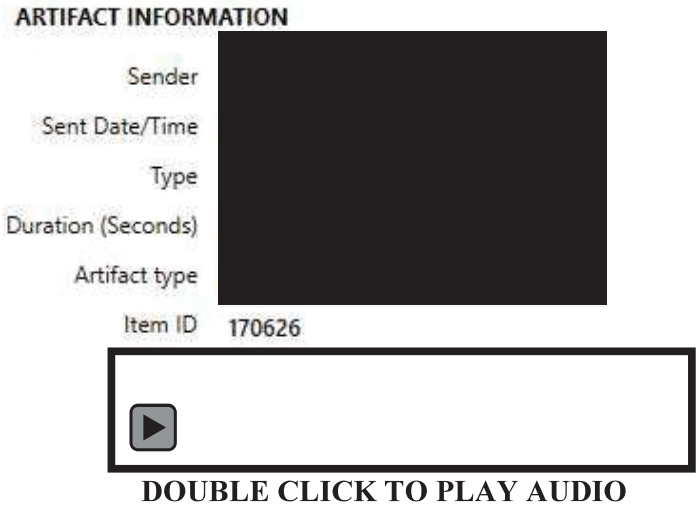
ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Sender [redacted]
Sent Date/Time
Type
Duration (Seconds)
Artifact type
Item ID



DOUBLE CLICK TO PLAY AUDIO





Click to Review the Report

APPLE NOTES - VOICE

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted three Apple Notes voice recordings saved by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. SDFE DAVISON saved the voice recordings to the folder named "(h) Apple Notes - Voice" on the FINDINGS MEDIA. The folder

contains a file name “report.pdf” which consists of the main page of the report. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND save one audio on 26Dec23, at 4:53:37 AM. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND saved the other two voice recordings on 11Apr25, at 5:50:27 AM and 6:03:31 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom and imported the voice recordings.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Label	**2023-12-26T09:53:37Z**
Saved Date/Time	**12/26/2023 4:53:37.293 AM**
Duration (Seconds)	**21**
Path	**20231226 015337.m4a**
Note ID	**FCF37999-D924-44F2-8F27-803CA1BDB4E4**
Version	**Original**
Artifact type	Apple Notes - Voice
Item ID	576303



DOUBLE CLICK TO PLAY AUDIO

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Label	**2025-04-11T09:50:27Z**
Saved Date/Time	**4/11/2025 5:50:27.817 AM**
Duration (Seconds)	**112**
Path	**20250411 055027.m4a**
Note ID	**8DF0641B-CB16-4A96-8DCF-5234A42962FD**
Version	**Original**
Artifact type	Apple Notes - Voice
Item ID	576307



DOUBLE CLICK TO PLAY AUDIO

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Label	**2025-04-11T10:03:31Z**
Saved Date/Time	**4/11/2025 6:03:31.847 AM**
Duration (Seconds)	**50**
Path	**20250411 060331.m4a**
Note ID	**202D7953-A7BB-40AF-985F-C6DA592432A5**
Version	**Original**
Artifact type	Apple Notes - Voice
Item ID	576309



DOUBLE CLICK TO PLAY AUDIO

Click to Review the Report

KYA MESSAGES SCREENSHOTS

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extract seven image files during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The image files are located in the \private\var\mobile\Media\DCIM\126APPLE directory of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The image files appear to be a screenshots of text messages with "Kya." The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND appears to create the screenshots on 13Apr25. The user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND created a contact named "kya ▯□" on 06Feb25, at 5:34:04 AM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshots as displayed in Axiom.



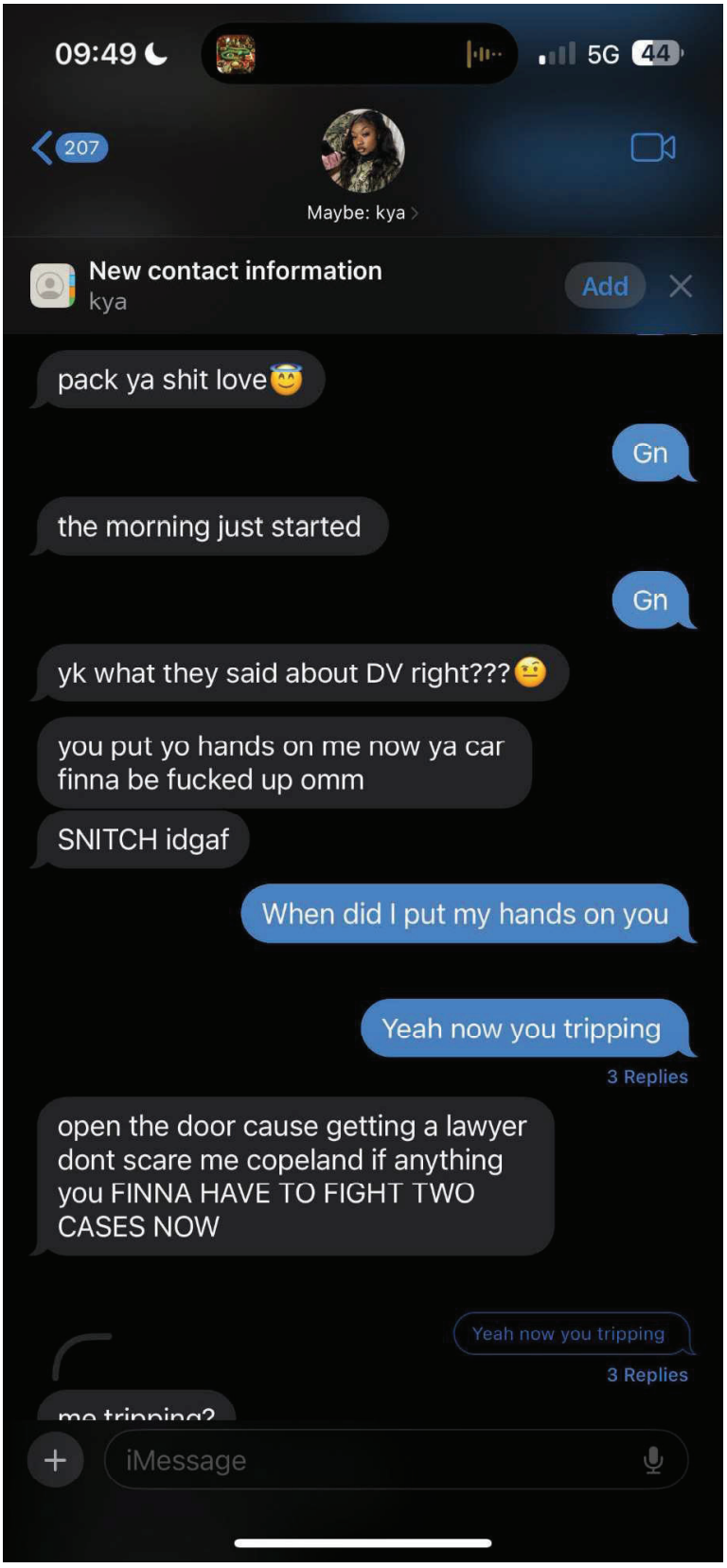
EXPAND PREVIEW ZOOM 100%

RELATED MEDIA ARTIFACTS (2)

DETAILS

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

First Name	[redacted]
Phone Number(s)	[redacted]
Created Date/Time	[redacted]
Last Modified Date/Time	[redacted]
Artifact type	Apple Contacts - iOS
Item ID	16405


09:49
5G 44
207
Maybe: kya
New contact information
kya
Add
pack ya shit love
Gn
the morning just started
Gn
yk what they said about DV right???
you put yo hands on me now ya car finna be fucked up omm
SNITCH idgaf
When did I put my hands on you
Yeah now you tripping
3 Replies
open the door cause getting a lawyer dont scare me copeland if anything you FINNA HAVE TO FIGHT TWO CASES NOW
Yeah now you tripping
3 Replies
iMessage

Click to Review the Report

GOOGLE SEARCHES

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted Google searches conducted by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND between 21May25, at 8:17:17 AM and 03Jun25, at 8:41:44 PM. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in the Axiom.

ivestigating by ncis	https://www.google.com/search?q=ivestigating+by...	5/25/2025 1:16:45.000 PM
igetting vestigating by ncis	https://www.google.com/search?q=igetting+vestiga...	5/25/2025 1:17:00.000 PM
getting investigated by ncis site:www.reddit.com	https://www.google.com/search?q=getting+investig...	5/25/2025 1:28:05.000 PM
getting investigated by ncis site:www.reddit.com	https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&sca_e...	5/25/2025 1:29:25.000 PM
ncis took my phone	https://www.google.com/search?q=ncis+took+my+...	5/25/2025 1:30:20.000 PM
can ncis take your phone off allegations	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+ncis+take+...	5/25/2025 1:34:35.000 PM
can police fet infirmation from reset phone	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+fet...	5/25/2025 1:36:00.000 PM
can police get whatspps	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+get...	5/25/2025 1:36:40.000 PM
can police deleted get whatsapp	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+del...	5/25/2025 1:37:15.000 PM
can police get encrypted messages	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+get...	5/25/2025 1:41:00.000 PM
can police get my whatsapp messages if they have my ohone	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+get...	5/25/2025 1:43:40.000 PM

Click to Review Google Report

CONTACTS

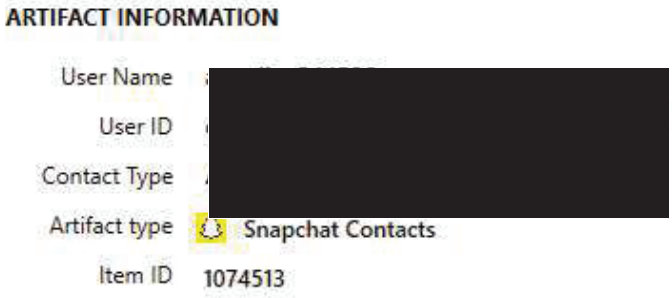
1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted all contacts observed in the reported communications above. The examination revealed the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND did not save contact information for V/ A. R. in the Apple Contacts iOS. The examination revealed social media accounts for Snapchat and Instagram attributed to V/ A. R. were present on the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The examination revealed that on 08May25, at 12:19:49 PM, the Biome User Activity log recorded activity for the Instagram account user name 19itsyafavoritegirl with the user identification number 64352845051. The examination did not disclose any other activity pertaining to the Instagram account user name 19itsyafavoritegirl. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in the Axiom report.

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

User Name	[redacted]
Name	
User ID	
Profile Picture URL	**https://instagram.forf1-3.fna.fbcdn.net/v/t51.2885-19/491444336_671683101939214_2505805822269928801_n.jpg?stp=dst-jpg_e0_s150x150_tt6&_nc_ht=instagram.forf1-3.fna.fbcdn.net&_nc_cat=110&_nc_oc=Q6cZ2QEe0InNhug08z4kwVovgLjRj1L_xlcdYLYw5-RJuF13_EaHRjzJCjXDkaiFfVRemeo&_nc_ohc=qKGUaJfH6vYQ7kNvwEZOmtm&_nc_gid=dsG3n3LoJqjLX1QJJ9acsw&edm=AEVnrqQBAAAA&ccb=7-5&oh=00_AfLkT3x0dCEKEXz2ASck7jbfunVmJf0_iseHoXr70NWj8w&oe=68205259&_nc_sid=f8b7b3**
Local User	[redacted]
Following	
Is Followed By	
Artifact type	Instagram Profiles
Item ID	808457

ARTIFACT INFORMATION

Action Type	[redacted]
Service	
Recorded Date/Time	
Metadata	
GUID	
Artifact type	Biome User Activity
Item ID	801038



Click to Review Contacts Report

INSTALLED APPS

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted details concerning installed apps associated with the details reported above.

Click to Review Apps Report

USER ACCOUNTS

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted user accounts associated the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in the Axiom report.

Record 1

Tags	User Accounts
First Name	Jermiah
Last Name	Copeland
Picture	
Phone Number(s)	PII 4307
Created Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	10/25/2023 9:07:56.000 PM

Click to Review User Accounts Report

FINDINGS MEDIA
1. SDFE DAVISON will provide the FINDINGS MEDIA containing FINDINGS (a)-(h) to SA GOKEY for subsequent review.

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE
1. On 12Jun25, DFE BUSH returned the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 to the Temporary Evidence Locker, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

GLOSSARY
iOS – a mobile operating system developed by Apple exclusively for its smartphones.

LUV.LAYNA22

↘ Received
5/28/2025 8:39:29.646 PM

Babyyyy

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/28/2025 11:51:43.350 PM

Yes babe????

LUV.LAYNA22

↘ Received
5/28/2025 11:54:02.957 PM

I love you 😩

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/29/2025 12:09:28.317 AM

Hmm

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/29/2025 12:09:31.015 AM

I love you more

LUV.LAYNA22

↘ Received
5/29/2025 12:19:36.762 AM

Impossible

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/29/2025 12:25:03.988 AM

Never that

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/29/2025 12:25:07.975 AM

Never ever that

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/29/2025 12:25:14.208 AM

How much do you love me

LUV.LAYNA22

↘ Received
5/29/2025 12:30:01.443 AM

More then fathomable

JERMIAH1738

↖ Sent
5/29/2025 3:29:05.562 AM

Show me then

Record 1

Search Term	norfolk airport
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=norfolk+airport&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari&dlnr=1&sei=lrQ9ZqKoDPihptQPvMGG8A8#cobssid=s&dlnr=1&wptab=si:ACC90nw1iFjLNTDUlV-gYYwlwGJPH-ZiErUy9FvC_xiBozCkl3J-taYwYH9nt1jhgUnHPDV8ZHhwNO4k0kS8LJphhf_jRrmegTub_1hASB8c-LevJaEMb6wh6P9635mYAjsivLU0xGXwvnhz_f_pM7AqSJPX0vk4Xw%3D%3D&lpg=cid:CglgAQ%3D%3D
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	6/3/2025 8:41:43.067 PM
Search Session Start Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/10/2024 1:44:02.000 AM
Web Page Title	norfolk airport - Google Search
Artifact	Safari iCloud Tabs
Artifact ID	30646
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\CloudTabs.db
Location	• Table: cloud_tabs(rowid: 4674) • Table: cloud_tab_device(rowid: 2)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	30666

Record 2

Search Term	virginia airport
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=virginia+airport&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	6/3/2025 8:41:43.914 PM
Web Page Title	Can't Open Page
Artifact	Safari iCloud Tabs
Artifact ID	31280
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\CloudTabs.db
Location	• Table: cloud_tabs(rowid: 4708) • Table: cloud_tab_device(rowid: 2)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	31291

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF PSSN IRBIN GORDILLOCRUZ, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (RA) Fritzner PHILEMON conducted an interview of PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124) in regards to his knowledge of this investigation. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ is one of 4 roommates of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he returned to his barracks room at approximately 0400 on 28JUN25. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ had been on leave and flew back to Norfolk at approximately 0300. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated upon his return he walked into the common area of the room and noticed all the lights were off. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he did not see or notice anyone on the couch or the floor of the common room area. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ admitted he was exhausted and was really only focused on going to sleep.

4. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he woke up for work at approximately 0620 and exited his room at approximately 0645 with his roommate, AR John CALISSE, and they both noticed two individuals laying on the ground near the couch opposite their room. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female was laying on her back with her breasts exposed and her chest was rising and falling. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ further described the female as dark skin and having curly hair. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he had never seen this female but did believe she was in the Navy. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ described his roommate, S/COPELAND, was naked and was laying with his head on the females stomach. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he and CALISSE had to maneuver around the two laying on the ground to get to the front door.

5. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated on Saturday, 31MAY25, and Sunday, 01JUN25, he had been woken up in the morning by base security trying to locate S/COPELAND. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated on 01JUN25, base security had arrived and told S/COPELAND he had to check in with his Command due to him being UA. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated S/COPELAND, CALISSE, and himself went to DDG-95, utilizing CALISSE's vehicle. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ continued saying, S/COPELAND had to check into the Command and do a urinalysis test. Afterwards, they all went to Chipotle for food and returned to the barracks. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

stated it was around sunset when they all went to DDG-95.

6. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated after returning from Chipotle, S/COPELAND asked to borrow CALISSE's vehicle to "go get food". PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated that was strange because they had all just eaten. PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ stated he did not see S/COPELAND again until approximately 0630 on 02JUN25, when he and CALISSE were attempting to go to work and S/COPELAND had not come back with the vehicle.

7. No further information was obtained.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 2 LAST EU V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 09JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF SECONDARY INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN

1. On 09Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) Tyler MANN conducted an interview of YN3 Sean MONAGHAN, USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 12 (HM 12), pursuant to the missing person investigation involving [redacted V/A.R.] [redacted V/A.R.] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of YN3 MONAGHAN was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. As background, YN3 MONAGHAN is the roommate of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, who was the last known individual to see [redacted V/A.R.] before she went missing. It is believed [redacted V/A.R.] was last seen in the room shared by S/COPELAND and YN3 MONAGHAN.

4. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Wednesday, 28May25, he arrived at his barracks room around 1900 from traveling back home to New Jersey. YN3 MONAGHAN stated when he arrived, he did not see anyone in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN continued S/COPELAND got home that night around 2200; however, YN3 MONAGHAN stated he had watch early the next morning, so he was already half asleep. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he does remember seeing a lighter-skinned female with short hair; however, he did not recognize her, nor did he know who she was. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Thursday, 29May25, he woke up around 0500 to get ready for work, and he noticed no one was in his room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he walked out into their common space at approximately 0640 and observed S/COPELAND asleep on the floor of the living room in his underwear with a girl he did not recognize. Of note, YN3 MONAGHAN was shown a picture of [redacted V/A.R.] by PA; however, he relayed he did not get a good enough look at the individual on the floor to positively identify her as [redacted V/A.R.] YN3 MONAGHAN stated he returned from work around 1300, and no one was in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, around 2000, he saw S/COPELAND and asked him if him and the female from that morning had been naked, to which S/COPELAND relayed they had been in their underwear. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he saw S/COPELAND again that night in the common space around 2200 when he went to make food. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND did sleep in their room that night.

5. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Friday, 30May25, he woke up around 0600 when

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **09JUN25**

S/COPELAND left and then woke up again around 0900 when a representative (NFI) from S/COPELAND's Command came looking for him; however, he was not in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated the next time he saw S/COPELAND was when he returned to the room around 2200-2300. YN3 MONAGHAN confirmed S/COPELAND slept in their room that night.

6. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Saturday, 31May25, he noticed S/COPELAND left early in the morning again, although he was not sure what time. YN3 MONAGHAN continued he was woken up at approximately 1200, when the Masters-at-Arms (MAs) came looking for S/COPELAND and again, he was not in the room. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND returned to the room late at night again; however, he was not sure of the exact time.

7. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Sunday, 01Jun25, S/COPELAND received a call from his command around 1000, needing him to come in to work. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he was unsure how S/COPELAND got to work that day. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed S/COPELAND returned to the room at approximately 2200-2300.

8. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on Monday, 02Jun25, he was questioned by the "homicide unit" while at work and on Tuesday, 03Jun25, NCIS "raided" their barracks room and took S/COPELAND. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, following the "raid" by NCIS, he asked S/COPELAND what NCIS was looking for, to which S/COPELAND responded, "I don't know, they're tripping." YN3 MONAGHAN relayed on Monday he noticed S/COPELAND was very skittish. YN3 MONAGHAN explained he walked into their room and when he opened the door, S/COPELAND looked startled and stated, "Oh, you scared me."

9. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND does have a car; however, it gets repairs done to it a lot. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND's "crazy ex slashed the tires." YN3 MONAGHAN described the car as being small, rectangular, and black with four doors. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he drives a 2011 Toyota Camry with a New Jersey license plate number PII. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he has never let S/COPELAND borrow his car nor has he ever given him permission to use his car for any reason. YN3 MONAGHAN revealed he does leave his keys in places S/COPELAND could access them, usually on his desk in their room. YN3 MONAGHAN stated on 03Jun25, he did believe his car had moved parking spots and was so suspicious about the incident he texted his mom.

10. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he did see S/COPELAND with a rolling suitcase a couple months ago. YN3 MONAGHAN described the suitcase as one that came up to his thigh, black, and had a handle for wheeling around. YN3 MONAGHAN stated S/COPELAND usually kept this suitcase locked in his closet; however, stated he had not seen it in "awhile."

11. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed he has not noticed anything in their room being out of place. YN3 MONAGHAN stated he deep cleaned their room on Monday, 02Jun25, where he noticed the bathmat in front of the toilet had a stain in one

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corner, he believed to be blood. YN3 MONAGHAN relayed this was not unusual to him because S/COPELAND had female friends over who would often leave tampons in their bathroom, and blood sometimes got on the floor. YN3 MONAGHAN stated, because he thought nothing of this, he placed the bathmat in the washing machine to be cleaned. YN3 MONAGHAN provided a hand drawn sketch of the bathmat to depict where he observed the blood; Enclosure (B) pertains. YN3 MONAGHAN also provided a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to enter his barracks room and collect the bathmat which will be documented under separate cover.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN/09JUN25
(B) HAND DRAWN SKETCH BY YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN, OF STAIN LOCATED ON BATHMAT/09JUN25

REPORTED BY: ASHLEY ULLOM, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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SA GOKEY: Okay. And he was kind of, like--kind of, like, brushed it off, like, "Oh my bad."

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Sort of.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Well, he--he caught him off guard, where he was kind of laughing quite loud about it. It was more like he--he found it really funny.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Did he say that they had sex that night or fooled around or anything like that?

YN3 MONOGHAN: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: He didn't really say anything about her.

SA GOKEY: About her at all?

YN3 MONOGHAN: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What happened then after that conversation?

YN3 MONOGHAN: After--I mean, nothing. We just went back to doing our thing.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you playing video games or going to sleep?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Which one?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Oh, video games.

suspicious and all that." I was, like, "I did not say any of that."

SA GOKEY: Okay. What day did they find him?

YN3 MONOGHAN: I think the same day.

SA GOKEY: Was it Saturday or Sunday?

YN3 MONOGHAN: I want to say Saturday.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. But he would come back at night and sleep in the room, or?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Every night he would, in that weekend, he was asleep in the room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he'd leave, give or take, roughly pretty early--early in the morning, presumably go up to level five, and then he'd come back to sleep.

YN3 MONOGHAN: [Nods head in the affirmative.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is that normal for him to do that?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Not, just, like, he would never leave early in the morning, especially not in the same outfit twice. He would always change his outfit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Did you notice, and I know this might sound weird, but it's kind of more so for--I want to kind of get to know what he was thinking. Did he take showers?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yes.

SA GOKEY: During that weekend?

YN3 MONOGHAN: From what I know, yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. But he would--he put on that hoodie, and he'd just go somewhere else.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Come home--about what time at night did--would he come back?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Late--ish, around 10. It seemed about his normal working time, so I didn't question him much. But it was, like, 10, 11 o'clock, quite late.

SA GOKEY: Okay. He'd sleep, get up----

YN3 MONOGHAN: Leave.

SA GOKEY: ----leave, come back. That's whenever the command was there. The MAs were showing up, and held--the next night we showed up.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, let's talk about Sunday then. So, I'm assuming you didn't go to work on Sunday?

YN3 MONOGHAN: I did not.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Were you in the room predominantly?

YN3 MONOGHAN: I was.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Solid. How was his--how was his demeanor that day?

YN3 MONOGHAN: I mean, I didn't notice much of a change in his demeanor. He wasn't really acting any differently towards me.
SA GOKEY: Okay.
YN3 MONOGHAN: I mean, if I really think about it, I could say he's a little more quiet, but at the same time, I didn't elicit any conversation.
SA GOKEY: Okay.
YN3 MONOGHAN: I think it was either--I don't want to say this because I--I can't confirm, but he did strike up conversation with me about leaving the room, suggesting for me to go out. But I don't know if that was that weekend or not.
SA GOKEY: Okay.
YN3 MONOGHAN: I know at some point he kind of suggested of me leaving the room, which was abnormal for him. Because he knows I don't do that at all.
SA GOKEY: That's fair. Okay. So, not sure exactly what day it was, or if even that it was that weekend, but it's abnormal for him to be, like, "Hey--" how--what did he suggest you go do?
YN3 MONOGHAN: The--go to the beach or just do something outside, like, be social. But he knows for a fact that I've told him multiple times I don't like going out anywhere. I don't like being, like, you know, going to social places or being, like, you know, extroverted.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Those are the same ones I have. [Gives back phone.]

SA FRITZ: ----that's when he is that the same day he acts, like, "Hey, can I get a ride to the gate?" Or are there two different days?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Think, like, I--I think it might've been two different----

SA FRITZ: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: ----I think it might've been, I think, two different days.

SA FRITZ: Two different days. So, one day he is, like, "Hey man, you should go to the beach."

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA FRITZ: And then----

YN3 MONOGHAN: He was basically suggesting I go out somewhere.

SA FRITZ: Yeah. And then it didn't happen. You're, like, "No, I'm fucking playing my video game. You know? You know, I'm, like, fucking talking to people. Why the hell are you--that's weird.".

The next day, like, "Hey, can I get a gate--can I get a ride to the gate?" You're, like, "We walk there. What are you talking about?"

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA FRITZ: And that's when he goes to the roommates, he's, like, "Hey, can I get a ride?" and that's when you hear him leave?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah.

SA FRITZ: And then maybe he opens the closet, you hear him run--you don't--you're, like, half asleep, so, you don't really, like----

YN3 MONOGHAN: Oh, I'm awake at that time.

SA FRITZ: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: But I know for a fact that he opens his closet every morning.

SA FRITZ: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: And I just don't know what he goes in there for.

SA FRITZ: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Because I'm not, like, you know, "What are you doing?"

SA FRITZ: Yeah. All right.

SA GOKEY: When he left or after, like, he asked you and everything, did you hear anything--I'll just flat out say it. Did you hear any wheels on the carpet or on your guys' tile or anything?

SA FRITZ: Yeah, a struggle to--like, like, a grunt? Like, "Ungh," you know. Like when you lifting anything?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Not that I can remember.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: I--actually, I might have it.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: I think I have her name and her phone number, actually.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Solid.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Let me see. Mary Benson.

SA GOKEY: Okay, so that's Ms. Mary?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you guys--she's the one that helped you guys get your shit out of the room and move to another room?

YN3 MONOGHAN: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she told you what again? I'm sorry.

YN3 MONOGHAN: She told me that when Copeland was, like, missing over the weekend, she told me she saw him in the level five common area with his hood up and, like, hiding his face.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

YN3 MONOGHAN: He said hi to her. And then she told me that the next day when the cops came, he was hiding again, but this time he was in the bathroom, and she pointed the him out to the cops.

SA GOKEY: Gotcha. Okay. And you said that Copeland was mad about that or upset?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Not that I remember.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Can you describe either of those?

YN3 MONOGHAN: I think the blanket was black and the pillow, I can't really--I don't remember.

SA GOKEY: Okay. No.

YN3 MONOGHAN: I think it was just--I remember white.

SA GOKEY: Okay. That's fair.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah, I didn't even--I did not look at them for, even, like, a--a minute, I just took a glance at them, saw them almost naked, and then was just, like, nah.

SA GOKEY: I don't. [Negative response.] Not my problem. I'll deal with this later.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Yeah. Literally.

SA GOKEY: Nope. I got you. Did Copeland ever sit on your bed or use your bed for any reason?

YN3 MONOGHAN: Not that I know of.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

YN3 MONOGHAN: Better not.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That would be my reaction too. Better not. Okay. And then when you walked out and took that quick glance at them, did you notice that if either of them were breathing?

YN3 MONOGHAN: You know, I'm pretty--I--I don't--I mean, I couldn't tell.

SA GOKEY: That's fair.

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INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN [redacted]
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN

1. On 03Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) John KOWALSKI conducted an interview of AR John CALISSE, USN, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124 regarding his knowledge related to the whereabouts of [redacted] V/A.R. [redacted]Z), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of AR CALISSE was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. AR CALISSE reported on 29May25, while at his barracks Willis Manor, Building X-2, Room 335, on Naval Station Norfolk, at approximately 0200, he heard his suitemate CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, and an unknown female singing karaoke in S/COPELAND's room. AR CALISSE stated he always heard loud music coming from S/COPELAND's room at all times of the night. AR CALISSE did not recall seeing any signs that S/COPELAND was consuming alcohol in the common area. AR CALISSE stated at approximately 1900 on 28May25, S/COPELAND requested to use his white 2014 Jeep Compass to which he obliged. AR CALISSE reported S/COPELAND returned at approximately 2000, knocked on his barracks door, and when he opened the door to obtain the keys, he observed a female in the kitchen area cooking, who he later identified as [redacted] V/A.R. [redacted]Z.

4. AR CALISSE recalled waking up the morning of 29May25, at approximately 0500, to report to work on time. At approximately 0530, AR CALISSE stated he exited his room and upon walking into the common area observed S/COPELAND and an unknown female laying naked in the middle of the common room floor. AR CALISSE stated he observed them on their backs, face up, with their eyes closed. AR CALISSE stated he observed S/COPELAND laying on the thigh of the unknown female. AR CALISSE stated he did not see any clothing belonging to S/COPELAND. AR CALISSE stated he observed the female wearing red pajama pants with flowers, with one pant leg slightly on at the ankle, and her bra pulled down exposing her breast. AR CALISSE reported walking past them in order to leave the room and believed both S/COPELAND and the female to be breathing. AR CALISSE stated when he returned from work at approximately 1700, S/COPELAND and the female were not in the barracks room.

5. AR CALISSE described the female as brown skinned, long brown hair, and

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with what he believed to be a possible nose piercing. AR CALISSE stated this was his first time seeing the female; however, confirmed it was V/A.R. wh[redacted]

6. AR CALISSE stated he did not see S/COPELAND again until Sunday 01Jun25, at approximately 1400, when he asked him for a ride to report to DDG 95. AR CALISSE agreed to provide transportation to S/COPELAND after returning from Walmart. AR CALISSE stated he transported S/COPELAND along with ISSA Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, VAW 124, at approximately 1700. AR CALISSE stated S/COPELAND was on DDG 95 for approximately one hour while ISSA GORDILLACRUZ and AR CALISSE[redacted] to return. AR CALISSE stated when S/COPELAND returned to the vehicle he informed him he was required to do a urinalysis for not reporting to work on 30May25. AR CALISSE stated while driving from DDG 95 back to the barracks they stopped at Chipotle located at 4712 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23508, at approximately 1900.

7. AR CALISSE stated when they returned to the barracks, S/COPELAND asked if he could use his car to get something to eat. AR CALISSE allowed S/COPELAND to use his vehicle giving him the key at approximately 2000. AR CALISSE stated when he woke up the next morning and proceeded to go to work, he noticed his car key was not on the kitchen counter where S/COPELAND normally leaves it after borrowing his car. AR CALISSE stated he called S/COPELAND to find out his location and was angry because he caused him to be late for work. AR CALISSE reported meeting S/COPELAND in the X-2 parking lot at approximately 0630 and watched him drive the vehicle into the parking lot. AR CALISSE stated he was unaware of the locations S/COPELAND traveled to while he had his vehicle.

8. During his interview, AR CALISSE signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Sei[redacted]) for his Jeep Compass which will be documented under separate cover.

9. At the conclusion of the interview, while returning AR CALISSE to VAW-124, he located EZ Pass transactions and provided screenshots of the charges from 27May25 to 02Jun25 without being requested; Enclosure (B) pertains. AR CALISSE stated the charge on 01Jun25 was his return from the ship; however, all other charges were believed to be accrued by S/COPELAND.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN/03JUN25
(B) PHOTO TEMPLATE: SCREENSHOTS OF EZPASS LOCATIONS/03JUN25

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

[redacted]

RE[redacted]t
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

[redacted]

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SA JONES: Hey, man. Sorry about that.

INVESTIGATOR: Sorry, man.

SA JONES: Yeah.

INVESTIGATOR: I know we're getting close to lunch.

SA JONES: Trying to get you out of here.

INVESTIGATOR: I know I'm hungry. I can tell you that.

SA JONES: All right. So, the only--only other things, right? I mean, again, just recapping everything that you said----

AR CALISSE: [Affirmative response.]

SA JONES: ----and just let you have a minute to think it over and all of that stuff. So, maybe something else pop up about those, I want to say four days, right? Wednesday to Sunday, or Wednesday or Monday.

You saw Copeland and the girl when you walked out. You heard them, they was doing karaoke and everything Wednesday, Wednesday evening, Wednesday night.

AR CALISSE: It was--they were, like, I don't--I don't even, like, remember the time she was there, but she was, like, early.

SA JONES: Okay. When--when, I know you didn't really look at them because you was trying to be respectful, right?

AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: I'm assuming. Did it--did it look like though she was breathing and he was breathing at least? Could you tell that they was I'm--I'm going to say alive, or----

AR CALISSE: You see, that's the first question I asked my roommate.

INVESTIGATOR: Okay.

SA JONES: What did he say when you asked him?

AR CALISSE: He didn't pay it really attention.

SA JONES: Didn't, okay.

AR CALISSE: Because when--when I woke up and then, it is when I opened the door, I saw them.

SA JONES: [Affirmative response.]

AR CALISSE: Then I walked around. But that's the first question I asked him. See, how can I open the door, they don't wake up. Didn't make noise, like.

SA JONES: Around what time did you and your roommate talk about it? You and Cruz. So, you get to work around six, seven?

AR CALISSE: No, no.

SA JONES: Oh.

AR CALISSE: Like, ten.

SA JONES: Ten o'clock. Okay.

AR CALISSE: Because he's upstairs and I'm the line shack.

SA JONES: Who brought it--who brought it up first?

AR CALISSE: Me. I went upstairs and I--I said, "Yo, did you see that shit?"

SA JONES: Okay.

AR CALISSE: And he said--he said, "What?" And it was like, "Man." I said, "At least do you see them? They were still there when you wake--wake up." So, they were still there.

INVESTIGATOR: [Affirmative response.]

AR CALISSE: Because I was, like, "Bro."

INVESTIGATOR: That's why I was asking if they--if they had been drinking. Because you would think, if people drink a little too much, they kind of sleep a little sounder. Right? And they won't hear doors open and stuff like that. That's why I was----

AR CALISSE: Yeah. But I can say that about my roommate. Every time I came back from work, as soon as I open the door, he always look up. He's always up to see what's coming. The same thing to me.

INVESTIGATOR: Gotcha. Yeah.

AR CALISSE: Yeah, but if I open the door, like, I know some people sleep like that, but not me. Me, no.

SA JONES: Gotcha. Okay, cool. So, you couldn't tell, though. And then you go to work. You and your roommate y'all--ya'll both at work, y'all talk about it. You get back off work, you don't see either one of them.

AR CALISSE: No.

SA JONES: Living room still a mess, or did they----

AR CALISSE: The living room was always a mess.

SA JONES: Okay. Did they have blankets or anything when they was on the floor?
AR CALISSE: No, nothing.
SA JONES: Just nothing.
AR CALISSE: Just--just naked. The carpet like that.
SA JONES: No clothes or nothing? No clothes around? Scattered around?
AR CALISSE: Yeah. The clothes were--were, like, close.
SA JONES: Okay.
AR CALISSE: Close to them. But they were naked.
SA JONES: You remember, like, a color, possibly of the clothes that you saw?
AR CALISSE: I think she had some--not--both of them, it's, like, a pajama, like. So, I think she has--if remove my pants--
--
SA JONES: [Affirmative response.]
AR CALISSE: ----and I can--I can get in one leg. She was like that. And I think it was, like, dark or--dark red.
INVESTIGATOR: Dark red?
AR CALISSE: And some flowers--flowers, I think.
INVESTIGATOR: Okay.
SA JONES: [Affirmative response.]
AR CALISSE: It was, like----

INVESTIGATOR: And that was the pants? Like, it was, like, pajama pants. AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: Only on one leg.

AR CALISSE: And then I don't what's on the top, the thing on the top, there was something--I don't know if it was--how do you call the thing----

SA JONES: A bra.

INVESTIGATOR: A bra.

AR CALISSE: Yeah. I don't know if it was a bra, but there was something, like----

SA JONES: But it was pulled down?

AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: So her--her breast was exposed?

AR CALISSE: Everything.

SA JONES: Everything. Okay.

AR CALISSE: That's why I didn't, like, staring at her.

SA JONES: [Affirmative response.]

AR CALISSE: Everything. See, that's why I was, like, I told my roommate, I should have take a picture. Sorry about that.

INVESTIGATOR: No, don't do that.

SA JONES: Don't--don't do that.

AR CALISSE: No, of course.

SA JONES: Yeah. Yeah.

AR CALISSE: I told my roommate----

SA JONES: Because that's--that gets Sailors in trouble.
INVESTIGATOR: Oh, yeah, it does.
SA JONES: We don't want you getting in trouble. But everything you giving us is good stuff. We appreciate it.
INVESTIGATOR: When--when you came home and like my partner was asking about, how messy the room was, did it look like everything had been cleaned up and put away or no? When you got home from work?
AR CALISSE: So, I can't really tell. But the only--the room was clean. It was--it wasn't him that cleaned it.
INVESTIGATOR: [Affirmative response.]
AR CALISSE: It was the other guy. Because I think he had some visit--command was visiting him. So, he had to clean.
INVESTIGATOR: Okay.
AR CALISSE: But, I barely, like, use--even when I put my drinks in the fridge, like, when I come back, I don't find it. So, I don't--I barely use it.
SA JONES: Gotcha. Can't put nothing in there.
AR CALISSE: Yeah. I barely use it.
SA JONES: That's messed up. I gotcha.
AR CALISSE: So, the same as my roommate. Like, he never go outside. Only if he's talking on the phone and I'm sleeping, that's the only way. And we only, like, go to work, come back. So, the living room, I just walk through.

INVESTIGATOR: Oh, no, no. I was just going to ask--ask, where did he leave the keys? You said the next morning, the keys were there. Where were the keys?

AR CALISSE: On the counter. He told me that's where he leave the keys.

INVESTIGATOR: Where.

AR CALISSE: On the counter. Like the kitchen.

INVESTIGATOR: Okay. Okay.

AR CALISSE: And then he didn't even leave it there. Wait, he didn't leave in there in the morning. Wait, when I have to pick up, so, there's a new check-in, like, and so, there's a new check-in and the same level with me.

SA JONES: [Affirmative response.]

AR CALISSE: And then I have to take another one. So, he wasn't there. He went to get food in the--to--in the morning. That's what he told me. He went to get food in the morning. I catch him outside. So, I was sitting and I catch him outside. Yeah.

SA JONES: Oh, you caught him outside.

AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: With the keys?

AR CALISSE: Yeah, with the car and everything.

SA JONES: Around what time?

AR CALISSE: I don't know about the time, but I can ask----

INVESTIGATOR: If you had to estimate, was it four, five, six, seven, eight?
AR CALISSE: I--I was late this--to--because I waiting on him. Yeah. I remember that. I was--I was pissed off and say I will never, like, borrow him my car any more.
SA JONES: Good.
AR CALISSE: He went to get food this morning because he had food.
SA JONES: But he took the keys----
AR CALISSE: Yeah.
SA JONES: ----that night and then you caught him the next morning----
AR CALISSE: Yeah.
SA JONES: ----because you got up to get ready----
AR CALISSE: When I go by there, I didn't see the key. I didn't find the key. And then I called him. Be, like, "Where you at?" Like, "Oh, I'm getting some food and coming back." I said, "I'm going to be late because I have to pick up two people."
SA JONES: [Affirmative response.]
AR CALISSE: And then slow is the traffic at the gate. And I went outside, and I was downstairs waiting for him. And he had, like, the drink, and I don't what type of food, but.
SA JONES: Oh, he had drink and food in his hands?
AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: But ultimately, he had your keys from----

AR CALISSE:

SA JONES: ----eight o'clock until you saw him that next morning outside.

AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: Okay. Did you see him pulling the parking lot with the car or?

AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: You--you saw him pulling in?

AR CALISSE: Yeah.

SA JONES: Okay.

AR CALISSE: Because I was waiting.

INVESTIGATOR: Was the outside of the car--was it dirty or muddy or anything like that, or--or did it look normal?

AR CALISSE: I didn't pay attention.

INVESTIGATOR: Did, like, look at it and go "Where--where the hell did you go with my car?"

AR CALISSE: No.

INVESTIGATOR: Never did it. Just---

AR CALISSE: I didn't pay attention to that.

SA JONES: Okay. Have you washed your car since?

AR CALISSE: No.

SA JONES: No.

AR CALISSE: Since I got it, they detail it to me.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 01un25, Reporting Agent (RA) made contact with FCC Brad PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), to glean information pertaining to both CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95 and [redacted] V/A.R. s [redacted] V/A.R., USN, DDG 95 Unauthorized Absence (UA) status. As background, [redacted] V/A.R., USN, DDG 95 and S/COPELAND, were placed into an UA status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, Rochell BROWN, CIV, NCIS and BROWN contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and [redacted] V/A.R.. The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms on NOB, Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at [redacted] V/A.R. door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

2. FCC PARKER was identified as being [redacted] V/A.R. and S/COPELAND's supervisor on DDG 95 and making positive contact with both S/COPELAND and [redacted] V/A.R. on Thursday, 29May25 at approximately 0900 hours.

3. FCC PARKER recalled that on 29May25, he went to S/COPELAND's barracks room, Naval Station Norfolk, Willis Manor, and woke him up because he did not show for work in the morning. FCC PARKER recalled it was obvious he had woke S/COPELAND and [redacted] V/A.R. up due to their grogginess. FCC PARKER stated he physically observed [redacted] V/A.R. in S/COPELAND's barracks, she acknowledged his presence, rolled over, and appeared to go back to sleep. FCC PARKER said he instructed S/COPELAND to report to work after he tended to [redacted] V/A.R. and took her home. FCC PARKER said S/COPELAND told him [redacted] V/A.R. was having some personal issues and came to his barracks room Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss.

4. FCC PARKER said S/COPELAND was supposed to only work Thursday and have the weekend off.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Investigator (RI) and Participating Agent (PA) Caroline ROBINSON interviewed FCC Brad PARKER (FCC PARKER), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), regarding his knowledge of the disappearance of CSSN [redacted], USN, DDG 95.

2. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio/visual recording system and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio recorder and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. On 03JUN25, FCC PARKER signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to allow NCIS to obtain screenshots of messages pertaining to the disappearance of [redacted]. Results of PASS will be documented in a separate investigative action.

5. FCC PARKER described the incident as it was reported to him. FCC PARKER stated on 29MAY25 at 0700, he was advised [redacted] was not doing well and began calling friends on the ship. FCC PARKER identified the friends as co-worker, CSSN COPELAND, later identified as CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, ET3 RICH, later identified as ET3 Daniel RICH (ET3 RICH), USN, DDG 95, and "Gillespie", later identified as HT3 Michael GILLESPIE (HT3 GILLESPIE), USN, DDG 95. FCC PARKER clarified S/COPELAND, ET3 RICH, and HT3 GILLESPIE all stated she was seeking help that evening. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND relayed ET3 RICH went to her barracks room, Miller Hall BLDG U-16, she was not there and did not answer her cell phone. FCC PARKER stated he learned S/COPELAND did not show up for the "breakfast shift" at his schedule time (NFI).

6. FCC PARKER stated on the morning of 29MAY25, he went to locate S/COPELAND at his barracks room, Willis Manor, X-2, RM 335B, Bed A, on board Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, VA. According to FCC PARKER, S/COPELAND answered the door with groggy eyes, a pair of basketball shorts and the lights in his room were off as if he just woken up. FCC PARKER stated he did not notice

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

any indications of alcohol use. FCC PARKER indicated he told S/COPELAND they needed to go to work, to which S/COPELAND stated he was not alone. FCC PARKER stated he asked S/COPELAND if it was V/A.R. and S/COPELAND confirmed. FCC PARKER stated he recognized V/A.R. in S/COPELAND's bed. FCC PARKER clarified V/A.R. looked up, dismissively waved, rolled over and went back to sleep. FCC PARKER relayed V/A.R. was wrapped in a blanket with only her feet being exposed. FCC PARKER relayed at 0854, he texted LSC Rob JANSON (LSC JANSON), USN, DDG 95, confirming S/COPELAND and V/A.R. were in S/COPELAND's room.

7. FCC PARKER stated he told S/COPELAND to step out of the room and into the common area. FCC PARKER relayed he asked if they were ok and if V/A.R. was in any imminent danger to which S/COPELAND replied "I do not think so." FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND relayed he went to pick V/A.R. up, who was having problems with her boyfriend (NFI) in Texas, and they watched movies. FCC PARKER said he asked S/COPELAND if he had a ride to work, to which S/COPELAND said he did. FCC PARKER stated he departed after he advised S/COPELAND to ensure V/A.R. was returned to her room and to get to work. FCC PARKER drew a sketch depicting the layout of S/COPELAND's room; Enclosure (C) pertains.

8. FCC PARKER relayed he was there for approximately five (5) to ten (10) minutes. Additionally, FCC PARKER indicated there was a logbook in the lobby where he signed in and out from. FCC PARKER stated at 1241, S/COPELAND called him stating he dropped off V/A.R. at her barracks room and was waiting for his ride. FCC PARKER stated at 1523, he texted S/COPELAND asking why he was still not at work. FCC PARKER relayed at 1636, S/COPELAND texted him saying he was still waiting on a ride to work. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND never showed up at work and he did not hear from him until 01JUN25.

9. FCC PARKER stated on the morning of 30MAY25, V/A.R. and S/COPELAND did not show up to work. FCC PARKER conveyed he attempted to locate both of them in their respective rooms but was unsuccessful. FCC PARKER relayed he attempted to call and text V/A.R. and S/COPELAND but they did not answer. FCC PARKER stated he spoke with V/A.R. roommate (NFI) who stated she had not seen V/A.R. since the night of 28MAY25. FCC PARKER relayed at 0950, he called LSC JANSON advising V/A.R. was not in her room. FCC PARKER advised at 1017, he called and texted S/COPELAND from his barracks room, but he did not answer. FCC PARKER stated he spoke with S/COPELAND's roommate (NFI) who related he was in the room earlier that morning but did not know when S/COPELAND left.

10. FCC PARKER stated on 31MAY25, ET3 RICH filed a missing person report for V/A.R. FCC PARKER did not identify the filing agency. FCC PARKER advised S/COPELAND called him on the afternoon of 01JUN25 about his unauthorized absence (UA) status. FCC PARKER relayed the command called and

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

texted him, to which S/COPELAND stated he does not normally answer his phone when he is not on duty. FCC PARKER relayed he asked S/COPELAND if he had heard from V/A.R. According to FCC PARKER, S/COPELAND stated he had not seen her since he dropped her off the afternoon of 29MAY25.

11. FCC PARKER conveyed on the morning of 29MAY25, V/A.R. 's LPO, CS1 HOWELLEL, later identified as CS1 Daryl HOWELLEL, USN, DDG 95, began sending daily texts to her. FCC PARKER stated on 01JUN25, the Commanding Officer, later identified to be CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN, DDG 95, mandated daily checks on V/A.R. 's room until she was found. FCC PARKER relayed on the same day, CS2 BRYANT, later identified as CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG 95, went to her barracks room and she was not there.

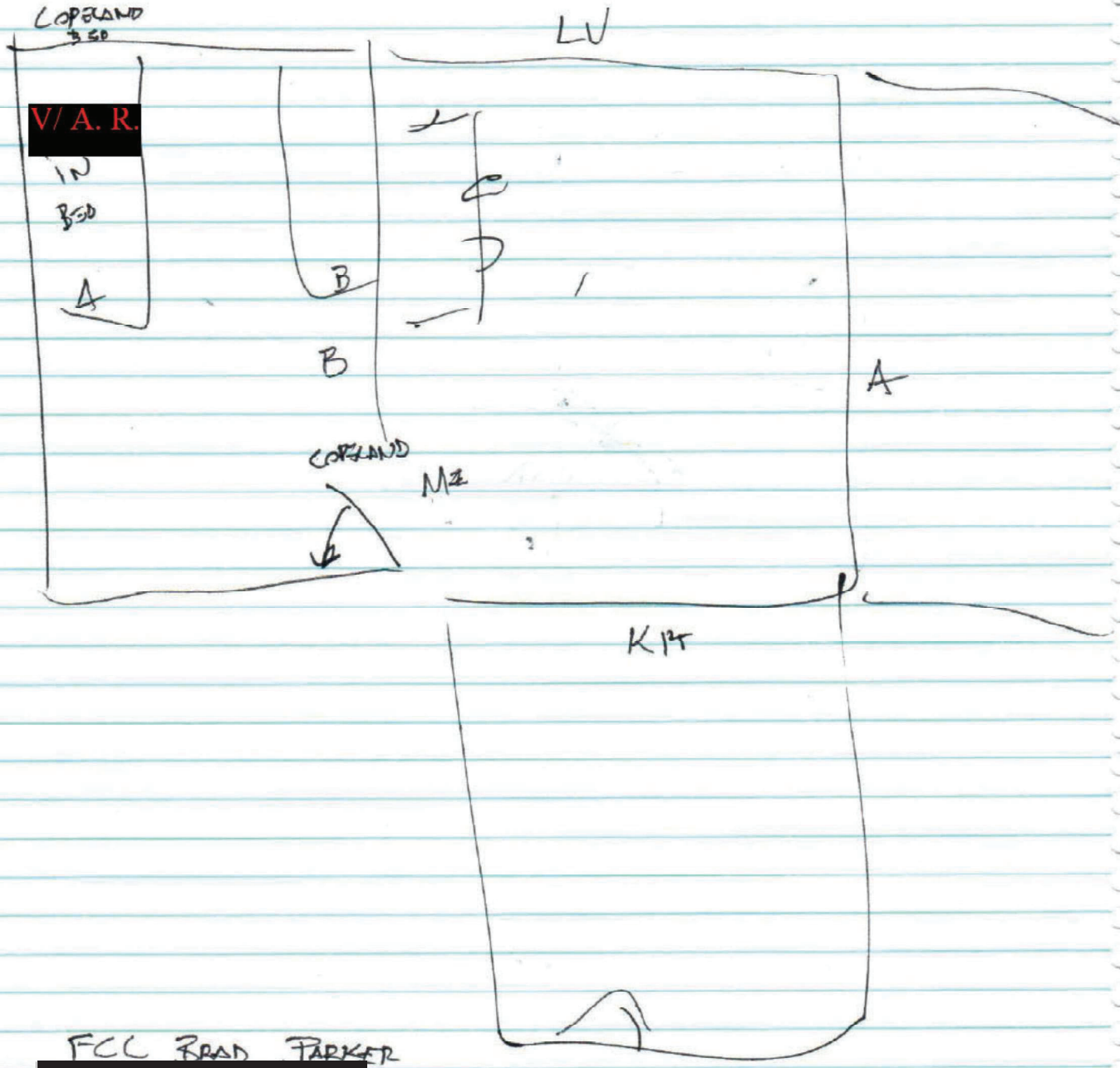
12. FCC PARKER advised on 02JUN25, he went to V/A.R. s barracks room because he was advised she left her phone in her room but was unable to locate it. FCC PARKER relayed the building manager (NFI) let him into the room and he "visually" looked for the her phone. FCC PARKER clarified he did not touch anything in the room. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND did not have a driver's license and is pending reckless driving charges with Virginia Beach Police Department.

13. No further information was obtained.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE RECORDED INTERVIEW OF FCC PARKER/03JUN25
(B) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF FCC PARKER/03JUN25
(C) SKETCH BY FCC PARKER/03JUN25

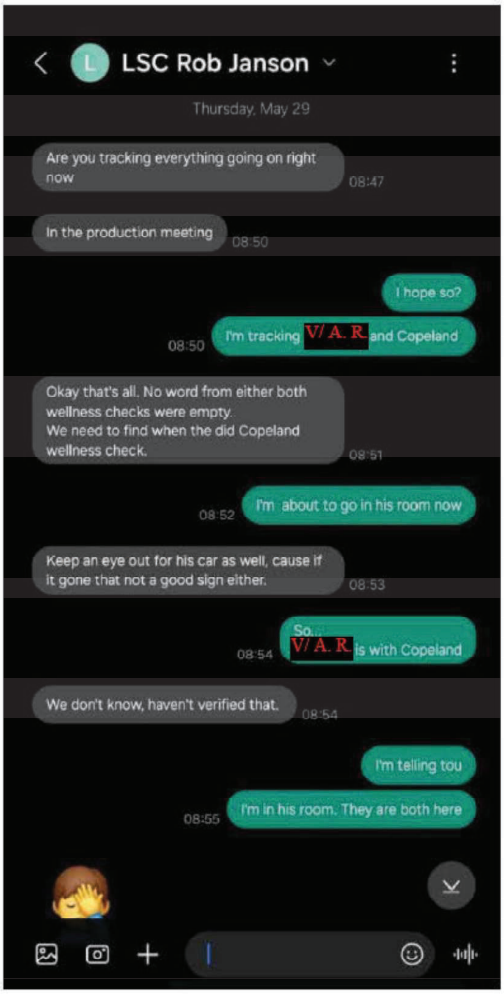
REPORTED BY: JESSE A CLAAR, Investigator
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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COPELAND
BSD
LV
V/ A. R.
IN
BSD
A
B
B
C
D
A
COPELAND
M2
KIT
FCC ROAD PARKER
ROOM 335BA

ENCLOSURE C

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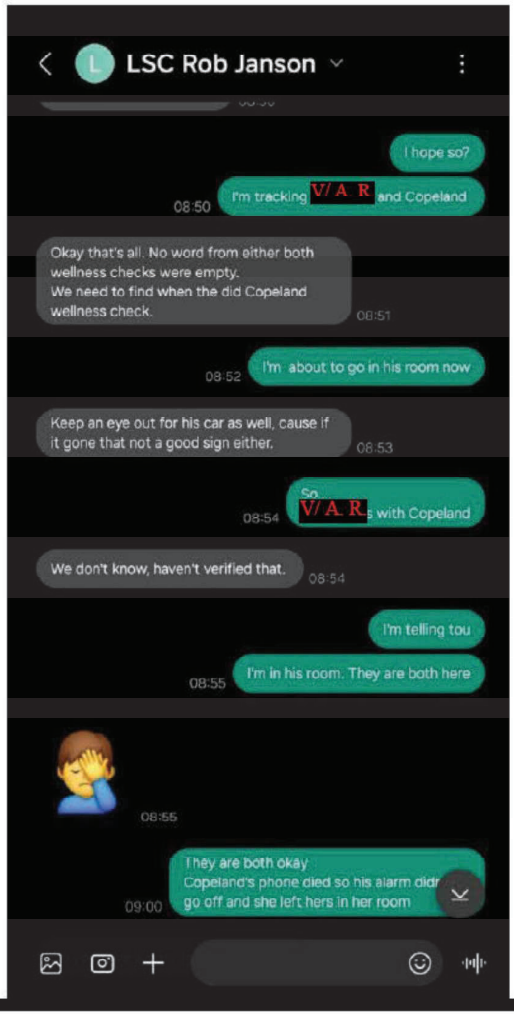
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND LSC ROBERT JANSON, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

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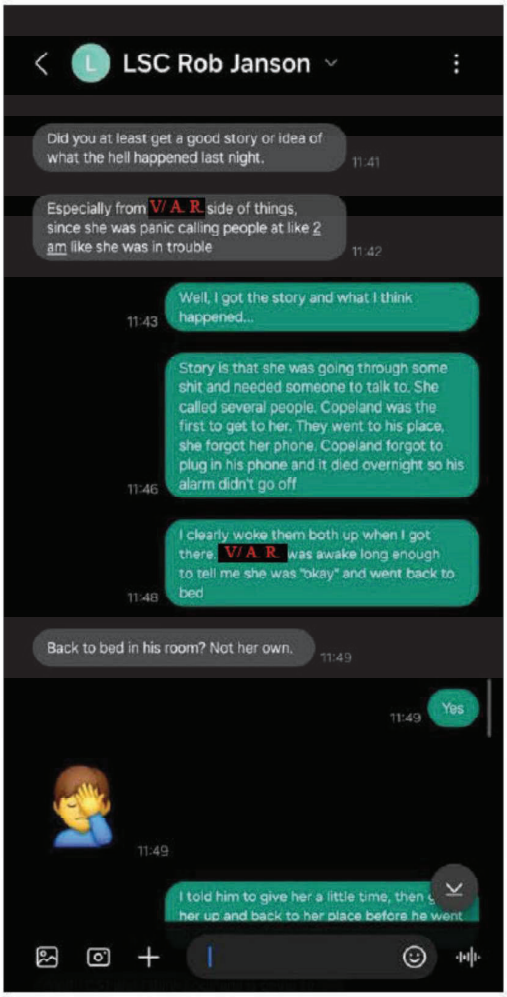
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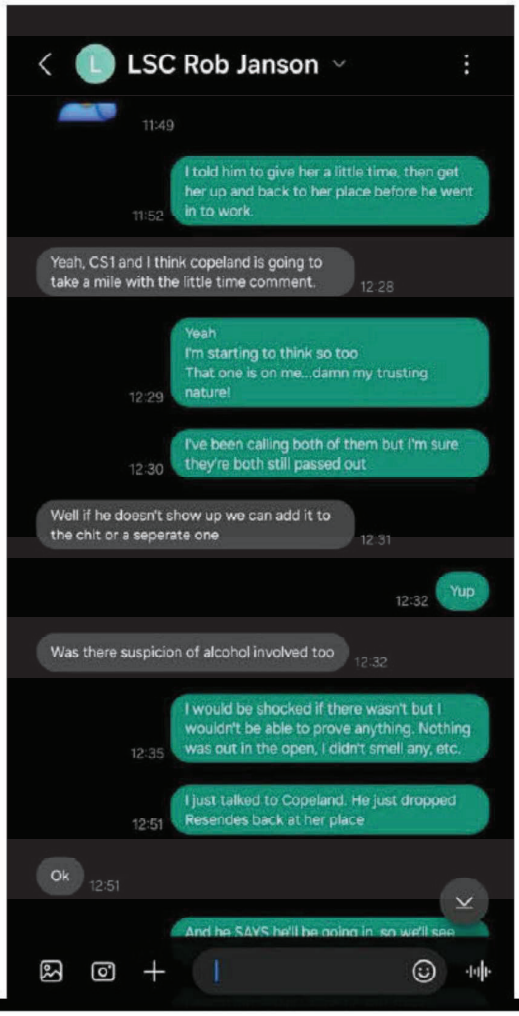
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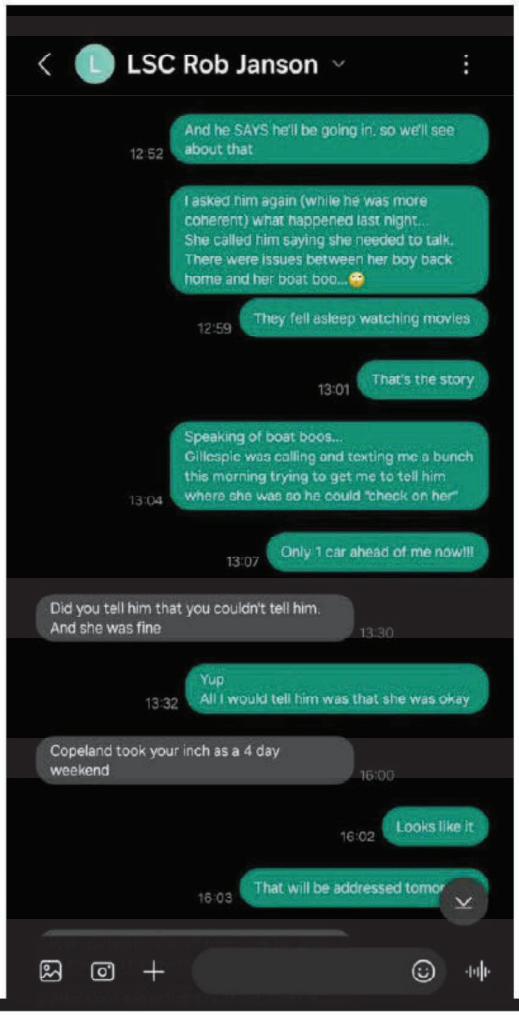
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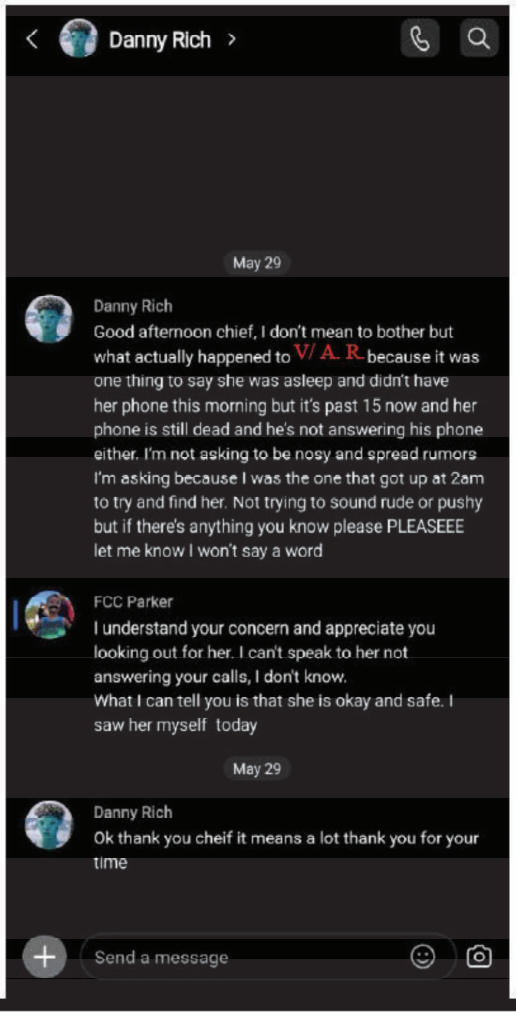
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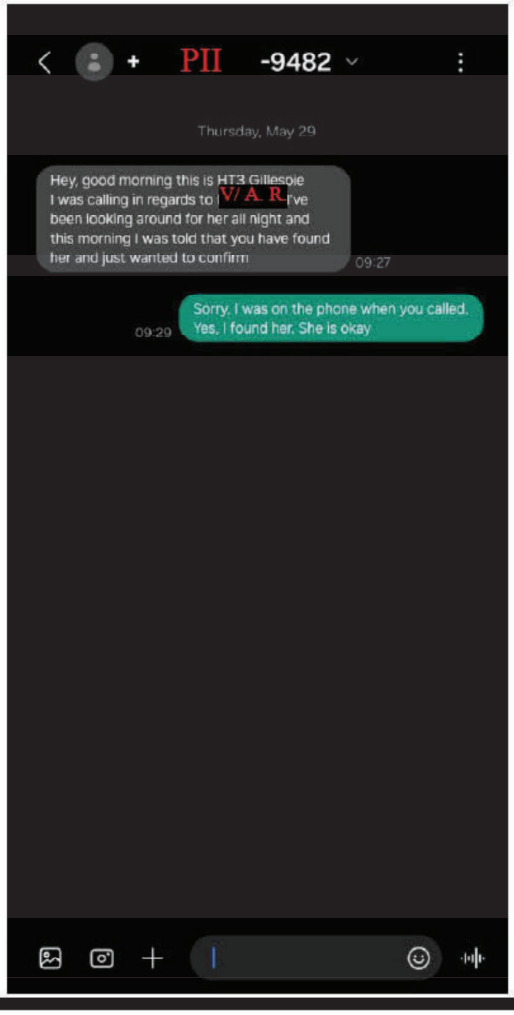
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TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

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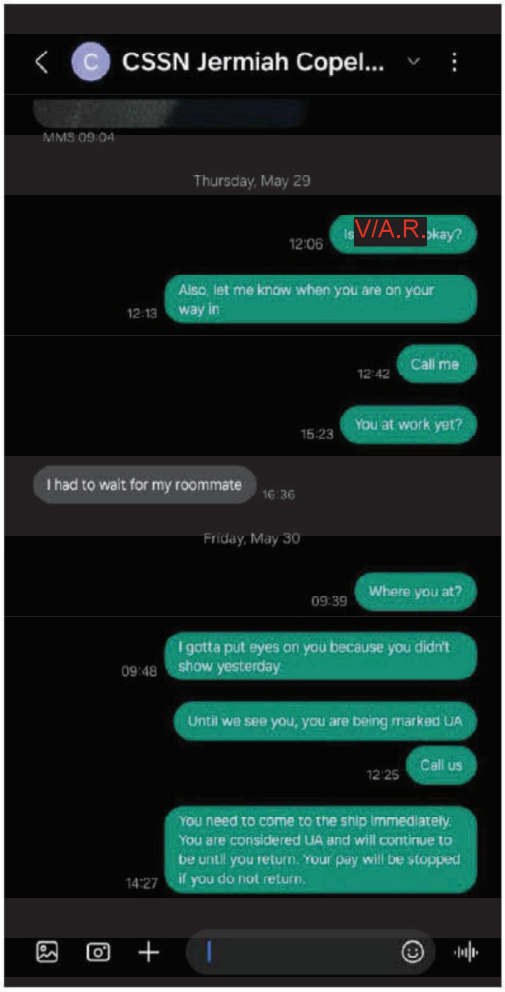
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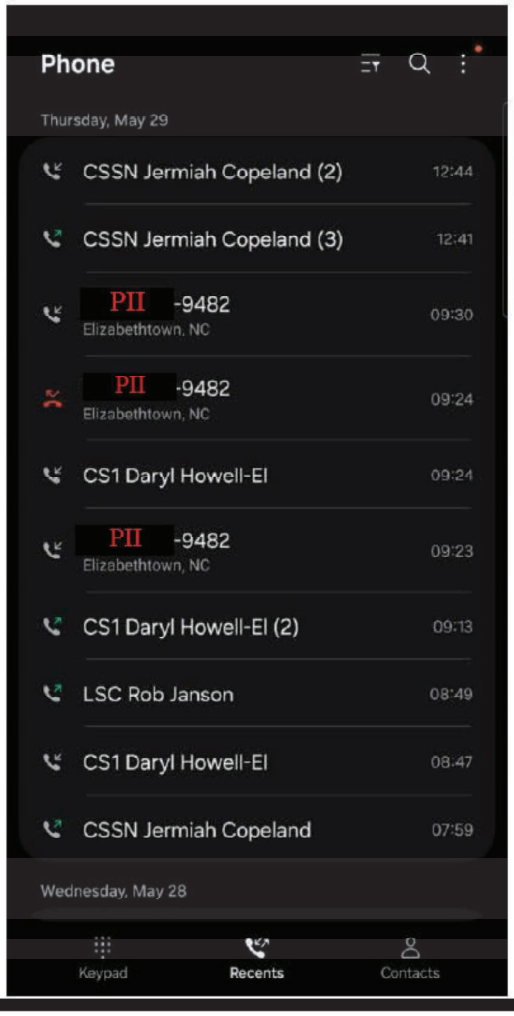
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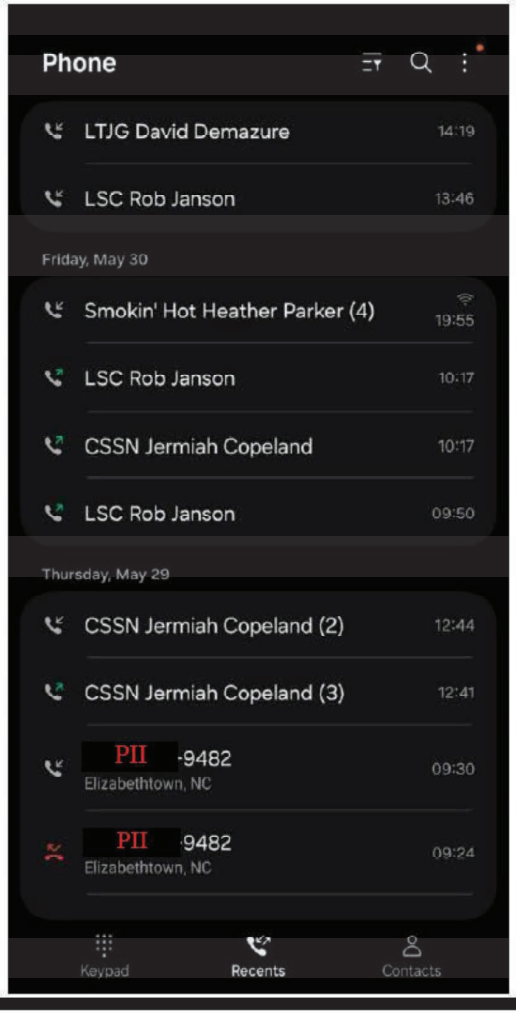
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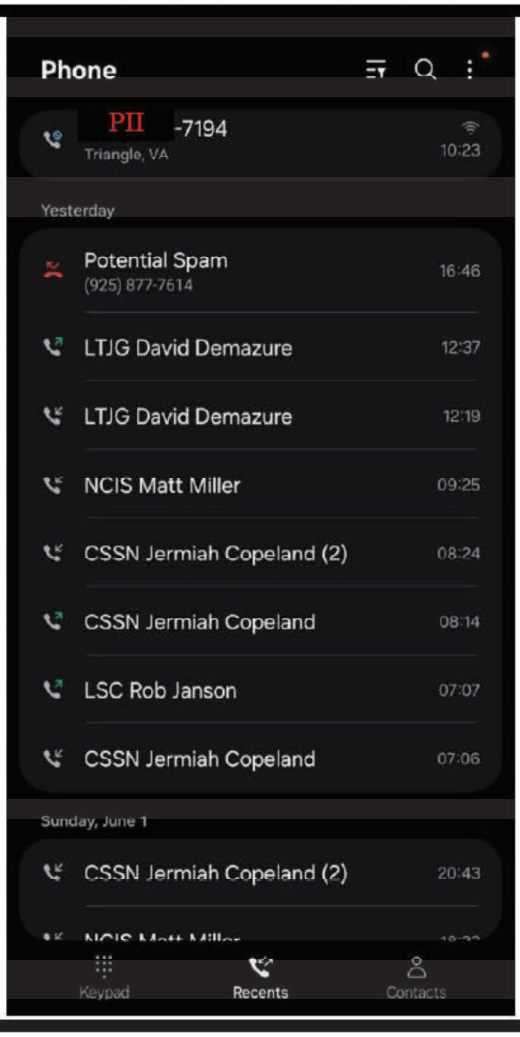
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
CALL LOG FROM FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

NCIS 5580.91 (Rev 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF SECONDARY INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 05Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Brandon MOORE conducted a secondary interview with FCC Brad PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio recording device and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Compact Disc-Recordable (CD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. FCC PARKER stated he became [redacted V/A.R.]'s ([redacted V/A.R.] USN, DDG 95, Chief approximately 2 months ago. FCC PARKER relayed he would see [redacted V/A.R.] at least 4 times per week.

4. FCC PARKER was shown an image of [redacted V/A.R.] FCC PARKER stated the individual in the image was who he knows to be [redacted V/A.R.] and was the individual he saw in the bed inside of the room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, on 29May25. FCC PARKER signed and dated the image; Enclosure (B) pertains.

5. FCC PARKER relayed he believed the following individuals had gone to [redacted V/A.R.] room on the specified days:
a. Thursday, 29May25 - FCC PARKER was tasked to go to [redacted V/A.R.] room; however, he located her in S/COPELAND's room, so he did not go to [redacted V/A.R.] room.
b. Friday, 30May25 - FCC PARKER and CS1 Daryl HOWELL-EL, USN, DDG 95
c. Saturday, 31May25 - No one
d. Sunday, 01Jun25 - CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG 95
e. Monday, 02Jun25 - FCC PARKER
f. Tuesday, 03Jun25 - No one
g. Wednesday, 04Jun25 - FCC PARKER
h. Thursday, 05Jun25 - LT Yan LIANG, USN, DDG 95

6. FCC PARKER reported he went to S/COPELAND's room on Friday, 30May25, with CS1 HOWELL-EL. FCC PARKER stated CS2 BRYANT was going to go to S/COPELAND's room on Sunday, 01Jun25; however, he had gotten word that Base Police (NFI) had stopped by S/COPELAND's room and made contact with him.

ENCLOSURE(S)

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **05JUN25**

(A) CD-R: AUDIO OF INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN/05JUN25
(B) IMAGE OF [redacted] 05JUN25

REPORTED BY: CAROLINE E ROBINSON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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FCL BRAD PARKER

[redacted]

05 JUN 2015

I also got word that CSSN Copeland did not report to work that morning. He was supposed to start the breakfast shift, and he had--wasn't there when I got there at seven.

So, I had to go up, do the morning--the morning routine, do the quarters. When I got a chance, I decided I would go up to--to the base to find Copeland first because he was--wasn't--didn't report to work.

SA ROBINSON: [Affirmative response.]

FCC PARKER: V/A.R. was off. I did go to his--his room first. Really, because it was right there. But I got there around 9 a.m. I could--I consult my--but around 9 a.m., I got to his room. It's--it's one of those common areas with two bedrooms on the side, and there's two people in each room.

SA ROBINSON: [Affirmative response.]

FCC PARKER: I got in there, got into his room. His bedroom portion was deadbolt locked, so I was knocking on the door. I was knocking on the door for a minute--for, I don't know, a good--a good minute. By the time he did eventually answer, I clearly had just woken him up. I--I, you know, asked him, you know, "Where you at? Where you been?"

SA ROBINSON: [Affirmative response.]

FCC PARKER: Type of thing.

SA ROBINSON: Yeah.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF MARY BENSON, CIV, AND CSSN CARMESHA SAUNDERS, USN

1. On 06Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent Cheyenne SIMMONS interviewed Mary B. BENSON, CIV, X2 Barracks Manager, Naval Station (NAVSTA) Norfolk, VA, and CSSN Carmesha SAUNDERS, USN, NAVSSTA, regarding their interaction with CCSN Jeremiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) during the weekend from 30May25 to 01Jun25 at Barracks X2, NAVSTA.

2. BENSON advised she worked both Friday, 30May25 and Sunday, 01Jun25, at Barracks X2. BENSON stated she worked the day shift from 0600 to either 1530 or 1600. BENSON stated she is familiar with S/COPEPLAND as being a resident of the barracks and living on the third floor. BENSON stated she saw S/COPELAND on 30May25 "early part of the morning" in the fifth-floor lounge of Barracks X2. S/COPELAND was on his cellular telephone and wearing a dark hoodie shirt, with the hood pulled up over his head. BENSON stated at first, she did not recognize him because he had the hood over his head; however, once she spoke with him, she recognized him as he identified himself. BENSON came back to the lounge a little while later and asked what S/COPELAND was doing, to which he responded his roommate was "getting on his nerves". BENSON offered to move his room, and S/COPELAND denied the request. Looking at the lounge from outside of the door, S/COPELAND was sitting in the far-right chair in the far-right corner of the room. BENSON stated she did not see him the rest of the day.

3. BENSON stated on Sunday, 01Jun25, she was working at Barracks X2 and she received a call from the "ROC", which BENSON believed stood for Regional Operations Center. The ROC was checking on the whereabouts of S/COPELAND. BENSON stated base police also arrived to check on S/COPELAND, but they could not find S/COPELAND. BENSON said she went to the fifth floor and found S/COPELAND in a bathroom. BENSON knocked on the door to the bathroom and S/COPELAND responded that he was in the bathroom. BENSON stated she did not see S/COPELAND; she just spoke with him through the door. BENSON stated Base police then went up to the fifth floor and spoke with S/COPELAND.

4. BENSON further advised the company who cleans the floors in the barracks is Titan, and BENSON believed they started cleaning the floors either on 28May25 or 29May25. The supervisor for Titan is Antonio (NFI) and his number is 757-910-6405.

5. CSSN Carmesha SAUNDERS, USN, Naval Station Norfolk, advised she worked

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **06JUN25**

the front desk of X-2 on Friday and also saw S/COPELAND in the fifth-floor lounge between 1100 and 1200; however, did not know it was him until BENSON told her. SAUNDERS stated she saw a male with a dark hoodie on his telephone sitting in the lounge in the same chair BENSON described above. SAUNDERS stated she worked the rest of the weekend; however, she did not see S/COPELAND after Friday.

6. RA was provided a photocopy of the Contractor Sign-In Log for Barracks X2, which identifies who from Titan signed in to clean the floors from 23May25 to 06Jun25; Enclosure (A) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PHOTOCOPY OF CONTRACTOR SIGN-IN LOG/06JUN25

REPORTED BY: GEORGE JOSEPH MACCINI, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY MCAS NEW RIVER

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BACKGROUND: On 31May25, NCIS was contacted by Norfolk Police Department (NPD) in reference to a missing person's report. NPD relayed ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was attempting to make a missing person's report regarding V/ A. R.), USN, DDG 95. NCIS subsequently contacted Command who advised V/ A. R. and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, were in a status of Unauthorized Absence (UA) beginning on Thursday, 29May25. Command advised they believed V/ A. R. and S/COPELAND were involved romantically, but did not know to what extent. On 01Jun25, NCIS made contact with Naval Station Norfolk Base Police to conduct a welfare check on the rooms of S/COPELAND and V/ A. R. Base Police stated they found S/COPELAND in his barracks room; however, received no answer at V/ A. R. door when they knocked. NCIS responded to Naval Station Norfolk and was able to gain entry to V/ A. R. barracks room, in which she was not located. Subsequently, NCIS' Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) initiated cell phone pings on V/ A. R. mobile phone, which yielded no location data due to the phone possibly being powered off. NCIS conducted an interview of S/COPELAND who stated V/ A. R. came over to his barracks on Wednesday, 28May25. S/COPELAND stated V/ A. R. stayed the night and the next day, 29May25, FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room because he failed to report for work. S/COPELAND stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle and drove V/ A. R. back to her barracks around 1000 on 29May25. During the interview of S/COPELAND, he signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellular device which was provided to NCIS Digital Forensic Examiners (DFE) for review. The DFE observed a screenshot on the device of S/COPELAND of a saved marked location near Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA. During the course of this investigation, NCIS would launch search teams near known phone pings and last locations of both V/ A. R. and S/COPELAND. On 09Jun25, subsequent to receiving the screenshot from the DFE, NCIS conducted a foot search of the area near the marked location and discovered a black duffel bag containing human remains, later identified through DNA as V/ A. R.

JURISDICTION AND ARRIVAL: At approximately 1700, NCIS arrived to the location of Cary Avenue in Norfolk, VA, and conducted a foot search around the Broad Creek neighborhood and Richard Bowling Elementary School. Figure [1] is the screenshot of the marked location utilized by NCIS. At 1735, Reporting Agent (RA) received a phone call from Participating Agent (PA) Tiffany MARTINEZ stating a bag had been located off of a brush covered path behind a row of townhomes. Due to the location of the bag, at 1740, NCIS initiated contact with the Norfolk Police Department (NPD) who responded to the scene to assist. A copy of the NPD incident report detailing their response is appended as Enclosure (A).

SCENE SECURITY: Upon arrival to the scene, no other persons were present in the area but residents going about their daily routine. The area which was searched was not secured prior to arrival and was an open, wooded area, behind a school and residential community. NCIS participants divided into groups and ultimately located the bag by following the smell. Once the duffel bag was located, Andrew PISKE, CIV, K9 Handler, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), and K9 Kyra, Certified Human Remains Detection Dog, approached the bag where she presented a positive alert to PISKE. An aerial topography image of the area searched by PISKE and K9 Kyra is appended as Enclosure (B). NCIS partially unzipped the bag to verify its contents to which human remains were observed. NPD was immediately contacted, and all searching immediately ceased. Due to rain, at approximately 1755, to protect the duffel bag, PISKE placed a black tarp over the bag. Figure [2] is a photo of the overall brush area where the remains were located. Figure [3] is a photo of the duffel bag in place. Figure [4] is the approximate GPS location of the duffel bag after conducting the foot search with the assistance of CalTopo. Figure [5] is the confirmation of the human remains inside the bag.

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PAGE 1 OF 5

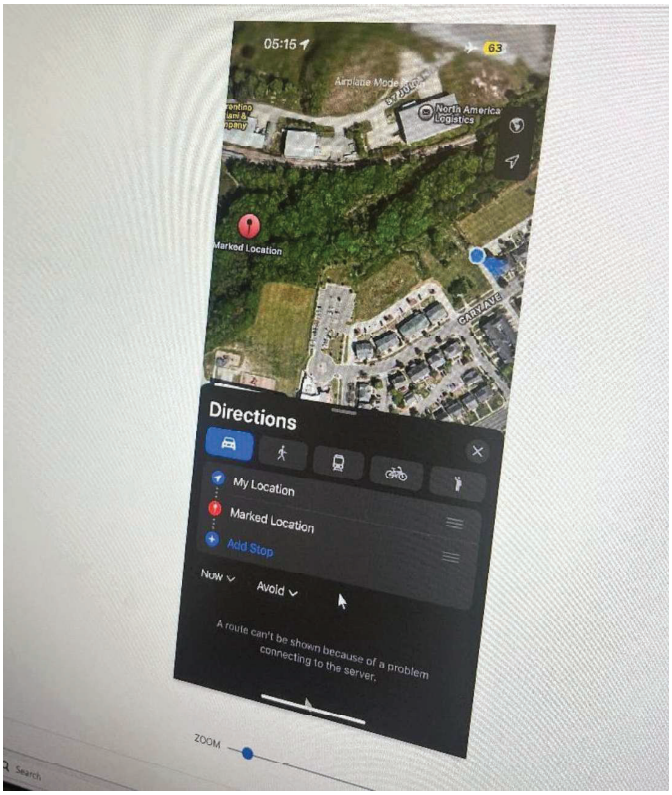


Figure [1]: Screenshot of the marked location (retrieved from phone of S/COPELAND)



Figure [2]: Overall photo of the brush topography (DSC_6939)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **27 July 26**

The Court hereby finds good cause to seal Preliminary Hearing Exhibit (PHE) 47a, page 3; PHE 47b, pages 8 and 10; Prosecution Exhibit (PE) 34, pages 3, 13, 15, 24, 26; PE 36, pages 9, 11, and 12; Appellate Exhibit (AE) LIX, pages 424 and 426; and AE LXI, page 348; all of which depict extremely sensitive images CS3 A.R.'s body.[1]

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** PHE 47a, page 3; PHE 47b, pages 8 and 10; PE 34, pages 3, 13, 15, 24, 26; PE 36, pages 9, 11, and 12; AE LIX, pages 424 and 426; and AE LXI, page 348.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 27th day of July 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

[1] *See* Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 1113(a), Discussion, "Upon request or otherwise for good cause shown, a military judge may seal matters at his or her discretion."

SCENE DOCUMENTATION: NPD assisted in maintaining the scene by providing a tent for protection from the rain while waiting for the Medical Examiner. At approximately 1900, Sarah CARNEY, CIV, Medicolegal Death Investigator, Tidewater Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) viewed the bag and remains inside. CARNEY captured several photos for her file and stated based off the condition of the remains it was recommended to not remove the contents and transport the bag as is to be opened in a controlled environment at autopsy. At 1905, CARNEY approved a search of the exterior pockets of the bag which was conducted by RA with no findings. At 2019, Price Removal Service arrived on scene to transport the remains to OCME for autopsy. Figure [6] is a photo of the transport tag. Once the duffel bag was removed, additional photography was conducted of the ground underneath. Figure [7] is a photo of the dumpsite with no bag present.



Figure [6]: Photo of the body bag with transport tag (DSC_7016)

(area intentionally left blank)

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Figure [7]: Photo of the dumpsite after bag removed (DSC_7022)

WEATHER AND LIGHTING: On 09Jun25, at approximately 1700, the weather in the area was approximately 80 degrees Fahrenheit, according to the Apple Weather App accessed via RA's NCIS-issued cellular phone. It was windy, hot and humid with low, dense, cloud cover and thunderstorms were predicted. Between 1850 and 2000, there was a range of weather from light rain to heavy thunderstorms and lightening.

EVIDENCE SEIZURE: No physical items of evidence were collected at the scene. PA Alison FOX completed photographic coverage of the scene utilizing a Nikon digital camera. A total of 113 digital photographs were captured, all of which were burned to a DVD-R and are appended as Enclosure (B). A disc was also placed into the Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility. FC Morgan CURRIE conducted FARO scans of the area which will be documented under separate cover and also placed into the Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility. A traditional hand drawn sketch was not completed due to the administering of the FARO device.

SEARCH PARTICIPANTS: SA Ashley ULLOM; SA Caroline ROBINSON; SA Salvatore MURGOLO; INV Nick BURROWES; SA Alison FOX; SSA Danielle ORTIZ; SA Joy NAROWSKI; SA Victoria PADILLA-MARTINEZ; SA John KEMP; SA Lauryn GODETTE; FC Morgan CURRIE; SA Morgan JOHNS; SA Tiffany MARTINEZ; SA Brandon MOORE; SA Cheyenne SIMMONS; INV Jesse CLAAR; SA Seza KYSER; SA Anthony JONES; SA Fritzner PHILEMON; SA Devin RUIC; SSA Elly UFFORD; SA Jessica GOKEY; Sean LACY & K9 PIXEL (Isle of Wight Sheriff's Office), and Andrew PISKE & K9 KYRA (VDEM).

SCENE RELEASE: NCIS left the scene at approximately 2100 and NPD was still present maintaining perimeter.

ENCLOSURE(S)

(A) Norfolk Police Department Incident Report/09Jun25
(B) Aerial Map Image of Area Searched by K9 Kyra/09Jun25
(C) DVD-R: Scene Photographs/09Jun25

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LUGGAGE IMAGE FILES

1. SDFE DAVISON located and extracted three thumbnail images during the examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND. The iPhone appears to name all the thumbnail images with the same of name of "5005.jpg." Each thumbnail image is located in the corresponding subdirectories of the \private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\Thumbnails\V2\DCIM\101APPLE\ directory. The specific directory in which the thumbnail file named "5005.jpg" resides contains the original file name of the image, movie, or Apple's live files. The three original file names from each thumbnail image resolves back to IMG_1111.HEIC, IMG_1114.HEIC, and IMG_1112.mov. SDFE DAVISON conducted a search for each original file, however, the examination did not recover the original files. SDFE DAVISON inserted the thumbnail files directly into this document.

IMG_1111.HEIC

ALL EVIDENCE ▸ 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip ▸ private ▸ var ▸ mobile ▸ Media ▸ PhotoData ▸ Thumbnails ▸ V2 ▸ DCIM ▸ 101APPLE ▸ IMG_1111.HEIC

Name	Type	File...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified	MFT...	MD5 hash	Ch
5005.JPG	File	JPG	58,966	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM		03062e1418645738ad713446170defc6	



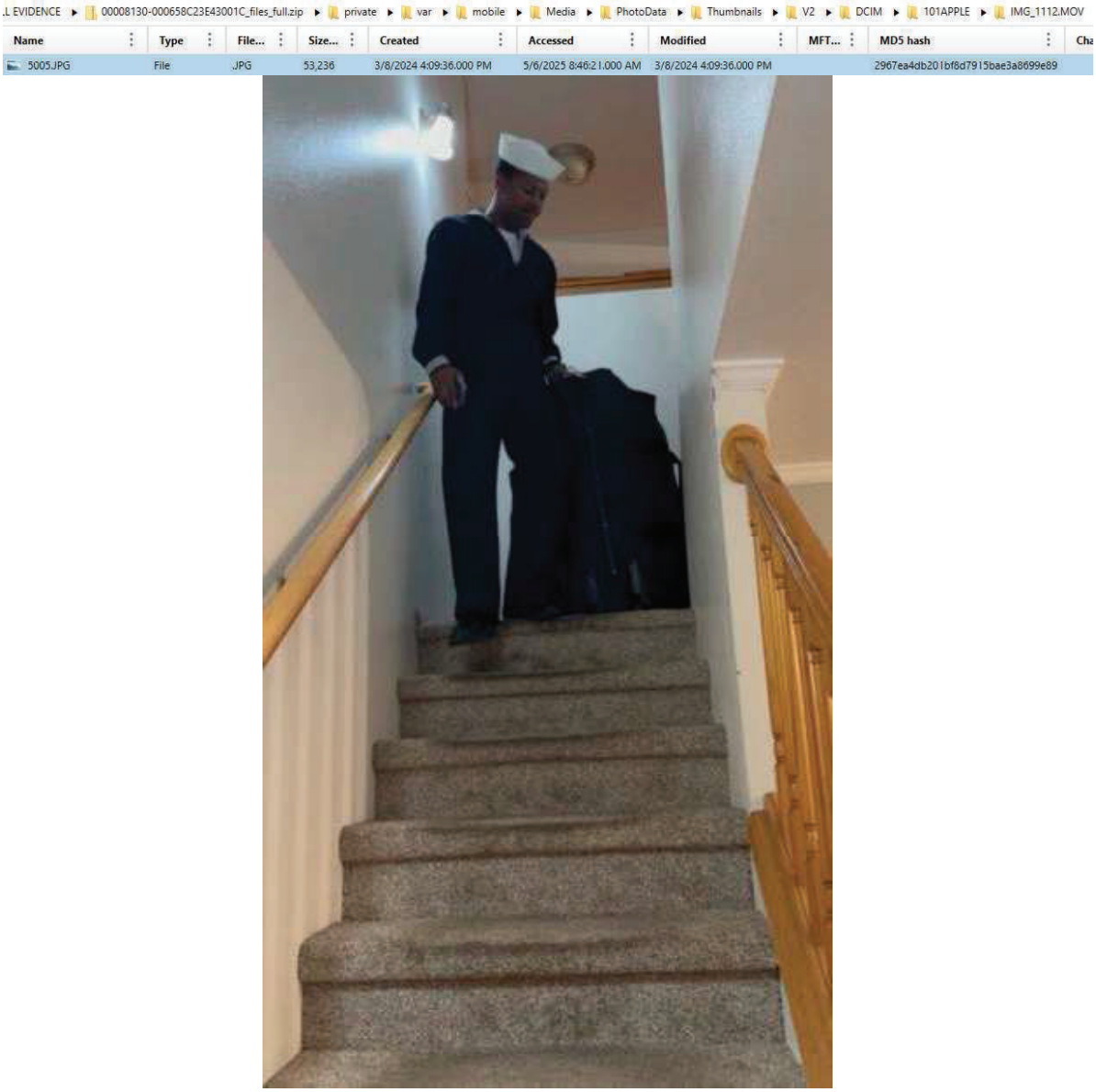
IMG_1114.HEIC

ALL EVIDENCE ▸ 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip ▸ private ▸ var ▸ mobile ▸ Media ▸ PhotoData ▸ Thumbnails ▸ V2 ▸ DCIM ▸ 101APPLE ▸ IMG_1114.HEIC

Name	Type	File...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified	MFT...	MD5 hash	Ch
5005.JPG	File	JPG	47,925	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM		f180d199fff81d48559e0deef9f9ec2e	



IMG_1112.mov



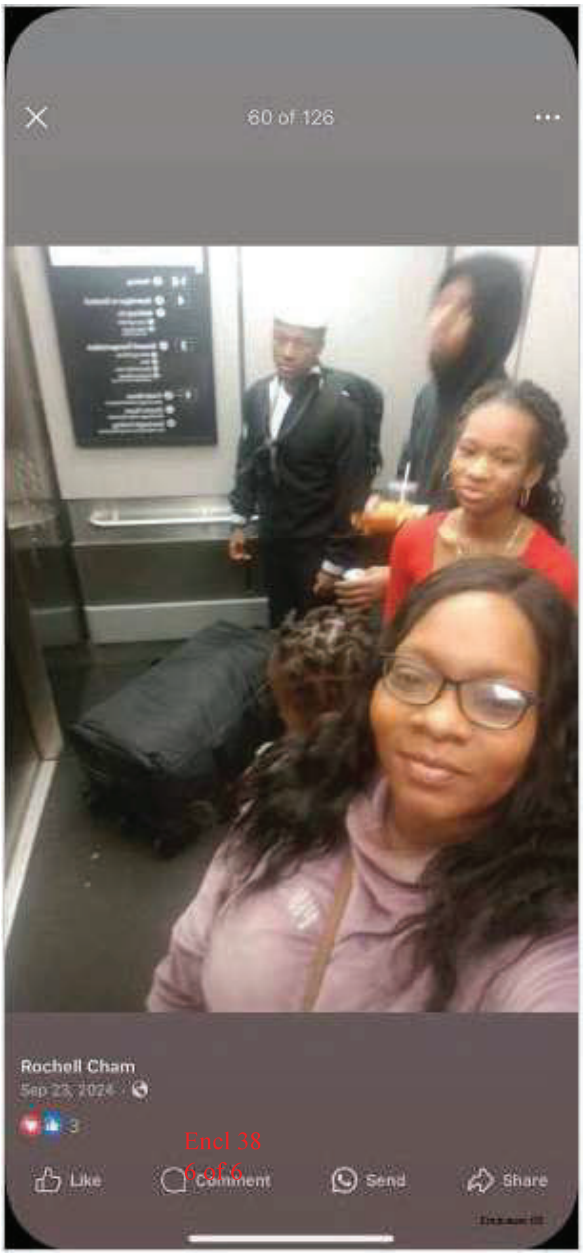
2. The thumbnail files for IMG_1111.HEIC and IMG_1114.HEIC were created on 29Dec23. The thumbnail file for IMG_1112.mov was created on 08Jun24. The examination revealed the thumbnail file for IMG_1112.mov appears to be created due to the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND accessing and downloaded the original file in an iCloud account since the image is visually similar to the file IMG_1111.HEIC and the file is consecutively named to IMG_1112. All three thumbnails were last accessed on 05Jun25, at exactly 8:46:21 AM. All of 627 thumbnails in the \private\var\mobile\Media\PhotoData\Thumbnails\V2\DCIM\101APPLE\ directory and its subdirectories were accessed on 05Jun25, between 8:46:21 AM and 8:46:23 AM. The

examination revealed an automated process accessed the files and is most likely contributed to an iCloud backup. SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot as displayed in Axiom.

Name	Type	File e...	Size...	Created	Accessed	Modified
5005.JPG	File	JPG	130,889	12/29/2023 6:24:05.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 6:24:05.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	123,281	12/29/2023 6:32:15.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 6:32:15.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	58,966	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:22.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	53,236	3/8/2024 4:09:36.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	3/8/2024 4:09:36.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	49,116	12/29/2023 7:42:21.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:21.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	47,925	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:42:19.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	55,743	12/29/2023 7:50:38.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:50:38.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	77,068	12/29/2023 7:51:21.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 7:51:21.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	36,327	12/29/2023 8:09:54.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:09:54.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	31,072	12/29/2023 8:10:03.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:03.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	49,794	12/29/2023 8:10:11.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:11.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	38,135	12/29/2023 8:10:35.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:35.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	32,599	12/29/2023 8:10:52.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:10:52.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	54,421	12/29/2023 8:11:03.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:03.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	54,065	12/29/2023 8:11:16.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:16.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	47,698	12/29/2023 8:11:26.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:26.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	37,341	12/29/2023 8:11:42.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:42.000 PM
5005.JPG	File	JPG	59,704	12/29/2023 8:11:52.000 PM	5/6/2025 8:46:21.000 AM	12/29/2023 8:11:52.000 PM

Click to Review the Thumbnail Report





Encl 38
6 of 6

1. BACKGROUND: On 04Jun25, at approximately 1315 hours, Reporting Agent (RA) Alison FOX, NCISRA Yorktown, was notified by Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Danielle ORTIZ, NCISRA Norfolk, suspected blood was observed in a stairwell of Willis Manor, Building X2, 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511 located on board Naval Station Norfolk. NCIS conducted an area canvass of Building X2 as part of proactive investigative efforts to locate V/ A. R. [redacted], USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). NCIS visually inspected and focused on the hallway and stairwell closest in proximity to Room 335 located on the third floor, which was the known room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, a person of interest at the time of the investigation. SSA ORTIZ requested RA FOX respond to the area to document the scene and collect the suspected blood.

2. ARRIVAL AND JURISDICTION: On 04Jun25, at 1330 hours, RA FOX, and Participating Agents (PA) Joy NAROWSKI, NCISRA Yorktown, Dara ELK, NCISRA Portsmouth, and Lauren WATKINS, NCISRA Portsmouth conducted an examination of the stairwell. Willis Manor, Building X2 is located on board Naval Station Norfolk and is located within concurrent jurisdiction with Norfolk Police Department (NPD); however, NCIS maintains primary investigative jurisdiction due to V/ A. R. and S/COPELAND both being active-duty Navy service members.

3. SCENE SECURITY AND SEARCH AUTHORIZATION: No scene security was present upon RA FOX's arrival. There is no reasonable expectation of privacy within the stairwell. Therefore, no search authorization was required.

4. EXTERIOR OBSERVATIONS: Willis Manor, Building X2, is a military barracks located on board Naval Station Norfolk. Willis Manor, Building X2, is a five-story building with a parking lot located in front and to the side. The building is located between Maryland Ave and Virginia Ave. Figure [1] is a Google Maps image of Willis Manor, Building X2, depicting its relationship and orientation to the surrounding buildings. The black arrow was added to the image to depict the exit location of stairwell examined.

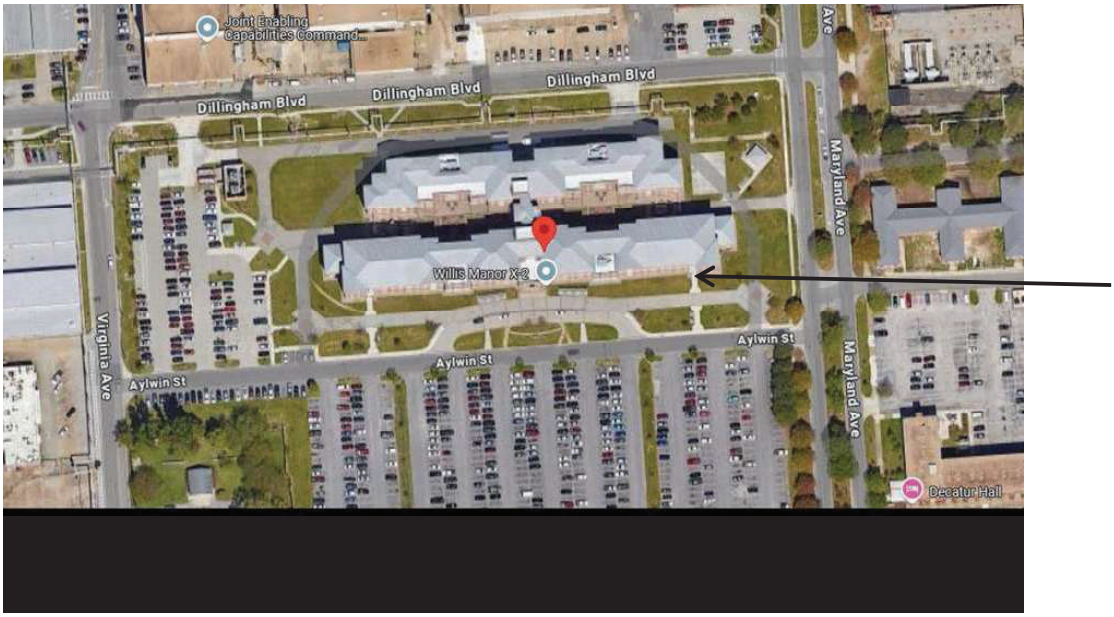


Figure 1 – Aerial view of Willis Manor, Building X2, on board Naval Station Norfolk (retrieved from Google Maps; 11Jun25).

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5. INTERIOR OBSERVATIONS: RA FOX responded to Corridor 3006, which is located on the third floor. Barracks Room 335 is located in this corridor, within the same hallway as Stairwell 5. Figures [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], and [7] depict the entry way into Corridor 3006, the door to S/COPELAND's room, and the stairwell entrance point from the third floor, which can be identified by the last exit sign in the corridor. The black arrow was added to Figure [6], which shows the last exit sign in the corridor.



Figure 2 – Image of Corridor 3006, which houses apartments 330-343 (DSC_6355).

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Figure 3 – Image of Corridor 3006, which houses apartments 330-343 (DSC_6356).

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Figure 4 – Image of Room 335 inside of Corridor 3006 (DSC_6357).



Figure 5 – Image of Room 335 inside of Corridor 3006, with last exit sign visible (DSC_6359

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Figure 6 – Image of last exit sign at the entrance to Stairwell 5 (DSC_6361).

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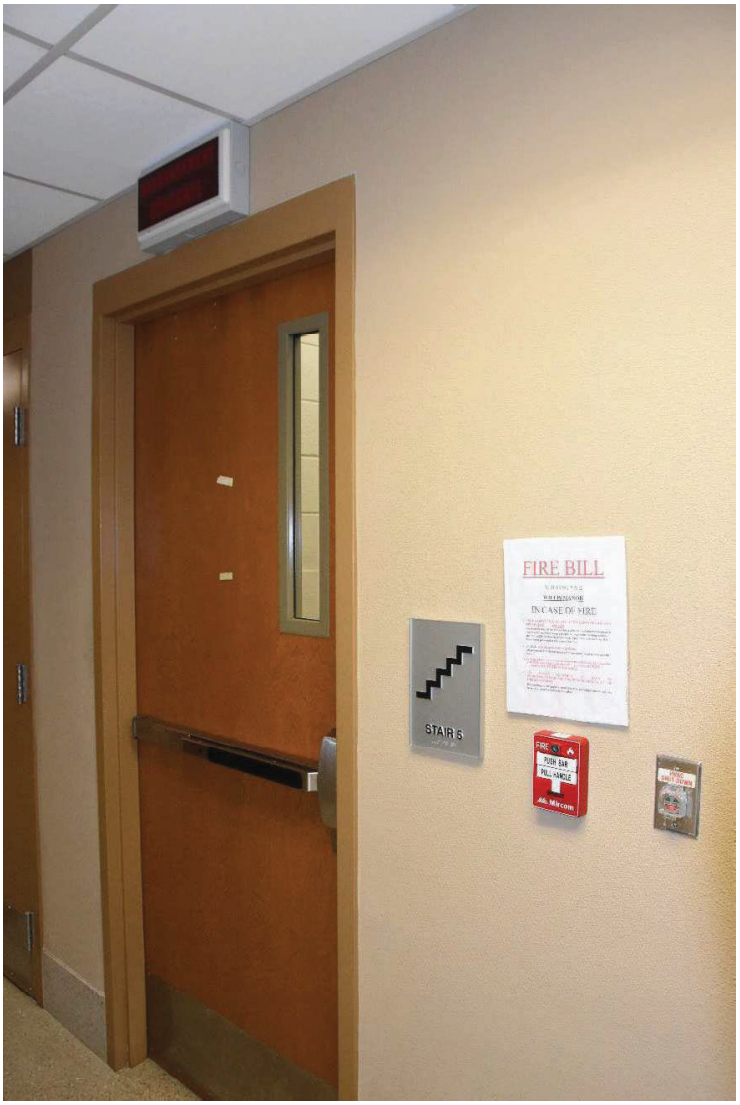


Figure 7 – Image of door to Stairwell 5 (DSC_6362).

6. STAIRWELL OBSERVATIONS: Multiple areas of reddish brown staining were observed in the stairwell between levels 1 and 3. These areas were marked with evidence placards and photographed. Figures [8], [9], and [10] depict overall photographs of the stairwell levels as they were found. Figures [11], [12], [13], [14], [15], and [16] depict midrange photographs of reddish brown stains observed in the stairwell. Figures [17], [18], [19], [20], [21], [22], [23], [24], [25], [26], [27], and [28] depict close up photographs of the aforementioned reddish brown stains.

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Figure 8 – Image from door to Stairwell 5 at level 3 (DSC_6363).

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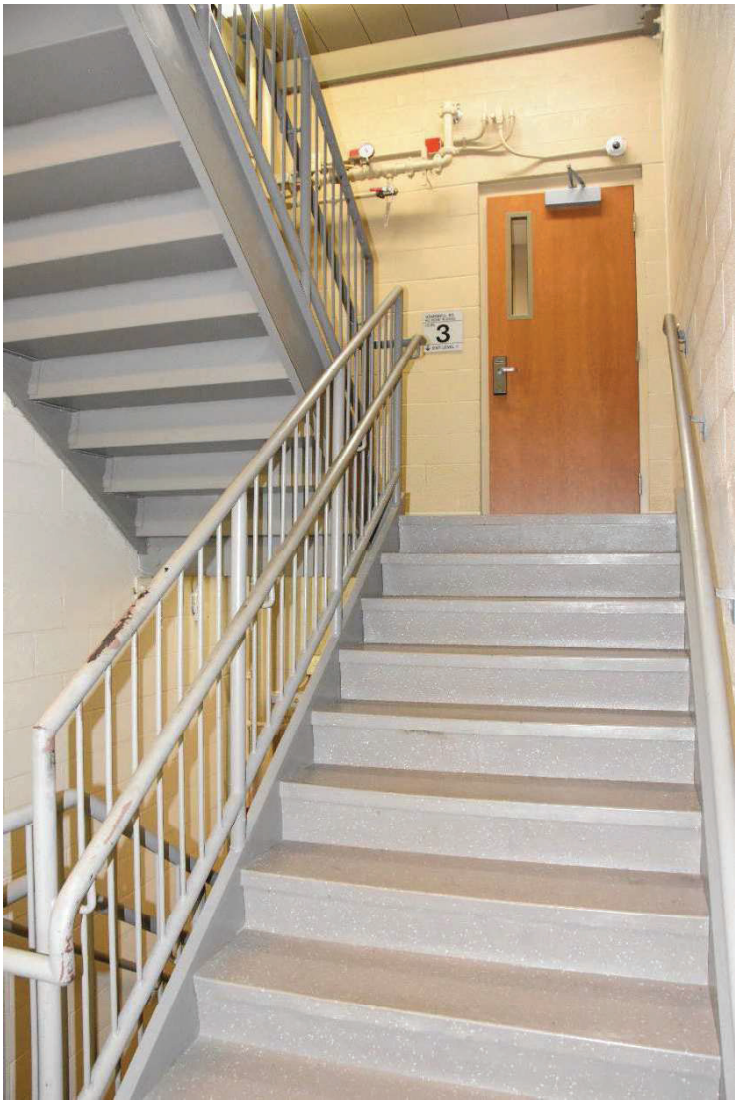


Figure 9 – Image of Stairwell 5 in between levels 2 and 3, which depicts the door to the third level (DSC_6365).

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Figure 10 – Image of Stairwell 5 in between levels 2 and 3, which depicts the door to the second level (DSC_6367).

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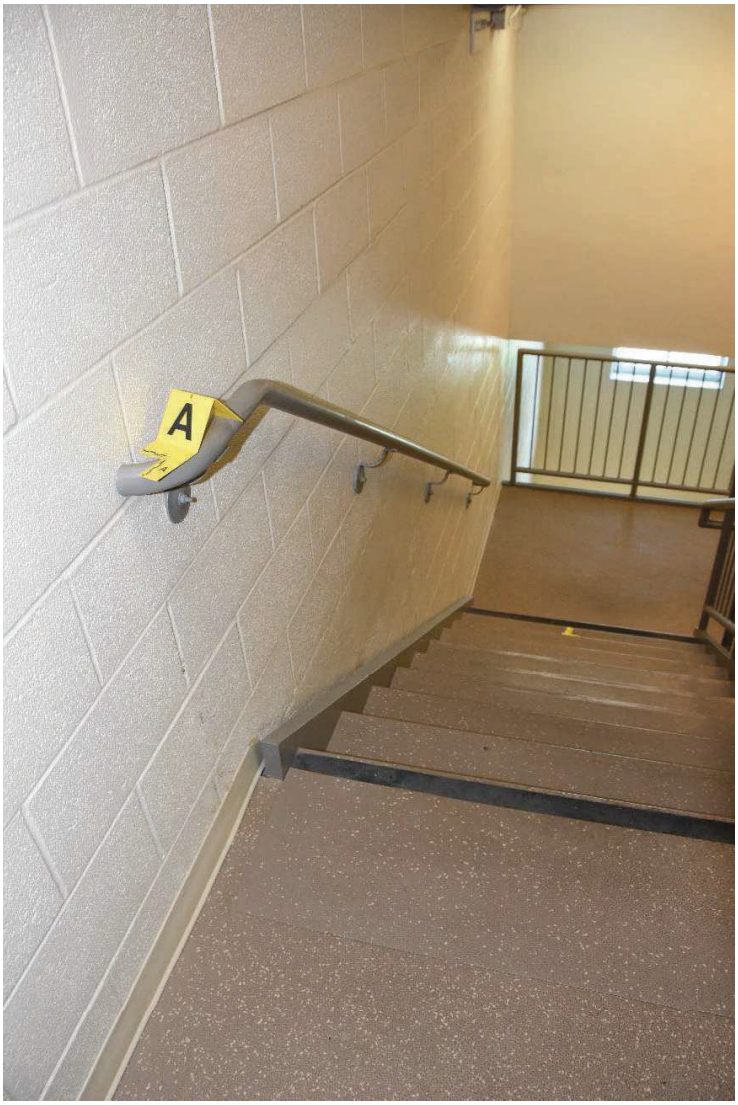


Figure 11 – Midrange photograph of stain on cement wall, which is located below the railing, marked with placard A (DSC_6369).

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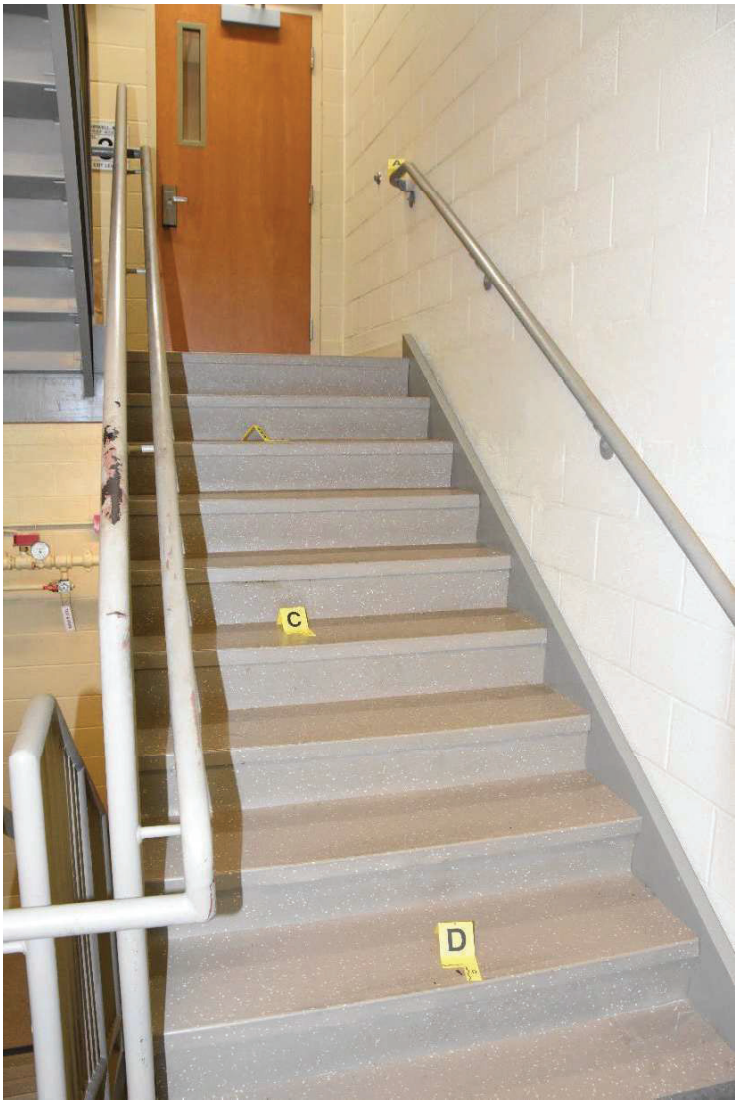


Figure 12 – Midrange photograph of stains on stairs located between levels 2 and 3, marked with placards B, C, and D (DSC_6370).

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Figure 13 – Midrange photograph of stains on cement wall below railing and stairs located between levels 2 and 3, marked with placards E, F, and G (DSC_6400).

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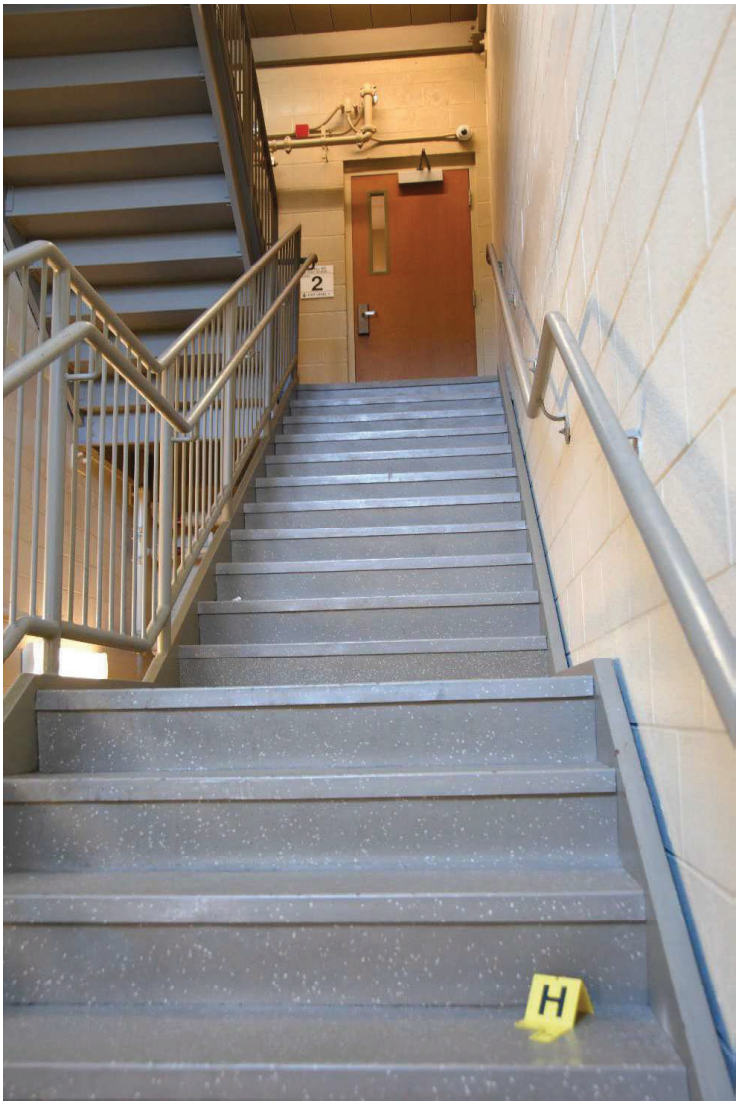


Figure 14 – Midrange photograph of stain on step between levels 1 and 2, marked with placard H (DSC_6418).

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Figure 15 – Midrange photograph of stains on floor and doorframe located on level 2, marked with placards I, J, and K (DSC_6408).



Figure 16 – Midrange photograph of stain on the underside of staircase, level 1, marked by the letter L (DSC_6422).

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Figure 17 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 3 (DSC_6382).

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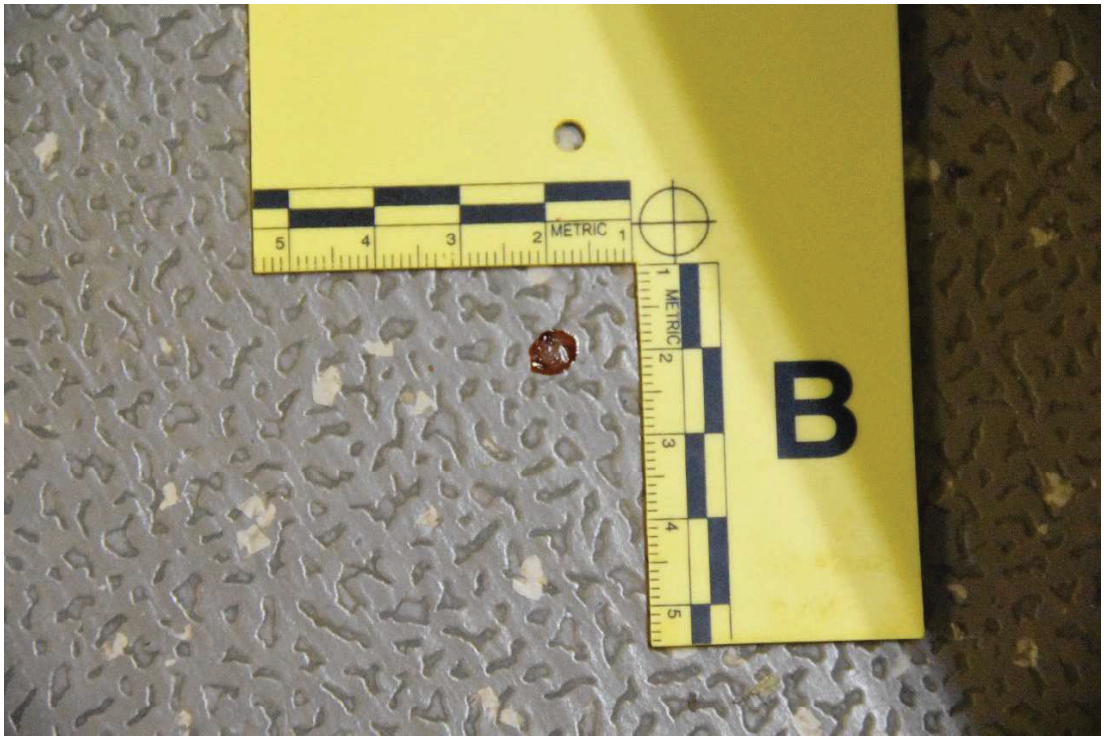


Figure 18 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6387).

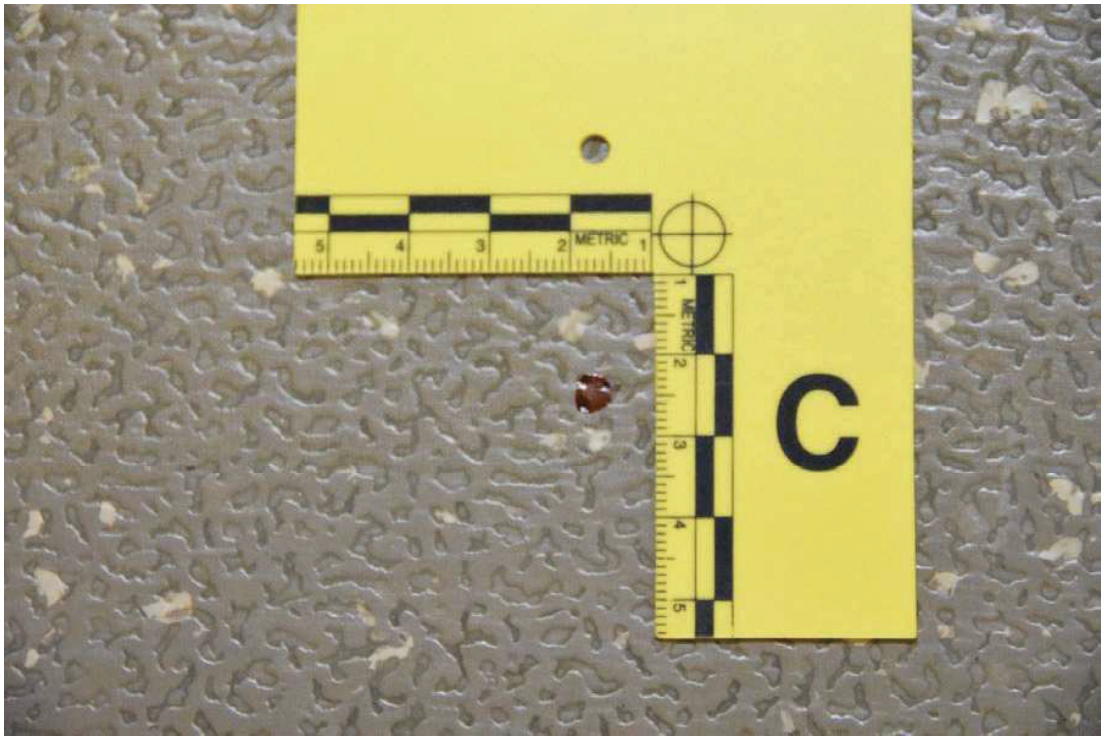


Figure 19 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6391).

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Figure 20 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6396).

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Figure 21 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6399).

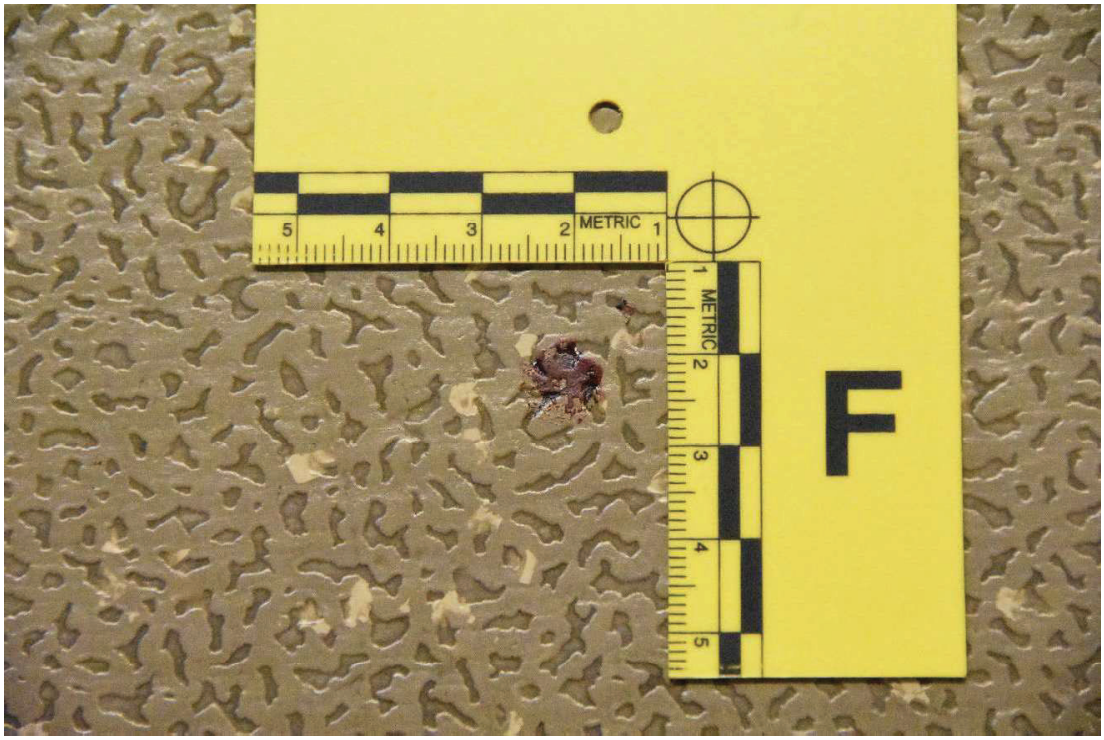


Figure 22 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6404).

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Figure 23 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3 (DSC_6406).



Figure 24 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2 (DSC_6421).

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Figure 25 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 near door, level 2 (DSC_6410).

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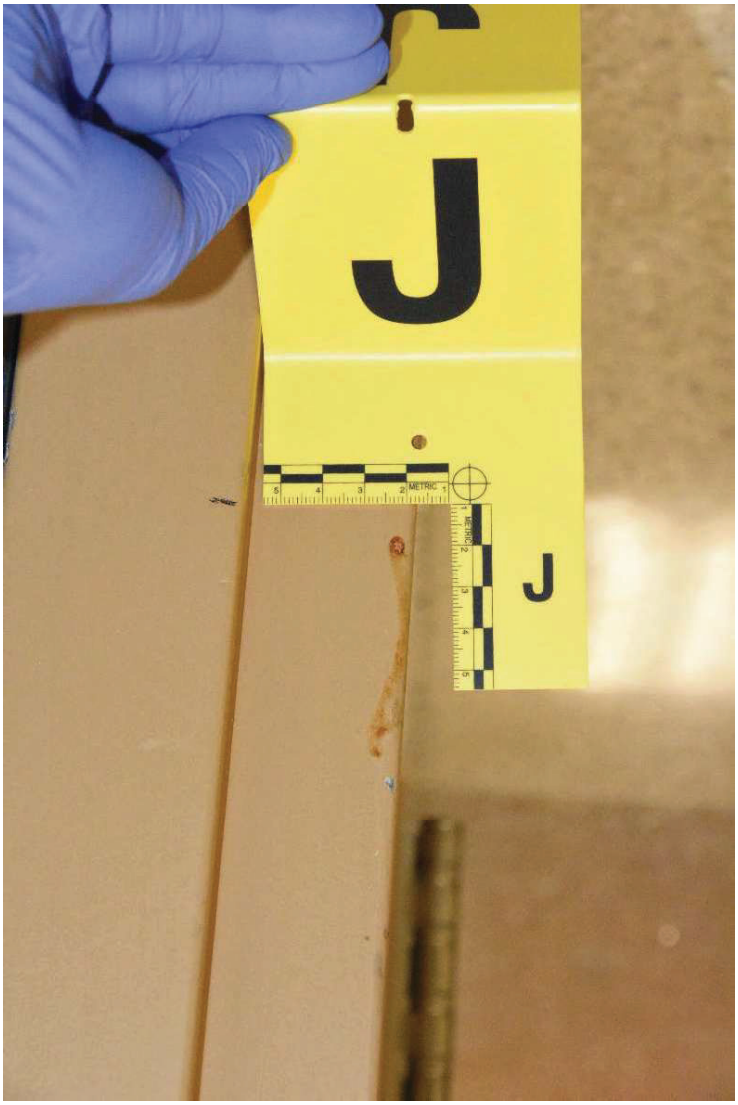


Figure 26 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 door frame, level 2 (DSC_6413).

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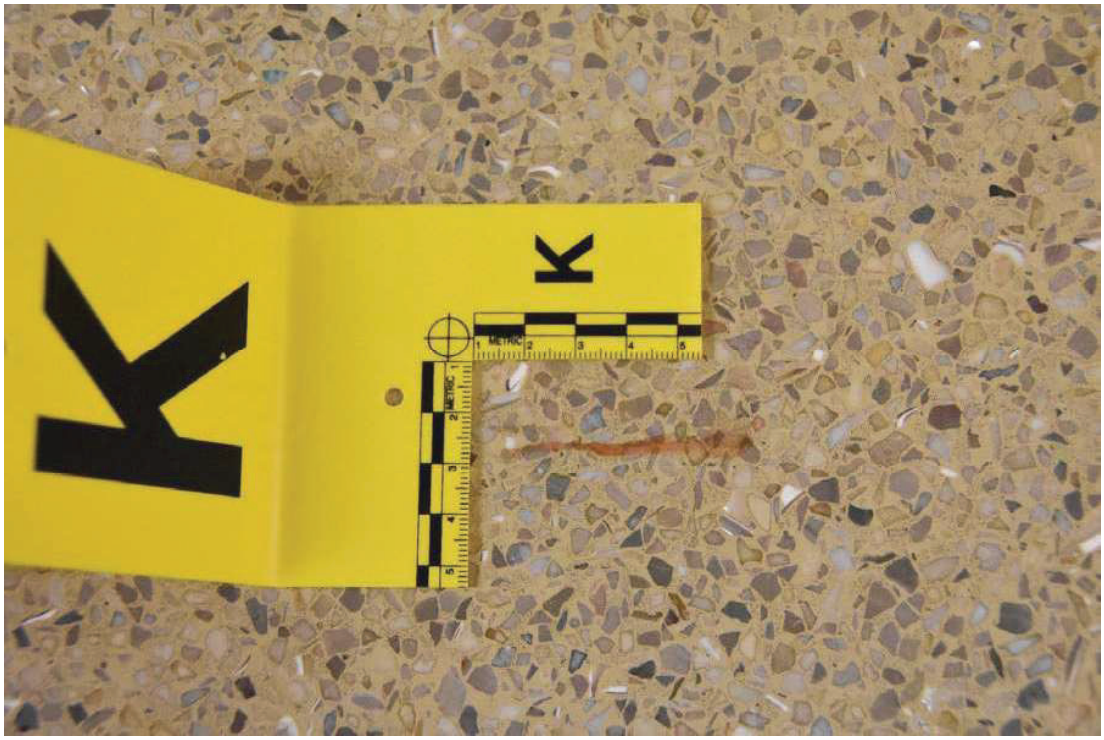


Figure 27 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 area near door, level 2 (DSC_6416).

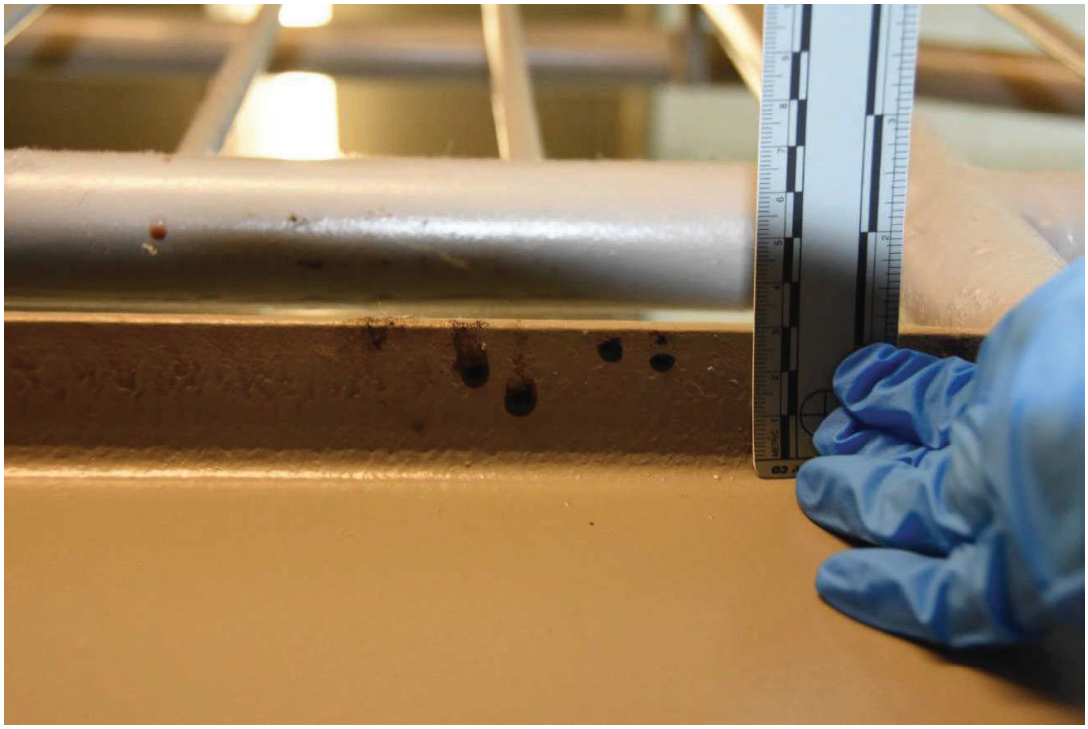


Figure 28 – Close up photograph of reddish brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 1 (DSC_6426).

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7. SCENE PROCESSING: PA WATKINS completed photographic coverage of the area using a Nikon D7200 camera. A total of (73) digital images were captured, all of which were burned to a DVD-R and entered into the NCISRA Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility under Log EDAC7, Item RRDQ6. A copy of the DVD-R is appended as Enclosure (A). Forensic Consultant (FC) Morgan CURRIE completed 3D laser scans of the stairwell at a later date, the results of which will be reported under separate cover. RA FOX collected samples of the reddish brown stains. No presumptive testing was conducted during collection.

8. EVIDENCE SEIZURE: The following items were seized as evidence and entered into the NCISRA Norfolk Consolidated Evidence Facility under Log Number TKNM8:

Item GTRC2 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 3, placard (A)

Item 3F1W2 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (B)

Item 1L7PW - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (C)

Item JHXR7 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (D)

Item D6QNN - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (E)

Item MXQ1N - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (F)

Item 5CA0T - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (G)

Item 1K3RH - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2, placard (H)

Item 2KXCX - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, near door, level 2, placard (I)

Item 134B8 - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 near door, level 2, placard (J)

Item 27UCQ - One swab of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5 near door, level 2, placard (K)

Item MEFC2 - One swabs of reddish/brown stain collected from Stairwell 5, level 1, placard (L)

Item DRD3B - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, level 3, placard (A)

Item GCL7Y - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (D)

Item 9K1GU - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, between levels 2 and 3, placard (E)

Item HNRF1 - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, between levels 1 and 2, placard (H)

Item NPRY1 - Two swabs of reddish/brown stain from Stairwell 5, level 1, placard (L)

9. SCENE RELEASE: The scene examination concluded at approximately 1525 hours.

PARTICIPANT(S)
Dara ELK, Special Agent, NCISRA Portsmouth, VA
Joy NAROWSKI, Special Agent, NCISRA Yorktown, VA
Lauren WATKINS, Special Agent, NCISRA Portsmouth, VA

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: 73 PHOTOGRAPHS/04JUN25

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1. On 31May25, NCIS initiated an investigation regarding a missing person report. The missing person was later identified as V/ A. R.), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). According to witnesses, V/ A. R. was last seen with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95 at his barracks located at Willis Manor (Building X-2), Room 335, 9712 Virginia Ave, Norfolk, VA on board Naval Station Norfolk. Reporting Forensic Consultant (RFC) responded to Building X-2, Room 335 to identify and document any suspected bloodstains and other items of potential forensic value on scene.

2. ARRIVAL, JURISDICTION, AND AUTHORIZATION

2.1. On 03Jun25 at approximately 2004 hours, Reporting Forensic Consultant (RFC), Participating Agents (PAs) Joy NAROWSKI, Alison FOX, Brandon MOORE, Ashley ULLOM, Lauren GODETTE and Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Danielle ORTIZ arrived at Building X-2, see figure 1. NCIS maintains primary jurisdiction. NCIS conducted a search of S/COPELAND's residence pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS).

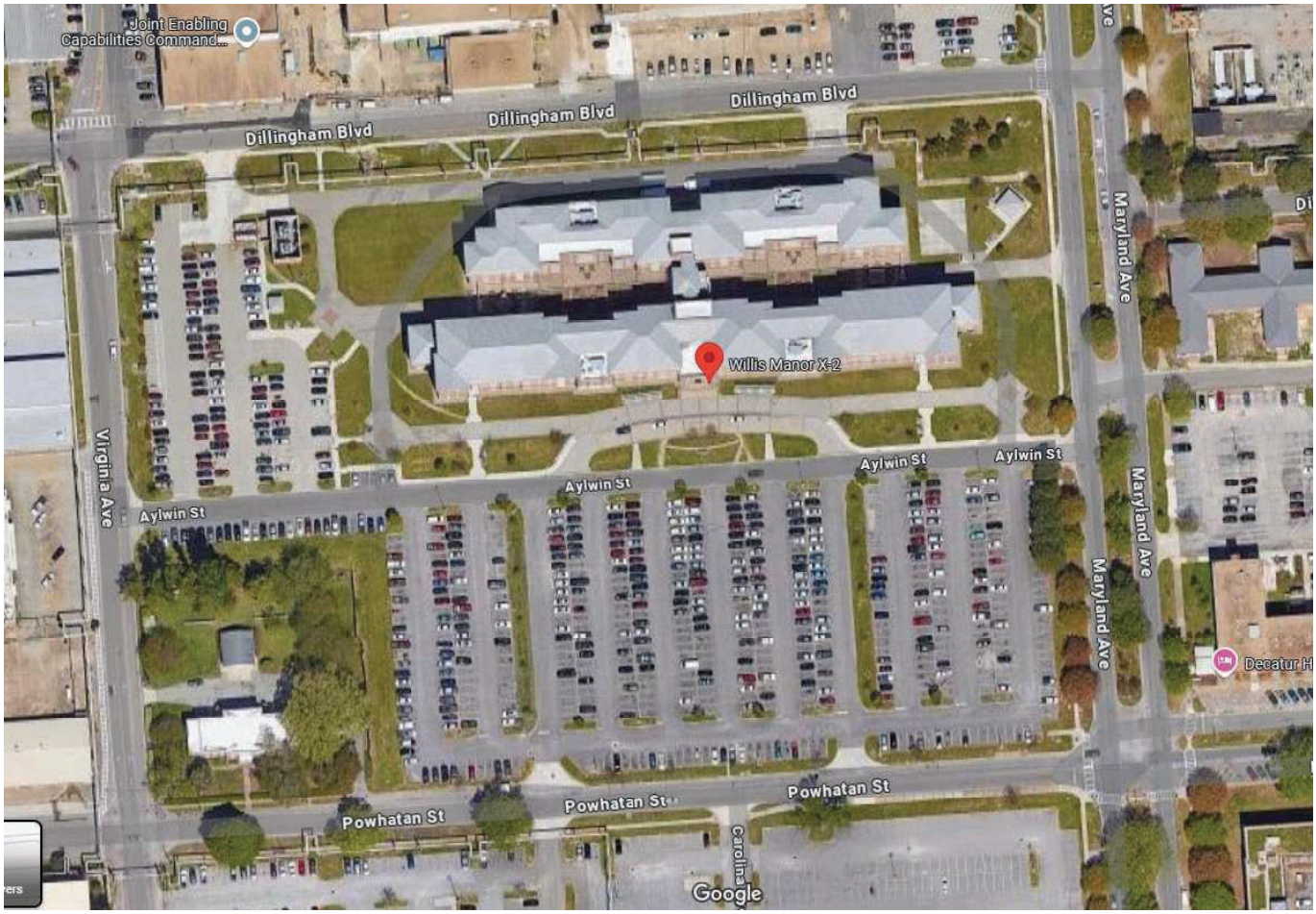


Figure 1: Google Maps aerial image of Willis Manor, Building X-2, on board Naval Station Norfolk, VA (retrieved from Google Maps 20Jul25).

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3. SCENE OBSERVATIONS—BUILDING X-2, ROOM 335

3.1. Building X-2 is a Navy unaccompanied housing military barracks with five floors containing multiple residences, see figure 2. Building X-2 has a parking lot located to the south of the building. Building X-2 is positioned in between Virginia Avenue and Maryland Avenue. Room 335 is located in the east wing, on the third floor, along the south side of the building.



Figure 2: Google image of Willis Manor, Building X-2, on board Naval Station Norfolk, VA (retrieved from Google Images on 20Jul25).

3.2. Upon entering Room 335, RFC observed a foyer which led into the kitchen. South of the kitchen was a living room. RFC observed a broken coffee table in the living room. The coffee table also contained two red plastic cups and an opened bottle of "Uptown Cocktails" Strawberry Margarita ready-to-drink cocktail. Parallel to the kitchen and living room were two suites containing two single beds running along the east and west end of the residence. S/COPELAND was assigned to Suite B. Suite B contained two single beds, two desks, two closets, two sink vanities, and a single half bathroom which contained a toilet and shower. S/COPELAND's bed and closet were identified with a placard labeled as "BA". S/COPELAND's bed and desk were located along the east wall of the suite. North of S/COPELAND's bedroom, RFC observed a foyer leading into the closet and bathroom. RFC created a digital sketch displaying the layout of Room 335, see figure 3.

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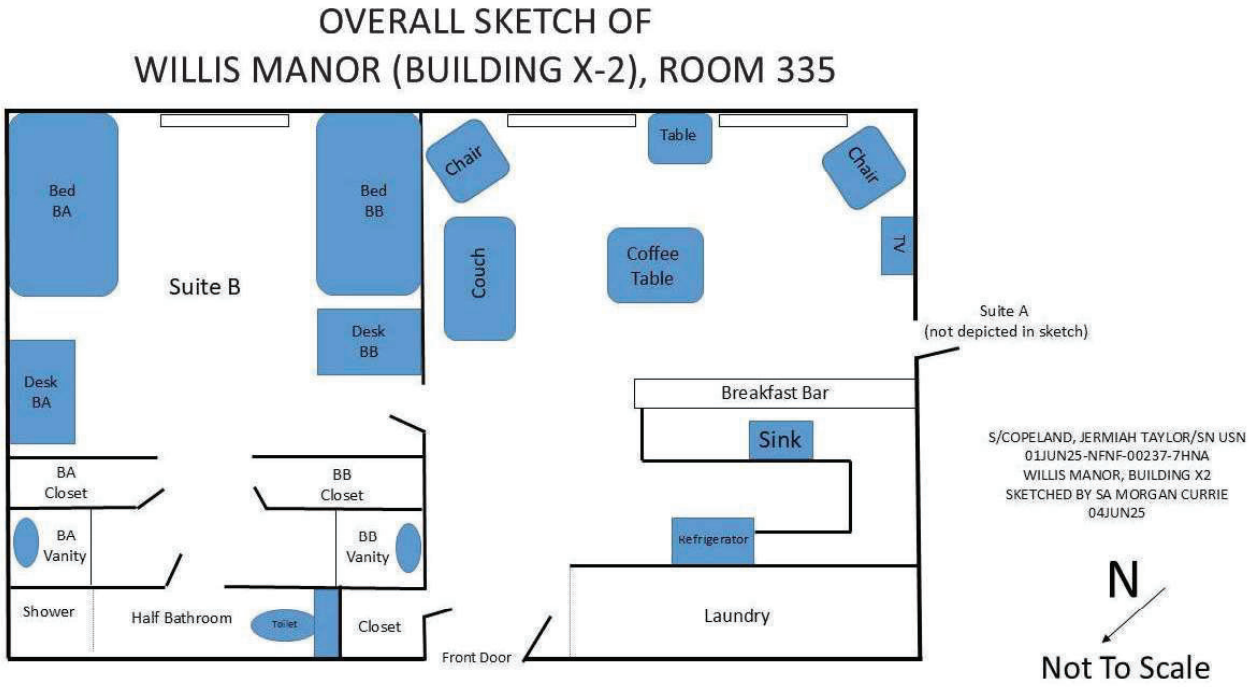


Figure 3: Digital sketch created by RFC of Room 335.

3.3. Figures 4-7 are photographs of Room 335 common area which contained a kitchen and living room.



Figure 4: Photograph of doorway of Room 335 (DSC_0008.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

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Figure 5: Photograph of kitchen inside Room 335 (DSC_0012.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).



Figure 6: Photograph of living room, kitchen and Suite A doorway (DSC_0022.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

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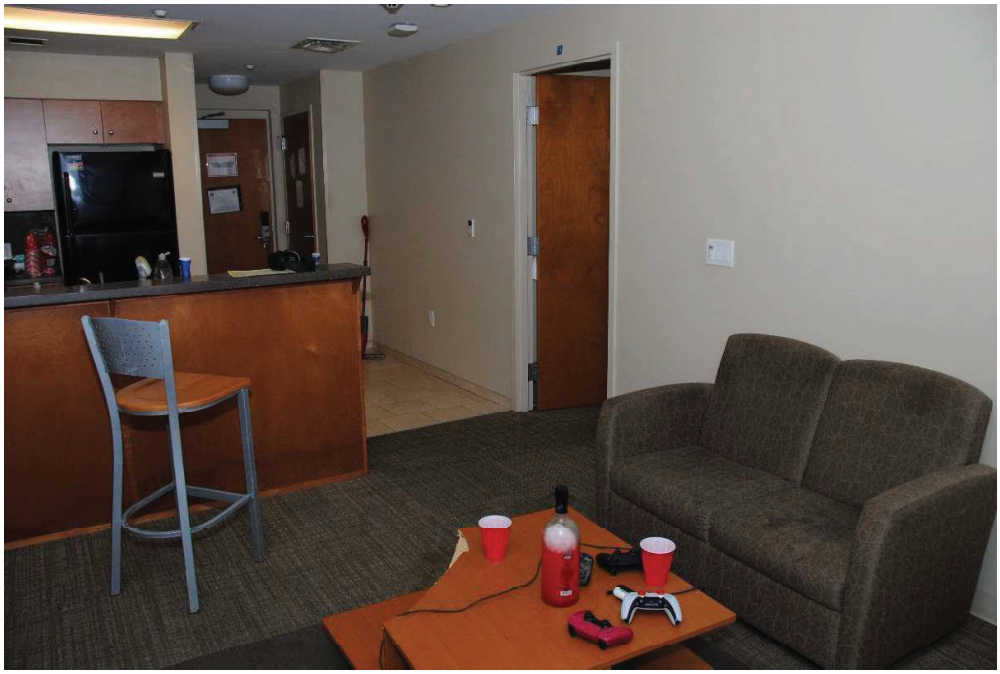


Figure 7: Photograph of living room, kitchen and Suite B doorway (DSC_0021.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

4. SCENE OBSERVATIONS—ROOM 335, SUITE B

4.1. RFC entered Suite B, see figures 8-14, and observed two single beds, two desks, two closets, two sink vanities, and a single half bathroom which contained a toilet and shower shared by the assigned suitemates. According to SSA ORTIZ, YN3 Sean MONAGHAN (YN3 MONAGHAN), USN, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron (HM 12), is the sole suitemate with S/COPELAND. SSA ORTIZ relayed YN3 MONAGHAN's belongings are assigned to bed, sink and closet labeled "BB" while S/COPELAND's belongings are assigned to bed, sink and closet labeled "BA".



Figure 8: Photograph of Suite B doorway (interior view), including the bed and desk belonging to YN3 MONAGHAN (DSC_0028.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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Figure 9: Photograph of beds and desk inside Suite B (DSC_0027.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

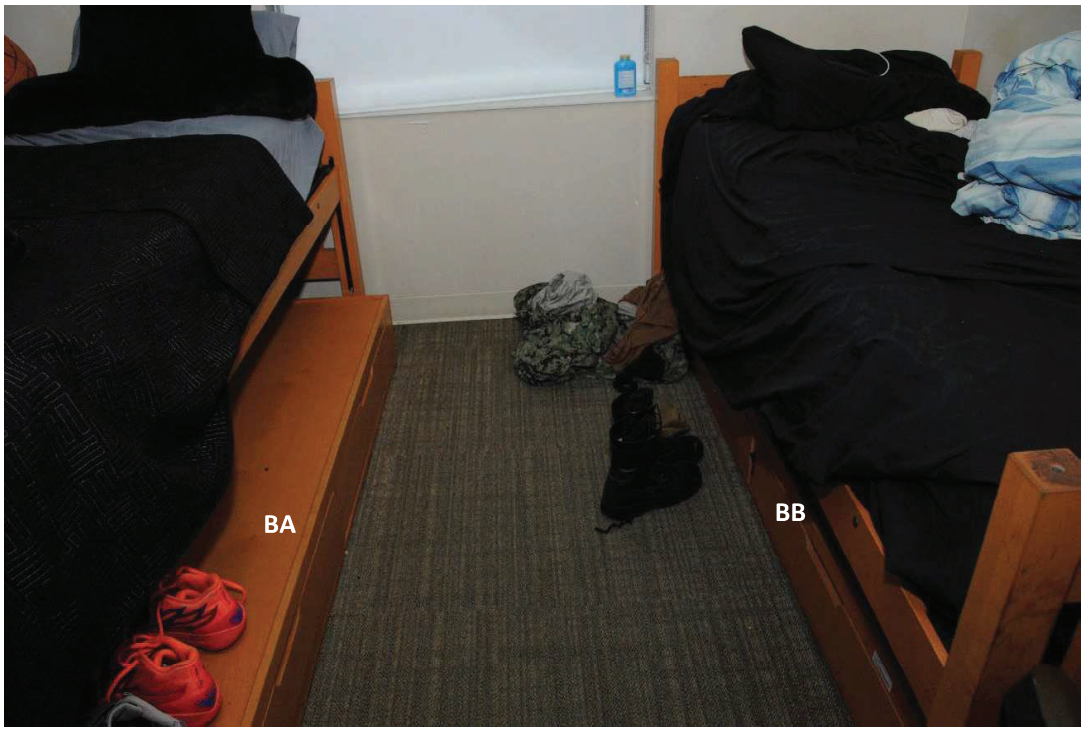


Figure 10: Photograph of beds inside Suite B (DSC_0033.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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Figure 11: Photograph of bed and desk BA inside Suite B (DSC_0024.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).



Figure 12: Photograph of bed and desk BA inside Suite B, and foyer leading into closet and bathroom (DSC_0029.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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Figure 13: Photograph of closet doors, half bathroom door and bathroom sink vanity (DSC_0060.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).



Figure 14: Photograph of closet doors "BB" and "BA" (Left: DSC_0057.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25, Right: DSC_0055.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text added).

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5. SCENE OBSERVATIONS—HALF BATHROOM INSIDE SUITE B

5.1. RFC entered the half bathroom within Suite B and did not identify any visible bloodstain evidence within this area of the residence.

6. BLUESTAR APPLICATION—SINK VANITY

6.1. RFC was notified by PA NAROWSKI that she observed a suspected bloodstain on the northeast wall above the vanity sink belonging to S/COPELAND, see figure 15. PA NAROWSKI and the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Major Case Response Team (MCRT) conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood on the stain using a Hemastix blood reagent test strip, yielding positive results. PA NAROWSKI and the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT documented the suspected bloodstain and seized a swab from the area. These actions are documented under a separate report.

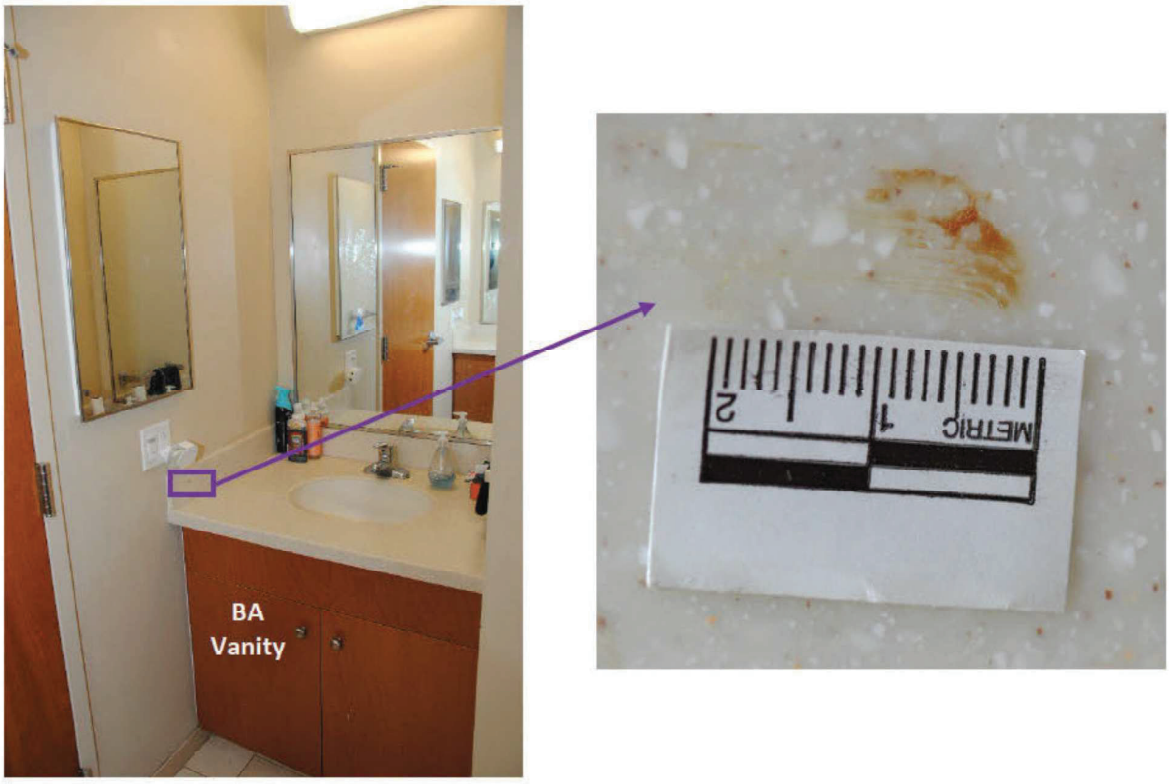


Figure 15: Photograph of sink vanity "BA" with callout to suspected bloodstain on northeast wall (Left: DSC_0053.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25, Right: DSC_0228.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25; text, line, arrow and box added).

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6.2. Listed on the Bluestar Forensics website, Bluestar is a chemical reagent which reveals the presence of blood in a large or minute/diluted quantity. The reaction occurs when Bluestar interacts with the heme component of blood producing a blue luminescence. False positives can occur when Bluestar comes in contact with household chemicals such as detergents, bleach or copper, per the Bluestar Forensic website, producing a white or faded blue luminescence. Prior to using Bluestar throughout the scene a control sample test was conducted producing a positive reaction.

6.3. RFC then conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood using a Bluestar forensic kit along the sink vanity and sink bowl belonging to S/COPELAND, yielding positive results. RFC attempted to capture photographs of the Bluestar reaction on the sink bowl prior to the collection of items deemed as forensic value but was unsuccessful. RFC collected a swab from the stain within this area and entered it into the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Evidence Custody System under Evidence Custody Document Number JQNT4:

Item# NAH9K—One (1) swab taken from inside bathroom sink bowl containing suspected blood after Bluestar application

7. BLUESTAR APPLICATION—CLOSET BA

7.1. The NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT completed a scene documentation of Room 335 which included photographs, a scene sketch, and notes. Several items of evidence were identified and seized. These actions are documented under a separate report. During the scene documentation, the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT requested assistance from Virginia Department of Emergency Management K9 Kira and Handler Andrew PISKE to identify human remains and/or other items of potential forensic value in the captioned investigation. K9 Kira and Handler PISKE conducted a search of Room 335, Suite B. K9 Kira and Handler PISKE alerted to the closet area labeled “BA”. RFC did not observe biological matter or suspected bloodstains in the closet with the unaided eye and subsequently the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT effected photographic coverage, see figure 16. RFC and the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT conducted a visual search of the belongings inside the closet and did not observe biological matter or suspected bloodstains. The NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT removed all belongings from the closet, see figure 17.

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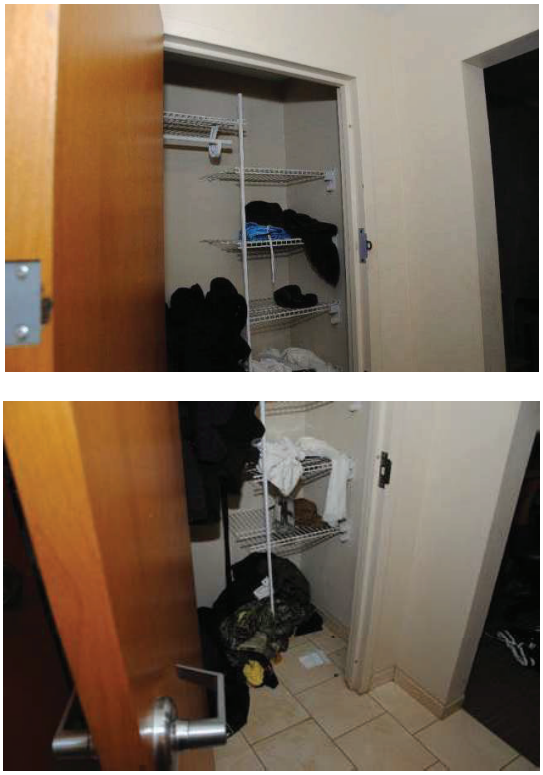


Figure 16: Photograph of Closet "BA" with S/COPELAND's belongings inside, interior view (Top: DSC_0041.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25, Bottom: DSC_0042.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 03Jun25).

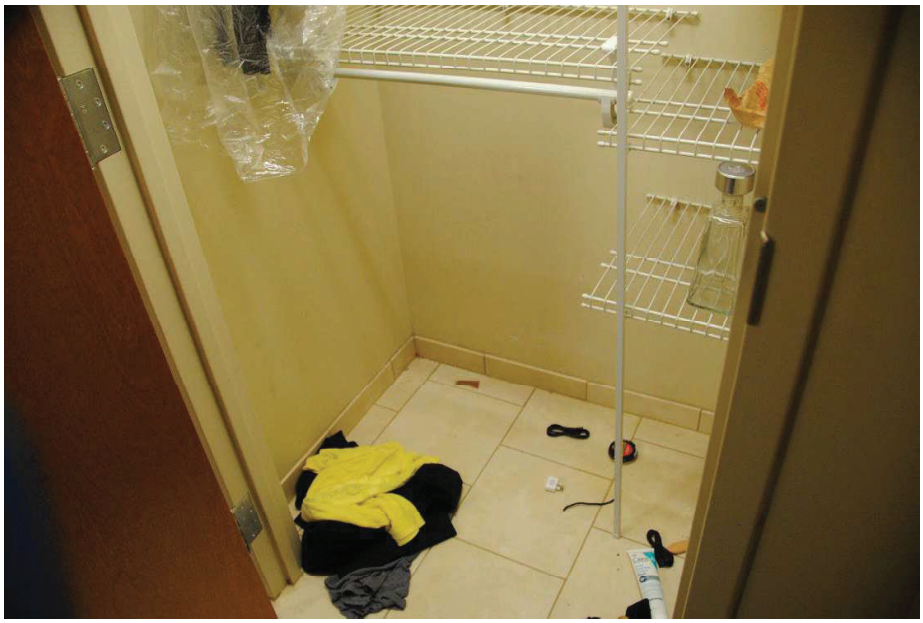


Figure 17: Photograph of Closet "BA" with belongings removed (DSC_0204.jpg—captured during scene documentation on 04Jun25).

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7.2. RFC then conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood using a BLUESTAR forensic kit, yielding positive results. RFC effected photographic coverage, see figure 18, and collected swabs from the stains within this area and entered it into the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Evidence Custody System under Evidence Custody Document Number JQNT4:

- Item# 0TXF0—Four (4) swabs taken from left rear corner of closet for suspected blood after Bluestar application



Figure 18: Photograph of Bluestar reaction inside closet "BA" (Top: MLC_0959.nef).

8. BLUESTAR APPLICATION—SUITE B BEDROOM

8.1. RFC conducted a preliminary test for the presence of blood using a BLUESTAR forensic kit along the carpet, adjacent to Closet "BA", into the doorway of Suite B, yielding positive results, see figures 19-21. Subsequently on 10Jun25, the NCISRA Norfolk, VA MCRT collected several items deemed as forensic value to include the carpeted areas which tested positive for the presence of blood using the BLUESTAR forensic kit. These actions are documented under a separate report.

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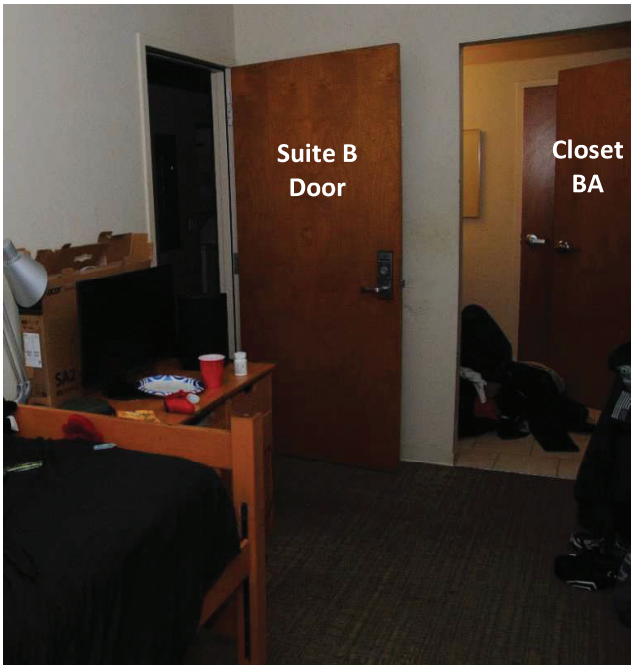


Figure 19: Photograph of carpeted area between Closet "BA" and doorway of Suite B (DSC_0241.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 04Jun25; text added).

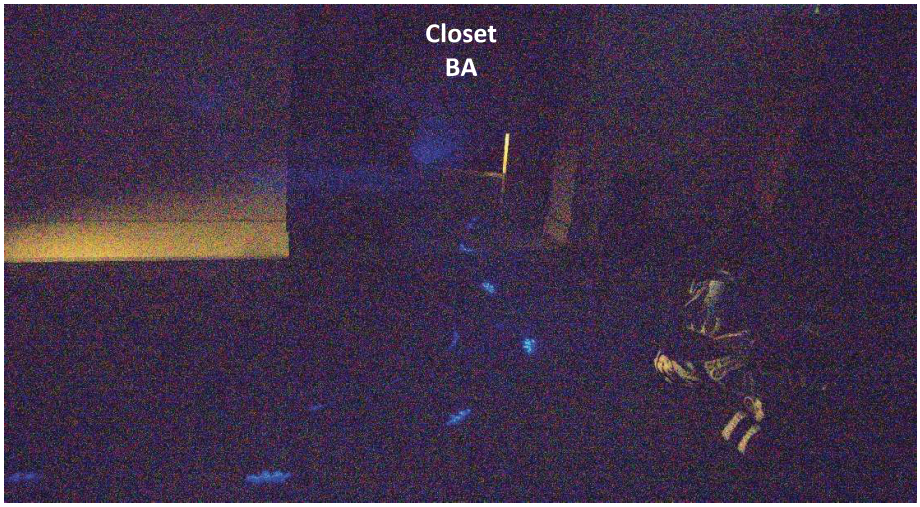


Figure 20: Photograph of Bluestar reaction from foyer near closet "BA" to Suite B carpeted area (Top: MLC_0962.nef-cropped, brightness increased by 10%).

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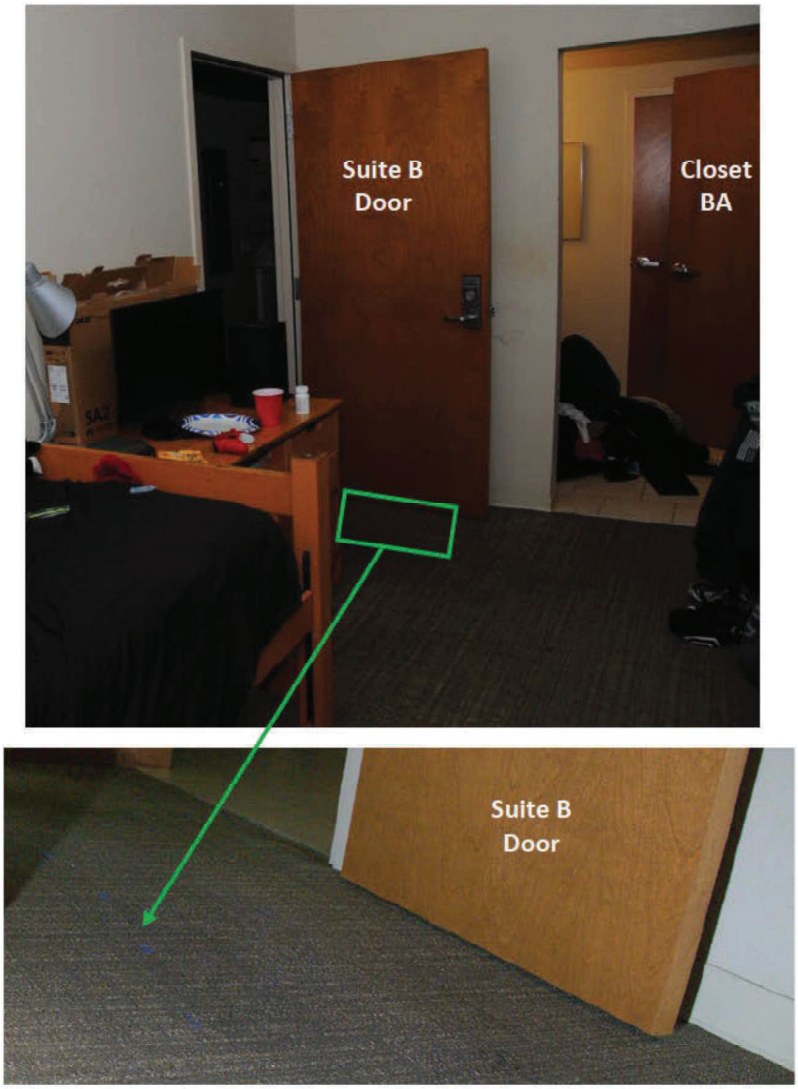


Figure 21: Photograph of Bluestar reaction on carpeted area inside Suite B (Top: DSC_0241.jpg—cropped, captured during scene documentation on 04Jun25; Bottom: MLC_0965.nef-cropped; text, line, arrow and box added).

8.2. RFC observed a heavy concentration of Bluestar in the closet, forming a linear trail that gradually faded as it extended between Suite B and the living room. RFC attempted to capture photographs of the BLUESTAR reaction in the living room but was unsuccessful.

9. PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

9.1. On 04Jun25, RFC took a series of photographs utilizing an NCIS issued a Nikon Z 6II camera (SN# 3068881) with a Nikon SB-5000 external flash. A total of eighteen (18) color photographs were exposed and subsequently downloaded onto one (1) Compact Disc-Recordable (CD-R); Enclosure (A) pertains. RFC entered the CD-R into the NCISRA Norfolk, VA Evidence Custody System under Evidence Custody Document Number 27C4G:

Item# 2UEEH: One (1) CD-R Containing (18) Photographs of Bluestar Reaction

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10. SCENE RELEASE

10.1. At approximately 0138 hours on 04Jun25, all NCIS personnel locked and secured the residence and departed the scene.

ENCLOSURE(S)

(A) One (1) CD-R Containing (18) Photographs of Bluestar Reaction/04Jun25

Morgan Currie
Special Agent / Forensic Consultant
Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)
Technical Services Field Office (TSFO)
Office of Forensic Support – Norfolk

Administratively reviewed by: Jeffrey Kierman
Supervisory Special Agent / Forensic Consultant
Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)
Technical Services Field Office (TSFO)
Office of Forensic Support – TSFQ

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 10JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

REVIEW OF USACIL DNA REPORT

1. On 10Jun25, the US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL) completed a Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) Report pertaining to items of evidence submitted for examination; Enclosure (A) pertains.

2. The results of examination revealed blood was identified on Exhibit 6 (closet swabs/SCENE-COPELAND BARRACKS) and Exhibit 9 (swabs placard D/SCENE-stairwell). Additionally, a female DNA profile was obtained from Exhibit 17.1 (swab of water bottle/SCENE-[redacted V/A.R.] RESIDENCE), which is believed to be from [redacted V/A.R.]), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

3. Regarding Exhibit 6 (closet swabs), the report revealed a DNA mixture interpreted as originating from two individuals was detected. The female DNA profile obtained from Exhibit 17.1 (swab of water bottle), believed to be from [redacted V/A.R.], and the DNA profile obtained from CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, are included as contributors to the mixture.

4. Regarding Exhibit 9 (swabs placard D), the report showed the DNA profile obtained matches the DNA profile from Exhibit 17.1 (swab of water bottle), which is believed to be from [redacted V/A.R.].

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) USACIL DNA REPORT/10JUN25

REPORTED BY: CAROLINE E ROBINSON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of [redacted]. The interview took place in the lounge area on third floor of building X2, Willis Manor, located on Naval Station Norfolk (NOB), and was not recorded.

2. As background, [redacted] and S/COPELAND were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, NCIS and S/COPELAND's mother contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and [redacted]. The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms in Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at [redacted] 's door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

3. During his interview, S/COPELAND described his relationship with [redacted] as co-workers. S/COPELAND stated he texted with [redacted] on Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss recipes and ingredients for tacos. S/COPELAND stated [redacted] came over to his barracks room, made tacos and they both consumed alcohol. S/COPELAND explained [redacted] gradually became more upset as the night progressed and they spoke about her current and past romantic relationships. S/COPELAND stated [redacted] spoke on the phone to two (2) ex-boyfriends, both of which were confrontational calls. One call was with an ex-boyfriend he still believed was located in Texas (NFI) and the other call was with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95.

4. S/COPELAND explained [redacted] and HT3 GILLESPIE argued over returning a motorcycle helmet and that HT3 GILLESPIE wanted it back. S/COPELAND said [redacted] explained her relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE was toxic and described her most recent ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, as at first being a sweetheart and then he wasn't. S/COPELAND said ET3 RICH and HT3 GILLESPIE do not get along, that they have issues with each other, and opined it was due to their relationships with [redacted] S/COPELAND said HT3 GILLESPIE has come to the galley on the ship a lot, which sometimes caused issues. S/COPELAND said he did not know of any instances of HT3 GILLESPIE being violent toward [redacted] and that HT3 GILLESPIE was more of a topic of conversation than ET3 RICH was during their evening together.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **01JUN25**

S/COPELAND described his role during the evening as a sounding board for V/A.R. .

5. S/COPELAND recalled one of his roommates walked into the barracks suite (common area) and asked if V/A.R. was okay as she was upset, which he (S/COPELAND) responded yes.

6. S/COPELAND explained V/A.R. spent the night in his barracks room and they did not have sexual intercourse. S/COPELAND said he was supposed to work on Thursday 29May25, however, he woke up late as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room at approximately 0900 and woke he and V/A.R.. S/COPELAND said he misunderstood FCC PARKER and did not report to work. S/COPELAND said he borrow his roommate's vehicle and drove V/A.R. back to her barracks at approximately 1000 hours. S/COPELAND said this was the last time he saw V/A.R..

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Bernadette DUFFY conducted an interview of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to the Unauthorized Absence of V/A.R. [redacted], USN, DDG-95 and himself.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of his Article 31(b) Rights by use of Military Suspect's Acknowledgement and Waiver of Rights form for an alleged violation of Article 86 (Absence without Leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements). S/COPELAND, with full understanding of his rights, elected to waive his right to remain silent; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. S/COPELAND was asked to recall the events on the night of 28JUN25 and what transpired the following days. S/COPELAND stated he and V/A.R. [redacted]Z were talking about food and making tacos. S/COPELAND continued saying, V/RESENDIZ was going to come over to his barracks, located at Building X-2, Willis Manor, Room 335, to make salsa and eat dinner. S/COPELAND explained he went to the Food Lion and bought the ingredients to make tacos and then he went back to X-2. S/COPELAND stated he then went and picked V/A.R. [redacted]Z up from her barracks, Miller Hall, and brought her back to his room. COPELAND explained later he utilized his roommates vehicle, later identified as a belonging to AR John CALISSE, USN, VAW-124 and being a white Jeep Compass, to pick up V/A.R. [redacted]Z. S/COPELAND stated V/A.R. [redacted]Z was wearing a black shirt, black pants, slip on Uggs, a bracelet, and a hair clip. S/COPELAND stated V/A.R. [redacted]Z was also carrying her purple backpack. S/COPELAND stated he could not recall what time he picked V/A.R. [redacted] up but after returning to the room they began to make tacos.

5. S/COPELAND stated after eating, him and V/A.R. [redacted]Z started listening to music and started talking. S/COPELAND explained V/A.R. [redacted] began talking about HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, and how she saw him with another girl on his motorcycle and how it had really upse V/A.R. [redacted]. S/COPELAND stated V/A.R. [redacted]Z then text HT3 GILLESPIE "Fuck you" and then called an ex-boyfriend (NFI) from Texas. S/COPELAND explained he was sitting on the

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

couch, and she was sitting on floor talking to the ex-boyfriend. S/COPELAND continued explaining how whe [V/A.R.] ended the phone call with the ex-boyfriend, she started to call other people (NFI) and talk about how "GILLESPIE's not shit."

6. S/COPELAND explained he did not know much about the relationship between HT3 GILLESPIE and [V/A.R.]Z, but S/COPELAND did recall [V/A.R.]Z was mad about the amount of money she would spend on HT3 GILLESPIE. S/COPELAND provided the example of HT3 GILLESPIE needed a lawyer and [V/A.R.]Z gave him $500.00 to hire one even though HT3 GILLESPIE could have received a public defender. S/COPELAND did not believe HT3 GILLESPIE and [V/A.R.]Z were in any physical altercations or abusive relationship. S/COPELAND stated [V/A.R.]Z went on a "rampage" and was becoming "agitated." S/COPELAND stated after completing the phone calls [V/A.R.]Z was becoming "emotional" and "crying."

7. S/COPELAND stated one of the roommates, "the Mexican" later identified as PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124), walked into the common area of the room and asked i [V/A.R.] was okay. S/COPELAND stated he told PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ, [V/A.R.]Z was fine and PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ proceeded to his room. S/COPELAND stated the night ended and they both went to sleep together in S/COPELAND's bed. S/COPELAND stated they did not have sexual intercourse. After going to sleep, S/COPELAND was awoken by FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, knocking on the door of his bedroom. S/COPELAND said he could not remember what time it was but knew the sun was up. S/COPELAND stated FCC PARKER asked if the person in his bed wa [V/A.R.], which S/COPELAND replied it wa [V/A.R.] S/COPELAND explained FCC PARKER told him to get to work and asked if he had a ride, which S/COPELAND stated he told FCC PARKER one of his roommates could give him a ride to work. S/COPELAND admitted though he did not go to work due to "one of his roommates" not coming home. S/COPELAND further explained, him being UA was a big misunderstanding because he had the weekend off and he did not realize if you are marked UA for one day, you are marked UA for the days you remain away from work.

8. S/COPELAND stated he was marked UA Thursday, 29JUN25 until Sunday, 01MAY25 when base security located him within his barracks room. When asked his whereabouts for Friday and Saturday, S/COPELAND responded, he stayed in the barracks both days but would move from lounge to lounge. S/COPELAND stated he mostly hung out in the 5th floor lounge and Ms. Mary (NFI) could vouch for his whereabouts during the time frame.

9. RA asked S/COPELAND about the morning of 29JUN25 and what had transpired after FCC PARKER left the room. S/COPELAND recalled him an [V/A.R.] woke up and cleaned the kitchen and [V/A.R.]Z left in an Uber, later clarified to be a Z-Trip.

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10. RA asked S/COPELAND if he would sign a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellphone, S/COPELAND agreed to signing a PASS and provided his passcode, 980377. Prior to signing the PASS, S/COPELAND requested to call his mother, and would not sign the PASS; Enclosure (C) pertains. PA asked S/COPELAND if he would be fine with answering further questions and call his mother later, S/COPELAND agreed.

11. RA had previously informed S/COPELAND NCIS was conducting a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) in his barracks room and the common area and began to ask questions about S/COPELAND's barracks room and his electronics. S/COPELAND stated he had an iPhone15 in his room and a PlayStation 5 in the common room.

12. RA inquired about V/A.R.'s electronics to include her iPhone. S/COPELAND stated the only electronic V/A.R. had with her was her iPhone15. S/COPELAND confirmed the Apple iWatch was also his, which was located in his barracks room.

13. RA asked S/COPELAND if the statement he gave was true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, which S/COPELAND stated this statement was the correct statement. RA then confronted S/COPELAND on the discretions between his previous statement, given on 01JUN25 and the statement he gave during this interview.

14. RA asked S/COPELAND about him and V/A.R. being naked on the floor by the couch, S/COPELAND denied being on the floor naked with V/A.R. . S/COPELAND stated he and V/A.R. fell asleep in his bed, clothed.

15. RA asked S/COPELAND about him changing his story about dropping V/A.R. off at her barracks, to V/A.R. leaving on her own after cleaning, to which S/COPELAND stated he did not remember saying he had previously dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks. RA asked S/COPELAND about how he knew V/A.R. was taking a Z-Trip from his barracks versus walking from his barracks, and S/COPELAND stated he just assumed V/A.R. had taken a Z-Trip back to her barracks.

16. RA inquired about S/COPELAND telling FCC PARKER he would wait for his roommate to get home to take S/COPELAND to work. RA asked about S/COPELAND's roommate's work schedule and why he would tell FCC PARKER the roommate would take him to work knowing his roommate does not get home until approximately 1600-1700. S/COPELAND stated he would not ask anyone else to take him to work. S/COPELAND stated he did not know when his roommate would be home due to a squadron's working hours being different from the ships work schedule.

17. PA conducted another PASS for a backpack, barracks room, and

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electronics, S/COPELAND signed the PASS; Enclosure (D) pertains.

18. Shortly after singing the PASS, RA, PA, and S/COPELAND left NCIS and travelled to S/COPELAND's barracks room to execute the PASS in his presence.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25
(B) MILITARY RIGHTS/03JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION UNSIGNED/03JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION SIGNED/03MAY25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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MS. BEA: Okay. I didn't know what you prefer, so you all that.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

MS. BEA: Yeah, no problem. I'll be right back with you. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: All right. Thank you.

[Ms. Bea departed the room.]

MS. BEA: Sorry, Jeremiah, for that delay. You good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I'm fine.

MS. BEA: Did you eat?

CSSN COPELAND: I ate a little.

MS. BEA: Do you want more and CheezIts?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. If you change your mind, let me know, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Jess introduced herself, right? You know Justin?

Yeah.

SA GOKEY: I'll do it again. Oh, just for, you know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Special Agent Jessica Gokey.

MS. BEA: I'm still Bea.

CSSN COPELAND: [Inaudible 00:07:49.]

SA GOKEY: Your CAC is it in your wallet?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. [Hands wallet to CSSN Copeland.]

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am. [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: All righty. I'll put that back out here with your stuff. All right.

Okay. So, I know we talked Sunday a little bit about what's going on, but that was more like super informal. Now, we're in like the more formal setting, so I'm just going to get some information from you, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am. All right.

Just need--okay. What day did you report to the ship, roughly?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe like February 21st.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Of this year, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okey-dokey. What--you're CSSN, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Branch? U.S.

Sex?

CSSN COPELAND: Male.

SA GOKEY: Race?

CSSN COPELAND: Black. African American.

SA GOKEY: Okay. U.S. citizen?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Do you have a clearance?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's your full social?

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: Just kidding.

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

CSSN COPELAND: [Redacted.]

SA GOKEY: [Redacted.]

All right. Date of birth?

CSSN COPELAND: PII

SA GOKEY: Got another '05.

MS. BEA: It just makes us feel old.

SA GOKEY: It makes me feel old. I was a junior in high school.

How tall are you?

CSSN COPELAND: Like five-ten. Five-nine and a half.

SA GOKEY: I'll give you five-ten.

Weight?

CSSN COPELAND: Like 157.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Hair color?

CSSN COPELAND: Black.

SA GOKEY: Place of birth?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted].

SA GOKEY: [redacted]. Was that [redacted]?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Is it [redacted]?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted].

SA GOKEY: All right. Eye color?

CSSN COPELAND: Brown.

SA GOKEY: Brown. Okay. When are you set to rotate?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't even know.

SA GOKEY: No? Okay.

Is this your first enlistment?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, when did you enlist?

CSSN COPELAND: I joined the Navy July 13th, 2023.

SA GOKEY: 13th, July 23. Okay. I see you got tattoos. What's your favorite?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably this one. {Pointing to left forearm.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's it say?

CSSN COPELAND: In life, we all suffer, but I'll find my way through the darkness.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is that from the Bible?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: What's it from?

CSSN COPELAND: Just a quote.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And that's your left arm?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. And you currently reside at PII?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Room number?

CSSN COPELAND: PII.

SA GOKEY: Are you Alpha Bravo?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe--I don't even know.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Bravo.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then in the room, do you know if you're---

-

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I'm Alpha.

SA GOKEY: You're Alpha in the room. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's a good note--a good phone number for

you?

CSSN COPELAND: PII.

SA GOKEY: PII.

CSSN COPELAND: PII.

SA GOKEY: PII.

CSSN COPELAND: PII.

SA GOKEY: PII Okay. Good email?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GOKEY: Seven at Gmail. Okay. Do you have a vehicle?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What is your home address of record?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GOKEY: Upland?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is that Durham?

CSSN COPELAND: No, that's in [redacted].

SA GOKEY: Oh, [redacted].

Okay. Do you know the zip code?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted].

SA GOKEY: [redacted].

Okay. Highest level of education?

CSSN COPELAND: High school diploma.

SA GOKEY: High school. Okay.

You married?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. Who's your next to kin?

CSSN COPELAND: My mom.

SA GOKEY: Mom. What's Mama's name?

CSSN COPELAND: Rochelle Brown. R-O-C-H-E-L-L. And like--like the color brown.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know Mom's phone number by chance?

CSSN COPELAND: [redacted]

SA GOKEY: All right. Most--most people don't know their parents' number or they're next to kin.

Do you have a civilian occupation? Like, do you Uber Eats or anything on the side?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Do you want to see that?

MS. BEA: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I figured. We'll just have--have you hold onto that.

Okay. So, I know from past experience you've been down this road before with Ms. Bea here, and kind of like what--why we were at your room today. So, we're executing a CASS, which is a Command Authorized Search and Seizure because [redacted] that was the last place, you know, we--you--somebody saw her, me being you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, that's why we're doing that. Right? So, right now we're classifying her as UA.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And I would like to talk to you about the time that you were also UA and some other inconsist--inconsistencies I've

gotten from the previous statement that we had in order to protect you. I want to read you your rights.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And then, we can discuss further if you want to, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. If you don't mind, I'm going to scoot a little closer.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I am going to read this to you. All right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And then, whenever I say like, "One," and then I read it, I'm going to ask you if you understand.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: You're going to say yes or no. If you understand. Yes. If you don't know, and then I'll explain further for you. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, the place is in NCIS U-40. That is this building. The date is 03 June 25. You, Jeremiah Copeland, have been advised by me, Special Agent Jessica Gokey, that you were suspected of Article 86, unauthorized absence, and Article 107, false official.

You have also been advised that:

One, you have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: I understand the right, but what is Article 107 for false official?

SA GOKEY: So, it's the false official statement. So, I'm going to ask you questions that could be incriminating.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: About, you know, the story that we talked about on Sunday.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: So, because you're military, you guys get----

CSSN COPELAND: Articles.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. You guys and you also get to get told what we're talking about it, so there's no surprises. So I am--I'm going to ask you questions that could be incriminating. So, therefore, I have to read you that right? Or excuse me, that article.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I'll read number one again. All right. You have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'm going to ask you to initial it, it is not that you're waiving your right at that time.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I understand.

SA GOKEY: Okay, perfect. Just saying that you understand.

All right, and so I'll read number two. Any statement you make can be used against you in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceedings.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, go ahead for me.

Three. You have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by you at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as your counsel at no cost to you, or both.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, go ahead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: Four. You have the right to have your retained lawyer and or appointed military lawyer present during this interview.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And five, you may terminate this interview at any time for any reason.

Do you understand this right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, go ahead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: All right. So, one through five. Do you have any questions about that at all?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay, perfect.

So, at this time, Jeremiah, do you want to continue this conversation?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Go ahead and read that paragraph out loud for me.

CSSN COPELAND: I understand my rights as relative to me and--to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appoint lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this

time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made with me--or been made to me.

SA GOKEY: Perfect. Have I threatened you today?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Has any other agent threatened you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Have we made any promises to you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. If you would just initial before and after that paragraph for me.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: And then, I'll have you sign and date.

CSSN COPELAND: [Did as directed.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, I will sign it, and I'll have Ms. Bea sign it as well.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Ms. Bea. [Hands document to Ms. Bea.]

Thank you. All right.

Okay. All right, Jeremiah. Okay. So, if you need a break, if you need to use the restroom, or you need more snackies, let me know. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, we know we're talking about V/ A. R.

Can you go ahead and tell me, you know, the events leading up to why we're here right now?

CSSN COPELAND: So, I mean, I--what is it? We were at work, and she gave me a recipe to make salsa, and I was like, "I'm probably going to make it by tonight, or some shit." So, she was like, "Cool." And she was like, "If you do end up making tacos, then just call me." I was like, "All right. Bet. Cool."

So, I got home. By the time I got off work and everything, I called her and I was like, "I'm finna make tacos." And she was like, "All right." So, I told her I was just going to go to the store just to grab the rest of the stuff that was on the--like on the menu that she gave me. And then from there I went to the store, got everything, and then I came and picked her up, and we came back home. From there, we cooked--well, she made the salsa. We made tacos. She taught me how to make these, like, little tortillas, like out of the corn tortillas.

From there everything was cool, and we were just chilling, playing music, listening music. From there, she--it took a left turn when I told her something about one of the dudes that she messes with on the boat. And then, from there she was just, she got on the floor and she called one of her ex-boyfriends from Texas. We were sitting there talking for about maybe like 15,

20 minutes, maybe 25, just talking about the situation. Everything.

After that, she hung up, and she was just going on a call spree, calling hella people. And then from there, I guess she just broke down, whatever, saying how he did this. He did that. Cool. And then, from there, my roommate walked--walked in the room, and he asked if everything was good. I was like, "Just let her have a moment." because she's just sitting there crying. I'm not going to sit there and entertain that. So, we went to sleep. The morning comes, and obviously, I had to be at work, so I didn't show up. My Chief came in the room and he asked, "What's going on?" I was just saying, "I'm just having a late start." And he was like, "All right. Cool." He told me, "Do I have a ride to work?" And I said, "I, at the current moment, I was like, my roommate can take me, but I have--I have to wait until he gets off work." So, my Chief was like, "All right. Cool."

And so, my roommate got off late, so by the time my roommate got home, like they were already gone. So, I was just like, "Fuck it." And I was just like, I wasn't going to go in. So, I didn't go in. And then Friday comes, Saturday goes by, and then CS1 and my chief text me saying that I'm being marked UA. And from there, I was just like, all right.

And Sunday comes, the MAs come because my mom called because I haven't contacted my mom. So, I guess that part it was a well welfare check.

So, Sunday, I ended up going to the ship. And from there, I did urinalysis. And after urinalysis, they released me, and I went back home.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you went to--so, let's go back to when--what day did she come over?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You're positive it was Thursday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am. I believe it was Thursday.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, you were going to make tacos, and you were going to go to the store to get the ingredients?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And you did go to the store?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: How did you get to the store?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate took me to the store.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Which roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't specifically know his name, but he's across the room from me. He's the black African dude.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the--the black guy in the other room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What kind of car does he drive?

CSSN COPELAND: White Jeep.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he took you, or you just took his keys?

CSSN COPELAND: No, he took me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What store did you go to?

CSSN COPELAND: We went to Food Lion.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was that--which one?

CSSN COPELAND: I have no clue. There's like a lot of Food Lions.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair.

Do you know about what time you guys went?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You said you called her right, though?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I FaceTimed her.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you FaceTimed her, and then did you go to the store right after you FaceTimed her?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I hung up, and then after that, I was just telling him. I said, "Cool. Can we go to the store?" And he was like, "Yeah, let's go."

SA GOKEY: Okay.

MS. BEA: Did he go in with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm?

MS. BEA: Did he go in with you? Like, y'all were both doing some shopping?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, he went in with me.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. And then, what'd you do after you left the store?

CSSN COPELAND: We went back home.

SA GOKEY: Back to your building?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, how did V/ A. R. get there?

CSSN COPELAND: I came and picked her up.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And did--in what car?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate's car.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did he go with you on that one?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I came and picked her up.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

MS. BEA: Same Jeep you said?

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

MS. BEA: Same Jeep?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Same roommate. Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you guys went--or excuse me, you went and picked her up.

What was she wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: I can't recall. I remember she was wearing a black shirt and I believe black pants.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she have anything with her?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe she had a--she had a purple backpack that she always carries with her.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I think that was it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Any--anything more descriptive about what she was wearing? Was like--again, like you may be one of the last people to here before she went UA.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: And I'm really trying to find her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: because she's UA and she needs to be at work, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: So, anything more descriptive that I can start looking for?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, like, I can't really remember that. All I remember is her wearing a black shirt. I believe it was black pants and she had some Uggs.

SA GOKEY: Uggs. What kind of Uggs?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know the brand of--I--I just know of Uggs.

SA GOKEY: But--so, were they like slip-ons or were they boots or?

CSSN COPELAND: They were slip-ons.

SA GOKEY: They were the slip-ons. Okay. Okay. So, slip-on Uggs. Okay. Anything else?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Did you notice any jewelry that she was wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: I know she had a bracelet and I think a hair clip.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And a hair clip. Like one of the big ones to pull up a bunch of hair, or like a little big one.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was like a--a clip. Like an actual clip? Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But like, big one, little one.

CSSN COPELAND: It was like a medium-sized one.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know how females justify their hair clips, so.

SA GOKEY: No, that's fine.

MS. BEA: I never met V/ A. R. Is she Hispanic? Is she black? Is she white?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe she's Hispanic.

MS. BEA: Okay. Does she wear, like, any kind of braids or anything like that? Or like, just kind of like, where's it long?

CSSN COPELAND: Military--military style, like in a bun.

MS. BEA: When you picked her up, was it in a bun?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. Was it in a bun the whole time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She always keeps her hair in a bun.

MS. BEA: Got it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Does she have her nose pierced?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Do you recall about what time you picked her up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't remember.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you picked her up, and then what did you do?

CSSN COPELAND: After that, we came home and we started making tacos.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she--did you say something about salsa on Sunday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I mean, that shit is in the sink right now.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: In my room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So did she--did she make it there or did you guys----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, she made it. I don't know if it was--it was like a guacamole or a salsa. It was one of the two. She made it in the room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She made everything, put it in the blender. The shit is still sitting in the sink right now, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was it good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, it was good, but it--it was her and my stomach. I have a weak stomach, so.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair. Did she bring any of the ingredients with her?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I bought everything at the store.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, you bought all the ingredients, and then she just made it?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, you guys made tacos. She made the salsa. Y'all ate. Then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, we started listening to music on my game on Apple Music and Spotify. It was going back and forth because too many people was on the internet at the time. So, obviously, it's going to start lagging. And then from there we just started talking. And she mentioned something about Gillespie, which is the dude that she talks to on the boat, and all this other stuff. And then, that's when I had brought up the fact that, like, something about he said something about him picking up a female. And she was like, that's crazy, because

she went on a walk, so and so, and she basically saw him pick up a female that looked like it was on his bike because he wears all black. So, she said it looked like it was his. And from there, I'm pretty sure she knew that it was him. So, she texted him and she was like, "Fuck you."

Sorry for my language.

SA GOKEY: No, but we're all adults. So, you cuss, you say whatever you--you need to say to----

CSSN COPELAND: But it--it is just me out of respect. I don't--you know.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But from there she said that. And from there, that's when she called her ex-boyfriend, that lived in Texas. And I was sitting on the couch. She was--she was sitting on the floor, and then she told me to come over to meet him. And then from there I was like, "What's good, Brody?" And he was like, "What's good?" And from there, they were talking, and I would just put my feedback in or just like, say like little things, because at the end of the day, it's not really my conversation, it's theirs. They're having a conversation, so. They were talking whatever. And then, from there they hung up and she was just calling other people, talking about how Gillespie's not shit, this, that, the third, and just going on a rabbit spree, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, what is Gillespie and her's relationship?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know. It's not really my part to really say, because I don't know much about Gillespie. I mean, I know that he works on our boat. She did mention they previously dated. I don't know how, for how long.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she tell you anything about if there was any, like, emotional abuse or physical abuse or anything like that between the two of them?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I know she was basically saying, like, how much money she spent basically on him paying for all his shit. He never done shit for her and so on. I know she mentioned--I think the thing that really like blew her over is how she said that she recently paid him $500 for a lawyer.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And from there I was like, that's crazy because I told him that he could have got a public defender for the--the--he was going to court for speeding.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And I remember previously talking to him that week about that, because I said he could have got a public defender, and I guess that blew her because she basically told him the same thing, and I guess he didn't listen to her and got

a lawyer anyway. So, she spent $500 helping him pay for a lawyer.

SA GOKEY: Damn. She seems nice. I wouldn't do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Right.

SA GOKEY: Absolutely not. Sorry. Okay.

Anything else you know about the relationship?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know much about Gil. So, that's as far as--that's----

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----everything that I know.

SA GOKEY: Okay. From your own perception, do--what do you think of Gil?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, I don't really know him that much.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, it's like, I can't really say what I know about him.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I've had a couple conversations to him, but I don't know him as a person, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you couldn't say if, like, he's mean or nice or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, from the conversations I had with him, he's--he's cool. Like, that's all I can say. I don't know him as a person, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Just asking mainly because you know, she--he's an ex-boyfriend, so.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't really know what they get into for their relationship, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. Okay. What about this ex-boyfriend from Texas? Do you know anything about that person?

CSSN COPELAND: That was my first time ever meeting, talking to him, seeing him, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What'd he look like?

CSSN COPELAND: He was kind of like my complexion.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Pretty much the same color. Same like, build. I believe he had dreads.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did--did you hear like a nickname or his name by chance?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And you saw him, so was she FaceTiming him?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, they were FaceTiming. Okay. All right. Okay.

So, then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: After what?

SA GOKEY: I guess, after you guys got off the phone with the ex-boyfriend from Texas.

CSSN COPELAND: She went on a, like, rampage calling other people and just talking about how Gilispe's not shit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And when you say, rampage, I'm asking just because I want to--I want to understand like her mindset right then, like her--her mental capacity at that point.

Like, can you describe to me what that means to you?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was just calling other people.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And just talking about how Gil's not shit.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was she pissed off and cussing, or was she crying? Was she just like, you know, just kind of flailing around? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, she was like, she was cooling, but she--at the same time, you could tell that she's getting like agitated.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like I said, like, after we were talking, she mentioned that she spent $500. That's what blew her because she was, like, not only did I mention that, but she also told him, and on top of him telling her that, or, like, her telling him

that, somebody else told her the same thing about getting a public defender, so.

It's just like she felt like he lied to him, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: All right. So, I mean, in your opinion--I know you might not know him--do you think he was using her for money?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't--I'm not--it's not my part. I don't know him, so.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. No. That's fine.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: So, I was, like, in your opinion--if you don't know, you don't know, okay? So, do you know who all she was calling?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am. The only person that I saw, or that I knew, was her ex-boyfriend, which she introduced me to.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, just the Texas guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you didn't know who else she called?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So. All right. So, then, what else happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, after she started making phone calls, like, she started getting emotional, started crying, and

shit. From there, I just sat on the couch, you know, I was just like, all right, bro. Like, you just had her moment.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You were sitting on the couch. Where was she sitting?

CSSN COPELAND: She was sitting on the floor, like right in front of the table.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: From there, she was still crying, and then my other roommate, the Mexican one that's also across the room, he walked in, and he was just asking, is everything cool? And I was like, yeah, bro. I was like, she's just having her moment. And I was like--I was like, she's--she's going to be good. And then he was like, all right. Cool. And he walked in the room, and I guess, I don't know. He just walked in the room and just kept it pushing.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, he didn't really get involved?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Nah. He was just making sure if everything was good, and I told him, yeah, she's fine. Like, she just had some shit happen, so. She's just having her moment right now.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he was like, all right. Cool. And he was like, if y'all need something, just come, let me know. I was like, all right. Back at cha.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: And from there, that's when the night started ending. Like, I was like, cool. I'm going to go to sleep. And she was like, all right. Cool. So, she came and went to sleep with me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Where did you guys go to sleep?

CSSN COPELAND: My bed.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then your bed. Okay. And she slept with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Did you guys have sex?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then what happened? What was the next thing you remember?

CSSN COPELAND: I went to sleep.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then from there, that's when my chief came and knocked on the door the next day.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And what chief was that, again?

CSSN COPELAND: FCC Parker.

SA GOKEY: Parker. Okay. Do you remember about what time he knocked on the door?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was the sun out or was it still dark?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. The sun was out.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then walk me through what happened next?

CSSN COPELAND: He knocked on the door, and then I could hear somebody fidgeting with the doorknob. So, I thought it was my roommate because usually if I lock the door, if I close the door, he would just knock on the door until I wake up. So, I was like, hold on.

So, I woke up, and chief was there, and I was like, oh. I was like, good morning chief. And he was like, you having a late morning, like a late start? I was like, yeah. And he was like, is V/ A. R. here? I was, like, yeah, she's right there. He saw her. He was like, all right. Cool. And that's when he was asking like, do I got a ride to work and everything? And I was like, at the moment, like, my roommate, he can take me whenever he gets off work. And he was like, all right. Cool.

He was like, just make sure you call CS1 or whatever and let him know, like, you're heading to work and everything. I was like, all right. Cool.

So, my roommate, he still never came through like when he was supposed to get off. So, I--I didn't go to work and I was just like, fuck it. I didn't go to work.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when everything processed through, all the way up to Saturday, when CS1 and chief told me I was marked UA.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: But I feel like it was all a misunderstanding because obviously, I had the weekend off, but I guess that's how the military is. If you are marked UA or whatever the day I wasn't present, it still builds up until I actually go in and basically----

SA GOKEY: And show face.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, how many days did you get marked UA then?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday, Friday, I think it was four. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Yeah. Sunday, around like the evening time, I came and I went to the CDO, and from there the CO is--was like, yeah, your mom called and she was worried [inaudible 00:39:26]. I didn't know about that part either, so.

I was like, yeah, I was like, I'm here. So, he told me I just got to standby until, until they can get somebody to basically do a urinalysis on me.

So, I waited, and then they ended up calling my MA1 because they couldn't find whatever they needed to find for her to get my sample. So, I waited until she got to the ship.

She got there. She got my information, and then after that, I did urinalysis. And then from there, they said I was good to leave.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. So, then, you said you were marked UA Thursday through Sunday?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then what were you doing Friday?

CSSN COPELAND: I was at home.

SA GOKEY: At the barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What were you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: In the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did you go anywhere?

CSSN COPELAND: I never left the building.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What about Saturday?

CSSN COPELAND: I was also in the lounge. I was just in the barracks.

SA GOKEY: In your lounge? In your bedroom or in your----

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, in the building.

SA GOKEY: Oh, gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I think my roommate knows by now, I don't really fuck with him. Like, ever since I've been in the

barracks, I either sleep on the couch or whenever he is not in the room, that's when I'm in the room.

Obviously, when he goes to the room, I go into the living room or outside the room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the one that you share a space with?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You--you guys don't get along?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He's just fucking filthy.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it--it fucking irritates me every day that I have to go into a room with another grown man--you don't shower, you don't maintain yourself.

SA GOKEY: Gross.

CSSN COPELAND: And it came up until, I believe, yesterday morning, when his CO came to inspect the room and basically saw how shitty and fucked up his side was, that he had to fully deep clean the entire room.

It just annoys and irritates me that I have to live with someone like that, so.

SA GOKEY: No.

CSSN COPELAND: I go to the front desk every day. Like, they can't really move him because he's in a squadron. All right. Cool.

They offered if I wanted to move, but I told them, yeah, and--with just with me working my hours, I couldn't move because obviously when I had work, I wouldn't been able to move out within the timeframe they gave me, so.

They gave me like a timeframe. It was like three days or something. So, I couldn't switch rooms. So, it was what it was, but it just irritates me.

I think my roommate should know by now, like, whenever he's up or in the room, I'm outside the room or I'm in the living room. Whenever I go to sleep, I either go to my homeboy's room, or I go somewhere else, or I sleep on the couch.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Sometimes I sleep in the room because I'm--I'm just exhausted and tired, and--yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I don't blame you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It is--it annoys me, and he's older than I am.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. How old is he? Do you know?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe he's like, 21.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or 22, something like that.

MS. BEA: Yeah. It's just gross.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. I would not be able to handle living in a situation like that. I would lose my mind.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it is what it is. At the end of the day, I mean, deployment is the same way.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: The fact that you're on land, you have all the time in the world to take a shower, clean up, do what you need to do, but he just chooses not to.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know why. It's----

SA GOKEY: Some people weren't raised right. Okay.

So, that Saturday, you were in a lounge in the barracks. Do you know which lounge?

CSSN COPELAND: I was like, on the third floor--fifth floor.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you were on both of them, or, you know----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. Were you with anybody in there?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I was by myself.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do they have TVs in there or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. Okay.

So, then Sunday, what were you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: I was also in the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Of the barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when I went to go take a shit, and I went to--I was taking a shit, and I heard somebody knock on the door, and I believe it was Ms. Mary's voice, and she asked who was in here, and I said, Copeland. And she was like, okay.

A couple minutes later, I heard somebody else like, trying to get in. I was like, I'm taking a shit. But he asked if he could come in here. I was like, bro, I'm taking a shit. He was like, all right. Cool.

And I believe like three, five minutes after that, that's when I believe the MAs came knocking on the door, asking--telling me to basically come out. From there, I was just like, what the fuck?

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: After that, I told him, just lemme wipe my ass. I got up, washed my hands, and everything. Cool. Walked out, and he was basically asking, do you know why I'm here?

I was like, yeah, because my chief texted me this morning saying basically--or the morning before that I was marked UA. And they were like, all right.

And from there, they weren't really saying much, but I guess, they were just asking me questions, like, more about myself, like, who--like, where I'm from and shit. Like, what school I graduated from, what sports and stuff do I play.

And then from there, the MA that was talking to me had left, went downstairs to go find his chief. And then from there, I was just upstairs talking to the two--the other MAs that were there.

After that, we walked down there. And from there, they basically talked to their chief, whatever. And he basically told me, just go check in to my command because obviously, I'm marked UA and to not make things worse on myself than what it already is, so.

I was like, all right. Cool. And I was like, I'll go do that. So, after that, I called my chief, and I was like--I [inaudible 00:46:15] asking my chief like, should I go basically to the barge right now with the time that it is right now? Or should I just wait till Monday when I have work?

And my chief was basically saying, it doesn't really make a difference. He said it would be--it could be better if I just go now, so it can be up and out the way. And he was like--he was saying, it's not really going to make a difference though because even if I do go Monday, it's going to be the same thing.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. And I hung up, and I put on my uniform, and I went to the barge. And then from there, that's when they did urinalysis and everything.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, your chief texted you Saturday and told you you were UA?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Why didn't you go in then?

CSSN COPELAND: because I was off. I already--I already told him. He asked the same thing. I was just like, if I'm off, then I'm off.

I mean, I read that you marked me UA. Cool. But if I'm off, like, they already know I'm not going to answer my phone. Like, even my CS2s, when they call, if I'm off, I'm not answering the phone.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you thought you were just off and not being marked as UA for the days you originally had off?

CSSN COPELAND: I--yeah. I didn't know what UA fully was, obviously, up until now. And they basically told me, cool.

So, if I'm marked UA, I'm just thinking, all right. When I go in Monday, they're just going to ask me basically what happened over the weekend, or why didn't I come in?

I didn't know that it keeps continuously going every day until I go and check in.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Until the MAs basically came in and told me that, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did command or the MAs ever come knocking on the door, like, Thursday or Friday, or Saturday?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I was--I wasn't home at the time if they did come in.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GOKEY: So, then where were you?

CSSN COPELAND: In the lounge.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. Okay. But you were in the building somewhere?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Is there anybody that I can talk to to verify that you were in the lounges? Did anybody see you? Any friends, any passerby?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, shit if--whoever was there. I mean, you could talk to Ms. Mary.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She walked in the lounge. I was on the fifth floor. She asked if I was good. I told her, yes, ma'am. I just told her--she walked by again and asked if everything was

good. I told her, yeah. I just told her I didn't want to be in my room.

She obviously knows the state of my roommate.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: because she was literally the only person that I went to every time I had an issue with my roommate. So, she can vouch and say the same thing, because I honestly do not like my roommate.

SA GOKEY: That's fair.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, he's a cool person. Like, he's a--he's a caring person, but it's just the way that he lives. I don't--I--I can't--like, I can't accept that.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just filthy. Like, I respect him as a person, everything you do, cool. It's just the way that he lives as a person, it's filthy.

SA GOKEY: That's fair. That's fair. Okay.

So, Ms. Mary saw you the whole weekend in one of the lounges?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not going to say the whole weekend.

SA GOKEY: Well, I'm sorry. Like, one of the days or one of the times of these?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Anybody else?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

I mean, there was another dude that was in the lounge with us at the time, but I don't know him.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'm sorry. I'm just picking up. You say with us. Were--was it just you and that other person, or were there like multiple people?

CSSN COPELAND: So, when I say us, it's like, it was me and another dude. We were inside the lounge, and at the time, they made him come into the lounge because they were people, like the workers there. They were cleaning the floor. They were waxing the floor. So, they made him come inside the lounge until they were done waxing the floor.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: But you don't know who that person is?

CSSN COPELAND: I've never seen him a day in my life.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Okay.

And then--so, then you guys go--do you go do your analysis? Who took you to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: So, when I walked in, one of my homeboys was--he was on watch and I was like, what's good, bro? He was like, what's good? And I was like, can you call the CDO for me? And he didn't know how to call the CDO. So, he walked into one of

the--he walked into like, this little area. It's like when you first walk into the barge and he asked for one of the chiefs.

And he was like, chief, do you think you could help me call for the CDO? And that's when one of the chiefs walked out, and he was like, you can't call for the CDO, like on the radio----

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: ----so, because it goes straight to the ship. And he was like, what do you need the CDO for? And then that's when I walked up and I was like, I need the CDO. And he was like, oh, okay.

And he picked up on his radio. He was like, CDO--he was like, CSSN Copeland here. And I guess like, basically, just telling him that I'm here to check in. So, he was like, give him a minute, he's going to head down.

From there, the CDO came down, it was a--it was, I believe, a lieutenant. And from there, he was talking to me, and he was basically saying that my mom said she hasn't heard from me. So, she called the base, and then she also called my command.

And from there, that's when they did the welfare check and everything. So, the lieutenant was basically telling me, my mom, and everything was worried. And I was like, yeah. I was like, she was, because obviously when I called her she was.

SA GOKEY: Your momma was mad at you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. So, I was--I was just letting him know that she was irritated.

Well, she wasn't irritated. She was just worried and mad, so. Yeah. So, then from there, he was basically saying, he's going to get somebody to go do your analysis.

So, he told me just to hang tight, and I was like, all right. So, he left to go basically find the urinalysis, and that's when me and the chief was talking. We were just talking about how he used to be a CS.

And then from there, I was just telling him how I wanted to cross rate because me personally, I don't like being a CS, and I don't think I can do like a full--like, my whole entire life is just being a CS.

So, I was talking to him about cross rating--being another rate, and he pulled me into like his little office and he pulled up like my ASVAB score. And he was basically saying, if I study whoopie woo, I can cross rate and become something else, like a yeoman.

We were also talking about like CBs. And then from there, the officer was basically saying, MA1 one was on the way because they couldn't find where the sample holder was for me to take urinalysis.

So, from there, I was just waiting for MA1 to come. Eventually, MA1 showed up and she told me to go downstairs with

her. It was the same class that was there. And the lieutenant--the CDO walked into the office where we first were. And I believe the chief followed down. He went downstairs with us, and from there, everyone asked for my CAC, and she was just taking notes down and everything, jotting everything down from my CAC.

And from there, she waited. I guess she was like filling out a piece of paper, and from there she took my chief. Or not my chief, but the chief basically walked me upstairs to go pee. I went pee. Went back downstairs, gave her the bottle, and from there she gave me back my CAC and said I was good to go.

And then, with chief and the CDO, I both verified--they both made me verify, when I had to come back to work, and I was basically saying, chief told me Monday.

So, I called chief to verify when I left. And he was just saying, just come Monday, 7:30. And I was like, yes, chief.

SA GOKEY: Okay. How did you get to the ship?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate drove me.

SA GOKEY: Okay. The same roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Was anybody else with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Our other roommate, that was in the room with him. We went to get--he took me to the ship, and then afterwards we went to his Chipotle.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then what happened?

CSSN COPELAND: We went home after.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And you guys--you stayed at the room the rest of the night then?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

So, you didn't leave at all after you guys had gone to the ship, Chipotle came back. Nobody--or excuse me. Not nobody leaves.

You never left again?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, presumably, you went up--got up and went to work the next morning?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who took you to work?

CSSN COPELAND: My roommate.

SA GOKEY: Your roommate.

Is he on the same ship as you?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Whew. That man is a nice human. Where's he work? Do you know?

CSSN COPELAND: He works on base.

SA GOKEY: On this base?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay.

MS. BEA: I'm sorry. Is this the stinky roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Different roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Which one are we talking about?

CSSN COPELAND: The black African dude across.

MS. BEA: Black African dude. And your stinky roommate is which guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Sean.

MS. BEA: Sean. And what does he look like?

CSSN COPELAND: He's white.

MS. BEA: White dude. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Just want to make sure I'm keeping everybody straight. Okay. And the person that drove you around pretty much every time we talked about is your African dude, roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. Perfect. Thank you.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you have anything else right now?

MS. BEA: Yeah. I'm sorry. I know you got a ton of questions. I'm going to go back.

So, I know that you probably discussed a lot of this with Jess, like prior to me getting involved, right? So, I just wanted to make sure I understood.

So, what was your relationship with V/ A. R. So, like, I know you said y'all didn't have sex that night, right? But I mean, like, were y'all talking, were you like getting to the point where you're going to be talking?

CSSN COPELAND: We just worked together.

MS. BEA: How long did you know her, like prior to her coming over?

CSSN COPELAND: Ever since I checked into the James E. Williams. On top of that, we went to A School together.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay. So, you guys go way back?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, she's a CS as well?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

So, did you guys like hang out in A School? Like, essentially, what I'm asking is like, it sounds like you guys were pretty tight.

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. I mean, at A School, we just knew of each other. When I checked into the James E. Williams, we hung out a couple times, and yeah.

We hung out with a couple other people. I remember we would go out sometimes. We would go to--we went to Dave and Buster's. We went to Dirty Buffalo.

So, there's been previous times where we've hung out before. We hung out when she came over.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, would you say you guys are just like platonic friends, or was there like a romantic interest there?

CSSN COPELAND: There was never a romantic interest.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, that's like way out of left field type scenario. You're just friends.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Understood. Okay.

So, you've known her for--for a while. So, you said that, you know, we already beat the whole salsa thing to death for certain. But you said that you guys were talking after you ate, and you mentioned something about--what's his name, Gilispe, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, I got confused. So, you said you saw him picking up a girl on his motorcycle. Tell me more about that.

CSSN COPELAND: He told me, like, that he was at work, and I was sitting down, and obviously, we were talking. The ship's not big, so.

MS. BEA: It is not.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. We were sitting there talking, and he was basically saying how we picked up a female in his car and so on. Like, he was basically saying like, he didn't really say much. He picked her up.

Like, she was--well, she was in her car. It was two females, and a female asked him in the passenger seat, how fast did your bike go? And he basically nodded and said, come find out yourself.

So, she hopped on his bike and she drove down the street, or not she, but he drove down the street with her, and then from there he picked up her number and they've been talking ever since.

But V/ A. R. she initially got mad because--I'm guess--I'm guessing, the day that he was with the female, he was asking for his--his--helmet back that he bought V/ A. R. And V/ A. R. was basically asking him like, why do you want the helmet? And he was basically saying like, because it brings back all the times, like, all the places they've could have gone together, this, that, the third.

And she basically just went off about the helmet, like, what does he specifically need the helmet for? And they were going on back and forth.

And then from there, he was just like, he cut it, and he was like, fuck it. Like, you could just keep the helmet.

MS. BEA: Did this all happen on Thursday night, did you say----

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: ----or this is Wednesday?

CSSN COPELAND: No. That--no. That was like the night that she came over. Like, she was basically telling me about that.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay. So, she started talking to you about that whole shit?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But I'm saying, like with Gillespie and the female driving.

MS. BEA: Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: That was--that was when he told me when I was at work, the same day that she came over.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, let me make sure I have it right. So, when she came over, at some point, she started talking about Gillespie. Was she just like talking about her relationship, and were they still dating at the time, or they had already broken up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I----

MS. BEA: It's messy. Okay. And then, she was like telling you about an argument that she had with Gillespie about this motorcycle helmet, and you were like, oh, well, Gillespie told me----

CSSN COPELAND: No. So, she was talking about Gillespie, and she had mentioned something about him and a female, and I was

like, that's crazy because so and so, and that's when I started talking about when you told me at work about the female.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And she was like, no fucking way you said that because he basically texted me the day that basically, I told him about her--told her about it.

She was--basically, put two and two together. And the same day that he was talking to the female was the same day that he was asking for the bike helmet back.

MS. BEA: Oh. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: I get it now. All right. And that really pissed her off, and it sounds like she--yeah. Flipped out about that. Okay.

So, she texted Gillespie, and she was like, fuck off or wherever--whatever, something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: And then you said that she called her--oh, I'm sorry. Did she call her boyfriend in--ex-boyfriend in Texas before or after that?

CSSN COPELAND: After that.

MS. BEA: After that. Okay. And so, it sounds like--I mean, she was probably--was she talking to her ex-boyfriend about stuff with Gillespie?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. When did she like lose it, lose it? Because you said that she was like on the ground, crying. Everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, after she got done calling everyone. Like, after she got off the phone with her ex-boyfriend. Cool. Then she just started calling other people, and I guess she just lost it. Like, she was just done calling people, and she was just like, she was done.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just like, cool. And that's when I sat there and just let her have her moment, and I was like, all right, bro.

MS. BEA: Was she drinking?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She had like a shot or two of buzz ball. But then again, Buzz Ball's not strong. So, I don't----

MS. BEA: I don't know what buzz ball is.

SA GOKEY: You don't know what buzz ball is?

MS. BEA: I'm so sorry. Oh, is that like the balls you see at the liquor store? Okay, my bag. Sorry. As we've talked about multiple times in the past, I'm pretty old. Okay.

So, she had like a shot or two out of the buzz ball?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Would you consider her to be drunk? I mean, have you seen her drunk before?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was--I've never seen her drunk, but I don't think she was drunk because she was totally impaired of everything that she was doing, so.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: She was aware of everything she was doing.

MS. BEA: Okay. What do you mean when you say that?

CSSN COPELAND: Say what?

MS. BEA: Like, that she was aware of everything that she was doing.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, obviously, if somebody's drunk, you can tell if somebody's drunk because like, obviously, if they're having like a speech impediment or----

MS. BEA: Can't walk.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, like, when I say, she was visible and aware of everything she was doing, like she was obviously, like, you can tell there were no symptoms, that she was drunk.

MS. BEA: Got it. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: And let me see here. I have a bunch of questions written down. Okay. I just want to make sure I understood the timeline a little bit.

So, you were like, all right. Well, I'm going to go to sleep, and she came into the room with you. Was your roommate in there at the time?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so. Shit. I dunno because by the time I woke up, everybody was gone.

MS. BEA: Was this Wednesday night into Thursday morning?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, you said, when you woke up, everybody was gone? Where--I never figured out where was she?

CSSN COPELAND: She was in my bed.

MS. BEA: She was in your bed? She hadn't left yet?

CSSN COPELAND: No. My chief was there.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When he walked in, he saw her. Cool. And he told me, all right. When I'm obviously done and everything, he told me, just get ready for work and head to work.

MS. BEA: Here's what I'm confused about, too. Why didn't Chief just drive you to work? You didn't go back there anyway, right? Did he offered----

CSSN COPELAND: No. That's--no. He should have. That's why I was pissed off because they fucking marked me UA.

MS. BEA: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: That's the thing that, like, I don't know, because he--I feel like he set me for failure. I told--I fucking told him that, bro.

MS. BEA: Did you ask him for a ride? And he was like, no.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I--I feel like I should have offered, like, I should have been like, can I get a ride to work?

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: But then again, like, I feel like, he knows, obviously, I don't have a car, so.

MS. BEA: Right. Yeah. That doesn't make any sense. Okay. So, it just doesn't make sense, period.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: It's not just to me, it doesn't make sense. It just doesn't sense.

CSSN COPELAND: But like, he--like, he was also saying when he called me, he was just saying it was just a big miscommunication about me being UA.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. But I still was like a little irritated with the fact that it just--like, they marked me UA and like they made it this big fucking deal, this issue. I'm like, cool. I just left how it was.

I'm not finna argue. I'm not finna start a hissy fit or nothing. At the end of the day, I was UA. Cool. I'm going to own up to it. So.

MS. BEA: Okay. And V/ A. R. was also UA with you, right? Like, essentially--because you know, are you both on the same schedule?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Was she supposed to be at work on Thursday as well?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She worked Friday and the weekend.

MS. BEA: Oh, I see.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: So, she was off.

CSSN COPELAND: We were opposite watch bill. So, when I'm working, she's not working. When she's working, I'm not working.

MS. BEA: And can you help me understand, are you on days all the time, or do you still have to work nights on the barge? Do you know what I mean?

You know how the carrier's like 24 hours?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah, but no.

MS. BEA: No. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, our schedule's like, obviously, you come in on a turnover day, 7:30.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And you work 7:30 and we get off around 17, which is like what, 5, 6, 7, 5:30, 5:40.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, it's pretty much 7:30 to five in the evening?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And then--so, she was supposed to be off. Was she at work on Wednesday? The day y'all had the conversation about the salsa?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was a turnover day.

MS. BEA: That was turnover. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: So, you came in and was she there as well?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. Every turnover day, both watch supposed to be there.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. And then she was supposed to be off, I would assume, like, you know, from Wednesday until Thursday, and she was supposed to go back to work on Friday?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. Thank you for helping me understand that.

And, so, after chief woke y'all up--I mean, how did she seem that morning?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine.

MS. BEA: She was fine. When did she leave?

CSSN COPELAND: After Chief had left. Like, an hour or two later. I was just--she was just helping me clean, and then from there we left. And then that's when I called Chief, or I didn't call him, but I was just telling him--I texted him.

I was like, when my roommate gets here, I'll go to work. He never showed up. He got there by the time I got off work. So, from there, I didn't think to call or text. At the end of the day, I didn't show up. All right. Cool.

MS. BEA: Where did V/ A. R. go?

CSSN COPELAND: She went back home.

MS. BEA: Where did she live at?

CSSN COPELAND: On base.

MS. BEA: Same place or somewhere different?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Somewhere different. I think it is like, from this building, it's down the street.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I believe so.

MS. BEA: Did she walk? Did somebody come pick her up? Did she mention anything about how she was going to get back?

CSSN COPELAND: Getting a Uber.

MS. BEA: A Uber. On base?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They got a zTrip.

MS. BEA: Oh, yeah. Not that they can't get on base, it's just kind of like she didn't want to walk.

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, the zTrip. It's on base teleportation. It's an Uber.

MS. BEA: I see. Okay. Got it.

Do you remember what time that was that you saw her last?

CSSN COPELAND: After chief left, and then after she got ready and everything and she helped me clean up my room.

MS. BEA: This might be a dumb question, but cleaning up how?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, the mess that was left in the living room.

MS. BEA: From what?

CSSN COPELAND: The food.

MS. BEA: From the food?

CSSN COPELAND: Cleaning up.

MS. BEA: Okay. Well, I just didn't--I don't know what type of mess y'all make. So, like, the messy kitchen type scenario?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: The food--there was food left out. We didn't throw none of the food away. So, everything was sitting on the countertop, on the stove, the pans and pots, and everything. There was dishes in the sink.

So, he was like, y'all need to get that cleaned up because obviously, if he's coming to inspect, that's unsat. If you have trash into the trash can, it's unsat. You have to take the trash out every day.

MS. BEA: Who's coming to inspect? I'm sorry.

CSSN COPELAND: My chief.

MS. BEA: I didn't know that part. Keep in mind, I didn't talk to you to begin with, right. So----

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I said that already. When he came into the room, he said like, he was coming to inspect.

MS. BEA: I didn't know that part. Okay.

So, he was coming into inspect, because why?

CSSN COPELAND: Monthly inspection.

MS. BEA: Oh. I've never lived in the barracks, and I've never been in the Navy. You know that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: I'm just trying to ask questions. Okay.

So, he was coming in to inspect.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Did he tell you that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He didn't text, call, nothing. He just came in. But like I said, I was asleep, and when I heard like the fidget on the door, I thought it was my roommate. So, I said, hold up. I got up, opened the door, it's my chief.

MS. BEA: Okay. And this is the same time he came and woke y'all up when you like, were supposed to be at work, and he was like, late day. You got a late start or something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, he was supposed to come by anyway to inspect. He just didn't tell you he was going to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't--I don't know. I don't know if it was because either I was late or if he actually was coming to do a room inspection.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, that's above my pay grade. Chief is the chief. I'm not going to argue with the chief. So.

MS. BEA: Okay. Did he say he was--okay.

Like, I wasn't there. Right. So, keep in mind, when I'm asking these questions, just because I wasn't there.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Did he say like, I'm going to come back and inspect? Did he say--did he walk in and he was like, this room's a mess. You got to clean up before you come to work. Like, how did that go? How did you know that this was like an inspection?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, when he woke up, he was just like, is it a late start? I was like, yeah. Cool.

I mean, obviously, on top of that, if you're supposed to be at work, you're supposed to have the room clean if you leave. So, regardless, you're supposed to have everything clean. But he was basically saying, I need to clean up, and when I'm done cleaning head--head to work.

So, I was like, all right. Cool. And then he was like, do you have a way of getting to work? And that's when I went to--I mentioned my roommate. I was like, my roommate, when he gets off work, he could probably take me. And he was like, all right. Cool.

When you get off work--when he gets off work, then just head to work. Make sure you call CS1 and somebody and notify them.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's when I was like, all right. Cool. I got you.

MS. BEA: Got it. So, she helped clean. And then did you like--did she just like leave straight out of your room? Did you like walk her down to the front? Like, how did that go?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She just left.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, I had to start getting ready for work, and I called my roommate, and he didn't answer. All right. Cool. So, I just waited until he got to the room. By the time he got there, I was just like, fuck it. I'm not--I'm not going because by the time he got there, we were--they were already off work.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not finna go into work, like, who am I supposed to check into? So, I was just like, all right. Cool. And I left it. I let the days pass by until Saturday hit and they texted me saying, I'm UA.

At that point, I'm not finna argue. I was just like, fuck it bro. I'll just go in Monday. And then, obviously, all that shit happened Sunday. So, I had to go in, and that's when I went in.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, to be really clear with you, like normally, you know, being UA is not a crime that NCIS investigates, right? We're really worried about V/ A. R. which is, you know, why we want to talk to you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: So, you know, like all of the background is appreciated. I just, you know, I really want to know more about V/ A. R. as far as, like, what was her mental state when she left.

Like, do you have any information that would be helpful for us to find her? Like, did she say that she was like not doing well? Did she say she was sad she was going to go somewhere?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine. If you want to know more about her mental health, I'd probably say go to Mitch or Gillespie because, obviously, Gillespie had all the answers when he talked to me the other day, so.

MS. BEA: What do you mean by that?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm just saying, like he had everything, like, he was just saying, like, he was saying she liked to go on walks, saying that she wanted to buy plane tickets, this, that, the third.

He was basically stating how, when he would talk to her, he'd be like, randomly, what do you want to do? She would be like, I want to buy a plane ticket to so and so. Cool.

So, out of anything, I don't really know what V/ A. R. does. Cool. I just wanted to hang out. Cool. Obviously, it went bad because she had an attitude with Gillespie. They're not on good terms, or they got into an argument. Cool.

But out of anything, Mitch and Gillespie knows more than what I do about V/ A. R. because, obviously, they've been in relationships with her.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And they know her as a person. I don't fully know her as a person.

MS. BEA: Okay. And, you know, I'm getting that you're saying that you don't know her as well as a person.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, fully understand that. It's just that I think, you know, be like, you might have been the last person to see

her that we've talked to. Unless there's somebody else that saw her after you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, that's why I'm asking you. Did she say she had plans to go meet somebody else? Was she like, I'm just going to go back to my room and sleep?

Like, anything you have would be helpful for us.

CSSN COPELAND: It was just like, I'll see you later. All right. Cool. If you need something, just call or text me. All right. I got you.

MS. BEA: Okay. Was she still crying when she left, or she seemed like she was fine?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was cool.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, like, if you go to sleep after having a bad night, usually if you go to sleep and you wake up, you're fine.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Well, that's just how I see it. I'm not going to speak for her.

MS. BEA: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, if you're holding your emotions, you can hold your emotions. Cool. But from the talk that I had and when I--when she woke up and shit before she left, she said, I

was just like, have a good day. If you need something, just call her, text me. And she was like, all right. And she left.

MS. BEA: And then did you hear from her again after she left?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. Until I got back, and then my chief was basically saying we're both marked UA.

And then from there, that's when I texted her and I was like, yo, like are you good? I was like, they just barked--they marked me and you, UA. And then I was just like--I think I asked her to call or text me if she get the text or whatever. She never responded.

And then, I was talking to Gillespie when I went to the ship, fucking--the day that I went Sunday. And he was basically asking if I heard anything from her after that. I was like, nah. But I was just telling him like, if--like, when she left, like, if she needed something, just to call or text me, and he was like, all right. Cool.

After that, like, we just left it as that until, obviously, I went to work the next day, and he was just like talking about it and shit. I was just like, all right, bro.

MS. BEA: What kind of stuff was he saying?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, obviously, the stuff I was talking about, how she liked to go on walks, and she wanted to put plane--like, plane tickets and shit.

Like, he was asking me basically what you guys are asking me, like if she, like, said anything, like she wanted to go anywhere. I was like, nah.

Like, she was--I was like, I don't know what you did, but she was mainly just talking about how you fucked up, bro. I was like, I don't know what the fuck you did, like what the hell you told her, what you guys [inaudible 01:16:37] head up into? But I was like, "Bro, I was like, bro, you had her crying and shit. She was just mad as fuck at you." He was like, "Yeah, she text me so on." And I was like, "All right, bro." I was like, "I don't know what you did, but that's between y'all, bro."

Like--and people--like, most people already know, like, I don't like getting involved in other people's bullshit--like, what ya'll got going on is what ya'll got going on. I'm not fin'to get myself involved. As you already know, I like to [inaudible 01:17:04]. I don't roll with that shit. After that situation, I just been chilling obviously until shit like this happens. They asked if they want to come over. I'm being a nice guy. Cool. And shit like that happens.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. I mean, you seem like, you feel like a certain type of way because shit like you--you're involved even though you don't want to be.

I mean, you got any type of feelings about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, it's like I can't do shit about it. Like, obviously, if I'm pulled into the bullshit, I'm pulled into the bullshit. There's no way I can get myself out of it. And once you're in, you're in.

I'm not going to sit here, nick and nag about it. At the end of the day, I allowed her to come over. She did what she did. That's just me being the nice guy, and now I'm involved in the bullshit. It's not shit I can do to get myself out of it. Cool.

SA GOKEY: Did you--that like, she ever mention if she had any type of like mental health struggles or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: She didn't mention it, or she did like----

CSSN COPELAND: She never said anything about that.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Got it.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, another thing that you mentioned that I wanted to chat about is you said that your roommate, Skipper, came by--the CO came by, and like, had him clean the room, and like it was nasty.

Did I mishear that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Your nasty roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Did you say his CO came and inspected it? The room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: When did that happen?

CSSN COPELAND: I think yesterday. Yeah. I think it was yesterday.

MS. BEA: Okay. And if you don't know, it's okay. Do you know what command he's with?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He is in a squadron.

MS. BEA: Squadron. You know what type of squadron? Are we talking helicopters, jets?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I don't--I dunno.

MS. BEA: That's okay if you don't know.

CSSN COPELAND: Because his--his command is decommissioning soon. So--yeah. When his command decommissions, he's going on the deployment with the new squadron that's attached to the FORD. So, that's the only thing that I know about his squadron.

MS. BEA: That's kind of positive. Right. They'll be gone.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, cool. But eventually, it's--somebody going to replace them.

MS. BEA: Hopefully, they're cleaner.

CSSN COPELAND: Hopefully.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, yesterday is when--if we think, the Squadron CO came by and, like, made him clean everything. Like, clean the room really well and everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was like mainly just his side and shit.

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. And then the other thing--I know I already asked you. I just wanted to clarify. When you said that your roommate drove you to the barge on Sunday, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Did he wait around with you until you were done doing your urinalysis and everything, and then that's when y'all went to Chipotle? Or like----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: ----did he come back?

CSSN COPELAND: He stayed there, but he can't--obviously, he can't go on to the ship. So, he stayed in the car. So, like, where I walk is like I need to--my chip is like a reader to a CAC scan for me to enter.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then from there I walked on, and he stayed, and then I texted him. I was like, just wait like 25 minutes because I got to wait for my MA1 to come. And when she gets here, they're going to make me fucking do urinalysis. And after that, they said, I'm good to go.

So, he was like, okay, bro.

MS. BEA: Okay. And this is the same African dude with the white Jeep?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. So, we spent a ton of time asking you questions. What do you think is relevant, as far as like, do you have any information that would help us or other people that we should talk to?

I know that they've been doing a lot of investigation and, you know, the name Gillispie and Mitch, sure is not unusual to them, but is there anything else you can think of, because we're really worried?

CSSN COPELAND: That'd be the only two.

I mean, obviously, they go back and forth, and they're so in love with her, so. Obviously, the only two people I would think that actually know V/ A. R. is Mitch and Gillespie, so.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. Did she--so, sometimes people like mention things and you don't think it's going to be important at the time, but then like, when you think back, you're like, oh, okay.

Is there anything that she might have mentioned to you in the amount of time that she was with you about, you know, like what she wanted to go do, or like, anything that was like indicative of her mental state, anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Even if you don't think it's important.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

MS. BEA: Okay.

Anything else, Jess, because I think we--we'll take a break real quick.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Let's take a break.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Do you need anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: You need to use restroom [inaudible 01:22:18] good?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. We'll be right back with you. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 01:22:31.]

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea returned to the room at timestamp 02:05:19.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Sorry about that. Are you good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. You don't need to use the restroom or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, just a couple more things. So, with you going UA, what do you think--do you think the command's going to get pissed off at you? And like anything--like, do you think you're in trouble with them?

CSSN COPELAND: What you mean?

SA GOKEY: Like, do you think they're going to--you're going to---

MS. BEA: Yeah. You're going to----

SA GOKEY: ----put you on restriction or, you know, anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, with me going UA? Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Okay. So, one thing I wanted to pitch is--so, you said with--you told us that you were in the barracks the whole weekend, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: So, it's not like you were out, you know, in another state doing whatever God knows what, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And a lot of times when Sailors go UA, that's what we're worried about, is you guys are out doing dumb shit, getting arrested, doing dumb things.

Hell, some of them, the defect to frigging North Korea. So, I would like then to look at your phone and place you in the room, and that could potentially maybe help you with your command.

Like, we could pitch it to him like, 'Hey, man, he didn't go to work, but it's not like he was fucking missing or gone or whatever.' Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: You would be cool with that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. What's your passcode?

CSSN COPELAND: 982--wait. 980377.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, 9803----

CSSN COPELAND: 377.

SA GOKEY: ----77. Okay. All right. I'm just going to fill this out real quick. It's June, oh, Lord, have mercy on my soul.

And I spell your name wrong. I'm tired too. J-E-R-M-I-A-H, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: And then Copeland. What kind of phone you got?

CSSN COPELAND: iPhone 15.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Working--86 and 107. So, you said iPhone. I'm sorry, what?

CSSN COPELAND: 15.

SA GOKEY: iPhone 15. Okay. Conducting on June 25, by NCIS. Okey-dokey. All right.

So, I'm going to scoot back over to you and we're going to go over this. All right. So, did I spell your name correct that time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, I'll read this to you.

So you, Jeremiah Copeland, after being advised by me, Special Agent Jessica Gokey, that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into the Article 86 and 107, which was the two we discussed earlier.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: You have been--have--excuse me. Our goal 86 and 107 have been requested to permit a search of my iPhone 15.

You have been informed of count--of your constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant.

So, what that means is, again, I don't have a search warrant to go into it----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: ----but you're just giving me permission to go ahead and go into that, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay.

In full understanding of this right, you have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made. This search may be conducted on 03 June 25 by NCIS, and you hereby give your permission to remove and retain any property or papers found during the search, which are desired for investigative purposes.

You make this decision freely and voluntarily, and is made with no threats having been made or promises extended to you?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. I'll say it again.

Do you--did I--have I threatened you today?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Have I made you any promises?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you agree with this statement?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm going to be able to get my phone back. Like, I got to call my mom.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: It's too much shit going on.

SA GOKEY: No. That's fair. Are you good with signing this?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But is it cool if I can call my mom?

SA GOKEY: Yeah. You want to call your mom?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you want to call her right now?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right. Do you want to go ahead and sign that, and then I will----

CSSN COPELAND: Can I wait first?

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Sure. Absolutely.

MS. BEA: Let me--so, just to make sure that everything on the phone is like essentially, pristine, no problem with you calling

your mom. I'll give you my phone to do it. You know her number by heart, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. Do you mind if we ask you a couple more questions before we do that, or do you want to just call her right now?

CSSN COPELAND: Go ahead and ask the questions.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Okey-dokey. Okay. So, like I told you earlier, we're conducting a cast in your room, and you do have that roommate that lives in there.

Can you tell me what electronics are his?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, everything that's on his side.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, nothing would be on--nothing on his side would be yours and vice versa?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you have any other additional electronics in that room?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I have another phone. That's my phone that I have to go turn into AT&T.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I got my PS5, and that should be it.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Out in the common room, are there any electronics that stay out there?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, my PS5 is what I was saying. It's also in the living room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, your PS5's out there. Okay.

Is there anything else out there that's yours or anybody else's that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm mean, the TV.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But the TV's the barracks, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, the PS5 out in the common area is yours, and then you have another phone in your room.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: What kind of phone is that?

CSSN COPELAND: It's an iPhone 15 as well.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know what color it is?

CSSN COPELAND: It's gray.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is it broken?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It's not broke, but I fucked it up, so I broke it, but I got it fixed. They replaced the front, so I have to go turn it in.

So, they basically gave me like 31 days in order for me to turn it in, or else they're going to charge me for that phone---

-

SA GOKEY: Oh.

CSSN COPELAND: ----with the one I'm already purchasing, so.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Okay. So, it's like a trade thing, so you get to keep----

CSSN COPELAND: It was part of my insurance.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Oh, that's nice. Okay. Do you have any, like iPads or laptops?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. What about any--nope. There wasn't a desktop in there. Right? That desktop's his, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.] Yeah. It's an Xbox.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Oh, it's a Xbox. It's just--okay. I got you. Okay. All right. I want to kind of talk about--go back to V/A.R. Can I just call her [inaudible 02:13:05]--yeah,

V/A.R. Just a couple more questions. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: I know you're tired.

When she came over to your house, did she--she had her phone, right? What kind of phone does she have?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it was the same as mine. It was a black iPhone 15.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she have any other electronics?

CSSN COPELAND: She just had her phone.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she was just wearing that bracelet, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Does she have an Apple watch that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.] I don't think she's ever had one.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Have you ever had an Apple Watch?

CSSN COPELAND: I do have an Apple Watch.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Where's that at?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it's in my desk.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. When V/ A. R. was on the phone with whoever, when she was--I'll use your word on like a rampage, did she--when she was on the phone, did she ever ask anybody to come pick her up or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I mean, like I said, I was on the couch. I know she did call Rich. And she was on the phone with her ex, but from what I recall, I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

So, you don't recall hearing her tell somebody like, yo, come get me, come pick me up, I want to leave, or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who--what roommate was it again that walked in and was like, yo, is she good?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know his name, but it is--it's the other one that's across the room. Not the African one, but the other---

SA GOKEY: The other guy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Cool. Not stinky white boy?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then you guys--when you went to bed, you guys went to bed in your bed?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, I just wanted to clarify that.

So, this--this statement is the true statement, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. True and accurate to the best of your knowledge, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. It says, on--and I might've heard you wrong on Sunday. So, I'm not trying to come at you sideways. Okay. I just want to make sure everything I got it right.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Because on Sunday, I thought you told me that either you had slept on the couch and she slept in the bed, or vice versa.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I must have misspoke or misheard. I apologize. But you guys did sleep together in the bed?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But you guys didn't have sex?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What did you guys wear whenever you went to sleep?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe I had the same thing on. It was just blue shorts and a black shirt.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Is it the same black shirt you got on right now?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, what was she wearing?

CSSN COPELAND: The same thing she had on the whole night.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And what was that again?

CSSN COPELAND: Black shirt, black pants.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, the--another reason why I'm bringing that up, so FCC, we talked to him, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: He has a bit of a different story, right? He said that when he walked into the common space----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: ----that you two were on the ground in front of the couch completely naked.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Is that true?

CSSN COPELAND: When chief walked in, he knocked on the door. So, obviously, when he knocked, I was in my room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you weren't on the floor naked with her?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I was in my room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And she was also in the room with you, though?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. When I opened the door, she was there.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he watched her when she was in the bed, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did she say anything to him?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She was asleep.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, FCC's not telling the truth?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He is not.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When he--when I opened my door when he knocked on it, she was asleep. I opened the door, and he's standing right there.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: He asked me was it a late start, and I said, "Yes, Chief."

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. I'm just going back through my notes real quick. Okay.

So, just to reiterate, so, Thursday--Thursday was the day that FCC got to your barracks?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then Friday, Saturday, you sat in the barracks all day?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And went from various lounges?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then Sunday, the MAs got there, knocked on the door, and was like, yo, bro, you're UA?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. All right.

So then, the Jeep, so you went to go pick V/ A. R. up, right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. Did you ask permission to take the Jeep at that time?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. He let me.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. I wasn't sure if, like, maybe he had left the keys on the counter, and he's just like, yo bro, you can use my car whenever, as long as I get to work, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, you did ask permission to take those keys?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: To go get her, to bring her back?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. And then, the next morning, whenever you guys were up--so, you added a couple more details. So, I just want to make sure.

So, you guys got up after FCC was there, and y'all cleaned the room?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. And then, can you give me an about what time she may have left?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know because I don't even know what time she had came into the room, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. So, the reason again, I'm asking is because on Sunday you told me that you, your roommate, and her got in the car and y'all dropped her off at Miller Hall.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't say that Sunday.

SA GOKEY: You sure?

CSSN COPELAND: I said, "It--it was me, my roommate that--like, two roommates.

SA GOKEY: Oh, I'm sorry. Not Sunday. I do apologize. When you guys took her home Thursday morning. I'm sorry. You--you're right. You didn't say that Sunday.

So, Thursday, you told me that you, the roommate, and her got in the car car and then y'all dropped her off at Miller Hall.

CSSN COPELAND: Miller Hall is my barracks.

SA GOKEY: And you're at X2?

CSSN COPELAND: Which is Miller Hall, isn't it?

SA GOKEY: That's Willis Hall. Miller Hall is the one right down the road. Her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: Now, I'm confused. Miller Hall is my barracks.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, then, let's just say it this way, then. Sunday, you told me--on Sunday when we talked, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Right.

SA GOKEY: That you, roommate, her got in the car and y'all together dropped her off at her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't remember saying that.

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, what--so, she got in an Uber then now?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know it was Uber or zTrip?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably a zTrip.

I mean, obviously, most Ubers, you have to be like on base or base access.

SA GOKEY: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: I was just asking if you knew either way, because again, she's still UA, right?

CSSN COPELAND: When I say Uber, it's like, zTrip.

SA GOKEY: You're talking interchangeably?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Okay. That's fine. I just wanted to clarify. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Did she tell you she was taking a zTrip?

CSSN COPELAND: No. That's what suspected. She was like, she's trying to go----

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----back to her room.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But she didn't tell you she was taking it? She just----

CSSN COPELAND: No. I assumed it was a zTrip.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Why did you assume it was a zTrip and her not just not walking home like she normally walks?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. I mean----

SA GOKEY: I'm just asking.

CSSN COPELAND: I never said she likes walking, so why would I assume she walks?

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, she left the room sometime that morning. You guys--you never got in a car with her and took her anywhere?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. What time--so, the roommate that you gets rides from mostly, do you know his work schedule?

Is he on days or nights?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know what his schedule is.

SA GOKEY: Okay. But Thursday morning, he had already gone to work then?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay. So, presumably, he would be at work for the entire day.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: But you told FCC you're going to wait until he gets home to go to work.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Which would've been 16, 1700.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GOKEY: Did you have anybody else to call or anything like that to get you a ride to work?

CSSN COPELAND: That's the only person. I'm not fin'to go out my day and ask other--somebody else to come pick me up.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, everybody works on a daily. I mean, I know my schedule's a little bit different with me being a CS.

SA GOKEY: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, theoretically, everybody's like daily duty and they have to report every day, Monday through Friday.

SA GOKEY: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And theoretically get the weekends off, so.

SA GOKEY: Fair.

CSSN COPELAND: He would be the only person I call. Sometimes I call my homeboy, or I'll call my CS2, but they're already at work, so there's only to call them because I know they're not going to come pick me up.

SA GOKEY: Okay. I gotcha. It just seems like you presumably should have known he was going to be at work all afternoon.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't know, because usually I'll tell him or sometimes I'll wait. Sometimes he comes home early, sometimes he doesn't. Same with my roommate.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Because obviously, Squadron, they're--they're so much different from being--working on the ship.

SA GOKEY: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, Squadron is honestly love, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. You brought up this homeboy a couple times.

So, you guys--you go sleep in his room sometimes because of the stinky boy?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's his name?

CSSN COPELAND: It's a lot of them. It just depends on who--like, where we're going.

SA GOKEY: I gotcha. Who would you consider like your best friend out here?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably my homeboy on the Truman, but they just got back, so.

SA GOKEY: Okay. What's his name?

CSSN COPELAND: His name's Devonte Williams.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Well, since they got back, that's not one that you sleep in his room?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Who do you mostly--whose room do you mostly sleep in?

CSSN COPELAND: So, my homeboy's name is Dee Dee?

SA GOKEY: Dee Dee?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GOKEY: Is that a nickname?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe that's his name.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Do you know the last name?

CSSN COPELAND: Williams.

SA GOKEY: Williams. What command's he with?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe he's on the Ike.

SA GOKEY: Okay.

Anybody else that you sleep in the room?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Just his.

SA GOKEY: Okay. Okay. Let's see.

Do you have anything?

MS. BEA: Not right now. You know, because of our interactions in the past, you know, that like I shoot straight and I'm not trying to bullshit you or anything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: You know that we're just trying to find V/ A. R. right?

So, do you know where she is?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Did you have anything to do with her disappearance?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: If you were to take a polygraph and we asked you those questions, would you pass?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay. So, you got nothing to hide?

CSSN COPELAND: No, ma'am.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I've been straight up, everything you've been asking, I've been responded to.

MS. BEA: Okay. Yeah. I think a lot, you know--I know you're tired. I know you're frustrated. I know that this--it sucks being in this situation.

I know that, like, you know, we're asking questions like a 5-year-old would ask, but most of that is because we want to make sure that we understand you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: And you know, kind of like we've been through this before, right? So, we talk to everybody, and everybody's got something different to say, usually.

So, sometimes people say pretty much the same thing, and sometimes there's wild shit differences. And what FCC told NCIS is just like real different. So, that's why, like, we really want to talk more about that, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Like, why--would this man lie on you?

CSSN COPELAND: I wouldn't say he would. I mean, he hasn't given me a reason to, but he literally walked in, and he knocked on my door. I opened--physically opened my room door and saw him.

MS. BEA: Yeah. Just want to make sure we're talking about the same thing. He knocked on the door to your suite, like with those two bunks in it, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Not to the main door, into the main living area. He knocked on your door?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

MS. BEA: Okay. And--I mean, that's--because FCC told NCIS that y'all were naked.

CSSN COPELAND: I wasn't naked. I had shorts on.

MS. BEA: Oh, were you like not wearing a shirt?

Is that maybe why he got confused?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I didn't have a shirt on when I opened the door.

MS. BEA: Okay. What about V/ A. R.

CSSN COPELAND: She was laying in the bed.

MS. BEA: And what about her clothes?

CSSN COPELAND: She had on a black top.

MS. BEA: When we're talking top, what kind of top were we talking? Like, a t-shirt. We talking a crop top bra?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes. The same t-shirt she's been wearing the whole night.

MS. BEA: Okay. Yeah. I guess that's kind of where I'm at. Right. Is like, he said that he saw her like nude up top, and he saw her breasts.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Do you know, like, what's the deal with that? It's hard for you to speculate you're not him, right? But do you know, like, why he would think that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

I mean, I don't know why he's saying that. He walked in, and we were both butt naked on the floor when he specifically knocked on my door.

MS. BEA: Were any of your roommates home at this time----

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: ----that you know of?

CSSN COPELAND: No. They were all at work.

MS. BEA: Okay. Tell me what Ms. Mary's schedule is. Like, does--do you think she would've been working at the time? Because it seems like y'all get along pretty well.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I mean, she works pretty much every day.

MS. BEA: Okay. Does she usually work during the day or at night?

CSSN COPELAND: During the day.

MS. BEA: During the day. Okay.

Is there anybody else we could talk to who would know--like, did you maybe talk to somebody at work about, like, V/A.R. spending the night? Anything else? Anybody come at you sideways about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Did Gilispe talk to you about it?

CSSN COPELAND: I've already stated, "he did."

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.] You said that it was like-- was it twice afterwards?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And help me remember when that was.

CSSN COPELAND: Sunday, when I went to do urinalysis, and then the day after that, when I had work on Monday.

MS. BEA: Did you get the vibe he was being accusatory?

CSSN COPELAND: No. He was just asking me questions about V/ A. R. or where she would be. That was Sunday.

Like, he was just like asking where she would be. And then Monday, he was just asking the same shit, and then was just saying like, was she being weird or anything? I was like, no. And then that was it.

MS. BEA: Okay. I'm going to do a hard left question, but it's mostly because I'm concerned about you----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: ----because, you know, we've--we've talked about your mental health struggles in the past and not feeling so great and everything else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Is that why your mom was worried when she couldn't get in touch with you?

CSSN COPELAND: About what?

MS. BEA: Your mental health.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. Like, at the end of the day, I don't answer my phone sometimes, and she knows that. Cool.

There was a female that I'm talking to, like she was calling, I didn't answer either. It just comes to times I would just want a break. My mom knows this, and I don't talk to nobody for days.

MS. BEA: Why?

CSSN COPELAND: Just because. I mean, at the end of the day, that's my life. If I don't want to pick up the phone, I don't got to pick up the phone.

MS. BEA: I mean, that's true. I have no problem with that. Sometimes I don't want to talk to my fucking family, but like, usually that coincides with times in my life where I'm having a hard time.

So, that's why I'm asking. You know, Jeremiah, you might not believe me, but I do care about you. I've always cared about you.

Are you doing okay?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

MS. BEA: Okay. If you weren't--I mean, I know that, you know, on the ship, you have mental health resources. I don't know what it's like on the--on the James E. Williams.

Do you--do you have somebody you can talk to?

CSSN COPELAND: Always.

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, on top of that, I have my homeboy that's on the ship. Whenever I'm down or something, I'll go talk to him, or whenever I'm frustrated, I need somebody to talk to, he's like the only person I really talk to on the ship, so.

MS. BEA: Which one's that? I'm sorry. I don't know any----

CSSN COPELAND: J.J. He is a CS as well.

MS. BEA: That's J.J. Okay.

So--so, you're feeling okay right now? You--you just didn't answer the phone because you just didn't feel like--it's not because you're not feeling good mentally?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, on top of that, I--it's the weekend. My CS2s--especially everybody within that I work with, they know I'm not going to answer if I'm not at work.

Like, my CS2s told me multiple times--even like, they've been serious situations--like, for instance, when I said the female tried to stab me, where--when I was chilling at home, they were calling me. I wouldn't answer my phone. Or it will be like, I'll call them and they don't answer, and they call me back because they saw that, you know, they missed my call and I don't answer.

So, they get mad because my phone stays on do not disturb. So, they'd be like, you need to take your phone off or do not

disturb. If you see, obviously, I'm trying to call you. And I'd be like, okay. I just leave it at that.

If I'm in the mood to call them, then I'll call them. If not, I'll just be like, all right. If I see them at work, then I'll just talk to them at work.

MS. BEA: Okay. I mean--and another reason I ask too is like, sometimes when we have Sailors go UA, it's because like they have like, personal problems.

Have you--have you been UA before? Is this the first time?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It's my first time.

MS. BEA: Okay. What made it--so, what got you to the point that when they were like, you know, come into work or--or chief came by and was like, Hey, you got to come into work, that you were just like--you said fuck it, right?

What--what got you to that point? because I know you talked about not being happy there.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm saying like, my roommate didn't come. So, by the time he got home, they were off work.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. So, it was like, this isn't worth it, essentially?

CSSN COPELAND: It--it is not really about----

MS. BEA: Not a shitty thing.

CSSN COPELAND: ----not worth it, but I'm just like, fuck. Like, there--there ain't shit I could do about it.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

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Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 21 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 21 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE LXI (Page 500) through AE LXIX).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

MS. BEA: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: They're off work. So, who am I reporting to? Cool.

So, from there I was just like--when I got work on Monday, I'm going to just go to work and tell them what happened, which I told them this whole time. Whole time, my chief kept saying it was a misunderstanding or miscommunication. All right. Cool. I'm not finna argue.

MS. BEA: Yeah. I don't blame you. Okay.

And then--just for my own curiosity, right. Don't they have shuttles that take you to the different bases?

CSSN COPELAND: No. They don't.

MS. BEA: because like, how the fuck are you supposed to get--there's--how are you supposed to get where you're going?

CSSN COPELAND: They don't have shuttles. They have a shuttle--

--

MS. BEA: They just expect you to figure it out?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They have shuttles on base that take you different parts on base.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: But they don't have a shuttle that goes different places off base.

MS. BEA: Okay. because I remember----

CSSN COPELAND: They used to.

MS. BEA: ----the Truman was in Portsmouth, they had--yeah. because like, a lot of people were up at Little Creek, and then they just had duty drivers take people down. Nothing----

CSSN COPELAND: They had a shuttle bus that went from Little Creek to Norfolk Base when I first checked on board, which was after A School, and then months down the road, they ended up closing it down.

So, it was there for a minute, and then they ended up shutting that shuttle down.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it.

CSSN COPELAND: But I don't think I was on the Truman when they were in--in wherever you just said.

MS. BEA: Yeah. Portsmouth. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. Got it. And, you know, has your mom ever had to call the police before to see if you were okay?

Is this the first time?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure.

I mean, there's been times where, like, she called other people to make sure I'm fine, but it's due to the fact that I--I think somebody texted her and they were asking, like, have they heard from me? And she was like, no.

So, from there, obviously, she called me a couple times and then text me, and I didn't respond. So, then, that's what made her call my command or whatever.

MS. BEA: Do you know who texted her and asked if she could get in touch with you? Was it the command?

CSSN COPELAND: No. It was a female that I talked to.

MS. BEA: Okay. Is she a Sailor as well?

CSSN COPELAND: No. She's a civilian.

MS. BEA: Okay.

Does she live around here, or is she back in----

CSSN COPELAND: No. She's back home.

MS. BEA: Back home. Home, Whidbey, or home Carolina?

CSSN COPELAND: Whidbey.

MS. BEA: Whidbey. Okay. Got it.

So, she got in touch with your mom because she hadn't heard from you either? I'm understanding now. That's why you mentioned her to begin with. Okay. Got it. Okay.

So--I mean, you kind of had--you kind of know how we work at this point, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: All we're really interested in is finding V/A.R. Everybody we talked to is going to get the same questions that you just answered for me about having anything to do with her disappearance or knowing where she's at.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: You know, and at the end of the day, what I really want you to know is that is all we are interested in.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: So, if we could like--theoretically coordinate a polygraph for you tomorrow, is that something you'd be willing to do?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Fuck it.

MS. BEA: Fuck it. Yeah. I feel you. Okay. We're going to take another quick break. Unless you--I'm sorry.

SA GOKEY: No.

MS. BEA: Didn't mean to speak for you.

SA GOKEY: No. You're fine.

MS. BEA: Okay. We're going to take another quick break, and then we'll be back. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

MS. BEA: Do you need to use the bathroom?

CSSN COPELAND: Naw.

MS. BEA: You want more CheezIt?

CSSN COPELAND: Naw.

MS. BEA: Okay.

SA GOKEY: Oh, I'm sorry. I just kicked you.

MS. BEA: No. You're good. You're good.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 02:36:41 and returned to the room at timestamp 02:58:21.]

SA GOKEY: Okay-dokey. Sorry, Jeremiah.

MS. BEA: You okay? I know you're tired. We're about done. Okay. I just had a couple more things that we wanted to ask you about. As always, it is your choice.

Like we talked about, we are really, really interested in finding V/ A. R. and we don't know what's going to be important when we start investigating. We just got to try to get as much as we can. Okay?

So, I wanted to ask you if it's okay--we're, you know, we're searching the barracks and everything else. Specifically, we wanted to go into spaces, like, you know, any kind of backpacks you have or anything else like that. You can be present for that as well. It's no problem either way.

And then, you know, I know we already talked about your phone and you were okay with us, you know, looking through that. And I wanted to ask you about the other iPhone that you have in your room. Is that something you would also be okay with us going through?

CSSN COPELAND: It's broke.

MS. BEA: Will it turn on?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

MS. BEA: Won't even turn on?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, it's broke.

MS. BEA: Okay. And then other electronic devices we talked about that was your PS5.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: And then the watch. Does the watch work?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Okay. And what does that one look like? Like, what kind of band do you have? Do you have like a----

CSSN COPELAND: It's a white band.

MS. BEA: A white band. Okay. So, if you'd be okay with us looking through that stuff, that would be cool, but again, it is completely up to you. It is always your decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Is that something you're all right with?

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine. Go ahead.

MS. BEA: Okay.

So, I have the--the same kind of verbiage of the--I can read this over to you again. You want me to?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Yeah. Okay.

So, I, CSSN, Jeremiah Copeland, after being advised by me, that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting an investigation into Articles 86 and 107, have been requested to

permitt a search of my backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices that we talked about.

And you telling us--essentially, like, you tell us what's okay for us to search and what's not.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

MS. BEA: Okay. I have been informed of my constitutional right to refuse to permit this search in the absence of a search warrant. In full understanding of this right, I have nevertheless decided to permit this search to be made. This search may be conducted on today's date by NCIS, and I here grant my permission to remove any--and retain any property or papers found during the search which are desired for investigative purposes. I make this decision freely and voluntarily is made no--with no threats having been made or promises extended to me. All sound good? Okay.

So, if you could sign where it says sign.

CSSN COPELAND: When you say like, sign, like you say backpack, bedroom, and electronic devices.

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: When is that going to be?

MS. BEA: Tonight. Like, right now. I'm tired too.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm just trying to go home.

MS. BEA: Yeah. No. I feel you. I'm tired too.

CSSN COPELAND: And you say--what'd you say? When you said, whenever I choose, right?

MS. BEA: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: But if I'm putting this on paper for--you saying all three of those, then you have by--what by choice do you have? You're obligated to go through all three with me, sign that, right?

MS. BEA: I--yeah. If you want to be present for when we go through those things, you're welcome to be there because we're also trying to go.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But I'm just saying, like, let's say I don't want you going through a certain backpack, but I already signed you--you're obligated to go through my backpack.

MS. BEA: So, this means consent. So, if at any point you say, "No, I don't want you to search this specific thing," we cannot search in there.

Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

MS. BEA: Answer that question well enough?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

MS. BEA: Okay. Okay. And then, I wanted to revisit the one we talked about with your phone. Are you still okay with that?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I just--can we just--I'm just trying to go home.

MS. BEA: Understood. Okay. All right. So, let's make some moves to do that and we will make those coordination and we will get right back. Okay.

[SA Gokey and Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 03:02:09 and Ms. Bea returned to the room at timestamp 03:03:35.]

MS. BEA: Hey, Jeremiah. I'm just realizing that I didn't give you my phone in order to call your mom. You want to do that?

CSSN COPELAND: I'll just wait.

MS. BEA: You just wait. Okay. Cool. I don't want to deprive you that opportunity.

CSSN COPELAND: How--how long is this going to take?

MS. BEA: How long until we leave this office----

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, ma'am.

MS. BEA: ----to get back to you? 10 minutes.

[Ms. Bea departed the room at timestamp 03:03:56.]

[SA Gokey returned to the room at timestamp 03:16:21.]

SA GOKEY: Okay, Jeremiah. You ready to go? Got your stuff.

[END OF PAGE]

TRANSCRIPTIONIST
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Angela Sharpe, certify that this written transcript is a true, accurate, and complete copy of the audio or other electronic recording of the NCIS interviews of CSSN Jeremiah Copeland, YN3 Sean Monoghan, Airman Recruit John Calisse, FCC Brad Parker, CSSN V/S.S. , HT3 Michael Gillespie, and ABHAN V/C.R.

Angela Sharpe Digitally signed by Angela Sharpe Date: 2025.09.30 17:49:00 -04'00'

Angela Sharpe

29 September 2025
Date

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND

1. On 06Jun25, Reporting Investigator (RA) Tyler Mann and Participating Agent (PA) David JARRELL, conducted a second interview of S/COPELAND. As background, S/COPELAND was identified as a person of interest in the disappearance and possible death of [redacted V/A.R.] as he was the last person known to have seen her prior to her disappearance.

2. On 06Jun25 at 0850, subsequent to the execution of a Military Rights Waiver, appended as Enclosure (A), CCSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, was interviewed regarding his knowledge of the possible death of [redacted V/A.R.] ([redacted V/A.R.] USN, DDG 95, and previously providing false statements regarding the captioned investigation. Upon waiving his Military Rights, the interview commenced. Additionally, during the interview S/COPELAND provided a handwritten timeline of events from 28May25 through 02Jun25, detailing his whereabouts for that time frame, along with his interactions with [redacted V/A.R.] Enclosure (B) pertains.

3. On 28May25, S/COPELAND invited [redacted V/A.R.] to his barracks room to cook dinner. Most of the evening she was communicating on her phone back and forth with a person referred to as Gil (possibly referring to Gillespie), a former boyfriend, whom had given her a bike helmet that he was now asking to be returned. This started an argument between [redacted V/A.R.] and Gil which made her appear upset according to S/COPELAND. S/COPELAND asked her what the matter was, she provided the story about how Gil was trying to get the helmet back for another girl possibly, and she did not want to give it back. This led to [redacted V/A.R.] calling another ex-boyfriend, who resides in Texas, to vent to him. [redacted V/A.R.] made additional phone calls to other friends and family to talk. S/COPELAND was unaware of who all she spoke to that evening. After listening to her story, hanging out and listening to music; S/COPELAND stated he was tired and told [redacted V/A.R.] he was going to sleep; no exact time was provided for this series of events. He proceeded to go to bed and then awoke the next morning to his Chief, FCC Brad PARKER (FCC PARKER), USN, DDG 95, knocking on his door and [redacted V/A.R.] in his bed with him. S/COPELAND had on shorts and noted [redacted V/A.R.] was wearing her pants, but had removed her top to sleep, he further stated they did not engage in any form of sexual activity. Upon opening the door, S/COPELAND was informed he was UA (Unauthorized Absence) and needed to report to work as soon as possible. FCC PARKER then departed and S/COPELAND started cleaning up his room and getting ready to go to work while waiting on his roommate to return to give him a ride. At some point, S/COPELAND noticed [redacted V/A.R.] woke up and he informed her FCC PARKER had stopped by and he needed to go to work. She began helping

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **06JUN25**

him clean up the room and upon finishing, exited the barracks on her own sometime that morning, while S/COPELAND sat on the couch watching TV and eventually fell asleep.

4. As background, during S/COPELAND's initial interview he previously stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle to drive V/A.R. to her barracks. When questioned regarding his previous statement of borrowing his roommate's vehicle to drive V/A.R. he said he was mistaken before and he could not have done so as his other roommate who owned the Jeep was not home, nor was his vehicle. At this time, S/COPELAND uttered a statement in which he said, "I needed to get my story straight." S/COPELAND related he woke up at around dinner time on 29May25 and realized his roommate was not home and could not take him to work. S/COPELAND stated dinner time on the ship was between approximately 15:00 and 17:30, which he was using as his time of reference. He then called FCC PARKER and told him he would not be at work because he did not have a ride or vehicle available. In addition to FCC PARKER coming to the barracks room the next morning, S/COPELAND stated his roommate, YN3 Sean MONAGHAN (YN3 MONAGHAN), USN, Helicopter Marine Squadron 12 (HM-12), was present during the night when he and V/A.R. were sleeping.

5. S/COPELAND then stated he spent the remainder of the weekend in the barracks going between his room and one of the various lounges in the building. He did not like to remain in his room due to his roommate being unclean and emanating an unpleasant odor. S/COPELAND related the Barracks Manager, Ms. Mary (NFI) saw him in the lounge at various times over the course of the weekend, along with another white male (NFI), who was instructed along with S/COPELAND to stay in the lounge by a crew in the building cleaning or polishing the floors. The white male, who S/COPELAND could not further identify, attempted to leave and return to his room multiple times, but was met by the crew and told to return until they advised he could walk down the hallway. This led to a conversation between S/COPELAND and the unidentified male that ended with S/COPELAND being offered and declining a bag of chips from the man before he left. Ms. Mary interacted with S/COPELAND both in the lounge and while he was using one of the public restrooms, she knocked on the door and he stated he was currently in the facilities using the toilet. These interactions may have happened between Friday and Saturday according to S/COPELAND.

6. In addition to interacting with the above captioned individuals, S/COPELAND stated he did in fact turn off his location services on his cellphone to his friends as one of them had apparently been spying on him via the Apple location services and he did not want to be bothered or hang out with anyone. S/COPELAND did confirm he used the phone application Life 360 and has his location constantly shared, for approximately the past year, with a female (NFI) from back home, who would often check the app to see where S/COPELAND was currently located. S/COPELAND denied leaving the barracks until Sunday. 01Jun25 in the morning when he reported to the shop

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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Command Duty Officer after being informed by the base Military Police that he was UA. Upon a Master at Arms (MA) knocking on S/COPELAND's door that morning, he reported to the barge where he was order to undergo a urinalysis and was informed that he had officially been marked UA since the past Thursday morning, 28May25. After concluding all required tasks at the barge, S/COPELAND returned to his barracks until the next morning, 02JUN25, when he was ordered to report to work.

7. During the interview, S/COPELAND was questioned as to whether or not he knew V/A.R.'s current location and if he had any part in causing her disappearance or possible death to which he replied in the negative. When further questioned about what S/COPELAND would like the outcome of the investigation to be he made a statement hoping she was found. S/COPELAND expressed concerns with his own mental health at the time of the interview. Prior to the conclusion of the interview, S/COPELAND signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). Upon signing the PASS, the document was given to SA Lisa CARROLL, NCIS, and DNA samples were obtained from S/COPELAND by SA CARROLL which will be documented in a separate investigative action. Prior to ending the interview S/COPELAND was asked about access to vehicles regarding which, if any vehicles, he had access to use over the past week. S/COPELAND related he did not have access to a vehicle, other than on occasion his roommates Jeep when they were both home from work at the same time. S/COPELAND did not specify the roommate who owns the Jeep other than previously stating they reside in the same room.

8. At 1148 on 06Jun25, S/COPELAND was released to FCC PARKER. An audio recording of this interview was captured and the original SD card containing the interview along with a copy of the audio on a CD/DVD were provided to the case agent for safekeeping with the file.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER/CSSN COPELAND/06JUN25
(B) CSSN COPELAND HANDWRITTEN TIMELINE/06JUN25

REPORTED BY: TYLER BRYAN MANN, Investigator
OFFICE: POLYGRAPH RESIDENT AGENCY MID-ATLANTIC

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NCIS INTERVIEW ICO CSSN JEREMIAH COPELAND

SA GEREL: Today's date is 6 June 2025, at the NCIS Norfolk U-40 office. Approximate time is 0842. Polygraph and interview to be administered by Tyler Mann and David Gerel under session approval number 2025-2121 in regards to the missing person and or possible death of V/ A. R. . This interview is of Jeremiah Copeland, United States Navy, E-3.

[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland entered the room at timestamp 0:04:19.]

SA GEREL: All right, good morning. So, my name's David. I'm a part of the investigative team. I'm a special agent here at NCIS.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: This is my partner, Tyler Mann.

SA MANN: How are you?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm doing all right.

SA GEREL: We--we're part of the team, but also polygraph examiners.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, I'm going to check with you about the things that involving V/ A. R. and her whereabouts and things like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we have been told that you had--had previously talked to and had been interested in taking a polygraph to confirm some of the stuff they asked you about.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's part of what we're here to do today. The--the main focus for the team, which includes us and--and I believe you as well, is to make sure that we can figure out where she's at and she's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. Do you have any questions about any of that so far?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. Very good. So, what they're doing, they've been working real hard, and--and they're trying to kind of take pieces of thoughts as to who might know as much as possible, and then, once they're done with it, put aside so they can focus on other stuff. So, you know, they talked to you--you still seem to be the last person that they can confirm actually had laid eyes on her.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: So, as you might imagine, you're pretty interesting to them as far as what, you know,

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we want to go ahead and--and take some of those big questions off the table with the polygraph so that they can move from you and then handle some other stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: How's that sound to you?

CSSN COPELAND: Do I have to take the polygraph?

SA GEREL: No, no, no, no. So, a couple things on that. And--and it's good for you to know this, and and--and involving yourself with--with NCIS for law enforcement, you never have to do anything. You're--you're--you're a grown man. You make decisions about your involvement. You definitely don't have to do this.

In fact, we need you to want to do this if you--if you want to be successful. It does not help us to offer you a test that you don't want to do or you feel uncomfortable with. So----

CSSN COPELAND: I want to--because I have stuff that I--I have to do today.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah. I gotcha. I would ask a favor for you, though.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Like, I--I'd like you to hear a bit about it before you make your full decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: And--and then, after you hear about it, kind of what we're interested in, what we're doing, then you can make a good decision about it. And--and, I can assure you that we can do pretty big things in terms of helping you with your day. So, if there's something in your day that you're concerned about, I'm pretty sure we can help you adjust that.

But I--I don't really know for sure. So, I'd want--want to hear what your--what your concern would be. So, does that make sense? So, I--I--you--you have the request that will you listen to us explain, kind of more about what the polygraph is and what we can do for you with it, before you make that decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Is that cool? Okay. Cool. So, okay, good. So, call me David. This is Tyler. Feel free to be first name with us. All right. What do you like me to call you?

CSSN COPELAND: You can just call me Cope or Jay.

SA GEREL: Cope or Jay,. Okay. Got it. All right. Which do you prefer?

CSSN COPELAND: Jay.

SA GEREL: Jay. Okay. All right, Jay. All right. So, the decision to take the polygraph is--is, you know, it's a big one. So, it's not something people, like, just say, "Yeah, I can't wait to take a polygraph." It's something that sometimes people will,

you know, think about and--and even go into a little apprehensiveness.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: It's very normal. It's also very normal for--for a case like this to--to--for it to be used multiple times.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And--and that's because, like, we're--we're getting information, we're confirming information, and then, keep moving on because our goal is to--to find her safely.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, if they're spending time thinking about you and they don't need to be, let's let them help them not by thinking about something else.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: This is the concept. So, how a polygraph goes is we would go through a few forms. After we do the forms, we would, all the--the way through answering questions you have, we tell you what--what we know about the case, we share with you what you know about the case, make sure we're all on the same page with that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: And maybe we'll often find more details that we can push back to the main investigative team, and can help, and say that was

very helpful. And then, after that, we talk about the questions that we were considering asking you on polygraph.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: You would know what those questions are. You have a chance to talk about them, explain them, be comfortable with them. Once you're good and solidly comfortable with those questions, we explain how the test goes. We--we'd run the test and then, we would--we'd tell you how you did. And we'd tell the--the agents and the command how you did.

So, it gives people really quick information. And--and then, you know, if we--we'll talk all the--the way through. So, that's kind of the process.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: There's some significant talking upfront. I'd say probably at least an hour, sometimes a little bit more than that. That test itself is pretty quick. I mean, I say 15 minutes. After that, we talk through the results and see if there is any questions you have all the way through. We can--we treat you like you're a guest in our house, so if you need stuff like food, water, bathroom breaks, anything that would make you more comfortable, we'll do our best to accommodate that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: We want you to be as comfortable as you can through the process. You're in full control of the whole thing, all the way through.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: I gotcha.

SA GEREL: Is that something, hearing that, that you could be more interested in?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really. Like, I mean, I haven't even had, like, a normal time to even sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, every day they came and raided my room. You know, I got the chain of command talking about I got to come in. I got fucking Captain's Mast today.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, there's a whole bunch of stuff. And it's, like, my mental health, honestly, like, my mental health----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----going downhill.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Because it's just so much, like, you know, I'm trying to pretty much, like, you know, comprehend what's happening.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just every day it's something new. Something new. Something new.

SA GEREL: Okay. Well, your--your mental health is very important to us. So--so tell me--tell me more about that.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just something new every day.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know, it's not, even with this situation going on, I got family stuff going on. I got stuff in my life going on.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And it's--everything's just piling up. I'm getting--like, it's, like I'm getting stuck in a hole right now.

SA GEREL: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: So----

SA GEREL: All right. So, I hear you and--and what I'd like to do is the--the two forms that we typically do up front, where we will do the usual rights advisement, that you would get when anytime you talk to NCIS.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: I'm tempted--I'd like to--to offer you that, just to kind of make sure you kind of see the whole platform.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And--and then, that way we can talk, even a little bit more in-depth about how you're feeling and what we might be able to

do to help you feel a little bit better about that. But I don't want to do too much with that until we--we cover that first form because, your--your understanding of what--who we are and what we do is very important to me.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: And it should be important to you.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: So, with your permission, I'd like to go through that form with you, the first one. Just the rights advisement.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: And so, it's the--and you--you've been through it before. It's basically where we read you your rights. Like you have the right to remain silent and stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: I'd like to go through it with you. There's one that's a little--one piece of it's a little different on this form than what was talked about last time, and I want to have a chance to explain that to you. But, again, I--I--if you're telling me you don't want to do this, like, I'm not going to make you even do this part.

CSSN COPELAND: Because it's just like I haven't even had, like, a normal day where I can just try and rest.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: This whole week, the past week, it's just been hell for me.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, let's say I do it, then it's going to be more.

SA GEREL: Maybe.

CSSN COPELAND: Sign more papers. I got to come in and keep doing more stuff.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Maybe.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it's just too much stuff going on from there.

SA GEREL: So--so maybe, maybe not. And that's what I wanted to spend a little more time talking to you about, because some of the stress and pressure that you're feeling might get dramatically decreased once this is over. Okay? But again, I--I feel--I don't feel perfectly comfortable getting into those details without at least making sure you understand your rights.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: But I would love to share with you how I think that might help you, if you're cool with that.

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, before I do, Tyler, you--you got anything you--you want to say?

SA MANN: I mean, so can I--Jay, if you don't mind. Just with this, I know you're, like, my world is just spiraled. Right? And I get

it. This is a whirlwind. But the only advocate portion I'm going to sort of pitch you is this. What this will theoretically do if it--if--if you're forthcoming with us and we get to talk about all these topics here momentarily and put that all behind you, that on paper is going to make a lot of this stop.

So, you're still going to have some command things to maybe deal with. Family stuff is family stuff. I feel you. We all got to deal with that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: But at least it'll get this--this piece. Like, the NCIS piece will more than likely go--minimize. I'm not going to make a promise that that's going to happen, but----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----if this goes well and they say, "Hey, like we don't have to worry about him anymore. He's not on our, you know, interesting list of people anymore, not the most interesting man in the world." Like, we can sort of put you on the back burner. That invasiveness will likely decrease a significant amount.

So, I know you're, like, I just want all this shit behind me, and I get it, dude. I would want the same, like, if I'm sitting in here seat, I'm, like, Jesus, just give me, like, a day to be myself. Like, I'm 20 years old. What in the world am I getting into? Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So, that's why we're trying to do it is just to give you--you a little, hey, this--this can be an exit ramp for some of that baggage to go a separate way. And then, you can focus more on your family. You can focus more on you. Other things that are important.

And, you know, we can--whatever those are. If you're happy to share them, I'm happy to hear them. But, you know, I think that those are the things you should focus on, you know, family, obviously, first over everything. So, hopefully, we can take this off your plate by getting the polygraph out of the way. That's just my kind of piece from hearing what you're saying. And then, does that resonate? Am I on the right track with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Are we on the same page?

CSSN COPELAND: Gotcha. I appreciate you.

SA MANN: But yeah, I'll--I'll go back to that. That's kind of just the step we've got----

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

SA MANN: ----to go through.

SA GEREL: Cool. Are you--you comfortable just doing the first step and then talking a little bit more? We're not going to make you make a decision one way or the other.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, what do you--what's the form?

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah.

So, it's the Military Rights Waiver form and you've--you've seen this one before, so the form itself isn't that different. The thing I wanted to make sure that I shared with you to get the chance I can explain it is--is this part right here.

Okay. So, this is the rights waiver form. We do this before every polygraph, also before we talk to people. That's me and my partner. This is where we're at. So--so we want to talk to you today about, again, I'll explain all this, but making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CCSN V/ A. R. .

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. So, this--a couple things here. So, we don't really care about the things you've said so far. I--I know that we're telling you you're suspected of making some things--some statements that might not be accurate. I want to make sure you know, all the--the way from the beginning of the end, that is not our focus.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You're suspected of it because, and that means we've got to let you know----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: ----that we're going to talk about it. But nobody's been that worried about that. We--we--we are focusing on V/A.R.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: All right. So, V/A.R.. So--so we don't know if she's dead or not.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Right. But do--do you agree that that's everybody's fear?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. So, everybody's worried that she's been gone too long. She's usually pretty responsive. So, that's--that's what we're worried about. So, what we'd like to do is, although you're not specifically suspected of causing harm to her----

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: ----we'd like to make sure you didn't. So they're making it seem. Like, okay, Copeland, maybe he--he is not perfect, but he didn't do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: That make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's the stuff we're going to talk about, and hopefully that polygraph help us figure out.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: All right. Does that make sense now?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: I just didn't want to drop this in your lap, and you're, like, what's that mean? I wanted to make sure I explained that. The rest of the form is exactly the same as the ones you've seen before. So, with knowing the topic that we're going to be focusing in on, here's some things to keep in mind.

You have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all. Any statement that you make can be used against you in--in--in trial or by court-martial or any other judicial administrative proceeding.

You have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to any questioning. This lawyer may be a civilian lawyer retained by you at no cost to the United States, a military lawyer appointed to act as your counsel at no cost to you, or both. So, you can have a lawyer, and in multiple capacities.

You have the right to have any retained lawyer and or appointed lawyer present during the interview. And you may terminate the interview at any time for any reason.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
SA GEREL: These are all important. I like that. Really emphasize that last one because you are in full control of the conversation. You know, you can talk to us. You don't have to talk to us.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: As long as you're professional and--and polite to us, we'll be the same to you.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: All the way through. Any questions about any of this so far?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: Are you cool to talk with us a little bit more?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, I'm going to read this part out loud.
CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: And--and just so you--you've heard it and--and make sure you agree with it. But what we'd like to make sure that you're cool with and understand is that you understand, or I'm going to read it out loud to you.

I understand my rights as related to me and as set forth above. With that understanding, I have described--I'm sorry, I have decided that I do not desire to remain silent, consult with a retained or appointed lawyer, or have a lawyer present at this time. I make this decision freely and voluntarily. No threats or promises have been made to me.

Does that make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Do you agree with that?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, if you--if you agree with it and want to talk to us, again, you're not deciding on the poly quite yet.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: You--you just want to get to us, you--you could initial for me beside each of these numbers. Sign that paragraph and then, sign for me there, please.
CSSN COPELAND: So, for each question, is it before and after or just----
SA GEREL: Just beside the number is fine. Yeah. Sorry, these things [inaudible 0:17:55]. There you go.
And then, just beside that paragraph as well.
CSSN COPELAND: This one?
SA GEREL: Yes, please. And then a full signature, there. But you--do you understand this and want to talk to us? Is that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: Okay. Thank you. All right, so the next thing we'll cover in a little bit more detail is the polygraph itself. The--the next form that we--that we may use is--is where we talk to you about what the polygraph is, and you say, "Okay. I'll start the process." So, that's where you can list, know definitively one or the other, but I'm not even going to get to that form quite yet.

So, let's--do--do--what questions do you have for us that will help you understand kind of why we're here and--and what we want to do today?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I don't have really no questions.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right, so--so let me just make sure you kind of see it from their perspective and--and our--and our perspective. You--you--you--I think you've already acknowledged this, but, so the big fear is that V/A.R. may be--may be dead.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. Did you do that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. I know they already asked you that, and you said no.

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Do you--do you know where she's at?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Did you help anybody to abduct her or kill her or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: That's the focus today.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. What we'd like to do is take that off the table so they are not thinking Copeland could have had anything to do with that. Make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: And--and--and, if we're able to talk to you about that and you get confident--you're already confident. Whether you can even stay confident to the point where you take that test and show a--a positive result, then we're going to be able to take that back to the agents and to the Commander. Like, "Okay, good. Now let's find other ways to find, V/A.R." Make sense?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Does that make you feel any different about doing this?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir. I mean, at the end of the day, like, this is just a lot of stuff for me to handle right now. At the end of the day, there's always something. On top of that, they still want me to come to work. They still want me to do this. They still want me to do that.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, it is just a lot. They keep coming to my room every day.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, it's just, like, I--I don't have a break.

SA GEREL: What are they--what's the mast for today? The Captain's Mast?

CSSN COPELAND: Going UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. Well, who do you think about that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, at the end of the day, like--like he said, I'm a grown man and so, I'm going to take full accountability. At the end of day, it was me being irresponsible, not getting work when I'm supposed to. So, at the end of the day, I'm going to just take the consequence.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Does it bother--does it scare you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I mean, it's mast. I mean, at the end of the day.

SA GEREL: Okay. Does--have you been through that before?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. And do you know, people have been?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What usually happens on something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: They put you on a restriction. I mean, in my offense, I can already see they're probably going to take a reduction--reduction rate, half a month's pay, and probably put me on restriction. For how long? I don't know.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and how--how does that make you feel to know that might be coming?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really much. I mean, I just got to go with the flow at the end of the day. Like I said, I take full accountability for my actions.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Not making it to work when I'm supposed to be, so---

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SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah. The military's different that way, right? Because I mean, in civilian, like, I don't show up, nobody, like, is going to punish me for it typically.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, they might, you know, talk to you about it or something. But in the military, like you said, it is different, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. A little different. I--I--I--I like how you're kind of keeping that frame in your mind. I don't want to speak for you, but it feels like you kind of get the gravity of what that is. I mean, you should have been to work. You weren't. They're going to do something about it. Sounds like something you can take that lump and move right on.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: We kind of think that too. But I wanted to see how bad that was affecting your--your mental health because, we--we could ask for that to get pushed back. We--then I think it probably would. I can't speak for your command, but they might do that.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I mean, the CO, he's trying to push it to where I get it done today

SA GEREL: And then, maybe you want that. I don't know. You want it done sooner or later?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, sooner. I mean, because obviously I don't want to stay on the barge. Like, I fucking hate the barge.

SA GEREL: It sounds like it would be a not a fun place.

SA MANN: I don't think you're alone in that. I've talked to many people at the barge.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't know who lied and said the barge was, like, smooth, but being in the shipyard in general.

SA GEREL: Yeah. One of the things that we would do would be to press on is just get to know you a little bit. I know some things about you, but I don't know as much as I want to to give you a polygraph. So, we--we get to know more about you, to include things like that. Like what--what ships you've been on and what you've--what you've been experiencing. I mean, you're young, so I--I would imagine probably not that much in the Navy quite yet.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, a little bit. I mean, I was on a carrier before I was on a DDG, so.

SA GEREL: What--what carrier were you on?

CSSN COPELAND: The Truman.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. All right.

SA MANN: You guys had a hell of a deployment, huh?
SA GEREL: Did you just get back from the deployment?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I did half the deployment. I flew off during February. Like, the middle of February.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.] Okay. Tyler, you got any--any things you want to cover?
SA MANN: I mean, what can we do to help you today? Like what moves, what--what gives us some power to help you out? Because I don't know that we have it, but I'll sure as hell try.
CSSN COPELAND: Nothing really. I mean, at the end of the day, you guys are doing your job, so----
SA MANN: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: That's--then that's just nothing. It's nothing really to it. At the end of the day, I can't ask you guys to do something. Like, you guys are just trying to do your job, get down to the bottom of whatever you guys need to. At the end of the day. I'm just trying to live.
SA MANN: No. Yeah. Absolutely. But that's what I mean, like, if there's somewhere we can meet in the middle and you've got an existential issue right now that you're, like, "Hey, like, here's the biggest thing going on in my world. I need this handled." Maybe we can help out with that, and it'll help you feel a little more comfortable with what we'd like to do with you today.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just everything that I got because I already know, like, with mast coming up, I also got a court date coming up.

SA MANN: So, what's that for?

CSSN COPELAND: Speeding.

SA MANN: Okay. Do you know when?

CSSN COPELAND: That's the 21st of July, so----

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----by the time I get off restriction, I'm going to have to prepare for that. On top of that, I've been trying to get--reach out to my lawyer. Don't got a phone. They took it, so----

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.] About that court? The speeding thing?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I got to talk to--the judge granted me a public defender. Can't even reach out to my public defender because I--I don't have a phone, so.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: At this point, it's just, like, I'm--I'm fried.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's a lot going on. We definitely get that. How much sleep would you--you think you got last night?

CSSN COPELAND: None. I had to prep doing my uniform for mast today, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Like, your--your dress uniform?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And then, how has that been over the last few days? How much sleep you getting?

CSSN COPELAND: None. Like, maybe an hour. I mean, the last time they came and got me, they didn't release me till, like, two, almost three o'clock. As soon as they released me, my Chief took me to my barracks. I had to get my uniform and go straight to work.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I had no sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So

SA GEREL: So, how about food? How you--how are you eating?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't have, like, an appetite to really eat at all, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Do you have some food this morning?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: You want some?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm good.

SA GEREL: How about some water? You want some water.

CSSN COPELAND: Water, yeah. I'll take some water.

SA GEREL: Okay. We'll go get that. We'll be back.

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

[SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 0:25:30.]

SA MANN: So--so, I mean, I know you got a--a storm growing. Right? What's going on in the family world?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I just got shit with my mom. I mean, on top of that, she doesn't even know anything that's happened. I mean, I--I understand she realized I went UA. She called my command and called the--the base.

SA MANN: She was worried about?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, I mean, other than that, I--I haven't really talked to her ever--ever since that. My dad's been in the hospital, so.

SA MANN: How's he doing?

CSSN COPELAND: Not that well.

SA MANN: Oh. Do you mind if I ask what's happening?

CSSN COPELAND: So, he got an infection, and that was--I found out about that when I was on deployment, and I--I think it was, like, around December.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I tried to put in leave. Like, emergency leave.

SA MANN: Sure.

CSSN COPELAND: My chain of command denied it.

SA MANN: Yeah. I--I know the Truman was going through----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----some stuff out there, so I'm sure that was tough.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. And he's been in the hospital ever since. My mom said he's basically lost, like, his--like, he can't walk. He can barely talk.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: His vision's going bad, too. So, I know on their part. I know it's, like, hard, on that, so.

SA MANN: Yeah. No, that's tough.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: When's the last time you got to see him?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm?

SA MANN: When was the last time you got to see him?

CSSN COPELAND: It's been almost a year since I last took leave.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, that's also another thing. It's, like, I haven't been home. I've been telling my chain of command for months now. Like I--I--I need to take leave.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Because with everything going on, it's fucking with my mental health.

SA MANN: I gotcha. That'd be tough. I know I'd be----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----feeling probably similar if I had a bunch of family that I wasn't getting to see that were sitting in the hospital with prior circumstances. So, no, I get it, man.

And again, I'm not--one way or another today. Like, what you decide to do, I want you--you to just be comfortable with your decision.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: You know, I know you said it. Like, I--I think, you know, spent some--some time I think with B on the ship. Obviously, she's the only agent that was there, but, that I know she has a pretty--I don't know how--what your interactions with her have--have been. But I know she's generally a pretty straight shooter. I don't think she sort of beats around the bush. She just says, "Hey, here's what we got to do. Let's do it." Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She--she keeps it a hundred, but I don't like the way that she does it.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, everybody that I've talked to, dealt with, even with police officers, like--like, yeah, they got one job to be doing, but they kept it professional. When, like, I don't know what her problem is, but I feel like with me and her interactions, she--I feel like she antagonizes me.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And I don't--I don't really appreciate that, like, when I was talking to the first--first detective, little short one, you know, it was her and another agent that came to my room.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And, I talked to them. Cool. And then, when they had came and raided my room, she was there just in the background. I could see her staring at me. At first, I was, like, there's no way that's her until the agent had called her over there. And I was, like, fuck. All right, cool. But it's, like, the whole time we were in the interrogation room, it's just, like, she was, like, irritating me.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It's, like, I--it's, like, some people I can stand, but it's just something about her I don't like.

SA MANN: No, that's fair. I--I, like, I don't like everybody I meet, too. Sometimes it's just people don't connect. It is what it is. What I would ask today, though, is if I make you feel that way, if David makes you feel that way----

CSSN COPELAND: No, you guys--you guys are totally, like, you know, respectful, and you guys are keeping it official.

SA MANN: Yep.

CSSN COPELAND: It's just the way that she carries herself, the way that the mentality she has.

SA MANN: Understood. But if--if you feel like that happens, I want you to stop and let us know. You can tell me I'm wrong. That's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA MANN: I'm not, same with him. We're not above making a mistake. So, if you feel like a line is crossed, let us know. We don't want to do that. We'll course-correct for you.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. Thank you.

SA MANN: Yeah, just again, if--if I'm going to be blunt with you--you can be blunt with me. Full--fully expect that. So--excuse me. Why I said that, and, you know, and I think David's sort of been kind of slowly talking through this with you is, again, everyone wants to know where V/A.R. is. The longer she's gone, you know, I mean, you've probably seen an Netflix documentary. Right? Like, as time passes and these type of things, all you see on the news. Like, hey, the more time that somebody's missing, the higher the likelihood that the end result's not a good one. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: That's just--it's statistics, and we're hoping that by trying to expedite and move through these things, this takes a ton of resources. I mean, we've had people the second that we found out she was gone, people started coming from every office all around the

country to try to serve and to give us bodies and manpower so we can dedicate more resources to trying to find her.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: You know, and I, again, unfortunately, you happen to be the last person that was with her----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----before either she went missing, she made the decision to do it, something bad happened to her, whatever that was. Whether it's fair or not, like, the fingers all kind of initially point at you just because you were that last one to be with her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And I hate to say it, but again, it's just like watching TV. If the last person that was with her was the last person that was with her, that's the easiest place to start. It's logical. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: Hey, you should at least have some semblance of an idea of what happened when she departed, where she went. You know, if she said anything to you about, "Hey, here's where I'm going to go, what I'm going to do."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: If you have any idea what that is, that's information we definitely want. The reason we kind of bring polygraph in the room

is so we can get that clear result from you. Because as much as I sit here and I want to believe everybody I work with----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----I'd be foolish to do that, right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Because some people aren't going to be straight shooters.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So, that's why we use polygraph as a tool to say, hey, if you knew something about, you know, let's hope not, but if she were to be dead at this point, if you had any knowledge of that, we'd want to know that. Because then we need to redirect resources elsewhere.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Also, if you have nothing to do with that, we want to prove that for you, too.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: Because then that allows us to take that spotlight that you feel is on you right now and shake it somewhere else.

CSSN COPELAND: It's not even about the spotlight. At the end of the day, it's life. Like, cool. But it is just more so, like, the shit I have going on now and then, this top on top of it. So, it's just, like, this right here is just a knocker.

SA MANN: Yeah. No, your--your glass is full.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: I feel you. So, what--what do you think we can accomplish today? What do you have the bandwidth for?
CSSN COPELAND: I just, like, if you guys got questions, cool. At the end of the day, I'm--I'm trying to--the biggest thing I'm trying to knock off is just seeing what the captain has to say. I just want to get one piece done. I'm just slowly trying to get things, you know. I'm just slowly trying to get things off of my plate. Because at the end of the day. Like, everything I have going on is going nowhere at this point.
SA GEREL: I gotcha. So, not to, I--I guess diminish what you're saying, like, that's important. And I think, you know, if I was sitting in your same shoes and I want that answer. Like, "Hey, just like--like you said, I'm going to own it. Tell me what I got to do to own it."

I think we're--we would miss an opportunity here to help get more off your plate if we didn't at least offer you this again. No one can sit here and say, "Hey, gun to your head, you got to sit down and do it." But I do think that this helps move some stuff off your plate. So, today, in theory, you could take this off your plate, and you can take the mast off your plate, and hopefully that's two things that help push you in a more positive direction.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But at the end of the day, you guys are still going to come for questions.

SA GEREL: I don't know. I--I mean, I--I----

CSSN COPELAND: It's still going nowhere.

SA MANN: They may. But, you know, as Dave they've kind of mentioned earlier, the question that we want to know is really, and--and I think, you know, we'll give this more poly. Like, if I were to give you some sort of polygraph, if I was going to say, "Hey, like--like here's what we need answered it," it'd be what he asked you the other day. Did you cause her death? Or did, you know, is she dead? Like, do--do you have actual intimate knowledge of that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Because then if you--if you're not a part of that, and you know, if--if maybe she is still alive out there somewhere, or if she is unfortunately deceased to this point, we know that you had nothing to do with it. So, then those questions about you, who you are, where you were, what you did, all of that. You know, it's an investigation like you said, people are going to look at everything thoroughly.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: But then there's other people that need to look at other things that they need to look at, you know. Was this, at some point, somebody else who did something malicious or foul? Did she

just run away? Maybe she just had enough of it. Would it be an unfortunate case? Maybe it was a suicide. We don't know. But that's why we're trying to work through, and you're not--I know you feel. Like, "Hey, the spotlight's on you." You're not the only person that people are trying to highlight and get answers for.

So, I won't sit here and say that no one's going to come knocking on your door and asking you a question. But I would highly anticipate that this puts a lot of those questions at bay, because everyone's going to go, "Hey, Copeland's not the bad guy that did something bad to V/A.R.. You know, Jay's not that guy."

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day--at the end of the day, it's, like, you still got people looking at you. It doesn't matter, regardless.

SA MANN: What makes you think that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, for instance, I walk into work, you got people looking at me crazy. The CO, for example.

SA MANN: I gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, it's just, like, it's not going to go anywhere. All right, cool. The situation gets done, and handled where people are still going to have their opinion not knowing the full facts and everything.

SA MANN: Yeah. The court of public opinion is damning, right? Like, unfortunately, we can't change that. What we will do. Like,

David said, is we'll give results to everybody that matters. And I--I mean, I think, you know what the--the E-3 underground is alive and well. So, once somebody finds out that, "Hey. Like, Jay didn't do bad things. This was all just false accusations." If that is the case, that's going to resonate. People are going to hear that.

So, you know, are you going to ever going to be able to stop people looking at you for something? No, that's reality. Somebody's always going to have their opinion of you. Someone may love you, someone may hate you. It is what it is.

But, and--and I know that this is kind of a foreign concept in the sense of polygraph. Most people are. Like, yeah, I mean, I think I know what it is. I think I'd be willing to do it. And--and it's not that we want to sit here and slam you with a bunch of questions. What we want to do is give you an opportunity to, in theory, and or minimize those questions that are going to come about you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: At least from us. Right? Like, I can't control what somebody's opinion of you is going to be. All I can do is tell that person, "Hey, Jay didn't do the thing that you're saying he thinks he did. He's proven that." And you know, if they just want to keep that opinion because they don't like you, or if they, you know, do

like you enough and they go, "Oh, well that's great to know. Like, I'm glad I can trust this guy. Like, he's not somebody."

So, you know, I--I think there are two sides to that coin. I just want to make sure that you've seen both.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: I know in your world right now, the easy side to go to is, like, this is all bad, and I--I get it, especially considering your family situation. Not being able to see your dad, but hopefully putting this piece behind it means that all you got to worry about is get through that mast. You know, take whatever punishment they decide to give you. Then, if this is all gone away and you're part--you're--you're not a part of it anymore, hopefully then they can see the need for you to go take some leave, see your family, you know, check in on dad, and go from there.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: So.

SA GEREL: Yeah, investigations. Like, you know, there's--there's only a few things we can do to prove what we call proving a negative. Like, you can say all day long, I didn't do it. And people either have to believe that or not believe that. So, we're looking for evidence, but one thing that we can offer is, "I didn't do it, and I passed my polygraph."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know what I--I mean? So, then like they've got something else to. Like, "Well, dang, maybe you didn't do it." So, it definitely adds a lot to--it's something you can proactively do to give credence to what you're telling folks. So, I--Tyler may have already said that, but. You follow about that later or not yet? Did--does it give you any other thought on trying it today?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't feel like I can take that shit today. Like, it's just, I'm telling you. Like, I got too much shit going on.

SA GEREL: I gotcha. I gotcha. And--and--and frankly, I am concerned about your sleep and your food and--and your mental health. Like, those are things that would, even as you said, I'll take it and then, I--I heard that stuff. I might not want to give it to you today, any because--because those things would be important for me to know that you have--that you're coming in with a good day.

So, two of the things that could consider with you. Thing number one, you may not feel like today's a good day for it, but are you seeing that maybe sometime in the future it could be?

CSSN COPELAND: Most definitely.

SA GEREL: Okay. Cool. Love that. Okay. Next thing, there are some details that we maybe could capture that might help. The--some things you know. Because you you--you--as I told you, you're

probably the last person that we know of that saw her. So, when we reviewed that first interview or the one that they brought you here to talk about, we watched it, and--and--and I appreciate you doing that, but there's a couple things that we were kind of curious about that might help us help them.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Are you cool--can you cover some of the details with this? Good with that? Okay. Good.

So, what's your--what--what's your hard timeframe? When--when do you--you want to be done with this today?

CSSN COPELAND: As fast as possible. Like, do you you--do you--you guys know what time it is?

SA GEREL: Yeah. It's 9:20.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I--I will tell you that, like, we're what--do you have a scheduled time for your mast?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I don't know if it's before or after lunch. Lunch starts at eleven o'clock, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I guess it's probably going to be done after.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I--I think that's more likely. They--they'll likely have no trouble waiting on you. Like, if we get a little

delayed, but I--I don't think we're going to have to delay you that long.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Anything that you needed to absolutely do before your mast?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really think so.

SA GEREL: Okay. I just want to take care of your time. I appreciate you--you working with us. You've got a lot of stressors, and I--I understand. Do you feel like any of those stressors are more important than finding V/A.R.?

CSSN COPELAND: Can you say that again?

SA GEREL: Yeah. I know you've got a lot of things that are stressing you. You've got the traffic court. You've got the--the--the other---we haven't talked about this yet, but we know about the other investigations. We--we know you got some things that are kind of stressing you, but are--are any of those things more important to you than helping to find V/A.R.?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: Okay. I didn't think so. I mean, if it feels like you didn't know her. Like, super well, but I think you knew her enough where you'd probably be concerned about her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And that's the vibe I'm getting. So, it's good to hear that because--because that--that makes me feel very comfortable with--with, you know.

CSSN COPELAND: And then at the end of the day, I'm answering questions, like you said, everybody else asks. If I wanted to leave, I could left at any given moment.

SA GEREL: Yeah. [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, I'm taking the time to talk to you guys, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. I--I figured, but I--I wanted to kind of check--check your thoughts on that. Okay. Good. All right. So, as--as--as best you can tell us about, like you--you, well, actually, let me even go before that. How did you meet V/ A. R.?

CSSN COPELAND: CSA school. We're the same rate?

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: We went to A-school together. When I checked into the command, it was her and another CS that I knew. V/ A. R. is, like, I didn't really go up and talk to her, but she is, like, you know, when you look at someone, they're, like, that person looks familiar, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: That's how I saw her. And then, my homeboy, JJ, walked up to me. I was, like, "Oh, shit." And from there, me and

him were talking, and then, later down, it was, like, a couple days afterwards, that's when she came up to me and asked me if I--what class I was in in A-school.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there I was, like, "I knew you looked familiar," and then from there we were talking. I mean, there's been previous times before that where we've hungen out. We've gone out to eat. We've went to Dave and Busters. We've--yeah.

SA GEREL: So, how long ago was that A-school? When was that? Like, two year or so?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, almost two years ago.

SA GEREL: Two--two years ago. Okay. You've known her for a long time.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Were you all--where did--where did, after A-school, where did you--you serve with her at? Or were you on the same ship or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. After A-school, I went--that's when I was on the Truman, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, A-school, the Truman for, and then, you--did you work in your rate. Like, as--as a CS?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. And then how--how much did you keep in contact with, V/ A. R.?

CSSN COPELAND: I never had her contact until I got onto the--the DDG I'm on now.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, the barge.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What did you feel about the barge? What's that like?

CSSN COPELAND: It's ass.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I'm not going to say, like, the ship is ass, but it--it's ass.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Because, it's, like, being. Like, I guess it's just transitioning from--from the carrier life to a DDG.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't like it.

SA GEREL: Yeah. I've heard that before. I've done investigations on the barge, and I'm. Like, this doesn't feel like a very comfortable place.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. No.

SA GEREL: Do--do they make y'all sleep on the barge sometimes?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. People, I mean, if somebody has duty, they have a berthing for that. Or there's some people that don't have barracks.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: That way you getting a ride so they stay--they stay on the barge.

SA GEREL: Okay. I gotcha. All right, so--so got on the barge, kind of met back up with--with--with V/A.R.. Tell me about that, like, when you first kind of came back in contact with her. What--what, what--what was your relationship like?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, just work. That's about it. I know we would come in. Like, "Morning, how you doing?" type of thing.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: You know, same thing with the whole watch. Just, you know, saying good morning to everybody, just talking.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And one thing about me is, like, if I work with you, I'm going to have to be obligated to talk to you. So, it's either. Like, you can either hate me or not. Cool. If not, I'm going to just still say good morning.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: If you choose not to talk to me, you choose not to. But towards me and V/ A. R., it was acquaintances. Like, we were--we were good. Cordial.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Everything was cool.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. That's very good. Fast forward just a--a smidge because I'm momentarily curious about this. So, where do you think she's at?

CSSN COPELAND: If I--I couldn't tell you. I know when she left, she left. I know she was saying she was mad at Gil. I mean, the night of you know, she was mad as fuck. That's all. Sorry for cussing, but----

SA GEREL: No, no, that, that's----

CSSN COPELAND: You know, she was on a--calling a lot of people. I know she had called her ex, that lived in Texas.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And she was saying, like, how he fucked up, how he can't do this, can't do that. She's always spending money on him. Always sending him money. And I'm just sitting there. Like, cool. And, I had talked to the dude. He was pretty chill, pretty cool. And then, from there, that's when she just started calling other people.

SA GEREL: Why was she so mad at Gil?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, they got into an argument, so they got into an argument about a bike helmet that Gil had gave V/ A. R..

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And V/ A. R. said that she saw some dude, or not some dude, but some female getting on his bike when she went on a walk.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And the--the day that he picked the female up, I'm guessing he was asking for the bike helmet back, and V/ A. R. was asking, "Why specifically the bike helmet if you gave it to me?" And he was just, like, "Oh, it reminds me of all the times and all the places we could've gone together."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: "And things we could've done." So--so it's, like, he was basically saying it's more of like a--like a memory.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, she doesn't want to give--give him back the bike helmet. They was just going back and forth arguing, and that's when he said--he was just, like, "Fuck it, just keep the helmet." He's. Like, "You can just keep it. I don't want it anymore."

SA GEREL: Okay. So--so, what--what--what, I--I don't fully understand like why that made her so upset.

CSSN COPELAND: Because, obviously, she was--in her eyes, she thought that he was going to give it to another female to ride on his bike. Obviously, they've dated.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And, you know.

SA GEREL: Sounds like jealousy. Is that the right word for how she was feeling?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, if that's how you want to put it. Yeah.

SA GEREL: Well, I don't know. I--I'm just trying to figure it out. But--but she--she was concerned with this other female and Gil.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And. Like, whatever he was doing with her. But I don't want to put words in the--what--that's why I kind of want to know what your thoughts are as to why she was so mad.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's what I would think, obviously. Or she's mad because, obviously, I don't know if they're trying to fix the relationship or if they're still talking.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I knew they dated, you know, and she talked to another dude.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, that's not my business. That's totally their business. I mean, cool. Like, y'all can do what y'all want to do. But I'm not going to get myself involved in their situation.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, you don't know where--where she's at. Did you see or ever hear anything from her that makes you think that she would just not go to work and disappear? Anything like that?
CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, I don't really text her. Like, usually when I leave people, I just be. Like, "If you need something, just call or text me," and I just leave it like that.
SA GEREL: Okay. Now I know that all of us can be tempted at times to cover for friends and family. Like, if they do something and they're, like, "Oh man, I'm gonna--I got your back." I--I don't know if that's happening here, but I--I would hope that, if there's something that you know of, something she may have wanted to do, you would let us know. Is anything like that?
CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. I mean, the only person that I know that talks to her on daily is Gillespie and Rich.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: Those are the two main people that she talks to at work.
SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, if you want more, you probably have to ask them or talk to them.

SA GEREL: Sure.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But those are the two people that she talks to. Like, pretty much on daily, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and they have and they--they will. Like, keep talking to them. But there are times--this is my thinking. You--you--you, of course, make your own thoughts, but, even though we may feel tempted to help other people, sometimes it's more important to actually not. You know, so in this case, you've got tons of people looking for her, including her family.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: And worried sick about her. In this instance, I--I would suggest that it's more important to, if there's something that you could feel tempted to hide on her behalf, that you wouldn't do that with us right now, even if you have already.

CSSN COPELAND: Fuck no. I mean, you see the situation I'm in. I'm not--like, at the end of the day, if somebody fuck up, that's on them.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. Okay. I appreciate you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: I--I got that vibe from you, but I wanted to make sure that we were seeing that in the same way. Because I mean, I definitely have been around some people, or maybe even myself sometimes been. Like, I'm not going to ever hurt that person, and-- and I'm not going to tell. The--the police or anybody about something that person did. Because I care that much, like a loyalty thing.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, you see how big it's getting. At the end of the day, I mean, I've told both of you what I have going on in my life.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm--I'm at this point, I'm not helping nobody put something like that.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: If they leave, I'm snitching, like yeah. This person left. I'm sorry, but I'm telling.

SA GEREL: Well, and I thank you. And I wouldn't even call it that. It's just, like, you care enough----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----about the person. Let's go ahead and get this squared away so someone, you know, doesn't get any extra smoke. That's good.

All right, so let's unfortunately think about some possibilities for---well, let's--let's presume for a second that maybe something bad happened to her. Do you have, like, a list--we all have this list of angels and demons. People that are. Like, there's no way these people would've done anything bad to her. I'm not so sure about these people. The--the demons and I--we might want to be looking more at them.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Who--who--who is your angels and demons in terms of who could have--who--who--well, let's start with angels.

Who would you say, like, there's no way this person did anything bad to her?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I can't really determine that. I mean, I know there's people she talks to, but at the end of the day, I don't jurisdict everybody she hangs out with.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I don't--I couldn't honestly tell you that from a get go. I mean, I know the people that we work with, you know, she talks to, and the only two that I see her talk to when we're at work is Gillespie and Rich.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So.

SA GEREL: And--and they give you a little, grace on this. Oh, I'm not going to hold your feet to the fire and say, like, "Oh, he said that they couldn't have done it, so, there's no way they did it." I--I mean, you're not God. You don't know all the things.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, but I--but I would--but sometimes those instincts are pretty important. Right? So--so you may feel. Like, I know Gil, I mean, he's not perfect, but, like, I would be shocked if he did anything bad like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Or you might say, like, Gil's suspicious. I mean, you might want to be looking at Gil.

W Yeah.

SA GEREL: You know what I mean? So, like, I'm not going to--we wouldn't let people know, like that Copeland said, "Look at Gil."

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Or whomever. But--but your--your--everyone's instincts can be pretty darn important. So, like, if you have any instincts, good or bad, towards the people that have been mentioned around her, we'd appreciate to hear about it.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, at the end of the day, I don't really know those two like that. I mean, I know JJ is somebody we work with.

There's Garcia and Miguel, Buco. Like, when we're at work, we work. Cool. You know, time to time we joke around and bullshit.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: That's, you know, that's just our way. Like, theoretically for CS's to, you know, get through our day.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: At the end of the day, we--we're the first people to walk on the ship, last people to leave, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: You know, that's just one way we get through work. As far as Gillespie and Mitch, I don't--Rich, I don't really know them like that, so.

SA GEREL: So, those dudes are CS's?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no, no, no. I don't know what their rate is.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, going into a DDG and they got, you know. Like, STGs and stuff like that. I don't know what those rates are.

SA GEREL: Okay. Gotcha. So, they don't work with y'all.

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no, no. I know. Like, they, you know, they come in the galley and they talked back--they be in the back talking to V/ A. R..

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: You got. Like, CS1 or CS2 walk--walk in the galley, and they walk through and see them back there.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then, obviously, they asked--asked them to get out the galley.

SA GEREL: What was V/ A. R.'s first ship? I mean, is it the one that you all are on, or is it a different ship?

CSSN COPELAND: I believe it's the ship we're on now.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you mentioned JJ. Who--what--who's that? Say that full name again, please.

CSSN COPELAND: JJ?

SA GEREL: Yeah. Who's that?

CSSN COPELAND: He's somebody, a CS.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, all those names besides Rich and----

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: ----Gillespie, those are all CS's.

SA GEREL: Okay. I got you. You said a bunch names. I just want to make sure I'm understanding the--the same people or different people. So, do you know JJ's full name?

CSSN COPELAND: It's, like, Edison Jean Jaques or something like that.

SA GEREL: Jaques. Okay. All right. And who else did you mention?

CSSN COPELAND: Buco.

SA GEREL: Buco. Okay. And is Buco a CS?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GEREL: And----

CSSN COPELAND: Garcia and Miguel.

SA GEREL: Garcia and Miguel. So--so these folks are people around you all?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes.

SA GEREL: Do you categorize them as suspicious or not suspicious?

CSSN COPELAND: They're not suspicious.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right. Just kind of people you work with?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. Any suspicious people?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, it's limited in. Like, from my point of view.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really know anybody around V/ A. R., you know, that's, like, aggressive or somebody that could hate V/ A. R..

SA GEREL: Okay. The--the--the girl with--with the bike helmet, do you know her name?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: You know, even. Like, a nickname, or, like, do you know anything about her at all?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I believe she is a civilian.

SA GEREL: A civilian.

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't know who she is, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I remember Gillespie telling me, like, his little portion on it, and then, when V/ A. R. came over and she was talking about it. That's--that's the only thing that I know about it.

SA GEREL: Okay. How does V/ A. R., how--how does V/ A. R. feel about that girl?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, she didn't really know the female, so she was just, like, categorizing her as a bitch?

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was, like, "Yeah, I can't believe he's trying to get my helmet for something. Like, for a bitch."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I was just, like, I mean, at the end of the day, that's how men are sometimes.

SA GEREL: Did--did--did you ever hear V/ A. R. talk about getting. Like, pestered by anybody? Like, blown up or, like, tons of messages or anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. Nah. She's never mentioned anything like that. I mean, as far as her phone, she was on the phone with her ex from Texas.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's the only person I talked to, and then, from there, she was, like, just calling.

SA GEREL: So, it brings another curiosity about the Texas ex. Like, what--what the world prompted her to call him that night?

CSSN COPELAND: She was basically saying, like, you know, like everybody has their person they go to.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I guess that was her person that she goes to when things happen to her. You know, somebody she needs to talk to.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's what she said. She was, like, basically. Like, she's going to call--she was, like, "Copeland," she was, like, "This is my ex from Texas." And she was, like, basically. Like, that's her right-hand man.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, sounds like she wasn't mad at him.

CSSN COPELAND: No. No.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. Cool. Okay. So, she was kind of calming down and talking through her frustrations.

CSSN COPELAND: Venting, venting to him, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. I got it. All right. Well, I appreciate it. I-- I got sidetracked on a bunch of specific questions, so sorry about that.

CSSN COPELAND: You're fine.

SA GEREL: All right, so I think I'm going to have him start kind of talking more about those--the--the the weekend. But before I do that, did you have any questions about the stuff we've covered so far?

SA MANN: Just with, I guess, V/ A. R., like what was your guys, the extent of your--how would you. Like, describe your relationship? Like, what'd you guys?

CSSN COPELAND: We were just work people, like people that work together.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That's literally what I would describe it.

SA MANN: Oh. Do you guys ever get into. Like, the maybe want to date, hookup, connect scene?

CSSN COPELAND: Not even--not even thought about that.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: All right. I was curious, kind of what--how you guys were inter-weaved. Like, friends, dating, relationship. Kind of just, we hook up because can. Whatever it is.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, she knows that, and I wouldn't do nothing with her. At the end of the day. Like, we work together.

SA MANN: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

SA MANN: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, me personally, I had a bad experience with a CS, and after that, like I--I told myself I can't get with a CS. Like, they're cool to hang out with, but physically dating with CS, I can't do that shit no more.

SA MANN: Can you tell me a little about that?

CSSN COPELAND: So, there was a female that was on the DDG that I'm on now.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And we were talking for a little bit, and we started taking it a little more serious. And there it came to a time where she had a seizure on the barge. So, as soon as I got off work, I went and picked her up. And I was on my way home, and my--my tire blew up on the highway, and my rim cracked.

So, I called my homeboy to come pick me up, and I took--I called the towing company to tow the car to the nearest shop where I can get--get my tire fixed.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, basically, I was asking, do they have a spare tire? And they were saying they don't have spare tires. And--and able, for me to get a tire for my rim, I would have to have, like, a good rim because my rim split.

SA MANN: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was, like, fuck. So, my homebody took me to the junk yard. We went to the junk yard. I picked up a spare tire from there, and I called the dealership, I got my car from, and--and he gave me a number for a welder, and he welded the rim together, and then, from there, I ended up buying a tire from there, and I got it all fixed, same day and everything. Cool. And she was with--she was with us the--the whole time.

So, I get home, and she came home with me, and I laid down on the couch, like I fell asleep. And, you know, she's. Like, she wants--obviously wants attention. She's. Like, "Can you talk to me for a little bit?" This, that, and the third? And I was, like--I was, like, "Can you give me, like, just, like, 15 minutes? Like I'm--I'm tired as fuck. Like, you've seen everything I just did today."

So, she was like--like, "All right, cool." And, so, she sat down. I wake up and she's talking shit on the phone with her sister about me. So, I was, like, "All right, cool. Like, you are--are

just going to sit here and be disrespectful in my face. You can leave." She was, like, "All right, fuck you, then."

She left, realized she had nowhere to go, so she's sitting outside my door, banging on my door for, like, eight hours. I just told her, I was, like, "Goodnight. Like, you chose to leave. I'm not opening the door. And you left and did what you did. You blew up, projected, and did what you did. I'm not coming to open the door."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, she's talking about she's going to go get the RA to come open my door. This, that, and the third. I'm just, like, I just kept saying, "Goodnight, goodnight, goodnight." And it came about. Like, five, six o'clock. My roommate was going to go get breakfast, and she pushed my roommate out the way and bombarded my room with a knife in her hand.

SA MANN: Jeez.

CSSN COPELAND: She broke everything. Like, all my electronics in my room. She fucking destroyed my room. She tried to stab me. There was a whole shit show. And then, from there. I think it was, like, almost a week straight, she slashed my tires every day, and every day I had to fucking fix that shit.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: On top of that, coming to work. So, on that part, it was a whole shit show. And after that, I'm. Like, I--I can't fuck with a CS no more.

SA GEREL: What's that girl's name?

CSSN COPELAND: V/S.R.

SA GEREL: V/S.R. Okay. She's on the barge?

CSSN COPELAND: No, not no more. They took her off the barge because she--she had a seizure, so.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: She's in some command on base.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Yeah. It sounds. Like, yeah, it didn't sound good. Did she catch any charges from that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so.

SA GEREL: Did you tell anybody?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, they had the MAs involved. I talked to NCIS on the, not this building, but it's a building, it was the precinct. That's what it was. They took me to the precinct.

SA GEREL: Oh, gotcha.

SA MANN: On base.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. And I talked to a detective from there.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. Did she pay you back or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Not that I--not yet. I--I don't know how that----

SA MANN: How long ago was it?
CSSN COPELAND: This was a couple months ago.
SA MANN: Okay. Yeah.
SA GEREL: All right.
SA MANN: Yeah, I guess obviously that's a rough lesson to learn, but expensive one.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: But--but it is just kind of a, not, I guess for lack of better. Like, picking up things at work just didn't make sense anymore. Like, just try to keep work and life like that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: Personal life a little separate from a relationship perspective.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, on top of that, you know, when I was on the carrier, I talked to people, and I also talked to. Like, you know. Like, the higher-ups, first classes, and they always said never date a CS. At the end of the day----
SA MANN: Okay. So, what--how would you describe then the relationship you have with V/ A. R.? Like, what would you guys say you are?
CSSN COPELAND: Just friends. I mean, we work together. Cool. You know, if we, you know, do something outside of work or, you know,

like sometimes we go eat or just find something fun to do. Go bowling or something.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, that's what we did last time. Before this time, we hung out. It was me and two other CS's, but they weren't on our ship and----

SA MANN: This past weekend, or the----

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. Not this past weekend. It was months ago.

SA MANN: Oh, okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, when I first--when I got back from deployment.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: And, she--we went out and, my homeboy picked--no, my homegirl picked me up and my homeboy that I previously met that-- that day, we all went out and we went to Dirty Buffalo and then, we went to Dave and Buster's. And there's been another time I think we went out and we were watching a football game, too.

So, it's been a couple times we hung out previous to her coming over, so we just work together. I do the same with everybody I work with. Like, if y'all want to pop out, do something for the weekend or something, just go find something chill to do, we can always do that.

SA MANN: Okay. Did you guys ever hook up at any point?

CSSN COPELAND: Never. Not one point.

SA MANN: Oh, would you?

CSSN COPELAND: No. I mean, I already told you, fucking with a CS--

--

SA MANN: No, I mean, like, CS aside. Like, did you, like--she a pretty girl. You're, like, "Hey, this is----"

CSSN COPELAND: I don't really look at her like that.

SA MANN: No. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: So, I think I said this at the beginning, but just to kind of reiterate it, when you're talked to by people like us, police or authorities. Like, there's always going to be a little temptation to make sure you're, like, "Oh shit, this is kind of rough. I--I feel like I need to make sure I do--do what I can to protect myself." That's very normal, very natural.

So, with that being said, though. Like, particularly Tyler and I as polygraph examiners, when we talk to you today, we--we may use a lot of what we talk about if--when you come back, right? I love that you want to come back because I think that's a good way you can help yourself to relieve some of this stress.

So, but it's really crucially important that we get. Like, the best truth. The truth is the truth. Right? It is what it is.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But sometimes when you get talked to by multiple people. Like, it's very normal for you to remember different things, to have things you want to add some clarifications. That's just normal stuff.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: If you--I'd like to encourage you to do that with us today. So, if there's something that you know, you said before, and you're, like, "I know I said that, but I kind of wish I could have said it a little differently," you can. All right? You can say it differently.

We want--we want to help you the best way we can, and that's only we can do is working with the full truth.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, like, if there's something that might come in and feel like they may get mad about that, or it may come across as making me, like, dishonest, whatever, I don't want you to worry about that. It's--it's me asking you to be very strong and courageous to trust us like that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But I'm only saying that because I'm an old dude and I talk to a lot of folks, and then--and that I'm also a human. So, like, I get that instinct to be cautious and careful with what you say. Because you--you don't want to get any further trouble. I get

it. You just have to trust us to know that we aren't worried about you, we're worried about her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, there might be some things that you could add more details to, and I just really encourage you to do that.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as what?

SA GEREL: Well, particularly about what we're going to get into, which is, like, I'd like you to walk us through. Like, the--the weekend. So, from--from the night that you all made arrangements to make the tacos and salsa----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: ----kind of start there and then, give us. Like, the best absolute account of--of what happened between then and when she went missing.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, because again, like we're seeing some things that we--we think could be important, but some of them may not even know it's important yet.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: But because you spent a lot of time with her around then you prob--you almost a hundred percent know things that will help us find her.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So, that's why we're--we're going through it multiple times. You did a good job last time, but I'd like you just to have that--that comfort. Like, if you need to add or change a few of those details, please do.

CSSN COPELAND: Because everything I said from the last time they talked to me is pretty much the same.

SA GEREL: Okay. And--and--and what--what I'd like--we--we have this thing that we do and--and we call it a timeline. And--and it comes in a little different, but it's very helpful because of the way the human brain works. It--it's part of a--a method that we call scientific interviewing. Sometimes it's helpful, sometimes it's not. But it--it, I think in this case you really might be able to find some more details that could help the case.

So, all it is--is we'll put a piece of paper right here. We'll get. Like, a beginning of the--the timeframe register and then the end of it. And we'd like you--did you bring sticky notes?

SA MANN: I think they're still in the car. We can find some here.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: I'll see if I can. S

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. Thank you. I'll keep explaining it.

[SA Mann departed the room at timestamp 1:05:00.]

SA GEREL: And--and so, how we do it is you just get these little yellow sticky notes and--and on the paper. Like, we'd like you to

write. Like, the memory you have and put it on the timeline. Like, where you think it goes in order.

And then, it doesn't have to be. Like, from, it doesn't have to be. Like, any particular way. Just as you think of stuff. Like, as you think of it, write it, put it down, and then go to the next thing. "Okay, I remember this." Write it down. Put it down where you think it goes in order, and--and just do that which will allow us to get the--a good picture of kind of how you remember the--the timeframe, with her that worked out.

CSSN COPELAND: So, like, I'm writing or, like, writing words.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Or I'm drawing,

SA GEREL: No, not drawing. Just words.

CSSN COPELAND: Oh.

SA GEREL: So, like, you know, I don't want to give too many examples because it's actually good for you to--to--to use your own words and thoughts. But as an example. Like, if you want to have--like, if you have a memory about the grocery store. Like, Food Lion or whatever it is, and--and then, put a Food Lion. And then, you see what I mean? And--and then, you can get--be as descriptive as you want, or you can be as general like that as you want. You can put "grocery store."

And then, just kind of put it in the order of things are, and then, that'll help us to kind of probably develop some other questions that you can help us with.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Is that cool?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: He'll back with that in a second. I'll go and your space ready.

[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 1:06:22.]

SA MANN: All right. We got a few. We can probably find some more if we need to, for now.

SA GEREL: Nice. Good work.

SA MANN: I mean, it's not a ton, but we can hunt out some more. I'm sure that was just a quick ask.

You getting--you get a ride over here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: You have a car? I know you said. Like, you had one, but you do you still got it.

CSSN COPELAND: Nah. It's fucked up.

SA MANN: Oh. What's wrong now?

CSSN COPELAND: The head gasket.

SA GEREL: Oh, so it's not just a fixed tire anymore, huh? Okay. So, how you been getting around normally now?

CSSN COPELAND: Either my roommate drops me off, and my home boy will text me home.

SA MANN: Okay. Have you been driving at all?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA MANN: No? Okay. Do you have access to a car you can even drive?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I mean, like, my roommate, you know, sometimes my roommate, he'll let me drive his car if I need to go grab something to eat, or sometimes he'll take me there.

SA MANN: What's he got?

CSSN COPELAND: He drives a Jeep.

SA MANN: Okay. I--I might have a marker. No, I don't. All right.

SA GEREL: All right. So, kind of already explained to him the general idea. Let's kind of consider this the beginning of our timeframe. And when--when did you have that evening? Do you know when you were preparing the salsa?

CSSN COPELAND: Can you say that again?

SA GEREL: Yeah. When--when did you--what day did you----

SA MANN: When you were making tacos.

SA GEREL: Yeah, when were you making tacos?
CSSN COPELAND: Thursday. I believe it was Wednesday transitioning to Thursday.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, Wednesday. I don't know if you think of it this way, but do you think of it in terms of. Like, calendar dates? Do you remember what date that was? If you don't, that's okay.
CSSN COPELAND: No.
SA GEREL: Okay. So--so, let's just go ahead and call that Wednesday. All right. And then, as many details as you can provide from Wednesday through----
SA MANN: Let's say the entirety of that week?
SA GEREL: Yeah. The entire weekend. So, we'll--we'll cut the weekend off, like----
SA MANN: Monday morning.
SA GEREL: ----Monday morning. All right. So, Wednesday through Monday.
SA MANN: You went to work Monday after?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I went to work Sunday as well, so.
SA MANN: Okay. Gotcha.
CSSN COPELAND: Well, I just--I didn't work Monday or Sunday, but I had to check in.
SA MANN: Right.
CSSN COPELAND: I was still being marked UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. And, if you need more space, we'll make it, and we'll get more of these if you need it, but you can go ahead and get started, and, to--have the thought, put down something that helps us know what that thought is and just place it wherever you feel like you can go send into the week. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like, for instance. Like, the whole weekend. Like, I ain't do shit.

SA GEREL: I know.

CSSN COPELAND: I just stayed home, so.

SA GEREL: So, I know this might feel like Why do they even care about all that? Every little detail is--is important. I mean, some stuff that we may don't know, stuff that you don't know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: So--so again, as much as you can put in there.

SA MANN: Sometimes memory, too, like you--you and V/ A. R. could have had a thousand conversations that weekend and then, there'll be something that just by writing this down, you go, "Oh man, I remember she mentioned whatever." And that'll help us find some directionality. So, we're just--I know it seems kind of goofy. We're. Like, "Hey, do all this." But it--it is truly--the brain is a powerhouse. Right?

It's a machine doing all kinds of things. This will help maybe pull up some of those things that we just don't feel are pertinent.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: So, that's why we're asking. It's not--I know that you're probably. Like, what in the world are these guys doing? But we're trying to help that brain find those little things that could help us pivot to figure out where she's at.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, for instance, me, like, I'm not, like, the type of person to--I don't know. Because. Like, when I talk---
-
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: ----that's what brings back memories. Like, me writing things down because I'm not, like, really the type of person--I don't like reading. I don't like books.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm. Like, more about outgoing person. Like, outdoors, like doing all this, like, it is cool, but it's, like, I don't think that'll refresh my memory.
SA MANN: How about this? If you talk it and we write it, and then, we'll just figure out where it goes timewise? Does that work for you?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, that's fine. I mean, I don't have--have a problem writing either, but I'm just letting you know that.
SA GEREL: Yeah. Let's let him give it a go. I--I mean, I appreciate you sharing that----

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I'm willing to do it.
SA GEREL: ----and--and we--we've got no--we've got nothing to lose about trying this.
CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
SA GEREL: So--so it may--it may help with your memory, it may not, but--but it--it is a good attempt and we thank you for giving it a go.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah.
SA MANN: And if you want, if it's easier, we can stick this on the wall, and you can write it out. I don't know. Whatever you----
CSSN COPELAND: It's fine.
SA MANN: Okay. Whatever will help you.
SA GEREL: Yeah. I'll get out of your way. So, let me go run and try to find some more of this.
SA MANN: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Where is it at in the car, by the way, just in case it as a last ditch effort.
SA MANN: They probably just floating around the truck somewhere, but----
SA GEREL: Okay.
SA MANN: Then, we'll make that--I just tossed them in there, so I-- I don't even know if they--actually, let me see if I have a-- sometimes I throw a sticky pad in here. Or not that one. This one.

That'll work.

SA GEREL: Oh, that's good. Yeah. That's good. Perfect.

SA MANN: I forgot I had that in there. See, using it on me. Little memory keys. Right? We can even do it for this.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: A little big. But it's all right.

While you're doing this, too, is there something we can get you to eat? Snacks or something? Just kind of power. I know you brought some in your hat like that jerky.

CSSN COPELAND: No, I--I'm fine.

SA MANN: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't even know that was in my pocket.

SA MANN: Oh, well, there you go. Surprise.

SA GEREL: And, in this room, I can also offer you an apple and crackers, Captain's wafers.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

So, like, when you say, like, Wednesday through Monday. Like, this is what happened each day?

SA GEREL: Yeah. However, really want to kind of tackle it. But you--you can--yes, please. Just as you think through those several days, of--of your--of your memories, just put them down as you--as you recall. And it does not have to be in order. So, you can, if

you think of something that happened Saturday, "Man, this happened right there."

SA MANN: So, it's easier. You can use these. They just--I don't know if that'll help, but I--I don't know if the stickers all messed up on those.

CSSN COPELAND: I--I just--yeah. Yeah. It is just, like, it's staggered weirdly.

SA MANN: Oh, okay. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

SA GEREL: I am sure that's not a rat.

SA MANN: Old buildings. If it makes you feel any better, this place probably isn't much better than a barge, and we're stuck here, so. SA GEREL: Hey, Copeland, you're doing a great job. We're going to give you the room for a minute, just to give you a little privacy. Here's your other pad if you if you run out the stickies. You can use these, too, okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Okay. Thank you.

SA GEREL: We'll come check on you in a few minutes. All right?

CSSN COPELAND: All right. Thank you. You mind if I--you mind just handing me the beef jerky stick?

SA GEREL: Of course, yeah. You--you want an apple or the Captain's wafers.

SA MANN: No, no. We can get you. Like, chips, crackers, whatever.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm good. Thank you.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 1:19:40.]

[SA Mann and SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 1:45:20.]

SA GEREL: Hey Copeland. All right. Looks like you did some good work here. Work here. How you doing?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm doing all right.

SA GEREL: Okay. Good. I'm going to let you put your head down. How you feeling?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm tired.

SA GEREL: So, you said you didn't get any--you didn't get any sleep at all last night? Like, did--did you try?

CSSN COPELAND: I sleep--I mean, on top of that, I have a roommate, so he's the game screaming so.

SA GEREL: Oh, man.

CSSN COPELAND: He doesn't--he doesn't like--so his schedule is a lot easier.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: He literally stays up gaming the whole night.

SA MANN: And you have to listen to it.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, he usually gets off the game around. Like, when he has to go to work.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, he goes to work and then sleeps the entire day.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, he stays up all night screaming, and I don't think I closed my eyes--it was maybe around. Like, three, four o'clock.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: When I actually got into the bed, because I was setting up the whole entire time for my uniform.

SA GEREL: Yeah, uniform. Did you touch sleep at least and catch a few--few moments?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. All right.

SA MANN: Yeah. So, good work. It looks like. Talk--talk us through. What do--do you--what do you got here?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, from the start to finish, is everything got correlated each day of?

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: I believe the first through the third one is Wednesday.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from the third to the fourth one is Thursday to Friday. And then, from there, each--I believe I have each day on.

SA GEREL: Okay. What's that one say? Cleanup and something V/ A. R. helped?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She helped me clean up, and then she left.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, this is, do you--you remember about this, like what time or approximately?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't.

SA GEREL: Like, morning, midday, afternoon.

CSSN COPELAND: I think it was sometime in the morning.

SA GEREL: Okay. What day was that?

CSSN COPELAND: Thursday.

SA MANN: About--so it was the night after you guys had hung out?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. Can you--do you need more paper or space or anything? I don't want to limit it.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's pretty much. Like, everything that I could. Like, just write down like that. I mean, I--I obviously. Like, I was just keeping it. Like, limited. But as long as you have questions, I'll answer them.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. So--so if you thank you for that, it's really good detail. I really appreciate you doing

that. So, any other details you can add to the phone calls that she started having? Like, that--that Wednesday night,

CSSN COPELAND: I think the first phone call started off with her calling her--her ex from Texas.

SA GEREL: When--when--when that happened, how was she--was she I--I--what was her--what was her emotional state. Like, when she started calling her?

CSSN COPELAND: She was fine. Like, before she even started talking. Like, she was, she was, like, checking in on him, seeing how he was doing, and then, from there, that's when she told me to come over and meet him, and she was basically saying, like, we kind of looked the same.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, we have, like, the same body build, complexion--like, skin complexion. And she was saying, like, if I--if I was to get to know him. Like, would be. Like, good friends or whatever.

SA GEREL: So, she said, come over and meet him. Like, was it FaceTime or something like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. They were----

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you saw him on the phone?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there. Like, I was, like, "What's good bro?" And he was, like, "What's good?" And then, I just introduced myself, and she introduced me to him. And he kept--we kept it pretty cordial and then, from there, that's when they started talking.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, help me understand a little before that, you said that she uses her ex as kind of. Like, her--her main go to. I might have misunderstood, but I--I was kind of under the impression she--she was upset before that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That's when we started talking about Gil.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like in his incident. Like, that's when we first started talking about it, and she was, like, "No fucking way." You know, and just talking. She was, like, "I got a call, so and so," whatever her ex's name is.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then, that's when she was, like, "Oh, this is my ex from Texas." And then, she hopped on FaceTime, and then, from there, she was, like, "Come over so you can meet him." And that's when I met him.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, the--the Gil stuff, how--how long would that conversation with Gil happen before that FaceTime with the ex?

CSSN COPELAND: Probably. Like, seven minutes.

SA GEREL: Okay. Before that seven minutes, how was she acting?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, she was cool. Like, we were listening to music, and then, from there, she was teaching me how to make the tacos. Like, it was, like, corn--corn tacos.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
CSSN COPELAND: Once she put oil in a pan.
SA GEREL: Nice.
CSSN COPELAND: And she would let the, like, the tortilla like--like when it started softening and then, I would fold it in half.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there, I would put it on a plate, and then, I would put cheese in there, the taco meat, and then, whatever condiments I wanted, and then, the salsa.
SA GEREL: Okay. Were they good?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was good. The salsa, that shit was spicy as fuck though. When you eat it. Like, it is good.
SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]
SA MANN: It hurts later. Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. And then, like--like a couple of minutes later, you start feeling in your stomach, and that shit--that shit will hurt.
SA GEREL: Did she make it. Like, from scratch?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Oh, nice. All right. So, before that, she was acting cool. Sometimes, when someone goes from cool to not cool, something triggered it. Do you--do you know what triggered the cool to not cool?

CSSN COPELAND: The bike helmet. Like, when she was talking about the bike helmet, that's what triggered it.

SA GEREL: So, she heard--did--well, tell me about that bike helmet. How did she--how did the bike helmet come up?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know. She was, I guess, texting Gil or some shit, and she had mentioned something, and she was, like, "You want to hear something crazy?" I was, like, "What's up?" And then, that's when she started talking about the Gil thing. And I was, like--I was, like--well, I was, like, "I'm not really going to get y'all situation, but that's crazy. Because he had told me today about such and such."

And that's when I told her about the--the conversation that I had with him on the mess decks about the female that had his bike or that drove on his bike. And she was, like, that's--that, like, she was, like, "That's fucking crazy."

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, "Come look at this. And she was, like, showing me the text of when he was asking for the bike helmet

back and shit. And then, from there, I'm guessing she just put two and two together.

SA GEREL: Oh. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And that's what caused her blow up about the bike helmet.

SA GEREL: Okay. Gotcha. All right. And so, after that phone call with the ex, what--how did the night go from there?

CSSN COPELAND: I was just cooling and I was just sitting on the couch, just listening to music while she's over there just calling everybody. Just left and right, just calling people. And then, I remember my roommate had walked in, and he walked in because he--I believe he came from the airport, from leave or some shit.

SA GEREL: Is it your actual roommate?

CSSN COPELAND: Oh, no, no, no. It's the people from across the room. So, inside the room, there's four people per room.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: But not four people per room, but it's four people in the room. SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But two people per--per room.

SA GEREL: Gotcha. So, you can----

CSSN COPELAND: It was the dude that lives across.

SA GEREL: You know their names?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know his name. I think it's like--his name is, fuck, fuck, fuck. I think it's, like, something Cruz. I think his last name is Cruz.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And he's--he's Mexican. And. Like, he walked in, he is like--he's. Like, "Yo, everything good?" He's like--he looked at her, he is, like, "She good?" I was, like, "Bro, just--just let her have a moment." I'm just sitting on the couch, just cooling. And he was, like, "All right, bro." He's. Like, "if something pop off or you need me, just come knock on the door. I was, like, "All right, cool."

From there, she just kept making other phone calls and shit, and I told her, "I--I--I'm going to just go ahead to sleep. So, if you--if you want to go to sleep, then go ahead," and from there, that's when I went to sleep. By the time I woke up, she was in the bed, and that's when Chief was on the door.

So, I thought it was my roommate. Because sometimes when I close the door or if the door closes, my roommate either knocks or he fiddles with the handle.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, I thought it was him. So, I was, like, "Hold on." And I opened the door, and it's my Chief and he's. Like, "What's going on?" And I was, like, "Morning, Chief." And then,

obviously, I see it's daylight, so I'm. Like, "Fuck." And he was, like, "Yeah." He was, like, "Having a late start, huh? I was, like, "Yes, Chief," and then, from there, he just told me to clean up and then, find a way to work. He's. Like, "Do I got a way to work?" I was, like, "Yeah. Obviously, when my roommate gets here, he can take me."

But by the time my roommate got home, they were off work. So, that's when the bullshit on my behalf started. And I thought we had a blind turnover because last week we had a--a 96, so I was working that weekend. And how it worked, I would--the processes is if I was working, then I would--I would have to come in at 4:30. And if I wasn't. Like, a regular turnover.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Like, for instance, today I came in at 7:30 for turnover.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, I thought I didn't have to come in Friday. Cool. They didn't really say nothing. And then, Saturday hits, and they tell me I'm UA. I'm not, you know, me being a junior Sailor, not knowing the full details about being marked UA, so I'm not thinking it's a big deal. I was just, like, all right, cool. Like, they'll just see me Monday.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I'll explain what the fuck happened over the weekend. And then, Sunday hits, that's when more bullshit happens. You know, they had the MAs come get me out of my--my room, and they're basically asking me, like, I'm being marked UA. My command is looking for me and so on. So, I was, like, "All right, cool."

Then, after they left, I called my Chief, and I was, like, "Yo, Chief." I was, like, "Obviously, this is getting out of hand. You know, you guys marking UA and whatnot, whatnot." And my Chief was basically--he, you know, I'm not going to say because you know it, it's him and it's me, but he was telling me, "Go in Monday, because it--it is not really going to make a difference or whatever." But he was, like, "If you want to go in today, you--you know, it's your choice."

So, I was, like, "Yeah, I already got my uniform and shit on, so--so I'll just go in and, you know, see whatever they--they can do. Like, you know. And he was, like, "All right." But he was basically telling me, like, I didn't have to go in. Like he said, I still could waited until Monday, but----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----it would've made shit worse from--from what they said. But, you know, I went in, checked in with the CDO. The CDO was, like, yeah, my parents had called, and she called the command and she called the base. She was worried because I didn't answer

her call. So, so. I was, like, "Yeah, I talked to her." She wasn't-- you know, she put belt to ass on me, so.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: From there, they made me do a urinalysis, and then, from urinalysis, I went back home. Well, after I had left, I--I went to Chipotle. It was me and my two roommates that's across the room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And they took me to Chick-fil-A. We went to Chick-fil-A. We all got something to eat, went back home, ate, and then, the morning comes, I wake up, you know, a little early, and I'm trying to book a Uber, trying to book a Z-trip. Nothing's popping up. Because obviously the--the Truman just got back. So----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----I'm guessing it's hella busy. So, I called--I called Chief Parker, and I was, like, "Morning, Chief." He's. Like, what's going on?" And I was, like, "Do you--you think it's possible--" I was, like, "Do you think, you know, you can give me a ride? Because I tried booking so, and so, and it's not working." But that's when I was, like, "I think it's just because the Truman's back."

So, he was, like, "Yeah." He was, like, "I'm almost at work." But he was, like, "You're fine, I'll come grab you." So, he came

and grabbed me, and then, from there, I went to work. Chain of Command was just asking. Like, why was I UA, why I--I didn't answer calls and shit. And then, after that, finished work and then, I--I went home.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: And then as the days went by, that's when everything started getting serious. Like NCIS, and everybody started talking to me.

SA GEREL: Yeah. When did you start thinking that--that--that V/ A. R. might be part of that? Like, when did you, when did--did you start ever thinking about her as far as the UA thing?

CSSN COPELAND: When I got to work and they basically told me that the both of us has been marked UA.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, is that the first time that that came to mind?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. All right, so let's back up a little bit. On the--the night. So, you guys--Wednesday tonight, you guys are chilling. You watch her go through some stuff. You stayed calm. You--you room roommate comes in and--and says, "Everything cool?" And you're, like, "Yeah." He's. Like, "Let me know if you need help." Was that uncommon? Did he ever have that kind of comment to you before? Like, where he is asking you if, like, you know, the girl's okay or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I mean, at the end of the day. Like, he walked in and saw somebody crying.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like, if you were--I'm not saying like----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----you know, theoretically if you were, you know, my roommate and you walk in to see somebody, you know, just sitting there crying, you would ask is everything----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----okay?

SA GEREL: Is everything okay? No, I--I gotcha. All right. Was there--tell me about when she stopped crying. Was there a timeframe when she calmed down?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, yeah. Afterwards, when I told her. Like, "I'm about to. Like, go to sleep. I was, like, "It's getting late as fuck." I was, like, "I work." And--and she was, like, "Yeah, you're right." And from there, she had just sat down, and I was just, like, "If you need something, then I would just be in bed. Like, you come grab me."

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, around that time, like, she was still crying, but she was also, like, you know, I just told her. Like, "You--you got to chill. Because you know, I got people in the room."

SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: "And if you start making--like, you start getting louder and--and shit, obviously like they're going to wake up."
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: I was, like, "Just, like, if you need to go outside, go ahead." Cool. And I was, like, from there, "I'm go to sleep." And she was, like, "All right." And that's when I went to sleep.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. And what--what happened after you went to sleep with her? Or what else happened? Did she stay in the same place, or did she move, or what--what happened there?
CSSN COPELAND: She stayed--she went to bed and then, when I woke up, that's when Chief was knocking on the door.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And then, from there, he was just asking. Like, I need to get to work and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: That's when I told him. Like, "I'll get to work," but obviously, my roommate coming late as fuck, I couldn't, so.
SA GEREL: Gotcha. Gotcha. So--so we've heard, and read some accounts of like when--when you were first talked to by NCIS and kind of how you shared that stuff. And we watched the--the video of that--where the video, you talking to them this last time, which is more detailed.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
SA GEREL: And then, this is very helpful too. So, a couple things, and this is normal, so don't worry, but there's a couple things that are just a little different in that. And so, we're trying to understand why. So--so one of the things that is a little different, and some of this is also compared to some of the people are saying that they saw. Some of your roommates and things like that.

But what--we have reason to think that somebody claims they saw you and her in the common room, at least in some portion of being unclothed. Help us understand that.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's what the female had said to me. She said my Chief walked in and saw both of us. Like, with no clothes on. And I was, like, that's not true because obviously my Chief knocked on the door.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And he was--he was, like, knocking on the door and shit and playing with the handle. I thought it was my roommate. I opened the door and I had a full conversation with him.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And--and like I was telling you, that's when the other detective. Like, that's when she, like--I felt like she was, like, antagonizing me. Like that's when she started playing her

role, and she's sitting there. Like, basically trying to make it seem like I'm lying or some shit. "Oh, so you're just going to sit here and actually call your Chief a liar?"

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Well, I think maybe that could have been a misconception, too. Like that could have come from a roommate, not Chief, like somebody that was seeing you guys. Because my understanding, the first time you talked to everybody, you said you--you guys had been drinking that night?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. She--she had, you know, a couple shots and then, I had about two shots of the buzz ball.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: From there, I was chilling.

SA MANN: Okay. What'd you guys do that night, though? Like, did you party hang out? Like, you're getting late into the hours?

CSSN COPELAND: We were just listening music and she was making her phone calls and shit and whoever she was on the phone with. As far as me, I told her. Like, "I'm--I'm chilling, I'm cooling. Because I--I got work," and she understood. I have work. Like, I mean, at the end of the day, we both work together. We're both CS's. Like, they know the fucking hours we work.

SA MANN: Well, why--I mean, I guess it's kind of. Like, that brings up what--a question of them. Like, why would somebody say

that you two are partially or completely unclothed, laying on the floor in the living room area?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know who would've said that, but as far as when I woke up, when my Chief walked into the room, we were both----

SA MANN: I think you guys were in bed, obviously. Yeah. But, like, prior to that, any time throughout the night, were you guys out in the common area?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. We were in the common area the whole--pretty much the whole night until I basically told her I--I was going to sleep.

SA MANN: Did you guys ever take your clothes off?

CSSN COPELAND: I never did. I mean, I know----

SA MANN: Did she?

CSSN COPELAND: ---when I was in my room, I changed my clothes. I know she didn't either.

SA MANN: Okay. What was she--was she clothed when she was in bed with you, and no clothes?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. When she was in bed, she took her clothes off.

SA MANN: Okay. And. Like, what does that mean? Like everything? Did she have undergarments on. Like, bras and underwear?

CSSN COPELAND: No, she just took her top off, and she had her pants and everything on and her underwear. When I woke up, I just had my

shirt--I just had my pants on, shirt off, because that's usually how I sleep. You can ask my roommate. It's either I sleep with--in my underwear, and just nothing. Well, just my underwear, or sometimes I'll sleep like with a tank top, shorts.

But for the respect of me having a female on my bed, I had shorts on, so.

SA GEREL: This might be a dumb question. It is a dumb question, but I'm going to ask it anyway. Was your roommate there? Like---

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: He was in the room that whole night?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: Okay. His name's Sean. Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, when she got in bed with you, did you know she got in bed with you?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I was dead asleep, and I didn't know until, obviously, I woke up and Chief was knocking on the door, and that's when I opened the door and, you know, we had our conversation.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. That's, I--I appreciate you sharing that. And then, that's you--you know--you you--you--you know probably why some of this might be suspicious to people.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: You--you have a bit of a reputation as far as being a ladies' man. Like you--you girls like you. I don't know if that's true or not, but----

CSSN COPELAND: I just be chilling, man.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: If something happens, you know, sometimes it happens, man.

SA GEREL: Well, you--you know, you live your life----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----and then, the--the best you can and--and no criticism or judgment, and then, even maybe a jealousy on that. But--but, this is kind of the reputation you have. So--so with that perspective and to have, like, a--an attractive female who hops in bed with you, I think some people would presume that if you had a chance to have sex with her, you might would do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Most people probably would. If, you know, fully consensual and stuff like that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, I don't know if that's something that you'd be comfortable talking about, or maybe you've been uncomfortable talking about that. I actually do feel like you or--or have a--a--a

gentleman side of you too. So, you don't want to kiss and tell kind of stuff. And--and I respect that.

But again, it's a detail that if there's something like that that happened a bit more, it might make more sense. And--and if we have a--a person and not your Chief, but a person says that they saw you both unclothed in the common room and then, the Chief finds you unclothed in the bed, it kind of just becomes a little more understandable.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: It definitely doesn't mean anything more than you guys had consensual sex. You--you know, as far as that goes. But--but it would help us to understand that a little more. Is there--is there more you want to share about that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's as far as it went. I told her I was going to sleep and shit, and that's pretty much how it went. Obviously, when I woke up, Chief came in, told me, just make sure when I get to work, I--I get to work and shit. From there, I was, like, "All right, cool.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA MANN: Did Chief say anything to her?

CSSN COPELAND: He, obviously, he was, like, "Is V/ A. R. in there?" And I moved out the way I was, like, "Yeah, she's right there." He saw her laying down and then, he was, like, "All right, cool. Just

make sure, you know, she gets home and then you get to work." He was just mainly worried about. Like, for me, getting to work. Because, obviously, I was supposed to be there at a certain time.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And I'm not there. And then, obviously, I didn't go in the rest of the day, so now I'm being marked UA.

SA MANN: Gotcha. So, again, I know the--the sex piece is always a fun conversation. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Like, I surely want to go talk to NCIS about all my sexcapades.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: But, you know, it's not like we want to ask you, we have to. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: Like--like we're trying to let you have a private life, too. But it is important just to make sure, if something happened between you two sexually, that we're aware of that because that does explain things.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: So, and like I said, I know, you know, people have said you've got a little--little bit of game in the tank, so it sounds like you do all right, but----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: ----all that said, you know, if she happened to be one of them. Like, you know, it--it one way or another don't matter whether you did--didn't, but we just want to make sure we have the--
--
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA MANN: ----factual status of it. Aside from that, so I kind of want to start working, I think we both do, towards like what now. Right? So, Chief's there. You're, like, well, I guess, I'm just, like, at this point, like you said, not knowing what you don't know, you're, like, "Does it matter if I go to work today or the next day? I--trouble's trouble."

So, Chief leaves. Walk us through the rest of that morning.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Chief left, and then, after that, she woke up. I was, like, "You just want to help me clean, so obviously. Like, I can get to work." She was, like, "Yeah, cool." So, she started helping me clean, and then, from there, I cleaned up my room and shit.

Picked up. Like, my shoes and shit. Put them up--put them up, and then, from there, she left. I was, like, "If you need something, just call or text me." Cool. Got you. She left, and then I called my roommate and I'm asking him. Like, "What time are you getting off?" And he was telling me he doesn't know yet because

my--with his squadron, their shit is, it's a little different. Like, they have a day schedule, night schedule. Like, day schedule comes in at a certain time, leaves at a certain time. Night schedule--I don't know what time, but night schedule, and I don't know what schedule he was on.

So, by the time he got home, I just called Chief around dinner time when he told me to come in, I was, like, "I'm--I'm still waiting on my roommate." And he was, like, "All right, cool." So, I just sat down and I went to sleep until he got there. By the--the time he got there, I looked at the time I was, like, "Fuck." I was just, like, well, I'll just go in Monday and obviously tell them what happened.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't know, like if you don't show up to work one day, you have to, you know, go the next day and be. Like, I'm here.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I just--I was just, like, fuck it. I went to sleep and then, the weekend proceeds, and then, obviously, Sunday or Saturday, they tell me I'm UA. And then, Sunday the MAs come through and shit, and then, from there I go to the--the barge and then--go to the CDO and shit. Tell him, "I'm--I'm here."

And then, Monday hits the next thing that we both were UA, and I was, like, bro, what the fuck? And then, now that's all this.

SA MANN: Yeah. How--how was she when you left, or I'm sorry, when she left, how--how was she acting?
CSSN COPELAND: She was good. Like, she was just like acting normal and shit. Like, how she usually does when she's at work or, like, you know, energetic and shit. And then, she--she was just, like, "Cool. If you need something, just call or text me, or some shit." And she was, like, "All right, bye." And then from there, I finished touching up. Like, putting the dishes in the dishwasher, and that's when I called my roommate asked him. Like, what time's he getting off and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay. How did she feel about the Chief seeing her in your bed?
CSSN COPELAND: At the time she was asleep, so--so I don't really think she cared that much. I mean, she--when she woke up and shit, I was, like, "Chief was in here," and she was, like, "All right." And I was, like, "Yeah. So, I got to start getting ready for work."
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, obviously, I don't think she cared that much.
SA GEREL: All right. I don't know the rules for your barracks. Is that something that's allowed?
CSSN COPELAND: What females?
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. You can have females in your room.
SA GEREL: All right. So, the fact that she's in your bed is not just an instant problem, it's a, you know--it's allowed is what you're saying?
Did you think the Chief was upset by that or should have--have been upset? Not should have been. But was he upset?
CSSN COPELAND: I don't think so. He was just telling me, like, make sure I get to work and shit.
SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. And how did she feel, or did she make any comment at all about the fact that she--she was in bed with you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. She didn't say anything. She just woke up and shit. But by the time she woke up. Like, I was already up like--like cleaning my room and shit because Chief just walked in.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, did--did you ever feel like interested in asking her what that was about? Like, why she just climbed in bed with you?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, that's not--not the first time I slept with a female or had a female. Like, in my bed.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: There's been times where I had hella people in my room and, you know.
SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: Like, they want to sleep on the bed, all right, cool. And this was a female, she just want to sleep on it. Cool. Like, you go to sleep on the floor, you know. I--I usually sleep on the bed, I'll sleep on the floor, vice versa. Like, this is not the first female that I've had in my room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I've had many people. Like, groups of people in my room, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay. Yeah. No, thank you for tolerating those questions. You--you--you, as I said, you know, kind of why they might be suspicious to some people.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And I know they're not easy question to answer, but it--it helped us to kind of get a better sense for that. All right. Now we're--we're also taking a little bit of a look at what--at least they thought they heard you say the first time they talked to you, which was not the time you came here, as far as when she left.

So--so, it feels. Like, I think you said, you drove her back to her barracks.

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no. I don't--I don't--I believe I could have said that too, but I was thinking I didn't obtain my roommate's car because my roommate always was at work, so,

SA GEREL: Okay. Help--help me understand that. So, like, we definitely seem to have, like a strong perspective of what it was now. So, help me understand the difference here. Like, why you said that, that first time versus what you're saying now.

CSSN COPELAND: After I actually. Like, taking the time to actually process what happened as things got more serious, obviously, I had to get my story and timeline straight. So, obviously, my roommate didn't have his car.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or I didn't have my roommate's car because he was at work.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: Obviously, when I knocked on the door, he was not in his room. He was gone, so.

SA GEREL: All right. All right. Okay. Is there any part of you that feels like that could have happened?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you--okay. Gotcha. So, you just had more time, and I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I'm just trying to make sure I'm understanding you right. So--so you're saying that you had time to think about it? Think about your story and timeline, and that's when you realized you didn't drive her?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Because my roommate wasn't home and I was, like, "Okay, why did I say I took her home? Obviously, if my roommate's not home."

SA GEREL: Okay. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, obviously, when I come in, I switched it up and you guys are going to think it's switched, but at the same time----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I didn't have my roommate's car, so.

SA GEREL: Yeah. No, again. You're reasonable. And you can kind of see why that might seem suspicious, but you're answering it and you're talking about it, so I appreciate that. I mean, sometimes that happens right when we remember something a little differently.

So, it is--it is a very important detail, in terms of, because that is the last moments, right, that you remember from her.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So--so that's always going to be an important topic when someone goes missing. What's the last thing we can figure out as far as someone sees her or talked to her? Like, that's why I keep asking how is she--how was she acting? All right.

SA MANN: I think kind of fast forwarding from that, so that--when's the last time you actually like eyes on her?

CSSN COPELAND: When she was leaving. Obviously, I was, like, "I'm getting ready for work and shit."
SA GEREL: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: And she walked out the door. I was just telling her before she left. Like, "If you need something, just call, text, and shit."
SA GEREL: Did she say anything about what she was doing when she left? Was there a conversation at all?
CSSN COPELAND: No. It was just, "Have a good day and shit." Like, you guys, all the people I hang out with, too. Like, if I'm leaving and shit, like I--I said the same thing. In the case you my boy, if you need something, just call, text me. Safety and if you need something. Like, I got you.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, can you kind of, then--just so she leaves. Can we start just kind of walking through your day a little bit, then? Like, step by step? And if you mess something up, miss something, go back, rewind, and add it in there because this is a great start. Right?

But now we want to kind of start filling in just to see maybe there's something that you're going to recall, remember that'll help point us in the right direction. So, like, she departs, what comes next for you that day?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I finished cleaning, like I said. I was putting. Like, the rest of the dishes that was out into the dishwasher. Just wiping the counters and shit. Vacuuming, sweeping, and then, from there, I was waiting for my roommate.

SA GEREL: What'd you do while you waited?

CSSN COPELAND: I was just watching TV and then, from there, I laid down and then, by the time I woke up, I was, like, "Fuck." Because it was too fucking late. But I called my Chief around dinner time and I--I told him. Like, "I'm still waiting for my roommate." So, he was, like, all right, whenever he gets there, just let me know, whatever."

SA GEREL: What do--do you mean you say you. Like, woke up? Like, took a nap or?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, yeah.

SA GEREL: Not the--this isn't referring back to the morning. I just want to make sure I--I--I'm not confusing.

CSSN COPELAND: Oh, yeah. But yeah, I was just telling him. Like, I was waiting for my roommate----

SA GEREL: Just past time.

CSSN COPELAND: ----yeah. For the time waiting, I just went to sleep.

SA GEREL: Okay. And that was on the couch, you said?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. By the time--no, no, no. It was in my room. Like on my bed.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: By the time he got back, it was too late.

SA MANN: What time was that?

CSSN COPELAND: I don't know.

SA MANN: Just----

CSSN COPELAND: Like, by the time I woke up, it was--dinner was done.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And by the time, like, dinner starts. Like, our chain of command leaves, so I already knew before----

SA MANN: Are you talking about. Like, on the ship, like when you guys would be preparing dinner?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. Like, but the barge, so.

SA MANN: Or the barge, okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I called him to verify. I was telling him. Like, "I don't think I'm going to make it." I--I told him I was just waiting for my roommate, and he said, "Whenever he gets there, just show face."

SA MANN: What time does dinner room for you guys on the barge?

CSSN COPELAND: 15 and. Like, 1530. And it ends around 17. So, we usually get off around, depending on how fast we clean, like 1730, 1745.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. So, by the time I woke up, it was--it was--dinner was done.

SA GEREL: It was after that. Sometime after 5:30 that night. Conceivably?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. Was your roommate back at that point?

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure. I just woke up late.

SA GEREL: Gotcha.

W2: And then, from there, I was just, like, it's no need to argue or nothing, shit. And I was just, like, "Fuck it." And I was, like, when Monday comes, I'll just explain to. Like, what happened. But, obviously, I couldn't because I was freaking UA.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: They waited to tell me Saturday

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So----

SA MANN: So, what then. Like, you wake up, it's too late to go to work. What do you do with your Friday night?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I just stayed home, like in the building. I was, like, going to the--the lounge and shit. Just chilling on my phone, on TikTok and shit. Because I'm--I'm telling you. Like, my roommate is one--one hard person to deal with.

Like, it's--it's--it is like sad, like how certain people live, and he's just one of those people that is just like--like you worried for. It's, like, when I first checked into the room, I think. Like, that first week I slept on the couch.

SA GEREL: Why's that?

CSSN COPELAND: Because he just--the way he lives is filthy.

SA GEREL: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: He uses the bathroom, doesn't flush the toilet. He's never taken a shower ever since I've been there. The only time he's taken a shower was the first day that I entered the room, and I--I don't even think he took a shower. He just had the water running. He gets off work as soon as he gets off work, he takes off his clothes in the bathroom, and puts on the same pair of clothes he's been wearing for I don't even know how long.

He doesn't wash his clothes. He doesn't clean anything. He just keeps using. Like, for instance, I'll go to the store or some shit. I'll buy some food, or I'll buy like cups of shit. He doesn't ask to use it. All right. It's, like, you know, it's a

couple things. A couple, you know, I'm not going to argue. You know? Cool. I'm going to just let him do him.

So, it's just, like, every day I walk in and it's, like, I go in the room and the room just fucking stinks. Like, every--someone I'm going to fucking Walmart getting hella Febreze, hella. Like, shit filter out the room and his fucking stink is overpowering that shit.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just, like, bro, I don't know what to do. So--so I just fucking sleep on the couch. Or sometimes I'll just go on the--the lounge or I'll have, like, my homeboys come pick me up and go out. Like, pretty much every weekend we're--we're outside or some shit.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Or they would just come over and we'll chill.

SA GEREL: So, do you go out that weekend as well then?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I stayed home. Like some days, like----

SA MANN: On Friday, Saturday, obviously Sunday, you went to work?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. But this weekend I stayed in. I wasn't trying to go outside. I--I remember last weekend I touched out for a little bit, but I mainly stayed inside at my homeboy's crib.

SA MANN: Where is that?

CSSN COPELAND: The PPV off base. So, we just stayed there pretty much the whole weekend, just chilling.
SA MANN: Is--when you say PPV, I know that's, like, the private, but is it, is he in like--like a legitimate house-house or is he in kind of an apartment set up? Like, what's his----
CSSN COPELAND: It's just like my barracks.
SA GEREL: Oh, same thing, just off base.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: Okay. And that's where you were, what, Saturday?
CSSN COPELAND: No, I'm saying, like, the--not this last week.
SA MANN: Oh, the weekend before. Okay. Well, what about that weekend? Like, that Saturday?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. That whole weekend, I stayed in the building. While I was just chilling. Like, in the lounge room or some shit, like on TikTok and Instagram, and then, when Sunday hit and I was taking a shit, that's when the MAs came and they basically told me, like, I'm UA and I need to report to my command. But the whole weekend I literally stayed home.
SA MANN: So, who can kind of help us account for that time? Seeing you in the building, talking to you, interacting with you?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, one, I mean, whatever MAs were there, I'm not sure what MAs were there.
SA MANN: I know Sunday, but I mean, like, Friday, Saturday.

CSSN COPELAND: You got Miss Mary, the front desk.
SA GEREL: Okay. She's there on the weekends as well.
CSSN COPELAND: I'm not sure about the weekends. I--I mean, obviously, the Truman got back, so I'm guessing she had to come in because people needed barracks, but usually she's there Monday through Friday, and sometimes over the weekend. I don't know really how their schedule works.
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: Like, I remember Chief was saying, I know they have like--like eight hour shifts and shit. That's. Like, their duty days or whatever, so.
SA GEREL: Did she see you? Did you talk to her?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. We physically--we physically talked.
SA GEREL: When was that?
CSSN COPELAND: I believe it was, like, almost every day of the week. I remember she walked in, and I was sitting there, and she was, like--she was, like, "Are you in this building?" I was, like, I was, like, "Yes, ma'am." I started smiling and she was, like--she was, like, "What room are you in?" I was, like, "335." And she started laughing. She was, like, "Oh." She was, like, "What are you doing?" I was, like, "I--I'm just chilling." And she already knows my story about my roommate. So, she already knows. Like, I don't really associate. Like, how my roommate lives. So, like, if

it gets to a certain point or too bad, I just leave the room or I just stay on the couch.

SA GEREL: You guys, when did you have that conversation with her? I believe that was Friday or Saturday. It was one of the two. And then, I remember when I was taking the shit, I remember she tried to open the door. I was out by the lounge, and she opened the--she tried to open the door, and I was, like, I'm--I'm here using the-- the restroom. And she was like--like, "Who's that?" And I--I said, "Copeland." And she was, like, "Oh, okay." And she--she kept walking. I believe that was--that was Sunday. So, I'm pretty sure she can account for me--seeing me during the weekends.

SA MANN: Okay. And where did you. Like, did you not go out and get food? Anything?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I got hella food in the house.

SA MANN: Gotcha.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I rarely go out to eat. I got hella food at the house.

SA MANN: Did anyone have a conversation with you about V/A.R. at any point that weekend?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I don't think so. Rather than when Chief and them text me saying that I need to report to the ship. Rather than that, you know, I had other people text me, like asking if I was good. I answered my phone. Like most people know. Like,

especially my chain of command, when I'm off, I'm off. I--I don't associate work and all that shit.

So, when I--especially, you know, you can talk to CS2 about that too. Like, because even with the incident with the female trying to stab me and shit, and when--when they were calling me and shit, I don't answer my phone for them. Like, I don't really, I don't really like my chain of command. Like, my second classes, they're cool, but when it comes to my first class, I don't fuck with my first class.

So, like, even when my first class texts, I don't text him. So, yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. So, Friday was just filled with TikTok and Instagram.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Same with Saturday and then Sunday as well. That's literally how my whole weekend was. I was just stayed at home in the barracks. And then, obviously, Sunday, that's when the MA's came. So, a little halfway through my day, I was----

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: ----getting ready to leave.

SA GEREL: So, what's something you think that you can tell us that's going to help us figure out where V/ A. R. 's at?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I got no clue. I mean, obviously, you guys are, I've done everything you could so far. You've questioned me. You

fucking destroyed my whole fucking room. Damn near three days consecutive. And you guys got all my shit and so it's, like, at this point I--I--I got nothing else to offer. I--I don't know.

SA MANN: I think the biggest, obviously, you know. Like, gap points are the ones that we got to fill in. Right? So, like--like I said, just logically speaking through this to you to try and give you the best idea of what we've got to accomplish, it's a lot of time, but you just being on your own. Right?

And I'm not saying that you're making that up. Maybe you we're just hanging out in the lounge the whole time, but it leaves a lot of open doors. Right? Because, you know, so maybe somebody could see you for a minute or an hour. You know, there's some other things I think that are maybe important to that conversation that we want to have.

But ultimately, as we sit here right now, so you know, you look at Thursday morning when you guys wake up and it's Chief's there. Like, "Hey man, get to work." There's the entirety of Thursday, entirety of Friday, entirety Saturday, and partial of it a Sunday where it's tough to account for where you are. Right?

Because there's nothing, maybe other than a person at some point, maybe seeing you. So, we really want you to kind of think and go back and say, "Hey, where was I? Who was there? What--what helps lock in your version of what's happened?" which we want to be

the truthful one. And--and we want to be able to verify that that helps. Right?

When you tell us something and we can go bounce it off something else, we go, great. That's what happened.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like I'm saying, I mean, miss Mary obviously, try this lady, she saw me. I remember--I can't recall if this was Saturday or Sunday, but I remember when I was sitting in the lounge, there was a--there was a white male that walked in. He offered me a bag of chips. I was, like, "Oh, I'm good." But they made him come into the lounge because they were waxing the floor.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

CSSN COPELAND: So, he tried to leave a couple times and they kept telling to come back and tell they're done waxing the floor. So, I had another encounterment with another male inside the lounge.

SA MANN: What day was that?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I said it was either Saturday or Sunday.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: bI couldn't recall which--which day it was. They also had hella--hella workers up there as well. So, they were waxing the floor. They obviously saw me. They--they told the both of us that we can leave now and then, I was, like, cool. I just walked down to my room.

SA MANN: Okay. Walking this back a little bit, too, because you know, it's--it's not completely off the table. Right? But generally if somebody, and--and, you know, I'm not saying this happened, but if somebody were to harm themselves or just say, "Hey, I'm going to go off the radar, like I'm going to disappear," there's signs, right? It's hard to, especially for, you know, 20-year-old kid, 21-year-old girl, whatever she is at the--at this point, to really do all that without somebody kind of having some stamp. She's so, you know, just like you, it's that social media, you're always ingrained, you're on there.

So, it's--it's rare that somebody would just gone, right? Like without a trace. So, that's why we're asking a lot of these, probably to you, ambiguous, some kind of odd questions. It's because it's a, you know, there always a time for something to break from the norm, but more common is somebody ends up given some indicators, given some signs.

Something to provide a reason for, this is why I'm going to go do this, or this is why I'm going to disappear. This is why I feel like I need to go harm myself, or whatever it may be, if that's what happened. And I--I think at this point, you know, I know you have a special spot in your heart for family, and obviously that's what's eaten away at you a lot today.

But having now seen, you know, V/A.R.'s mom and just the--the--the immense amount of pain that she seems to be in, having no idea, if nothing else, I think we all owe her just the best time talking through this, so we can to try and make sure that we're not missing any small stone to turnover.

Because for that hope that she has. Right? Like--like we're going to sit here and--and say, we--we need to do everything we can to try and find this girl.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: And, you know, that may unfortunately come down to alive or not.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: But, it gives a sense of closure, and I think that family piece is really going to be the motivator. Because, especially, you know, I can imagine if that happened to you, your mom was worried, but it was just a--a simple baby UA, but they still know where you are. And you guys, you alluded to that conversation happened.

And so, think about her mom now and how long has it been, you know, we're talking over a week and not having a single word of your daughter. You used to talk to her every day. Like, that's--that's tough. So, I know that family thing hits, and that's why we're just probably, it feels like bludgeon in you with a lot of questions that

seem repetitive or redundant, but we're just trying to spark something.

Maybe it comes out a different way. Maybe you've got some detail that was buried before that it circles back. You're, like, "Oh, you know what?" And that's what we really want to do with you. That's what these kind of tools are for. That's why we do it. Because it's bigger than you. Bigger than me, bigger than him. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA MANN: You know, like let's say this was nefarious. Crime piece aside, if you could say something or do something that matters at this point. Like, that matters, but finding her matters more, right? So, I think that's--that's everybody's goal here. And I know you sort of said earlier. You have your own aspirations for---

-

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----what's with her. But, you know, if you were able to send her a message now and maybe move the--move the needle or get her back or figure out where she was, what--what do you think you could say in that area that would help?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, not much. I mean, shit. Like I said, when she left, I told her if she needs something, just call or text me. I mean, I text her after Chief had said--after Chief had notified me

that we both were UA. And I text, I was, like, "Bro. Like, you good? Like they marked fricking, both of us UA."

And--and at first I was, like, mad because I was, like, what the fuck?

SA GEREL: What do you mean?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, I was mad because I was, like, "Why the fuck did like Chief Mark, both of us UA?" At that point, I was pissed. Honestly, I was more pissed at Chief. But at the end of the day. Like, I can't argue. At the end of the day, like----

SA GEREL: So, you sent her that text?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I was just, like, I--I text her. I was saying--I was, like, "Bro, is you good? Like, they're freaking marking us both UA."

SA MANN: What'd she say to that?

CSSN COPELAND: She didn't say anything.

SA MANN: Could you tell if she--she read it?

CSSN COPELAND: Hm?

SA MANN: You know, like you get the little things where it says hey, like if somebody read this or didn't read it?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Her shit was on Do Not Disturb.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: So, I was just, like, all right, cool. And then, from there, that's when the days proceeded. And then, they ended up taking my phone and shit.

SA MANN: You say her hers was on Do Not Disturb. What do you mean? Like, the phone, the--like, entire. Like, you can see that on the message?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It says phone--her number was silenced.

SA MANN: Oh. So, you send somebody that text, it'll tell you. Like, they're not getting it.

CSSN COPELAND: No, it'll tell you. Like, for instance. Like, my phone stays on Do Not Disturb. And through the settings, you can either have it to allow you to have your phone. Like, show up. Like, on Do Not Disturb.

SA MANN: Right.

CSSN COPELAND: Or sometimes you could just receive the messages and it isn't. Like, you know, notify them back and your phone will not---

SA MANN: Oh, so you're saying her setting was set, so when you sent it----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----you immediately knew?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. When I sent on the message at the bottom, it was saying her--her shit was silences.

SA MANN: Okay. Did you ever go back and look and see if she read it?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I just texted. I mean, at the end of the day, if somebody sends me a text and if you reply, you reply. If you don't----

SA MANN: No, I got it. You can't follow up on everything.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: All right.

SA GEREL: In terms of those phone settings, how do you keep your phone settings? I think you just said a little bit. You--you have yours on Do Not Disturb?

CSSN COPELAND: My phone stays on Do Not Disturb 24-7.

SA GEREL: Do you share your location with your--with your people?

CSSN COPELAND: Nah, I mean, like the group of people I used to hang out with, I would turn my settings. Like, I would share my location just for like going out and shit. So, we know where each other are. Like--like, for instance. Like, we'll go somewhere and then, we'll regroup or like go to a party.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: We go here just seeing what--what options are happening or, like, what's going on tonight, and then, we regroup and shit.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, it sounds like that's a setting you turn on, turn off depending on the circumstances.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, there's a female I talked to and my--my location stay on for her, but most of the--the time before that my location home was off.
SA MANN: Who's, who's that?
CSSN COPELAND: A female back at home.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Yeah. So, one of the things that we may have reason to understand is that your location settings turned off over the weekend, and it helps--help me understand that, like, why over the weekend you would've turned off your location sharing?
CSSN COPELAND: Because I mean, obviously, one thing about me is I don't like people getting in my business. I remember that somebody in the group chat said something of my location. Like, they stalked me and shit. I was, like, bro, so I turned that shit off.
SA MANN: When did they say that?
CSSN COPELAND: It was in a group chat, like, bro on the group chat.
SA MANN: Yeah. Yeah. But I mean, when did somebody say something about your location in the chat that made you turn it off?
CSSN COPELAND: During the weekend. Like, if I'm at home, why do they look at my location? Like, cool. I mean, it could have came

to the crib or some shit or texted me, like, I'm on the way to the crib. All right, cool.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But if you're just watching. Like, target watching where I'm at, that's--I find that a little suspect.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's not--that's not comfortable.

SA MANN: Oh, yeah. So, do you remember doing that, though? This weekend?

Okay. All right.

CSSN COPELAND: Location was on for like one--one or two people.

SA MANN: The whole weekend.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. It was, like, because we were out, so they had my location. It was, like, two people. Because we were hanging out with some people at my homeboy's crib, and I kept my location on. But that was not--not this previous weekend, but the weekend before that, like, when we were out and then, obviously, sometimes--usually I would turn it off. Or sometimes. Like, certain people, I share my location just for 24 hours, or sometimes I'll keep it indefinitely, or however you say that shit.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, eventually, I'll turn that shit off.

SA MANN: But the girl from back home always on.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Like, ours is different. So, she has me on Life 360.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: And then, on Snapchat. Like those--they just have my number. SA MANN: Do you still have Life 360 on there?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: And so, obviously that--you'd have to go and. Like, turn that off in the app separate to----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: ----kill it. So, would she--like, would that be on throughout that weekend? So, when they look at that phone data specifically, they're going to see. Like, here I am.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That's why we're asking. It's very helpful. So, if we have people that can say, yeah, we saw Copeland here, here, here throughout the weekend. Of course, the helps a lot.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: And we're working on that. The phone is great too because you know, if it--it'll show where it's at, so they'll able to see where the phone's at, which is also very helpful. That's why we're asking.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I gotcha.

SA GEREL: But we're--we're trying to help you the best we can on-- on those details. It sounds like sometimes you're not super good with names, so if you--if you could think of any other names like that. You said you--you ran into one white dude over the weekend who gave you a bag of chips. He--he offered.

CSSN COPELAND: He didn't give----

SA GEREL: Offered. Okay. Anything else you can tell us about that instance? That would be very helpful.

CSSN COPELAND: Shit, I've never seen the dude a day in my life, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. Did he seem like a young guy? Like a----

CSSN COPELAND: He looked like--yeah, he looked like he was young. Like, anywhere from out of high school to, I'd say, like, 20 to 21.

SA GEREL: Like, a Sailor is what you----okay. So, you've never seen him before?

CSSN COPELAND: No.

SA GEREL: So, what prompted him to offer you chips? Did you say anything in conversation or?

CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, the--they told him to go in there and then he walked in there and he was, like, "What's up?" I said, "What's good?" And then he sat down. He was just on his phone. And then he tried to leave, and he came back, and you could tell he was, like, catching an attitude. And I was, like, "You good?" He

was, like, "Nah, they keep fucking turning me around," because he's trying to get to his room.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: But they keep turning him around. He was, like, "I almost slipped by, but he saw him in the corner."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I was, like, "Oh shit, bro." I started laughing. He was, like, "You want a bag of chips?" I was, like, "What--what kind of chips do you have?" And he started naming all the shit he had in there. I was, like, "Nah, I'm good." I was, like, "I--I usually like to eat hot. Like, hot chips and shit."

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: He was, like, "Okay." I was, like, "Yeah." And from there, I think he tried to leave like one more time. They turned him around and then, after that, they allowed us to leave.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. In--in terms of your phone, and again, just to make sure you've, you've tested your memory as much as you can. If--if we were at see Ping in any other parts of Tidewater. Like, in another city over the weekend, any--any way we can--you can help us understand that?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, like I said, the location and shit has been on for, on Life 360, so I'm sure you can look through the app and see----

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: ----where, what's been the whole weekend.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as, like, my settings for Apple and shit, I don't know how that works for--I don't know how that shit works.

SA GEREL: But if it. Like, showed up like in Hampton or Suffolk or something, or downtown Norfolk. Like, did--did any--any chances you could remember. Like, being in a different place?

CSSN COPELAND: I've been home the whole weekend.

SA GEREL: Okay. I know you're trying hard to remember. I just wanted to give you a chance to give your thoughts on it.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm not really thinking, I just know.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I was home the whole weekend.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Okay.

SA GEREL: Did you loan your phone to anybody?

CSSN COPELAND: Hmm.

SA GEREL: Did--did you loan your phone to anybody? Anybody have your phone but you?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I just had it.

SA GEREL: Okay.

SA MANN: Was there any time you were. Like, away from your phone for a period of time?
CSSN COPELAND: No. Like, usually my phone stays with me.
SA MANN: Was there any break of that usual, like, that weekend where you maybe left it in your room for a while? Like, had to go charge it because it died, or you went and did something else?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, I mean, sometimes if it dies, then it just die, and then, whenever I get to charge it, then I charge it. I'm not, like, the type of person that's, like, "Oh, I need my phone." You know, if I don't have it, I don't have it.

But, like, I mean, sometimes there's, like, people I need to call or some shit, and I'll text him and shit. And other than that, I'm not like a type of person that's, like, "Oh, I'm going to die if I don't have my phone, so."

SA GEREL: All right. Do you have--do you have more than one phone? Did they understand that right?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I told them I had another phone, but it's broke. That's why I had bought a--sold the phone that I have now. The black one?
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: That's my phone. I had one before that, and it broke. So, through my AT&T, I basically got another phone through my insurance.

SA GEREL: Okay. And they were basically saying, like, I got 31 days to turn it in or else, basically, I got to charge my next bill.
SA MANN: When--when did it break the other phone?
CSSN COPELAND: A couple months ago.
SA GEREL: Okay. So, a while ago?
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Yeah. It was a while ago.
SA GEREL: What--what happened to it? How did it break?
CSSN COPELAND: I dropped it. I mean, obviously, I don't have a case on my phone, so I dropped it and that's it. The whole front and the back----
SA MANN: That's a bad day.
CSSN COPELAND: ----completely shattered.
SA GEREL: That is a bad day.
CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.
SA GEREL: All right. Do you have more before I do a quick little transition?
SA MANN: No, I'm good.
SA GEREL: I want to make sure that we do take good care of your time and respectful like we talked about. So, you've been super cooperative and helpful, and we appreciate that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: How are are you feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I'm fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. You need anything from us? You need more water or more food? You need a bathroom break?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. Do you mind if I use the restroom?

SA GEREL: Of course. Let's take care of that. And then, we'll want to make sure it's cleared out? We have little game plan after that. And then, we'll get--we'll get you to the next thing. Any questions for me?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you're doing okay. Now, as far as, like, I--I know you were a little low asleep and just kind of stressed out. Do you feel like you're able to hear things, make decisions, recall things properly? Do you do you feel like you're--in your--like able to be as you normally are?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Okay. Okay. So, tell--tell me if that changes. Okay. I--I want to talk to Copeland, you know, who's fully attentive and remembering and thinking. I--I don't want any other version where you're just, like, ah, you know, I don't feel good enough to actually talk or think about this stuff. Your mental health important to me.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Who do you talk to when you feel like you need a little talking to? Like, you need a boost.

CSSN COPELAND: My homeboy's name's JJ, like the CS I work with you.
SA GEREL: You talked to JJ?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, that's my--my dude to go to.
SA GEREL: How about family, friends, anything like that?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean----
SA GEREL: Well, yeah, JJ's your friend. But any family or, like, parents or?
CSSN COPELAND: Like, family wise I go to my mom.
SA GEREL: All right.
SA MANN: Yeah. You're good. The door's just locked on this.
SA GEREL: That's okay.
SA GEREL: Run around and get her her open.
[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland departed the room at timestamp 2:43:40.]
[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland entered the room at timestamp 2:45:17.]
SA MANN: Need anything?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA MANN: I know, you know, there's a lot that we're talking through and going through. Our best interest at this point is your best interest in that we want to try to give you a chance to rule some things out, too. So, I think we've got some other steps that we

want to talk through here shortly about how we can get some things from you that'll help us do that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: So, we're going to walk you through what that entails, probably as well.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Yeah. For sure. And again, thank you for helping us as much as you can.

W Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: So, we're trying to get a couple of things, not that we need them right now, but we might need them pretty quickly in the future. One of those, when we start looking for, like DNA and things like that, we got to be able to exclude people that would naturally have DNA in certain places.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Do you mind giving us some of your DNA?

CSSN COPELAND: What do you--you mean by that?

SA GEREL: Just get a swab of your mouth. They have it on--on samples in case they need to compare anything.

CSSN COPELAND: When.

SA GEREL: Like, right now. Yeah. So, it is a simple process. So, if you said, "Yeah, I'm cool with that," the other agent would come

in and take a little swab, get inside of your mouth, and then we have it for the case as it calls.

CSSN COPELAND: As far as my DNA for what?

SA MANN: So, it just rules you out. Right? Like, if so, if they find some DNA and they're, like, hey, we don't know whose this is. Like say there's a--a drop of blood, a tear or something, and we want to know, "Hey, was she here?" Well, if it's yours, we don't have your DNA that to run it against, right? So, we'll know it's yours. If it's hers, we--she's not here. Right? We can't get hers. So, we can at least say, "Hey, it isn't his, maybe it's hers," or something like that. So, it gives us just an idea of are we looking at the right places to try and find her?

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

SA GEREL: You cool with that?

SA MANN: That's sound good. I mean, it's just basically it's like--like a big Q-tip, but they just----

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: It doesn't hurt anything.

SA MANN: No. It's just a cotton swab.

SA GEREL: It's even less intrusive than like the COVID test if you've had any of those.

SA MANN: Yeah. We're not shoving things into your brain to make sure you don't got COVID.

SA GEREL: So, okay. Well, here's that form. So, this is--it's called Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure. All it is is they're getting it for the main concept of it if they have to look or compare things, in the search for V/ A. R.. Okay?

So, the thing that you're actually getting is--is DNA, and it's in that swab. Feel free to review of it if you're good with that, just give me a good signature right here.

CSSN COPELAND: I'm signing where?

SA GEREL: Right here. You got any questions about it?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. I'll give this to the--the lady and then, she'll be here to go grab that.

SA MANN: So, she's coming in. She's going to wear a mask. She's going to be like up in your junk. So, not that she's sick or anything, but just to make sure you

CSSN COPELAND: You want me to sit or stand?

SA: No, you're fine. You can just sit--sit right there.

SA MANN: It's just a long Q-tip.

SA: Yeah. I'm just going to get your cheek cells in there. So, shouldn't hurt at all, but if I do, just let me know. I'm just going to do basically four swabs total. Just two and two.

Okay. This open mouth. I'm just going to get all the corners here.

SA MANN: Two down. Got a little cotton mouth like now.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Got water. Wash that down once you're done. Don't take a sip quite yet.

SA GEREL: Yeah, when she's done. Do you need more?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, I got a little bit in there.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah, just get that cotton out of the mouth.

SA: But still not as bad as the dentist, I feel like.

SA MANN: Oh, no, it's not. We were talking COVID test like I disappears into your brain right there.

SA: Yep.

SA MANN: I--I think I literally----

SA: Perfect. Thank you.

SA MANN: [Affirmative response.]

SA: Do you have the time--what time it is?

SA MANN: It is 1133.

SA: 1133. Thank you.

SA MANN: Yes, ma'am.

SA: Perfect. Thank you.

SA MANN: All right.

CSSN COPELAND: All good, sir?

SA GEREL: Hold tight.

SA MANN: You got water out? No, I--I mean, technically yes, whenever you want. You can always say no. But, if you're willing to hang out for a little bit, I think we're want talk through a couple things, or if your good with that.

CSSN COPELAND: That's fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. So, 1130 since you can't see time. So, what--what questions you got for us?

CSSN COPELAND: Nothing.

SA GEREL: Okay. We've covered some--some similar stuff you've already talked about, a couple of new things, and sometimes that will prompt a question or, like, if you--you want some clarification on what we know about what's happening? Anything like that?

CSSN COPELAND: Not really.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. I appreciate that. I just want to, as I mentioned to you, make sure you--you know, that we're trying to be good hosts. So, I don't want to just bombard you with questions about giving you chance to talk a little bit, too. Free--free talk.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: What I think would be good if we have a few of the other agents that are involved in the case. It'd probably be good for Tyler and I to walk out and just kind of get our--our--our heads together as to make sure we've answered all the questions we can with you today.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA GEREL: I--I think we getting real, real close. Do you have anything you want to ask him about before we do that?
SA MANN: No. I mean did were--were you hanging on to something there? Because I feel like there's kind of that pause, like, "Oh, maybe." Like you--you got anything that's sort of resonating?
CSSN COPELAND: [Negative response.]
SA MANN: Okay.
CSSN COPELAND: I--I was just thinking, like, do I got any questions for y'all? I don't--there's not really much. At the end of the day, y'all are doing your jobs, so.
SA MANN: Okay.
SA GEREL: Yeah. We appreciate it much.
SA MANN: Perfect.
SA GEREL: Well, no, just thank you for understanding that. I mean, I hope even though it is part of us doing our jobs, hopefully you--you believe and feel that we treated you good. Certainly tried to, and you certainly treated us good. So, thank you for that.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir. All right, well, give us a few minutes. You--you want some water while you're waiting on this?
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, please.
SA GEREL: I don't think it'll be too long. I mean, I think it's probably going to be----

SA MANN: Yeah, we'll get you some water.

SA GEREL: Yeah. Fifteen minutes or so, we're moving on to----

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, please.

SA GEREL: You want a minute or more food? Did you eat your beef stick?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 2:53:20.]

[SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 2:55:18.]

SA GEREL: Okay. I got you another water. Yeah, we only have a couple more questions. And so, your car is jacked up. Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: Where's it at?

CSSN COPELAND: It's not my car, it's my homeboy's car, but I'm sure he has it now.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: It was the--the head gasket was fucked up, but my car is totaled and so----

SA GEREL: Okay. The one that you consider your car, the totaled one?

CSSN COPELAND: No, my car, like, my actual car is totaled, so.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, it's like just gone.

CSSN COPELAND: Gone, yeah.

SA GEREL: All right. How do you get around without your--your car?

CSSN COPELAND: Either my roommate takes me to work, and the days my roommate doesn't take me to work, then I have somebody within my ship come and pick me up.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 2:53:20.]

SA MANN: Come on in.

SA GEREL: So, Sean, your roommate takes you around?

CSSN COPELAND: No, no, no.

SA MANN: In case you want that.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you. Not Sean. The African guy.

SA GEREL: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: With the car.

SA GEREL: Oh, okay. You ride with him a lot. Any other cars that you frequently use? Like, if you're just trying to go to the store or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: Like, whenever I need to go to the store or some shit, I--I use my roommate, like, I ask him. You know? Do you think you can take me to the store? Or can I use your car to go to the store?

SA GEREL: Okay. What kind of car does he drive?

CSSN COPELAND: A white Jeep.

SA GEREL: Okay. All right. And then any other cars that you've been driving, like, in the last couple months?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. What, you mentioned the traffic thing? Is that right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA GEREL: What--what kind of car were you involved with in the traffic thing?

CSSN COPELAND: A Dodge Challenger, and that was all the way back in February.

SA GEREL: Yeah. That is while back. What--what happened with that? I know I'm--it is nothing to do with what we're talking about, but I'm just curious what happened.

CSSN COPELAND: I was speeding.

SA GEREL: Okay. You got a--you got a public defender?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I mean, I clearly can't talk to her because I don't have my phone.

SA GEREL: So, now people don't normally get public defenders for, like, a speeding, like did, were you drinking or anything?

CSSN COPELAND: No, I got what I got--it was a reckless driving.

SA GEREL: Oh, reckless.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I was going 118 in a 55.

SA GEREL: What?

SA MANN: Cruising.
SA GEREL: All right, well that's none of my business, but I hope that turns out okay for you. Well, can you borrow a friend's phone to call that attorney?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I don't, I--I, me personally, I don't know. Because I don't have--like, the attorney she called a couple of weeks ago.
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: And I told her, I was, like, "Yeah, I'm at work right now." And she was, like, "Oh, I'm sorry. And she was asking me, like, "What's a good time?" And I was, like, "You can call the next day because I'm off."
SA GEREL: Yeah.
CSSN COPELAND: And she was, like, "All right." I've never heard from her again.
SA GEREL: Yeah. They can be hard to get a hold of. Well, I encourage you to keep trying. Again, none of my business, but yeah. Keep trying. Ship phone, base phone, barracks phone. Whatever you can find.
But what questions do you have for us?
CSSN COPELAND: Nothing as of right now.
SA GEREL: And thank you for--for talking to us today. I'm going to give you last thoughts. I hope that we can talk again. I hope that

we can get--get a chance to interact with you a day that you're feeling better, maybe a little less stressed, and maybe consider the polygraph.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: It is one of the few things out there that can say, like, "I didn't do it, and let me help you prove it." Like, that's one of the few things that actually does that.

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: So, again, like you're going to have people that are, you know, until--until we find her, you're going to have people that are speculating and saying stuff. You know the truth in your heart. You don't let them bother you anymore than it's going to bother you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: But you might be able to tell them one day, like, "I'm telling you, I--I didn't do it, plus I passed my polygraph." You know, that means a lot to some people. So, just kind of keep that in mind. And then, we are here for you. So, you can even, let--do you have contact information for NCIS? Do you have anybody's contact number from here?

CSSN COPELAND: I have the--the male that I talked to. Not the male, I think it was just the female.

SA GEREL: The shorter one.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Okay. Yeah. So, you can call her and you can say, whatever you want to say, but if you change your mind and say, like, "I'm ready, let them know that I'll take it." We will get to you soon as we can after you make that call, and we might check back in with you if it's okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA GEREL: Just to see how you're feeling about whether you feel like you could be ready to do that. Obviously, if we find her, then--then that might not be--we may have to never do that. But if--while the--while the--the search is on, it could be very, you know, again, probably help you in people looking.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Any questions about that?

CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.

SA GEREL: All right. Thank you for thinking about it. I--I really appreciate that.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: Tyler, you got anything?

SA MANN: I--I don't think so. I mean, if you hear something, let somebody know.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: Like I--I guess, you know, I'd be remiss if I--I didn't ask, like, what would you--what--what do you want to, what do you think the perfect outcome here is?

CSSN COPELAND: Shit, I don't--I don't know. As much as you guys knows, that's as much as I know. So, I--I----

SA MANN: Oh no, but I mean, like, take all that off the table. How--how do you want to see this end?

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, hopefully y'all find her and she's okay.

SA MANN: Yeah.

CSSN COPELAND: I mean, that's the only thing that everybody's worried about right now. Because obviously nobody knows where her whereabouts are right now, so.

SA MANN: Sure. So, that's part of the--the reason we ask you to keep doing your part to make that happen. Right?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: So, you know, if you hear something small, large, anywhere between, tell somebody, please.

CSSN COPELAND: Okay.

SA MANN: Okay.

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA MANN: All right. Otherwise, I think you've got some things to tend this afternoon, unfortunately, but yeah. Good luck with that.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: If you will give us some time to coordinate, you--somebody dropped you off here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. My--I believe my lieutenant's out there.

SA MANN: Oh, is he still here?

CSSN COPELAND: I--I hope so, shit.

SA MANN: We have a phone, I think, if he's not. So we'll--let--give us a few minutes to get a hold of him. Are you good? Just hanging tight for a few minutes here?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah.

SA MANN: Okay. I mean, if you want to put your head down, take a nap. Like, we can, I'll get this out of the way.

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: Put it up here. All right. So, feel free to jump over there if you want to put your head down or something, but catch up on some of that sleep you've been missing.

SA GEREL: Yeah.

SA MANN: We'll be right back. Thank you.

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah, no problem.

[SA Mann and SA Gerel departed the room at timestamp 3:01:38.]

CSSN COPELAND: All right.

SA GEREL: That all right?

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA GEREL: No problem.

[SA Mann entered the room at timestamp 3:02:27.]
SA MANN: You're good, man. I'm just going to hang in here.
CSSN COPELAND: Is he out there or here, or is he on his way?
SA MANN: No, we just called him, though, so he should be on his way. I think they--we asked them to give him a ring before we came in, I know that. But we'll, I'm going to pull this so I can just make sure, because I need my phone. Hey man, what's happening? So, just give me a second.
CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.
SA MANN: I'll be back with you here shortly. Okay?
CSSN COPELAND: Okay.
[SA Mann departed the room at timestamp 3:02:49.]
[SA Mann and SA Gerel entered the room at timestamp 3:04:16.]
SA GEREL: All right. Your lieutenant's here. All right, last--last--last call. Any questions? You got anything we can help you with?
CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
SA GEREL: How you feeling? I know other than what we already talked about. How you feeling?
CSSN COPELAND: I mean, I mean, I'm just going with the flow. Just trying----
SA GEREL: Okay. So, you seem like you're under a little bit of stress, but you seem like you got it together. You seem strong.

But I--I--I've been along before and I--I don't want to make any assumptions. So, you know, I--I care about your mental health.

Do you have any worries that you would--any worries about hurting yourself or anybody else?

CSSN COPELAND: Not nobody else. I mean, after that day, I feel like I'm straight. I mean, I'm holding it together, but----

SA GEREL: Okay. And you said you had no worries about anybody else. How about yourself?

CSSN COPELAND: Yeah. I'm fine.

SA GEREL: Okay. So, you you--you may or may not know, but, like, your command's got access to resources, like, if you need to talk. Like, I was asking you earlier who you talked to when you get--need to get stuff off your mind. Don't keep stuff bottled in. You know, if you need to go talk to a chaplain or a counselor, there's nothing wrong with that.

You--you--you've been through some things that would cause anybody to feel a certain kind of way. So, like, don't--don't be hero. You can talk to people if you need to. Okay?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: But you good?

CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

SA GEREL: You strong?

CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]

SA GEREL: All right. Let's go.

CSSN COPELAND: Huh?

SA MANN: I said, let's get you on out of here. Got that water?

CSSN COPELAND: Thank you.

SA MANN: So, cover with all your stuff should be there. Make sure it's all there before you walk out.

[SA Mann, SA Gerel, and CSSN Copeland departed the room at timestamp 3:05:58.]

SA MANN: Concluded at 1148. Command--member released to command.

[End of interview.]

[END OF PAGE]

TRANSCRIPTIONIST
CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

I, Angela Sharpe, certify that this written transcript is a true, accurate, and complete copy of the audio or other electronic recording of the NCIS interviews of CSSN Jeremiah Copeland, YN3 Sean Monoghan, Airman Recruit John Calisse, FCC Brad Parker, CSSN V/S.S. , HT3 Michael Gillespie, and ABHAN V/C.R.

Angela Sharpe Digitally signed by Angela Sharpe Date: 2025.09.30 17:49:00 -04'00'

Angela Sharpe

29 September 2025
Date

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**AFFIDAVIT OF SPECIAL AGENT JESSICA GOKEY** **3 September 2025**

I, Jessica Gokey, being first duly sworn state:

1. I am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I completed 40 hours of advanced family and sexual violence training. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. As a federal agent, I am authorized to investigate violations of law of the United States and to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States.

3. On May 30, 2025, NCIS was notified of a missing person's report for [redacted], USN, DDG-95. NCIS was also notified that the last person to be seen with her, CSSN Jermiah COPELAND, USN, was in an unauthorized absence status and was also missing.

4. On June 1, 2025, COPELAND was located within his barracks room onboard Naval Station Norfolk, however, [redacted] was still missing.

5. During an interview on June 3, 2025, COPELAND advised that an Apple Watch and iPhone that were located during a search of his barracks room at the X-2 barracks onboard Naval Station Norfolk were his. COPELAND explained neither device worked. NCIS did not seize either device and left them in his custody.

6. On June 3, 2025, COPELAND gave a separate iPhone 15 to investigators after signing a PASS.

7. On June 6, 2025, COPELAND was placed in a restricted status aboard the barge for DDG-95. COPELAND was advised to bring his toiletries and belongings to the ship. COPELAND remained on restriction until a later arrest and pre-trial confinement beginning on June 9, 2025.

8. On June 10, 2025, NCIS executed a CASS for COPELAND's berthing onboard the barge associated with DDG-95 that he lived in while on restriction. NCIS was able to locate and seize the Apple Watch. However, the second iPhone found on the June 3, 2025 search of COPELAND's barracks was not present.

9. The second iPhone was not located after additional searches of COPELAND's barracks room. It remains lost.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

3 September 2025

GOKEY.JESSICA.RAY.[redacted]

Digitally signed by GOKEY.JESSICA.RAY.[redacted]
Date: 2025.09.03 11:18:18 -04'00'

Jessica Gokey

Special Agent



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FORENSIC EXAMINATION REPORT

CASE NUMBER 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA

Case generated Monday, September 8, 2025
Report generated Wednesday, September 10, 2025

CASE OVERVIEW

CASE PROCESSING DETAILS

SCAN 1

Scanned by	DFE Rhett NORMAN
Scan date	Monday, September 8, 2025 2:01:57 PM
Scan description	X/COPELAND APPLE WARRANT RETURN

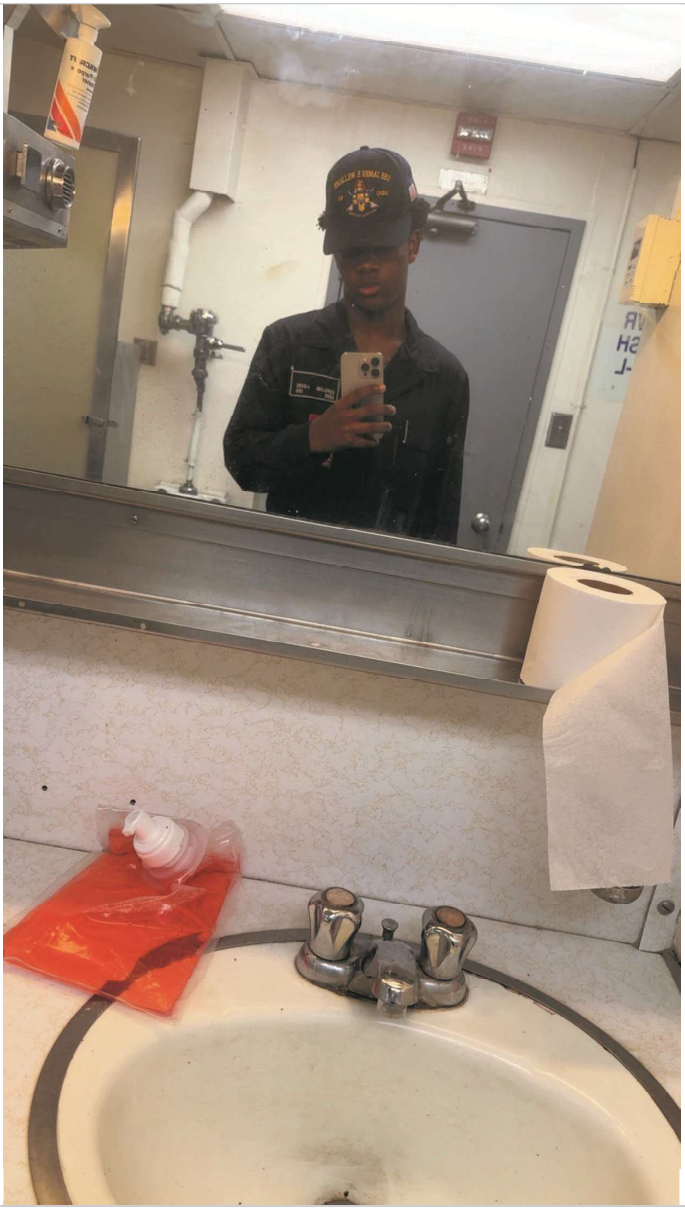
EVIDENCE OVERVIEW

Evidence items	1
Combined results	281,629

APPLE RETURN (281,629)

Evidence processing software	AXIOM Process v9.5.0.45393
Evidence number	APPLE RETURN
Location	Evidence.zip
Platform	Mobile

Record 1

Tags	Evidence
Image	
File Name	IMG_9258.JPG
File Extension	.JPG
Last Modified Date/Time - UTC+00:00 (M/d/yyyy)	6/8/2025 8:21:12.000 PM
Size (Bytes)	449183
Skin Tone Percentage	55.5
Original Width	1242
Original Height	2208
Exif Extraction Status	Complete
Latitude	36.85297222222222
GPS Latitude	36°51'10.7"
GPS Latitude Reference	North
Longitude	-76.31273611111111
GPS Longitude	76°18'45.85"
GPS Longitude Reference	West

Exif Data	Extraction Result: Complete ImageWidth: 1242 ImageHeight: 2208 GPSLongitude: -76.312736 GPSLatitude: 36.852972
MD5 Hash	5ab9a03f7adbef57734a6fff52810fad
SHA1 Hash	27c172ceaa362a26758894cc68b91dea0f98329c
_rawData	[Binary data]
Source	• Evidence.zip PII 5203\1693381\jermiahcopeland7@icloud.com-1693381\cloudphotolibrary\PersonalLibrary\IMG_9258.JPG
Location	• n/a
Evidence number	• APPLE RETURN
Recovery method	• Parsing
Item ID	18609

UNITED STATES v. **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**R.C.M. 701(a) DISCLOSURE**

On 5 September 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN, in the presence of Ms. Marie Reddish at Building A-50. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

CS2 Taylor described a call he received from CSSN S.R. on 11 April 2025 at 0604. He stated the call was approximately 10 minutes long. During the call he overheard CSSN S.R. arguing with CSSN Copeland. CS2 Taylor heard CSSN S.R. state that CSSN Copeland had placed his hands on her and CSSN Copeland was stating that V/ S. R. had a knife. CS2 Taylor advised V/ S. R. to leave and at 0654 she texted him that she had left. CS2 Taylor provided phone screenshots of these events.

CS3 Taylor learned later that CSSN S.R. had left and returned to CSSN Copeland's barracks, but he was not sure if the time she called him was the first or second time she was at CSSN Copeland's barracks room.

CS2 Taylor stated that he interacted with CSSN S.R. on a daily basis and based on his interactions found her to be a truthful person. He could not opine on her reputation for truthfulness among the crew.

CS2 Taylor advised that FCC Brad Parker, USN, was an interim Chief in the supply division. CS2 Taylor stated that FCC Parker was a dirt bag who failed to take initiative and did not do much.

CS2 Taylor advised he had spoken previously with CSSN Copeland about a speeding allegation.

CS2 Taylor also advised that on 9 June 25, while CSSN Copeland was on restriction, CS2 Taylor asked CSSN Copeland what happened between him and CS3 A.R. CS2 Taylor stated that CSSN Copeland advised CS3 A.R. was at his barracks room, they had been drinking alcohol, and the two began making out. CSSN Copeland then stated that CS3 A.R. wanted it to go further, but he stopped it. CS2 Taylor provided that he doubted CSSN Copeland was mature enough to have stopped the encounter at that point, but did not press him further. CS2 Taylor stated that he got the impression from CSSN Copeland that this all occurred in CSSN Copeland's bed. CS2 Taylor also provided that CSSN Copeland told him that CS3 A.R. left on her own the next morning. CS2 Taylor thought that was odd, because others had told him that CSSN Copeland had told them that he dropped her off at her barracks.

CS2 Taylor provided that CS3 A.R. was a great person who was very special. She was a great worker with a bubbly, strong personality. CS2 Taylor thought it was odd that she was with CSSN Copeland that night as there was no indication of a preexisiting relationship – other than professional.

A separate investigative action of this conversation will not be documented by NCIS.

Name: V/A.R. Case Number: T2025-00840	POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA	PAGE 1

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE, SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23510
(757) 683-8366

AUTOPSY NO: T- 246-25
DATE/DAY/TIME: Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 0830
DECEDENT: V/ A. R.
AUTOPSY AUTHORIZED BY: Dr. Lameira, acting Medical Examiner for Norfolk

Body Identified by: Tags on the body bag and suitcase. Definitive ID by fingerprint comparison.
Persons present at autopsy: Ms. Lacombe, Ms. Magruder, Ms. Sloulin, NCIS Danielle Ortiz, Morgan Currie, NPD John Murphy

Rigor: Absent **Livor:** Undetermined
Age: PII **Race:** White **Sex:** F **Length:** 58" **Weight**:72 lbs. **Eyes:** No eyes
Hair: Black **Body Heat:** Refrigerated

GENERAL EXTERNAL EXAMINATION: [redacted]
white body bag. A suitcase (38" x 21" x 15.5") is[redacted]
and grass are around the suitcase. [redacted]

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS: Nude. Personal effects: necklace, two earrings, a larger earring.

EXTERNAL WOUNDS: Examination limited by decomposition changes.

SCARS, TATTOOS: Tattoos on left arm and upper back,

MARKS OF THERAPY: None.

HISTORY: [redacted]

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES:

[redacted]

2. Additional findings: decomposition, advanced stage.

Cause of Death: Undetermined

The facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Encl 50
1 of 8

8/18/2025
Date Signed

OCME Norfolk, VA
Place of Autopsy

[redacted]
Signature of Pathologist
Fernanda Lameira, M.D

GROSS DESCRIPTION: *Note: exam limited by decomposition changes.*

SKIN: Tattoos. Partially skeletonized.

SEROUS CAVITIES: No adhesions or fluid accumulation. The diaphragm is intact. The organs are in normal anatomic position.

NECK ORGANS: Layered dissection reveals unremarkable soft tissue of the anterior neck. The larynx and hyoid are intact. The thyroid gland has a normal size and shape.

HEART: 77 g. The coronary arteries arise normally and have a right dominant posterior circulation. There is no significant atherosclerosis. The valves are normally formed. The foramen ovale is closed. The great vessels are unremarkable and free of obvious injury.

AORTA: The aorta and its major branches are normally distributed, with no significant atherosclerosis.

LUNGS: Left 155 g, right 181 g. The pleural surfaces are unremarkable and cover red-purple, mildly edematous pulmonary parenchyma.

LIVER: 299 g. The liver capsule is smooth and glistening, covering red-purple congested parenchyma.

GALLBLADDER: No bile. No stones were identified.

SPLEEN: 80 g. The splenic capsule is smooth, glistening, and intact. There is unremarkable underlying red-purple parenchyma.

LYMPH NODES: No lymphadenopathy is appreciated.

PANCREAS: Unremarkable.

ADRENALS: Examination limited due to decomposition changes; no evident lesions present.

GI TRACT: The tongue is absent. The esophagus is lined by gray-white smooth mucosa and courses to the stomach without focal lesions. The stomach is empty. A small amount of yellow chyme is present in the small bowel, and soft brown stool in the large bowel. An unremarkable appendix is identified in the right lower quadrant.

KIDNEYS: Left 155 g, right 181 g. Smooth cortical surfaces. Well-circumscribed cortico-medullary junctions. No dilatation of the collecting system or ureters.

BLADDER: Contains no urine. Unremarkable mucosa and wall.

GENITALIA: Unremarkable uterus, fallopian tubes, and ovaries.

BRAIN AND MENINGES: 784 g. Complete loss of normal architecture. The brain is a brow/gray soft tissue.

SKULL: Intact.

MUSCULOSKELETAL: Aside from the postmortem changes, the bony framework, supporting musculature, and soft tissues are grossly unremarkable. The cervical spinal column is removed, visualized, and it is intact.

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MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:
Liver (Slide 2): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. No evidence of inflammation, steatosis, or necrosis.

Kidney (Slide 2): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. Well-distributed tubules and glomeruli with no histopathological abnormalities.

Lungs (Slide 1): Interpretation is limited due to postmortem artifact. Edema and no other significant histopathological changes were observed.

TOXICOLOGY:
Samples were submitted for toxicological analysis. See Certificate of Analysis.
Waiting for another toxicology analysis. Still pending.

DNA AND FINGERPRINTS:
Samples of blood and fingerprints were taken and retained.

POSTMORTEM PHOTOGRAPHY:
Postmortem photographs were taken and retained.

[redacted]

CD with exam photos to law enforcement (Norfolk PD).

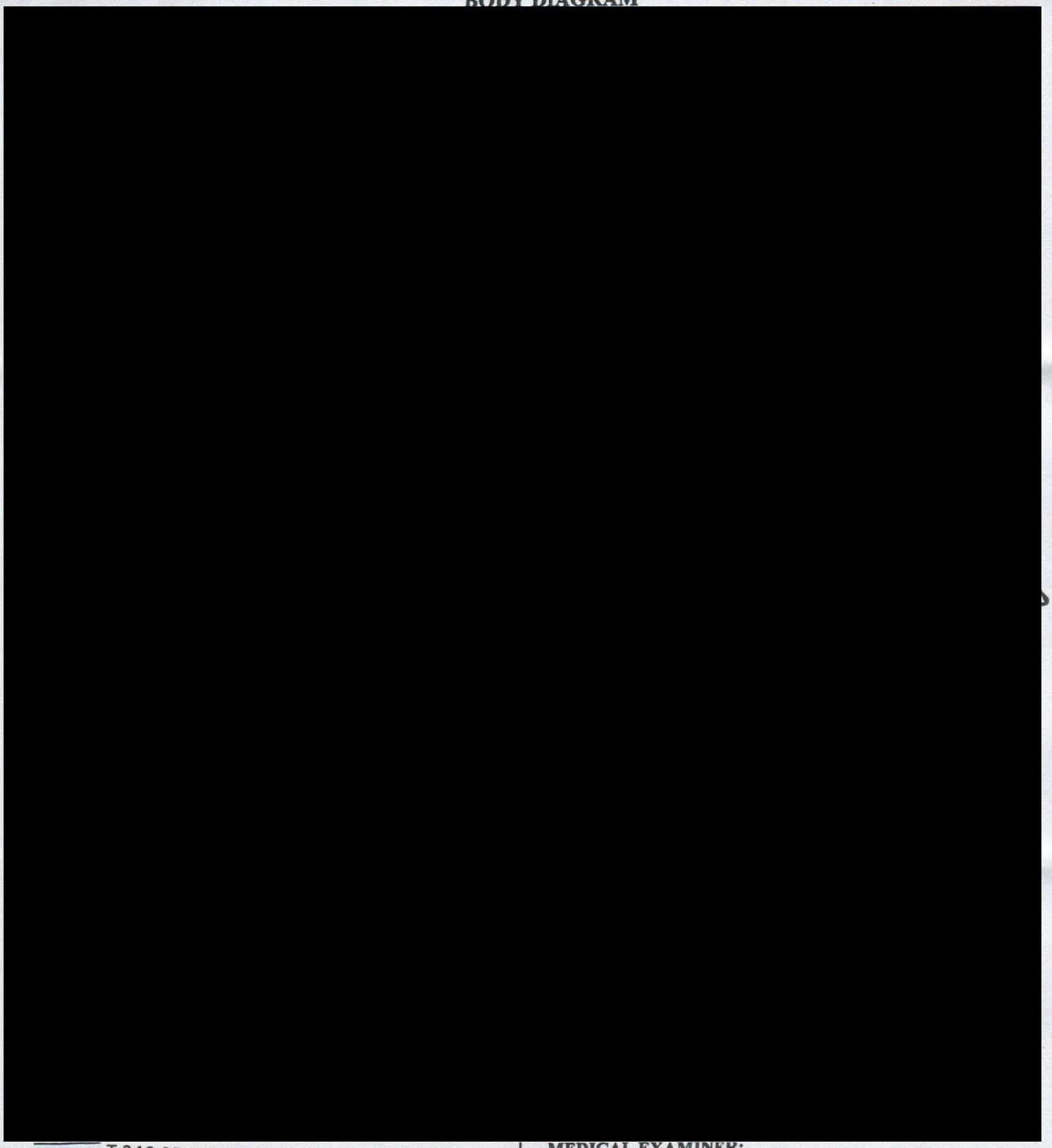
[redacted]

CAUSE OF DEATH: Undetermined

MANNER OF DEATH: Undetermined

Encl 50
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BODY DIAGRAM



DECED T-246-25 T2025-00840
Name: ~~BFB~~ V/ A. R.
Height: 6-10-2025
Weight: DR. LAMEIRA

Encl 50
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MEDICAL EXAMINER:
Name: _____
Date: _____
Autopsy #: _____

Form CME - BD1

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Rev. 11/21/03

ENCL 50
4 of 8

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Eastern Laboratory
830 Southampton Avenue
Suite 400
Norfolk, VA 23510

Tel. No.: (757) 683-8327
Fax: (757) 683-8830

June 10, 2025

TO: G. V. ROBINSON
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE
SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VA 23510-1046

FS Lab # T25-3510

RECEIVED
JUN 11 2025
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER

Your Case #: T2025-00840

Victim(s):
Alias: V/ A. R.

Suspect(s): - - -

Evidence Submitted By: G. V. Robinson

Date Received: 06/10/2025

Item 999 Copy of a fingerprint card bearing the name V/ A. R.
Item 1000 Postmortem Tape Lift From OCME Case Number T2025-00840

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

COMPARISON RESULTS OVERVIEW:

Name	Identification(s) (Total / Item)	Exclusion(s) (Total / Item)	Inconclusive(s) (Total / Item)
V/ A. R.	1 / Item 1000	---	---

PROCESSING AND EXAMINATION:

Item 1000 was visually examined. One fingerprint was digitally preserved and designated as 1000P1.

ANALYSIS:

Fingerprint 1000P1 was analyzed and determined to be of value for comparison.

EXEMPLARS:

The following exemplar, bearing the listed name, was visually examined, digitally preserved, and used for comparison:

Name	Obtained From	DOB	SID / FBI	Exemplar Type
V/ A. R.	Submitted - Item 999	---	95HPF5D5W	Fingerprint Card

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5 of 8

Rev. 7/05

APPELLATE EXHIBIT LXI
679 of 756

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
FS Lab # T25-3510
Your Case # T2025-00840
June 10, 2025

COMPARISON RESULTS:

IDENTIFICATION(S):
Fingerprint 1000P1 was identified to the exemplar bearing the name [redacted] V/ A. R.

TERMINUS STATEMENTS:

The only fingerprint of value for comparison has been identified.

Date(s) of Testing: 06/10/2025.

Supporting examination documentation is maintained in the case file.

The above listed methods are those approved for use at the time of analysis. Current methods can be found in the Latent Print Procedures Manual, which can be found at www.dfs.virginia.gov/documentation-publications/manuals/.

The evidence is being retained for personal pickup.

Attest:

I certify that I performed the above analysis or examination as an employee of the Department of Forensic Science and that the above is an accurate record of the results and interpretations of that analysis or examination.

[redacted]
Emily Vocu
Forensic Scientist

ABBREVIATION/DEFINITION KEY:
AFIS: Automated Fingerprint Identification System; generic term; applies to VA-AFIS and NGI at DFS.
DOB: Date of Birth
CCRE: Central Criminal Records Exchange
FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Database: Next Generation Identification (NGI) database
SID: State Identification Number
State Database: VA-AFIS database
Identification: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines there is sufficient observed data in agreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints originated from the same source.
Exclusion: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines that there is sufficient observed data in disagreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints did not originate from the same source.
Inconclusive: Conclusion reached when an examiner determines there is insufficient observed data in agreement or disagreement to conclude that the friction ridge prints did or did not originate from the same source. The insufficient observed data could be the result of absent or unreliable areas of the friction ridge print, the exemplars or both.

EV

CAC 06-10-2025

Encl 50
6 of 8

Rev. 7/05

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Eastern Laboratory
830 Southampton Avenue
Suite 400
Norfolk, VA 23510

Tel. No.: (757) 683-8327
Fax: (757) 683-8830

July 14, 2025

TO: FERNANDA LAMEIRA, M.D.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE
SUITE 100
NORFOLK, VA 23510-1046

FS Lab # T25-3510

Your Case #: T2025-00840

Victim(s): [redacted] V/ A. R.

Alias: [redacted] V/ A. R.

Suspect(s): - - -

Evidence Submitted By: Leena Sloulin

Date Received: 06/11/2025

Item TX1	One container of liver
Item TX2	One container of muscle
Item TX3	One container of spleen

RECEIVED
JUL 22 2025 [redacted]
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER - TIDEWATER

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS:

Item TX1 Liver:
Ethanol 0.083 ± 0.004 % by weight by weight
Method: Alcohols by Headspace Gas Chromatography

No other drugs and/or drug classes were detected.

Item TX1 was screened for the following drugs, drug classes, and/or substances:
Ethanol, methanol, acetone, isopropanol, cocaine/benzoylecgonine, opiates, oxycodone/oxymorphone, methamphetamine/methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), phencyclidine, fentanyl, methadone, benzodiazepines.

Item TX2 Muscle:
Not Analyzed

Item TX3 Spleen:
Not Analyzed

Date(s) of Testing: 06/24/2025 - 07/11/2025

Supporting examination documentation is maintained in the case file. The above-listed methods are those approved for use at the time of analysis. Current methods can be found in the Toxicology Procedures Manual which can be found at www.dfs.virginia.gov/documentation-publications/manuals/. Measurement uncertainty is reported at a 95.45% level of confidence for all toxicological analyses except blood alcohol which is reported at a 99.73% level of confidence.

Encl 50
7 of 8

Rev. 7/05

GX

Commonwealth of Virginia

ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
FS Lab # T25-3510
Your Case # T2025-00840
July 14, 2025

The evidence is being returned to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Attest:

I certify that I performed the above analysis or examination as an employee of the Department of Forensic Science and that the above is an accurate record of the results and interpretations of that analysis or examination.

[redacted]

Erica Sales
Forensic Scientist

ES
7.16.25

Encl 50
8 of 8

Rev. 7/05

UNITED STATES V. COPELAND

Name: Dr. Fernanda Lameira, Medical Examiner, City of Norfolk **Command (mil)/City, State (civ): Norfolk, Virginia**		
Date/time: 29 July 2025; 1300		
Contact Info		
E-mail		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (c)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (alt)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Other		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Available?	Next 3 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next 6 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next year? Yes ☒ No ☐	
Giglio Questions	Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of a crime involving a false official statement, perjury, larceny or other crime of dishonesty?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received non-judicial punishment for an act or omission which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received administrative counseling or other non-punitive measure for an act which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might call into question your character for truthfulness?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might raise a question of bias or favoritism toward any party to the case?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐

On 29 July 2025, CAPT Derek Butler, JAGC, USN, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed Dr. Lameira, in the presence of LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, Mr. Rob Robinson, Norfolk ME, and Dr. Wendy Gunther, Assistant Chief Medical Examiner. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

Dr. Lameira reported that due to the level of decomposition of, and post-mortem insect activity on, the body of V/A.R., no definitive cause of death could be discerned. Dr. Lameira was able to rule out stomping, stabbing, shooting, and a drug overdose as possible causes of death. She specified that the toxicology test only tested for specific drugs, but the lab was likely able to have additional testing done for specific prescriptions being taken by V/A.R upon request. Additionally, the toxicology report showed a BAC of .083 at the time of death.

Dr. Lameira noted that there was not enough remaining soft tissue on the body to indicate or rule out asphyxia as a cause of death. The only noted broken bones were ribs #2-5, which would not be consistent with attempts at CPR. There was not enough tissue left in the neck area to indicate whether there was any blood pooling in that area. The fallopian tubes and uterus were unremarkable with no indications of a pregnancy. There were no indications of any chronic conditions that would lead to a natural death and Dr. Lameira opined it would be unlikely for someone V/A.R.'s age to suffer a natural death.

It was explained that the alcohol ethenyl level, generally considered the BAC, could have been elevated by insect activity that creates yeast. No results had come back on the buccal and anal swabs that were conducted during the autopsy, and vaginal swabs were not conducted due to the lack of soft tissue resulting from decomposition and insect activity. Dr. Lameira explained that insect activity and decomposition generally begin in body openings (eyes, ears, mouth, nose, etc.) and areas where skin is pressed together (buttocks, below breasts, arms crossed, etc.). She opined that the folded position of the body in the duffel bag created the skin-to-skin pressure points on the chest that became areas of accelerated decomposition, in comparison to the other areas of the torso.

When asked, Dr. Lameira stated that there was not enough soft tissue on the body to determine whether there were any injuries to the body that would have been bleeding before death. Dr. Lameira explained that up to a liter of "purge" can be expelled post-mortem through the nose and mouth and appears red in color. "Purge" was explained as the fluid in the lungs and surrounding tissue that leaks out of the nose and mouth post-mortem, and can become further dislodged from the body if the body is moved.

When asked, Dr. Lameira stated that rigor mortis sets in within about 12 hours after death and opined that the body was likely placed into the duffel bag prior to the onset of rigor mortis. Dr. Lameira concured with Dr. Gunter that it was not unusual for people to mistake dead bodies for living people.

/s/

K. E. VANETTI

From:	Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
To:	Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Gunther, Wendy (VDH)
Cc:	Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] Re: List of Prescription Medication
Date:	Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:35:50 AM

No drugs. Negative.
This case was signed out in September.

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 11:48 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH); Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning Dr. Gunther,

I am just following up on this. Was there a result for the escitalopram?

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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WORK PRODUCT. It is intended only to be read by the individual(s) or entity(s) to whom it is addressed or their designee.

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA)

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 9:24 AM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Morning – thank you! We are good on waiting. I just wasn't sure what the timeline might be for tracking purposes. I appreciate all of your help!

V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 8:34 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

Well, it's going to take the lab quite a while to do the escitalopram, particularly since Dr. Lameira pointed out to me that we don't have blood, just liver and muscle. I'm not sure the expensive, fast lab (NMS) will even do naproxen on liver and muscle; I think they only work on blood. So you're looking at 60 days if you want to wait for the escitalopram.

If you don't, then there is a much shorter timeline; I'll leave it up to Dr. Lameira to estimate it for you.

WG

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 4:13 PM
To: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH)

<Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon –

Are you able to provide an estimated timeline on when the autopsy report will be finalized? Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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V/r,

LT Dempsey

From: Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <Fernanda.Lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <Rob.Robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)

<shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: List of Prescription Medication

We can definitely ask for escitalopram, and if we have to we can send out for naproxen, but we can't do Cefpodoxime, the antibiotic.

I kind of think naproxen isn't indicated; if it's going to kill you, it does it by internal bleeding, and that wasn't part of the findings, right, Dr. Lameira?

How about if we ask our lab for escitalopram, and if it's positive, we don't do naproxen? If it's negative, the expense of outside lab can do naproxen within a couple of weeks.

Dr. Gunther

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 3:34 PM
To: Lameira, Fernanda (VDH) <fernanda.lameira@vdh.virginia.gov>; Gunther, Wendy (VDH) <wendy.gunther@vdh.virginia.gov>
Cc: Robinson, Rob (VDH) <rob.robinson@vdh.virginia.gov>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Butler, Derek CAPT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <derek.butler2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: List of Prescription Medication

Good Afternoon Dr. Lameira and Dr. Gunther,

Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with us on Tuesday. I apologize for the delay in getting back to you, but it took some time for us to track down the specific prescriptions we'd like to have the sample tested for (if that has not already been done). They are:

- Escitalopram/Lexapro
- Cefpodoxime
- Naproxen

Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LT, JAGC, USN
Assistant Trial Department Head
757-341-4545
Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic
9620 Maryland Avenue #201
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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EPIARX | Autopsy Services

The EPIARX Laboratory
4000 Albemarle Street NW
Suite 208
Washington DC, 20016

The Histopathology Laboratory
Institutions 600 N. Wolfe Street
Building 700
Baltimore, MD 21287

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION

CASE NO. ED25-1195

Autopsy X

JURISDICTION: Routine adult clinical autopsy

NAME OF DECEASED: [redacted] V/ A. R.

RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Naval Station Norfolk
Norfolk, VA 23505

AGE: [redacted] PII SEX: Female

DATE OF Birth: [redacted] PII

DATE OF Death: 6/09/2025 TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS OF INCIDENT: Wooded area at/near residence

PRONOUNCED DEAD: Unknown TIME: Unknown

ADDRESS/INSTITUTION: Sunset Funeral Home
657 Springmart Boulevard
Brownsville, TX 78526

DATE OF AUTOPSY: 6/28/2025 TIME: 0900 CDT

PERFORMED BY:

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., PhD.
Board Certified Pathologist

Significant condition(s):

(a) Habit-forming substances detected in bodily fluids

- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☒ Could Not Be Determined

An autopsy was performed on the body of V/A.R. on the 28th day of June, 2025.

CONSENT FOR AUTOPSY

Consented and reviewed by Dr. Nemanja RODIC. Consenter was, Esmeralda CASTLE. The relationship of the individual, providing consent for autopsy, to the decedent is mother. Type of autopsy was complete, including brain.

PRIOR POSTMORTEM PROCEDURES

Following macroscopic examination there was **NO EVIDENCE** of organ donation. Following macroscopic examination there was **EVIDENCE** of prior autopsy.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body was that of a well-developed & well-nourished female. The body weighed about 120 pounds, was 4 feet 5 inches in height, and appeared compatible with the reported age of PII years [calculated body mass index 20.6(1)]. There were no personal effects identified. The body was cold. The body was in state of late decomposition marked by skin discoloration, desquamation, and skeletonization. Rigor and lividity designation deferred. The scalp hair was black. The eye examination deferred. The nose examination deferred. The lips examination deferred. Some upper and lower teeth were present with good dental hygiene. Dentures were not present. The skin was free of any significant abrasions, bruises, lacerations, lymphadenopathy, or burns. Examination of the neck revealed no evidence of injury. No injury of the ribs or sternum was evident externally; negative for deformity and increased anterior-posterior diameter. The abdomen was grossly unremarkable. The extremities were grossly unremarkable. Leg circumference 10 cm from

medial malleolus were, 20 cm on the right, and 20 cm on the left. Negative for pitting edema. The fingernails examination deferred. Negative for palpable lymph nodes. Negative for joint deformity, abnormal mobility, and non-therapeutic punctures or needles track marks. The external genitalia were those of a normal adult female. The posterior torso was without note; negative for sacral decubitus ulcer. Negative for tenting of skin. Negative for sunken eyes.

EVIDENCE OF THERAPY:

ID band with decedent name and case number (T-246-25 T2025-00840) were identified on patient body bag and bilateral lower extremities. Negative for nasogastric tube, central venous line, intravenous line, PEG tube, endotracheal tube, and Foley catheter.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES:

The body was re-opened by the usual Y-shaped thoraco-abdominal incision and the chest plate was removed. No adhesions nor abnormal collections of fluid were present in any of the body cavities. The subcutaneous fat layer of the abdominal wall was less than 1" thick. There were no abnormalities of the omentum and mesenteries. There was no internal evidence of blunt force or penetrating injury to the thoraco-abdominal region.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

The head was normocephalic. External examination revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for dry surface of the galea. The dura showed no lesions. The leptomeninges showed no lesions. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical and showed no lesions. The brain base showed no

lesions. The cerebellum showed no lesions. The brainstem showed no lesions. The superior spinal cord showed no lesions. The eyes were not submitted for microscopic examination.

NECK:

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland and large vessels revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. Negative for trauma of the gingiva, lips, or oral mucosa.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The epicardial fat was mild. The coronary ostia were normally positioned. The foramen ovale was closed. The coronary arteries arose normally, followed the usual distribution and were free of grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis of the right coronary artery, left common/main coronary artery, left anterior descending artery, and circumflex artery. The chambers, valves, leaflets, and chordae tendinae exhibited the usual size-position relationship and were unremarkable. The myocardium was red-brown, firm and unremarkable; the atrial and ventricular septa were intact; negative for infarcts/lesions of the myocardium. The endocardium was smooth and thin; negative endocardial hemorrhages and endocardial discoloration. The aorta was fairly elastic and of even caliber throughout with its major branches distributed normally, followed the usual course and were widely patent. Negative for significant abdominal/thoracic aorta atherosclerosis. Negative for tortuosity or widening of the thoracic segment. Negative for dilation of the lower abdominal segment. Negative for aortic aneurysm. The venae cavae and their major tributaries returned to the heart in the usual distribution and were free of thrombi. No focal endocardial, valvular, and myocardial lesions were seen.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

Scant secretions were found in the lower bronchial and upper respiratory passages. The mucosa has pink-tan postmortem discoloration. The upper airway was clear of debris and foreign material; the mucosal surfaces were smooth,

yellow-tan and unremarkable. The pleural surfaces were smooth, glistening, well-expanded, and unremarkable bilaterally. Lungs were atelectatic and subcrepitant. The pulmonary parenchyma was red-purple in color, congested, and edematous. There was dependent congestion and postmortem softening. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions/scarring. The pulmonary arteries were normally developed The bronchi were patent with no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The lungs were cut fresh.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM:

The hepatic capsule was smooth, glistening and intact, covering dark red-brown parenchyma with minimal congestion. Serial sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The extrahepatic biliary tree was patent, without evidence of calculi. The gallbladder was present and showed thin wall, velvety mucosa, and no calculi. The portal vein, hepatic arteries, and hepatic veins were patent.

ALIMENTARY TRACT:

The mucosa was pink-tan with normal mucosal folds. No tablets or capsules could be discerned in the stomach or the stomach contents. No residual medications were identified. The external and *in situ* appearance of the small intestine and colon were grossly and palpably unremarkable. The small intestine and colon were opened along the anti-mesenteric border to reveal soft liquid fecal material in the small bowel and soft semi-formed, thick green stool in the colon. The small bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The vermiform appendix was grossly and palpably unremarkable. The large bowel showed usual caliber, tan pink shiny serosa, and tan peri-circumferential mucosa; negative for grossly identifiable and palpable lesions. The distal large bowel contents were stool. The superior mesenteric artery was free of grossly identifiable and palpable atherosclerosis. The pancreas occupied a normal position, had a

normal pink-tan lobulated parenchyma, and the ducts were patent, not ectatic. No parenchymal calcifications; negative for necrosis or trauma.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The red-brown surface of renal capsules were rough and uneven to touch. The ureters were patent. The renal arteries showed no grossly identifiable or palpable atherosclerosis. The cortices were sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which were red-purple to tan and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves and ureters were unremarkable. The urinary bladder contained minimal urine; the mucosa was gray-tan and grossly unremarkable.

LYMPHORETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM:

The spleen had a smooth, intact capsule covering red-purple, moderately firm parenchyma; the lymphoid follicles were unremarkable. Serial sectioning was negative for grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The regional lymph nodes appeared normal. The bone marrow was dark red. The lymph nodes were not enlarged. The thymus was not identified.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid was symmetrical in appearance and sectioning revealed no grossly identifiable or palpable lesions. The breast tissue was sectioned in the usual manner and contained small amount of white fibrous tissue; negative for significant abnormality.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The diaphragm was intact. Skeletal muscles were red-brown and firm. The calvarium was intact. The vertebral columns showed normal curvature. The ribs were negative for fractures. The vertebral bodies were negative for fractures. No bone or joint abnormalities were noted.

AUTOPSY PROCEDURES AND ANCILLARY TESTING

The approach to autopsy dissection was M. Letulle's Technique (*en bloc* from tongue to rectum). There were not special dissections performed. Tissue retained in stock jars until signout. Additional samples taken as follows, homogenized viscera. Ancillary testing, toxicology.

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3):

HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS (2&3)

Trimmed from larger formalin-fixed blocks:



MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: Sections showed cardiac parenchyma and stroma free of significant interstitial-type fibrosis and nuclear & cytoplasmic hypertrophy, acute & chronic inflammation, hemorrhage, and necrosis. Sections of coronary arteries were free of significant cholesterol clefts and dystrophic calcifications within narrowed vascular walls. Sections of aorta were free of significant cholesterol clefts deposits. Negative for malignant cells.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: Bilateral sections of pulmonary parenchyma and stroma notable were free of significant congestion, variably sized & increased alveolar spaces, acute inflammation, chronic inflammation, fibrosis, hemorrhage, and hemosiderin-laden macrophages. Polarization and refraction failed to reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Sections of hilar lymph nodes showed benign primary follicles. Sections of larynx were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

LIVER & BILIARY SYSTEM: Sections showed hepatic parenchyma and stroma free of significant acute & chronic inflammation, macrosteatosis, glycogenated nuclei, and fibrosis. Negative for malignant cells.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: Sections showed bilateral renal parenchyma and stroma notable for medial hypertrophy of medium sized vessels and interstitial/subcapsular lymphocytic inflammation, but free of significant basement membrane thickening, hyaline change, thyroidization, and interstitial fibrosis. Section of urinary bladder were denuded, but free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Sections of genitourinary tract were histologically unremarkable. Polarization and refraction failed to

reveal polarizable and refractile materials, respectively. Negative for malignant cells.

ALIMENTARY TRACT: Sections showed histologically unremarkable pancreatobilliary and tubular gastrointestinal tract. Negative for malignant cells.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma, free of significant acute and chronic inflammation. Negative for malignant cells.

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for malignant cells.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: Sections showed histologically unremarkable parenchyma and stroma. Negative for adrenal hemorrhage. Negative for malignant cells.

MEDICAL RECORDS REVIEW

Accompanying medical information collected from pre-autopsy verbal report by _Esmeralda CASTLE, the mother of the decedent, was notable for following medical findings:

Past Medical History: negative for suicidal attempts; equivocal for prior past suicidal ideation (10/2024);

Surgical Procedures: none;

Medical Laboratory: antemortem COVID-19 negative test.

Additional Notes: Clinical symptoms/signs, not in acute distress (5/28/2025-5/29/2025), asymptomatic (interim). The decedent did not receive blood transfusions or lived in Europe prior to death. The decedent was vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to death. The decedent had been consuming alcoholic beverages (wine and liquor)/tobacco (vaped) prior to death. The decedent had not been consuming illegal habit-forming drugs prior to death. The decedent did not have history of cancer prior to death. External and macroscopic images taken for posterity. Examination limited by autolysis and tissue preservation. Preliminary diagnosis called to and confirmed by Esmeralda CASTLE on 7/3/2025 at 1615. See accompanying Axis 3327991 report. Final diagnosis called to and confirmed by family friend on 8/1/2025 at 1615.

OPINION:

Based collectively on my autopsy findings herein as well as my review of the accompanying submitted medical information, in the case of this PII-year-old female, V/ A. R., the manner of death is deferred (1,4-6,&9). I reserve the right to amend my opinion(s) upon the receipt of additional material (7).

Nemanja Rodic, M.D., Ph.D.
Board-certified Pathologist

Date signed: 8/1/2025

References:

1. https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm
2. ISBN-13: 978-1941096321, pages 105-108.
3. PMCID: PMC8817622.
4. https://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/topic search results?topic status=P
5. https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/vitalrecords/physician-me/docs/capcodbook.pdf
6. https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/solutions/uptodate/roles/patients-caregivers
7. https://documents.cap.org/protocols/Autopsy.Adult 1.0.0.0.REL CAPCP.pdf
8. PMID: 39912823
9. https://www.rcpath.org/static/33b81f4a-89f3-42bd-bc33bdd67879f008/G171-The-decomposing-cadaverfor-publication.pdf

Occasional errors in punctuation, grammar, and content occur.

Comment: "The following statement applies to tests, i.e. to dye(s), chemical solution stains, and Class I IHC reagents and kits. Dye(s), chemical solution stains are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations as "mixtures of synthetic or natural dyes or nondye chemicals in solutions used in staining cells and tissues for diagnostic histopathology, cytopathology, or hematology" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1850). This definition encompasses many of the common materials found in a conventional histopathology laboratory, such as routine hematoxylin and eosin stains, as well as special stains like trichrome, iron, and Grocott-Gömöri's methenamine silver, among others, and are considered Class I devices subject to general controls. Class I IHC reagents and kits are defined as those that "provide the pathologist with adjunctive diagnostic information that may be incorporated into the pathologist's report, but that is not ordinarily reported to the clinician as an independent finding," noting that "these IHC's are used after the primary diagnosis of tumor (neoplasm) has been made by conventional histopathology using nonimmunologic histochemical stains, such as hematoxylin and eosin" (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). The 1998 final rule further describes these as "adjunctive tests [to conventional histopathologic diagnostic examination] and presenting a low risk to public health."37 An example of a Class I IHC specifically mentioned in the IHC reagents and kit regulation is keratin (see 21 C.F.R. § 864.1860). Many other Class I IHC reagents and kits can be found by searching for the "NJT" product code on the FDA establishment registration and device listing database.47 These IVDs are exempt from premarket notification/510(k) submission, although they are still subject to FDA general controls and QS/CGMP requirements. Most IHC stains used by anatomic pathologists are considered diagnostic markers and therefore are categorized as Class I by the FDA. The tests herein have not been cleared or approved for the specific use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA does not require this test to go through premarket FDA review. These tests are used for clinical purposes. It should not be regarded as investigational or for research. This laboratory is certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments 1988 (CLIA) as qualified to perform high complexity clinical laboratory testing. All stains and tests are performed with general controls, i.e. positive and negative control reactions as necessary, and all controls show appropriate reactivity. However, stains and tests have not been validated on decalcified tissues. Results should be interpreted with caution given the likelihood of false negativity on decalcified specimens. Certain tests utilize Class I Analyte-Specific Reagents (ASR); these tests are developed, and their performance characteristics determined by this laboratory. ASRs used in this laboratory have been established and verified for accuracy and precision.(8)"

AXIS
FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

5780 West 71st St.
Indianapolis, IN 46278

Telephone: (317) 759-4TOX

Website: www.axisfortox.com

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE OF TRANSMISSION: 7/25/2025

To: FX21028

FAXNO: 1-202-595-0560

From: **Axis Forensic Toxicology**

Number of pages (including cover sheet): 3

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AXIS
FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Case Number: 3327991

Subject's Name: V/A.R.

Client Account: 21028 / ED21028

Report To: Epiarx Diagnostics
ATTN: Epiarx Diagnostics
700 12th Street N.W.
Suite 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

Agency Case #: ED25-1195_APR
Date of Death: 07/08/2025
Investigator: NEMANJA RODIC MD PHD
Date Received: 07/03/2025
Date Reported: 07/25/2025

Laboratory Specimen No: 41275819 **Date Collected:** 06/25/2025 09:00
Container(s): 01:T Tissue,UNSPECIFIED **Test(s):** 70510T Comprehensive Drug Panel, Tissue

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
VOLATILES	POSITIVE					
Methanol	POSITIVE	0.586	0.02		mg/g	
Ethanol	POSITIVE	0.280	0.02		mg/g	
Acetone	Negative					
Isopropanol	Negative					
AMPHETAMINES	Negative					
ANALGESICS	Negative					
ANESTHETICS	Negative					
ANTICHOLINERGICS	Negative					
ANTICONVULSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDEPRESSANTS	Negative					
ANTIDIABETICS	Negative					
ANTIFUNGALS	Negative					
ANTIHISTAMINES	Negative					
ANTIPSYCHOTICS	Negative					
BARBITURATES	Negative					
BENZODIAZEPINES	Negative					
CANNABINOIDS	Negative					
CARDIOVASCULARS	Negative					
GASTROINTESTINALS	Negative					
HALLUCINOGENS	Negative					

AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Testing Report
Web: www.axisfortox.com
Phone: (317) 759-4TOX

Laboratory Specimen No: **41275819** **Continued..**

Analyte Name	Qualitative Result	Quantitative Result	Reporting Limit	Reference Range	Units	Note
MISCELLANEOUS	Negative					
MUSCLE RELAXANTS	Negative					
OPIOID ANALGESICS	Negative					
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS	Negative					
STIMULANTS	Negative					
UROLOGICALS	Negative					

Specimens will be kept for at least one year from the date of initial report.

The Specimen identified by the Laboratory Specimen Number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Laboratory Director

Laureen J. Marinetti, PhD, F-ABFT

[redacted]

Laboratory Case #:3327991

Print Date/Time:07/25/2025, 15:01

Case Reviewer

AXIS FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Stuart Kurtz, M.S., D-ABFT -FT

This individual may not have performed any of the analytical work.

But again Please remember that what I like to do in order for the due diligence we observe is that after the military final autopsy document becomes available ask miss missus cancelled to submit it to our secure Dropbox shared folder and then send us an e-mail at sometime in the two-minute whenever the report is available maybe like 10 weeks from now or 16 weeks from now whenever OK and then I will review that and then either then or correct the report as needed OK so the so microscopic examination of multiple sections on this case showed no evidence of any blunt force trauma so that's something I think was important to rule in or out the toxicology studies were pertinently positive and there was a significant level of ethanol or alcohol there was detected and I think that is a significant finding now this upon microscopic examination on the organ systems there's no other changes either on microscope events or inflammation infection or cancer of any kind so I think the major other cause of that has been have been formally ruled out so this substance is detected in the bodily fluid I think is significant in the quantity and quality of it and I think that's something that informs the cause of death in this case um so in other words you know from our end we don't see any evidence of foul play as far as UM trauma to the remains and I think this is again let me just I'm careful what kind of language I'm using here I think this is suggestive of an accidental ingestion OK now um again what I'd like to do in order for all of the due diligence be observed is that once the the military is available I will review that material and then appropriately if I identify any additional diagnostic features that can help better classify the findings will attend the mandatory OK do you do you have any questions for me from your end yes so a couple questions um does the the findings or are there any other pending tests that that need to be deducted or awaiting results that will impact your final report the due diligence worked that I wanted to perform from our end is available is completed and but when and if the final autopsy documents from the first examination becomes available I'll be very happy to review that and again because you may be sometime in the future like a month two months maybe even six months depending on how complex this is on there and um whatever that is I just asked you and the family yeah we we did I I wanted to check we did open the Dropbox folder OK their e-mail maybe I should actually add you let me just add you on on that e-mail as well because you are you know the point of contact here and and then once you do that because it may be again sometime in the future just please drop me an e-mail OK and say something like hey doctor Aldrich dismiss cancel or miss poor yeah you're missus amber esmeralda I'm ibra so esmeralda is is miss castle and then my name is Debra I'm her colleague from law school yes her friend got it OK so let me see here then please just send me an e-mail that way I can see that it's in the archive that's the only problem with the Dropbox automatically not familiar it's there and then within about a week or two I will schedule us for follow up or attended or amend their correct report as needed OK the second question that I had was are any of the tests are able to indicate or any of the

anything that you were able to see and able to show whether there was any strangulation or any type of of anything of that nature I took very meticulous examination both externally of the remains and systematic microscopic examination to rule out even some small or difficult to detect ecchymosis or petechiae or other force or signs of one force trauma and I look very carefully there there's none so I and considered it formally ruled that out OK so sometimes by external examination you cannot see the you know the evidence of trauma but but this way that I performed it there's just simply no way of missing it because I'm looking at singular cells at that level right and if there's any kind of level of of change in I'm I'm I'm able to see it now there is that there has been formally considered and ruled out so I will add you to the to do a Dropbox share folder and let's then be communication whenever the report becomes available OK and once that report comes out we'll as well as I'll call her as me I'm sorry we'll miss castle get a copy of of your findings or will or will she get a copy of this additional report after I just feel like she's going to ask him no I'm gonna explain this to thank you so we're going to release our report automatically this is our standard operating procedure we're gonna release our reported automatically to to to her to Monday morning OK and then electronically and then they will mail her a hard copy those are typically dashed that same went Friday OK perfect and then once we reviewed the additional material we will follow the same sequence OK we'll release the report basically as if it's a new report one thing we have you know that's confirmed so that's fine but to confirm the address should we mail her report to [redacted] yes that's it OK wonderful thank you so much and lesbian communication then the first report OK thank you so much thank you bye bye

Name: Dr. Nemanja Rodic **Command (mil)/City, State (civ): Washington, DC** Epiarx Diagostics (28JUN2025 Autopsy)		
Date/time: 10-22-25 / 1500 PM		
Contact Info		
E-mail	nrodic@epiarx.com	Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (c)		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Phone (alt)	202-795-7109	Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Other		Ok to disclose to DC? Yes ☐ No ☐
Available?	Next 3 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next 6 months? Yes ☒ No ☐ Next year? Yes ☒ No ☐	
Giglio Questions	Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of a crime involving a false official statement, perjury, larceny or other crime of dishonesty?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received non-judicial punishment for an act or omission which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	For military – have you ever received administrative counseling or other non-punitive measure for an act which bears on your truthfulness or credibility?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might call into question your character for truthfulness?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐
	Are you aware of any matter which might raise a question of bias or favoritism toward any party to the case?	Yes ☐ No ☒ Unsure ☐

On 22 October 2025, LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN interviewed Dr. Nemanja Rodic in the presence of LN2 Jocelyn M Gomez, USN. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

Dr. Rodic stated that when his office received the body to conduct an autopsy, the remains were contained in a clear bag. Inside of that bag was a pool of colored fluid with a strong odor. It was Dr. Rodic's opinion that this fluid was an alcohol-based preservative or other embalming fluid that contained a dilute of alcohol deformaline. Dr. Rodic was not sure exactly how the military or mortuary service would have packaged or preserved the remains prior to his examination or what chemicals specifically were used.

Dr. Rodic explained that this fluid was undoubtedly what caused the high level of alcohol found in the remains of the deceased. The results were too high to be clinically relevant, indicating that the fluid is what caused the high result.

Dr. Rodic did not see an indication of blunt force trauma or sharp force trauma on the remains, although the autopsy was not extremely thorough. Dr. Rodic also explained that the remains were also decomposed.

When asked if the findings were consistent with asphyxiation, Dr. Rodic explained it was possible or probable. He explained that natural causes were a dubious suggestion given the age and purported fitness of the deceased. He believed it was likely one of three mechanisms of death: (1) asphyxiation; (2) blunt force trauma for which any evidence had decomposed; or (3) termination of life due to ingestion of alcohol. Dr. Rodic clarified that he had no significant evidence to suggest intoxication from alcohol was the cause of death because the numbers he had recorded were incorrectly inflated by the fluid in the bag. As such, without additional evidence he could not say if that was a probable cause of death.

/s/

J.M. GOMEZ

LN2, USN Trial Paralegal

Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)

From: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2025 10:18 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003 [redacted] V/ A. R.

Mr. Dempsey,

Yes, I like to change original and incorrect "rea" verbiage to correct and updated "recall".

Sincerely,
Dr. Rodic

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Monday, November 24, 2025 at 10:14 AM
To: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/ A. R. [redacted]

Good Morning Dr. Rodic,

Thank you! Did you mean to say "recall" instead of "real" in the first sentence of your e-mail? Thanks again.

V/r

LCDR Dempsey

From: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2025 1:33 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland; Re: ED25-1195_10312003_ V/ A. R. [redacted]

Mr. Dempsey,

It is my real that I did not consider designating strangulation as possible/probable mechanics/mode of death in this case. It is my recall that I deferred from designating manner of death herein, because my examination was limited by prior autopsy, prior embalming, lack of any documents in writing for review, and marked tissue degeneration/loss prior to the autopsy. For example, some parts of both acral and truncal soft tissue and bones were absent at the time of my examination.

With respect,
Dr. Rodic

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Friday, November 21, 2025 at 1:00 PM
To: Nemanja Rodic <nrodic@epiarx.com>
Cc: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Follow-Up Questions - US v. Copeland
Good Afternoon Dr. Rodic,

The victim's family provided us with a rough transcript of a phone call you had with them back when you reported your findings (attached). I do not have a recording, just this transcript. This has raised a couple of questions I attribute to poor automated transcription. I know we spoke previously and addressed these, but I want to run them to ground just to be sure:

1. Were the findings consistent with strangulation as a potential cause of death?

2. At one point, the transcript says that "foul play" related to "trauma" can be ruled out. Is that correct? If so, what do you mean by that?

Thank you! I am also happy to discuss on the phone if preferred. Please just let me know a time that works for you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511
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ISLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Incident Report for 22-I06902

NO NIBR

Nature: Sex Offense
Location: NPAT

Address: PII

Offense Codes: SEOO
Statute Codes:
Received By: PEABODY C
How Received: T
Agency: ICSO
Responding Officers: PEABODY C
Responsible Officer: PEABODY C
Disposition: ACT 05/03/22
When Reported: 16:25:43 05/03/22
Occurred Between: 16:25:43 05/03/22 and 16:25:43 05/03/22

Assigned To:
Detail:
Date Assigned: **/**/**
Status:
Status Date: **/**/**
Due Date: **/**/**

Complainant: OHPD
Last: OAK HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT
First:
Mid:
DOB: **/**/**
Dr Lic:
Address: PII
Race:
Sex:
Phone: PII
City:

Offense Codes

Reported:
Observed: SEOO Sex Offense Other
Additional Offense: SEOO Sex Offense Other

Statute Codes

Additional Statute:

Circumstances

Responding Officers: PEABODY C
Unit : V10

Responsible Officer: PEABODY C
Agency: ICSO
Received By: PEABODY C
Last Radio Log: **:**:** **/**/**
How Received: T Telephone
Clearance: C Criminal, No Arrest or Cite
When Reported: 16:25:43 05/03/22
Disposition: ACT **Date:** 05/03/22
Judicial Status: CLO
Occurred between: 16:25:43 05/03/22

Misc Entry: **and:** 16:25:43 05/03/22

Modus Operandi: **Description :** **Method :**

Involvements

Date	Type	Description	Relationship
07/21/23	Law Incident	Assist Public 22-O04340	RELATED
05/03/22	Name	OAK HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT,	Complainant
05/03/22	Name	COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR	Suspect
05/03/22	Name	G MINOR , B MINOR D MINOR	Suspect
05/03/22	Name	B MINOR K MINOR M MINOR	Victim
05/06/22	Evidence	Apple Iphone	Evidence Incident
05/06/22	Evidence	Apple Iphone	Evidence Incident
05/06/22	Evidence	Apple Iphone	Evidence

Narrative

ISLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Report by Deputy: Peabody
Report Date: 7/22/2022
Case Number: 22-I06902

Citation Number(s): N/A
Charge(s) and RCW: B.D.G. ([redacted])
Disclosing Intimate Images, RCW 9A.86.010

Charge(s) and RCW: J.T.C. ([redacted])
Disclosing Intimate Images, RCW 9A.86.010
Voyeurism, RCW 9A.44.115
Tampering with Evidence, RCW 9A.72.150

Date of Incident: April 22, 2022
Location of Incident: [redacted]

Offender (name/DOB/address/relationship): B[redacted] D. G[redacted]/DOB [redacted]
[redacted]/Not Related to Victim

Offender (name/DOB/address/relationship): Jeremiah T. Copeland/DOB [redacted]
[redacted]/Not Related to Victim

Victim (name/DOB/address/relationship): K[redacted] M. B[redacted]/DOB [redacted]
[redacted]/Not Related to Suspects

Witness (name/DOB/address/relationship):

Drugs or Weapons Involved: No

Evidence Drive: Yes

I am commissioned by the Island County Sheriff's Office to enforce the laws of the State of Washington and the County of Island. On May 3, 2022 I was working as the Detective Sergeant with the Island County Sheriff's Office, in the Major Crimes Unit. This investigation occurred in Island County.

NARRATIVE:

On May 3, 2022, I was contacted by telephone by Oak Harbor Police Department Officer Scelzi who was assigned as the School Resource Office in Oak Harbor. I know Officer Scelzi to be a fully certified law enforcement officer for the aforementioned agency. Officer Scelzi advised me that there was an incident involving a 16 year old female, K.M.B. (DOB [redacted]) and two male students, J.T.C. (DOB [redacted]), a 17 year old male and B.D.G. (DOB [redacted]), a 16 year old male. Officer Scelzi told me that the boys had sex with K.M.B. at a residence somewhere in Island County and that there was a video of it circulating at the school. I told Officer Scelzi I would make arrangements to interview K.M.B. and she did not need to be interviewed at the school.

Officer Scelzi attempted to contact one of the boys at my request to voluntarily get his cell phone but he declined.

At approximately 1730 hours K.M.B. came in to the Island County Sheriff's Office in Coupeville so I could interview K.M.B.

Since K.M.B. was sixteen years old I reviewed the child forensic ground rules with her appropriate for a teenager of her age and also read her the Island County Sheriff's Office Taped Statement Form. The interview was conducted in the interview room in the Detective's Office which is audio and video recorded.

K.M.B. told me that she lived on a farm on Sonic Lane in Oak Harbor, Washington. She told me that she lived with her parents and 12 year old sister and they had animals at the house. K.M.B. said she was a sophomore at Oak Harbor High School and participated in volleyball and wrestling and also liked to play video games.

I asked K.M.B. to tell me about what why she had come in to speak with me. K.M.B. told me that she had sex with two boys and one of them took a video of her without her consent and showed the video to other people at the school the video.

K.M.B. told me that J.T.C. and B.D.G. were the two boys and that B.D.G. was her best friend. K.M.B. said that on April 22, 2022, she had Facetimed (Facetime is an Apple Iphone video call application), B.D.G. and at the time the two boys were at McDonald's getting food. The boys offered to get her food if she gave them "head" implying she gave each of them a blow job. K.M.B. said she jokingly agreed but then said you guys know I can't do that, I'm a virgin and they knew she was not like that. She thought that the back and forth banter was just joking.

K.M.B. said that J.T.C. and B.D.G. came out to her house and she showed them around and they went into a room her family calls the game room which is upstairs and down the hallway away from where her sister and her friends were. K.M.B. said that at the time her parents were out in the barn.

K.M.B. said she sat on the couch and asked J.T.C. and B.D.G if they wanted to play video games or watch or turn on some music or just sit and eat food and talk. K.M.B. said the boys just looked at her and then said, "Well you said you were going to give us head." K.M.B. said she told them both that they knew she couldn't do that, told them she did not know how and told them she wasn't going to do it. K.M.B. said she couldn't remember which one did it but one of the boys pulled out a condom and said they could do that. K.M.B said the three of them went back and forth and she told both of them she was a virgin and she wanted to save herself. K.M.B. said that J.T.C. told her that they had come out all this way to bring her food and kept pushing her until she said she consented and told them it was fine and to just get it over with. K.M.B. said she would rather just let them do their thing because she just thought it was easier.

K.M.B. said that they discussed what they were going to do and she would say no and then they would talk about doing something else. K.M.B. said she agreed to start by just kissing B.D.G. and while she was doing that J.T.C. took off her pants and started "fingering" her. K.M.B. said she had been wearing sweat pants and t-shirt with no underwear underneath her sweat pants. K.M.B. said that after that J.T.C. was "hard" (indicating he had an erection) and he wanted to kiss and told her to just get on top of him and she said she did and she was not wearing her pants but still had her shirt on, and had sex with J.T.C. for a very short period of time and then got off of him and said she was done. K.M.B. clarified that sex was J.T.C.'s penis was inside of her vagina and he had been

wearing a condom.

K. M. B. said when she stopped having sex with J. T. C., J. T. C. told her that she should "get on all fours this time" and suck B. D. G.'s dick while he (J. T. C.) has sex with her from behind and K. M. B. told him no. K. M. B. said that J. T. C. was pulling on her hips telling her to "come on" and she refused and J. T. C. finally backed off and quit asking and sat down on the bean bag chair next to the couch.

K. M. B. said she laid down on the couch and B. D. G. got on top of her and they had sex and she could not really see J. T. C. but apparently J. T. C. was sitting out of her view on the bean bag video recording her having sex with B. D. G. K. M. B. said B. D. G. was wearing a condom when they had sex. K. M. B. said at first B. D. G. couldn't "get hard" so she waited for him too before they had sex but they only had sex for 3 to 5 minutes before they heard a noise and stopped.

I asked K. M. B. when she found out about the video and she said it was the following week.

K. M. B. said that the sex acts with both J. T. C. and B. D. G. was consensual but the video recording was not.

K. M. B. said that her friends, "Byron" and "Selena" had seen the video and J. T. C. and B. D. G. offered to show it to "Cadence" and "Derek" but as far as she knew they had not seen the video and she had not seen the video herself.

K. M. B. said she had texted with B. D. G. to not say anything about what they did and to deny it if anyone asks.

K. M. B. said the video was described to her as B. D. G. being on top of her and they were having sex and you can see her legs but not her face.

K. M. B. said she thought both B. D. G. and J. T. C. had iPhones and had told me that J. T. C. had sent the video to B. D. G. so they both had it.

On May 4, 2022, I spoke with Office Scelzi on the phone and she advised she had received written statements from K. M. B., B. D. G., J. T. C., and a female named L. L. (DOB Unknown at this time), and a female named B. L. (DOB Unknown at this time).

The first written statement from K. M. B. was in line with what she told me in our interview.

In the written statement by B. D. G., he admits that both he and J. T. C. went to McDonald's and then went to K. M. B.'s house and both he and J. T. C. had sex with K. M. B. There is a handwritten note at the bottom of the statement that is in black ink rather than the blue ink the rest of the statement is written in that says, "[B] stated there is a video that [J] took & he sent it to him."

In the written statement by J. T. C. he admits to going to McDonald's and then going to K. M. B.'s house and that both he and B. D. G. had sex with K. M. B. Again there is a note written in black ink rather than the blue ink the note was written in that states, "[J] admitted to taking a video of B. G. and K. B. Stated he deleted it."

In the written statement by L. L. she writes that during the fire drill on May 2nd, K. M. B. had told her about having sexual intercourse with a different boy and about being slapped and that boy forcing himself on top of her. It goes on to say that J. T. C. and B. D. G. had brought K. M. B. food and manipulated her into

doing felling obligated to do something with them and she agreed to do something sexual and that J.T.C. had video recorded B.D.G. and K.M.B. having sex.

The last statement by B.L. says that K.M.B. had been raped but is saying that she wasn't to protect J.T.C. and B.D.G. because they were her best friends. The statement says that K.M.B. was pressured in to having sex with both boys at the same time and one of the boys made a video recording of it and they both had a copy and B.D.G. had B.D.G. had been showing people the video, sending it to people and bragging about it. The statement says B.D.G. has lots of girls nude photographs on his phone and that he has shown people including her (B.L.) the pictures. B.L. goes on to write that four hours later another boy went to K.M.B.'s house and had sex with her. B.L. wrote that K.M.B. has been called by J.T.C. and B.D.G. asking her to cover for them so they were lying about what they had done to K.M.B.

See Officer Scelzi's police report and the attached documents from Oak Harbor High School for details.

On May 6, 2022, I applied for and was granted two search warrants for the cell phones of B.D.G. (SW 2022 00000055) and J.T.C. (SW 2022 00000056) in Island County Superior Court.

On May 6, 2022, I met J.T.C. in the School Resource Officer Office at the Oak Harbor High School with Officer Scelzi, Island County Detective's Wallace and Mirabal. J.T.C. said he did not have his phone, his mother had taken it away. He allowed Detective's Wallace and Mirabal search the bags he had with him and stated he did not have a locker at school. The phone was not located and no questions were asked of J.T.C. during the contact.

At approximately 1413 hours ICSO Det. Walker and I met with B.D.G. and his mother, Amber Gallmeyer ([redacted]), at their residence [redacted]. The contact was audio and video recorded using my department issued Axon body camera, see the recording for details of the contact.

I showed Gallmeyer the search warrant for B.D.G.'s cell phone and she told him to go and get it, which he did. B.D.G. gave me the phone and provided me the code without asking him for it. I provided them a copy of the search warrant and I explained I could not talk to them any further but would answer any questions they had if I could. This concluded the contact.

At approximately 1830 hours I contacted J.T.C.'s mother, Rochell Brown (DOB [redacted]), at their residence, [redacted] The contact was audio and video recorded on my department issued Axon body camera, see the recording for details of the contact.

Brown told me that she told J.T.C. to put his phone on her dresser yesterday when she found out about the investigation from him and now J.T.C. did not know where the phone was at. Brown said she thought the phone was on her dresser but he only put the phone case on her dresser and she thought it was the phone itself. I had previously spoken with Brown that afternoon before going to meet with her at the house and she told me that the phone had been taken away but she was unable to meet with me when I made the call because she was in the hospital off island. Brown was 9 month pregnant at the time I made contact with her.

Brown said she did not know if her son was hiding the phone, J.T.C. told her that he had "misplaced" it.

I asked Brown how much of this story she knew. Brown said that yesterday J.T.C.

came and told her that J.T.C. and his friend B.D.G. went to a girls house, and the girls mom and dad were there, and the boys had brought the girl McDonald's (food). Brown said first J.T.C. made out with the girl and then B.D.G. slept with the girl and it was recorded and that is what she knew. I told her that was generally the story but J.T.C. was more involved than that.

Brown said the school did not contact her about any of this and I told her that is why I called her. I showed her the search warrant and the crime that was being investigated, Disclosing Intimate Images. I explained the search warrant was just for the phone and she said she tore the house apart looking for it and could not find it and her son says he does not know where it is. Brown said he sent the video to B.D.G. so B.D.G. should have the video.

I provided Brown my card and asked her to call me if she located the phone and she said she would.

On May 6, I applied for and was granted SW 2022 00000058, in Island County Superior Court for the analysis of B.D.G.'s cell phone. ICSO Det. Wallace processed the cell phone for me and provided me the forensic download for review.

Upon review of the contents of the phone I did not locate the video of B.D.G. and K.M.B. The forensic report will be forthcoming once fully completed.

At this time I am forwarding this case the Island County Juvenile Prosecutor for charges against B[PII] D. G[PII] ([PII]) for Disclosing Intimate Images, RCW 9A.86.010, for showing the images to other students at Oak Harbor High School.

I am also forwarding this case to the Island County Juvenile Prosecutor for charges against Jeremiah T. Copeland ([PII]) for Disclosing Intimate Images, RCW 9A.86.010, for sharing the video with other students; Voyeurism, RCW 9A.44.115, for taking the video unbeknownst to B.D.G. and K.M.B.; Tampering with Evidence, RCW 9A.72.150, for disposing of his cell phone after being contacted by the Oak Harbor High School staff about this case.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct. Certified electronically per RCW 5.50.030 and 5.50.050.

I am a law enforcement officer with the Island County Sheriff's Office and I have electronically prepared and submitted this statement to a court or prosecutor from and electronic device that is owned, issued, or maintained by a criminal justice agency.

Deputy's full name/number: Chris Peabody #1205
Date signed: 8/4/2022
Location signed: Coupeville, WA

Mark all that apply (explain in officers' narrative):
(X) Body Camera video captured
( ) Domestic Violence Supplemental form completed
( ) Firearms and Ammunition Statement advised per RCW 10.99.030
( ) Domestic Violence Information packet provided to victim per RCW 10.99.030

_____
Responsible LEO:

_____
Approved by:

_____
Date

Supplemental Narrative

Name: WALKER G

Date: 11:41:03 05/10/22

Island County Sheriff's Office Supplemental Narrative

Deputy: G. Walker #1194

Case Number: 22-I06902

Date: 5/10/2022

I am commissioned by the Sheriff of Island County to enforce the laws of the State of Washington and County of Island. At the time of this investigation I was working as a Detective, assigned to the investigations division.

On 5/4/2022, Detective Sgt. Peabody advised he had a warrant he wanted help serving. Detective Mirabal and I went out to [redacted] PII [redacted] PII, the last known residence associated with the suspect in the search warrant, but no one answered the door. During this time my body worn camera was active. It was later determined that the suspect no longer lived at that address.

On 5/5/2022, I assisted Detective Sgt. Peabody in serving another search warrant for this case. I accompanied Detective Sgt. Peabody out to [redacted] PII [redacted] PII [redacted] where we served the search warrant and seized a cell phone. I remained on scene as a cover officer. My body worn camera was not activated during this contact.

This ended my involvement in this case.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.
Certified electronically per RCW 5.50.030 and 5.50.050.

I am a law enforcement officer with the Island County Sheriff's Office and I have electronically prepared and submitted this statement to a court or prosecutor from an electronic device that is owned, issued, or maintained by a criminal justice agency.

Deputy's full name: Grant C. Walker
Deputy's Personnel number: 1194
Date: 05/10/2022
Place: Coupeville, WA.

Mark all that apply (explain in officers' narrative):
(X) Body Camera video captured
( ) Domestic Violence Supplemental form completed
( ) Firearms and Ammunition Statement advised per RCW 10.99.030
( ) Domestic Violence Information packet provided to victim per RCW 10.99.030

Supplemental Narrative

Name: WALLACE E

Date: 08:46:19 05/12/22

Island County Sheriff's Office Supplemental Narrative

Detective: Wallace #1067

Case Number: 22-I06902

Date: May 12, 2022

I am commissioned by the Sheriff of Island County to enforce the laws of the state of Washington and the County of Island. At the time of this incident I was working as a Detective for the investigations division of the Island County Sheriff's Office. I am certified by the Department of Treasury/Homeland Security as a Seized Computer Evidence Recovery Specialist (S.C.E.R.S.), the Department of Homeland Security as a Mobile Device Investigator, the Cellebrite Corporation as a Physical Analyst, and the Paraben Corporation as a Handheld Examiner (PDA, cell/mobile phone and Hybrid devices). I am also trained by the Teeltechnologies Corporation to conduct Advanced BGA Chip-off Forensics and Advanced JTAG Mobile Forensics.

On May 9, 2022, I was contacted by Detective Sgt. PEABBODY who requested that I assist with this investigation by extracting data from two Apple iPhones stored in the Island County Sheriff's Office evidence system (item numbers 22-I00326 and 22-I00327).

Item 22-I00327 is an Apple iPhone 12 (model A2172) belonging to the victim KMB. A signed written permission to search for the device was also provided. The device was powered on and in "airplane" mode when I received it. There was no passcode on the device.

Following established protocols and procedures I conducted an "advanced logical" download using Cellebrite UFED 4PC version 7.54.0.444. Once the data was extracted I uploaded it into Cellebrite Physical Analyzer version 7.55.0.21 for processing and review.

The device is an Apple iPhone model A2172, serial number G6TDW4S50DY0, running iOS version 15.4.1. It is associated with the iCloud account k[redacted]@icloud.com and is assigned MSISDN (cellphone number) [redacted]-8959. It is set to the Pacific Time zone and showed the correct date and time.

Once the data was processed I generated a reader report for and provided it to PEABODY to review for items of evidentiary value to his investigation. Since this is a voluntary download of the victim's phone, once PEABODY reviews the report and recovers anything of evidentiary value, the original download will be deleted. The device was provided to PEABODY for return to the victim's family.

Item 22-I00327 is an Apple iPhone belonging to BDG. PEABODY requested and was granted Island County Superior court search warrant 2022 0000058 on May 6, 2022 authorizing the download and examination of the data on the device.

On May 9, 2022, I retrieved the device from evidence to begin the download process. The device was powered on, locked with a PIN code and in airplane mode. Using the PIN provided by PEABODY I unlocked the device. Following

established protocols and procedures I conducted an "advanced logical" download using Cellebrite UFED 4PC version 7.54.0.444. Once the data was extracted I uploaded it into Cellebrite Physical Analyzer version 7.55.0.21 for processing and review.

The device is an Apple iPhone model A2484, serial number NQDMXRK42X, running iOS version 15.4.1. It is associated with the iCloud account B[MINOR PII].g[MINOR]@icloud.com and is assigned MSISDN (cellphone number) [PII]4669. It is set to the Pacific Time zone and showed the correct date and time.

Once the data was processed, at PEABODY's request I recovered the Snapchat.com user name for BDG ([redacted] from the stored application account information and submitted a preservation request via e-mail to Snapchat.com for the account. I generated a reader report for the device and provided it to PEABODY to review for items of evidentiary value to his investigation. The preservation request and e-mail were uploaded to evidence.com.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.
Certified electronically per RCW 5.50.030 and 5.50.050.

I am a law enforcement officer with the Island County Sheriff's Office and I have electronically prepared and submitted this statement to a court or prosecutor from an electronic device that is owned, issued, or maintained by a criminal justice agency.

Deputy's full name: C. E. Wallace Jr
Deputy's Personnel number: 1067
Date: May 12, 2022
Place: Coupeville, WA

Mark all that apply (explain in officers' narrative):
( ) Body Camera video captured
( ) Domestic Violence Supplemental form completed
( ) Firearms and Ammunition Statement advised per RCW 10.99.030
( ) Domestic Violence Information packet provided to victim per RCW 10.99.030

Supplemental Narrative

Name: WALLACE E

Date: 09:48:47 08/04/22

Island County Sheriff's Office Supplemental Narrative

Detective: Wallace #1067

Case Number: 22-I06902

Date: August 4, 2022.

I am commissioned by the Sheriff of Island County to enforce the laws of the state of Washington and the County of Island. At the time of this incident I was working as a Detective for the investigations division of the Island County Sheriff's Office. I am certified by the Department of Treasury/Homeland Security as a Seized Computer Evidence Recovery Specialist (S.C.E.R.S.), the Department of Homeland Security as a Mobile Device Investigator, the Cellebrite Corporation as a Physical Analyst, and the Paraben Corporation as a Handheld Examiner (PDA, cell/mobile phone and Hybrid devices). I am also trained by the Teeltechnologies Corporation to conduct Advanced BGA Chip-off Forensics and Advanced JTAG Mobile Forensics.

On July 26, 2022, Detective Sgt. PEABODY requested that I generate two additional Cellebrite reader reports from evidence items 22-I00326 and 22-I00327 for the specific time frame of April 21, 2022, to May 6, 2022. On July 27, 2022, I generated the additional report for 22-I00326 and on August 3, 2022, I generated the additional report for 22-I00327.

Due to the size of the data packets, the reports can not be stored on evidence.com and will be stored on the forensic server.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.
Certified electronically per RCW 5.50.030 and 5.50.050.

I am a law enforcement officer with the Island County Sheriff's Office and I have electronically prepared and submitted this statement to a court or prosecutor from an electronic device that is owned, issued, or maintained by a criminal justice agency.

Deputy's full name: C.E. Wallace Jr
Deputy's Personnel number: 1067
Date: August 4, 2022
Place: Coupeville, WA

Mark all that apply (explain in officers' narrative):
( ) Body Camera video captured
( ) Domestic Violence Supplemental form completed
( ) Firearms and Ammunition Statement advised per RCW 10.99.030
( ) Domestic Violence Information packet provided to victim per RCW 10.99.030

Supplemental Narrative

Name: FOWLER A

Date: 15:58:39 04/13/23

4/13/23: NCD rcv'd; no charges filed. -AF1259

Supplemental Narrative

Name: WILCOX B

Date: 14:50:44 07/26/23

7/26/23 - Notice of Charging Decision rec'd - no charges filed - Jeremiah T. Copeland. Per release or destroy note, co-respondent charges have been previoulsy declined. -bw1251

Evidence

Evidence Number: 22-I00326
Type: GEN
Owner Num: 213018
Last: G MINOR
First: B MINOR
Middle: D MINOR
Item: Cell Phone **Color:** BLU
Brand: Apple **Quantity:** 1
Model: **Measure:**
Serial Num:
Description: Apple Iphone
Comments: Seized under SW 2022 00000056 on 5/6/2022 DISPO RECEIVED-RELEASED PER DET SGT PEABODY PERMISSION.CS 1275 Thu Jun 15 10:57:51 PDT 2023
Transaction: EVID **Date:** 10:56:32 06/15/23
Location: REL TO OWNER **Who to/from:** G MINOR B **Custodian:** SHELLY C

Reason: Entered in to evidence Cellphone locker #2.

Evidence Number: 22-I00327
Type: GEN
Owner Num: 254934
Last: B MINOR
First: K MINOR
Middle: M MINOR
Item: Cell Phone **Color:** BLU
Brand: Apple **Quantity:** 1
Model: **Measure:**
Serial Num:
Description: Apple Iphone
Comments: Voluntary Download
Transaction: RTO **Date:** 16:15:17 05/09/22
Location: REL TO OWNER **Who to/from:** PEABODY C **Custodian:** PEABODY C

Reason: Released to owner

Evidence Number: 22-I00327
Type: GEN
Owner Num: 254934
Last: B MINOR
First: K MINOR

Middle:	M[MINOR]				
Item:	Cell Phone	**Color:**	BLU		
Brand:	Apple	**Quantity:**	1		
Model:		**Measure:**			
Serial Num:					
Description:	Apple Iphone				
Comments:	Voluntary Download				
Transaction:	RTO	**Date:**	16:15:17 05/09/22		
Location:	REL TO OWNER	**Who to/from:**	PEABODY C	**Custodian:**	PEABODY C
Reason:	Released to owner				

Name Involvements:

Complainant : OHPD
Last: OAK HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT **First:** **Mid:**
Height: ' " **Weight:** 0 **Eyes:** **Hair:**
DOB: **/**/** **Dr Lic:** **Address:** PII
Race: **Sex:** **Phone:** PII **City:**
Work Phone: ( ) - **Other Phone(s):** OTHER - PII

Suspect : 213018
Last: G MINOR **First:** B MINOR **Mid:** D MINOR
Height: 6'00" **Weight:** 140 **Eyes:** BRO **Hair:** BLK
DOB: PII **Dr Lic:** PII B **Address:** PII
Race: B **Sex:** M **Phone:** ( ) - **City:** PII
Work Phone: ( ) - **Other Phone(s):** CELL - PII -4669

Suspect : 157085
Last: COPELAND **First:** JEREMIAH **Mid:** TAYLOR
Height: 6'00" **Weight:** 175 **Eyes:** **Hair:**
DOB: PII **Dr Lic:** **Address:** PII
Race: B **Sex:** M **Phone:** PII -8577 **City:** PII
Work Phone: ( ) - **Other Phone(s):**

Victim : 254934
Last: B MINOR **First:** K MINOR **Mid:** M MINOR
Height: ' " **Weight:** 0 **Eyes:** BLU **Hair:** BLK
DOB: PII **Dr Lic:** PII **Address:** PII
Race: W **Sex:** F **Phone:** ( ) - **City:** PII
Work Phone: ( ) - **Other Phone(s):**

OAK HARBOR POLICE

Report for Incident 22-O06199

Nature: Sex Offense
Location: OHP16

Address: 979 SW UPLAND CT
OAK HARBOR WA 98277

Offense Codes: SEOF
Received By: D109 **How Received:** T **Agency:** OHPD

Assigned To: **Detail:** **Date Assigned:** **/**/**
Status: **Status Date:** **/**/** **Due Date:** **/**/**

Complainant: 194477

Last: [redacted] **First:** [redacted] **Mid:**
DOB: PII **Dr Lic:** PII **Address:** PII

Race: W **Sex:** F **Phone:** ( ) - **City:** OAK HARBOR, WA 98277

Offense Codes

Reported: SEOF Sex Offense
Additional Offense(s): SEOF Sex Offense

Circumstances

Responding Officers: RICCI S
Unit : O21

Responsible Officer: RICCI S
Received By: D109
How Received: T Telephone
When Reported: 19:51:15 06/26/22
Judicial Status: CLO
Misc Entry: 071125 LL

Agency: OHPD
Last Radio Log: **:**:** **/**/**
Clearance: CBS SETL BY CONT
Disposition: CLO **Date:** 07/11/25
Occurred between: 19:45:28 06/26/22
and: 19:45:28 06/26/22

Modus Operandi: **Description :** **Method :**

Involvements

Date	Type	Description	Relationship

Narrative

Oak Harbor Police Department Officers Report

Officer: S. Ricci
Case/Incident Number: 22-O06199

On 06/26/2022 at 1951 hours, I responded, via phone, to a sex offense related complaint. The reporting party, Monica Lopez stated her 15 year old daughter, L[redacted], told her on Saturday (06/25/2022) that on Thursday (06/23/2022), a boy named Jeremiah Copeland, was making advances towards her. Jeremiah is 17 years old. Monica told me L[redacted] said Jeremiah had groped her and tried to kiss her. Monica stated she would have to talk with her daughter about moving forward with an official investigation because she was currently on the fence about it. Monica informed me she would let me know by the evening of 06/27/2022. I provided her with my contact information. It was agreed upon that if I did not hear back from her by then, her daughter had made the decision to not move forward.

On 06/27/2022, I saw an email from Monica stating her daughter would like to move forward. We agreed to meet at their residence, located at [redacted].

On arrival, I made contact with Monica. I activated my BWC and informed her the interaction would be audio and video recorded. Monica gave me permission to enter her residence where I met L[redacted]. I also advised L[redacted] the interaction would be audio and video recorded. We sat at the dining room table as L[redacted] told me what happened.

L[redacted] stated, on Thursday (06/23/2022), she was at a close family friend's house, Stephanie Johnson, whom she referred to as her aunt. She was there roughly between 1630-2245 hours. Stephanie lives at [redacted]. L[redacted] said she was there hanging out for the evening. Stephanie was not present; however, Stephanie's two kids and her boyfriend, Juan Izaguirre, were there. Stephanie's oldest son, B[redacted] D[redacted] (no other information provided), is around L[redacted]'s age. L[redacted] refers to B[redacted] as her cousin. B[redacted] is also friends with Jeremiah. All three of them attend(ed) Oak Harbor High School. Per L[redacted], Jeremiah lives at [redacted], with his mom and siblings. L[redacted] stated she and Jeremiah used to date between 2020-2021. L[redacted] said they no longer date and are not romantically involved.

L[redacted] stated Jeremiah was invited over by B[redacted]. She continued saying throughout the evening, Jeremiah would try to get close to her or get her attention but she would ignore him and/or walk away. L[redacted] said sometime after dinner, L[redacted] found herself in the living room alone with Jeremiah. She said B[redacted] had gone up to his room for a bit to be alone. L[redacted] said she was laying down on the couch on her side when Jeremiah came over and stood next to her. She said she tried to ignore him and pretend like she was tired and trying to sleep. She said Jeremiah leaned over her and began trying to kiss her. She said she felt his hand slide between her legs and begin to grope her "private area." L[redacted] said she was wearing shorts and a t-shirt. L[redacted] said she kept moving his hand away. She stated she told him "no." She said she felt disgusted. She told me she didn't want him to touch her and "didn't want it." She told me she didn't like him like that. She said she knew he could tell she didn't him to touch her.

During this, L[redacted] said Jeremiah told her his mom said he needed to go back home. L[redacted] said Jeremiah was stalling because she knew, without him saying it,

he wanted her to get up and walk him home. L[PII - Minor] said, in the past, when they dated, she would walk with him or walk him to the door. L[PII - Minor] said she didn't want to do that. L[PII - Minor] said after Jeremiah continued to keep touching her, even after her many attempts to stop him, she felt the easiest and quickest way for this to end was to walk him to the front door so he could leave. L[PII - Minor] said she "finally gave in" by getting up and walking him to the door. She said at the door, he put his arms around her to hug her, but she refused to give him a hug back. She said she stood there motionless with her hands down by her side. She said Jeremiah then kissed her on the lips. She said she didn't kiss back and didn't have a desire to do so. She said he continued to try and kiss her more. She said she didn't feel like she could get away and wanted to do whatever she had to do to get him to leave. She said at one point, she even kissed him back and told him to leave already.

L[PII - Minor] said B[PII - Minor] happened to walk back downstairs during this time and walked out with Jeremiah. L[PII - Minor] said she didn't think B[PII - Minor] saw anything that happened.

While recounting what happened, L[PII - Minor] appeared upset and irritated with Jeremiah's behavior and what he had been doing. She also used words, such as "ewww" and "disgusted." L[PII - Minor] made it clear she did not like Jeremiah and she did not want to be around him, let alone to be alone with him.

L[PII - Minor] completed a written and signed statement form regarding the above. L[PII - Minor]'s written statement reflects the above with one addition. While at the door with Jeremiah, L[PII - Minor] stated Jeremiah told her "don't pretend to be sick" while he was trying to kiss her, indicating L[PII - Minor] was using that as an excuse to not kiss Jeremiah back.

Prior to ending the contact, I left Monica and L[PII - Minor] with a business card, which held the case number.

Please forward to detectives for further investigation and interviews.

End of report.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

I am a law enforcement officer with the Oak Harbor Police Department, and I have electronically prepared and submitted this statement to a court or prosecutor from an electronic device that is owned, issued, or maintained by a criminal justice agency.

Signed (Officer Full Name): Shantel M. Ricci
Personnel ID: 4021
Date: 06/28/2022
Time: 0215 hours
Location (City/State): Oak Harbor, WA

Mark all that apply (explain in officers' narrative):
(X) Body Camera video captured
( ) Domestic Violence Supplemental form completed
( ) Firearms and Ammunition Statement advised per RCW 10.99.030
( ) Domestic Violence Information packet provided to victim per RCW 10.99.030

_____ _____

Supplement

Oak Harbor Police Department Officers Report

Officer: A. SCELZI 4028
Case/Incident Number:

22-o06199

On the 29th of June 2022, I was assigned this case.

On the 30th of June 2022, I contacted Monica Lopez (DOB: PII) by phone. I confirmed her daughter L[redacted] L[redacted] (DOB: PII) was willing to do a forensic interview.

On the 11th of July 2022, L[redacted] arrived for her interview with Child Forensic Interviewer Ms. Long, which I attended via Zoom.

L[redacted] said she was inappropriately touched without her consent. L[redacted] said on a Thursday (06/23/2022) at around 1300 her brother dropped her off at her mom's best friend's house, who she also calls her aunt and who was identified as Stephanie Johnson (DOB: PII). L[redacted] remembered the number of the house being "PII." L[redacted] said Stephanie's boyfriend Juan "Izzy" Izaguirre (DOB: PII) and her sons B[redacted], C[redacted], J[redacted], and A[redacted] were at the house. L[redacted] said they were all hanging out in the backyard when Jeremiah Copeland (DOB: PII) messaged her on SnapChat asking if he should come over. L[redacted] remembered not really giving him an answer. L[redacted] said Jeremiah lives at the house across the street. Jeremiah was playing basketball and waved to B[redacted], who asked him to come over and then they played a game. L[redacted] said she was not supposed be around Jeremiah because of something in the past.

L[redacted] explained she and Jeremiah dated in the Summer of 2020 and they dated on and off until Fall of 2021. L[redacted] said Jeremiah was toxic and he would cheat on her. L[redacted] said they really only hung out when she went over to Stephanie's house. L[redacted] said they did not have a sexual relationship. She explained that at the end of Summer 2021 the relationship ended when she went to a sport event, saw him with a girl, took a picture of them, sent it to him and blocked him on everything. L[redacted] said she added him on SnapChat a week before the current incident because he was interacting with her on social media. She explained she decided to add him because she was bored and got out of a relationship a month prior. L[redacted] said, "I'm just going to do whatever I want basically, like add whoever I want, talk to whatever I want, kind-type of like mindset with like boys." L[redacted] said her messages to him were mad at first and Jeremiah wanted to apologize for the past. L[redacted] confirmed she did not feel like they were back together.

L[redacted] said during the time they were hanging out, B[redacted] was on the phone and B[redacted] went away from the area where L[redacted] and Jeremiah sitting. L[redacted] said she could tell he was talking to his mom because of the tone he was using. L[redacted] could hear B[redacted] say, "I don't know he just came over. He is just hanging out here with L[redacted]." Then L[redacted] received an imessage from her mother asking why Jeremiah was there because she is not supposed to be around him and told her to not give Jeremiah the intention that she wanted to be friends again. L[redacted] explained that there was an incident where Jeremiah recorded a sexual encounter with another girl without consent and as a result L[redacted] wasn't supposed to be around him.

L[redacted] said they were all hanging out and nothing was really happening and they

went into the second living room after being outside. L[PII - Minor] explained the "littlest" kids were playing a game. L[PII - Minor] said she was sitting on the floor and Jeremiah was sitting behind her playing the game. Right after that, they had dinner that Izzy made, L[PII - Minor] laid down on the couch, and then they went upstairs where B[PII - Minor] was and the little kids were screaming. Jeremiah also went upstairs. Izzy told them that Stephanie doesn't want them upstairs so they came back downstairs. L[PII - Minor] laid back down on the couch. Everyone was there for a little bit but then B[PII - Minor] left and Izzy went into his room.

L[PII - Minor] explained the "littlest" kids were on the loveseat couch watching a movie and she was on the long couch with Jeremiah next to her. L[PII - Minor] said Jeremiah put his hands on her thighs and knees and she demonstrated a "petting" motion. L[PII - Minor] said she would push them way. L[PII - Minor] said she was "kind of grossed out" and she knew what he had done in the past so she wasn't comfortable with it. L[PII - Minor] said that he didn't really say anything but he does a grin that is "evil." L[PII - Minor] then messaged her brother telling him to come get her. L[PII - Minor] said she then laid down facing the pillows on the couch with her body balled up with her knees up against her because she was tired. L[PII - Minor] said that Jeremiah still had his hand on her thigh. Jeremiah then said he had to leave and she said "bye." Jeremiah told her to walk him to the door and she said no and said she didn't want to because she knows where that goes. She stated when they dated he would have her walk him to the door to kiss and hug him goodbye. Jeremiah then came behind her and crouched over her. Jeremiah begged her to walk him to the door. As Jeremiah was begging L[PII - Minor], he touched her over her shorts between her thighs from behind her. L[PII - Minor] explained through hand gestures and verbally that the part of her body Jeremiah touched is the front part of her vagina, outer lip, near where you pee. L[PII - Minor] said doctors would say vagina but she views the vagina as the whole not the top area and calls this her "private area." L[PII - Minor] said when his hand was on her "private area" his hand would rub and his other hand was probably on top of the couch. L[PII - Minor] said she continued to lay there. L[PII - Minor] said about four times she moved his hand off her and she demonstrated grabbing his hand and moving it way. L[PII - Minor] said she felt shocked and grossed out. She advised she said "stop" and he kept doing it so she decided to walk him to the door. L[PII - Minor] said that if she did not walk Jeremiah to the door he would go further with it and continue to be more into it and could have lead somewhere else and she explained maybe he would try to go "inside."

L[PII - Minor] walked Jeremiah to the door and said, "okay bye." Jeremiah wouldn't leave and he said, "oh you're not so slick." Then Jeremiah hugged her and she kept her hands at her side not hugging him at all and he kissed her and she did not kiss back at all. L[PII - Minor] said that he kept kissing her on her lips and so she kissed him back once so he would leave, but he didn't leave and was still holding onto her. L[PII - Minor] said he had his arms over her so she couldn't get out of that in that moment. L[PII - Minor] told him that her brother was almost there and her family doesn't really like him and so he needed to go. Jeremiah said that is because of all the stuff L[PII - Minor] has told them about him. L[PII - Minor] replied by asking him, "the stuff I tell them or the stuff you do because last time I checked..." and then she walked away but Jeremiah had a grip on her hand. B[PII - Minor] came down the stairs and that is when Jeremiah let go of her hand. Then she went to go sit back in the living room. Jeremiah left after B[PII - Minor] said bye to Jeremiah. L[PII - Minor] said she waited on the couch until her brother came.

L[PII - Minor] advised she went home around 2100. L[PII - Minor] said she didn't really think anything about it because she thought it was okay. She messaged Jeremiah on SnapChat and told him she didn't like that he tried to kiss her when she didn't want to or hug her when she told him not to. She expressed how he touched her without her consent and how she didn't understand how he didn't get the hint she

didn't want that when she was pushing him away and saying stop. L[PII - Minor] advised she blocked him that night. L[PII - Minor] said she does not have the SnapChat messages with Jeremiah because she un-added him.

L[PII - Minor] said her mother got home late that night. L[PII - Minor] told her mother and she was "not really freaking out about it..." L[PII - Minor]'s mother asked her what she wanted to do about it and L[PII - Minor] replied, "nothing really..." and explained, "I still thought that it was okay basically cause I didn't really think anything about it." Then she went to bed.

The next day her father called her and was crying and telling her he was sorry he couldn't protect her. Her father kept telling her it was not okay and people like that need to know it is not okay. L[PII - Minor] said that she realized she wanted to do something about it.

On the 26th of July 2022, I contacted Stephanie and set up and interview for the 1st of August 2022 at 1000 with her oldest son B[PII - Minor] D[PII - Minor] (DOB: [PII - Minor]) who may have witnessed the incident. I also contacted Monica by phone and kept her updated on where I was at with the case.

On the 1st of August 2022, I interviewed Stephanie's son B[PII - Minor] at the Oak Harbor Police Department. B[PII - Minor] advised he was here to talk about something that happened to a family friend in the summer about a week after school ended. B[PII - Minor] said L[PII - Minor] L[PII - Minor] told him Jeremiah Copeland forced a kiss on her. B[PII - Minor] said I[PII - Minor] was over at his house. Then later B[PII - Minor] mentioned how Jeremiah was at the basketball courts, but then joined them at his house and they were all hanging out in the backyard. L[PII - Minor] came outside to watch and "time flew by." B[PII - Minor], Jeremiah, and L[PII - Minor] walked in the house and put on the movie Rush Hour 2. B[PII - Minor] said he went to get snacks out of the pantry and saw L[PII - Minor] on the couch laying down. Jeremiah had his left hand on L[PII - Minor]'s right shoulder and was leaning over her and his right hand leaning on the couch arm rest. L[PII - Minor] was on her left side and Jeremiah was leaning over. B[PII - Minor] said he didn't think anything of it because of the "giggling." They watched a majority of the movie, only twenty-five minutes were left. B[PII - Minor] said during the movie Jeremiah moved and began to sit on L[PII - Minor]'s legs. L[PII - Minor] was going through TicTok and they were all laughing. B[PII - Minor] said everything seemed fine but now looking back seemed slightly uncomfortable. B[PII - Minor] said that L[PII - Minor] was laughing and smiling but then sometimes seemed out of it by starring off into the screen and didn't respond to prompts. B[PII - Minor] described L[PII - Minor] as "smiling but with worried eyebrows." B[PII - Minor] said that L[PII - Minor] was "scooching" away from Jeremiah. B[PII - Minor] said that his brothers C[PII - Minor] and A[PII - Minor] were upstairs, C[PII - Minor] kept going up and down, but J[PII - Minor] was in front of the Xbox. B[PII - Minor] went upstairs because he was bored and thirty minutes later Jeremiah went upstairs and said goodbye. B[PII - Minor] walked downstairs and opened the door and Jeremiah left. B[PII - Minor] did not mention seeing Jeremiah holding L[PII - Minor]'s hand.

On the 27th of October 2022, I contacted Rochelle Brown the mother of Jeremiah. She stated after she talked to me the first time her son said the mom's boyfriend (Izzy) was there and was present the whole time. Rochelle knows the girl from going over to the neighbor's house, but didn't know her name. Rochelle said that she knows the girl was talking to her son and sending nudes over SnapChat unprovoked and she is friends with K[PII - Minor] who was involved in the other situation with Jeremiah.

On the 31st of October 2022, I interviewed Jeremiah at his residence with his mother present. I asked Jeremiah to tell me what happened between him and L[PII - Minor] L[PII - Minor] about a week after school ended this summer. Jeremiah explained that he

went over to Stephanie's house. Jeremiah explained he has a good relationship with B[PII - Minor] and can go over and walk in. Jeremiah said at one point a movie was on. Jeremiah said B[PII - Minor] and the rest of Stephanie's kids where there. He said he was on the couch with L[PII - Minor]. Jeremiah said at one point his head may have been on her shoulders and her leg was over his thighs. I asked if this was usual when they hung out and he said sometimes, but it didn't go farther than that. I asked if anything else physical happened. Jeremiah said he didn't think so on the couch. Jeremiah said they were eating and after they ate and he pushed his dishes into the sink, he asked L[PII - Minor] if she wanted to walk him to the door and she replied, "I guess." Jeremiah said when they were at the door he hugged her and went in for a kiss and she moved out of the way and that was it. Jeremiah said they were texting and she was "leading him on" and he went in for a kiss and then she acted weird about it. When I asked if anyone else was around, Jeremiah mentioned that he believes C[PII - Minor] was in the first living room on the couch.

I asked Jeremiah if L[PII - Minor] contacted him after and he said yes but it was on SnapChat and he did not have the messages because she blocked him. Jeremiah said he remembers her texting him and that she mentioned how she didn't want him to kiss her. Jeremiah responded to me by saying nonchalantly, "oh okay, like just alright." Jeremiah confirmed he and L[PII - Minor] used to "talk" and that they did not have a sexual relationship but that she would send him nudes.

Jeremiah explained they were no longer "talking" but she added him on SnapChat and messaged him saying, "I know what you and B[PII - Minor] did to K[PII - Minor]," accusing him referring to the incident with K[PII - Minor] B[PII - Minor] and B[PII - Minor] G[PII - Minor]. Jeremiah said that he got over it and he interpreted their relationship as good. Jeremiah said that after L[PII - Minor] re-added him on SnapChat she was sending him unsolicited nude photographs and telling him that she wanted to be "fucked," but advised he did not have those messages. I asked Jeremiah why he thought L[PII - Minor] was sending him nudes and he said he was not sure and probably that she was horny. I asked Jeremiah why someone would say something non-consensual happened on the couch. Jeremiah said L[PII - Minor] is friends with K[PII - Minor] and it might have been a "set up."

At this time I am closing this case due to lack of physical evidence or independent witnesses

CASE CLOSED.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

I am a law enforcement officer with the Oak Harbor Police Department, and I have electronically prepared and submitted this statement to a court or prosecutor from an electronic device that is owned, issued, or maintained by a criminal justice agency.

Signed (Officer Full Name): ANGELICA JADE SCELZI
Personnel ID: 4O28
Date: 02 NOV 2022
Time: APPROX 1007
Location (City/State): OAK HARBOR, WA

Mark all that apply (explain in officers' narrative):

(X) Body Camera video captured
( ) Domestic Violence Supplemental form completed
( ) Firearms and Ammunition Statement advised per RCW 10.99.030
( ) Domestic Violence Information packet provided to victim per RCW 10.99.030

_____ _____

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 16AUG24

CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JAELEN OWENS, USN

1. As background, on 26Jul24 NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, of an unrestricted reported of sexual assault aboard the ship that occurred on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. MA1 CORTESELLI reported [redacted]V/C.R.[redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe. During the course of the investigation, CSSN Jaelen OWENS, USN, CVN 75, was identified as having information in reference to the investigation.

2. On 16Aug24 at approximately 1430 hours, CSSN OWENS was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) and MAC Adam NORMAN, USN, CVN 75, aboard the CVN 75, while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q.

3. CSSN OWENS stated he was approached by S/COPELAND approximately two (2) months prior to the interview date, and S/COPELAND related CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, CVN 75, had "put a case on" him (S/COPELAND) for an incident with CSSN CUESTABRAVO's girlfriend. CSSN OWENS stated S/COPELAND did not elaborate and CSSN OWENS did not ask any further questions. CSSN OWENS related S/COPELAND advised him not to speak with CSSN CUESTABRAVO any longer because CSSN CUESTABRAVO "snitched" on him. In the past, CSSN OWENS stated S/COPELAND told him CSSN CUESTABRAVO's girlfriend was "feeling on" S/COPELAND and "leading him on." CSSN OWENS could not recall the name of CSSN CUESTABRAVO's girlfriend but stated CSSN CUESTABRAVO was always around her.

4. CSSN OWENS stated following that interaction, he was approached by CSSN CUESTABRAVO disclosed to CSSN OWENS that S/COPELAND had smacked his girlfriend's buttocks and "sexually harassed" her.

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

PAGE 1 LAST JL V2 LNN

WARNING:
THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE CONTENTS MAY BE DISCLOSED ONLY TO PERSONS WHOSE OFFICIAL DUTIES REQUIRE ACCESS HERETO. CONTENTS MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO THE PARTY(S) CONCERNED WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE.

05/29/2025	06:14:04	115	moc	Outgoing	[redacted] 0672	[redacted] 1144	[redacted] 1144	[redacted] 1144	310260490668870	354689822842950	Completed Successfully

ENCL 59
1 of 5

Information Provided By:
T-Mobile US, Inc.
Law Enforcement Relations

4 Sylvan Way, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
Tel: 866-537-0911; Fax: 973-292-8697

DCTAS401	44127	3	330	36.932935	-76.315812	8770 Hampton Boulevard	Norfolk	VA	23505

Information Provided By:
T-Mobile US, Inc.
Law Enforcement Relations

4 Sylvan Way, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
Tel: 866-537-0911; Fax: 973-292-8697

Interpreting Call Detail Records

T-Mobile produces Call Detail Records (CDR), either with or without location information, in an Excel file containing multiple rows. The file includes both voice and message transactions. Each row represents one transaction on the T-Mobile network. Not all rows appear on every report. Some fields only appear in reports with location information.

Calls to 911 and calls made while roaming do not appear on this report.

T-Mobile generally retains details of all network-originated voice transactions for 24 months. As of February 2020, T-Mobile retains the metadata for certain types of 4G/LTE based text messages (SMSc and RCS) for only 22 months. If your records contain details older than 22 months from the date of production, these messages may not appear on the report.

Calls to Voicemail - Entries with outgoing calls to 8056377249 or numbers ending in 9999 indicate incoming calls forwarded (out) to the voicemail system. Calls forwarded to voicemail can also be identified using the Service Code column. The associated incoming call may or may not be captured. Entries with outgoing calls to 8056377243 = 805-MESSAGE indicate voicemail retrieval.

Timestamp - Please remember that T-Mobile systems natively use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Accordingly, the timestamps on these transactions appear as 00:00:01 to 23:59:59 UTC. T-Mobile is unable to convert these records to a different time zone. If you require records not captured in this response, please submit a new legal request that includes a description of records with the date/time adjusted for UTC.

Please note that T-Mobile network usage records may include 15- and 16-digit variants of an IMEI number. The first 14 digits are a conclusive match to the target IMEI.

Archived Records - If your legal request sought records older than 24 months, responsive records may include archived bill images. The timestamps on archive bill images vary depending on the legacy network for the subscriber and the type of transaction (i.e. voice, SMS). Due to these variations, and the static nature of the reprints, T-Mobile is not able to convert transactions on bill images to a particular time zone.

Set forth below are tips to help you understand data/information that is unique to the CDR_Quantum 5G report:

The retention of the CDR_Quantum records is nine months.

Both LTE and 5G usage will appear on the CDR_Quantum 5G report.

The duration times differ between a record appearing on the CDR_Mediations and CDR_Quantum reports because the information provided is sourced from various T-Mobile data collections. The CDR_Mediations source measures the duration based on the device's activity from start to finish. The CDR_Quantum source measures duration based on network activity.

Set forth below are tips to help you understand data/information that is unique to the Splunk SMS report:

This Supplemental Response includes the content of certain messages retained in connection with T-Mobile's Scam/Spam prevention efforts. The retention period for these messages is approximately 30 days. This retention period is subject to change based on business needs.

T-Mobile produces Scam/Spam message content in an Excel file containing four columns

- Date/Time Sent (PST) – Reflected in Pacific Standard Time. (T-Mobile is unable to convert these records into a different time zone. If you require records not captured in this response, please submit a new legal request that includes an adjusted date/time).
- Sending MSISDN – Telephone number of the sender.
- Recipient MSISDN – Telephone number of the intended recipient.
- Message content – Body of the message sent.

The messages produced consist of messages that were "sent". T-Mobile does not store data that would indicate whether the messages in the report were actually delivered.

Below is a description of columns that may be present in the report you received.

COLUMN NAME	DESCRIPTION		LOCATION RPT ONLY?	NOTES
Date	Date format mm/dd/yyyy		NO	
(UTC) Time	24-hour time format - hh:mm:ss in UTC		NO	In UTC time
Duration	Duration in seconds		NO	Duration begins when a call is answered and ends when a call is

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				completed
Call Type	Type of call: callForwarding - Forwarded Call mSOriginating - Outgoing Voice Call mSTerminating - Incoming Voice mSOriginatingSMSinMSC - Outgoing SMS mSTerminatingSMSinMSC - Incoming SMS moc - Mobile Originating Call mtc - Mobile Terminating Call SMSc - Text Message – see notes RCS - IMChat - rich content message, multimedia, and text RCS - GroupLargeMode - group RCS chat RCS - GroupLargeMode- Due to the incompatibility of the receiver's handset, the system will send the RCS non-text content as a large message. *3 or more users RCS – GroupPageMode – Like GroupLargeMode, but reduction to SMS (SMSC or traditional) on one or more user's records may occur *iMS_Terminating - Incoming 5G Voice Call iMS_Originating - Outgoing 5G Voice Call iMS_Originating_Forwarded - Outgoing 5G Voice Call vONR_Originating - Outgoing 5G Voice Call vONR_Terminating - Incoming 5G Voice Call mO_Epsfb - Outgoing 5G Voice Call mT_Epsfb - Incoming 5G Voice Call** RCS – LargeMode - Like GroupLargeMode, but refers to a direct user-to-user connection that sends a compressed version of that file. (Reduction to MMS or SMS on that user's records may occur) RCS – PageMode - Same as above, except reduction to SMS (SMSC or traditional) is what will most likely occur RCS – PushLocation – The sharing of location or position information		NO	Cell Site location is not available for Call Types SMSc and RCS-IMChat. T-Mobile does not retain the content of text messages. For SMSc messaging, T-Mobile provides a record of any activity between the requested target number and any other customers utilizing the T-Mobile network for the time and date range requested, regardless of if the target number currently is/was assigned to T-Mobile or a T-Mobile wholesale partner. **Only appears on the 'CDR_Quantum' 5G Report
Direction	Outgoing or Incoming to the target telephone number		NO	
Calling Number	Phone number that initiated the call		NO	
Dialed Number	Dialed digits		NO	
Called Number	Phone number that received the call		NO	ADHOC – Group RCS chat. For Group RCS Chat, you will see an ADHOC event in addition to CDRS for each individual participant in the group chat.
Destination Number	The final destination number to which the network has connected the call (might be different from the one dialed by the subscriber if network translation was applied)		NO	
IMSI	International Mobile Subscriber Identity of the target number, if present		NO	
IMEI	International Mobile Equipment Identity of the target number, if present		NO	
Completion Code	Completed successfully or Abnormal Completion (network interruption). Abnormal completion calls display on this report but may or may not show on a customer's bill.		NO	
Service Code	11 Calling line identification presentation 12 Calling line identification restriction 13 Connected Line ID Presentation 20 All Call Forwarding Services 21Call Forwarding Unconditional (CFU) 28 All Cond Call Forwarding Services 29 Call Forwarding on Mobile Subscriber Busy (CFB) 2A Call Forwarding on No Reply (CFNRy) 2B Call Forwarding on Not Reachable (CFNRc) 31 Explicit Call Transfer (ECT) 41 Call waiting 42 Call Hold 51 Multi-Party (MPTY) *6 Call Forwarding		NO	**Only appears on the 'CDR_Quantum' 5G Report
Switch Name	Name of the switch used to deliver the call to the target number.		NO	This is NOT an indication of the location of the device.
1st LTE Site ID	EnodeB id value in decimal		YES	Only present if the call was over LTE
1st LTE Sector ID	ID of the first sector used if the site is an LTE site		YES	Only present if the call was over LTE
1st LAC	1st LAC value in decimal		YES	Not present if the call was over LTE
1st Cell ID	1st Cell Site ID value in decimal		YES	Not present if the call was over LTE
1st Tower Azimuth	Location: Azimuth orientation of antenna serving user if available (see note below)		YES	
1st Tower LAT	Latitude of 1st cell tower used.		YES	
1st Tower LONG	Longitude of 1st cell tower used.		YES	
1st Tower Address	Street Address of the 1st serving tower, if available		YES	
1st Tower City	City of the 1st serving tower, if available		YES	

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1st Tower State	State of the 1st serving tower, if available		YES	
1st Tower Zip	ZIP of the 1st serving tower, if available		YES	
Last LTE Site ID	EnodeB id value in decimal		YES	Only present if the call was over LTE
Last LTE Sector ID	ID of the last sector used if the site is an LTE site		YES	Only present if the call was over LTE
Last LAC ID	Last LAC value in decimal		YES	Not present if the call was over LTE
Last Cell ID	Last Cell Site ID value in decimal		YES	Not present if the call was over LTE
Last Tower Azimuth	Azimuth orientation of antenna serving user if available (see note below)		YES	
Last Tower LAT	Latitude of last cell tower used.		YES	
Last Tower LONG	Longitude of last cell tower used.		YES	
Last Tower Address	Street Address of the last serving tower, if available		YES	
Last Tower City	City of the last serving tower, if available		YES	
Last Tower State	State of the last serving tower, if available		YES	
Last Tower Zip	ZIP of the last serving tower, if available		YES	

A NOTE ON AZIMUTH: The azimuth listed is the center compass degree facing of the identified sector of the tower. Generally, a tower's coverage is circular and divided into three equal pieces (each 120 degrees wide). Due north is 0, due south is 180. However, not every tower is aligned with the first sector starting at 0. Using the listed azimuth, rough direction from the tower can be calculated for a call. The center degree of the sector's facing is indicated in this field. For example, if a facing has a listed orientation of 90, the center of the coverage is pointed at 90 degrees, but the sector will cover traffic from roughly 60 degrees on either side (thus 30 to 150 degrees in this example).

For more information on UTC, please visit http://www.timeanddate.com/time/aboututc.html. You must use a converter such as http://www.worldtimeserver.com/convert_time_in_UTC.aspx to convert records to your local time

US v. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

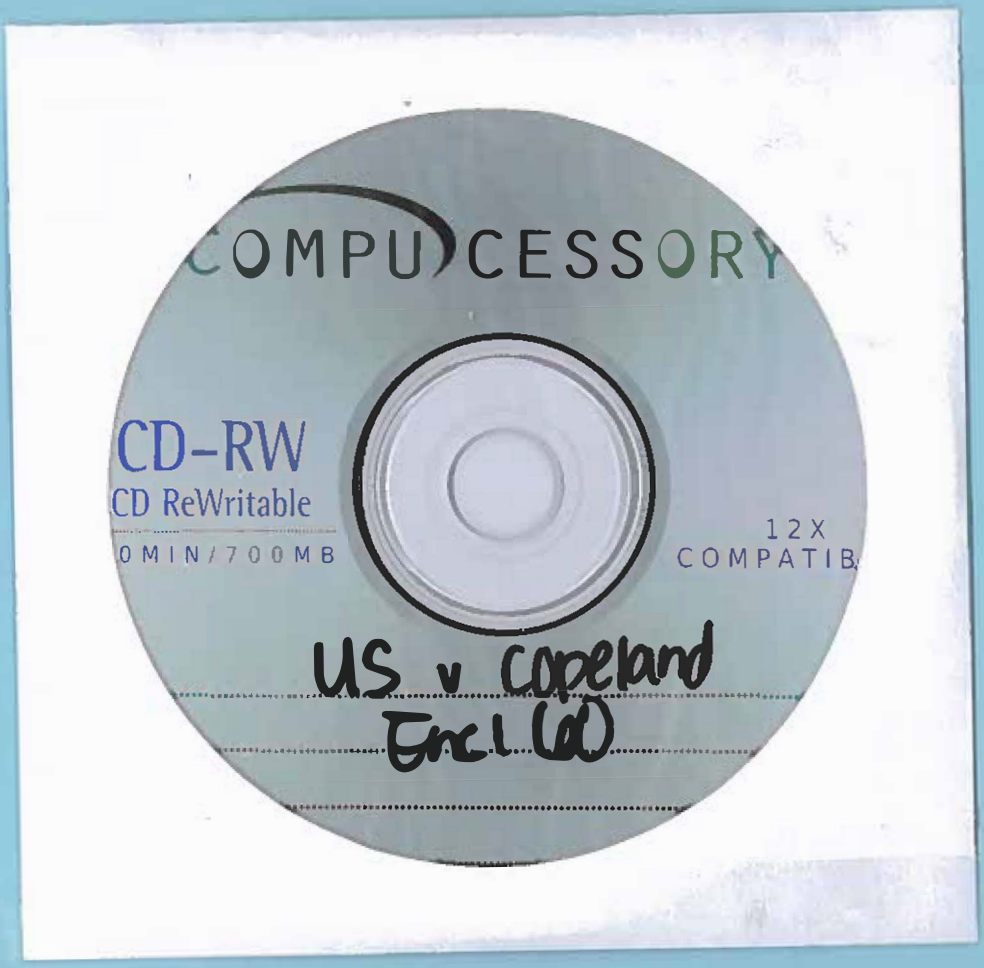


ENCLOSURE 60

DVD-R_

Excerpt of Recorded Brig Call

11AUG25


COMPUCESSORY
CD-RW
CD ReWritable
0MIN/700MB
12X
COMPATIB
US v Copeland
Encl (60)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 16AUG24

CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND

1. As background, on 26Jul24 NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, of an unrestricted reported of sexual assault aboard the ship that occurred on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. MA1 CORTESELLI reported [redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe.

2. On 16Aug24 at approximately 2130 hours, S/COPELAND was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) and MAC Adam NORMAN, USN, CVN 75, aboard CVN 75, while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of, and waived, his Article 31b Rights utilizing a Military Rights Waiver form; Enclosure (B) pertains.

5. S/COPELAND stated he and [redacted] saw each other on the mess decks at night on approximately 23Jul24, and went to speak in the area of the fantail aboard the ship. S/COPELAND denied he messaged [redacted] to coordinate the meeting. S/COPELAND stated [redacted] wanted to talk about her boyfriend CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, CVN 75. S/COPELAND stated [redacted] disclosed CSSN CUESTABRAVO does not treat her well and cheating on her, and she asked for his advice concerning their relationship.

6. S/COPELAND recalled the two were "flirting," but emphatically denied he was romantically or sexually interested in [redacted]. S/COPELAND stated while they were talking, he was sitting in a chair and she was sitting on the deck. S/COPELAND asked her why she was sitting on the ground and told her to sit with him in his chair. S/COPELAND stated she put her hand up so he could help her up, and he attempted to pick her up by her arms without touching any other part of her body. Following the contact S/COPELAND recalled giving [redacted] a hug and related [redacted] hugged him back. S/COPELAND stated he got close to [redacted] with his face close to her face, but denied trying to

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **16AUG24**

kiss her. S/COPELAND stated after talking for approximately an hour, the two left the fantail and went to their berthings separately. S/COPELAND denied touching V/C.R. anywhere else on her body.

7. When asked directly if S/COPELAND strangled V/C.R., S/COPELAND stated "oh okay yeah I have but it wasn't in like a weird way," and stated he put one hand around her neck without applying any pressure after she pinched his arm. When asked directly if S/COPELAND ever told V/C.R. he heard she liked to be choked, S/COPELAND admitted he did. S/COPELAND continued to deny applying pressure to V/C.R.' neck, touching her intimate areas, or attempting to kiss her. S/COPELAND directly denied ever telling V/C.R. she should have sex with him to "get back" at CSSN CUESTABRAVO.

8. S/COPELAND opined V/C.R. falsely reported the incident as a sexual assault because CSSN CUESTABRAVO wanted to "get back at" S/COPELAND for talking to V/C.R..

9. At the conclusion of the interview, circa 2300, S/COPELAND was turned over to command representative CSC James MUGWE, USN, USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND/16AUG24
(B) ARTICLE 31B FORM SIGNED BY S/COPELAND/16AUG24

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

PAGE 2 LAST JL V2 LNN

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FORENSIC EXAMINATION REPORT

CASE NUMBER 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA

Organization	NCIS-CBNF
Examiner	John Davison
Case generated	Thursday, June 5, 2025
Report generated	Thursday, August 7, 2025

Record 1

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	How long do shrooms show up on drug test
URL	https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&sca_esv=2af23fbe5c927cf8&hl=en-us&sxsrf=AHTn8zpZbMrHDKSevtqIPPY72XBvvAUFBg:1747951283308&q=How+long+do+shrooms+show+up+on+drug+test&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiw2836ibiNAxXOFVkFHbb7Fb8Q1QJ6BAgXEAE&biw=430&bih=821&dpr=3
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:01:53.615 PM
Artifact	Safari History
Artifact ID	30645
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\History.db
Location	• Table: history_items(id: 2365) • Table: history_visits(id: 4303)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	30890

Record 2

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	what drug test does the military use
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=what+drug+test+does+the+military+use&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:02:40.230 PM
Artifact	Safari History
Artifact ID	30655
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\History.db
Location	• Table: history_items(id: 2366) • Table: history_visits(id: 4306)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	30902

Record 3

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	what drug test does the military use
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=what+drug+test+does+the+military+use&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	6/3/2025 8:41:44.656 PM
Web Page Title	what drug test does the military use - Google Search
Artifact	Safari iCloud Tabs
Artifact ID	32705
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\CloudTabs.db
Location	• Table: cloud_tabs(rowid: 4820) • Table: cloud_tab_device(rowid: 2)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	32723

Record 4

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	what drug test does the military use
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=what+drug+test+does+the+military+use&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:01:14.000 PM
Web Page Title	what drug test does the military use - Google Search
Artifact	Safari Suspended State Tabs
Artifact ID	45026
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\Safari\SafariTabs.db
Location	• Table: bookmarks(id: 610)

Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	45078

Record 5

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	does shrooms pop up on a drug test
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=does+shrooms+pop+up+on+a+drug+test&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:01:53.641 PM
Artifact	KnowledgeC Application Web Usage
Artifact ID	219564
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Location	• Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 36268) • Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 22391)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	219775

Record 6

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	what drug test does the military use
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=what+drug+test+does+the+military+use&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:03:10.099 PM
Artifact	KnowledgeC Application Web Usage
Artifact ID	219524
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Location	• Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 36274) • Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 22395)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	219913

Record 7

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	does shrooms pop up on a drug test
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=does+shrooms+pop+up+on+a+drug+test&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:02:40.247 PM
Artifact	KnowledgeC Application Web Usage
Artifact ID	219542
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Location	• Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 36270) • Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 22391)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	219919

Record 8

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	How long do shrooms show up on drug test

URL	https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&sca_esv=2af23fbe5c927cf8&hl=en-us&sxsrf=AHTn8zpZbMrHDKSevtqlPPY72XBvvAUFBg:1747951283308&q=How+long+do+shrooms+show+up+on+drug+test&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiw2836ibiNAxXOFVkFHbb7Fb8Q1QJ6BAgXEAE&biw=430&bih=821&dpr=3
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:01:55.884 PM
Artifact	KnowledgeC Application Web Usage
Artifact ID	219555
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Location	• Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 36269) • Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 22392)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	219921

Record 9

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	does blue lotus pop on a drug test
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=does+blue+lotus+pop+on+a+drug+test&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/21/2025 8:17:17.227 AM
Artifact	KnowledgeC Application Web Usage
Artifact ID	220097
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\mobile\Library\CoreDuet\Knowledge\knowledgeC.db
Location	• Table: ZOBJECT(Z_PK: 33908) • Table: ZSTRUCTUREDMETADATA(Z_PK: 20709)
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	220125

Record 10

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	does shrooms pop up on a drug test
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=does+shrooms+pop+up+on+a+drug+test&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/22/2025 6:01:25.000 PM
Web Page Title	does shrooms pop up on a drug test - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529583
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 40624
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529796

Record 11

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	ivestigating by ncis
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=ivestigating+by+ncis&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:16:45.000 PM
Web Page Title	ivestigating by ncis - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529591

Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 42100
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529797

Record 12

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	igetting vestigating by ncis
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=igetting+vestigating+by+ncis&client=safari&sca_esv=cbe0386980f25f64&hl=en-us&sxsrf=AE3TifOzqxTylhutlUshFiTZ6er7luPy1w%3A1748193403077&ei=e1AzaOzABM6hiLMPqPPtuAQ&oq=igetting+vestigating+by+ncis&gs_lp=EhNtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1zZXJwIhxpZ2V0dGl uZyB2ZXN0aWdhdGluZyBieSBuY2IzMggQABiABBiiBDIIEAAYgAQYogQyCBAAGIAEGKIEMggQABiABBiiBEjxH1CvF FjLHXACeAGQAQCYAbsBoAGJCaoBAzAuOLgBA8gBAPgBAZgCB6ACyQXCAgoQABiwAxjWBBhHwgIHECMYsAIYJ8ICBRA AGO8FwgIIEAAYogQYiQWYAwDiAwUSATEgQIgGAZAGCJIHAzIuNaAHqCKyBwMwLjW4B8AF&sclient=mobile-gws-wiz-serp
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:17:00.000 PM
Original Search Query	igetting vestigating by ncis
Search Session Start Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:16:43.000 PM
Previous Page Load Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:16:43.000 PM
Web Page Title	getting investigated by ncis - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529615
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 42552
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529799

Record 13

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	getting investigated by ncis site:www.reddit.com
URL	https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&sca_esv=cbe0386980f25f64&hl=en-us&sxsrf=AE3TifPF2y0y5bU2LvGMUPf7DlXM2XT_6w:1748194083308&q=getting+investigated+by+ncis+site:www.reddit.com&source=lnms&fbs=AIIjpHyWwA|ZrkZFv-VnrX_KRR4-qW-JJcgStKXbAtMdVeeC6NEDhYW_iN1snC|W3pLVcJ-JLOTN|QXomW9mC6y1zG_Qk2Z1Ap_MChu2-VEZOQu2xttz-VNX--W4Pt15FbXub5V4HkpVenP8nD98CBH7cLMHuiMzatZ2Uzz57jL_6l4DTU7hHjMr0GUtsDUqaWey8NQRLoNSVt_CU_p60Jn1Z_UN6VfoHxPZT8KXkk8woPUFstK-iy4&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj_59W6kr-NAxUlMlkFHb5LCy0Q0pQJegQIEhAB&biw=430&bih=739&dpr=3
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:29:25.000 PM
Web Page Title	getting investigated by ncis site:www.reddit.com - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529671
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 46736
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529806

Record 14

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	getting investigated by ncis site:www.reddit.com
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=getting+investigated+by+ncis+site:www.reddit.com&client=safari&sca_esv=cbe0386980f25f64&hl=en-us&prmd=niv&sxsrf=AE3TifPvcQoZp1Nq9Po9lUcV7hyfdBHsXw:1748193414596&udm=18&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjy8-b7j7-NAxXXEFkFHcTvH4MQrQJ6BAh0EAY&biw=430&bih=739&dpr=3
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:28:05.000 PM
Web Page Title	getting investigated by ncis site:www.reddit.com - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529650
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 45612
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529807

Record 15

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	ncis took my phone
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=ncis+took+my+phone&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:30:20.000 PM
Web Page Title	ncis took my phone - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529677
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 47648
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529808

Record 16

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	can ncis take your phone off allegations
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+ncis+take+your+phone+off+allegations&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:34:35.000 PM
Web Page Title	can ncis take your phone off allegations - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529920
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 51404
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529943

Record 17

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	can police get whatspps
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+get+whatspps&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari

Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:36:40.000 PM
Web Page Title	can police get whatsapp - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529927
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 52840
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	529975

Record 18

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	can police fet infirmation from reset phone
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+fet+infirmation+from+reset+phone&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:36:00.000 PM
Web Page Title	can police fet infirmation from reset phone - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529925
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 52344
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	530007

Record 19

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	can police get my whatsapp messages if they have my ohone
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+get+my+whatsapp+messages+if+they+have+my+ohone&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:43:40.000 PM
Web Page Title	can police get my whatsapp messages if they have my ohone - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	530001
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 56204
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	530037

Record 20

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	can police get encrypted messages
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+get+encrypted+messages&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:41:00.000 PM
Web Page Title	can police get encrypted messages - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529991
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 54784
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3

Item ID	530047

Record 21

Tags	Internet Searches
Search Term	can police deleted get whatsapp
URL	https://www.google.com/search?q=can+police+deleted+get+whatsapp&client=safari&sca_esv=cbe0386980f25f64&hl=en-us&sxsrf=AE3TifNf7JmCHFaJ-hjE6nPCZ38p3z1cfg%3A1748194596282&ei=JFUzaN_8EMzV5NoPp-ObiAI&oq=can+police+deleted+get+whatsapp&gs_lp=EhNtb2JpbGUtZ3dzLXdpei1zZXJwIh9jYW4gcG9saWNlIGRlbGV0ZWQgZ2V0IHdoYXRzYXBwMgYQABgIGB4yBhAAGAgYHjIGEAAYCBgeMgYQABgIGB4yCxAAGIAEGIYDGIoFMgsQABiABBiGAxiKBTIIEAAYgAQYogQyCBAAGIAEGKIESOcxUJoiWKQvcAB4A5ABAJgBtgGgAb0IqgEDMC44uAEDyAEA-AEBmAIKoAL1CMICBBAAGEfCAgcQIxiwAhgnwgIHEAAYgAQYDcICBAAGAcYCBgewgIIEAAYogQYiQWYAwDiAwUSATEgQIgGAZAGCJIHAzIuOKAHs0GyBwMwLji4B-4I&sclient=mobile-gws-wiz-serp
Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:37:15.000 PM
Original Search Query	can police deleted get whatsapp
Search Session Start Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:36:36.000 PM
Previous Page Load Date/Time - UTC-05:00 (M/d/yyyy)[DST]	5/25/2025 1:36:36.000 PM
Web Page Title	can police deleted get whatsapp - Google Search
Artifact	Biome Safari History
Artifact ID	529980
Source	• 00008130-000658C23E43001C_files_full.zip\private\var\db\biome\streams\restricted_DKEvent.Safari.History\local\768439515354149
Location	• File Offset 53296
Evidence number	• NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3
Item ID	530049

U.S. ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION LABORATORY
4930 N 31ST STREET, FOREST PARK, GA 30297

DNA Report

USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Request: 0007_0003

To SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
NFFO NCIS NORFOLK FIELD OFFICE
1329 BELLINGER BLVD
BLDG U-40
Norfolk, VA 23511

Date of Report: 09 December 2025
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237
Service: DNA

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

The following results are opinions and interpretations formed using accepted scientific and professional practices. Only those exhibits below were examined for this report. Selection of the item(s) and the examination(s) conducted were based on the information available at the time of the request. If the investigative needs change, please contact USACIL at USACILCM@army.mil or 404-469-5150.

1. This report references the previous DNA Reports dated:

   10 June 2025
   05 August 2025
   15 August 2025
   20 October 2025.

2. No blood was identified on the following Exhibits:

   Exhibit 89 (Apple watch/COPELAND)
   Exhibit 90.1 (flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK)
   Exhibit 91.1 (mattress cover/SCENE-COPELAND BED)
   Exhibit 91.2 (fitted sheet/SCENE-COPELAND BED).

3. No stains indicative of blood were observed on Exhibit 91.3 (blanket/SCENE-COPELAND BED) or Exhibit 92 (mattress cover/SCENE-MONAGHAN BED).

4. Trace evidence was collected and preserved from Exhibit 91.2 by a trained individual resulting in Exhibit 91.2.1. Trace evidence, including but not limited to hairs, fibers, and other miscellaneous debris, may be present within the collected material.

5. DNA extraction procedures were performed on the following:

   Exhibit 89.1 (swab of Apple watch/COPELAND)
   Exhibit 90.1 (stain 2 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK)
   Exhibit 90.1 (stain 4 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK).

6. A DNA mixture was detected from the swab of Apple watch/COPELAND.

ANAB ANSI National Accreditation Board ACCREDITED ISO/IEC 17025 FORENSIC TESTING LABORATORY

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CUI Category: LEI/PRVCY
Limited Dissemination Control: FEDCON
POC: Records Custodian, 404-469-5150

a. The mixture is interpreted as originating from three individuals.

b. Assuming COPELAND, V/ A. R. is included as a contributor to the mixture.

c. This mixed DNA profile is at least 1.0 quintillion times more likely if it originated from COPELAND, V/ A. R. and an unknown individual than if it originated from COPELAND and two unknown individuals.

d. The remaining partial minor contributor cannot be conclusively interpreted due to an insufficient amount of DNA detected.

e. CALISSE, GILLESPIE, GORDILLOCRUZ, MONAGHAN, RICH and WILLIAMS are excluded from the interpretable results from this mixture.

7. No DNA profile foreign to COPELAND was detected from stain 2 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK or stain 4 flat sheet/SCENE-COPELAND DESK.

8. No DNA profiles were eligible for submission to CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

TECHNICAL NOTES

1. DNA profiles were detected using PCR (polymerase chain reaction) technology on twenty-one autosomal STR (short tandem repeat) loci, two Y-chromosome loci (DYS391, Y-indel) and a gender identification locus from the Applied Biosystems GlobalFiler kit.

2. The autosomal STR statistical calculations in this report were generated using STRmix™ software which calculates a fully continuous probabilistic likelihood ratio (LR). Unless otherwise noted, the most conservative LR was reported using the lower bound 99% credible interval from unrelated individuals in the U.S. Caucasian, Black, and Hispanic population groups. The population allele frequencies were obtained from the NIST 1036 U.S. Population Dataset.

A likelihood ratio is a measure of the strength of support that particular findings give to one proposition against a stated alternative, given certain conditioning information. For these reported likelihood ratios, the propositions and conditioning information were based on data from these results and current case circumstances. If any aspects of the case should change or new information is provided regarding these propositions and conditioning information, then the evaluation of these results to include the likelihood ratio may change. This will be the subject of a separate report.

The reported statistical calculation for an association will be capped at 1.0 quintillion. The actual calculated value may be higher, but not less than this number, which is equivalent to the laboratory's minimum statistical threshold.

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USACIL: 25-ATL-00931
Agency Case Number: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237

Request: 0007_0003
Date of Report: 09 December 2025

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE

Unless otherwise noted, evidence received in this case will be returned according to laboratory policy. Items may have been altered to take samples required for examination or to recover materials from the item. If recovered evidence was collected and preserved during laboratory examinations, the material is being returned with the item from which it originated.

[redacted]

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DNA Exhibit List		
Exhibit #	**Description**	**ECD/Item**
089	Electronic accessory	9BG9H
089.001	Swab(s) - Apple watch	
089.002	Electronic accessory - Apple watch charger	
090	Miscellaneous item(s)	XC7R4
090.001	Flat sheet(s)	
090.002	Miscellaneous item(s) - fabric bag	
091	Bedding	RG76Y
091.001	Bedding - mattress cover	
091.002	Fitted sheet(s)	
091.002.001	Trace evidence collection	
091.003	Blanket(s)	
092	Bedding	WKQ8E
093	Bedding	FN25T

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Tags	Floors/ Distance (meters)/ Beats Per Minute/ Steps Taken	Start Date Time/ Taken Time	End Date Time	Heart Rate Context/ Duration (Minutes)
Heart Rate	81	5/28/2025 8:01:42.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	88	5/28/2025 8:05:03.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	93	5/28/2025 8:19:54.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	91	5/28/2025 8:24:33.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	87	5/28/2025 8:30:17.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	85	5/28/2025 8:36:01.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	86	5/28/2025 8:40:03.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	96	5/28/2025 8:47:31.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	96	5/28/2025 8:52:08.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	12.48	5/28/2025 8:57:30.298 PM	5/28/2025 9:04:40.533 PM	7.17
Steps	19	5/28/2025 8:57:30.298 PM	5/28/2025 9:04:40.533 PM	7.17
Heart Rate	91	5/28/2025 8:57:53.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	92	5/28/2025 8:59:53.000 PM		Sedentary
Health Distance	2.82	5/28/2025 9:04:48.513 PM	5/28/2025 9:04:51.074 PM	0.04
Steps	4	5/28/2025 9:04:48.513 PM	5/28/2025 9:04:51.074 PM	0.04
Heart Rate	89	5/28/2025 9:06:04.000 PM		Sedentary
Health Distance	127.81	5/28/2025 9:07:39.806 PM	5/28/2025 9:17:39.031 PM	9.99
Steps	199	5/28/2025 9:07:39.806 PM	5/28/2025 9:17:39.031 PM	9.99
Health Distance	341.26	5/28/2025 9:15:56.945 PM	5/28/2025 9:25:28.065 PM	9.52
Steps	426	5/28/2025 9:15:56.945 PM	5/28/2025 9:25:28.065 PM	9.52
Health Distance	115.55	5/28/2025 9:17:39.031 PM	5/28/2025 9:25:27.613 PM	7.81
Steps	184	5/28/2025 9:17:39.031 PM	5/28/2025 9:25:27.613 PM	7.81
Health Floors	2	5/28/2025 9:18:15.244 PM	5/28/2025 9:18:35.733 PM	
Health Distance	111.28	5/28/2025 9:26:16.723 PM	5/28/2025 9:36:00.698 PM	9.73
Steps	142	5/28/2025 9:26:16.723 PM	5/28/2025 9:36:00.698 PM	9.73
Health Distance	27.05	5/28/2025 9:31:54.768 PM	5/28/2025 9:32:38.303 PM	0.73
Steps	36	5/28/2025 9:31:54.768 PM	5/28/2025 9:32:38.303 PM	0.73
Heart Rate	111	5/28/2025 9:33:28.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	20.01	5/28/2025 9:36:21.187 PM	5/28/2025 9:36:46.797 PM	0.43
Steps	469	5/28/2025 9:36:21.187 PM	5/28/2025 9:46:15.438 PM	9.9
Health Distance	34.47	5/28/2025 9:36:51.919 PM	5/28/2025 9:37:22.652 PM	0.51
Health Distance	8.47	5/28/2025 9:37:25.213 PM	5/28/2025 9:37:32.896 PM	0.13
Heart Rate	120	5/28/2025 9:38:12.000 PM		Sedentary
Health Distance	20.87	5/28/2025 9:38:47.169 PM	5/28/2025 9:39:12.781 PM	0.43
Health Distance	8.22	5/28/2025 9:39:28.148 PM	5/28/2025 9:39:35.832 PM	0.13
Health Distance	19.93	5/28/2025 9:39:58.883 PM	5/28/2025 9:40:27.058 PM	0.47
Health Distance	50.52	5/28/2025 9:40:39.866 PM	5/28/2025 9:41:08.042 PM	0.47
Health Distance	18.79	5/28/2025 9:41:15.726 PM	5/28/2025 9:41:46.465 PM	0.51
Health Distance	2.82	5/28/2025 9:41:49.026 PM	5/28/2025 9:41:51.588 PM	0.04
Heart Rate	118	5/28/2025 9:41:56.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	135	5/28/2025 9:42:06.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	134	5/28/2025 9:42:11.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	131	5/28/2025 9:42:14.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	132	5/28/2025 9:42:20.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	126	5/28/2025 9:42:24.000 PM		Streaming
Health Distance	41.9	5/28/2025 9:42:53.068 PM	5/28/2025 9:43:23.809 PM	0.51
Health Distance	39.77	5/28/2025 9:43:23.809 PM	5/28/2025 9:43:54.549 PM	0.51
Health Distance	22.15	5/28/2025 9:43:54.549 PM	5/28/2025 9:44:25.290 PM	0.51
Heart Rate	141	5/28/2025 9:44:14.000 PM		Streaming

Heart Rate	140	5/28/2025 9:44:19.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	139	5/28/2025 9:44:21.000 PM		Streaming
Health Distance	22.39	5/28/2025 9:44:27.852 PM	5/28/2025 9:44:40.660 PM	0.21
Heart Rate	142	5/28/2025 9:44:29.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	143	5/28/2025 9:44:34.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	143	5/28/2025 9:44:35.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	139	5/28/2025 9:44:40.000 PM		Streaming
Health Distance	20.94	5/28/2025 9:44:40.660 PM	5/28/2025 9:45:11.400 PM	0.51
Health Distance	38.01	5/28/2025 9:45:11.400 PM	5/28/2025 9:45:39.577 PM	0.47
Health Distance	20.73	5/28/2025 9:45:42.138 PM	5/28/2025 9:46:12.877 PM	0.51
Heart Rate	130	5/28/2025 9:46:01.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	133	5/28/2025 9:46:06.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	133	5/28/2025 9:46:08.000 PM		Streaming
Health Distance	9.71	5/28/2025 9:46:12.877 PM	5/28/2025 9:46:28.246 PM	0.26
Heart Rate	133	5/28/2025 9:46:16.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	130	5/28/2025 9:46:19.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	126	5/28/2025 9:46:22.000 PM		Streaming
Steps	143	5/28/2025 9:46:25.684 PM	5/28/2025 9:55:31.242 PM	9.09
Health Distance	6.76	5/28/2025 9:46:28.246 PM	5/28/2025 9:46:41.054 PM	0.21
Heart Rate	135	5/28/2025 9:46:31.000 PM		Streaming
Health Distance	17.86	5/28/2025 9:47:11.791 PM	5/28/2025 9:47:37.405 PM	0.43
Health Distance	9.17	5/28/2025 9:47:42.528 PM	5/28/2025 9:47:57.896 PM	0.26
Health Distance	11.97	5/28/2025 9:48:13.264 PM	5/28/2025 9:48:38.877 PM	0.43
Health Distance	15.7	5/28/2025 9:48:49.122 PM	5/28/2025 9:49:01.929 PM	0.21
Heart Rate	106	5/28/2025 9:49:08.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	101	5/28/2025 9:49:14.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	126	5/28/2025 9:49:18.000 PM		Streaming
Heart Rate	125	5/28/2025 9:49:20.000 PM		Streaming
Health Distance	57.65	5/28/2025 9:49:22.419 PM	5/28/2025 9:59:01.253 PM	9.65
Heart Rate	115	5/28/2025 9:50:15.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	62.94	5/28/2025 9:50:53.584 PM	5/28/2025 10:00:21.986 PM	9.47
Steps	86	5/28/2025 9:50:53.584 PM	5/28/2025 10:00:21.986 PM	9.47
Steps	239	5/28/2025 9:57:54.664 PM	5/28/2025 10:07:43.727 PM	9.82
Health Distance	227.56	5/28/2025 9:59:21.742 PM	5/28/2025 10:09:21.054 PM	9.99
Heart Rate	91	5/28/2025 10:06:12.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	24.36	5/28/2025 10:06:56.282 PM	5/28/2025 10:13:25.479 PM	6.49
Steps	38	5/28/2025 10:06:56.282 PM	5/28/2025 10:13:25.479 PM	6.49
Steps	357	5/28/2025 10:08:01.654 PM	5/28/2025 10:17:50.762 PM	9.82
Health Distance	269.51	5/28/2025 10:09:26.176 PM	5/28/2025 10:19:25.520 PM	9.99
Heart Rate	100	5/28/2025 10:12:17.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	103	5/28/2025 10:13:57.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	32.64	5/28/2025 10:17:41.519 PM	5/28/2025 10:27:32.966 PM	9.86
Steps	51	5/28/2025 10:17:41.519 PM	5/28/2025 10:27:32.966 PM	9.86
Steps	594	5/28/2025 10:18:11.250 PM	5/28/2025 10:27:19.338 PM	9.13
Health Distance	364.88	5/28/2025 10:19:25.520 PM	5/28/2025 10:29:09.467 PM	9.73
Heart Rate	100	5/28/2025 10:26:50.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	42.34	5/28/2025 10:28:47.212 PM	5/28/2025 10:34:07.266 PM	5.33
Steps	63	5/28/2025 10:28:47.212 PM	5/28/2025 10:34:07.266 PM	5.33
Steps	83	5/28/2025 10:29:06.906 PM	5/28/2025 10:39:01.104 PM	9.9
Health Distance	111.04	5/28/2025 10:32:06.191 PM	5/28/2025 10:41:09.160 PM	9.05
Steps	72	5/28/2025 10:39:29.278 PM	5/28/2025 10:46:57.508 PM	7.47
Heart Rate	98	5/28/2025 10:41:22.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	106	5/28/2025 10:43:59.000 PM		Background

Health Distance	102.49	5/28/2025 10:45:48.359 PM	5/28/2025 10:55:47.667 PM	9.99
Steps	215	5/28/2025 10:49:43.979 PM	5/28/2025 10:59:43.277 PM	9.99
Health Distance	28.5	5/28/2025 10:50:02.300 PM	5/28/2025 10:58:26.655 PM	8.41
Steps	44	5/28/2025 10:50:02.300 PM	5/28/2025 10:58:26.655 PM	8.41
Heart Rate	95	5/28/2025 10:54:11.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	150.27	5/28/2025 10:55:47.667 PM	5/28/2025 11:04:27.563 PM	8.66
Health Distance	11.24	5/28/2025 11:01:20.758 PM	5/28/2025 11:02:09.405 PM	0.81
Steps	18	5/28/2025 11:01:20.758 PM	5/28/2025 11:02:09.405 PM	0.81
Heart Rate	96	5/28/2025 11:02:25.000 PM		Background
Steps	60	5/28/2025 11:02:40.002 PM	5/28/2025 11:04:27.563 PM	1.79
Heart Rate	96	5/28/2025 11:05:33.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	96	5/28/2025 11:10:32.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	98	5/28/2025 11:14:32.000 PM		Sedentary
Health Distance	43.47	5/28/2025 11:16:45.306 PM	5/28/2025 11:18:22.623 PM	1.62
Steps	52	5/28/2025 11:16:45.306 PM	5/28/2025 11:18:22.623 PM	1.62
Heart Rate	109	5/28/2025 11:20:29.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	109	5/28/2025 11:20:58.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	105	5/28/2025 11:25:19.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	97	5/28/2025 11:28:37.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	19.81	5/28/2025 11:30:33.233 PM	5/28/2025 11:39:10.757 PM	8.63
Steps	25	5/28/2025 11:30:33.233 PM	5/28/2025 11:39:10.757 PM	8.63
Heart Rate	73	5/28/2025 11:35:40.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	95	5/28/2025 11:40:12.000 PM		Sedentary
Health Distance	42.08	5/28/2025 11:40:55.774 PM	5/28/2025 11:44:36.028 PM	3.67
Steps	53	5/28/2025 11:40:55.774 PM	5/28/2025 11:44:36.028 PM	3.67
Heart Rate	98	5/28/2025 11:45:48.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	101	5/28/2025 11:50:17.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	104	5/28/2025 11:54:15.000 PM		Sedentary
Health Distance	7.76	5/28/2025 11:57:37.690 PM	5/28/2025 11:57:50.496 PM	0.21
Steps	11	5/28/2025 11:57:37.690 PM	5/28/2025 11:57:50.496 PM	0.21
Heart Rate	99	5/29/2025 12:01:39.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	108	5/29/2025 12:06:14.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	104	5/29/2025 12:12:49.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	99	5/29/2025 12:14:13.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	24.54	5/29/2025 12:16:53.592 AM	5/29/2025 12:24:52.696 AM	7.99
Steps	33	5/29/2025 12:16:53.592 AM	5/29/2025 12:24:52.696 AM	7.99
Heart Rate	111	5/29/2025 12:21:11.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	100	5/29/2025 12:26:18.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	105	5/29/2025 12:31:29.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	153.82	5/29/2025 12:32:00.625 AM	5/29/2025 12:40:40.558 AM	8.67
Steps	197	5/29/2025 12:32:00.625 AM	5/29/2025 12:40:40.558 AM	8.67
Heart Rate	119	5/29/2025 12:41:07.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	433.27	5/29/2025 12:44:10.624 AM	5/29/2025 12:54:09.955 AM	9.99
Steps	569	5/29/2025 12:44:10.624 AM	5/29/2025 12:54:09.955 AM	9.99
Health Distance	65.91	5/29/2025 12:55:03.736 AM	5/29/2025 1:03:28.544 AM	8.41
Steps	89	5/29/2025 12:55:03.736 AM	5/29/2025 1:03:28.544 AM	8.41
Heart Rate	112	5/29/2025 1:00:30.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	110	5/29/2025 1:08:27.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	110	5/29/2025 1:10:51.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	83.25	5/29/2025 1:13:36.033 AM	5/29/2025 1:21:42.791 AM	8.11
Steps	118	5/29/2025 1:13:36.033 AM	5/29/2025 1:21:42.791 AM	8.11
Heart Rate	113	5/29/2025 1:17:01.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	117	5/29/2025 1:25:49.000 AM		Sedentary

Heart Rate	127	5/29/2025 1:26:01.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	146.13	5/29/2025 1:29:03.834 AM	5/29/2025 1:39:03.338 AM	9.99
Steps	183	5/29/2025 1:29:03.834 AM	5/29/2025 1:39:03.338 AM	9.99
Heart Rate	133	5/29/2025 1:29:55.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	85.08	5/29/2025 1:36:18.401 AM	5/29/2025 1:46:12.542 AM	9.9
Steps	137	5/29/2025 1:36:18.401 AM	5/29/2025 1:46:12.542 AM	9.9
Heart Rate	61	5/29/2025 1:37:07.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	70	5/29/2025 1:39:25.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	87.4	5/29/2025 1:40:35.545 AM	5/29/2025 1:49:28.376 AM	8.88
Steps	106	5/29/2025 1:40:35.545 AM	5/29/2025 1:49:28.376 AM	8.88
Heart Rate	61	5/29/2025 1:48:01.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	17.06	5/29/2025 1:48:18.027 AM	5/29/2025 1:48:25.711 AM	0.13
Steps	23	5/29/2025 1:48:18.027 AM	5/29/2025 1:48:25.711 AM	0.13
Heart Rate	125	5/29/2025 1:52:58.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	128	5/29/2025 1:58:22.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	100.09	5/29/2025 1:59:09.999 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:20.690 AM	9.18
Steps	130	5/29/2025 1:59:09.999 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:20.690 AM	9.18
Health Distance	98.94	5/29/2025 2:01:14.846 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:22.464 AM	7.13
Steps	144	5/29/2025 2:01:14.846 AM	5/29/2025 2:08:22.464 AM	7.13
Heart Rate	125	5/29/2025 2:09:31.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	35.34	5/29/2025 2:09:42.668 AM	5/29/2025 2:16:55.754 AM	7.22
Steps	48	5/29/2025 2:09:42.668 AM	5/29/2025 2:16:55.754 AM	7.22
Health Distance	44.57	5/29/2025 2:13:11.817 AM	5/29/2025 2:22:35.325 AM	9.39
Steps	69	5/29/2025 2:13:11.817 AM	5/29/2025 2:22:35.325 AM	9.39
Heart Rate	122	5/29/2025 2:15:46.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	46.35	5/29/2025 2:20:00.199 AM	5/29/2025 2:28:50.683 AM	8.84
Steps	60	5/29/2025 2:20:00.199 AM	5/29/2025 2:28:50.683 AM	8.84
Heart Rate	126	5/29/2025 2:21:30.000 AM		Sedentary
Health Distance	18.64	5/29/2025 2:24:12.676 AM	5/29/2025 2:33:51.863 AM	9.65
Steps	26	5/29/2025 2:24:12.676 AM	5/29/2025 2:33:51.863 AM	9.65
Heart Rate	129	5/29/2025 2:28:04.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	128	5/29/2025 2:30:23.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	105.5	5/29/2025 2:33:48.096 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:32.126 AM	9.73
Steps	119	5/29/2025 2:33:48.096 AM	5/29/2025 2:43:32.126 AM	9.73
Heart Rate	69	5/29/2025 2:37:32.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	64.63	5/29/2025 2:39:09.393 AM	5/29/2025 2:47:46.720 AM	8.62
Steps	95	5/29/2025 2:39:09.393 AM	5/29/2025 2:47:46.720 AM	8.62
Health Distance	44.08	5/29/2025 2:45:17.221 AM	5/29/2025 2:51:44.090 AM	6.45
Steps	51	5/29/2025 2:45:17.221 AM	5/29/2025 2:51:44.090 AM	6.45
Heart Rate	75	5/29/2025 2:53:19.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	78	5/29/2025 2:56:24.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	23.69	5/29/2025 2:56:54.043 AM	5/29/2025 2:57:19.656 AM	0.43
Steps	32	5/29/2025 2:56:54.043 AM	5/29/2025 2:57:19.656 AM	0.43
Heart Rate	67	5/29/2025 3:02:17.000 AM		Background
Heart Rate	130	5/29/2025 3:07:06.000 AM		Background
Health Distance	39.14	5/29/2025 3:26:18.770 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:11.462 AM	1.88
Steps	58	5/29/2025 3:26:18.770 AM	5/29/2025 3:28:11.462 AM	1.88
Health Distance	4.61	5/29/2025 7:39:51.086 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:56.206 AM	0.09
Steps	7	5/29/2025 7:39:51.086 AM	5/29/2025 7:39:56.206 AM	0.09
Health Distance	41.6	5/29/2025 8:54:33.714 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:41.307 AM	7.13
Steps	64	5/29/2025 8:54:33.714 AM	5/29/2025 9:01:41.307 AM	7.13
Health Distance	112.13	5/29/2025 9:22:05.299 AM	5/29/2025 9:24:54.296 AM	2.82
Steps	159	5/29/2025 9:22:05.299 AM	5/29/2025 9:24:54.296 AM	2.82

Health Distance	13.69	5/29/2025 9:33:46.912 AM	5/29/2025 9:33:59.716 AM	0.21
Steps	23	5/29/2025 9:33:46.912 AM	5/29/2025 9:33:59.716 AM	0.21
Heart Rate	84	5/29/2025 11:53:29.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	84	5/29/2025 11:55:39.000 AM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	81	5/29/2025 12:01:29.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	86	5/29/2025 12:05:28.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	85	5/29/2025 12:12:36.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	83	5/29/2025 12:14:43.000 PM		Sedentary
Heart Rate	94	5/29/2025 12:23:19.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	88	5/29/2025 12:27:39.000 PM		Background
Heart Rate	84	5/29/2025 12:29:33.000 PM		Background
Health Distance	0.5	5/29/2025 2:08:08.349 PM	5/29/2025 2:08:10.910 PM	0.04
Steps	1	5/29/2025 2:08:08.349 PM	5/29/2025 2:08:10.910 PM	0.04
Health Distance	13.57	5/29/2025 4:53:24.654 PM	5/29/2025 4:53:32.336 PM	0.13
Steps	21	5/29/2025 4:53:24.654 PM	5/29/2025 4:53:32.336 PM	0.13

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 December 25**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 10 December 2025, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on10 December 2025, and AEs XXXIV, XXXV, XLII, and XLIII.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of December 2025.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **Jermiah Copeland** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**DEFENSE NOTICE OF PLEAS AND FORUM** **18 Dec 2025**

1. **Forum Election.** Pursuant to RCM 903(b), CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN, elects trial by a court composed of **Members with Enlisted Representation.**

[redacted]
J. T. COPELAND
CSSN, USN

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN

****

Certificate of Service

I certify that a copy of the foregoing notice of pleas and forum selection was electronically served on this Court and trial counsel on 18 December 2025.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF EXPERT CONSULTANTS** **22 DECEMBER 2025**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charge and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed four motions seeking the production of an expert consultant in Pathology,[1] an expert Mitigation Specialist,[2] an expert consultant in memory and human reaction,[3] and an expert in sexual sadistic behavior,[4] respectively. The Government responded with a single filing on 5 December 2025[5] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence.[6]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) X.
[2] AE XIV.
[3] AE XXIV.
[4] AE XXVI.
[5] AE IX.
[6] Rule for Court Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

Facts Related to Production of Expert Consultant in Pathology

a. On 9 June 2025, the remains of CS3 A.R. were found in a secluded area of Norfolk. An autopsy was performed on 10 June 2025 by Dr. Fernanda Lameira of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

b. Also on 9 June 2025, CSSN Jermiah Copeland entered pretrial confinement upon being suspected of numerous violations of the UCMJ, including sexual assault and the premeditated murder of CSSN A.R.

c. The autopsy performed by Dr. Lameira resulted in an "undetermined" cause of death. Dr. Lameira has been identified as a Government witness for trial. She testify regarding her medical findings and the conduct of the autopsy.

e. A second private autopsy was performed by Dr. Nemanja Rodic on 28 June 2025. This autopsy concludes the manner of death is "deferred."

f. On 24 October 2025, the Defense requested the assistance of Dr. Priya Banerjee as an expert consultant prior to, and for trial. Dr. Banerjee indicated she could be of assistance in the matter and that her schedule would allow her participation. She also noted that she is already in the federal payment system and has worked with the military before.

g. On 5 November 2025, the Government responded to the Defense request, acknowledging that the assistance of a forensic pathologist was necessary for the Defense, but denied Dr. Banerjee because her fees of $850 per hour "far exceed" a reasonable hourly rate. The Manual of the Judge Advocate General (JAGMAN) section 0146(l) authorizes compensation for experts in line with compensation paid to experts by U.S. Attorneys. The presumptive rate for a medical doctor is between $275 and $400/hour. The Government indicated that they would "assist Defense in finding and adequate substitute for this expert."

h. On 14 November 2025, defense counsel reached out to the Government to determine, among other things, if the Government had identified an adequate substitute for Dr. Banerjee. In response to the request the Government sent a list a forensic pathologists and some limited contact information. The list provided by the Government did not identify any fee structures, resumes, or availability for the proposed substitutes.

i. At the hearing on the motion, the Government conceded that the defense was entitled to an expert consultant in Pathology. The Court ordered the Government to provide an adequate

substitute, complete with resume/curriculum vitae, fee structure, and their dates of availability to the defense by 19 December 2025.

j. On 19 December 2025, Government counsel notified the defense and the court that they had identified an adequate substitute, Dr. Matshes.

Facts Related to Production of an Expert Mitigation Specialist

k. The maximum punishment for the violation of Article 118 on its own is life without the possibility of parole. The mandatory minimum for a violation of the charged violation of Article 118 is life with the possibility of parole.

l. On 22 October 2025, the defense submitted a request to the Office of Special Trial Counsel for an expert mitigation specialist. On 5 November 2025, the trial counsel responded to the request denying the request.

Facts Related to Production of an Expert Consultant in Memory and Human Reaction

m. The Accused and CSSN S.S. were both assigned to the USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS and were on a port call in Oslo, Norway on 4 November 2024 and were consuming alcohol together at Heidi's Bier Bar.

n. There are differing accounts from Sailors regarding CSSN S.S.'s level of intoxication, as well as the amount of alcohol consumed by CSSN S.S. Some relay that she seemed very drunk, while others did not believe she appeared overly intoxicated.

o. CSSN J. K. relayed to investigators that she had seen a video of sexual interactions between the Accused and CSSN S.S. on the night it occurred, yet later in the same night CSSN S.S. and the Accused had continued to drink and hang out together before returning to the ship.

p. The Government alleges that the Accused followed CSSN S.S. into a bathroom and proceeded to penetrate her vagina with his penis. CSSN S.S. has no memory of these events, however, other witnesses recalled CSSN S.S. and the Accused enter the bathroom together. CSSN S.S. alleges that her friends later informed her that the Accused had shown them a video of himself and CSSN S.S. having sexual intercourse in the bathroom of Heidi's Bier Bar.

q. One witness informed NCIS agents investigating the allegations that she had seen CSSN S.S. in the same restroom after the incident and she was applying lip gloss and did not exhibit symptoms of being overly intoxicated.

r. CSSN S.S. informed investigators that she did not remember the sexual intercourse, but the following morning she felt "cramps" and her vagina was "swollen."

s. Upon investigation into the unauthorized absence of CS3 A.R. in May and June of 2025, NCIS determined that CS3 A.R. was seen with the Accused on the last morning anyone saw her.

t. FCC Brad Parker saw CS3 A.R. with the Accused on the morning of 29 May 2025 and the Accused's suite mates saw CS3 A.R. with the Accused around 0600 on the morning of 29 May 2025.

u. On 9 June 2025, the remains of CS3 A.R. were located by investigators and a subsequent autopsy resulted in an "undetermined" cause of death.

v. On 24 October 2025, the Defense requested the assistance of Dr. Reagan Wetherill as an expert consultant in forensic psychology, specifically, the psychology surrounding a person's fight or flight response and the effect of alcohol on memory. On 7 November 2025, the Government denied the request, in part, because the defense failed to articulate why their other approved forensic psychologist, Dr. Nameeta Sahni, could not provide the same assistance.

Facts Related to Production of an Expert Consultant in Sexual Sadistic Behavior

w. On 23 July 2024, while onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75), ABHAN C.R. and the Accused decided to hang after out and went to the fantail of the ship. While on the fantail, the two carried on a causal conversation until eventually talking about ABHAN C.R.'s boyfriend and her romantic life. The Accused suggested to ABHAN C.R. that she should engage in sexual activity with him to upset her boyfriend, but ABHAN C.R. declined.

x. ABHAN C.R. alleges that the Accused told her he heard that she liked to choked and then strangled her.

y. The medical examiner who conducted CS3 A.R.'s autopsy could not eliminate strangulation as a possible cause of death.

z. On 24 October 2025, the defense submitted a request to the Office of Special Trial counsel to Dr. Jamie Dickson, Psy.D., a sexual sadistic behavior expert, as a consultant and potential witness. The Defense seeks Dr. Dickson to educate members about the normality of strangulation or choking in a sexual manner and to assist with presenting an alternative theory to the Government's claim that the Accused committed the premeditated murder of CS3 A.R.

aa. On 7 November 2025, the trial counsel denied the request.

ab. Additional facts necessary to resolve the issues are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 703(d)(2) provides when the "employment of a Defense expert consultant is considered necessary" the Defense may request government funding for that

expert "in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned." Indeed, the requirement that the government provide for expert consultation stems from the Due Process demand that an accused be given the "basic tools" necessary to present a Defense.[7] An accused has a right to the assistance of an expert upon a showing of necessity.[8] In order to determine necessity, courts apply a two-pronged test: "[T]he accused has the burden of establishing that a reasonable probability exists that (1) an expert would be of assistance to the defense and (2) that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[9] The first prong of that test is demonstrated by satisfying three conditions:

> First, why the expert assistance is needed. Second, what would the expert assistance accomplish for the accused. Third, why is the defense counsel unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistant would be able to develop.[10]

The defense is required to show more than a mere possibility of assistance.[11]

With regard to the second prong, a trial is considered fundamentally unfair where the government's actions are "so outrageous that due process principles would absolutely bar the government from invoking judicial processes to obtain a conviction."[12] One factor courts use to determine if a trial would be fundamentally unfair is whether the content of the expert's knowledge is central to the government's case. Where scientific analysis is the "linchpin" of the government's case, the C.A.A.F. held in *United States v. McAllister* that the denial of an expert by the military judge constitutes an abuse of discretion.[13] On the other hand, where the content of the expert's expertise does not constitute the "linchpin" of the government's case, military courts have readily distinguished *McAllister*.[14]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

a. Expert Consultant in Pathology

During oral argument on the motion, the Government conceded that the defense was entitled to an expert Pathologist, but rejected the specific expert sought by the defense citing that expert's fee schedule. The court ordered the Government to provide an adequate substitute and on 19 December 2025, the government complied with the court's order and provided the defense with a government funded Pathologist. The Accused is not "entitled to a specific expert of his

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[7] *United States v. Short*, 50 M.J. 370, 373 (C.A.A.F. 1999).
[8] *United States v. Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005) (citing *United States v. Gunkle*, 55 M.J. 26, 31 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[9] *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 458 (C.A.A.F. 2006).
[10] *United States v. Gonzalez*, 39 M.J. 459, 461 (C.M.A. 1994) (citations omitted).
[11] *See Short*, 50 M.J. at 372.
[12] *United States v. Russell*, 411 U.S. 423, 431-32 (1973).
[13] *United States v. McAllister*, 55 M.J. 270, 276 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[14] *See, e.g.*, *United States v. Lloyd*, 69 M.J. 95, 100 (C.A.A.F. 2010) ("Absent a more precise explanation of the theory they hoped to pursue through the assistance of a blood spatter expert, we cannot find that the military judge abused her discretion when she denied the defense motion for expert assistance.").

own choosing."[15] Accordingly, the defense motion for a production of an expert consultant in Pathology is **GRANTED** and the Government has provided Dr. Matshes; the defense request to compel production of Dr. Banerjee as a defense expert consultant is hereby **DENIED**.[16]

b. Mitigation Specialist.

The defense argues that employment of a mitigation specialist, specifically Ms. LaValva, is necessary because Ms. LaValva brings years of experience working on criminal sentencing cases and an understanding of mitigating factors and how best to present those to the fact finder. While the defense counsel acknowledge they are experienced litigators, they are not positioned to conduct the in-depth background analysis to present the most effective sentencing case. Given the fact that the Accused faces a potential sentence of confinement without the possibility of parole, the defense avers that employment of Ms. LaValva will "help focus the defense team to areas which may provide the best mitigation evidence[.]"[17] In support of their argument, the defense cites *United States v. Kreutzer*, where the Army Court of Criminal Appeals found that a military judge abused his discretion in denying a defense request for a mitigation specialist.[18]

Kreutzer, however, is easily distinguishable. First, *Kreutzer*, was a capital case where the finality of a death sentence requires a "corresponding difference in the reliability in the determination that death is an appropriate sentence."[19] Second, the *Kreutzer* court recognized that the Accused had critical mental health issues that defense was unable to fully present at trial. Here, there is no suggestion or evidence that the Accused is suffering from a mental defect or disease.

The defense team consists of three experienced defense counsel, including the Deputy Director of the Defense Counsel Assistance Program, a defense litigation support specialist, and a government approved expert consultant in recidivism analysis, Dr. Nameeta Sahni. Dr. Sahni is a forensic psychologist specializing in psychosexual evaluation, sex offender rehabilitation, and recidivism and can assist the defense counsel is presenting a case in mitigation should the Accused be convicted. In addition, gathering and presenting mitigation evidence is a core competency for defense counsel, and the defense has not presented any evidence that this case or this Accused is so unique that expert assistance is required. True enough, the Accused is facing significant charges and significant punishment. The defense correctly points out that should the Accused be convicted of premeditated murder, he faces a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole. However, the minimum punishment following such a conviction is life with the possibility of parole. Given that the only discretion the military judge has in sentencing the Accused following a conviction for premeditated murder is a decision with respect to whether to authorize the possibility of parole on the mandatory life sentence, the defense has

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[15] *Short*, 50 M.J. at 373.
[16] Whether Dr. Matshes is an "adequate substitute" is not before the court, and the defense is free to file a separate motion if, after reviewing and speaking with Dr. Matshes, they do not find he possesses "professional qualifications reasonably comparable" to Dr. Banerjee. *See United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 120 (2005).
[17] AE XIV at 4.
[18] *See United States v. Kreutzer*, 59 M.J. 773 (A. Ct. Crim. App. 20054.
[19] *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 472 U.S. 280, 305 (1976).

failed to meet their burden to show why they cannot present the evidence without the mitigation specialist they seek.

Finally, while certainly the addition of Ms. LaValva to the defense team might prove beneficial, that is not the standard. Rather, the defense must show that the denial of her assistance would lead to a fundamentally unfair trial. Given the experience level of the defense counsel and the resources at their disposable, the defense is unable to meet their burden. Accordingly, the defense request to compel production of Ms. LaValva as a defense expert consultant is hereby **DENIED.**

c. Expert Consultant in Memory and Human Reaction.

With respect to the defense request to employ Dr. Wetherill as an expert on human memory and reaction, the defense argues that expertise is required to assist the defense specifically with respect to Charge I, Specification 3 alleging that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S. when she was incapable of consenting because she was impaired by alcohol; and with respect to the sole Specification of Charge VII, which alleges that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

CSSN S.S. does not remember any sexual encounter with the Accused and may have been "blacked out." Witnesses describe her interactions with the Accused and provide additional details about CSSN S.S. on the night in question that she does not remember. As a result, the defense seeks to employ Dr. Wetherill to fully understand and appreciate the effect of alcohol on CSSN S.S.'s ability to create and retain memories, as well as her ability to perform executive and motor functioning.

With respect to the Dr. Wetherill's expertise in "fight or flight" the defense contends that she can assist the defense understand alternate theories of death and subsequent responses that the Accused might have had which can then explain the attendant extenuating circumstances.

In order to prove that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S. the Government must prove not only that CSSN S.S. was incapable of consenting, but that the Accused reasonable should have known that CSSN S.S. was incapable of consenting. Witnesses saw CSSN S.S. interacting with others at the bar on the night of the alleged sexual assault and CSSN S.S. does not have memories of all those interactions. Thus, her interactions with the Accused and her lack of memory of those interactions, is critical evidence for the defense to explore. An expert in the field of human memory and the effects of alcohol on memory will help the defense understand whether the Accused's perceptions of CSSN S.S. were reasonable. Simply put, whether CSSN S.S. was capable of consenting, and whether or not the Accused should have known that, are "linchpins" in the government's case and Dr. Wetherill's assistance in explaining how alcohol effects memory are necessarily scientific in nature and beyond the expertise of even diligent counsel.

Likewise, Dr. Wetherill's expertise is necessary to assist the defense understand the Accused's psyche and explain why he may have reacted in the manner he's alleged to have acted

and taken the actions he's alleged to have taken in the wake of CS3 A.R.'s disappearance. Accordingly, the defense has satisfied their burden and the motion to compel production of Dr. Wetherill as an expert in memory and human reaction is hereby **GRANTED.**

d. Expert Consultant in Sexual Sadistic Behavior.

The defense contends that employment of Dr. Jamie Dickson, as an expert consultant in Sexual Sadistic Behavior is necessary because the circumstances surrounding the incident with ABHAN C.R. indicate that she "liked to be strangled in a sexual manner[,]"[20] and to defend against a Government theory that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. Specifically, with respect to the murder charge, the defense claims Dr. Dickson is necessary to assist the defense in developing and presenting an alternative theory to the Government's claim that the Accused committed the premeditated murder of CS3 A.R; that Dr. Dickson can explain that strangulation as a sexual kink is normal and that there is a possibility of unintentional deaths during sex.

In response, the Government argues that there is simply no evidentiary basis for this sexual-behavior expertise; that there is no evidence that any of the Accused's alleged victims had any predilection for sexual choking.

First, the court agrees that there has been no evidence that either ABHAN C.R. or CS3 A.R. liked to be choked or otherwise engaged in any sort of sado-masochistic behavior. The defense's theory relies solely on the Accused's statement to ABHAN C.R. that he *heard she liked to be choked*. That the Accused would make that statement, however, says *something* about his own sexual interests. This becomes more important when coupled with the other evidence the Government seeks to introduce in this case. The Accused is charged with strangling ABHAN C.R. at or near the same time he is alleged to have committed an aggravated sexual contact against her; and he is charged with strangling an intimate partner, CSSN S.R. Further, the last time anyone saw CS3 A.R., she was laying partially naked with the Accused, and the Government's stated theory is that the Accused strangled CS3 A.R. Given the Accused's statement to ABHAN C.R. and his history of strangling female love interests,[21] the defense has met their burden to show that production of Dr. Dickson as a defense expert in sadistic sexual behavior is necessary. Accordingly, the motion defense motion with respect to Dr. Dickson is hereby **GRANTED.**

[20] AE XXVI at 3.
[21] Notably, the Government seeks to introduce evidence pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence 404(b) that the Accused strangled ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R. to prove a common scheme, motive, and intent to strangle CS3 A.R. *See* AE XIX at 1-2.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion to Compel Production of Expert Consultants, as detailed herein, is hereby **GRANTED in part, and DENIED in part.**

So ordered this 22nd day of December, 2025.



F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

From:	Hutchison, F D (Frank) CAPT USN NAVMARJUDIC DC (USA)
To:	Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Cc:	Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Kim, Jason Jinhong Lee LCDR USN (USA); TRIJUDAC_CENTRAL_COURT_REPORTERS; Jackson, Cynthia B PO1 USN NAVMARJUDIC DC (USA)
Subject:	CUI - NOTICE OF RULING - MOTION TO COMPEL WITNESS PRODUCTION
Date:	Monday, December 22, 2025 2:41:47 PM

Counsel – This email provides notice of the court's ruling on the Defense's motion to compel witness production (AE XXX) and the Government's response (AE LVI).

The court finds that each of the following witnesses is relevant and necessary pursuant to R.C.M. 703(b)(1):

1. CSSN Junrogel Miguel
2. Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez
3. Dr. Nemanja Rodic.

Accordingly, the defense motion is hereby **GRANTED.**

This ruling does not guarantee that any particular evidence or testimony provided by these witnesses is admissible.

Court reporting – Please mark this exhibit as the next Appellate Exhibit in order.

R/
CAPT Hutchison

_____

Frank D. Hutchison
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Circuit Military Judge
Central Judicial Circuit
(757-341-4576

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS** **(FAILURE TO STATE AN OFFENSE)** **8 JANUARY 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion to dismiss Charge VII and its sole specification alleging it failed to state an offense.[1] The Government responded on 5 December 2025[2] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of the evidence.[3]

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) XXXVIII.
[2] AE L.
[3] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

a. In Charge VII and the sole specification thereunder, CSSN Copeland is charged with violating Article 118 (Premeditated Murder):

> In that Culinary Specialist Seaman Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 29 May 2025, with premeditation, murder CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, by means of an act of the Accused.

b. On 15 October 2025, the defense requested a bill of particulars.

c. On 5 November 2025, the government provided a response to the defense's request explaining that it "is not required to prove a specific act caused CS3 A.R's death." But the Government did outline that it intended to "present evidence that CS3 A.R.'s death was consistent with strangulation by the Accused," including evidence as separately detailed and noticed under M.R.E. 404(b).

d. The remains of CS3 A.R. were extremely decayed upon recovery after her body was found in the woods after she had missing for several days. A conclusive manner of murder has not been identified.

4. Statement of Law.

The military is a notice pleading jurisdiction.[4] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 307(c)(3) states that a specification must "allege[ ] every element of the charged offense expressly or by necessary implication." A charge is sufficient if it "contains the elements of the offense charged and fairly informs a defendant of the charge against which he must defend" and "enables him to plead an acquittal or conviction in bar of future prosecutions for the same offense."[5] Therefore, a specification must: (1) allege every element of the charged offense expressly or by necessary implication; and (2) protect the accused from double jeopardy.[6]

"It is axiomatic that in determining the scope of a statute, [courts] look first to its language."[7] Although the President "has the power to prescribe regulations for trial procedures, including modes of proof, for cases arising under the UCMJ," that power does not extend to Part IV of the Manual for Courts-Martial (M.C.M.) and thus courts are not bound by the President's interpretation of the elements of substantive offenses.[8] "However, when the President's narrowing construction of a statute does not contradict the express language of a statute, it is entitled to some deference, and [courts] will not normally disturb that construction."[9]

Article 118(1) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (U.C.M.J.) states: "Any person subject to this chapter who, without justification or excuse, unlawfully kills a human being, when

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[4] *United States v. Fosler*, 70 M.J. 225, 229 (C.A.A.F. 2011).
[5] *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87, 117 (1974).
[6] *Fosler*, 70 M.J. at 229.
[7] *United States v. Wilson*, 76 M.J. 4, 6 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (quoting *United States v. Murphy*, 74 M.J. 302, 305 (C.A.A.F. 2015)).
[8] *Id.* (citing Article 36, UCMJ; and *United States v. Davis*, 47 M.J. 484, 486 (C.A.A.F. 1998)).
[9] *Id.* (citations omitted).

such person has a premeditated design to kill is guilty of murder[.]"[10] In paragraph 56(b)(1) of the M.C.M., the President prescribed the following elements for premeditated murder:

(a) That a certain named or described person is dead;
(b) That the death resulted from the act or omission of the accused;
(c) That the killing was unlawful; and
(d) That, at the time of the killing, the accused had a premeditated design to kill.

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The defense argues that the sole specification of Charge VII fails to state an offense because the specification fails to allege what specific act by the Accused caused CS3 A.R.'s death. Failing to identify the specific act, the defense argues, deprives the Accused of his Constitutionally required notice. In support of this argument, the defense relies on *United States v. Richard*, an opinion from the United States Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals.[11] In that case, Petty Officer Richard was charged with intentional murder but convicted by the members of the lesser included offense of involuntary manslaughter, after the military judge instructed the members that "involuntary manslaughter was a lesser included offense of the intentional murder specification and required proof that [the victim's] death resulted from the act of the accused by asphyxia."[12] The court held that simply alleging "by asphyxia" failed to provide the Accused proper notice because "asphyxia" describes a medical cause of death and "not what, if any, act or omission by another human actor may have brought that about."[13] In short, a person could die from asphyxia totally unrelated to any act or omission done by another person. Accordingly, the Coast Guard court held that the specification failed to state an offense because it did not allege *any* act or omission on the part of that Accused.

The defense argument is unpersuasive. Put simply, the statutory elements of premeditated murder in this case are that the Accused 1) without justification or excuse; 2) unlawfully killed CS3 A.R.; and 3) when he had a premeditated design to kill. The Sole Specification of Charge VII alleges each of those elements.

But even applying the descriptive elements provided by the President, which includes as an element that the death resulted from an act or omission of the Accused, the defense argument still fails. First, the specification at issue here is markedly different than the one in *Richard*. Unlike the specification in *Richard*, the Sole Specification of Charge VII does, in fact, allege by necessary implication that CS3 A.R.'s death resulted from the act of the Accused; specifically alleging that the Accused murdered her "by means of an act of the Accused." Thus, it alleges that the Accused *committed an act*, even if it doesn't allege any specific act. It is, nonetheless, sufficient to fairly inform him of the charge against him and to protect him against double jeopardy. Indeed, our superior court has upheld an intentional murder conviction against a legal sufficiency argument where the specification alleged only that the murder was done by an

[10] 10 U.S.C. § 918(1).
[11] 84 M.J. 586 (U.S.C.G. Ct. Crim. App. 2024).
[12] *Id.* at 589 (internal citations omitted).
[13] *Id.* at 590.

"unknown act of unlawful force or violence."[14] In *United States v. Elmore*, the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Military Review held that the Government was not required to prove any specific act, and in Elmore's case could not do so because his victim's body was never found. Rather, the court recognized the principle of *corpus delicti* which required the Government prove that the alleged victim was dead, and that the death was the result of "some criminal agency."[15] Accordingly his conviction for intentional murder by some "unknown act of unlawful force or violence" was legally sufficient.[16]

Elmore is instructive. Although it dealt specifically with a post-conviction legal sufficiency challenge, the court's analysis is applicable here. Although CS3 A.R's body was recovered, no conclusive cause of death can be ascertained because of the significant decay to her remains at the time she was found. As a result, the Government is unable to definitively allege a specific act of the Accused. But, as was the case in *Elmore*, the Government will attempt to prove the elements of *corpus delecti* – that CS3 A.R. is dead and that her death was the result of some criminal agency on the part of the Accused.

Finally, to require that the Government allege any more than they are doing here would require the Government to know with some degree of certainty what specific act caused a murder victim's death. Such a requirement would preclude prosecution in cases where no body was ever found, such as *Elmore*, or when no cause of death can be definitively ascertained. Here, the Government has alleged, either expressly or by necessary implication, each element of premeditated murder; there is no requirement that any specific act need be alleged.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion to Dismiss, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED**.

So ordered this 8th day of January, 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

[14] *United States v. Elmore*, 31 M.J. 678, 690 (N-M. Ct. Crim. Rev. 1990).
[15] *Id.* at 683 (citations omitted).
[16] *Id.* at 690.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO MILITARY RULE OF EVIDENCE 413** **14 JANUARY 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion[1] to exclude evidence cited in the Government's notice pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 413, specifically that "[i]n June 2022, the Accused touched L.L.'s vulva and kissed her without consent despite her repeatedly removing his hand and telling him 'stop' and 'no.'"[2]

The Government responded on 5 December 2025[3] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

As the proponent of the evidence, the burden of proof and persuasion rests on the Government; the standard as to any factual issue necessary to resolve this motion is to a preponderance of the evidence.[4]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) XVIII.
[2] AE XIX at 15.
[3] AE LX
[4] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

a. The Accused is charged with committing an aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R. on or about 24 July 2024 and with sexually assaulting Ms. Y.J on or about 25 May 2025.

b. On 5 November 2025, the Government provided notices pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 413 seeking to admit evidence that in June 2022, while he was 17 years-old and in high school, the Accused touched L.L. on her vulva with his hand, without her consent.

c. The Accused went to high school in Oak Harbor, Washington. In June 2022, L.L. was 15 years-old and went to the same high school as the Accused. The two previously dated.

d. L.L. was at the home of Stephanie Johnson, her mother's best friend, with several other individuals including Ms. Johnson's boyfriend and her four sons. While there, she says that the Accused made advances and tried to kiss her and touch her "private area." She moved his hand away and said no. No one else in the house saw anything and there is no indication that she reported anything to the adults in the house.

e. On 11 July 2022, L.L. was the subject of a child forensic interview regarding these allegations. During the forensic interview L.L. stated that she was not supposed to be hanging out with the Accused but her mother found out he was at the same house with her and texted her, reminding her that she was not supposed to be with the Accused.

f. The police interviewed Ms. Johnson's oldest son, who was in the house at the time of this alleged assault. According to this individual, while the Accused and L.L. were on the couch together, the two were giggling and everything seemed fine.

g. Additional facts necessary to resolve the motion are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

Military Rule of Evidence (Mil R. Evid.) 413(a) provides that in a court-martial proceeding for a sexual offense, the military judge may admit evidence that the accused committed any other sexual offense. The evidence may be considered on any matter to which it is relevant.

Although the appellate courts have noted that "inherent in [Mil. R. Evid.] 413 is a general presumption in favor of admission[,]" they have also emphasized that the presumption may be overcome, and that the Constitution requires a "thorough balancing test" under Mil. R. Evid. 403.[5] In *United States v. Berry*, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) instructed,

[5] *United States v. Berry*, 61 M.J. 91, 95 (C.A.A.F. 2005) (internal citations omitted).

that in order to admit evidence pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 413, three threshold requirements must be met.[6] First, the accused must be charged with an offense of sexual assault; second, "[t]he evidence proffered is evidence of the defendant's commission of another offense of . . . sexual assault"; and third, the evidence is relevant under Mil. R. Evid. 401 and 402.[7] Importantly, to meet the second requirement, the military judge must conclude that the members "could find by [a] preponderance of the evidence that the offenses occurred[.]"[8] Once these initial tests have been satisfied, the court must carefully apply the Mil. R. Evid. 403 balancing test, under which the testimony may be excluded if its "probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the members."

With respect to the first and second requirements under *Berry*, a "sexual offense" means an offense punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), or a crime under federal or state law involving: (1) an offense punishable under Article 120, UCMJ; (2) conduct prohibited by 18 U.S.C. chapter 109A; (3) contact, without consent, between any part of the Accused's body, or an object held or controlled by the accused, and another person's genitals or anus; (4) contact, without consent, between the Accused's genitals or anus and any part of another person's body; (5) contact with the aim of deriving sexual pleasure or gratification from inflicting death, bodily injury, or physical pain on another person; or a state law any of these methods; and (6) an attempt or conspiracy to engage in the previously described conduct.[9] Importantly, to meet the second requirement, the military judge must conclude that the members "could find by [a] preponderance of the evidence that the offenses occurred[.]"[10]

Regarding *Berry's* third requirement, relevant evidence is "evidence having any tendency to make the existence of any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action more probable or less probable than it would be without the evidence;" and "the fact is of consequence in determining the action."[11] Likewise, "[i]rrelevant evidence is not admissible."[12] Indeed, "[r]elevancy has two components: (1) probative value, the relationship between the evidence and the proposition it is offered to prove; and (2) materiality, the relationship between the proposition the evidence is offered to prove and the facts at issue in the case."[13] Evidence of other sexual offenses is relevant to show propensity in sexual offense cases.[14]

Once these initial tests have been satisfied, the court must carefully apply the Mil. R. Evid. 403 balancing test, under which the testimony may be excluded if its "probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the members." "The importance of a careful balancing arises from the potential for undue

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[6] *Id.*
[7] *Id.* (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).
[8] *United States v. Wright*, 53 M.J. 476, 483 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (quoting *Huddleston v. United States*, 485 U.S. 681, 689-90 (1988)).
[9] Mil. R. Evid. 413(d).
[10] *United States v. Wright*, 53 M.J. 476, 483 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (quoting *Huddleston v. United States*, 485 U.S. 681, 689-90 (1988)).
[11] Mil. R. Evid. 401.
[12] Mil. R. Evid. 402(b).
[13] *United States v. James*, 63 M.J. 217, 221 (C.A.A.F. 2006) (citations omitted).
[14] *See Id.*

prejudice that is inevitably present when dealing with propensity evidence."[15]

The *Berry* court reiterated and expanded on the non-exhaustive list of factors provided in *United States v. Wright* that a military judge should consider in conducting the balancing test under Mil. R. Evid. 403.[16] Those factors include: "the strength of the proof of the prior act; the probative weight of the evidence; the potential to present less prejudicial evidence; the possible distraction of the fact-finder; the time needed to prove the prior conduct; the temporal proximity of the prior event; the frequency of the acts; the presence of any intervening circumstances; and the relationship between the parties."[17]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The defense seeks to bar the government from admitting evidence that while in high school in June 2022, the Accused touched L.L.'s vulva with his hand without her consent.[18] The first of Mil. R. Evid. 413's threshold factors is easily met, as the Accused is charged with violating Article 120, UCMJ, by sexually assaulting ABHAN C.R and Ms. Y.J.[19] The second factor is closer. Although the Government alleges that the Accused committed another sexual offense in that he touched L.L.'s vulva with his hand—a potential "sexual offense" under Mil. R. Evid. 413(d)(3)—the evidence is less clear that he did so without the consent of L.L. Thus, there is a question whether the members could find by a preponderance of the evidence that the Accused did touch L.L.'s vulva without her consent. But even assuming that second threshold requirement is met, after the weighing the *Wright* factors in conducting the Mil. R. Evid. 403 balancing test, the court concludes that the evidence is inadmissible under Mil. R. Evid. 413.

First, the strength of proof of the prior act—the alleged nonconsensual touching of L.L.'s vulva—is relatively weak and based entirely on L.L.'s statements. As noted above, in analyzing this factor, the "prior act" includes not simply the alleged touching or contact, but the lack of consent alleged. In other words, proof that the Accused and L.L. engaged in some sort of sexual activity is not enough. Rather the evidence must also show the requisite *mens rea* and lack of consent on the part of L.L. Although there were other individuals in the house during the alleged assault, they had left the room before the alleged incident and cannot corroborate the underlying allegation. Witnesses did, however, see L.L. and the Accused interacting prior to the alleged assault and one described them sitting together and L.L giggling.

Second, there is great risk that introduction of this prior allegation of another sexual offense will distract the fact-finder and require significant time to prove. At a minimum, L.L. and the other witnesses who saw her and the Accused interact just prior to the alleged incident will be

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[15] *James*, 63 M.J. at 222.
[16] *Id.*
[17] *Berry*, 61 M.J. at 95 (citing *Wright*, 53 M.J. at 482).
[18] In their response to the defense motion, the Government withdrew its notice to introduce kissing L.L. without consent as direct evidence under Mil. R. Evid. 413, but seeks its admission as *res gestae* of the sexual contact that occurred. *See* AE LX at 34.
[19] The Accused is also charged with sexually assaulting CSSN S.S., but the Government's Mil. R. Evid. 413 notice specifically seeks admission of the evidence related to L.L. as relevant for the allegations involving ABHAN C.R. and Ms. Y.J. *See* AE XIX at 18.

required to testify. Even if the Government chooses not to call the witnesses who saw L.L. and the Accused interact, the defense certainly could. In addition, there was a prior relationship between L.L. and the Accused. The full extent of the relationship between the two would likely be explored, including their prior dating history, and their subsequent interactions. In short, the Government will necessarily have to put on a trial within a trial to prove the allegations raised by L.L. and their nonconsensual nature.

There is also no relationship between L.L. and either ABHAN C.R. or Ms. Y.J. and their alleged assaults did not take place in temporal proximity to each other. L.L. was a 15 year-old high school student who was allegedly assaulted at the home of her mother's best friend where she was socializing with other teenagers. ABHAN C.R. was a Sailor who was allegedly assaulted onboard a U.S. warship more than two years later after the Accused had enlisted in the Navy. Likewise, Ms. Y.J was an adult who was socializing with two Sailors in the Accused's barracks room onboard Naval Station Norfolk, nearly three years after the alleged assault on L.L. The fact that L.L. was only 15 years old at the time of the alleged assault also weighs heavily in favor of excluding the evidence. Allegations of sexual assault against a minor child are markedly different than allegations of sexual assault against an adult and could tend to enflame the trier of fact and unfairly prejudice the Accused.

Weighing the *Wright* factors together, the court concludes that the probative value of evidence of Accused's alleged pre-service assault of L.L. is substantially outweighed by the dangers of unfair prejudice as describe above.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion to Exclude Evidence pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 413, as detailed herein, is hereby **GRANTED**.

So ordered this 14th day of January, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE FOR LACK OF SPEEDY TRIAL PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, SIXTH AMENDMENT & R.C.M. 707 VIOLATIONS** **21 JAN 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion to dismiss all charges and specifications, alleging a violation of the Accused's rights to a speedy trial under Sixth Amendment of the Constitution, Article 10, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 707.[1] The Government responded on 5 December 2025[2] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

Once defense raises the issue, Government has burden of persuasion to show no denial of speedy trial.[3] "Under Article 10 [UCMJ], the Government has the burden to show that the prosecution moved forward with reasonable diligence in response to a motion to dismiss."[4]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) XX.
[2] AE XLVI.
[3] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c)(2)(B).
[4] *United States v. Mizgala*, 61 M.J. 122, 125 (C.A.A.F. 2005).

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

a. The Accused is charged with violations of Articles 107, 118, 120, 120c, 128, 128b, and 131b. The allegations involve five different named victims spanning two different commands and involving numerous percipient witnesses. The allegations include a charge of premeditated murder where the cause and manner of death cannot be conclusively determined because of the decomposition of the body, and as a result there is significant digital and forensic evidence requiring review and expert analysis.

b. On 9 June 2025, the Accused was placed into pretrial confinement at Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake where he was placed in a maximum confinee status.

c. The seven-day Initial Review Officer hearing was held on 16 June 2025, and the Accused was ordered to remain in pretrial confinement.

d. That same day, 16 June 2025, the Defense demanded speedy trial.

e. On 1 July 2025, the Government submitted a request for excludable delay from 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025. The request detailed outstanding steps including "receipt and analysis of digital evidence, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, and interviews of several witnesses."[5] The defense objected on the same day and the request was approved by the Convening Authority on 9 July 2025.

f. On 25 July 2025, the Defense demanded speedy trial for a second time. The Government neither acknowledged nor responded to this request.

g. On 8 August 2025, a second request for excludable delay was submitted for the period of 25 July 2025 through 15 August 2025. This request provided specific details on why the excludable delay was being requested, stating:

> First, as to the allegation of murder, outstanding steps include receipt of the final reports of investigation, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, a finalized toxicology report, and interviews of several witnesses. The Government is also waiting on returns from various providers relating to UCMJ Article 30a matters, and it is unclear when those results will be in the Government's possession. Second, regarding the sexual assault allegations, NCIS recently acquired information concerning pre-service incidents and a fifth post-service allegation, which may provide evidence regarding the current charges, or could constitute further charges. NCIS requires time to pursue

[5] AE XLVII at 26.

these leads by interviewing witnesses, gathering court documents, and reviewing digital evidence.[6]

h. The Defense objected to this request on 11 August 2025, and the Convening Authority granted the request on 27 August 2025.

i. On 22 August 2025, the Government preferred charges in this case.

j. On 3 September 2025, the defense was notified that the Article 32 preliminary hearing would take place on 18 September 2025 and Defense received initial discovery on 12 September 2025.

k. The charges were referred on 1 October 2025 and served on the Accused on 3 October 2025. The Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025.

l. When initially discussing dates for a joint Trial Management Order, the Defense declined the trial counsel's requested February trial dates. Instead, the defense counsel responded, "I was thinking trial in May/June/July. I seriously doubt we can get all the experts we will need ready by February. Also, I am not available 18-20 February. Is the government available mid-June?"[7]

m. Between the time the Accused was placed into pretrial confinement on 9 June 2025 and the date of arraignment on 9 October 2025, government agents and trial counsel worked nearly every day on the Accused's case:

i. On 10 Jun 2025 NCIS interviewed thirteen witnesses as part of its investigation in this case. NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) for the berthing onboard DDG-95 and their associated barge for the personal belongings of the accused, as well as for his barracks room.

ii. On 11 Jun 2025 NCIS did the following case actions: submitted a 2703(d) Court Order to Uber for a victim's account; submitted a subpoena to Navy Federal Credit Union for the accused's account; received the supplemental checks of the Defense Biometric Identification System; executed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for the search of the barracks room of HT3 Michael Gillispie, USN.

iii. Also on 11 June 2025, trial counsel conducted a VWAP interview with CS3 A.R.'s mother.

iv. On 12 June 2025, NCIS submitted a second subpoena for the NFCU account belonging to the victim (which was previously submitted on 11 June 2025).

v. On 13 June 2025, NCIS interviewed three witnesses, obtained a PASS for screenshots associated with a group chat in which the Accused was reported to have discussed the victim's death, and obtained Ring camera footage from 2820 Cary Ave., Norfolk, VA 23504 from a

[6] *Id.* at 28.
[7] *Id.* at 38.

civilian witness. NCIS also executed an additional command authorized search of the accused's barracks room.

vi. On 14 June 2025, NCIS received the results of an 18 USC 2703(d) order served to Apple for the Accused's account.

vii. On 16 June 2025, an investigatory subpoena to Cash App was submitted to NCIS and NCIS conducted a Scene Observation Document for a vehicle.

viii. On 17 June 2025, NCIS served the Cash App subpoena, received the results of a 2703(d) Court Order for the T-Mobile and Apple accounts belonging to the deceased victim, and obtained drone footage from Norfolk Police Department (NPD) for the area where CS3 A.R. was located. Also on 17 June, the trial counsel met with Special Agent Martinez to discuss pending investigatory steps.

ix. On 20 June 2025, trial counsel contacted other victims in the case, specifically, CSSN S.S. and CSSN S.R. Trial counsel attempted to contact ABHAN C.R. but did not get a response.

x. On 24 June 2025, witness interview recordings were submitted to the trial counsel via NCIS and the trial counsel began reviewing these recordings. NCIS also received the results from a Search Warrant served on the AT&T account belonging to the Accused and NCIS interviewed an individual who reported that she was sexually assaulted by the Accused.

xi. On 25 June 2025, the trial counsel obtained and reviewed jail calls.

xii. On 27 June 2025, NCIS published its first interim ROI for CS3 A.R.

xiii. On 28 June 2025, an autopsy of CS3 A.R. was conducted by Dr. Nemanja Rodic, M.D.; PhD., Pathologist.

xiv. On 30 June 2025, NCIS reported that it was waiting on completion and receipt of USACIL DNA reports, a forensic report of the Accused's cellular phone, an interview of CSSN S.R., review of gate security footage, and the autopsy report.

xv. On 1 July 2025, trial counsel received the initial ROI and reviewed it. NCIS received DFAS records for the Accused and CS3 A.R., obtained a copy of the Accused's barracks sign-in book, reviewed the Accused's and CS3 A.R.'s OMPF files, and visited an address located on a box in the Accused's barracks.

xvi. On 2 July 2025, USACIL estimated that it would likely take 30-45 days to finalize its DNA analysis. Its division chief created a priority list of evidence to ensure timely review and coordinated weekly meetings with the trial counsel and its team. The trial counsel visited an evidence facility to ascertain the scope of evidence collection, processing, and testing.

xvii. On 8 July 2025, trial counsel conducted a crime scene visit of a stairwell and building and attended NCIS roundtable sync. NCIS published an ROI for allegations involving ABHAN C.R., and drafted an interim ROI for publication for CSSN S.S.

xviii. On 10 July 2025, the trial counsel received video interview evidence and began reviewing them. NCIS interviewed a witness and published an interim ROI for CS3 A.R.

xix. On 11 July 2025, the trial counsel received the Accused's cell phone extraction and additional jail calls and began reviewing them.

xx. On 14 July 2025, the trial counsel noted that the phone extraction shows that the Accused paused his vehicle at a specific location on the route from Naval Station Norfolk to where CS3 A.R.'s body was found. The trial counsel highlighted this to NCIS to investigate.

xxi. On 16 July 2025, NCIS searched 2409 Bowdens Ferry Rd, Norfolk, VA, which was determined to be a location the Accused had driven by. A pair of black shorts, black pants, and miscellaneous items were located. NCIS requested security footage from FR8 House Coffee, located at 2330 Bowdens Ferry RD, Norfolk, VA.

xxii. On 17 July 2025, trace evidence reports were received from USACIL; USACIL also received additional carpet and fingernail swabs. Those items were in-processed and delivered to examiners for analysis. An additional search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room was executed: items were seized and photographs were taken.

xxiii. On 22 July 2025, the trial counsel received a list of seized evidence and reviewed additional witness interviews and asked NCIS for contact information for the Norfolk Medical Examiner and Tennessee Body Farm. In addition, a trace evidence evaluation report and a latent print report was released by USACIL. USACIL estimated that its DNA report remained pending completion, estimated completion by mid-August. NCIS completed its report of evidence collected from the Accused's barracks room and completed its report for the Collection FARO 3D Laser Scan Data of 2856 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, VA. NCIS also received the results from a 2703(d) Court Order for a T-Mobile account.

xxiv. On 23 July 2025, trial counsel organized a meeting with the Norfolk Medical Examiner. NCIS reviewed the footage obtained from Gate 2 of Naval Station Norfolk.

xxv. On 24 July, trial counsel separately met with DOJ and NCIS to discuss steps ahead. NCIS obtained the security camera footage from IP Configure for FR8 House Coffee located at 2330 Bowdens Ferry RD, Norfolk, VA 23508.

xxvi. On 25 July 2025, trial counsel received additional brig calls and began reviewing them.
NCIS interviewed two witnesses and published an interim ROI for CS3 A.R.

xxvii. On 27 July 2025, trial counsel conducted legal research, identifying in-part the specificity needed to charge a murder act.

xxviii. On 29 July 2025, trial counsel met with the Norfolk Medical Examiner's office about this case. NCIS reviewed financial records of the Accused and determined that he may have stopped and purchased food from a McDonald's located on Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA, shortly after returning from the location where CS3 A.R.'s body was ultimately found. NCIS also received and reviewed a warrant from Google for CSSN Copeland's account. Trial counsel drafted a CASS and iCloud warrant.

xxix. On 30 July 2025, trial counsel finalized review of the current brig calls received on 25 Jul 2025, and conducted introductory interviews with witnesses in the CSSN S.S. case. The trial counsel also conducted additional legal research and USACIL estimated completion of the DNA report by 15 August.

xxx. On 31 July 2025, OSTC East was briefed on the status of the Copeland investigation and discussed preparing charges. The trial counsel also researched the voluntary intoxication defense as it relates to Article 118, UCMJ and NCIS obtained two Oak Harbor Police Reports via a request through their public records.

xxxi. On 1 August 2025, the secondary autopsy report was signed by Dr. Rodic and NCIS completed its report for processing a vehicle belonging to a witness.

xxxii. On 5 August 2025, a CASS was submitted to an NCIS agent for review.

xxxiii. On 6 August 2025, an iCloud warrant was submitted to the military judge and then to Apple, Inc. Trial counsel finalized an updated CASS for the Accused's phone and analyzed the USACIL reports and prepared questions for USACIL. NCIS received and reviewed the Outlook accounts from DDG-95 for the Accused and CS3 A.R. and published and interim ROI for CS3 A.R.

xxxiv. On 7 August 2025, trial counsel requested a subpoena from a military judge under R.C.M. 309 for Oak Harbor Records.

xxxv. On 8 August 2025, trial counsel prepared for discovery disclosures by burning discs and NCIS received a DNA report from USACIL.

xxxvi. On 11 August 2025, trial counsel received and reviewed a warrant return from Google, requested the military judge sign warrants to Meta and AT&T, and drafted charges.

xxxvii. On 12 August 2025, trial counsel received the final draft digital forensic examination report, but it was still pending peer review. NCIS completed the Results of Findings for a laptop seized from a witness.

xxxviii. On 13 August 2025, trial counsel contacted a potential insect/entomology expert witness, met with USACIL about the pending DNA report, and submitted to the military judge a draft warrant to Sony.

xxxix. On 14 August 2025, trial counsel submitted a warrant for Meta, Inc. for review.

xl. On 15 August 2025, a military judge signed a subpoena to Reddit and the trial counsel forwarded it to NCIS. The Norfolk Medical Examiner reported that its test for escitalopram will take an additional 60 days. NCIS received a second DNA report from USACIL and forwarded them to trial counsel. Trial counsel continued review of brig calls.

xli. on 18 August 2025, NCIS executed an updated CASS for the Accused's phone.

xlii. On 19 August 2025, NCIS received and reviewed an incident report pertaining to the Accused from Virginia's Island County Sheriff's Office Incident.

xliii. On 21 August 2025, trial counsel drafted a CASS to search for additional carpet squares.

xliv. On 22 August 2025, trial counsel concluded discussions about charging decisions which began on 20 August 202, and preferred charges. NCIS conducted a second search of the personal belongings of the Accused which were located onboard DDG-95. Additional items were seized as evidence. NCIS also received and reviewed a warrant from AT&T for the Accused's cellphone.

xlv. On 25 August 2025, three T-Mobile warrants were drafted and forwarded to NCIS for review. The summary court-martial convening authority received the charges and NCIS attempted to interview civilian witnesses.

xlvi. On 26 August 2025, a military judge signed an Equifax subpoena, which was forwarded to NCIS. NCIS executed an additional search of the Accused's barracks room, seizing more carpet squares. NCIS found presumptive blood underneath a couch in common area and interviewed a witness.

xlvii. On 27 August 2025, NCIS received the iCloud warrant results from Apple and forwarded them for review by a digital forensics expert. The Government requested appointment of a PHO for the Article 32 hearing.

xlviii. On 28 August 2025, NCIS received the subpoena results from Reddit, giving an email address for a person who is believed to be a victim.

xlix. On 2 September 2025, the Preliminary Hearing Officer confirmed an Article 32 hearing scheduled for 18 September 2025.

l. On 3 September 2025, NCIS received and reviewed the subpoena results from Equifax, showing that the Accused only had one bank account.

li. On 4 September 2025, NCIS received the final Autopsy results from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), received the Certificate of Analysis from 14 July 2025 showing the results from testing for Ethanol, received the Certificate of Analysis from 10 Jun 25

for the fingerprint card belonging to CS3 A.R., and drafted an interim ROI for publication for CSSN S.S.

lii. On 5 September 2025, trial counsel had initial interviews with ET3 Daniel Rich, USN and HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN.

liii. On 8 September 2025, NCIS received the results from Meta for the account of the Accused and drafted an interim ROI for publication for CSSN S.R.

liv. On 10 September 2025, NCIS received the results from an independent Autopsy performed on CS3 A.R. and provided a report of examination to OSTC for the Article 32 hearing.

lv. On 11 September 2025, NCIS reviewed the footage from the X2 Micro Market.

lvi. On 15 September 2025, NCIS received USACIL report 25-ATL-00931 which tested the envelope which contained suspected Psilocybin[8] which was located in the Accused's barracks room.

lvii. On 16 September 2025, NCIS published an interim ROI for CS3 A.R.

lviii. On 17 September 2025, trial counsel spoke with ABHAN C.R. and provided an update on the case. Trial counsel also received updated brig calls through 17 September 2025.

lix. On 18 September 2025, an Article 32 Preliminary Hearing was conducted.

lx. On 19 September 2025, additional matters were submitted to the Preliminary Hearing Officer.

lxi. On 22 September 2025, trial counsel inquired about status of 3D scanning model of crime scenes.

lxii. On 26 September 2025, trial counsel continued to review brig calls and received additional calls through 26 September.

lxiii. On 28 September 2025, the Preliminary Hearing Officer submitted his report.

lxiv. On 30 September 2025, a latent print report was received from USACIL.

lxv. On 1 October 2025, charges were referred to general court-martial.

lxvi. On 3 October 2025, the Accused was served a copy of the referred charges, and the Government moved to docket the case. In addition, a trace evidence report was received from USACIL.

[8] Psilocybin is colloquially called mushrooms.

lxvii. On 7 October 2025, trial counsel submitted joint proposed Trial Management Order with prospective trial dates of 3-13 June 2025.

lxviii. On 8 October 2025, trial counsel received brig call logs through 8 October and began reviewing. In addition, the military judge signed a Trial Management Order (TMO)[9] reflecting dates agreed to by the parties and setting trial for 3-26 June 2026.

lxix. On 9 October 2025, the Accused was arraigned and requested to defer the entry of pleas and forum selection until 1 May 2026, as noted in the TMO.

n. The final DNA report confirming the presence of CS3 A.R.'s blood at the crime scene was not received until 20 October 2025 and the final digital forensics report was not received until 24 November 2025. The Government asserts that several substantial investigative steps remain at this time, including substantive witness interviews, processing of additional forensic evidence, and analysis of digital evidence.

o. Additional facts necessary to resolve the motion are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

In the military justice system, an accused's right to a speedy trial flows from various sources, including the Sixth Amendment, Article 10, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 707 of the Manual for Courts-Martial.[10] "These various provisions provide a cohesive and sometimes overlapping framework for the protection of an accused's speedy trial rights."[11]

A. *R.C.M. 707*

R.C.M. 707(a) provides that an "accused shall be brought to trial within 120 days after . . . [t]he imposition of restraint[.]" For purposes of the rule, an accused is "brought to trial" when he is arraigned on the charges.[12] Failure to comply with the rule results in dismissal of the affected charges.[13] "Thus, the duty imposed on the Government by R.C.M. 707 is to arraign an accused within 120 days of . . . pretrial confinement, or face dismissal of the charges. The duty is no more and no less, and is satisfied once an accused is arraigned."[14]

Prior to referral of charges, the convening authority may grant requests for delay; any such time excluded by the convening authority shall be excluded when determining whether the 120-day period has run.[15] In providing examples of reasonable bases to grant delay, the discussion of R.C.M. 707 includes the "time to enable counsel to prepare for trial in complex cases" and "time

[9] AE I.
[10] *See United States v. Cooper*, 58 M.J. 54, 57 (C.A.A.F. 2003).
[11] *United States v. Wilder*, 75 M.J. 135, 138 (C.A.A.F. 2016) (citing *United States v. Tippit*, 65 M.J. 69, 72-73 (C.A.A.F. 2007)).
[12] R.C.M. 707(b)(1).
[13] R.C.M. 707(d).
[14] *Cooper*, 58 M.J. at 59 (footnote omitted).
[15] R.C.M. 707(c).

to secure the availability of . . . evidence."[16] Consequently, the "decision to grant or deny a reasonable delay is a matter within the sole discretion of the convening authority…"[17] Finally, "[i]f the issue of speedy trial under R.C.M. 707 is raised before the military judge at trial, the issue is . . . whether the decision of the officer granting the delay was an abuse of discretion."[18]

B. *Sixth Amendment and Article 10, UCMJ*

The Sixth Amendment states, "[i]n all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial …."[19] In the military, Sixth Amendment speedy trial protections are triggered upon preferral of charges or the imposition of pretrial restraint."[20]

Article 10, UCMJ, commands that when a service member is placed in pretrial confinement, "immediate steps shall be taken . . . to try him or to dismiss the charges and release him."[21] Unlike speedy trial claims made pursuant to R.C.M. 707, "[t]he Article 10 duty imposed on the Government immediately to try an accused who is placed in pretrial confinement does not terminate simply because the accused is arraigned."[22] But, "by the time an accused is arraigned, a change in the speedy-trial landscape has taken place . . . because after arraignment, 'the power of the military judge to process the case increases, and the power of the [Government] to affect the case decreases.'"[23] Consequently, after the Accused is arraigned, "significant responsibility for ensuring the accused's court-martial proceeds with reasonable dispatch rests with the military judge" and it is the military judge who "has the power and responsibility to force the Government to proceed with its case if justice so requires."[24]

"Article 10 creates a more exacting speedy trial demand than does the Sixth Amendment."[25] The procedural framework for analyzing Article 10 issues, however, is derived from the Sixth Amendment test set forth by the Supreme Court in *Barker v. Wingo*.[26] Courts look at four factors in examining the circumstances surrounding alleged Sixth Amendment and Article 10 violations: "(1) the length of the delay; (2) the reasons for the delay; (3) whether the appellant made a demand for a speedy trial; and (4) prejudice to the appellant."[27]

Applying this legal framework, courts recognize that none of the four factors has any "talismanic power"; rather, courts must "weigh all the factors collectively before deciding whether a defendant's right to a speedy trial has been violated."[28] Indeed, none of the four *Barker* factors alone are a "necessary or sufficient condition to the finding of a deprivation

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[16] R.C.M. 707(c)(1) (discussion).
[17] *Id.*
[18] *United States v. Lazauskas*, 62 M.J. 39, 41-42 (C.A.A.F. 2005).
[19] U.S. Const. amend. VI.
[20] *United States v. Danylo*, 73 M.J. 183 (C.A.A.F. 2013) (citation omitted).
[21] 10 U.S.C. § 810.
[22] *Cooper*, 58 M.J. at 60.
[23] *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Doty*, 51 M.J. 464, 465-66 (C.A.A.F. 1999)).
[24] *Id.*
[25] *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 124 (citations omitted).
[26] *Barker v. Wingo,* 407 U.S. 514 (1972).
[27] *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129 (citing *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 530).
[28] *United States v. Wilson*, 72 M.J. 347, 354-55 (C.A.A.F. 2013) (citations and internal quotation marks omitted).

of the right of speedy trial."[29] Rather, the court must resolve whether the Government "could readily have gone to trial . . . but negligently or spitefully chose not to."[30] The proceedings should be viewed as a whole, with "[t]he essential ingredient [being] orderly expedition and not mere speed."[31] Thus, "[t]he touch stone … is not constant motion, but reasonable diligence in bringing the charges to trial. Brief periods of inactivity in an otherwise active prosecution are not unreasonable or oppressive."[32]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The defense makes two distinct arguments related to the Accused's right to a speedy trial, related to both R.C.M. 707 and Article 10, UCMJ/Sixth Amendment. The court examines each in turn.

A. *R.C.M. 707*

The defense contends that the Convening Authority abused his discretion in granting two different periods of excludable delay prior to referral of charges. The first period excluded delay between 10 June 2025 and 25 July 2025 and the second period extended that delay until 15 August 2025. All told, the convening authority granted 67 days of excludable delay. The defense argues that the convening authority abused his discretion because the government claimed in their request that investigations remained ongoing that were not, in fact, ongoing and had already concluded. Specifically, the defense submits that the allegations involving ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.S. had already been conducted and were in trial counsel's possession. As for the second request, the defense avers that the Government did not provide the convening authority with any information about what had been completed since their previous request and he simply rubber stamped the additional delay.

The defense's argument is unpersuasive. In each instance the Government sought delay to allow time for counsel to prepare for a very complex trial and to secure the availability of evidence. Their requests to the convening authority for delay were based on investigative actions, the need to review evidence, and were made in anticipation of receiving additional critical evidence. The Government specifically requested their first period of excludable delay only 22 days after CS3 A.R.'s body was found and sought delay in order to receive and analyze digital evidence, conduct a forensic analysis of physical evidence, and receive the autopsy report for CS3 A.R. The second request was similar; there the Government sought delay because there were still outstanding investigatory steps, such as forensic analysis of physical evidence, a finalized toxicology report, and interviews with several witnesses. Indeed, the numerous investigative steps taken by the government during the period of granted delay, as detailed above, reflect the sort of preparation contemplated by grants of excludable delay pursuant to R.C.M. 70(c). Moreover, the convening authority determined that the requests were reasonable in both length and rationale, and there is no evidence to suggest that he acted unreasonably with respect to granting the delay or to the amount of delay granted.

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[29] *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 533.
[30] *Kossman*, 38 M.J. at 261.
[31] *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129 (citations omitted).
[32] *Kossman*, 38 M.J. at 262.

Accordingly, the court finds that the convening authority did not abuse his discretion in granting the 67 days of excludable delay. With the delay excluded, the Accused was arraigned on day 46 and his rights under R.C.M. 707 were not violated.

B. ***Article 10/Sixth Amendment***

1. Length of the delay

The length of delay constitutes a triggering mechanism under Article 10, UCMJ.[33] By the time the Accused's trial on the merits begins, he will have spent 360 days in pretrial confinement.[34] That number is sufficient to trigger analysis of the remaining *Barker* factors.

2. Reasons for the delay

The defense argues that "[b]ased on the facts and circumstances surrounding the investigation and the fact all investigations were substantially complete by mid-July of 2025, the logical determination is that the Government sought time to justify this foreseeable motion, not because the delay was necessary."[35] The defense also seeks to minimize their concurrence with the dates proposed in the Trial Management Order by arguing that they would have sought a shorter time period between arraignment and trial had the government provided discovery sooner that they did, contending that the delay in discovery essentially forced them to acquiesce to the current trial dates. As a threshold matter, the court finds that the Government did not unreasonably delay discovery.

Next, as noted above, the Government has moved with reasonable diligence in bringing the case to trial. From the time the Accused was placed into pretrial confinement until his arraignment, the Government has documented near daily activity in moving the case forward. Following arraignment, the landscape has changed, and the military judge has a much greater role in moving the proceedings forward as justice required. Here, the defense rejected trial dates in February that were proposed by the trial counsel and suggested and then agreed to trial dates in June 2026. The defense counsel cannot now vaguely reference delayed discovery as the cause of their "acquiescence." Rather, as the Navy Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals has pointed out the Accused "'cannot be responsible for or agreeable to delay and then turn around and demand dismissal for that same delay . . . The right to speedy trial is a shield, not a sword.'"[36]

Beyond the fact that the defense expressly agreed to the dates and milestones provided in the Trial Management Order, the court otherwise finds them inherently reasonable given the

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[33] *See United States v. Thompson*, 68 M.J. 308, 312 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (holding that the 145-day period the appellant spent in pretrial confinement was sufficient to trigger an Article 10 inquiry).
[34] Although the defense argues that the 123 days it took to arraign the Accused was itself facially unreasonable, the court notes that for Article 10 purposes, the Government's duty does not terminate at arraignment but continues until commencement of trial on the merits. S*ee Cooper*, 58 M.J. at 60; *Wilder,* 75 M.J. at 138; *Danylo*, 73 M.J. at 189.
[35] AE 20 at 10.
[36] *United States v. Miller*, 66 M.J. 571, 575 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2008) (quoting *United States v. King*, 30 M.J. 59, 66 (C.M.A. 1990)).

complexity of the case, the number of witnesses and experts consultants required and approved, and the staggering amount of digital and forensic evidence. In short, this *Barker* factor weighs heavily in favor of the Government.

3. Demand for speedy trial

The appellant made two pre-referral demands for speedy trial but also rejected the trial counsel's proposed February 2026 trial dates and requested *and received* trial dates in June 2026. At arraignment, the defense deferred the entry of pleas and forum selection until 1 May 2026 and made no other requests for speedy trial. In short, the Accused got exactly the speedy trial he asked for.

To the extent the defense asserts that the delay from imposition of pretrial confinement to arraignment was unreasonable, the court again disagrees, and as noted above finds both that the Accused was brought to trial within 120 days as is required by R.C.M. 707 and that the Government acted with reasonable diligence during that timeframe.

This *Barker* factor heavily weighs in favor of the Government.

4. Prejudice to the appellant

"Prejudice . . . should be assessed in the light of the interests of defendants which the speedy trial right was designed to protect."[37] The court therefore examines the question of prejudice in light of three important interests the Supreme Court identified in *Barker*: (1) to prevent oppressive pretrial incarceration; (2) to minimize anxiety and concern; and (3) to limit the possibility that the defense will be impaired.[38] "Of these, the most serious is the last, because the inability of a defendant adequately to prepare his case skews the fairness of the entire system."[39]

The defense contends that the Accused's pretrial confinement is oppressive because he is placed in maximum custody that impairs his ability to meet with his defense counsel, and therefore, impairs his ability to prepare for trial. Notably, the defense has filed a motion pursuant to Article 13, UCMJ seeking relief from oppressive treatment in pretrial confinement.[40]

The Government counters that the Accused's conditions of confinement are not unduly harsh, and his classification as a maximum custody prisoner furthers a legitimate Government interest in ensuring prisoner safety and discipline. The Government further argues that there is no impact on the Accused's ability to prepare his defense, because, despite his maximum security status, he does in fact have the ability to meet privately with counsel and to have privileged conversations with them. And, the Government points out, despite the defense's protestations regarding the Accused's maximum security status, it was the defense counsel that requested later trial dates than the Government.

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[37] *Mizgala*, 61 M.J. at 129 (citation and internal quotation marks omitted).
[38] *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 532.
[39] *United States v. Johnson*, 17 M.J. 255, 259 (C.M.A. 1984).
[40] *See* AE VI.

The court agrees with the Government. Whatever treatment the Accused has received in the Brig based on his status as a maximum security prisoner has not hampered his ability to prepare for trial and thus has not prejudiced him in a way that would vitiate his rights under Article 10 or the Sixth Amendment. He has the ability to receive phone calls and correspondence from his attorneys, and to meet with them in private (albeit behind glass) and have privileged communications. Accordingly, this *Barker* factor weighs in favor of the Government.

Having analyzed the *Barker* factors, the court concludes that the Accused's Sixth Amendment and Article 10 Speedy trial rights have not been violated.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion to Dismiss, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED**.

So ordered this 21st day of January, 2026.



F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTIONS TO SUPPRESS SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF PHONE/ 3 AND 6 JUNE 2025 STATEMENTS/ 3 JUNE 2025 SEARCH OF BARRACKS ROOM** **27 JANUARY 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed three motions seeking suppression of 1) all evidence obtained and derived from the 4 June 2025 search of the Accused's cellular phone;[1] 2) the Accused's statements made during his 3 June 2025 and 6 June 2025 NCIS interviews;[2] and 3) all evidence obtained and derived from the search of the Accused's barracks room on 3 June 2025 – namely the blood found in his room and closet.[3] The Government responded with a single filing on 5 December 2025[4] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

"[T]he prosecution has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the evidence was not obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure" or that some valid exception applies.[5] The prosecution must prove consent for a search by clear and convincing evidence.[6] With respect to statements of the Accused, the prosecution has the burden of

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) XXVIII.
[2] AE XXXII.
[3] AE XL.
[4] AE LVIII.
[5] Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 311(d)(5)(A).
[6] Mil. R. Evid. 314(e)(5).

establishing the admissibility of the statement.[7] The military judge must find by a preponderance of the evidence that the Accused's statement was made voluntarily before the statement may be admitted into evidence.[8]

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

Initial Investigative Steps

a. CSSN Copeland is charged, *inter alia*, with committing premeditated murder of CS3 A.R., in violation of Article 118, UCMJ.

b. On 31 May 2025, NCIS was contacted by the Norfolk Police Department (NPD) regarding a missing person report filed by ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, regarding his ex-girlfriend, CS3 A.R, USN.

c. ET3 Rich advised NPD that CS3 A.R. had not been seen or heard from since 29 May 2025 when she was last seen with the Accused. NPD contacted CS3 A.R.'s command, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) and was informed by the command that CS3 A.R. was in an unauthorized absence (UA) status and the ship had been unable to contact her.

d. After receiving this report from NPD, NCIS confirmed with the command that both CS3 A.R. and the Accused were in an UA status.

e. On 31 May 2025, NCIS interviewed ET3 Rich. ET3 Rich stated that he last spoke to CS3 A.R. around 0230 on 29 May 25 via phone during which she was crying and asked for help. After the call, ET3 Rich was able to trace CS3 A.R.'s phone to Willis Manor, X-2 Barracks located on board Naval Station Norfolk, but only until 0430 at which time it appeared to have powered down.

f. On 1 June 2025 at approximately 1341, the Accused was located in his barracks room on board Naval Station Norfolk after his mother called base security requesting a welfare check on her son.

g. Also on 1 June 2025, NCIS contacted CS3 A.R.'s mother who indicated she had not spoken with her daughter in about a week, but received an unanswered Facetime call on 18 May 2025. NCIS opened a missing-person investigation on CS3 A.R.

h. That same day, NCIS searched CS3 A.R.'s barracks room, and interviewed her roommate. NCIS did not observe any signs of foul play in her barracks room, and the roommate indicated she had not seen CS3 A.R. in several days.

[7] Mil. R. Evid. 304(f)(6).
[8] Mil. R. Evid. 304(f)(7).

i. NCIS interviewed ET3 Rich again on 1 June 2025. ET3 Rich explained his relationship with CS3 A.R., that they had broken up about a month ago, and that he and another ex-boyfriend, HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN, attempted to search for CS3 A.R. in the early morning hours of 29 May 2025 after he received the frantic call from her.

j. Also on 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed FCC Brad Parker, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). Chief Parker was the Accused's and CS3 A.R.'s chief. He told NCIS he went to the Accused's barracks room on the morning of 29 May 2025 and when he arrived the Accused opened the barracks room door and appeared groggy. He also told investigators that he saw CS3 A.R. who was in the Accused's barracks room bed, that she acknowledged him, rolled over, and appeared to go back to sleep. Chief Parker told the Accused to tend to CS3 A.R. and then come into work. According to FCC Parker, the Accused told him CS3 A.R. was having some personal issues and she came to the Accused's room to discuss.

k. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed the Accused in the lounge of his barracks building regarding the whereabouts of CS3 A.R. During this interview, NCIS did not provide him any Article 31(b) rights advisement. The Accused told NCIS:

i. That he and CS3 A.R. were co-workers and they texted back and forth on 28 May 2025 to discuss meeting up and making tacos and the recipes and ingredients for tacos.

ii. CS3 A.R. came to his barracks that night and the two made tacos and drank alcohol.

iii. CS3 A.R. became increasingly more emotional as the night went on and the two spoke about her romantic relationships.

iv. CS3 A.R. confided in him regarding her relationship with an ex-boyfriend, HT3 Gillespie and a recent argument the two had over a motorcycle helmet.

v. One of his roommates came into the barracks common area where the two were sitting to check on CS3 A.R. because she appeared to be upset.

vi. CS3 A.R. spent the night in his room and the two did not engage in sexual intercourse.

vii. They were awoken by their chief, FCC Parker, around 0900 on 29 May 2025.

viii. The last time he saw CS3 A.R. was when he borrowed his roommate's car and returned CS3 A.R. to her barracks room around 1000 on 29 May 2025.

l. Between 2-3 June 2025, NCIS interviewed the Accused's roommate, YN3 Sean Monaghan, and his two suitemates, AR John Calisse and PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, with whom he shared the common areas of his barracks room. Each of the three suitemates told NCIS that when they got up to leave for work early on 29 May 2025, they observed the Accused and an unknown female, who was topless and had her breasts exposed, lying next to each other, asleep

in the common area of their barracks. Each of the three roommates also denied letting the Accused borrow a car on the morning of 29 May 2025.

m. On 3 June 2024 at 1949, CAPT Matthew Schlarmann, Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, signed a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) authorizing a search of the Accused's barracks room since it was the last known location where CS3 A.R. was seen. The CASS specifically authorized a search of X2 Barracks room 335B Rack A and the common area of the barracks room. The CASS was issued in connection with the ongoing investigation into CS3 A.R.'s Article 86 offense and authorized agents to search for and seize 1) bed linens, sheets, towels, blankets, pillows that appear to have used or were recently used; 2) used condoms and condom wrappers; 3) any clothing appearing to belong to a female; 4) items containing or could reasonable contain DNA, blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence; and 5) other evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense.

n. On 3 June 2025, NCIS executed the CASS on the Accused's barracks room. NCIS Agents, led by Special Agent Jessica Gokey, the Case Agent, entered the room and conducted a routine safety sweep. The Accused and his roommates were placed in handcuffs and restrained as the agents secured the room and conducted a basic weapons search. During the safety search, an iPhone 15 was found on the Accused and was seized by Special Agent Gokey.

o. Special Agent Gokey testified at the Article 39(a), UCMJ hearing that she seized the phone based on probable cause. She explained that based on her knowledge and training, she knew that iPhones track a user's location and the Accused had made an apparent false statement about his location – that he borrowed a roommate's vehicle to take CS3 A.R. back to her barracks room. Likewise, the Accused indicated that he texted back and forth with CS3 A.R. on the day she came to his barracks room and the iPhone would have a record of their communications.

p. Once the room was determined to be safe, an NCIS forensic team conducted an initial walk through of Room 335 and while on scene, AR Calisse, the Accused's roommate, signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for Willis Manor X-2 Room 335.

3 June Search of Accused's Barracks Room

q. NCIS used dogs who were trained to find electronic storage and cadavers as part of the search of the Accused's room.

r. At approximately 2234, NCIS searched Room 335 Side B Rack A and Common Area utilizing the cadaver dog. The dog alerted to a grey backpack located on the Accused's side of suite B at 2241, but this was not given any serious weight as these dogs can alert to any body odor, including sweat.

s. At 2346, NCIS utilized a Hemastix, to test for the presence of blood on a sticker found stuck to the floor of the Accused's closet which was brown in color. The sticker tested presumptive positive for the presence of blood.

t. At 0005, NCIS utilized a Hemastix, to test for the presence of blood on the Accused's bathroom sink. The sample tested presumptive positive for the presence of blood.

u. From 0000-0116, NCIS utilized Bluestar, a chemical reagent used to test for the presence of blood. The reaction occurs when Bluestar interacts with the heme component of blood producing a blue luminescence. Bluestar illuminated the presence of blood on the Accused's vanity and sink, and in the Accused's closet, where it formed a linear trail that gradually faded as it extended between the Accused's bedroom and the common living area.

v. At 0138, NCIS ceased the search of the barracks room and released the scene to the Accused, who had been returned from the NCIS Field Office following an interrogation with Special Agent Gokey and Special Agent Bea Duffy.

3 June 2025 NCIS Interrogation

w. While the search of the Accused's barracks room was underway, the Accused was interviewed at the Norfolk NCIS Field Office on board Naval Station Norfolk at approximately at 2113 on 3 June 2025.

x. Prior to the interrogation, the Accused acknowledged that he had eaten and was provided several bags of snacks and water. He was told he could request a break at any time.

y. The Accused was interrogated by two NCIS Special Agents, SA Gokey and SA Duffy. After collecting biographical information, NCIS the Accused his Article 31(b), UCMJ rights, advising him that he was suspected of violating Article 86, UCMJ (unauthorized absence), and Article 107 (false official statement).

z. At 2147, the Accused waived his rights and agreed to speak to NCIS.

aa. At approximately 1 hour and 22 minutes into the interrogation, the NCIS Agents paused the interview. The agents asked the Accused if he needed anything or if he'd like to use the restroom. He declined both offers. The break lasted for approximately 43 minutes. As soon as the agents left the room, the Accused rested his head on his arms while laying it on the desk, and he proceeded to fall asleep and started snoring.

ab. The NCIS Agents came back into the room, waking the Accused, and started discussing a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to search his cell phone. The Accused agreed to permit the search of his phone and provided the agents with his pass code. The following exchange took place:

> SA: "So, I would like then to look at your phone and place you in the room, and that could potentially maybe help you with your command. Like, we could pitch it to him like, 'Hey, man, he didn't go to work, but it's not like he was fucking missing or gone or whatever.' Right?
> SA: "You would be cool with that?"
> Copeland: "Yeah."

NCIS then reads the PASS to the Accused, and the Accused asks whether his phone will be returned to him because he'd like to call his mother. NCIS agents agree to help facilitate the call with his mother. The following conversation then occurred:

> SA: "Ok. Do you want to call her right now. Ok. Do you want to go ahead and sign that, and then I will . . . ?"
> Copeland: "can I wait first?"
> SA: "Yea, sure, absolutely."

ac. Approximately 2 hours and 36 minutes into the interview, the Accused is offered a second break. This break lasted approximately 22 minutes. After the NCIS agents left the interrogation room, the Accused once again laid his head on his arms that were lying on the desk, and he fell asleep and started snoring.

ad. When the agents returned, they asked the Accused about signing a second PASS, dated 4 June 2025. The 4 June PASS did not list his cell phone like the first one that NCIS presented to him for signing, but instead, listed his "backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices."

ae. The Accused questioned the agents about whether he was able to revoke consent to search any of the things listed in the 4 June 2025 PASS after signing. Once the agent answered his question, the Accused signed that 4 June 2025 PASS authorizing the search of his "backpack, barracks room, and electronic devices."

af. Immediately after he signed the 4 June 2025 PASS, the Accused declined to sign the 3 June PASS that provided consent to search his iPhone 15 Pro Max. The following conversation occurred:

> SA: "Ok. And then I wanted to revisit the one we talked about with your phone, are you still Ok with that?"
> Copeland: "No, I'm just, can we do this [ ] I'm just tryna go home."
> SA: "Understood, OK. Alright. So let's make some moves to do that. And we will make those [ ], and . . . we will be right back."

ag. The interview was then terminated, but SA Duffy returned a few minutes later and asking the Accused, "I didn't give you my phone in order to call your mom. You want to do that?" The Accused responded, "I'll just wait" and asked how much longer it would take to leave.

ah. In total, the duration of the Accused's time in the interview room was approximately 3 hours and 17 min, ending at 0030 EDT.

ai. Following his return to his barracks room after the interrogation, and as NCIS was wrapping up the search of his barracks room, the Accused asked for his phone back; SA Duffy advised he could not have it as it had been seized.

Search of the Accused's Iphone 15

aj. On 4 June 2025, an NCIS Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) conducted a digital forensic acquisition of the Accused's iPhone 15 Pro Max. The DFE obtained a full file system extraction of the phone.

ak. At 0743 on 5 June 2025, CAPT Schlarmann, signed a CASS authorizing a search of the digital contents of the Accused's seized iPhone 15 Pro Max.

al. Between 5 June 2025 and 9 June 2025, an NCIS DFE conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 belonging to the Accused. That search did not commence until after the CASS was signed.

am. On 9 June 25, the DFE located and extracted two image files during the examination of the iPhone 15 belonging to the Accused. The image files appear to be screenshots of an Apple maps App with the street name "Cary Ave" visible in the image and a marked location in a wooded area near the Cary Ave location. A blue circle in the images appears to be the location of the user of the iPhone 15 belonging to the Accused when the screenshot was taken and appears to be near a house on Cary Avenue The device also appears to be in Airplane mode and time of day is 05:15 according to the visible image.

an. A subsequent search of the area identified in the screenshot images by NCIS utilizing a cadaver dog, led to the discovery of CS3 A.R.'s remains inside a black bag located off a path behind a row of townhomes.

6 June 2025 NCIS Interrogation

ao. On 6 June 2025 at approximately 0842, NCIS brought the Accused back to their offices to conduct another interview regarding CS3 A.R.'s disappearance.

ap. NCIS asked the Accused to take a polygraph examination, explaining that "if this goes well and they say, 'Hey, like we don't have to worry about him anymore. He's not on our, you know, interesting list of people anymore, not the most interesting man in the world.' Like, we can sort of put you on the back burner. That invasiveness will likely decrease a significant amount."[9] The agent later put it more succinctly, "[s]o, what we'd like to do is, although you're not specifically suspected of causing harm to her----we'd like to make sure you didn't." [10]

aq. NCIS agents then advise the Accused of his rights under Article 31(b) and let him know that he was suspected of making a false official statement and knowledge of the possible death of CS3 A.R. Agents also told the Accused he was in control of the interview and could stop at any time. The Accused indicated he didn't have any questions about his rights and waived his rights and agreed to talk to the Agents.

[9] AE XXXIII at 11.
[10] AE XXXIII at 14.

ar. After advising the Accused of his rights, the first questions asked by the NCIS agents focused on the possibility that CS3 A.R. was dead:

> SA: Okay. All right, so--so let me just make sure you kind of see it from their perspective and--and our--and our perspective. You--you--you--I think you've already acknowledged this, but, so the big fear is that Angie may be--may be dead.
> CSSN COPELAND: [Affirmative response.]
> SA: Okay. Did you do that?
> CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
> SA: Okay. I know they already asked you that, and you said no.
> CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
> SA: Do you--do you know where she's at?
> CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
> SA: Did you help anybody to abduct her or kill her or anything like that?
> CSSN COPELAND: No, sir.
> SA: That's the focus today.
> CSSN COPELAND: Yes, sir.

as. The Accused declined the polygraph examination but continued with the interview.

Additional Investigative steps

at. On 4 June 2025, NCIS obtained a 2703(d) Order for T-Mobile Records pertaining to CS3 A.R. and CSSN Copeland's cellular phone accounts, respectively.

i. Both orders included a request for device location, historical location information, mobility of cell location and wireline information.

ii. The mobility records for the Accused's account showed that he contacted CS3 A.R. on 1 June 2025 a total of 5 times between 1902 and 1904.

au. On 4 June 2025, NCIS coordinated with Newport News Police Department Criminal Intelligence Unit to conduct License Plate Reader (LPR) queries on two vehicles the Accused had been known to borrow.

i. The White Jeep Liberty belonging to AR Calisse was captured at Hampton Blvd and W 25the Street at 0440 on 2 June 2025.

ii. AR Calisse told investigators that the Accused borrowed his Jeep on the night of 1 June, but did not return to base with it until 2 June making AR Calisse late for work.

av. On 4 June 2025, at approximately 1315, NCIS conducted a scene examination in the hallway and stairwell closest to the Accused's barracks room - Room 335 on the third floor of the X-2 Barracks.

i. Multiple areas of reddish brown staining were observed in the stairwell between levels 1 and 3.

ii. NCIS collected samples of the reddish brown stains for later analysis. No presumptive testing was done during the collection.

aw. Also on 5 June, the Government obtained a Search Warrant for the Accused's AT&T account requesting, among other items, Call/Text/Data Detail records and specialized location data for CSSN Copeland's cell phone.

ax. At 1230 on 5 June 2025, NCIS conducted a canvas of the X-2 Building. Upon arrival, the Barracks Manager, Ms. Mary Benson, explained to NCIS that she observed what appeared to be blood down the hallway of the first floor. NCIS observed at the end of the hallway near the door a small dropping of a reddish brown substance. Ms. Benson stated the floors had been mopped between 29 or 30 May, but not since. Samples were collected.

ay. On 9 June 25, YN3 Monaghan, the Accused's roommate was interviewed by NCIS a second time.

i. He told investigators that he returned from leave on 28 May 25 around 1900 and the Accused arrived to their barracks room around 2200. YN3 Monaghan had watch early on 29 May, so he was already half asleep. However, YN3 Monaghan remembers seeing a lighter skinned female with short hair with the Accused.

ii. YN3 Monahan woke up around 0500 on 29 May 2025 and noticed there was no one else in his bedroom. When he exited his bedroom and entered the common area around 0640, he observed the Accused asleep on the living floor in his underwear with a girl that YN3 Monaghan did not recognize.

iii. YN3 Monaghan left for work and returned around 1300. When he returned, no one was in the barracks room. He next saw the Accused in their barracks room around 2000. Over the course of 30 May – 1 June 2025, YN3 Monaghan observed the Accused leaving their barracks room very early in the morning and returning late in the evening.

az. On 10 June 2025, USACIL DNA results indicated that the blood found in the Accused's closet was a mixture originating from two individuals – both the Accused and CS3 A.R.'s DNA profile were included as contributors to this mixture. The reddish-brown substance found in the stairwell also matched CS3 A.R.'s DNA.

ba. Additional facts necessary to resolve the issues are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

a. Searches and seizures

The Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides: "[t]he right of

the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." [11] The protections from unreasonable searches under the Fourth Amendment are applicable to servicemembers.[12] Indeed, a military search authorization "must be based upon probable cause."[13] "Probable cause to search exists when there is a reasonable belief that the person, property, or evidence sought is located in the place or on the person searched."[14] "Probable cause relies on a common-sense decision whether, given all the circumstances there is a fair probability that contraband will be found."[15] "It is not a technical standard, but rather is based on the factual and practical considerations of everyday life on which reasonable and prudent [persons], not legal technicians, act."[16] Thus, "[p]robable cause requires more than bare suspicion, but something less than a preponderance of the evidence."[17] As the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (C.A.A.F.) stated in *United States v. Nieto*:

> [I]n order for there to be probable cause, a sufficient nexus must be shown to exist between the alleged crime and the specific item to be seized. The question of nexus focuses on whether there was a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place. A nexus may be inferred from the facts and circumstances of a particular case, including the type of crime, the nature of the items sought, and reasonable inferences about where evidence is likely to be kept. [18]

Moreover, search authorizations must "describe the things to be seized with sufficient particularity to prevent a general exploratory rummaging in a person's belongings."[19] As the Supreme Court explained, "[b]y limiting the authorization to search to the specific areas and things for which there is probable cause to search, the [particularity] requirement ensures that the search will be carefully tailored to its justifications, and will not take on the character of the wide-ranging exploratory searches the Framers intended to prohibit."[20]

Data stored within a cell phone fall within the protections of the Fourth Amendment.[21] Accordingly, "cell phones may not be searched without probable cause and a warrant unless the search and seizure falls within one of the recognized exceptions to the warrant requirement."[22] But, cell phones also "present 'distinct issues,' and '[t]he prohibition of general searches is not to be confused with a demand for precise ex ante knowledge of the location and content of evidence.'"[23] So, "given the dangers of too narrowly limiting where investigators can go, such

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[11] U.S. Const. amend IV.
[12] *United States v. Hernandez*, 81 M.J. 432, 438 (C.A.A.F. 2021).
[13] Mil. R. Evid. 315(f)(1).
[14] Mil. R. Evid. 315(f)(2).
[15] *United States v. Cowgill*, 68 M.J. 388, 393 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (citations and internal alterations omitted).
[16] *United States v. Leedy*, 65 M.J. 208, 213 (C.A.A.F. 2007) (citations omitted).
[17] *Id.*
[18] *United States v. Nieto*, 76 M.J. 101, 106 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (internal citations and quotation marks omitted).
[19] *United States v. Richards*, 76 M.J. 365, 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017).
[20] *Maryland v. Garrison*, 480 U.S. 79, 84 (1987).
[21] *United States v. Wicks*, 73 M.J. 93, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2014).
[22] *Id.* (citations omitted).
[23] *United States v. Lee*, 82 M.J. 591, 602 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2022) (quoting *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369-370).

searches may be properly limited to evidence of specific [] crimes or specific types of material without necessarily requiring particular search methods and protocols."[24]

The C.A.A.F. has also recognized "that the digital contents of a cell phone and the physical cell phone itself are distinct with respect to legal questions such as admissibility, search, and seizure."[25] In order to effectuate a seizure of the digital contents of a cell phone, it is not enough for law enforcement officials "to simply take possession of the physical evidence containing the media" but must take "additional steps to protect it from unauthorized remote manipulation or destruction, whether by moving or copying the digital content to a secure location or by some other means."[26]

i. Warrantless Searches

Searches conducted pursuant to a warrant or search authorization based on probable cause are presumptively reasonable whereas warrantless searches are "presumptively unreasonable unless they fall within a few specifically established and well-delineated exceptions."[27] Military Rule of Evidence 314 identifies those well-delineated exceptions and the searches that do not require probable cause. Specifically, Mil. R. Evid. 314(e)(1) states that "[e]vidence of a search conducted without probable cause is admissible if conducted with lawful consent." Military Rule of Evidence 314(e)(3), discusses the scope of consent and provides that "[c]onsent may . . . be withdrawn at any time."

Likewise, Mil. R. Evid. 314(g)(1) provides that evidence is admissible if "seized in a search of a person who has been lawfully apprehended or if seized as a result of a reasonable protective sweep." Indeed, the Supreme Court has long recognized "the right on the part of the Government, always recognized under English and American law, to search the person of the accused when legally arrested to discover and seize the fruits or evidence of crime."[28]

Searches incident to apprehension are "full" searches and they are not invalidated by even a substantial delay between the apprehension and the search.[29] As the Supreme Court has explained:

> Once the accused is lawfully arrested and is in custody, the effects in his possession at the place of detention that were subject to search at the time and place of his arrest may lawfully be searched and seized without a warrant even though a substantial period of time has elapsed between the arrest and the subsequent administrative processing, on the one hand, and the taking of the property for use as evidence, on the other. . . . "While the legal arrest of a person should not destroy the privacy of his premises, it does—for at least a reasonable time and to a

[24] *Id.* (internal quotation marks and alterations omitted).
[25] *United States v. Secord*, 2025 CCA LEXIS 646, at *10 (C.A.A.F. 2025) (citing *United States v. Mitchell*, 76 M.J. 413, 420 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (holding that although the appellee's physical iPhone was admissible, the digital contents of the phone were inadmissible); *United States v. Strong*, 85 M.J. 58, 65 (C.A.A.F. 2024) (holding that "the seizure of Appellant's iPhone did not constitute seizure of the digital content of the iPhone")).
[26] *Strong*, 85 M.J. at 65 (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).
[27] *Wicks*, 75 M.J. at 124 (quoting *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347. 357 (1967)).
[28] *Riley v. California,* 573 U.S. 373, 382 (2014) (citations omitted).
[29] *United States v. Curtis*, 44 M.J. 106, 143 (C.A.A.F. 1996) (citing *United States v. Robinson*, 414 U.S. 218, 235 (1973); *Gustafson v. Florida*, 414 U.S. 260, 264 (1973)).

reasonable extent—take his own privacy out of the realm of protection from police interest in weapons, means of escape, and evidence."[30]

With respect to modern cell phones, however, the Supreme Court distinguished the physical cell phone from its digital contents. Arresting officers could certainly search the person arrested in order to "remove weapons" and to "seize any evidence on the arrestee's person in order to prevent its concealment or destruction."[31] But the digital contents of a cell phone do not pose a danger to arresting officers and officers can secure the cell phone to "prevent destruction of evidence while seeking a warrant."[32] Consequently, the Court held that while a cell phone is not "immune from search" a "warrant is generally required before such a search, even when a cell phone is seized incident to arrest."[33]

ii. Seizure

"A seizure of property occurs when there is some meaningful interference with an individual's possessory interests in that property."[34] Indeed, "[a] seizure requires law enforcement agents to exercise a fair degree of dominion and control over the property."[35]

In *United States v. Strong*,[36] the C.A.A.F. reinforced this definition of "seizure" in the context of Article 131e, UCMJ.[37] There Strong was charged with *inter alia* one specification of preventing an authorized seizure of property after she remotely reset her Apple iPhone to the original factory settings, after law enforcement agents had already seized the phone. The remote factory resetting effectively deleted the digital content on the phone. The C.A.A.F. affirmed Strong's conviction despite her argument that the conduct was beyond the reach of the statute since, by its terms, the statute did not apply to evidence that had already been seized. Although they agreed that Article 131e, UCMJ, only applies before a seizure is complete, the C.A.A.F. determined that the seizure was not, in fact, complete because "the seizure of [Strong's] iPhone did not constitute seizure of the digital content of the iPhone."[38] Applying the definition of "seizure" from above, the court concluded that because Strong easily manipulated the digital contents of her phone remotely, the law enforcement agents had not yet established a "fair degree of dominion and control over the digital content."[39]

The court explained that it was no longer enough for law enforcement personnel to simply take possession of the physical device containing the media in order to effectuate a seizure of that digital media; rather:

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[30] *United States v. Edwards*, 415 U.S. 800, 807 (1974) (quoting *United States v. DeLeo*, 422 F.2d 487, 493 (1st Cir. 1970)) (finding 10-hour delay between apprehension and search reasonable under the circumstances).
[31] *Riley*, 573 U.S. at 382 (quoting *Chimel v. California*, 395 U.S. 752, 762-63 (2009)).
[32] *Id.* at 388.
[33] *Id*. at 401.
[34] *United States v. Hoffman*, 75 M.J. 120, 124 (C.A.A.F. 2016) (quoting *United States v. Jacobsen*, 446 U.S. 109, 113 (1984) (internal quotation marks omitted)).
[35] *Id.*
[36] *United States v. Strong*, 85 M.J. 58, 65 (C.A.A.F. 2024).
[37] 10 U.S.C. § 913e.
[38] *Strong*, 85 M.J. at 65.
[39] *Id.* at 67 (quoting *Hoffman*, 75 M.J. at 124) (internal alterations omitted).

> [i]n order to seize the digital content of the iPhone, [law enforcement personnel] had to take additional steps to protect it from unauthorized remote manipulation or destruction, whether by moving or *copying the digital content* to a secure location or by some other means.[40]

b. Exclusionary Rule and Exceptions

"The exclusionary rule is a judicially created remedy for violations of the Fourth Amendment."[41] Suppression of evidence obtained through an unlawful search "is not an automatic consequence of a Fourth Amendment violation" but rather "turns on the applicability of specific exceptions as well as the gravity of government overreach and the deterrent effect" of excluding the evidence.[42] Indeed, the exclusionary rule "applies to evidence directly obtained through violation of the Fourth Amendment as well as evidence that is the indirect product or fruit of unlawful police activity."[43]

One such exception to the exclusionary Rule is the doctrine of inevitable discovery. "The doctrine of inevitable discovery allows for the admission of illegally obtained evidence when the government 'demonstrates by a preponderance of the evidence that when the illegality occurred, the government agents possessed, or were actively pursuing, evidence or leads that would have inevitably led to the discovery of the evidence in a lawful manner.'"[44] Military Rule of Evidence 311(c)(2) codifies the inevitable discovery doctrine as follows: "Evidence that was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure may be used when the evidence would have been obtained even if such unlawful search or seizure had not been made."

"Mere speculation and conjecture as to the inevitable discovery of the evidence is not sufficient when applying this exception."[45] Rather, the exception only applies "when the routine procedures of a law enforcement agency would inevitably find the same evidence."[46]

The doctrine of inevitable discovery also applies "where it is reasonable to conclude officers would have obtained a valid authorization had they known their actions were unlawful."[47] In *United States v. Eppes*, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) applied the inevitable discovery doctrine after concluding the search of Eppes' bag was unlawful.[48] In

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[40] *Id.* at 65 (emphasis added).
[41] *Wicks*, 73 M.J. at 103 (citations omitted).
[42] *Id*.
[43] *Id.* (internal quotation marks and citations omitted). *See also* Mil. R. Evid. 311(a)(3) which codifies the exclusionary rule and makes evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure made by a person acting in a governmental capacity inadmissible if: "exclusion of the evidence results in appreciable deterrence of future unlawful searches or seizures and the benefits of such deterrence outweigh the costs to the justice system."
[44] *United States v. Eppes*, 77 M.J. 339, 347 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (quoting *Wicks*, 73 M.J. at 103) (internal alterations omitted).
[45] *Wicks*, 73 M.J. at 103 (quoting *United States v. Maxwell*, 45 M.J. 406, 422) (internal quotation marks and alterations omitted)).
[46] *United States v. Owens*, 51 M.J. 204, 204 (C.A.A.F. 1999).
[47] *Id.* (citing *United States v. Wallace*, 66 M.J. 5, 10 (C.A.A.F. 2008) (holding the doctrine applicable where consent to a search was invalid, reasoning officers would have obtained a valid warrant to retrieve the evidence if the accused had not consented.).
[48] *Id.* at 348.

Eppes the affidavit in support of the search authorization specifically stated it was submitted in support of a search of Eppes' person, his personal bags, and his personally owned vehicle.[49] The search authorization returned from the military magistrate only authorized the search of Eppes' person and his personally owned vehicle. The agent who swore the affidavit also drafted the search authorization.[50] In upholding the doctrine of inevitable discovery, the court concluded that "it seems incongruous" that the agent would include the bags in the affidavit but not the search authorization, and it was likely that the bag's omission from the authorization was simply a scrivener's error.[51] The court further explained that had the agent realized the discrepancy in omitting the bag from the search authorization, he would have obtained written authorization from the magistrate to search the bags.[52]

Another exception to the exclusionary rule, the Good Faith Exception, is codified in Mil. R. Evid. 311(c)(3), it reads:

> Evidence that was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure may be used if:
>
> (A) the search or seizure resulted from an authorization to search, seize, or apprehend issued by an individual competent to issue the authorization under Mil. R. Evid. 315(d) or from a search warrant or arrest warrant issued by competent civilian authority, or from such an authorization or warrant issued by an individual whom the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith believed was competent to issue the authorization or warrant;
>
> (B) the individual issuing the authorization or warrant had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause or the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith believed that the individual issuing the authorization or warrant had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause; and
>
> (C) the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith relied on the issuance of the authorization or warrant. Good faith is to be determined using an objective standard.[53]

A substantial basis exists when, under the totality of the circumstances, "there is a fair probability that evidence of a crime will be found at the identified location."[54] The "good-faith inquiry is confined to the objectively ascertainable question whether a reasonably well trained officer would have known that the search was illegal in light of all of the circumstances."[55]

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[49] *Id.* at 347.
[50] *Id.*
[51] *Id.* at 348.
[52] *Id.*
[53] Mil. R. Evid. 311(c)(3). *See also United States v. Perkins*, 78 M.J. 381 (C.A.A.F. 2019).
[54] *United States v. Rogers*, 67 M.J. 162, 165 (C.A.A.F. 2009) (citation omitted).
[55] *Herring v. United States*, 555 U.S. 135, 145 (2009) (quoting *United States v. Leon*, 468 U.S. 897 (1984) (internal quotation marks omitted).

c. Statements by the Accused

The Fifth Amendment protects an individual from being compelled to be a witness against himself.[56] In *Miranda v. Arizona,* the Supreme Court adopted a set of prophylactic measures to protect a suspect's Fifth Amendment right from the "inherently compelling pressures" of custodial interrogation.[57] The Court observed that custodial interrogations involved psychological pressures "which work to undermine the individual's will to resist and to compel him to speak where he would not otherwise do so freely."[58] Consequently, the Court ruled that "the prosecution may not use statements, whether exculpatory or inculpatory, stemming from a custodial interrogation of the defendant unless it demonstrates the use of procedural safeguards effective to secure the privilege against self-incrimination."[59] Thus, prior to questioning, the person in custody must be warned of the right to remain silent, that any statement made can be used against him, and that he has the right to have an attorney present.[60]

Rights advisements are required in the military community to avoid impairment of the constitutional guarantee against self-incrimination.[61] This requirement is embodied in Article 31(b), UCMJ which provides,

> No person subject to this chapter may interrogate, or request any statement from an accused or a person suspected of an offense without first informing him of the nature of the accusation and advising him that he does not have to make any statement regarding the offense of which he is accused or suspected and that any statement made by him may be used as evidence against him in a trial by court-martial.

Statements are deemed involuntary if obtained "in violation of the self-incrimination privilege or Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution, Article 31, or through the use of coercion, unlawful influence, or unlawful inducement."[62] A criminal defendant's involuntary statement is inadmissible at trial.[63]

Whether a statement is involuntary depends on the "the totality of all the surrounding circumstances—both the characteristics of the accused and the details of the interrogation."[64] In examining the totality of the circumstances, "the necessary inquiry is whether the confession is the product of an essentially free and unconstrained choice by its maker," as opposed to the product of someone whose "will was overborne and his capacity for self-determination critically impaired . . . ."[65] Factors to be considered when examining the circumstances of the interrogation include "the lack of any advice to the accused of his constitutional rights, the length

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[56] U.S. Const. Amend. V.
[57] 384 U.S. 436, 467 (1966).
[58] *Id.*
[59] *Id.* at 444.
[60] *Id.*
[61] *United States v. Gardner,* 69 M.J. 60, 63 (C.A.A.F. 2007).
[62] Mil. R. Evid. 304(a)(1)(A).
[63] Mil. R. Evid. 304(a).
[64] *Schneckloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 226 (1973).
[65] *United States v. Bubonics*, 45 M.J. 93, 95 (C.A.A.F. 1996) (citations omitted).

of detention, the repeated and prolonged nature of the questioning, and the use of physical punishment such as the deprivation of food or sleep."[66] Conversely, when considering the personal characteristics of the accused, courts should factor "into account . . . the youth of the accused, his lack of education, or his low intelligence."[67] "The fact that a suspect chooses to speak after being informed of his rights, is of course, highly probative."[68]

Article 31(b), UCMJ warnings are required when "(1) a person subject to the UCMJ, (2) interrogates or requests any statement, (3) from an accused or person suspected of an offense, and (4) the statements regard the offense of which the person questioned is accused or suspected."[69] "Whether a person is a suspect is an objective question that is answered by considering all the facts and circumstances at the time of the interview to determine whether the . . . questioner believed or reasonably should have believed that the servicemember committed an offense."[70] "At times it can also be appropriate to consider the subjective view, looking at what the investigator, in fact, believed, and deciding if the investigator considered the interrogated person to be a suspect[,] but "[d]esignating someone a suspect for Article 31(b), UCMJ, purposes requires more than merely a hunch."[71]

"The purpose of informing a suspect or accused of the nature of the accusation is to orient him to the transaction or incident in which he is allegedly involved. It is not necessary to spell out the details of his connection with the matter under inquiry with technical nicety."[72] Indeed, the "precision and expertise of an attorney in informing the accused of the nature of the accusation under Article 31 is not required."[73]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

a. Search of the Accused's IPhone Pro Max 15

The defense contends that the search of the Accused's iPhone was unlawful and that the evidence obtained and derived from that search – including the digital contents of the phone – should be suppressed because the Accused did not consent to the search, that even if he did consent to the search, he validly revoked that consent, and that any subsequent CASS was too late because the Government had already completed the initial extraction of the digital data from the phone. The court disagrees for three reasons.

First, the court finds that the Accused consented to the search of his iPhone 15 Pro Max after it was seized during his apprehension as NCIS agents were executing a CASS on his barracks room. The Accused's failure to sign a PASS did not amount to a revocation of consent to search, and to the extent his request for the return of his phone at the end of the night was a revocation, it

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[66] *United States v. Nelson*, 82 M.J. 251, 256 (C.A.A.F.) (citations omitted).
[67] *Id.* at 255-56.
[68] *Lewis*, 78 M.J. at 453 (quoting *Oregon v. Elstad*, 470 U.S. 298, 318 (1985)).
[69] *United States v. Jones*, 73 M.J. 357, 361 (C.A.A.F. 2014) (citation omitted).
[70] *United States v. Swift*, 53 M.J. 439, 446 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).
[71] *United States v. Metz*, 84 M.J. 421, 426-427 (C.A.A.F. 2024) (internal quotation marks, alterations and citations omitted).
[72] *United States v. Simpson*, 54 M.J. 281, 284 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (quoting *United States v. Rice,* 29 C.M.R. 340, 342 (1960)).
[73] *Id.*

revoked only the Accused's consent to the phone's seizure – but the phone was not seized based on the Accused's consent. Second, even if the Accused validly revoked consent to search his phone, the search was conducted pursuant to a CASS signed on 5 June 2025. Third, even if the search and seizure of the phone was unlawful, the digital evidence found on the phone would have been inevitably discovered.

Before providing additional analyses on each of the reasons, it is important as a threshold matter to highlight the distinction between seizure of the phone and the search of its digital content. The defense argument often conflates the two yet *search* and *seizure* are "two separate concepts" and "consent to one . . . is not consent to the other; similarly, revoking consent to one does not of itself revoke consent to the other."[74] Here, the court finds that the Accused's cell phone was validly seized by NCIS during his apprehension.[75] Alternatively, NCIS had authority to seize the phone during their safety sweep of the Accused's barracks when they entered to execute the CASS. NCIS agents restrained the Accused and his roommates and searched them to ensure their safety. SA Gokey testified that she seized the phone because she believed she had probable cause. Indeed, at the time of the seizure NCIS had already interviewed the Accused on 1 June 2025. During that interview, he told NCIS that he and CS3 A.R. had been texting back and forth on 28 May 2025. He also told NCIS that he had borrowed a car from one of his roommates to take her back to her barracks room on the morning of 29 May 2025 but follow up interviews with the Accused's roommates did not corroborate that story; rather each one of them denied letting the Accused borrow a car that morning. As SA Gokey testified, she was aware that iPhones typically track a user's location. Because the Accused gave an apparent false account of his whereabouts on the morning that CS3 A.R. was last seen by anyone, and because the iPhone would provide a record of the texts the Accused exchanged with CS3 A.R. in the hours leading up to her disappearance, the iPhone's relevance was immediately apparent. The court finds that NCIS lawfully seized the Accused's iPhone. The court now turns to the search of the phone.

i. The Accused Consented to the Search of his iPhone

During the Accused's 3 June 2025 interview with NCIS, when he was asked by Special Agent Gokey it was ok if she looked at his phone, i.e., whether he'd be "cool with that", the Accused responded "yeah" and proceeded to provide agents with the pass code that unlocked his device. Had the Accused declined to provide consent he need only have refused to provide the passcode. The Accused indicated that he understood the purpose of the search and that could revoke consent at any time. At no point during the interview did the Accused express any refusal to permit the search. In evaluating the totality of the circumstances, the accused's affirmative response to NCIS' request to look at his phone followed by the Accused providing his secure pass code, and the iPhone's make and model to the special agents, evidences voluntary consent to the search of the phone.

The court also finds that the Accused's failure to sign the PASS did not amount to a revocation of his previous oral grant of consent. First, "it is clear . . . that a refusal to execute a

[74] *Wallace*, 66 M.J. at 8.
[75] *See* Mil. R. Evid. 314(g)(1) (providing that evidence is admissible if "seized in a search of a person who has been lawfully apprehended or if seized as a result of a reasonable protective sweep.").

written consent form subsequent to a voluntary oral consent does not act as an effective withdrawal of the prior oral consent."[76] When the Accused was first asked about signing the PASS it was *after* he had already told SA Gokey she could look at his phone and *after* he had already provided NCIS with the pass code to unlock the phone. The clear context of the ensuing conversation was that the Accused was concerned about the logistics of calling his mother and was not seeking to revoke his prior consent. The Accused never told agents they could not search his phone, never told the agents to stop and to give him back his phone, and never expressed anything approximating withdrawal of consent. Later when approached again about signing the PASS at the end of the interview, where the Accused again declined to sign, it was after he had just signed another PASS granting NCIS authority to search his backpack, barracks and electronic devices. Again, his refusal to sign does not indicate a revocation of his prior oral consent – he again does not tell agents to stop or to give him his phone back or to not search his phone – rather, taken in context, it reflects the fact the Accused was frustrated because he had just signed a search authorization and was ready to go home. Upon refusing to sign the PASS when asked a second time the Accused told NCIS, "No, I'm just, can we do this [ ] I'm just tryna go home." And just minutes later when asked if he'd like to call his mother, the Accused responded that he'd just wait and asked how much longer until they were able to leave. The clear import of this entire conversation is that the Accused was ready to be done with the interview and did not want to drag it on my continuing to fill out paperwork, especially after he had just filled out paperwork. But what his words and actions do not do is revoke the oral consent he gave SA Gokey for NCIS to search his phone.

Finally, the defense contends that Accused's request to have his phone returned once he was escorted back to his barracks room amounted to a revocation of his consent to search. Even if this question amounted to revocation of the Accused's consent, it affects only the seizure of the phone and not the search. The C.A.A.F. analyzed a similar situation in *United States v. Eugene*.[77] In that case, Eugene's wife turned over Eugene's cell phone to law enforcement personnel after she discovered what she believed to be contraband images and messages. Eugene had left the phone with his wife while he was on a field exercise. A routine search of the phone did not reveal anything of evidentiary value and four days after it was turned over, Eugene was interviewed and asked for his phone to be returned. Law enforcement denied his request and did a more thorough search several months later and found several items of evidentiary value that were later used against Eugene at his court-martial. The C.A.A.F. affirmed Eugene's conviction and the trial judge's denial of his motion to suppress the evidence found during the search, reasoning that Eugene's request for the return of his phone "implicated the seizure of the

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[76] *United States v. Lattimore*, 87 F.3d 647, 651 (4th Cir. 1996) (en banc). *See also United States v. Thompson*, 876 F.2d 1381, 1384 (8th Cir. 1989) (oral consent voluntary although defendant refused to sign written consent to search form); *United States v. Castillo,* 866 F.2d 1071, 1082 (9th Cir. 1988) (rejecting the argument that defendant's "refusal to sign a written consent form vitiated any oral consent"*); United States v. Boukater*, 409 F.2d 537, 539 (5th Cir. 1969) (finding defendant's oral consent voluntary despite defendant's later refusal to sign consent to search form); *United States v. De Los Santos*, 904 F. Supp. 91, 93 (N.D.N.Y. 1995) ("[A] defendant's refusal to sign a consent to search form does not vitiate [earlier oral] consent."); *United States v. Green*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 206238, *72-73 (S.D.N.Y.) ("As a general matter, a voluntary oral consent to search is not invalidated by a subsequent refusal to provide written consent to search."); *United States v. Roussos*, 1993 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 4405, at *7 (S.D.N.Y. 1993) ("Refusal to sign a form acknowledging that one has orally consented does not, absent more, negate the oral consent.").

[77] 78 M.J. 132 (C.A.A.F. 2018).

phone and not the search."[78] The C.A.A.F. pointed out that Eugene "never told [the law enforcement officials] not to search his cell phone or that he refused consent to search his cell phone[,]" instead, Eugene merely "asked . . . if he could have his cell phone back, most likely so he could continue to use it."[79]

Here, like the accused in *Eugene*, and assuming the Accused asked for his phone back so that he could call his mother, at most he was revoking consent to seize and not consent to search. But as noted previously, the Accused's cell phone was not seized based upon his consent, but was seized incident to his apprehension, or alternatively as part of a safety sweep prior to executing the CASS upon his barracks room. Accordingly, the Accused never revoked consent to search his phone.

ii. The Search of the iPhone was Conducted Pursuant to a CASS

Regardless of whether the Accused consented to the search of his phone or not, the actual search of the digital media contained on his phone was done pursuant to a CASS signed by the installation commander. In their motion, the defense does not contest the validity of this CASS but argues that the actual search of the phone was done prior to the CASS. This argument misapprehends the nature of the search for digital evidence.

As our superior courts have made clear, the physical phone and the digital contents of the phone are "distinct with respect to legal questions such as admissibility, search, and seizure."[80] On 4 June 2025, when an NCIS DFE obtained a full file system extraction of the Accused's iPhone, he was making a copy of the digital content of the iPhone. This act is a logical extension of the seizure of the iPhone and not a search of the contents of the digital media. As the C.A.A.F. made clear in *Strong*, simply seizing a physical phone does "not constitute seizure of the digital content of the iPhone."[81] Rather, to properly seize the digital media of a cellular phone and to, therefore, "exercise a fair degree of dominion and control over the property[,]"[82] NCIS "had to take additional steps to protect it from unauthorized remote manipulation or destruction" by "moving or copying the digital content to a secure location[.]"[83] That's exactly what happened here.

Only after the CASS was signed on 5 June 2025, did NCIS begin their search of the digital contents of the Accused's cell phone, ultimately leading to the evidence the defense now seeks to suppress. Because the full file system digital extraction was not a search of the contents of the digital media but was merely a step necessary to seize the digital media, and a valid CASS was executed prior to the search, the search was not unlawful.

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[78] *Id*. at 134.
[79] *Id.*
[80] *United States v. Secord*, 2025 CCA LEXIS 646, at *10 (C.A.A.F. 2025) (citing *United States v. Mitchell*, 76 M.J. 413, 420 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (holding that although the appellee's physical iPhone was admissible, the digital contents of the phone were inadmissible); *United States v. Strong*, 85 M.J. 58, 65 (C.A.A.F. 2024) (holding that "the seizure of Appellant's iPhone did not constitute seizure of the digital content of the iPhone")).
[81] *Strong*, 85 M.J. at 65.
[82] *Hoffman*, 75 M.J. at 124.
[83] *Strong,* 85 M.J. at 65.

iii. Doctrine of Inevitable Discovery Applies

Even if the search and seizure of the Accused's iPhone 15 Pro Max was unlawful and violated the Fourth Amendment, the evidence obtained and derived from the illegal search would still not be excluded because it would have been inevitably discovered.[84]

Indeed, even if the Accused's iPhone had never been seized, and independent of the Accused's 3 or 6 June 2025 NCIS interrogations, NCIS were taking investigatory steps that would have ultimately led to seizure and then a search of the Accused's iPhone 15 Pro Max. On 4 June 2025, NCIS obtained an Order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d) for T-Mobile Records pertaining to both CS3 A.R. and the Accused's cell phone accounts. Those records would provide device locations and reveal that the Accused contacted CS3 A.R. a total of 5 times between 1902 and 1904 on 1 June 2025 – after she had been missing for over two days. Also on 4 June 2025, LPR queries on the two vehicles the Accused had been known to borrow revealed that one of those vehicles belonging to AR Calisse was captured on Hampton Blvd in Norfolk in the early morning hours of 2 June 2025. AR Calisse told investigators that the Accused borrowed his car on the night of 1 June but did not return to base with it until 2 June making AR Calisse late for work. This evidence suggests that the Accused contacted CS3 A.R. via his cell phone after she had been reporting missing and more than two days after anyone had seen her, and then mere hours later had driven off-base in a borrowed car to an unknown location. This evidence alone would have made the Accused's cell phone extremely relevant and given NCIS probable cause to seek a CASS.

NCIS also conducted a scene examination in the hallway and stairwell closest to the Accused's barracks room in the X-2 Barracks on 4 June 2025. Multiple areas of reddish brown staining were observed in the stairwell. Subsequent DNA testing revealed that the reddish-brown substance matched CS3 A.R's DNA. Likewise, the suspected blood found in the Accused's closet during the search of his barracks room indicated that the blood found was a mixture originating from two individuals – both the Accused and CS3 A.R.'s DNA profile were included as contributors to this mixture. Again these forensic findings coupled with the knowledge that the Accused and CS3 A.R. were texting back and forth on 28 May 2025 (at the very least) would have given NCIS probable cause to search the Accused's iPhone since it was capable of storing communications between him and CS3 A.R., as well as photographs, and geolocation data related to CS3 A.R.'s disappearance.

In sum, the Government has "demonstrate[d] by a preponderance of the evidence that [if an] illegality occurred, the government agents possessed, or were actively pursuing, evidence or leads that would have inevitably led to the discovery of the evidence in a lawful manner."[85]

b. Search of the Accused's Barracks Room

The defense's argument for suppression of evidence obtained during the search of the Accused's barracks room is three-fold. First, the CASS was overboard and without particularity

[84] In their motion to suppress, the defense does not mention the Inevitable Discovery doctrine.
[85] *Eppes*, 77 M.J. at 347 (internal quotation marks, citations, and alterations omitted).

because it permitted a "limitless search of anything and everything[;]"[86] second, the blood found on the floor of the Accused's room and closet were found outside the scope of the CASS; and third, the CASS was not supported by probable cause.

Regarding the defense's overbreadth argument, the CASS was issued to investigate CS3 A.R's alleged unauthorized absence. The supporting affidavit for the CASS details CS3 A.R.'s last known movements and communications and indicate she was with the Accused in his barracks room on the night of 28 May 2025 and into the early morning hours of 29 May 2025. The Accused's roommates saw an unknown female in some state of undress lying asleep with the Accused on the floor in the common area of their shared barracks room. FCC Parker saw the Accused and CS3 A.R. on the morning of 29 May 2025 at approximately 0900 and she was in the Accused's bed. Given the nature of the evidence available to NCIS and the fact that they were searching for a missing person, the CASS authorized NCIS to search for traces of CS3 A.R.; including specifically, "items containing or could contain [DNA], blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence" and "[o]ther evidence, instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense."[87] It is the search for these items that defense contends turns the search into a limitless void rendering the CASS invalid. The defense argues that by allowing such a general search, the CASS fails C.A.A.F.'s requirement that there be some affirmative limitation to the scope of the search. Indeed, the Supreme Court has explained that the particularity requirement of the Fourth Amendment is a defining aspect of search and seizure law:

> The manifest purpose of this particularity requirement was to prevent general searches. By limiting the authorization to search to *the specific areas and things for which there is probable cause to search*, the requirement ensures that the search will be carefully tailored to its justifications, and will not take on the character of the wide-ranging exploratory searches the Framers intended to prohibit.[88]

But the defense argument fails, because the CASS does limit the search to only the Accused's barracks room, specifically Barracks X-2, Room 335B and the common area, and to only evidence related to CS3 A.R.'s disappearance and alleged Unauthorized Absence. Searching for potential biological evidence such as blood or DNA *in the last place where a person believed to be the missing person was seen* is a logical step when seeking evidence related to a missing or UA individual. The Accused's barracks room was the last place a woman believed to be CS3 A.R. was seen, so it was reasonable to search for trace evidence of her presence there.

With respect to the scope of the search, the defense suggests that searching the Barracks room floor, including the closet floor, was outside the scope of the search, especially given the fact that the NCIS used dogs, Bluestar reagent, and blacklights. This argument is without merit. The CASS authorized a search of the barracks room. The floor and closet (even a locked closet) are part of the barracks room and are certainly places where law enforcement agents might find

[86] AE XL at 7.
[87] AE LIX at 34.
[88] *Maryland v. Garrison*, 480 U.S. 79, 84 (1987).

items they were authorized to seize.[89] After all, a person in a UA status may hide in the closet. Likewise, the CASS does not, and need not, identify the means by which law enforcement agents might search the area they are authorized to search and the agents were well within their authority to employ the various tools at their disposal to conduct the search.

Next, the court has no issue finding probable cause for the search of the Accused's barracks room. While the defense attempts to recast the search as a quest for evidence related to the Accused's alleged unauthorized absence and then points out at the time the CASS was signed, the Accused was not UA, this is an inaccurate understanding of the facts surrounding the issuance of the CASS. The CASS was issued to search for evidence related to CS3 A.R.'s UA. To be constitutionally valid, a search authorization can only be issued "when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a common-sense judgment would lead to the conclusion that there is a fair probability that evidence of a crime will be found at the identified location."[90] Here, based on the totality of circumstances and common sense, there was a fair probability that evidence of CS3 A.R.'s disappearance or UA would be found in the last place she was seen – the Accused's barracks room.

Even if the CASS was somehow deficient, the Good Faith exception would apply. First, there was a search authorization issued by a person with authority to issue it, the Commanding Officer (CO) of Naval Station Norfolk was authorized to issue search authorizations for barracks facilities on his installation, and Barracks X-2 is onboard Naval Station Norfolk. Second, the CO had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause existed because under the totality of the circumstances, there was a fair probability that evidence of CS3 A.R.'s UA would be found where she was last seen. And finally, the NCIS search team reasonably and in good faith relied on the issuance of the authorization. In short, Special Agent Gokey presented a proper affidavit to the CO, and her team relied on it; she would not have known that the search was illegal in light of all of the circumstances.

Finally, the inevitable discovery doctrine applies to the search of the Accused's barracks room. First, contemporaneous with the ongoing search, the Accused Copeland signed a PASS for the search of his barracks room during his 3 June interview. That fact alone would have led to the discovery of the evidence obtained during the NCIS search of his barracks room. Moreover, other independent, contemporaneously developing evidence would have produced probable cause for a valid search authorization of the Accused's barracks room. On 1 June 2025 during his initial interview with NCIS, the Accused voluntarily told law enforcement that he had been texting the victim on 28 May 2025, and during his 3 June 2025 NCIS interrogation he indicated he texted her on 1 June 2025 letting her know they were marked UA. Independent of those statements, on 4 June 2025, a 2703(d) order from AT&T confirmed that the Accused contacted CS3 A.R.'s phone multiple times on the evening of 1 June 2025. Also on 3 June, investigators learned that the Accused borrowed his roommate's car overnight, with license-plate-reader data

[89] The agents were authorized to seize: 1. Bed linens, sheets, towels, blankets, pillows that appear to have used or were used recently; 2. Used condoms and condom wrappers; 3. Any clothing appearing to belong to a female; 4. Items containing or could reasonably contain DNA, blood or other bodily fluids and trace biological evidence; 5 Black rimmed glasses; and 6. Other evidence instrumentalities or fruits of the alleged offense. *See* AE 59 at 161.
[90] *United States v. Perkins*, 78 M.J. 550, 553 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2018), *aff'd*, *United States v. Perkins*, 78 M.J. 381 (C.A.A.F. 2019).

placing the vehicle on Hampton Boulevard outside Naval Station Norfolk heading to an unknown location mere hours after the Accused had been texting CS3 A.R.'s phone. Most significantly, law enforcement discovered blood in the hallway and stairwell immediately outside the barracks room—locations requiring no search authorization—and subsequent testing confirmed the blood belonged to CS3 A.R.. These facts, taken together, would have inevitably led to the issuance of a search authorization for the barracks room and the contested evidence would have been lawfully discovered regardless of any alleged defect in the initial search or search authorization.

c. Statements made by the Accused during his 3 and 6 June 2025 NCIS Interviews

i. 3 June 2025 NCIS Interview

The defense contends that the statements made by the Accused during his 3 June 2025 interview were made in violation of his rights under the Fifth Amendment and Article 31(b), UCMJ and must be suppressed. First the defense argues that the NCIS agents failed to notify the Accused of all charges they suspected him of committing. Second, the defense argues that because the interview took place late at night and because the Accused was tired, his statements were not voluntary.

First, the Accused was notified that he was suspected of violating Article 86, Unauthorized Absence, and Article 107, False Official Statement. At the time of his 3 June 2025 interview, CS3 A.R. had only been missing five days and there was no direct evidence she was deceased or that the Accused had any role in her possible death. At the time of the interview, the interviewing agents were not aware that blood was found in the Accused's barracks room and were certainly not aware that that blood would later be tested and confirm the presence of CS3 A.R.'s DNA. Rather, NCIS was conducting a missing person investigation and were concerned, based on their interviews with ET3 Rich, HT3 Gillespie, and CS3 A.R.'s mother, about CS3 A.R.'s mental health and well-being. As Special Agent Gokey testified, she had no reason to believe "that something terrible had happened to [CS3 A.R.]" when she sat down to interview the Accused on 3 June 2025 and that she was just trying to find CS3 A.R. Accordingly, Special Agent Gokey warned the Accused based on the crimes she did suspect him of, UA and providing a false official statement, based on a discrepancy between his statement on 1 June 2025 that he had borrowed a roommate's car to take CS3 A.R. back to her barracks room, and his roommates denying that they had let him borrow a car. In short, Special Agent Gokey did not advise the Accused that he was suspected of murder because she did not believe that the Accused committed murder, and that belief was entirely reasonable given the facts known to NCIS at the time.

Next, the court finds that based upon the totality of circumstances, the Accused's statements to NCIS during his 3 June 2025 interview were voluntary. Although the interview began late in the evening, prior to arriving at NCIS, the Accused was relaxing in his barracks room, playing video games and watching TV. Once he arrived at NCIS Field Office he was taken to an interrogation room where he was asked if he had eaten anything and given snacks and a drink. He was properly advised of his Article 31(b) rights by Special Agent Gokey, stated he understood them and signed the written warning. Throughout the three-hour interview there

were several breaks, and although during the longer breaks the Accused appeared to sleep or take naps, he was alert and was able to cogently and confidently answer questions when asked and demonstrated full capacity to understand the situation, the rights he had been advised of, and the consequences of speaking with investigators. Notably, when the Accused wanted to decline participation, as when he declined to sign the PASS for his iPhone, he did. Under these circumstances and considering both his personal characteristics and the conditions of the interview, the totality of the evidence demonstrates that his statements were voluntary. The government has carried their burden to demonstrate that the statements were made voluntarily and are admissible.

ii. 6 June 2025 NCIS Interview

The defense's argument here is similar to their 3 June argument. First, that agents failed to advise the Accused that he was suspected of murder, despite the fact that blood was found in his closet and on his bathroom sink; and second, that his statements on 6 June were not voluntary because the Accused made it clear to NCIS that his mental health was rapidly deteriorating and he did not want to be answering questions.

Again, the courts finds these arguments unpersuasive. Prior to interrogating the Accused, NCIS agents provided him with his Article 31(b) rights advisement and advised him that he was suspected of making false official statements and the knowledge of the possible death of CS3 A.R. At the time of this interview, CS3 A.R.'s body had still not been found and there was no DNA analysis that linked any blood found in the Accused's barracks room to anyone. After all, it is altogether unsurprising that trace amounts of blood might be found in someone's sink, or in someone's closet where clothes and shoes are stored, or even in other locations in a barracks room where individual's live and carry on their daily activities. It is a "long leap" from the presence of blood in places where blood is routinely found and some inconsistent statements about your own whereabouts to murder.[91] Again, whether a person is suspected of an offense is an objective question and given the facts known to NCIS at this time, it was entirely reasonable to not consider the Accused a murder suspect. And the NCIS Agents here did not, in fact, consider him a murder suspect and told him so. When offering the Accused a polygraph exam, the NCIS agent specifically told the Accused that he was not "suspected of causing harm to [CS3 A.R.]" but the polygraph would "make sure you didn't."[92]

Nonetheless, recognizing that by 6 June 2025, CS3 A.R. had been missing for eight days and significant investigative steps had failed to find her, NCIS did advise the Accused that he was suspected of having knowledge of her possible death. Advising a suspect that law enforcement believes he may have knowledge of a person's death is not a peripheral or ambiguous statement; it alerts any reasonable person that investigators are exploring the circumstances surrounding that person's disappearance, possible demise, and the suspect's potential involvement in or awareness of those circumstances. In practical effect, such an advisement directs the Accused to the same factual core that underlies an Article 118 inquiry—the events leading to the victim's disappearance, the Accused's last known interactions with her, and whether he played any role in or has information about her death. Again, "[t]he purpose of informing a suspect or accused

[91] *Metz*, 84 M.J. at 427.
[92] AE XXXIII at 14.

of the nature of the accusation is to orient him to the transaction or incident in which he is allegedly involved[; i]t is not necessary to spell out the details of his connection with the matter under inquiry with technical nicety."[93] The "precision and expertise of an attorney in informing the accused of the nature of the accusation under Article 31 is not required[,]"[94] and the agent's warning in this case certainly informed the Accused of the nature of the accusation and oriented him to the gravity and nature of the suspected misconduct.

Finally, the court concludes that the 6 June 2025 statements by the Accused were voluntary. At the beginning of the interview, Agents told the Accused that he was in full control of the process and emphasized that he could terminate the interview at any time. Indeed, when asked whether he would submit to a polygraph exam, the Accused asked questions and ultimately declined to participate in a polygraph exam but agreed to continue talking with the NCIS agents. That the Accused was able to ask informed questions about and then affirmatively decline participation in polygraph exam evidences his ability to refuse to cooperate with law enforcement when he chooses to. That he then continued his interview with NCIS convinces the court that the statements he made were voluntary.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motions to Suppress evidence obtained and derived from the search of the Accused's iPhone 15 Pro Max, and his barracks room, as well as the Defense Motion to Suppress the statements the Accused made during his 3 and 6 June 2025 NCIS interviews, as detailed herein, are hereby **DENIED.**

So ordered this 27th day of January, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

[93] *Simpson*, 54 M.J. at 284 (internal quotations omitted).
[94] *Id.*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 22 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Place or Places of Trial) *(Date or Dates of Trial)*

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 22 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE LXX through AE LXXXI).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO MIL. R. EVID. 404(b)** **28 JANUARY 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion to exclude evidence of prior crimes, wrongs, or other acts of the accused that the Government indicated it intended to introduce at trial.[1] The Government responded on 5 December 2025[2] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

As the proponent of the evidence, the Government bears the burden of proof to establish any factual matters regarding the admissibility of any evidence offered pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 404(b) by a preponderance of the evidence.[3]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) VIII.
[2] AE LX.
[3] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c)(1).

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

Facts Related to Charged Misconduct

a. On 26 July 2024, NCIS was notified of an alleged aggravated sexual contact and abusive sexual contact perpetrated upon ABHAN C.R. by the Accused. The alleged conduct occurred on 23 July 2024 at 0200 aboard the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75).

b. On 23 July 2024, ABHAN C.R. was with her boyfriend on the mess decks of USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). After he left to go to bed, the Accused sent Snapchat messages to ABHAN C.R. seeking to speak with her about her relationship with her boyfriend. ABHAN C.R. agreed. The two went to the fantail where the Accused told ABHAN C.R. that her boyfriend was not treating her properly and that she should date him instead. ABHAN C.R. declined.

c. Next, ABHAN C.R. alleges that after discussing her relationship, the Accused began to pretend to arrest her. The Accused forced ABHAN C.R.'s hands behind her back and grabbed her vulva over the clothing. According to ABHAN C.R., she punched the Accused in the stomach and in response, the Accused stated he heard that ABHAN C.R. liked to be choked and applied pressure to her neck with a hand, restricting her breathing. ABHAN C.R. pushed the Accused's hand away, but he kept replacing it and applying pressure. The Accused simultaneously kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breasts, buttocks, and vulva over the clothing. After about a minute, the Accused stopped and ABHAN C.R. advised she was going to bed and left the Accused on the fantail. ABHAN C.R. reported the incident to her boyfriend and filed a formal report on 26 July 2024. ABHAN C.R.'s boyfriend described observing bruising on ABHAN C.R. after the incident.

d. ABHAN C.R.'s complaint forms the basis for Charge 1, Specifications 1 and 2; and the sole Specification of Charge II.

e. On 6 November 2024, NCIS was notified of an alleged sexual assault aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) that had occurred on 4 November 2024 at a port call in Oslo, Norway. CSSN S.S. alleged that the Accused was the perpetrator.

f. On the evening of 4 November 2024, the Accused arrived at a bar and began to hang out with CSSN S.S. and others during a liberty call in Oslo, Norway. CSSN S.S. was extremely intoxicated and could not recall the events of the evening. The next day, several individuals approached her and told her that the Accused had shown them a video he recorded on his phone of him having sex with her in the bathroom of the bar the night prior. CSSN S.S. was described as bent over and the Accused was penetrating her vagina from behind with his penis. CSSN S.S. did not recall this occurring and confronted the Accused via text and over the phone. The Accused denied having sex with her or recording the encounter and stated that CSSN S.S. was trying to ruin his life and that he was going kill himself.

g. After he was accused of sexual assault by CSSN S.S., the Accused went on liberty with CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN. The Accused told CSSN Cousins about the allegations, that his "life was

over," refused to return to the ship, and tried to kill himself by walking in front of approximately three trains until security from the ship finally retrieved him.

h. After a report was made on 6 November 2024 by CSSN S.S., a search of the Accused was conducted to obtain his cell phone. The Accused advised he did not have the phone and had given it to CSSN Cousins. CSSN Cousins was questioned about the phone immediately after and he denied that the Accused had provided him with his phone at any point. Subsequent searches of CSSN Cousins, the Accused's berthing, rack, and locker spaces failed to recover the phone.

i. In an 18 November 2024, interview with NCIS, the Accused admitted to having consensual sex with CSSN S.S. In this interview, the Accused repeated that he had given his phone to CSSN Cousins before stating his phone had fallen out of pocket, shattered, and was lost.

j. In a subsequent interview with NCIS on 20 December 2024, the Accused stated that he obtained a new phone while in a port call in Marseille, France and provided NCIS with digital evidence he was able to access via iCloud. Despite showing videos from that night to NCIS, the Accused said he no longer had access to the video he took of his sexual encounter with CSSN S.S.

k. CSSN S.S.'s complaint forms the basis of Charge I, Specification 4; Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2; and Charge IV, Specification 1.

l. On 11 April 2025, CS3 S.R. notified Naval Station Norfolk Security forces that she was assaulted by the Accused, specifically alleging that he had "choked" her.

m. On 11 April 2025, CSSN S.R. was dating the Accused and was on his barracks room couch with him while he was asleep. According to CSSN S.R., she learned that the Accused was also dating someone else and then woke the Accused up and confronted him. When she sought to leave, the Accused pushed her down on the couch and strangled her with both hands for about ten seconds.

n. CSSN S.R.'s allegations form the basis for Charge V, Specifications 1 and 2.

o. On 31 May 2025, NCIS was notified that CS3 A.R. was a missing person and they began their investigation into her whereabouts. According to several witnesses, CS3 A.R. was last seen with the Accused.

p. On 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. left work in the morning, shopped at Target with a friend, and later went to the barracks room of the Accused to cook tacos. CS3 A.R. arrived at the Accused's barracks room on the evening of 28 May 2025 onboard Naval Station Norfolk.

q. At 2322 on 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. sent a text message to an ex-boyfriend, HT3 Michael Gillispie, USN that read "Fuck you." CS3 A.R. did not respond to HT3 Gillispie after that message, despite numerous attempts by HT3 Gillispie to contact her.

r. At 0214 on 29 May 2025, CS3 A.R. called an ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel Rich, USN. ET3 Rich explained that CS3 A.R. was "freaking out" and requesting to be picked up "ASAP." According to ET3 Rich, CS3 A.R. was frantic and crying and just kept repeating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible. ET3 Rich explained that during the call with CS3 A.R., a frantic male voice came on the phone and asked how far away he was, to which ET3 Rich replied he was 10-15 minutes away. The phone was handed back to CS3 A.R., and ET3 Rich told her he was on his

way, and the call ended. CS3 A.R. always shared her location with ET3 Rich, but ET3 Rich did not know who she was with or what room she was in exactly.

s. When ET3 Rich passed through the gate entering Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 0228, he called CS3 A.R. repeatedly, but she did not answer her phone. ET3 Rich then notified base police of the situation and connected with HT3 Gillispie to help search for CS3 A.R. Despite hours of searching, CS3 A.R. was not located. Her phone stopped pinging at 0456 on 29 May 2025, indicating it was dead or turned off.

t. The Accused's barracks room was comprised of a common area flanked on either side by two bedrooms, with each bedroom containing two roommates. The Accused shared a room with YN3 Sean Monoghan, USN. The other bedroom was occupied by PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN, and AR John Calisse, USN. AR Calisse reported hearing karaoke between the Accused and an unknown female around 0200 on 29 May 2025, but did not investigate.

u. PSSN Gordillocruz arrived back to the barracks room at approximately 0400 on 29 May 2025. He advised that all of the lights were off and he did not see anyone at that time. At around 0500, YN3 Monoghan got up to go to work and he realized that no one was in the Accused's bed. He departed his bedroom at approximately 0640 and saw the Accused on the floor of the living room asleep with a girl he did not recognize, both in a state of undress. Between 0530 and 0645, both PSSN Gordillocruz and AR Calisse departed their room. They observed a female laying nearly fully naked with her breasts exposed on the floor of the common area with CSSN Copeland laying naked face up with his head on her torso or thigh. AR Calisse was surprised they did not wake up when they entered the room. YN3 Monoghan asked the Accused later if they were naked and the Accused laughed it off and said they were in underwear.

v. At 0852, FCC Bradley Parker, USN, arrived at the Accused's barracks to determine why he was not at work on the ship. At the time, FCC Parker was aware the CS3 A.R. was also missing and was seeking help the night prior from ET3 Rich. FCC Parker said that the Accused appeared to have just woken up when he answered the door. FCC Parker told the Accused to come to work, but the Accused told FCC Parker he was not alone and indicated he was with CS3 A.R. FCC Parker observed CS3 A.R. on the Accused's bed wrapped in a blanket with her feet exposed. FCC Parker and the Accused then spoke in the common area and he told him to ensure that CS3 A.R. was taken care of and to come to work. FCC Parker left after only being present for a few minutes.

w. The Accused told FCC Parker that CS3 A.R. had come over after calling him looking for someone to talk to, but she forgot her phone when he picked her up. He also told FCC Parker they fell asleep watching movies and that his alarm did not go off because his phone had died overnight.

x. The Accused next spoke with FCC Parker at 1241 on 29 May 2025 and advised that he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks. Despite repeated notifications to come to the ship over the weekend, the Accused did not do so.

y. On the afternoon of 1 June 2025, base police searched the Accused's barracks for the Accused and located him in a bathroom near a lounge and advised him to report to work, which he did later that same day. After returning to his barracks at around 2100 on 1 June 2025, the Accused asked to borrow AR Calisse's car, a white Jeep, and AR Calisse agreed and gave him the vehicle's keys.

z. At approximately 0418 on 2 June 2025, the Accused's Iphone 15 Pro Max left base and traveled south down Hampton Boulevard. The user of the Iphone 15 Pro Max searched for Parks and Trails while it traveled. At approximately 0436-0440, the Accused's Iphone 15 Pro Max was located in a parking lot near a wooded area, and AR Calisse's jeep was photographed on a street camera at 0440 in the same area as the Iphone 15 Pro Max.

aa. At 0447, the Iphone 15 Pro Max user marked a location on Apple Maps and looked for directions to that location. At 0448, the Iphone 15 Pro Max was placed in Airplane mode and taken off Airplane mode at approximately 0516. During the time the Iphone 15 Pro Max was in Airplane mode, the phone recorded health data indicating that between 0500 and 0515, the phone was near the area of 2852 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia. The Iphone 15 Pro Max user took a screenshot of the pinned location in the wooded area near 2852 Cary Avenue.

ab. On 9 June, investigators went to the location near 2852 Cary Avenue that had been marked in the Iphone 15 Pro Max and discovered the remains of CS3 A.R. in a black bag. A search of the Accused's barracks room revealed the presence of CS3 A.R.'s blood in the Accused's closet and in the stairwell leading to the barracks parking lot.

ac. The Accused spoke with NCIS on 1 June, 3 June and 6 June 2025. On 1 June, he told NCIS that he and CS3 A.R. slept in his bed on the night of 28 May 2025/early morning of 29 May 2025, that they did not have sex, and was awoken by FCC Parker later that morning. He also told NCIS that he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room later that morning. On 3 June, the Accused told investigators he never said he dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks and that CS3 A.R. had left under her own power. He also denied knowing that CS3 A.R. had called ET3 Rich.

ad. Two autopsies were conducted in this case and neither reached a conclusive cause of death because of the decomposition of CS3 A.R.'s remains. Based on their observations, blunt force trauma, stabbing, shooting, death by natural causes, and overdose could effectively be ruled out, although the second pathologist stated that evidence of blunt force trauma may have simply decomposed. Both medical examiners opined that death by asphyxiation, such as by strangulation or suffocation, was possible.

ae. The investigation in CS3 A.R.'s death led to the Charge IV, Specifications 2 and 3; Charge VI, Specification 1 and 2; and the sole Specification of Charge VII.

af. On 24 June 2025, NCIS searched the Accused's phone and located a phone number they believed belonged to a minor "based off inferences" related to the content of the messages. When NCIS called the number, they determined Y.J. was not a minor, though they asked her what she knew about the Accused. Y.J. stated that the Accused had sexually assaulted her in his barracks room in April or May 2025.

ag. According to Y.J., on 25 May 2025, she was at the Accused's barracks room with two other Sailors – LSSA Omeri Smoot and AEAN Jdyn Bradford. When the Accused arrived, he pulled Y.J. into his room and asked Y.J. to perform oral sex. Y.J. told investigators that she refused because she was tired, but that the Accused then penetrated her vagina without her consent, despite her telling him to stop. The other two Sailors could hear him telling her to stop and entered the room to break them up before one the Sailors took Y.J. home.

ah. Y.J.'s allegations form the basis for Specification 4 of Charge I.

Facts Related to Uncharged Misconduct

ai. In May 2022, when the Accused was in high school, a fellow student accused him of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. Investigators obtained a warrant for the Accused's phone after he admitted to recording it, but the Accused advised his mother had taken his phone away preventing him from giving it to investigators. The Accused's mother advised that she told the Accused to put his phone on her dresser but found out he had only put the case for his phone there instead. The Accused then advised he had misplaced the phone. The phone was never recovered.

aj. In June 2022, L.L. alleged that the Accused was at her home and they were sitting on the couch together. She alleges that the Accused pressured her to hug and kissed her without her consent.[4] The Accused told investigators that he was with L.L. on the couch but denied touching her inappropriately and denied kissing L.L. without consent, only that he attempted to kiss her. The Accused also told investigators that L.L. had sent him nude photographs and messages asking to be "fucked," but when asked, the Accused advised he did not have those messages.

ak. Additional facts necessary to resolve the issue are contained below.

4. Statement of Law.

Evidence is relevant if it has any tendency to make a fact of consequence in determining the action more or less probable than it would be without the evidence.[5] Relevant evidence is generally admissible absent some other rule to the contrary.[6] Relevant evidence may be excluded where its probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of, among other things, causing unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, or misleading the members.[7]

Res gestae evidence is evidence of "the events at issue, or other events contemporaneous with them."[8] Such evidence is intrinsic to the alleged offense or offenses because it is "inexorably intertwined with the alleged offense itself . . . [and] becomes part of the *res gestae* of the offense."[9] *Res gestae* evidence allows the parties to present the full picture to the finder of fact to avoid confusion and gaps in the narrative.[10]

Extrinsic evidence of other crimes, wrongs, or acts is not admissible to prove a person's character to show the person acted in conformity with that aspect of his or her character on a

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[4] The Government also sought to admit sexual assault allegations made by L.L pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 413. The court resolved that motion is a separate ruling, denying the Government's motion. *See* AE LXVII.
[5] Mil. R. Evid. 401.
[6] Mil. R. Evid. 402.
[7] Mil. R. Evid. 403.
[8] *United States v. St. Jean*, 83 M.J. 109, 110 n.2 (C.A.A.F. 2023) (citing Black's Law Dictonary 1565 (11th ed. 2019).
[9] *United States v. Gaddy*, No. , 2017 CCA LEXIS 179, at *5 (A.C.C.A. March 20th, 2017) (citing and quoting *United States v. Peel*, 29 M.J. 235, 239 (C.A.A.F. 1989)).
[10] *United States v. Metz*, 34 M.J. 349, 351 (C.M.A. 1992)).

particular occasion.[11] However, Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 404(b) provides that such evidence may be admitted for another non-character purpose, such as proving motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, identity, knowledge, absence of mistake, or lack of accident.[12] Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) "is a rule of inclusion rather than exclusion" and "permits admission of relevant evidence of other crimes or acts unless the evidence tends to prove only criminal disposition."[13] "The test for admissibility of uncharged acts is 'whether the evidence of the misconduct is offered for some purpose other than to demonstrate the accused's predisposition to crime and thereby to suggest that the fact finder infer that he is guilty, as charged, because he is predisposed to commit similar offenses.'"[14]

To introduce evidence of a "motive," the Government must show that the act evidenced "an emotional need in that person which could have incited or stimulated that person to do that act in satisfaction of that emotion."[15] The prior acts must be the type which reasonably could be viewed as "the expression and effect of the existing internal emotion."[16] Moreover, this same motive must be shown to have existed in appellant at the time of the subsequently charged acts.[17]

Intent evidence asks whether the Accused's "state of mind in the commission of both the charged and uncharged acts was sufficiently similar to make the evidence of the prior acts relevant on the intent element of the charged offenses."[18] In short, "[w]here evidence of other crimes is offered to prove intent, the relevancy of the other crime is derived from the accused's possession of the same state of mind in the commission of both crimes."[19]

To be relevant as evidence of a common plan or scheme, the other acts must be sufficiently similar to, or intertwined with, the charged acts such that: (1) "the uncharged acts . . . establish a 'plan' of which the charged act is an additional manifestation," or (2) the uncharged acts are evidence that the Accused had devised some system or method of committing the charged acts.[20] In contrast, if the uncharged acts and the charged acts "merely share some common elements," then the uncharged acts do not establish a common plan or scheme.[21] Additionally, the common plan or scheme must make a fact of consequence to the action more probable or less probable that without the evidence of the common plan or scheme, in other words the plan or scheme itself must be relevant.[22]

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[11] Mil. R. Evid. 404(a).
[12] Mil. R. Evid. 404(b).
[13] *United States v. Browning*, 54 M.J. 1, 6 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (internal citations and quotation marks omitted).
[14] *United States v. Pimienta*, 66 M.J. 610, 613 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2008) (quoting *United States v. Castillo*, 29 M.J. 145, 150 (C.M.A. 1989).
[15] *United States v. Whitner*, 51 M.J. 457, 461 (C.A.A.F. 1999) (citations omitted).
[16] *United States v. Watkins*, 21 M.J. 224, 227 (C.M.A. 1986).
[17] *Id.*
[18] *United States v. McDonald*, 59 M.J. 426, 430 (C.A.A.F. 2004) (citations omitted).
[19] *United States v. Rappaport*, 22 M.J. 445, 447 (C.M.A. 1986) (citations omitted).
[20] *United States v. McDonald*, 59 M.J. 426, 430 (C.A.A.F. 2004) (citing *United States v. Morrison*, 52 M.J. 117, 122 (C.A.A.F. 1999) and *United States v. Munoz*, 32 M.J. 359, 363-64 (C.M.A. 1991)); *United States v. Hyppolite*, 79 M.J. 161, 165-66 (C.A.A.F. 2019).
[21] *McDonald*, 59 M.J. at 430.
[22] *See Hyppolite*, 79 M.J. at 165, 167 (finding that trial counsel's argument that proof of this scheme made a fact of consequence—whether the 'accused knew what he was doing' more probable showed that the common plan or scheme was relevant to a fact of consequence); Mil. R. Evid. 401-402.

In *United States v. Cook*, the CAAF concluded that one of the other purposes for which uncharged misconduct may be admissible is evidence of consciousness of guilt.[23] Evidence of consciousness of guilt is "an acceptable form of circumstantial evidence used to show 'awareness of an accused that he or she has engaged in blameworthy conduct.'"[24] "By contrast, propensity evidence is a generally impermissible form of character evidence in which members 'prove a person's character in order to show that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with the character.'"[25]

Military courts apply a three-prong analysis from *United States v. Reynolds* to determine whether evidence may be admissible under M.R.E. 404(b):

(1) Does the evidence reasonably support a finding by the court members that the accused committed the other crime, wrong, or act?

(2) What fact of consequence is made more probable or less probable by the existence of this evidence?

(3) Is the probative value substantially outweighed by one of the following dangers: unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, misleading the members, undue delay, wasting time, or needlessly presenting cumulative evidence?[26]

To be admissible the evidence at issue must fulfill all three prongs.[27] "The first and second prongs address the logical relevance of the evidence."[28] "The third prong ensures that the evidence is legally, as well as logically, relevant."[29] When analyzing the last prong – legal relevance under Mil. R. Evid. 403 – military courts should consider the following factors:

(1) the strength of the proof of the prior act;

(2) the probative weight of the evidence;

(3) the potential to present less prejudicial evidence;

(4) the possible distraction of the fact-finder;

(5) the time needed to prove the prior conduct;

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[23] *United States v. Cook*, 48 M.J. 64, 66 (C.A.A.F. 2010).
[24] *United States v. Quezada*, 82 M.J. 54, 59 (C.A.A.F. 2021) (quoting *Black's Law Dictionary* 379 (11th ed.)).
[25] *Id.* (quoting Mil. R. Evid. 404(b)(1)).
[26] *United States v. Reynolds*, 29 M.J. 105 (C.M.A. 1989).
[27] *Id.* at 106.
[28] *United States v. Barnett*, 63 M.J. 388, 394 (C.A.A.F. 2006) (quoting *United States v. McDonald*, 59 M.J. 426, 429 (C.A.A.F. 2004), and citing Mil. R. Evid. 401 and Mil R. Evid. 402; *see also Huddleston v. United States*, 485 U.S. 681, 686-87, 689 (1988)).
[29] *Id.* (quoting *McDonald*, 59 M.J. at 429 and citing Mil. R. Evid. 403; *see also Huddleston v. United States*, 485 U.S. at 687-88).

(6) the temporal proximity of the prior event;

(7) the frequency of the acts;

(8) the presence of any intervening circumstances; and

(9) the relationship between the parties.[30]

Although *Reynolds* dealt with the admissibility of *uncharged* misconduct, in *United States v. Tanksley*, the CAAF applied *Reynolds* when the government sought to use evidence of *charged* misconduct to prove intent for another charged offense.[31] Indeed, "evidence may be admissible for some purposes but not for others."[32] Thus, the question is "whether the evidence of the misconduct is offered for some purpose other than to demonstrate the accused's predisposition to crime and thereby to suggest that the factfinder infer that he is guilty, as charged, because he is predisposed to commit similar offenses."[33]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The Government notice pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) identifies eight broad categories of evidence, each with several distinct pieces of evidence, they seek to admit under the rule.[34] Much of the evidence the Government seeks to admit pursuant to Mil. R. Evid 404(b) is, however, already admissible as *res gestae* evidence for the offenses charged. The defense conceded this point in their motion and at oral argument. Nonetheless, "evidence may be admissible for some purposes but not for others."[35] So, the Government seeks admission of the evidence not only as *res gestae* but as "other crimes, wrongs, or acts" evidence and seeks an instruction from the court authorizing the members to consider the evidence to prove motive, intent, knowledge, lack of mistake or accident, and a common plan or scheme for other charged offenses. But because the evidence is already admissible and will presumably be presented in the Government's case in chief, the court defers ruling on the evidence's use for Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) purposes until the evidence is admitted before the trier of fact and there is a more complete picture of the state of the evidence.

This ruling, therefore, concerns only the uncharged conduct the Government seeks to admit under Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) or as *res gestae*.

a. Pre-service Allegations

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[30] *United States v. Berry*, 61 M.J. 91, 95 (C.A.A.F. 2005) (citing *United States v. Wright*, 53 M.J. 476, 482 (C.A.A.F. 2000)). While initially used to assess legal relevance of propensity evidence under M.R.E. 413, these factors are also used to assess legal relevance of other acts under M.R.E. 404(b). *See Barnett*, 63 M.J. at 396.
[31] *United States v. Tanksley*, 54 M.J. 169, 176 (C.A.A.F. 2000), *overruled on other grounds by United States v. Inong*, 58 M.J. 460, 464 (C.A.A.F. 2003). *See also Hyppolite*, 79 M.J at 164 (*citing United States v. Phillips*, 52 M.J. 268, 271 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (finding the military judge did not abuse his discretion in admitting evidence of charged misconduct to prove a common plan or scheme with other charged misconduct).
[32] *Hyppolite*, 79 M.J. at 164.
[33] *Tanksley*, 54 M.J. 169, 175 (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).
[34] *See* AE XIX at Enclosure (a).
[35] *Hyppolite*, 79 M.J. at 164.

The Government seeks to admit three items of evidence related to his pre-service conduct as a high school student.

First, the Government offers evidence that in May 2022, the Accused hid his cell phone and then made misleading statements to investigators about the location of his cell phone after a fellow student accused him of unlawfully recording a sexual encounter between them with his phone. The Accused's phone was never found. The Government argues that evidence that the Accused hid his cell phone in high school is admissible to prove a common scheme and lack of accident for the obstruction of justice specifications related to hiding his cell phone, and as consciousness of guilt for the sexual assault of CSSN S.S., the indecent recording and broadcasting specifications, the obstruction of justice specifications, the false official statement specifications, and premeditated murder. In addition, the Government avers that the Accused's *statements to investigators* that his mother had taken his phone and later that he had misplaced his phone are admissible to show a common scheme and consciousness of guilt for the sexual assault and contact charges, the strangulation charge, the indecent recording and broadcasting charges, the obstruction of justice charges, the false official statement charges, and the premeditated murder charge. The Government also contends this evidence is admissible to show the Accused's intent for the false official statement specifications.

Second, the Government seeks to admit evidence that in June 2022, the Accused again made misleading statements to investigators after a fellow high school student, L.L., accused him of touching her vulva without her consent while they sat on a couch together and that he pressured her to hug him and kissed her without her consent. The Accused told investigators that he did sit on the couch with L.L. but denied any inappropriate touching and denied kissing L.L., stating that he only attempted to. The Accused also told investigators that L.L. sent him nude photos and messages asking to have sex with him but could not produce those messages for investigators. The Government argues the statements to police were half-truths and are admissible to show a common scheme and consciousness of guilt for the sexual assault and contact charges, the strangulation charge, the indecent recording and broadcasting charges, the obstruction of justice charges, the false official statement charges, and the premeditated murder charge. As before, the Government also contends this evidence is admissible to show the Accused's intent for the false official statement specifications.

Finally, the Government seeks to introduce evidence that during the alleged assault of L.L. discussed above, the Accused made an "evil grin." This evidence, the Government contends, is admissible to prove that the Accused's motive, intent, and identity with respect to the strangulation offense alleged in Charge V, Specification 1 where CSSN S.R. described the Accused as smiling while he strangled her.

With respect to the pre-service allegations involving L.L., the court has already ruled that her allegation of sexual assault was inadmissible pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 413.[36] As the court noted in conducting its Mil. R. Evid. 403 balancing test and applying the *Berry* factors, the strength of proof of the prior allegation of sexual assault was relatively weak and based entirely on L.L.'s statements. Further, the court determined that there was a great risk that introduction of L.L.'s

[36] *See* AE LXVII.

allegations would distract the factfinder and take significant time to prove. The same is true with regards to the allegations that the Accused kissed L.L., made an "evil grin", and misled investigators about his interactions with L.L. Again, there is no relationship between L.L. or any of the other alleged victims in this case and the pre-service conduct did not take place in temporal proximity with the charged offenses. Accordingly, the defense request to exclude evidence related to L.L. is granted.

The same analysis also holds true for the pre-service allegation that the Accused hid and then misled investigators about the whereabouts of his phone. First, with respect to his alleged hiding of his phone, there is evidence by which the members could reasonably find that the Accused hid his phone. Likewise, the uncharged act is evidence that the Accused had devised some system or method of committing the charged acts and that it was not merely an accident that he lost his phone on the two charged occasions. But, here too, the evidence fails the Mil. R. Evid. 403 balancing test. Applying the *Berry* factors, the probative value of the evidence is low and relies solely on the absence of evidence; i.e. that the cell phone went missing. That the phone was never recovered is not in dispute; that the Accused, who was 17-years old at the time, actually hid it is based only upon circumstantial evidence. Importantly, in order for the Government to bring in this evidence and prove the Accused actually hid his phone *and was* lying about its whereabouts, the Government would necessarily have to introduce the underlying events allegedly captured on the missing cell phone; i.e. to show why the Accused would even consider hiding his phone. Those details involve a consensual sexual encounter between three high school students. Even if the Government chooses not to go into the details of the sexual encounter allegedly captured on the Accused's cell phone, the defense would certainly be entitled to explore those facts and a distracting trial within a would ensue. In short, the probative value of evidence that the Accused hid his cell phone following an alleged nonconsensual recording of a consensual sexual encounter that occurred in April 2022 is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice and wasting time.

With respect to admission of this evidence as consciousness of guilt for the several charged offenses the Government provides notice for, the court concludes that the Government has failed to meet the second Reynolds factor. Specifically, evidence that the Accused hid his cell phone and lied to police about it as a high school student in 2022 does not make his consciousness of guilt for crimes committed as a servicemember in 2024 more probable. Accordingly, the defense request to exclude this evidence is granted.

b. Other Acts Evidence Related to the Charged Offenses and Res Gestae Evidence

i. CSSN S.S.

The Government also seeks to introduce several statements and acts by the Accused as consciousness of guilt evidence pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 404(b). Specifically, with respect to the offenses involving CSSN S.S., the Government seeks to introduce text messages between the Accused and CSSN S.S. the day after the sexual assault alleged in Charge I, Specification 3, wherein the Accused threatened to kill himself.

The Government also seeks to introduce evidence that later that same day, while on liberty,

and after consuming alcohol, the Accused told his liberty buddy, CSSN Cousins, that he was going to kill himself because there was no point in living and refused to return to the ship. The Accused walked in front of three trains before Shore Patrol arrived and escorted him back to the ship

The Government argues that the Accused's extreme reaction to an allegation of sexual assault is admissible to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident for the premeditated murder charge as well as consciousness of guilt for Charge I, Specification 3, as well as the indecent recording and broadcasting specifications related to CSSN S.S., as alleged in Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2, respectively.

This evidence related to CSSN S.S. is arguably *res gestae* and intrinsic to the charged offenses of sexual assault and indecent recording/broadcasting. "An act that is intrinsic to the charged crime is not subject to the limitations of Mil. R. Evid. 404(b)."[37] Here, the Accused's text messages are in response to his alleged victim confronting him about the crimes for which he is charged. His answers reflect his response and are his interpretation and his account of what transpired between the two the previous night. In short, his text messages reflect his version of the events at issue and his reactions to her allegations. They are *res gestae* of the charged offenses of sexual assault, indecent recording and indecent broadcasting as alleged in Charge I, Specification 3, and Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2, respectively.

The Accused's later threats to kill himself to his liberty buddy, CSSN Cousins, and his attempts to commit suicide by standing in front of trains are more removed in time from the alleged sexual assault and are not in direct response to questions about the alleged assault. But they, nevertheless, are intertwined with the allegations from the night before. It is not unreasonable that CSSN S.S.'s statements to the Accused stating or implying he had engaged in criminal misconduct would weigh on the Accused's mind a mere one day later such that his statements and actions with CSSN Cousins relate back to this allegation. Just like the text messages, his statements and actions in direct response to being accused of sexual assault are inexorably linked to the alleged sexual assault and provide the members with a full picture of what transpired.

Alternatively, even if not intrinsic to the charged offenses and after applying the *Reynolds* factors, the court finds that the evidence is admissible as evidence of consciousness of guilt for Charge I, Specification 3, and Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2. First, the evidence reasonably supports a finding by the court members that the accused texted CSSN S.S. that he was going to kill himself and that he told CSSN Cousins that he was going to kill himself and then tried to stand in front of approximately three trains. The Government can produce the text messages and CSSN S.S. can testify to their authenticity. Likewise, CSSN Cousins can testify to his interactions and observations of the Accused, as can other short patrol personnel. Next, the Accused's statements that he was going to kill himself and his attempts to stand in front of a train after being confronted by CSSN S.S. about his actions the previous night is circumstantial

[37] *United States v. Felix*, 2019 CCA LEXIS 258, *16-17 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. June 19, 2019) (citing *United States v. McGill*, 815 F.3d 846, 879, 421 U.S. App. D.C. 280 (D.C. Cir. 2016) (per curiam) (construing Federal Rule of Evidence 404(b)).

evidence that shows the Accused is aware "that he . . . has engaged in blameworthy conduct."[38] Finally, after applying the Mil. R. Evid. 403 balancing test, and the *Berry* factors, the court concludes that the probative value of the evidence is not substantially outweighed by the dangers of unfair prejudice.

The strength of proof and probative weight of the evidence is strong. The text messages were recovered by NCIS from CSSN S.S.'s phone and reveal that they were sent the day following the alleged sexual assault and contain near contemporaneous discussions between the Accused and his alleged victim. The text messages sent by the Accused were part of a text exchange where CSSN S.S. inquired about what happened the night before and confronts the Accused about what she had heard from others…specifically that he was telling people he had sex with her and was showing them a recording of it. In his responses, the Accused denies doing anything wrong, states that he didn't do anything to her, and accuses her of trying to ruin his life. He tells CSSN S.S. that she is trying to get him in trouble over a lie and that he's going to kill himself. Likewise, the Accused's statements to his Liberty buddy reflect that the Accused knew he was going to face disciplinary or investigative action following CSSN S.S.'s allegations, and that there was "no point in living."[39]

There is no potential for less prejudicial evidence as these text messages are the only interactions between the Accused and CSSN S.S. following the alleged assault and the Accused's interactions with CSSN Cousins and attempts at standing in front of trains is directly related to the accusations made by CSSN S.S. There is little worry of distracting the fact finder as the text messages can be introduced through CSSN S.S. and are already intertwined with her testimony. The same is true with respect to CSSN Cousins' testimony, as his testimony is directly related to the Accused's actions the day following the alleged assault on CSSN S.S, so it will take little additional time to present.

In sum, the evidence is admissible as either *res gestae* of Charge 1, Specification III, and Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2, or, alternatively, as evidence of consciousness of guilt for these specifications. Because the court has determined that the evidence is already admissible, the court will defer ruling on whether the evidence is also admissible to establish motive, intent, and lack of accident for the premeditated murder specification, until after presentation of evidence at trial and the state of evidence surrounding the premediated murder specification is clearer.

ii. CS3 A.R.

Finally, the Government seeks to introduce several statements and acts of the Accused in the days following CS3 A.R.'s disappearance. The Government avers that these actions by the Accused are *res gestae* of the murder, false official statements, and obstruction of justice specifications related to CS3 A.R. The Government provided notice pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) that the evidence was also admissible as consciousness of guilt evidence for these offenses out of an abundance of caution. The court agrees and concludes the following evidence is admissible as *res gestae*:

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[38] *Quezada*, 82 M.J. at 59.
[39] AE 61 at 42.

(1) The Accused stayed in various barracks lounges from 29 May 2025-1 June 2025. When security from the ship came to find him on 1 June 2025, he was found in the bathroom on the fifth floor of his barracks. The Accused's roommate also stated that the Accused was leaving very early and returning very late over that weekend, which was highly unusual for him.

(2) During the period of 29 May 2025 to 1 June 2025, the Accused was in an unauthorized absence status and was repeatedly notified that he needed to check-in but never did. Despite dozens of inquiries as to his whereabouts from both his ship and his friends that the Accused viewed on his phone, the Accused generally did not answer his phone or respond to text messages from 29 May 2025 until 1 June 2025.

(3) The Accused encouraged his roommate to leave the room.
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(4) The Accused placed his phone in Airplane mode at 04:48:08 on 2 June 2025 when he drove to a pinned location, where CS3 A.R.'s body was later found, and turned it off at 05:16:13 when he left the site.

(5) At 1311 on 29 May 2025, the Accused searched for a trip to "Bermuda." In the days following CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused searched online for "virginia airport" on 3 and 10 June 2025 and "norfolk airport" on 3 June 2025.

(6) During the investigation into CS3 A.R.'s disappearance, the Accused made various statements, including: 1) that he dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks on 29 May 2025; 2) that he did not know where CS3 A.R. was; 3) that the iPhone found in his room on 3 June 2025 did not work; 4) that CS3 A.R. did not call anyone for a ride from his barracks room on 29 May 2025; 5) that CS3 A.R. was on the phone with her ex-boyfriend from Texas on 29 May 2025; 6) that CS3 A.R. had wanted to go further sexually when they were together on 29 May 2025, but he declined; and 7) that he slept with CS3 A.R. in his bed that night.

(7) The Accused told his roommate nothing sexual occurred between himself and CS3 A.R. on 29 May 2025, in contrast to what he told CS3 Taylor and despite them being in a state of undress together on the floor of the common area that morning.

(8) The Accused hid and/or destroyed his second iPhone prior to going to the brig on 9 June 2025.

(9) The Accused turned off location services on his phone on 29 May 2025, including Life360 which had been on constantly for approximately one year and shared with another person.

(10) The Accused called and texted CS3 A.R. on 1 June 2025 asking where she was and notifying her of her UA status.

All of this evidence reflects the Accused's statements and actions in the hours and days

following CS3 A.R.'s alleged murder and leading up to the alleged obstruction of justice where the Accused is charged with concealing CS3 A.R.'s body. They are closely intertwined with the alleged murder, false statements, and obstruction because they show not only direct evidence of those crimes, but the Accused's attempts to cover up the murder, and to prepare to conceal CS3 A.R.'s body. This evidence allows the Government to present the full picture to the finder of fact to avoid confusion and gaps in the narrative and is intrinsic to the charged offenses related to CS3 A.R.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion in Limine to Exclude Evidence Pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 404(b), as detailed herein, is hereby **DEFERRED, in part, GRANTED, in part, and DENIED in part**.

So ordered this 28th day of January, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF (SEVER CHARGES)** **28 JANUARY 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion to sever the charges related to the investigation into and death of CS3 A.R. from the remainder of the charges, which involved other alleged victims. Specifically, the Defense seeks to sever Charge IV (Obstruction of Justice), Specifications 2 and 3, Charge VI (False Official Statement), Specification 1 and 2; and Charge VII (Premeditated Murder); from the remainder of the charges.[1] The Government responded on 5 December 2025[2] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025.

2. Burden.

Pursuant to RCM 905(c) and 906(b)(10), the Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden to establish that a manifest injustice will result from the continued joint trial of charges. The burden of proof on any factual issues the resolution of which are necessary to decide the motion is by a preponderance of the evidence.[3]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) XXXVI.
[2] AE XLIV.
[3] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

a. On 26 July 2024, NCIS was notified of an alleged aggravated sexual contact and abusive sexual contact perpetrated upon ABHAN C.R. by the Accused. The alleged conduct occurred on 23 July 2024 at 0200 aboard the USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75).

b. On 23 July 2024, ABHAN C.R. was with her boyfriend on the mess decks of USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). After he left to go to bed, the Accused sent Snapchat messages to ABHAN C.R. seeking to speak with her about her relationship with her boyfriend. ABHAN C.R. agreed. The two went to the fantail and the Accused told ABHAN C.R. that her boyfriend was not treating her properly and that she should date him instead. ABHAN C.R. declined.

c. Next, ABHAN C.R. alleges that after discussing her relationship, the Accused began to pretend to arrest her. The Accused forced ABHAN C.R.'s hands behind her back and grabbed her vulva over the clothing. According to ABHAN C.R., she punched the Accused in the stomach and in response, the Accused stated he heard that ABHAN C.R. liked to be choked and applied pressure to her neck with a hand, restricting her breathing. ABHAN C.R. pushed the Accused's hand away, but he kept replacing it and applying pressure. The Accused simultaneously kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breasts, buttocks, and vulva over the clothing. After about a minute, the Accused stopped and ABHAN C.R. advised she was going to bed and left the Accused on the fantail. ABHAN C.R. reported the incident to her boyfriend and filed a formal report on 26 July 2024. ABHAN C.R.'s boyfriend described observing bruising on ABHAN C.R. after the incident.

d. ABHAN C.R.'s complaint forms the basis for Charge 1, Specifications 1 and 2; and the sole Specification of Charge II.

e. On 6 November 2024, NCIS was notified of an alleged sexual assault aboard the USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN-75) that had occurred on 4 November 2024 at a port call in Oslo, Norway. CSSN S.S. alleged that the Accused was the perpetrator.

f. On the evening of 4 November 2024, the Accused arrived at a bar and began to hang out with CSSN S.S. and others during a liberty call in Oslo, Norway. CSSN S.S. was extremely intoxicated and could not recall the events of the evening. The next day, several individuals approached her and told her that the Accused had shown them a video he recorded on his phone of him having sex with her in the bathroom of the bar the night prior. CSSN S.S. was described as bent over and the Accused was penetrating her vagina from behind with his penis. CSSN S.S. did not recall this occurring and confronted the Accused over the phone, who denied having sex with her or recording the encounter.

g. After he was accused of sexual assault by CSSN S.S., the Accused stated his "life was over," refused to return to the ship, and tried to kill himself by walking in front of approximately three trains until security from the ship finally retrieved him.

h. After a report was made on 6 November 2024 by CSSN S.S., a search of the Accused was conducted to obtain his cell phone. The Accused advised he did not have the phone and had given it to CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN. CSSN Cousins was questioned about the phone immediately after and he denied that the Accused had provided him with his phone at any point. Subsequent searches of CSSN Cousins, the Accused's berthing, rack, and locker spaces failed to recover the phone.

i. In an 18 November 2024, interview with NCIS, the Accused admitted to having consensual sex with CSSN S.S. In this interview, the Accused repeated that he had given his phone to CSSN Cousins before stating his phone had fallen out of pocket, shattered, and was lost.

j. In a subsequent interview with NCIS on 20 December 2024, the Accused stated that he obtained a new phone while in a port call in Marseille, France and provided NCIS with digital evidence he was able to access via iCloud. Despite showing videos from that night to NCIS, the Accused said he no longer had access to the video he took of his sexual encounter with CSSN S.S.

k. CSSN S.S.'s complaint forms the basis of Charge I, Specification 4; Charge III, Specifications 1 and 2; and Charge IV, Specification 1.

l. On 11 April 2025, CS3 S.R. notified Naval Station Norfolk Security forces that she was assaulted by the Accused, specifically alleging that he had "choked" her.

m. On 11 April 2025, CSSN S.R. was dating the Accused and was on his barracks room couch with him while he was asleep. According to CSSN S.R., she learned that the Accused was also dating someone else and then woke the Accused up and confronted him. When she sought to leave, the Accused pushed her down on the couch and strangled her with both hands for about ten seconds.

n. CSSN S.R.'s allegations form the basis for Charge V, Specifications 1 and 2.

o. On 31 May 2025, NCIS was notified that CS3 A.R. was a missing person and they began their investigation into her whereabouts. According to several witnesses, CS3 A.R. was last seen with the Accused.

p. On 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. left work in the morning, shopped at Target with a friend, and later went to the barracks room of the Accused to cook tacos. CS3 A.R. arrived at the Accused's barracks room on the evening of 28 May 2025 onboard Naval Station Norfolk.

q. At 2322 on 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. sent a text message to an ex-boyfriend, HT3 Michael Gillispie, USN, that read "Fuck you." CS3 A.R. did not respond to HT3 Gillispie after that message, despite numerous attempts by HT3 Gillispie to contact her.

r. At 0214 on 29 May 2025, CS3 A.R. called an ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel Rich, USN. ET3 Rich explained that CS3 A.R. was "freaking out" and requesting to be picked up "ASAP." According to ET3 Rich, CS3 A.R. was frantic and crying and just kept repeating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible. ET3 Rich explained that during the call with CS3 A.R., a frantic male voice came on the phone and asked how far away he was, to which ET3 Rich replied he was 10-15 minutes away. The phone was handed back to CS3 A.R., and ET3 Rich told her he was on his

way, and the call ended. CS3 A.R. always shared her location with ET3 Rich, but ET3 Rich did not know who she was with or what room she was in exactly.

s. When ET3 Rich passed through the gate entering Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 0228, he called CS3 A.R. repeatedly, but she did not answer her phone. ET3 Rich then notified base police of the situation and connected with HT3 Gillispie to help search for CS3 A.R. Despite hours of searching, CS3 A.R. was not located. Her phone stopped pinging at 0456 on 29 May 2025, indicating it was dead or turned off.

t. The Accused's barracks room was comprised of a common area flanked on either side by two bedrooms, with each bedroom containing two roommates. The Accused shared a room with YN3 Sean Monoghan, USN. The other bedroom was occupied by PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN, and AR John Calisse, USN. AR Calisse reported hearing karaoke between the Accused and an unknown female around 0200 on 29 May 2025 but did not investigate.

u. PSSN Gordillocruz arrived back to the barracks room at approximately 0400 on 29 May 2025. He advised that all of the lights were off and he did not see anyone at that time. At around 0500, YN3 Monoghan got up to go to work and he realized that no one was in the Accused's bed. He departed his bedroom at approximately 0640 and saw the Accused on the floor of the living room asleep with a girl he did not recognize, both in a state of undress. Between 0530 and 0645, both PSSN Gordillocruz and AR Calisse departed their room. They observed a female laying nearly fully naked with her breasts exposed on the floor of the common area with CSSN Copeland laying naked face up with his head on her torso or thigh. AR Calisse was surprised they did not wake up when they entered the room. YN3 Monoghan asked the Accused later if they were naked and the Accused laughed it off and said they were in underwear.

v. At 0852, FCC Bradley Parker, USN, arrived at the Accused's barracks room to determine why he was not at work on the ship. At the time, FCC Parker was aware the CS3 A.R. was also missing and was seeking help the night prior from ET3 Rich. FCC Parker said that the Accused appeared to have just woken up when he answered the door. FCC Parker told the Accused to come to work, but the Accused told FCC Parker he was not alone and indicated he was with CS3 A.R. FCC Parker observed CS3 A.R. on the Accused's bed wrapped in a blanket with her feet exposed. FCC Parker and the Accused then spoke in the common area and he told him to ensure that CS3 A.R. was taken care of and to come to work. FCC Parker left after only being present for a few minutes.

w. The Accused told FCC Parker that CS3 A.R. had come over after calling him looking for someone to talk to, but she forgot her phone when he picked her up. He also told FCC Parker they fell asleep watching movies and that his alarm did not go off because his phone had died overnight.

x. The Accused next spoke with FCC Parker at 1241 on 29 May 2025 and advised that he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks. Despite repeated notifications to come to the ship over the weekend, the Accused did not do so.

y. On the afternoon of 1 June 2025, base police searched the Accused's barracks for the Accused and located him in a bathroom near a lounge and advised him to report to work, which he did later that same day. After returning to his barracks at around 2100 on 1 June 2025, the Accused asked to borrow AR Calisse's car, a white Jeep, and AR Calisse agreed and gave him the vehicle's keys.

z. At approximately 0418 on 2 June 2025, the Accused's Iphone 15 Pro Max left base and traveled south down Hampton Boulevard. The user of the Iphone 15 Pro Max searched for Parks and Trails while is traveled. At approximately 0436-0440, the Accused's Iphone 15 Pro Max was located in a parking lot near a wooded area, and AR Calisse's jeep was photographed on a street camera at 0440 in the same area as the Iphone 15 Pro Max.

aa. At 0447, the Iphone 15 Pro Max user marked a location on Apple Maps and looked for directions to that location. At 0448, the Iphone 15 Pro Max was placed in Airplane mode and taken off Airplane mode at approximately 0516. During the time the Iphone 15 Pro Max was in Airplane mode, the phone recorded health data indicating that between 0500 and 0515, the phone was near the area of 2852 Cary Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia. The Iphone 15 Pro Max user took a screenshot of the pinned location in the wooded area near 2852 Cary Avenue.

ab. On 9 June, investigators went to the location near 2852 Cary Avenue that had been marked in the Iphone 15 Pro Max and discovered the remains of CS3 A.R. in a black bag. A search of the Accused's barracks room revealed the presence of CS3 A.R.'s blood in the Accused's closet and in the stairwell leading to the barracks parking lot.

ac. The Accused spoke with NCIS on 1 June, 3 June and 6 June 2025. On 1 June, he advised he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks room. On 3 June, the Accused told investigators he never said that, and that CS3 A.R. had left under her own power. He also denied knowing that CS3 A.R. had called ET3 Rich.

ad. Two autopsies were conducted in this case and neither reached a conclusive cause of death because of the decomposition of CS3 A.R.'s remains. Based on their observations, blunt force trauma, stabbing, shooting, death by natural causes, and overdose could effectively be ruled out, although the second pathologist stated that evidence of blunt force trauma may have simply decomposed. Both medical examiners opined that death by asphyxiation, such as by strangulation or suffocation, was possible.

ae. The investigation in CS3 A.R.'s death led to the Charge IV, Specifications 2 and 3; Charge VI, Specification 1 and 2; and the sole Specification of Charge VII.

af. On 24 June 2025, NCIS searched the Accused's phone and located a phone number they believed belonged to a minor "based off inferences" related to the content of the messages. When NCIS called the number, they determined Y.J. was not a minor, though they asked her what she knew about the Accused. Y.J. stated that the Accused had sexually assaulted her in his barracks room in April or May 2025.

ag. According to Y.J., on 25 May 2025, she was at the Accused's barracks room with two other Sailors – LSSA Omeri Smoot and AEAN Jdyn Bradford. When the Accused arrived, he pulled Y.J. into his room and asked Y.J. to perform oral sex. Y.J. told investigators that she refused because she was tired, but that the Accused then penetrated her vagina without her consent, despite her telling him to stop. The other two Sailors could hear him telling her to stop and entered the room to break them up before one the Sailors took Y.J. home.

ah. Y.J.'s allegations form the basis for Specification 4 of Charge I.

ai. Additional facts necessary to resolve the issue are contained below.

4. Statement of Law.

A referral authority has discretion to refer two or more offenses against an accused to the same court-martial for trial, whether the offenses are serious or minor offenses, or both, regardless of whether the offenses are connected.[4] Offenses may be severed by the court, but only to prevent manifest injustice.[5] Appellate courts review a military judge's denial of a severance motion for an abuse of discretion.[6] An abuse of discretion will be found only "where the defendant is able to show that the denial of a severance caused him actual prejudice in that it prevented him from receiving a fair trial; it is not enough that separate trials may have provided him with a better opportunity for an acquittal."[7]

Historically, courts have been concerned with preventing impermissible spillover in various ways from the proof of one offense into the trial of another offense.[8] The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) considers three factors to determine whether a military judge has failed to prevent a manifest injustice when denying a motion to sever: (1) whether evidence of one offense would be admissible in the trial of the other offense; (2) whether the military judge gave a limiting instruction to keep the evidence of the offenses separate; and (3) whether the findings reflect an impermissible cross-over.[9] Severance may be required to ensure the Accused receives a fair trial, but a better opportunity for an acquittal at separate trials is not enough to cause a manifest injustice.[10] "No single factor, or the absence of a single factor, controls the ultimate conclusion of whether manifest injustice has been avoided."[11]

In making a ruling on this issue the military judge has discretionary power to sever the trial of certain offenses to avoid a manifest injustice, but even if severance is not necessary the military judge may take other preventative measures.[12] These measures include instructing the members to consider the offenses separately and bifurcating the presentation of evidence by the Government to avoid the risk of impermissible spillover.[13] Indeed, courts recognize that properly tailored members' instructions will considerably reduce the danger of prejudice.[14]

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[4] R.C.M. 601(e)(2).
[5] R.C.M 906(b)(10).
[6] *United States v. Giles*, 59 M.J. 374, 378 (C.A.A.F. 2004).
[7] *United States v. Duncan*, 53 M.J. 494, 497-98 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (citations omitted).
[8] *Id.* at 498 (C.A.A.F. 2000) (citing *United States v. Southworth*, 50 M.J. 74, 76 (C.A.A.F. 1999); *United States v. Foutz*, 540 F.2d 733, 736 (4th Cir. 1976)).
[9] *Southworth*, 50 M.J. at 76.
[10] *United States v. Simpson*, 56 M.J. 462, 464-65 (C.A.A.F. 2002) (citing *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 497-98).
[11] *United States v. Rodriguez*, No. 200602455, 2007 CCA LEXIS 247, at *5 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. July 18, 2007) (citing *Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 498) (finding no manifest injustice where military judge found evidence of one sex offense was not admissible to establish another sex offense because military judge ensured bifurcation of evidence and gave limiting instructions).
[12] *See Duncan*, 53 M.J. at 497.
[13] *Id*. at 498.
[14] *United States v. Haye*, 29 M.J. 213, 215 (C.M.A. 1989); *United States v. Hogan*, 20 M.J. 71, 73 (C.M.A. 1985).

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

Severance of the charges related to CS3 A.R. is not necessary to prevent manifest injustice and is not warranted.

Applying the first *Southworth* factor, the defense correctly notes that evidence of one charged offense cannot be used to prove another charged offense or to prove the Accused's general predisposition. And this court will not permit the Government to use any of the charged conduct as propensity evidence for other charged conduct in the case. But, depending upon how the testimony and other evidence is produced at trial, there is likely some evidence of charged conduct the defense seeks to sever that is also admissible pursuant to Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 404(b) to prove some of the allegations involving CS3 A.R.[15] Even assuming however, that none of the evidence related to any of the other victims is admissible with respect to the offenses involving CS3 A.R., the other *Southworth* factors do not weigh in favor of severance.

With respect to *Southworth* factors (2) and (3), these are necessarily retrospective and are viewed through the lens of an appellate court reviewing the trial court's decision. That said, they provide guidance for the trial court to use in ameliorating the risk of manifest injustice. First, this court shall craft an appropriate "spillover" instruction prohibiting the members from considering evidence used by the Government to prove one offense as evidence of any other offense. Members are presumed to follow the instructions they are given unless evidence exists to the contrary.[16] The court will provide this spillover instruction prior to the Government's presentation of evidence and at the conclusion of the evidence, to ensure that the members understand their duty to hold the Government to its burden of proof with regard to each charge and specification.

Second, the court will require that the Government compartmentalize the presentation of their case in chief by each alleged victim; that is, to address the charges and specifications related to each victim separately, even if it means any individual witness is called more than once during the Government's case. The court is confident that diligence during trial, including the use of limiting instructions and the compartmentalization of the Government's case, can and will ensure there is no improper spillover between the allegations. Consequently, the court finds *Southworth* factors (2) and (3) weigh against granting the motion.

Because the court finds no manifest injustice in referring all of the charges and specifications to same court-martial for trial, the motion to sever is denied.

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[15] The court has deferred ruling on much of the charged conduct the Government seeks to introduce for Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) purposes, and which the defense seeks to exclude. *See* AE VIII. The evidence is, of course, already admissible at trial as *res gestae* of the charged misconduct. The court has deferred ruling until the evidence is presented in the Government's case in chief to determine whether the evidence might also be admissible under Mil. R. Evid. 404(b) to prove the other charged offenses. *See* AE LXX.

[16] *United States v. Loving*, 41 M.J. 213, 235 (1994).

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion for Appropriate Relief to sever the charges related to CS3 A.R. from the remainder of the charges, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED**.

So ordered this 28th day of January, 2026.



F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELEIF** **(Merge Unreasonably Multiplied Charges)** **18 February 2026**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rules for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(b)(12), the defense moves this Court to merge for findings, or in the alternative for sentencing, Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V, as they encompass the same conduct and are, therefore, unreasonably multiplied.

BURDEN

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of evidence. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. In specification 1 of Charge V, preferred on 22 August 2025, the government alleges a violation of Article 128b, Uniform Code of military justice (UCMJ), (Domestic Violence - Strangulation):

> In that Culinary Specialist Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 11 April 2025, commit an assault upon CSSN S.R., U.S. Navy, the dating partner of the accused, by unlawfully strangling her with his hands. (Charge Sheet).

2. In specification 2 of Charge V, preferred on 22 August 2025, the government alleges a violation of Article 128b, Uniform Code of military justice (UCMJ), (Domestic Violence - Strangulation):

> In that Culinary Specialist Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 11 April 2025, commit an assault upon CSSN S.R., U.S. Navy, the dating partner of the accused, by unlawfully pushing her with his hands. (Charge Sheet).

LAW

Unlike multiplicity, which is grounded in Double Jeopardy and involves statutory interpretation, the prohibition on unreasonable multiplication protects against prosecutorial overreach based on a fundamental fairness.

3. "What is substantially one transaction should not be made the basis for an unreasonable multiplication of charges against one person."[1] This prohibition against unreasonable multiplication of charges "has long provided courts-martial and reviewing authorities with a traditional legal standard—reasonableness—to address the consequences of an abuse of prosecutorial discretion in the context of the unique aspects of the military justice system."[2]

4. A military judge must "exercise sound judgment to ensure that imaginative prosecutors do not needlessly 'pile on' charges against a military accused."[3] In service of this obligation, a trial court considers four-factors in testing whether charges are unreasonably multiplied:

1) Is each charge and specification aimed at distinctly separate criminal acts?
2) Does the number of charges and specifications misrepresent or exaggerate the accused's criminality?
3) Does the number of charges and specifications unfairly increase the accused's punitive exposure?
4) Is there evidence of prosecutorial overreaching or abuse in the drafting of the charges?[4]

5. These factors are not exhaustive and are not the only factors the court may consider. [5]Further, the defense is not required to satisfy every factor for the court to determine that the charges were unreasonably multiplied—a single factor can be enough.[6]

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[1] R.C.M. 307(c)(4); *see United States v. Quiroz*, 55 M.J. 334, 336-39 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[2] *Quiroz*, 55 M.J. at 338 (contrasting multiplicity and unreasonable multiplication doctrines); *see also United States v. Campbell*, 71 M.J. 19, 23 (C.A.A.F. 2012).
[3] *United States v. Foster*, 40 M.J. 140, 144 n.4 (C.M.A. 1994), *overruled in part on other grounds*, *United States v. Miller*, 67 M.J. 385 (C.A.A.F. 2009).
[4] *United States v. Anderson*, 68 M.J. 378, 386 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (citing *Quiroz*, 55 M.J. at 338) (approving "in general" factors as non-exhaustive "guide" for analysis).
[5] *Campbell* 71 M.J. at 23.
[6] *Id*.

A military judge has wide discretion to remedy unreasonable multiplications of charges, including merging the specifications or dismissal.

6. When charges are unreasonably multiplied, the military judge has wide latitude to craft a remedy, including dismissing offenses, merging them for findings, or merging offenses only for sentencing.[7]

ARGUMENT

Relief from these unreasonably multiplied charges is warranted because the four trial-level *Quiroz* factors weigh in favor of the defense.

7. This Court would not promote fairness if it allowed Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V to proceed to members on findings.

Each Specification is aimed at the same act or course of conduct.

The conduct in both Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V arise from the same alleged conduct involving the same alleged interaction with CSSN S.R. on 11 April 2026 – the same course of conduct. An accused should not be separately convicted for what amounts to a single, brief, uninterrupted attack involving multiple alleged offensive touchings "united in time, circumstance, and impulse."[8] The unit of prosecution for the type of ongoing assault, like the one alleged in Charge V, is the number of times it alleged that CSSN Copeland assaulted CSSN S.R., not the number of individual blows. Here, there was one alleged victim and one alleged interaction.

The number of specifications exaggerates the accused's criminality.

8. The government unfairly exaggerates CSSN Copeland's criminality by suggesting to the fact finder that he committed multiple offenses, vice a single transaction – there was one interaction with CSSN S.R., not two. The specifications as charged distort the alleged conduct by turning what is essentially one act of alleged assault into multiple separate stages, each presenting as an independent crime, making it appear as if CSSN Copeland committed more or multiple crimes. By doing so, the government is inflating and exaggerating the level of criminality.

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[7] *United States v. Thomas*, 74 M.J. 563, 568 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2014) (citing *Campbell*, 71 M.J. at 25) (concluding military judge had discretion to not dismiss or merge specifications for findings but to merge them for sentencing).

[8] *United States v. Porath,* No. 202400223, *12-13 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 24, 2025) (citing *United States v. Rushing*, 11 M.J. 95, 98 (C.M.A. 1981)).

Though the charges do not necessarily involve evidence of prosecutorial abuse, the charging scheme is still unreasonable.

9. The charging scheme is indicative of prosecutorial overreach. Often the defense does not have evidence of prosecutorial overreach or abuse and must therefore rely on circumstantial evidence. Here, the government is attempting to break down a single alleged criminal act into multiple steps or stages, instead of recognizing it as one continuous assault. This tactic is akin to the proverbial "blow-by-blow" charging scheme highlighted as overreach under *Quiroz*. This has the unfair and unreasonable effect of giving the government multiple attempts and opportunities for a second and third conviction, when they should only have one. The factors weigh in favor of defense.

Merging Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V prior to findings is the appropriate remedy.

10. This Court may remedy unreasonably multiplied charges at the findings stage by merging all offenses into one.[9] Merger prior to findings is appropriate in this case as there is no factual or reasonable distinction between the specifications and has the potential to substitute quantity for quality to the fact-finder.[10] "Despite numerous developments in the law concerning multiplicity and UMC over the years, this remains true: 'When Congress enacted Article 128, it did not intend that, in a single altercation between two people, each blow might be separately charged as an assault.'"[11] Therefore, Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V should be merged.

RELIEF REQUESTED

11. Pursuant to R.C.M. 906(b)(12), the defense moves this Court to merge for findings Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V, or in the alternative, merge Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V for sentencing.

EVIDENCE & HEARING

12. Unless the government concedes the motion or this Court grants the relief on the basis of pleadings alone, the defense requests a hearing to present evidence and argument on this matter.

[redacted]

LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

[9] R.C.M. 906(b)(12); *Roderick*., 62 M.J. at 433.
[10] *United States v. Porath,* No. 202400223 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 24, 2025).
[11] *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Morris*, 18 M.J. 450, 450 (C.M.A. 1984)).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 18 February 2026, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]

LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 March 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 5 March 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) LXXIII, LXXIX, LXXX and LXXXVI, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 5 March 2026, and AEs LXXIII, LXXIX, LXXX and LXXXVI.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelopes containing these items shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the items in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of March 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN, E-3** **USN**	**DEFENSE MOTION TO RECONSIDER** **(Def MTC Expert Consultant in Forensic Pathology)** **18 Feb 26**

MOTION

Pursuant to R.C.M. 905(f), 906(b)(7) and R.C.M. 703(d), the Defense moves this Court to reconsider its previous ruling denying the production of Dr. Priya Banerjee as an expert forensic pathologist consultant for the Defense, and after reconsideration, to compel her production for both pre-trial preparations and trial participation. The motion to consider is based upon new evidence, that is, the unavailability of the "adequate substitute" provided by the Government.

SUMMARY

CSSN Jermiah Copeland is alleged to have committed the premeditated murder of CS3 A.R., among other alleged violations of the UCMJ. The production of Dr. Banerjee was litigated at an earlier Article 39(a) session and the military judge directed the Government to provide an "adequate substitute." The Government provided Dr. Evan Matshes, however, Dr. Matshes is NOT available for the scheduled trial dates. His unavailability alone makes him an inadequate substitute and forms the basis for this motion to reconsider. However, this motion also outlines other legitimate reasons why Dr. Matshes is NOT an adequate substitute for this case. The Defense asks this Court to compel Dr. Banerjee's participation for both pre-trial and trial consultation.

FACTS

1. On 9 June 2025, the remains of CS3 A.R. were found in a secluded area of Norfolk. An autopsy was performed on 10 June 2025 by Dr. Fernanda Lameira of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.[1]

2. On 9 June 2025, CSSN Jermiah Copeland was ordered into pretrial confinement upon being suspected of the premeditated murder of CS3 A.R.[2]

[1] AE 25 at 17-23; AE 11 at 2-3.
[2] Confinement Order

3. The autopsy performed by Dr. Lameira resulted in an "undetermined" cause of death.[3] Despite subsequent investigation, the manner of death remains "undetermined" as of this filing.

4. Dr. Lameira has been identified as a Government witness for trial. She will testify - relying on her training, experience, and specialized education - to her medical findings and the conduct of the autopsy.[4]

5. A second private autopsy was performed by Dr. Nemanja Rodic on 28 June 2025. This autopsy concludes the manner of death is "deferred."[5] Importantly, Dr. Rodic did not see any evidence of foul play, nor did he note any signs commonly associated with strangulation, he "considered it formally ruled [ ] out."[6]

6. The Government interviewed Dr. Rodic on 22 October 2025.[7]

7. Dr. Rodic' participation at trial was compelled by the Defense and granted by this Court on 22 December 2025.[8]

8. On 24 October 2025, in accordance with the TMO, the Defense requested the assistance of Dr. Priya Banerjee as an expert consultant for pre-trial preparations and trial consultation.[9] Within this request the Defense articulates all relevant and required information necessary to secure funding for this expert.

9. Prior to making the request, Dr. Banerjee was generally briefed on the case to determine if she could be of assistance in the matter and whether her schedule would allow her participation. She noted that she is already in the federal payment system and has worked with the military before.[10]

10. On 5 November 2025, the Government responded to the Defense request, acknowledging that the assistance of a forensic pathologist was necessary for the Defense.[11]

11. However, the Government's response states that the named expert's fees "far exceed" a reasonable hourly rate, and the "government will assist Defense in finding and adequate substitute for this expert."[12]

12. After filing a motion to compel expert production and pursuant to this Court's direction, the Government identified Dr. Evan Matshes as an "adequate substitute" for the defense. Importantly

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[3] AE 25 at 17-23.
[4] AE 11 at 4-5.
[5] AE 39 at 5-21.
[6] *Id* at 21-22.
[7] AE 11 at 6-7.
[8] AE 65.
[9] AE 11 at 10-12.
[10] *Id* at 14-15.
[11] *Id* at 16-18.
[12] *Id*. at 13; Enclosure J.

he is not a government employee, instead he is a civilian expert in the field of forensic pathology.[13]

13. On 19 December 2025, Dr. Matshes was positively endorsed by the special trial counsel at a rate of $600 per hour for 30 hours of pre-trial consultation. This exceeds what the Government has stated as the maximum permissible rate of $400 per hour for this type of expert.[14]

14. The 19 December 2025 endorsement from special trial counsel does not include any funding for trial participation. Instead directing the defense to submit an additional request when participation is deemed necessary.

15. The same day, 19 December 2025, Dr. Priya Banerjee notified the defense that she could conduct pre-trial consultation for a discounted rate of $600 per hour. The Defense promptly notified special trial counsel of this fact the same day.[15]

16. On 21 December 2025, special trial counsel stated that they were unwilling to endorse Dr. Banerjee's participation even at the discounted rate. The cited reasons were that 1) the Government had complied with this Court's directive to find a substitute for the defense and 2) Dr. Banerjee's rate for trial participation was too excessive.[16] The TCs cited no authority permitting them to place an arbitrary fee limitation on the defense's expert.

17. On 22 December 2025, the military judge held the following, "The court ordered the Government to provide an adequate substitute and on 19 December 2025, the government complied with the court's order and provided the defense with a government funded pathologist."[17]

18. On 22 December 2025, CNRMA reached out to special trial counsel looking for a fee schedule and a CAGE code for Dr. Matshes.[18]

19. On 28 January 2026, the Defense spoke with Dr. Matshes regarding his availability for trial. He noted that he has a scheduling conflict, he would see if he could resolve it, and that he preferred to shift CSSN Copeland's trial dates out of June in order for him to participate.[19]

20. Also on 28 January 2026, the Defense was made aware that CNRMA still did not have a CAGE code for Dr. Matshes in order for a contract to be finalized. The same day the Defense reached out to Dr. Matshes' office received the information and passed along to CNRMA.[20]

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[13] Enclosure A: Dr. Matshes CV.
[14] Enclosure B: Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Forensic Pathology) dtd 19 Dec w/encl.
[15] Enclosure C: Email chain w TC reduced fees and nonavailability.
[16] *Id.*
[17] AE 64.
[18] Enclosure D: Defense Comms w/ CNRMA.
[19] Enclosure E: Email w/ Dr. Matshes.
[20] Enclosure F: Defense CAGE Code to CNRMA.

21. On 29 January 2026, the Defense received a signed contract for Dr. Matshes to begin working on 30 hours of pre-trial consultation, trial participation is not included.[21]

22. On 5 February 2026, Dr. Matshes confirmed that he was NOT available for the scheduled trial dates in June.[22]

23. On 6 February, after being notified by the Defense that Dr. Matshes was not available, NAAG (Dr. Matshes' practice group) notified the Defense that they were "assigning" Dr. Lew to the case instead of Dr. Matshes.[23]

24. Dr. Lew's participation pre-trial and at trial appears to have been compelled by subpoena, presumably issued by trial counsel, though the Defense has not been provided any discovery related to this.

25. The Defense has received no discovery indicating that CNRMA ever directed special trial counsel to seek an adequate substitute for the Defense. Nor has any discovery related to the reasons considered by CNRMA, to the extent there were any, for why Dr. Banerjee should not be employed for the defense for *the exact same pre-trial fee schedule* as Dr. Matshes, or someone from his company.

26. Neither Dr. Matshes nor Dr. Lew are included on the list of "possible adequate substitutes" provided to the Defense on 14 November 2025.[24]

27. As the Defense has conducted due diligence in reviewing the provided list to try to resolve this issue, some of the proffered adequate substitutes have provided important feedback; one expert has not taken DOD cases for "several years" and was curious as to where his name came from, while others have hourly rates ($750/hr and $8000/day) comparable to the expert the defense has requested in this case.

28. The Defense submitted a request directly to CNRMA on 10 February 2026 seeking the employment of Dr. Banerjee. In response the Defense was provided a letter from the convening authority dated 3 December denying an expert request. As of this filing, a subsequent request remains pending with CNRMA for the employment of Dr. Banerjee.

29. To date, the Defense has never received any materials or indication that CNRMA directed special trial counsel to find an adequate GOVERNMENT substitute based solely on expense. The issue of expense appears to have been unilaterally derived by the special trial counsel in this case and is directly in contradiction of the Rules for Court Martial.

30. Dr. Banerjee remains prepared to assist the Defense, she remains available for the ordered trial dates, is registered within federal payment systems, and is in regular contact with the Defense regarding status updates.

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[21] Enclosure G: Email from TC re Matshes Contract.
[22] Enclosure H: Dr. Matshes Not Available.
[23] Enclosure I: Dr. Lew Documents and TC Email re Dr Lew.
[24] AE 11 at 16-18.

BURDEN

31. As the moving party, the defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence.[25]

LAW

32. The right to be represented by counsel who is reasonably effective in investigating, preparing and presenting a defense is a fundamental pillar of American jurisprudence. The Supreme Court has recognized that the Sixth Amendment right to counsel mandates the provision of adequate resources, to include experts, in order to present an effective defense. As a matter of military due process, service members are entitled to expert assistance when necessary for an adequate defense, without regard to indigency.[26] The right to supplement the defense team with expert assistance and witnesses is based on Article 46, UCMJ, Military Rule of Evidence 706, and R.C.M. 703(d). Because the military accused does not have available to him the relatively unlimited assets of the military justice machine, courts have placed the resources of the Federal Government at his or her disposal in order to pay for expert assistance and guarantee an effective defense team.

33. The right to expert assistance attaches when the defense demonstrates that such assistance is necessary.[27] "An accused is entitled to expert assistance provided by the Government if he can demonstrate necessity."[28] The "mere possibility of assistance from a requested expert" is not sufficient to prevail on the request for expert assistance.[29] Instead, "[t]he accused has the burden of establishing that a reasonable probability exists that (1) an expert would be of assistance to the defense and (2) that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[30] To satisfy the first prong of this test, the Defense must show, "(1) why the expert is necessary; (2) what the expert would accomplish for the accused; and (3) why defense counsel is unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert would be able to develop."[31]

34. In *United States v. Warner*, the Court of Criminal Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) commented that "Article 46 is a clear statement of congressional intent against government exploitation of its opportunity to obtain an expert vastly superior to the defense's."[32] The playing field at trial is rendered even more uneven when the government benefits from scientific evidence and expert testimony while the defense is wholly denied a necessary expert to prepare for and

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[25] R.C.M. 905(c).
[26] *See, e.g.*, *United States v. Kelly*, 39 M.J. 235, 237 (CMA 1994); *United States v. Burnette,* 29 M.J. 473 (CMA 1990); *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986), *cert. denied*, 479 U.S. 985 (1986); *see also* Art. 46, UCMJ, 10 U.S.C. § 846 (establishing "equal opportunity to obtain witnesses and other evidence" for the defense); Rules for Courts-Martial 703(d).
[27] *United States v. Ndanyi,* 45 M.J. 315, 319 (CAAF 1996); *United States v. Gonzalez*, 39 M.J. 459, 461 (CAAF 1994).
[28] *United States v. Lloyd*, 69 M.J. 95, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2010) (quoting *United States v. Gunkle*, 55 M.J. 26, 31 (C.A.A.F. 2001)).
[29] *Id.*
[30] *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 458 (C.A.A.F. 2008)).
[31] *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Gonzalez*, 39 M.J. 459, 461 (C.M.A. 1994)).
[32] 62 M.J. 114, 120 (C.A.A.F. 2005).

respond to the government's expert.[33]

35. An accused may request any particular expert, including a government expert. If [the accused] is entitled to an expert, the government must provide the named expert or a suitable substitute.[34]

ARGUMENT

The participation of a forensic pathologist for the Defense is absolutely necessary to prepare an adequate defense for CSSN Copeland.

The Government conceded, and this Court agreed, that the Defense requires the assistance of a forensic pathologist to adequately defend CSSN Copeland. This Court instructed the Government to provide an adequate substitute for the Defense in response to the Defense Motion to Compel Expert Consultant filed on 26 November 2025. The necessity of a defense expert in this field is not in dispute.

This is the second filing on the same matter which is largely undisputed. The Defense has yet to be able to begin working with a forensic pathologist in a case that will rely heavily on medical and scientific evidence. The Government has already had the ability to consult and work with their expert for more than seven months as of this filing. Dr. Matshes is not available for the trial dates and is therefore, not an adequate substitute for the Defense.

Trial is swiftly approaching and for the Defense to make beneficial use of an expert consultant, one that everyone recognizes is necessary for a fair trial, Dr. Banerjee is the correct option- she is ready to begin working, she has discounted her pre-trial consultation rate, and she remains available for the ordered trial dates.

The Government cites cost as the sole impediment to the employment of the Defense requested expert Dr. Banerjee. However, the identified substitutes, both civilian forensic pathology experts, exceeds the Government's arbitrary "maximum rate" proffered to this Court by $200 per hour. Dr. Banerjee has agreed to align her hourly fee for pre-trial consultation with that positively endorsed by the Government, and her participation should be compelled.

As of this filing, almost half of the Trial Management Order dates have passed, *United States v. CSSN Jermiah Copeland* is less than six months from trial, and the Defense remains unable to begin working with an expert in forensic pathology. The Government must prove CSSN Copeland committed "an act" that caused the death of CS3 A.R. While the Government intends to rely on a theory of strangulation, based upon other wholly unrelated acts vice any physical evidence, the medical and scientific evidence in this case will be in dispute. Currently slated for trial are two medical doctors who both could not determine a manner of death, but do not necessarily agree on all of their findings. That is the current posture of the case, and the Defense

[33] *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 218 (C.A.A.F. 2006).
[34] *United States v. Reyes,* 80 M.J. 218, 227(C.A.A.F. 2020)(citing *United States v Short*, 50 M.J. 370, 372 (C.A.A.F. 1999).

cannot begin to develop alternative theories of defense or test the Government's purported evidence in the absence of an expert in this field.

The Defense requested the assistance of Dr. Banerjee, an expert witness who has previously worked on numerous military cases and is currently enrolled in the federal payment system. The sole reason the Government cites to the court and the Defense for disapproving the Defense requested witness was her fees. Importantly, the Government could not find a substitute for the fee range cited in their response to the Defense Motion to Compel Expert Consultant. Instead, the Government attempted to provide two individuals, who are both not adequate substitutes, at a rate higher than their own purported maximum. This positive endorsement provided by special trial counsel for Dr. Matshes was only for 30 hours of pre-trial consultation and did not include any funding for trial participation. Dr. Banerjee graciously agreed to reduce her fee for pre-trial consultation to $600 per hour and is ready to begin working with the Defense. This concession was not acceptable to the special trial counsel, who despite not asking for trial funding for Dr. Matshes, maintains that Dr. Banerjee's trial rate will be too expensive. There is no indication that this concern arises with the convening authority in this case and appears to originate solely from those who are prosecuting the case against CSSN Copeland.

The Defense must be allowed to begin preparing its case and a forensic pathologist is a key component of the team. The initial Defense motion filed on 26 November 2025 asked for Court to compel an expert for pre-trial and trial participation. This Court instructed the Government to identify an adequate substitute. The Defense remains without an "adequate substitute, or any, expert consultant who available for the scheduled trial dates. Importantly, the longer this process is allowed to stagnate increases the chances for necessary amendments to the trial management order, all the while the Defense has twice requested speedy trial[35] and CSSN Copeland remains in "maximum custody" status at the brig. Therefore, this Court must compel the production of Dr. Banerjee for pre-trial consultation and trial participation as requested in the Defense's previous filing.

Dr. Matshes and Dr. Lew are not adequate substitutes for Dr. Banerjee.

If this Court feels that the "adequate substitute," who is not available to support the scheduled trial dates, meets the Government's obligation to provide the Defense an adequate substitute, the following sections articulate why there is a great distinction between Dr. Banerjee and Dr. Matshes and Dr. Lew; they are not adequate substitutes.[36] From the outset a cursory,

[35] The Defense recognizes that the scheduled trial dates were agreed upon by all parties but contends this was matter of necessity and not a decision that forfeits the accused's right to trial in a timely manner.

[36] The defense request is specific to the production of an expert consultant and not, as of yet, for an expert witness. Should the Defense need to make that motion it would become imperative to compare the qualifications of the government's expert and the "adequate substitute." That is not the question currently facing this Court in this motion to reconsider. Importantly, the Defense has received no discovery materials related to the employment of any Government expert. While Dr. Lameira has been identified as a Government witness, the Defense has only received a single RCM 701 disclosure from July 2025, and is waiting on a response to a defense request asking for her C.V. However, an open-source search of this doctor, like Dr. Banerjee, does not reveal any public controversy surrounding her professional career.

open source search of Dr. Evan Matshes and Dr. Lew reveals that both have been embroiled in multiple controversies both in the United States and Canada.[37] For Dr. Matshes, some of those cases may have resolved, ultimately, in his favor, though that does not remove the shadow cast upon his work, nor necessarily limit areas for cross examination at trial. Dr. Matshes himself acknowledges that the controversies surrounding his career have been the subject of cross examination.[38] While it may not preclude his qualification as an expert, his credibility was (and would be in this case) called into question if he ultimately was required to testify.

Dr. Lew suffers the same deficiency. Her professional work has been called into question as have the reliability of her conclusions.[39] Dr. Lameira for the Government, and Dr. Banerjee for the defense do not suffer this same deficiency. When an accused requests a particular expert witness, their qualifications when compared to any substitute witness may then be relevant given the fact that the witness' credibility is typically at issue.[40]

The sole premise of the Government's employment of Dr. Matshes and Dr. Lew is simply that they cost less to employ than Dr. Banerjee. This reasoning does not explain how individuals who have been shrouded in controversy throughout their careers, are necessarily an adequate substitute for one of the premier forensic pathologists in the country whose work is impeccable and above reproach.

In a situation where medical and scientific evidence will be the subject of scrutiny, testimony, and challenge, it strains credulity that Dr. Matshes or Dr. Lew, who are both selected for the Defense by the Government, will be said to be above reproach. As this Court is aware this case has garnered much media attention and any reporter worth their salt will not have difficulty connecting and pointing out the controversy that surrounds either of these doctors. Same too with members of the panel. If they were to conduct a quick search, recognizing that this Court will admonish them not to, Dr. Matshes' and Dr. Lew's professional careers would be highlighted through a series of news headlines which are less than favorable. These are not fanciful speculations, but distinct possibilities that could call the fairness of CSSN Copeland's trial into question.

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[37] https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2019/mar/03/san-diego-pathologist-accused-of-improperly-harves/

https://www.kcbd.com/2020/07/20/naag-doctors-say-county-officials-use-medical-examiners-office-political-punching-bag/

https://www.kcbd.com/2019/06/25/medical-board-rejects-allegations-that-doctor-practiced-without-license-mes-office/

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/calgary-texas-coroner-office-1.5037607

https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/former-calgary-medical-examiner-files-15-million-defamation-lawsuit-against-the-cbc-over-two-part-episode-of-the-fifth-estate

[38] Enclosure E: Email w Dr. Matshes.

[39] https://www.floridabulldog.org/2024/08/jury-tells-miami-dade-to-pay-10-million-to-whistle-blowing-ex-deputy-chief-medical-examiner/

https://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/emma-lew-miami-dade-medical-examiner-who-said-darren-raineys-death-was-an-accident-gets-promotion-10796694/.

[40] *United States v. Axe,* 80 M.J. 578 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2020).

If Dr. Matshes or Dr. Lew were deemed adequate and they ultimately testified at trial in support of CSSN Copeland, surely the Government would not abdicate their role and responsibility to adequately cross-examine these experts. When viewed from the eyes of member of the public there does not even seem to be the appearance of fairness for CSSN Copeland. CAAF has held "[c]ourts-martial must not only be just, they must be ***perceived*** as just. The requirement of Article 46, UCMJ, for equal access to witnesses and evidence secures that just result and enhances the perception of fairness in military justice."[41]

The Defense selects a professional to work with, the Government disapproves it and provides an expert of their own choosing. At which time the Government's selection then consults about the Government's evidence, and then on cross-examination at trial the Government delves into the controversy surrounding their professional career. That is the prospect facing CSSN Copeland. His case will receive abundant media scrutiny and commentary in a city that supports the largest naval base in the world. It cannot be perceived as just that his request for an expert was denied solely because it was "too expensive" when he is on trial with the rest of his natural life at stake.

In *Warner*, CAAF dealt with an issue similar to what is presented in this case. There the Government retained an expert in "shaken baby syndrome."[42] In fact, he was the preeminent practitioner in this field within the Air Force.[43] The Government provided an adequate substitute to the Defense, a credentialed provider but whose specialization was in adolescents, arguably less useful in a case about "shaken baby syndrome."[44] In Warner CAAF held "[t]he military judge's erroneous denial of the defense motion for a more qualified expert consultant left the defense without the adequate tools to analyze and possibly challenge or rebut that opinion," which required overturning the findings and sentence.[45]

In addition to the myriad differences in perceived credibility, Dr. Matshes' work appears to have a much narrower focus than that of Dr. Banerjee.[46] Specifically, Dr. Matshes focuses in pediatric forensic pathology (though he has been qualified in other areas) and this is indicated by his most recent work and publications focusing on pediatrics.[47] Similarly, Dr. Lew has produced a majority of her written work, proceedings, and abstracts with Dr. Matshes on issues related to pediatrics.[48] Importantly, her most recent consultant work was in 2018- and all of her consultant work appears to be solely as a forensic pathology consultant for Government agencies, her CV makes no mention of ever working for the Defense.[49] Dr. Banerjee is a recognized educator, preeminent forensic pathologist, and works frequently in the arena of autopsies, decomposition,

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[41] *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 218 (C.A.A.F. 2006)(emphasis added).
[42] *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114 (C.A.A.F. 2005).
[43] *Id.* at 118.
[44] *Id.*
[45] *Id.*
[46] The rationale that follows also figures in to a calculus between the Government's expert, Dr. Lameira and Dr. Matshes and Dr. Lew. Dr. Lameira does not appear to have any controversy surrounding her career and no *Brady* or other derogatory information has been provided by the Government in discovery. This suggests that a comparison of those experts would result in the conclusion that Dr. Lameira and Dr. Banerjee are, in fact, comparable experts.
[47] Enclosure A.
[48] Enclosure I.
[49] *Id.*

and cause of death determinations.[50] This case will see testimony focused on manner and cause of death for an adult woman, a case much more in line with Dr. Banerjee's experience and practice than that of Dr. Matshes.

RELIEF REQUESTED

36. The Defense moves this Court to order the Government to produce Dr. Priyah Banerjee as an expert consultant for the Defense for both pretrial matters and consultation and at trial.

37. If this motion is opposed by the government, and pursuant to R.C.M. 905(h), the defense requests an Article 39(a), UCMJ, hearing to present additional evidence and argument on this motion.

EVIDENCE AND HEARING

38. The defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this motion:

Enclosure (A): Dr. Matshes CV
Enclosure (B): Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Forensic Pathology) dtd 19Dec w/encl
Enclosure (C): Email chain w TC reduced fees and nonavailability
Enclosure (D): Defense Comms w/ CNRMA
Enclosure (E): Email with Dr. Matshes
Enclosure (F): Defense CAGE Code to CNRMA
Enclosure (G): Email from TC re Matshes Contract
Enclosure (H): Dr. Matshes Not Available
Enclosure (I): Dr. Lew Documents and TC Email re Dr. Lew
Enclosure (J): Dr. Banerjee CV

Respectfully submitted,

MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL.[redacted] Digitally signed by MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL.[redacted] Date: 2026.02.17 09:21:57 -05'00'

T. M. MIHILL
LCDR, USCG
Defense Counsel

[50] Enclosure J; *See also* https://medicine.at.brown.edu/news/2023-02-05/death

39. I certify that I have served a true copy (via e-mail) of the above on this Court and the trial counsel on 18 February 2026.

MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL[redacted]
Digitally signed by MIHILL.TODD.MICHAEL[redacted]
Date: 2026.02.17 09:22:18 -05'00'

T. M. MIHILL
LCDR, USCG
Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION TO RECONSIDER** **(Def MTC Expert Consultant in Pathology)** **18 February 2026**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure A: Dr. Matshes CV
b. Enclosure B: Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Forensic Pathology) dtd 19Dec w/encl
c. Enclosure C: Email chain w TC reduced fees and nonavailability
d. Enclosure D: Defense Comms w/ CNRMA
e. Enclosure E: Email with Dr. Matshes
f. Enclosure F: Defense CAGE Code to CNRMA
g. Enclosure G: Email from TC re Matshes Contract
h. Enclosure H: Dr. Matshes Not Available
i. Enclosure I: Dr. Lew Documents and TC Email re Dr. Lew
j. Enclosure J: Banerjee CV

EVAN WILLIAM MATSHES, MD FRCPC

Board Certified Diagnostic & Molecular, Anatomic and Forensic Pathologist

1-800-985-5346 | matshes@naagforensic.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated service and academic-oriented general and pediatric forensic pathologist. Subspecialty interests include: child abuse and domestic violence; unexpected infant and child death; general, pediatric and combat/military-related torture and extra-judicial killings; pediatric and general spine pathology; forensic neuropathology; cardiovascular pathology; virtual autopsy (PMCT and PMMR); pediatric bone pathology; bioinformatics.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Medical Director and Chief Forensic Pathologist
NAAG Forensic PC

Associate Professor of Medical Education (Pathology)
California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Diagnostic & Molecular Pathology
Board certified by the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (June 2009)

Anatomic Pathology
Board certified by the American Board of Pathology (July 2009)

Forensic Pathology
Board certified by the American Board of Pathology (September 2010)

Maintenance of Certification ("Continuing Certification") status obtained by examination
American Board of Pathology (November 2019)

MEDICAL LICENSURE

State of California
Unrestricted license to practice medicine

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Forensic Pathology Subspecialist Training
July 2009 through June 2010
Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science
Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office
Dallas, Texas, USA

Pediatric Forensic Pathology Research Fellowship
October 2008 through June 2009 (during PGY5 year)
Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department and the University of Calgary
Miami, Florida, USA

Anatomic Pathologist Specialist Training
July 2004 through June 2009
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Doctor of Medicine ("MD")
"Great Distinction" and "Class Valedictorian"
August 2000 through May 2004
College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Bachelor of Science Degree ("BSc")
"Magna Cum Laude"
Human Anatomy & Cell Biology
College of Arts & Science, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Medical Education (Pathology)
California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM)
Colton, CA
April 2024 through current

Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist
NAAG Forensic PC
San Diego, CA
January 2023 through current

Forensic Pathologist
Autopsy pathology, forensic neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology
NAAG Pathology Labs PC
San Diego, CA
June 2017 through 2022

Forensic Pathologist
General and pediatric forensic pathology second opinion review services
National Autopsy Assay Group LLC
San Diego, CA
April 2015 through 2022

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner
General forensic pathology
District IV Florida
Jacksonville, FL
July 2016 through September 2016

Associate Medical Examiner, Director of Pediatric Forensic Pathology and Coordinator of Forensic Neuropathology and Cardiovascular Pathology
General and pediatric forensic pathology, forensic neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology
Office of the (New Mexico) Medical Investigator
Albuquerque, NM
April 2012 through December 2014

Autopsy Pathologist
Autopsy pathology
University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services
Calgary, AB, Canada
August 2011 through June 2012

Clinical Associate Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Forensic pathology and forensic neuropathology
University of Calgary
Calgary, AB, Canada
April 2011 through January 2020

Assistant Chief Medical Examiner
General forensic pathology
Alberta Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Calgary, AB, Canada
August 2010 through September 2011

Executive Director
Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.
San Diego, CA
June 2008 through December 2018

Physician Extender, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Rockyview Hospital
Calgary, AB, Canada
October 2006 through January 2008

MEMBERSHIPS IN RELATED SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

California Homicide Investigators Association (CHIA)

International Homicide Investigators Association (IHIA)

National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME)

International Society of Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology (ISBSTP)

Society for Pediatric Pathology (SPP)

International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME)

American Academy of Neuropathologists (AANP)

International Society of Forensic Radiology and Imaging (ISFRI)

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)

College of American Pathologists (CAP)

SELECTED RELEVANT (ADJUNCT) PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Basic and Advanced Virtopsy Courses
University of Zurich (Switzerland)
March 2013

Cardiac Morphology Course
National Heart & Lung Institute, Faculty of Medicine
Imperial College London
June 2012

Dr. Kenneth M. Earle Memorial Neuropathology Review
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)
February 2007, 2012

Fetal Death Investigation
Harvard Medical School
October 2008

Forensic Anthropology
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)
June 2005

Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP)
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
May 2005

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS)
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
January 2003, September 2004

EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH GRANT FUNDING

National Institute of Justice Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant
Principal Investigator
Information Technology Support (Death Investigation Reporting Tool [DIRT])
Calendar year 2013

PUBLICATIONS – PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Bundock, E., Giese, K., Gill, J., Harris, C., Jarrell, H., Jorden, M., Love, J., Mahar, T., Matshes, E., Oleske, D., and Vincent, G. (2025). National Association of Medical Examiners Position Paper: Recommendations for the postmortem assessment of suspected head trauma in infants and young children. Pending *Am J Forensic Med Pathol.*

2. Pinneri, K., & Matshes, E. W. (2017). Recommendations for the Autopsy of an Infant who has Died Suddenly and Unexpectedly. Academic Forensic Pathology, 7(2), 171–181. https://doi.org/10.23907/2017.019

3. Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2017). An Approach to the Classification of Apparent Asphyxial Infant Deaths. Academic Forensic Pathology, 7(2), 200–211. https://doi.org/10.23907/2017.021

4. Matshes, E. W., Snyder, V. S., & Andrews, S. W. (2015). Utilitarian Aspects of Postmortem Computed Tomography. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(4), 603–613. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.064

5. Krehbiel, K., Matshes, E. W., Lathrop, S., & Pinckard, J. K. (2015). Medical Therapy-Related Deaths and the Medical Examiner. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(3), 421–435. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.046

6. Snyder, V. S., Andrews, S. W., Curry, C. R., Lathrop, S. L., & Matshes, E. W. (2015). An Evaluation of the Utility of Postmortem Computed Tomography in the Diagnosis of Lethal Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis and Hypertensive Heart Disease. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(1), 25–37. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.003

7. Snyder, V. S., Curry, C. R., Lew, E. O., & Matshes, E. W. (2015). Morbid Obesity is Not a Risk Factor for the Development of Clinically Significant Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(1), 38–46. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.004

8. Snyder, V. S., & Matshes, E. W. (2014). Assessment and Diagnosis of Trauma in the High Cervical Spine Using Dissection, Radiography, Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Academic Forensic Pathology, 4(4), 532–544. https://doi.org/10.23907/2014.069

9. Gill, J. R., Andrew, T., Gilliland, M. G. F., Love, J., Matshes, E., & Reichard, R. R. (2014). National Association of Medical Examiners Position Paper: Recommendations for the Postmortem Assessment of Suspected Head Trauma in Infants and Young Children. Academic Forensic Pathology, 4(2), 206–213. https://doi.org/10.23907/2014.032

10. Krehbiel, K., & Matshes, E. (2013). Endocardial Involvement in Acute Leukemia. Academic Forensic Pathology, 3(1), 112–114. https://doi.org/10.23907/2013.016

11. Matshes, E. W., Selanders, L., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Skull Base Fractures are Markers of Severe Forces in the First Two Years of Life. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 318–323. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.049

12. Matshes, E. W., Selanders, L., Hatch, G., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Injuries of the Upper Cervical Spinal Column are Markers of Severe Forces in the First Two Years of Life. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 324–331. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.050

13. Matshes, E. W., Hamilton, L. E., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Routine Metabolic Testing is Not Warranted in Unexpected Infant Death Investigations. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 346–356. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.053

14. Matshes, E. W., & McKenzie, B. (2012). Sudden Infant Death Due to Truncus Arteriosus Communis Persistens with Mitral Valve Atresia and Left Ventricular Hypoplasia. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 374–378. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.056

15. Box, A., & Matshes, E. W. (2012). Aortic Dissection with Compression of the Pulmonary Trunk. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 392–393. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.060

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4. Snyder V. and Matshes E. Assessment and diagnosis of trauma in the high cervical spine using dissection, radiography, computed tomography, and magnetic resonance imaging. National Association of Medical Examiner's 2013 Annual Meeting (Milwaukee).

5. Matshes E., Shuman M. and Lew E. Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages are not pathognomonic of abusive pediatric head injury. American Academic of Forensic Sciences 2010 Annual Meeting (Seattle).

6. Deisch J., Matshes E., Quinton R. and Gruszecki, A. Child deaths due to television falls with injury patterns that may mimic child abuse. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2009 Annual Meeting (Denver).

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SCIENTIFIC MEETING POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Sudden death in infants with congenital heart disease. Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

2. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. When infants die suddenly, is routine screening for metabolic diseases warranted? Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

3. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Grown-up congenital heart disease and sudden death in a medical examiner's population. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2010 Annual Meeting (Washington D.C.)

4. Bromley A., Lew. E. and Matshes E. Excited Delirium: A Controversial Diagnosis. Canadian Association of Pathology 2009 Annual Conference (Halifax, Nova Scotia), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2009 Research Day.

5. Matshes E. and Lew E. Homicide by unspecified means. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario) and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2008 Research Day.

6. Hamilton L., Matshes E. and Steele, L. A rare cause of thoracic aortic rupture and sudden death. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario).

7. Fauth C., Burak, K., Gao Z. and Matshes, E. Combined autologous graft-versus host disease and veno-occlusive disease in the liver after stem cell transplant: a case report. Canadian Association of Pathology 2006 Annual Conference (St. John's Newfoundland), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

8. Matshes E, Waghray R., and Pylypchuk G. Coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A Retrospective Study. 9th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2002, Saskatoon.

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SPEAKER AT SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP

1. Snyder V., Matshes E., Andrews S., Pinckard, K. How and why you can and should integrate advanced imaging techniques into your daily autopsy practice. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV). Half-day workshop.

2. Milroy C., Cavilla M., and Matshes E. Child homicides: The critical role of interdisciplinary expert collaboration. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV). Half-day workshop.

3. Snyder V., Zumwalt R., Pinkard K., Gerrard C., Hatch G. and Matshes E. Advanced Forensic Pathology and Forensic Radiology Techniques in the Assessment of Cervical Spine and Craniocervical Junction Trauma. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2014 Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA). Half-day workshop.

4. Matshes E. World Congress of Infant Head Trauma 2013. Academic Forensic Pathology Incorporated (Dallas, TX). Three-day congress

5. Matshes E. and Milroy C. Forensic Histopathology Update. Forensic Unit, Department of Pathology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre, July 2013, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Two-day workshop.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

1. **Abusive Head Trauma Forensic Autopsy Position Paper Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners

2. **NAME Standards Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners / SUDC Foundation

3. **Sudden Death in Pediatrics Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners / SUDC Foundation

4. **Second Autopsy Performance Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners

SELECTED AWARDS

List available upon request

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

List available upon request

19 Dec 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
Via: Staff Judge Advocate, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (FORENSIC PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Defense Expert Request dtd 24 Oct 25 – Dr. Banerjee
(2) Government Response to Defense Expert Request for Dr. Banerjee dtd 5 Nov 25
(3) Dr. Evan Matshes CV and Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in forensic pathology is necessary. Special Trial Counsel does not endorse the Defense's requested expert – Dr. Banjeree. Instead, Special Trial Counsel has obtained an adequate substitute, Dr. Evan Matshes. His CV and fee schedule are attached.

2. Accordingly, I respectfully request CNRMA execute funding for 30 hours of evidence review and consultation ($18,000) for Dr. Matshes. If Defense requires Dr. Matshes' services for trial based on their consultation, Defense should send a separate request articulating the necessity.

3. As evidenced in enclosure (3), Dr. Matshes is qualified for this appointment with specialized experience. The Government is unable to obtain an adequate government substitute for the Defense in this area.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO

Copy to:
Defense Counsel

24 Oct 25

From: LCDR Todd Mihill, USCG, Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren A. Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF A FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST CONSULTANT IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) UCMJ, Article 46
(b) R.C.M. 703(d)
(c) *United Sates v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986)
(d) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572, 623-24 (N.M.C.M.R. 1990)
(e) *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006)
(f) *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999)
(g) *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987)
(h) *United States v. McAllister,* 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001)
(i) *United States v. Warner,* 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005)
(j) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985)

Encl: (1) Dr. Banerjee CV
(2) Dr. Banerjee Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), CSSN Jermiah Copeland, through counsel, requests the government to appoint Dr. Priya Banerjee as a forensic pathology expert consultant to the defense team to assist in the preparation of its case, in accordance with Uniform Code of Military Justice (U.C.M.J.), Article 46; Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703; *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999) and *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987). CSSN Copeland further requests that the forensic pathologist be designated as a member of the defense team bound by the attorney-client privilege, in accordance with Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 502(a) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. **Law.** Under the Sixth Amendment, CSSN Copeland has the right to the effective assistance of counsel and the right to present a defense. In order to adequately represent CSSN Copeland, he requires more than the advocacy skills of his attorney. This includes "the right to present a defense by means of confrontation, cross-examination and going forward with a presentation of its own evidence." *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572. The right to present evidence "necessarily includes the right to prepare." *Id.* As stated above, military due process consequently "entitles a service member to the assistance of an expert when necessary to the preparation of an adequate defense." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288 (C.M.A. 1986)). Congress guaranteed, through the UCMJ, that the parties to a court-martial "shall have equal opportunity to obtain witnesses and other evidence." Article 46, U.C.M.J. Under this scheme, service members are entitled to expert assistance when such assistance is necessary in mounting an adequate defense. *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985) (holding, when necessary, due process requires appointment of a government expert). Importantly, the entitlement for an accused to expert assistance "is not limited to actual expert testimony at trial." *United States v.*

Lee, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006).

To avail himself or herself of this right, an accused—through defense counsel—must submit a request for an expert to the convening authority, supported by "a statement of reasons why the employment of the expert is necessary." R.C.M. 703(d). Both references (b) and (c) provide the structure for evaluating requests for expert consultants and witnesses.

The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces has held that RCM 703(d) authorizes employment of experts to assist the defense at government expense when they are relevant and necessary. The Court established a three-prong test to determine the necessity of a requested expert:

1. Why is the expert needed;
2. What would the expert accomplish for the defense; and
3. Why is the defense unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistant would be able to develop?

3. **Factual Background**. CSSN Copeland is charged with the premeditated murder of CSSN A.R., among a myriad of other charges. During the ensuing investigation into the death of CSSN A.R., the Government performed medical tests and examinations on the deceased, resulting in scientific and medical reports regarding the evidence. The Government has secured the assistance of an expert, Dr. Fernanda Lemeira and will surely be using Dr. Lemeira's skill, knowledge, experience and expertise in the Government's case against CSSN Copeland. CSSN Copeland requires the assistance of Dr. Banerjee to meet and test the evidence that will be presented against him in order to ensure a full and fair trial on the merits.

4. **Why an Expert is needed and What the Expert would accomplish for the defense?**

At trial the Government will necessarily present medical evidence and scientific testimony as evidence against CSSN Copeland. The Defense must be afforded the opportunity prepare for, meet, and counter the Government's evidence. Dr. Banerjee will assist the Defense in analyzing evidence and reports, the techniques and procedures used, and the testimony of the Government's witnesses.

Dr. Banerjee will provide the Defense with expert opinions and assessments of the evidence that are constitutionally required to confront the Government's evidence in defense of CSSN Copeland. She has skills, education, training, and experience that the attorneys for CSSN Copeland cannot hope to attain- even through diligent effort- prior to trial. Her assistance is essential and required for a full and fair trial.

The evidence provided in discovery indicates that the cause of death for CSSN A.R. remains "undetermined." The nature of this assessment indicates that the Government will be pursuing a theory that, though cause of death is undetermined, CSSN Copeland was responsible for her death. Dr. Banerjee's training, education and experience will help the defense team probe alternate theories of death, different possible causes of death, and counter the evidence presented

by the Government's experts. These are not hypothetical results of this expert's work on the case- they are actual tangible assistance directly related to the Defense's theory of the case.

Dr. Banerjee's assistance will be required and utilized throughout litigation of pretrial legal and evidentiary issues as well as during trial on the merits. Her assistance, and its necessity to the Defense team cannot be understated.

5. **Why counsel cannot perform such duties.** The rapid growth in forensic science techniques at trial may make cases more complex than general practitioners can handle on their own. *United States v. McAllister*, 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001); *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005). No member of the defense is an expert in the field of forensic pathology. Although counsel have and will continue to diligently research these areas, they cannot realistically be expected to attain the level of competency required to challenge and evaluate a Government's experts or challenge and evaluate the Government's evidence. Without the ability to consult with its own expert, the Defense would not be able to adequately represent CSSN Copeland within the meaning of the Sixth Amendment or the UCMJ.

6. **Adequate government substitute.** The Defense is not aware of an acceptable governmental substitute that has comparable qualifications, education or experience to that of Dr. Banerjee.

7. **Cost.** Enclosure (2) is Dr. Banerjee's fee schedule. Her rate for professional consulting is $850 per hour and trial participation rate of $10,000 per day. We have estimated that she will need 30 hours for pre-trial consultancy at a cost of $25,500.00, and trial participation for 22 days at a cost of $220,000.00. **The defense requests a total authorization of $245,500.00,** not including travel expenses to be reimbursed in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulations. Dr. Banerjee is currently available for the scheduled trial dates and is already enrolled within the federal payment system.

8. The Defense requests that the expert consultant be viewed as a member of the Defense team such that all communications between the expert consultant and the accused and his counsel will be viewed as confidential. The Defense further requests that the Government not have any conversations or other interaction with the requested expert consultant in relation to this case except for any administrative communications in securing their assistance for the Defense. The Defense understands this limitation may be removed if the defense eventually desires to have the expert testify in the case.

9. Dr. Banerjee's assistance is relevant and necessary to providing CSSN Copeland with an adequate defense to the charges. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at `todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil` or 571-369-8409.

T. M. MIHILL

Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC

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FEE SCHEDULE

*Expedited rate (review with opinion and/or report) $1700 per hour

Non-Refundable Retainer (4 hours) $3400

Review of materials and reports $850 per hour

Testimony (Hearing, Grand Jury, Trial etc) $10,000 per 8 hours

Car related travel mileage billed at the established government rate (in addition to travel time costs). Mileage between locations will be established via google maps. Tolls also billed at cost.

Priya Banerjee, M.D.

Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC.

Board Certified Forensic and Anatomic Pathologist
20 Manning Drive, Barrington Rhode Island 02806
Email: autopsymd@gmail.com; Cell: [redacted]
EIN: [redacted]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

4/1/2016-present	President and Founder Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC Contract forensic pathologist: Clark County, NV (Las Vegas metro region) Criminal and Civil medical-legal consultant, Private autopsy pathologist
5/3/2022-present	Know Your Rights Camp, Colin Kaepernick Foundation Autopsy Team Pathologist (New England to Mid Atlantic Region)
7/1/2010 – 8/9/2021	Assistant Medical Examiner Office of the State Medical Examiners State of Rhode Island, Providence, RI
7/1/2012-present	Clinical Assistant Professor Brown University, Depart. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
1/25/17-5/2020	Adjunct Professor of Justice Studies Roger Williams University Forensic Pathology and Forensic Seminar Series
1/23/20-2022	Adjunct Professor, Graduate Medical Sciences/Boston U. Medicine Forensic Medicine and Death Investigation Course
1/30/2019-8/1/2021	Expert Forensic Pathologist, Rhode Island Cold Case Task Force
5/2018-12/2020	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of New Hampshire

12/2012-2/2013	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of Maine

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

8/2000-5/2004	**University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, M.D.**
7/2004– 6/2005	**Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, PA Internal Medicine Preliminary Year
7/2005-6/2009	**The Johns Hopkins Hospital** Baltimore, MD AP/CP Pathology Residency
7/2009-6/2010	**Office of Chief Medical Examiner, State of Maryland** Baltimore, MD Forensic Pathology Fellow
8/1996-5/2000	**University of Maryland, College Park** B.S. Cell, Molecular Biology and Genetics (Magna Cum Laude) Concentration Criminology and Criminal Justice
5/16/2014	National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Workshop
2/21/2014	Rhode Island Traffic Incident Management Responder Training
5/2-5/3/2014	FEMA/New Mexico Tech Medical Preparedness and Response Bombing Incidents Course
5/10-5/12/2011	Medicolegal Death Investigation Training Seminar National Forensic Science Training Center Tampa Florida
6/7-6/11/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Anthropology Course
5/3-5/7/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Forensic Odontology Course

BOARD CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

American Board of Pathology: Board Certified in Forensic Pathology 2012

American Board of Pathology; Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology, 2011

*all CME/Maintenance of Certification maintained for both areas

State of Rhode Island	Allopathic Physician Medical License MD13342
State of Pennsylvania	Medical License MD 436021 (inactive, in good standing)
State of Nevada	Medical Doctor License #23829

AWARDS, HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS:

June 18, 2019	Brown University School of Medicine, Clinical Teaching Award
2012-current	National Association of Medical Examiners
2011-current	College of American Pathologist, Fellow
2011-current	Rhode Island Criminalists Association, Associate Member
2007	College of American Pathologists., Leadership Development Award

GUEST LECTURES AND MEDIA EXPERIENCE:

Vinnie Politan

February 28, 2025 Death Of Gene Hackman and his Wife
https://pagesix.com/2025/02/28/celebrity-news/gene-hackman-and-wife-betsy-arakawa-may-have-been-dead-for-weeks-before-their-bodies-were-found-sheriff/

October 11, 2024 How Forensic Pathologists Analyze Human Remains, expert interview
https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/east-bay/how-forensic-pathologists-analyze-human-remains/

2024-current Multiple appearances on Court TV

April 1 Preston Lord murder, Opening Statements Spotlight with Julie Grant CourtTV

July 7, 2023 Expert TV interview "Toxicology Report for Alex Fierro" on Court TV.
https://x-default-stgec.uplynk.com/ausw/slices/4a8/5a41d9ac062d41bbb88c8ded2e0ef1c0/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1_e.mp4

May 16, 2023 Expert TV interview "Children's Book Author Charged with Murder of Husband."
https://www.courttv.com/title/medical-examiner-eric-richins-had-5xlethal-dose-of-fentanyl-in-system/?fbclid=IwAR1r5CeBoNBxfMqMKJISO310ifbSsuhYpsyVMoMdnxLPGgQbH4RThTV4Pp0

January 5, 2023 Expert TV interview, " DNA found on sheath 'the money' for Idaho police forensic pathologist" on Cuomo Show, NewsNation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFSKkKnMabs

October 3, 2022 Expert contributor quoted: US monkeypox deaths are rare; here's why they can be difficult to confirm (author: Jaqueline Howard) CNN Health online. https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/03/health/monkeypoxdeaths-difficult-to-confirm

August 21, 2022 Expert TV Interview, "Tell No Tales", Forensic Files II Episode, HLN network. Season 3, Episode 16.

May 11, 2022 TV Interview, Morning in America (News Nation) "Vicky White died by Suicide" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LVq3KjQxkc

May 10, 2022 TV Interview, Inside Edition: Bahamas Deaths of Three US Visitors https://www.insideedition.com/toxic-ac-leak-theorized-as-possiblecause-in-mysterious-deaths-of-americans-at-bahamas-resort-74759.

February 11, 2022 Interview, CNN Newsroom: (9 am hour): Forensic Pathologist on Bob Saget Autopsy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kdze5p25SXI

February 10, 2022 Interview, CNN Tonight with Laura Coates; Dr. Banerjee https://video.snapstream.net/Play/4hTGjGopBrT1Ywz5NAbchZ?accessToken=bew086lmmeopi

February 10, 2022 Interview, Inside Edition https://www.insideedition.com/after-bob-sagets-autopsy-raises-alarmaround-skull-injuries-what-doctors-say-to-do-if-you-hit-your.

January 12, 2022 Interview, Today Show on Bob Saget Death and Autopsy https://www.today.com/video/bob-saget-s-final-performance-latestdetails-on-his-death-130675269917

December 16, 2021 Interview, American Radical Podcast Episode 4: Cause of Death https://www.msnbc.com/msnbc-podcast/cause-death-n1286073

October 25, 2021 Interview, Real Time Crime Podcast re: Brian Laundrie

October 23, 2021 CNN interview: The manhunt for Brian Laundrie is over. But several big questions remain; https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/23/us/gabby-petito-brianlaundrie-questions/index.html

October 21, 2021 Determining Brian Laundrie's cause of death could be "challenging," says forensic pathologist; https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/brian-laundrie-news-10-21-21/index.html

October 21, 2021 CNN Interview: Wolf Blitzer Situation Room: Forensic pathologist explains what was 'odd' about the scene; https://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2021/10/21/brianlaundrie-remains-family-crime-scene-banerjee-sot-tsrvpx.cnn

September 21-22, 2021 Multiple appearances: Fox and Friends, local Fox stations, Law and Crime network re Death and autopsy of Gabby Petito https://www.foxnews.com/media/gabby-petito-autopsy-challenges-cause-death-pathologist

https://video.foxnews.com/v/6278085320001#sp=showclips
https://video.foxbusiness.com/v/6273622961001#sp=show-clipsoin

April, 2021 Multiple appearances, MSNBC, CNN/HLN and Law and Crime Network re: Derek Chauvin trial and the autopsy of George Floyd https://www.msnbc.com/katy-tur/watch/chuck-rosenberg-i-think-the-defenseattorney-got-a-little-too-cute-went-a-little-bit-too-far-109936709537

March 29, 2021 Forensic Pathologist Dr. Priya Banerjee: Learning from the dead to help the living. Profile in Boston Globe

December 6, 2019 Member interview on "Searching for answers: Inside a secret meeting of RI's Cold Case Task Force." https://www.wpri.com/news/special-reports/searching-for-answers-inside-a-secret-meeting-of-ris-cold-case-taskforce/

2019-Present Multiple Expert Appearances (recurring) on Law and Crime Network, recurring shows

November 11, 2019 Expert Appearance on Law and Crime Network: "Linda Kenney Baden asks Why the Blunt Force Trauma Killed the Victim but Not the Gunshot Wounds?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PlseesVo6S4&t=33s

October 31, 2019	"What's Going on with Jeffrey Epstein's Autopsy?" online article in Rolling Stone Magazine: https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culturefeatures/jeffrey-epstein-autopsy-baden-homicide-suicide-906192/
November 2, 2018	Water Intoxication Death, Coroner Talk Podcast with Darren Drake
September 26, 2018	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony for Oklahoma National Association of Attorney Generals, Oklahoma City, OK.
September 6, 2018	RIH Department of Pathology Grand Rounds: Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony
September 8, 2017	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony National Association of Attorney Generals, Providence, RI.
June 8, 2017	Organizing Physician and Lecturer: Select Topics in Forensic Pathology (Gunshot Wounds)
April 5, 2017	Expert Medical Examiner: Opioid Panel/Drug Overdose Deaths. Johnson and Wales University.
February 8, 2017	Radio interview with Jay Oliver ft. Joe Giacalone on LI in the AM, LINews Radio. Part 3 of Long Island Serial Killer. https://soundcloud.com/jvcbroadcasting/dr-priya-banerjee-interview
January 27, 2017	Guest Lecturer: The Medicolegal Autopsy: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender and Criminal Defense Lawyer
December 5, 2016	TV Interview with Reporter Tim White, WPRI. "How investigators identify human remains that have been underground for decades" http://wpri.com/2016/12/05/how-investigators-identify-human-remainsthathave- been-underground-for-decades/
June 24, 2016	Lecturer, Overview of the RI Medical Examiners Office and Death Investigation Rhode Island State Police Training Academy
2016-present	Lecturing Forensic Pathologist, Mock Scene Investigation University of Rhode Island BPS 101: Scientific Evidence Class I and II
2011-2014	Guest Lecturer: Fire Related Deaths Annual Fire Investigation Training Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators

March 24, 2014	Medical Examiner/Witness Fire Scene Investigation Training with Mock Crime Scenes Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators
April 26, 2013	Guest Lecturer: The Medical Examiner System in Rhode Island Univ. of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
March 26, 2013	Presenter, Rhode Island Health Careers Expo and Fair Rhode Island School Based Coordinator Network
November 12, 2013	Lecturer: Gunshot Wounds at "Patterns of Injury and the Story They Tell" Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
October 16, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Forensic Pathology and Forensic Identification for Dentists Greater Woonsocket Dental Association, Rhode Island
March 14, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Overview of Forensic Pathology and the Rhode Island Medical Examiner System West Coventry Fire District, Greene, Rhode Island.
February 8, 2012	Forensic Pathology 101: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender
September 16, 2011	Guest Lecturer: Medicolegal Death Investigations University of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
July 11, 2013	Guest Expert, Episode 30, TheForensicweek.com Show (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr6seMRVNQk)
December 13, 2012	Guest Expert, Episode 3, The Forensicweek.com Show (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zasZIp4BCvw)
September 28, 2010	Medicolegal Autopsy and Gunshot Wounds at The Relationship Between the Fundamental of Forensic Pathology and Your Professional Practice Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
November, 2009	Guest Expert Witness, University of Maryland Mock Trial
April, 2009	Guest Forensic Pathologist, Mock Crime Scene for the Community University of Maryland, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

PUBLICATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS:

Truong LV, **Banerjee, P**. Hepatic Hemangiosarcoma Presumed by Imaging as Hemangioma: A Case Report and Literature Review **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at American Academy of Forensic Sciences Meeting, February 2023.

Truong LV and Banerjee, P. Autopsy and Forensics: Forensic Entymology. https://www.pathologyoutlines.com/topic/forensicsentomology.html. February 2, 2021.

Almeida R; **Banerjee, P,** et al. Death Attributed to Dichlorvos (DDVP) Intoxication. (**Poster Presentation**). Presented at the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. September, 2020.

Belova N. and **Banerjee, P**. Drowning Deaths in Rhode Island, A Retrospective Review. **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at the National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October 2018.

Banerjee, P; Detora D; Iwuc P, Stanley C, and Ogilvie L. A case of suicide by injected xylazine. **(Platform Presentation)** Presented at Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting, November, 2014.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Eight Cases from 1999-2009. J Forensic Sci 2014 May;59:865-868.

Banerjee, P and Stanley C. Fatal Salt Intoxication from Table Salt Administration **(Poster).** Presented at National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October, 2012.

Ellis, CL, **Banerjee, P**, Carney, E, Sharma, R, Netto GJ. Adrenal lymphangioma: clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical characteristics of a rare lesion. Hum Pathol. 2011 Jul;42(7):1013-8.

Carney EM, **Banerjee P**, Ellis CL, Albadine R, Sharma R, Chaux AM, Burger PC, Netto GJ. PAX2(-)/PAX8(-)/inhibin A(+) immunoprofile in hemangioblastoma: A helpful combination in the differential diagnosis with metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma to the central nervous system. Am J Surg Pathol. 2011 Feb;35(2):262-7.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z and Fowler DR. Rat Bite Fever, a Fatal Case of Streptobacillus moniliformis Infection in a 14 months old boy. J Forensic Sci. 2011 Mar;5ß6(2):531-3.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Seven Cases from 1999-2009. **(Platform Presentation),** American Academy of Forensic Sciences, February, 2010.

Banerjee, P and Netto GJ. Adrenal Lymphangiomas: Clinicopathologic Review of a Rare Lesion **(Poster)**, USCAP, March 2009.

Banerjee, P et al. Pax-2(-)/Inhibin(+) Immunoprofile in Hemangioblastoma: A Helpful Combination in the Differential Diagnosis with Metastatic Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma to CNS **(Platform Presentation)**, USCAP, March 2009.

Iacobuzio-Donahue CA, Fu B, Yachida S, Luo M, Abe H, Henderson CM, Vilardell F, Wang Z, Keller JW, **Banerjee P**, Herman JM, Cameron JL, Yeo CJ, Halushka MK, Eshleman JR, Raben M, Klein AP, Hruban RH, Hidalgo M, Laheru D. DPC4 Gene Status of the Primary Carcinoma Correlates With Patterns of Failure in Patients With Pancreatic Cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2009 Mar 9.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z and Fowler DR. Rat Bite Fever, a Fatal Case of Streptobacillus moniliformis Infection in a 14 months old boy **(Poster)**, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Feb, 2009

Banerjee, P et al. Advanced Stage Pancreatic Cancers Have Distinct Morphologic and Immunolabeling Profiles Compared to Resectable Disease **(Poster)**, USCAP, March, 2008.

Banerjee, P, Lee, MT and Detrick, BD. Albumin assessment in monoclonal gammopathies: comparison between direct and indirect measurements **(Poster),** Association of Medical Laboratory Immunologists. August, 2007.

Banerjee, P and Crain, B. A Two-year-old Girl with a New Limp. Brain Pathol. 2008 Oct;18(4):60810.

Keane MM, Rubinstein Y, Cuello M, Ettenberg SA, **Banerjee P**, Nau MM, Lipkowitz S. Inhibition of NF-kappa B activity enhances TRAIL mediated apoptosis in breast cancer cell lines. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2000 Nov; 64(2):211-9.

Ettenberg SA, Rubinstein YR, **Banerjee P**, Nau MM, Keane MM, Lipkowitz S. cbl-b inhibits EGFreceptor-induced apoptosis by enhancing ubiquitination and degradation of activated

receptors. Mol Cell Biol Res Commun. 1999 Aug; 2(2):111-8.

Keane MM, Ettenberg SA, Nau MM, **Banerjee P**, Cuello M, Penninger J, Lipkowitz S. cbl-3: a new mammalian cbl family protein. Oncogene. 1999 Jun 3; 18(22):3365-75.

5 Nov 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Todd Mihill, USCG

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Defense Expert Request dtd 24 Oct 25 – Dr. Priya Banerjee

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in pathology is necessary.

2. However, this expert's hourly fees far exceed the reasonable hourly rate for an expert in this field. The government will provide funding for an expert in this field who falls within the parameters of the fees generally provided to experts appointed under 10 U.S.C. § 3006A. For an expert in this field, the reasonable fee rate is $275-400/hour.

3. The government will assist Defense in finding an adequate substitute for this expert and is standing by receive any defense proposed substitutes in this field.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO

EVAN WILLIAM MATSHES, MD FRCPC

Board Certified Diagnostic & Molecular, Anatomic and Forensic Pathologist

1-800-985-5346 | matshes@naagforensic.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated service and academic-oriented general and pediatric forensic pathologist. Subspecialty interests include: child abuse and domestic violence; unexpected infant and child death; general, pediatric and combat/military-related torture and extra-judicial killings; pediatric and general spine pathology; forensic neuropathology; cardiovascular pathology; virtual autopsy (PMCT and PMMR); pediatric bone pathology; bioinformatics.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Medical Director and Chief Forensic Pathologist
NAAG Forensic PC

Associate Professor of Medical Education (Pathology)
California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Diagnostic & Molecular Pathology
Board certified by the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (June 2009)

Anatomic Pathology
Board certified by the American Board of Pathology (July 2009)

Forensic Pathology
Board certified by the American Board of Pathology (September 2010)

Maintenance of Certification ("Continuing Certification") status obtained by examination
American Board of Pathology (November 2019)

MEDICAL LICENSURE

State of California
Unrestricted license to practice medicine

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Forensic Pathology Subspecialist Training
July 2009 through June 2010
Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science
Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office
Dallas, Texas, USA

Pediatric Forensic Pathology Research Fellowship
October 2008 through June 2009 (during PGY5 year)
Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department and the University of Calgary
Miami, Florida, USA

Anatomic Pathologist Specialist Training
July 2004 through June 2009
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Doctor of Medicine ("MD")
"Great Distinction" and "Class Valedictorian"
August 2000 through May 2004
College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Bachelor of Science Degree ("BSc")
"Magna Cum Laude"
Human Anatomy & Cell Biology
College of Arts & Science, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Medical Education (Pathology)
California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM)
Colton, CA
April 2024 through current

Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist
NAAG Forensic PC
San Diego, CA
January 2023 through current

Forensic Pathologist
Autopsy pathology, forensic neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology
NAAG Pathology Labs PC
San Diego, CA
June 2017 through 2022

Forensic Pathologist
General and pediatric forensic pathology second opinion review services
National Autopsy Assay Group LLC
San Diego, CA
April 2015 through 2022

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner
General forensic pathology
District IV Florida
Jacksonville, FL
July 2016 through September 2016

Associate Medical Examiner, Director of Pediatric Forensic Pathology and Coordinator of Forensic Neuropathology and Cardiovascular Pathology
General and pediatric forensic pathology, forensic neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology
Office of the (New Mexico) Medical Investigator
Albuquerque, NM
April 2012 through December 2014

Autopsy Pathologist
Autopsy pathology
University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services
Calgary, AB, Canada
August 2011 through June 2012

Clinical Associate Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Forensic pathology and forensic neuropathology
University of Calgary
Calgary, AB, Canada
April 2011 through January 2020

Assistant Chief Medical Examiner
General forensic pathology
Alberta Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Calgary, AB, Canada
August 2010 through September 2011

Executive Director
Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.
San Diego, CA
June 2008 through December 2018

Physician Extender, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Rockyview Hospital
Calgary, AB, Canada
October 2006 through January 2008

MEMBERSHIPS IN RELATED SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

California Homicide Investigators Association (CHIA)

International Homicide Investigators Association (IHIA)

National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME)

International Society of Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology (ISBSTP)

Society for Pediatric Pathology (SPP)

International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME)

American Academy of Neuropathologists (AANP)

International Society of Forensic Radiology and Imaging (ISFRI)

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)

College of American Pathologists (CAP)

SELECTED RELEVANT (ADJUNCT) PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Basic and Advanced Virtopsy Courses
University of Zurich (Switzerland)
March 2013

Cardiac Morphology Course
National Heart & Lung Institute, Faculty of Medicine
Imperial College London
June 2012

Dr. Kenneth M. Earle Memorial Neuropathology Review
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)
February 2007, 2012

Fetal Death Investigation
Harvard Medical School
October 2008

Forensic Anthropology
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)
June 2005

Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP)
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
May 2005

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS)
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
January 2003, September 2004

EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH GRANT FUNDING

National Institute of Justice Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant
Principal Investigator
Information Technology Support (Death Investigation Reporting Tool [DIRT])
Calendar year 2013

PUBLICATIONS – PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Bundock, E., Giese, K., Gill, J., Harris, C., Jarrell, H., Jorden, M., Love, J., Mahar, T., Matshes, E., Oleske, D., and Vincent, G. (2025). National Association of Medical Examiners Position Paper: Recommendations for the postmortem assessment of suspected head trauma in infants and young children. Pending *Am J Forensic Med Pathol.*

2. Pinneri, K., & Matshes, E. W. (2017). Recommendations for the Autopsy of an Infant who has Died Suddenly and Unexpectedly. Academic Forensic Pathology, 7(2), 171–181. https://doi.org/10.23907/2017.019

3. Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2017). An Approach to the Classification of Apparent Asphyxial Infant Deaths. Academic Forensic Pathology, 7(2), 200–211. https://doi.org/10.23907/2017.021

4. Matshes, E. W., Snyder, V. S., & Andrews, S. W. (2015). Utilitarian Aspects of Postmortem Computed Tomography. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(4), 603–613. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.064

5. Krehbiel, K., Matshes, E. W., Lathrop, S., & Pinckard, J. K. (2015). Medical Therapy-Related Deaths and the Medical Examiner. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(3), 421–435. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.046

6. Snyder, V. S., Andrews, S. W., Curry, C. R., Lathrop, S. L., & Matshes, E. W. (2015). An Evaluation of the Utility of Postmortem Computed Tomography in the Diagnosis of Lethal Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis and Hypertensive Heart Disease. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(1), 25–37. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.003

7. Snyder, V. S., Curry, C. R., Lew, E. O., & Matshes, E. W. (2015). Morbid Obesity is Not a Risk Factor for the Development of Clinically Significant Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(1), 38–46. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.004

8. Snyder, V. S., & Matshes, E. W. (2014). Assessment and Diagnosis of Trauma in the High Cervical Spine Using Dissection, Radiography, Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Academic Forensic Pathology, 4(4), 532–544. https://doi.org/10.23907/2014.069

9. Gill, J. R., Andrew, T., Gilliland, M. G. F., Love, J., Matshes, E., & Reichard, R. R. (2014). National Association of Medical Examiners Position Paper: Recommendations for the Postmortem Assessment of Suspected Head Trauma in Infants and Young Children. Academic Forensic Pathology, 4(2), 206–213. https://doi.org/10.23907/2014.032

10. Krehbiel, K., & Matshes, E. (2013). Endocardial Involvement in Acute Leukemia. Academic Forensic Pathology, 3(1), 112–114. https://doi.org/10.23907/2013.016

11. Matshes, E. W., Selanders, L., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Skull Base Fractures are Markers of Severe Forces in the First Two Years of Life. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 318–323. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.049

12. Matshes, E. W., Selanders, L., Hatch, G., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Injuries of the Upper Cervical Spinal Column are Markers of Severe Forces in the First Two Years of Life. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 324–331. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.050

13. Matshes, E. W., Hamilton, L. E., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Routine Metabolic Testing is Not Warranted in Unexpected Infant Death Investigations. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 346–356. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.053

14. Matshes, E. W., & McKenzie, B. (2012). Sudden Infant Death Due to Truncus Arteriosus Communis Persistens with Mitral Valve Atresia and Left Ventricular Hypoplasia. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 374–378. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.056

15. Box, A., & Matshes, E. W. (2012). Aortic Dissection with Compression of the Pulmonary Trunk. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 392–393. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.060

16. Rascon, M. A., & Matshes, E. W. (2012). Peritoneal Membrane Roll - Searching for Peritonitis in a Child Abuse Case. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(3), 300–301. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.044

17. Matshes, E. W., McKenzie, B., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Lethal Neurotoxicity Induced by Endosulfan Ingestion. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(1), 100–103. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.014

18. Matshes, E. W., & Joseph, J. (2012). Pathologic evaluation of the cervical spine following surgical and chiropractic interventions. *J Forensic Sci, 57*(1), 113-119. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1556-4029.2011.01935.x

19. Matshes, E. W., & Trevenen, C. (2011). Infant Heart Dissection in a Forensic Context: Babies are Not Just Small Adults. Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(2), 156–165. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.021

20. Matshes, E. W., Milroy, C. M., Parai, J. L., Sampson, B., Reichard, R. R., & Lew, E. O. (2011). What is a Complete Autopsy? Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(1), 2–7. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.001

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PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS IN PRODUCTION

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2. Matshes, E. W. & Lew, E.O. (~2025). *The unexplained pediatric death autopsy*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.

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PUBLICATIONS – CHAPTERS PUBLISHED WITHIN BOOKS

1. White SM, Ackerman MJ, Burns KM and Matshes E. Evaluation for Cardiac Diseases. In: Bundock EA and Corey TS, eds. (2019). The National Association of Medical Examiners' Panel on Sudden Unexpected Death in Pediatrics. Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Investigation, Certification, and Family Needs. Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.

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3. Matshes E. Forensic Pathology. In: Gao ZH. (2017). Pathology Review. Brush Education.

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5. Lew E. and Matshes E. Death Scene Investigation. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

6. Dolinak D. and Matshes E. The Forensic Autopsy. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

7. Dolinak D. and Matshes E. Blunt Force Injury. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

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9. Lew E., Dolinak D. and Matshes, E. Firearm Injuries. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E., and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

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15. Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew, E. Sudden Natural Death in Childhood. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

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19. Dolinak D., and Matshes E. Acute Psychiatric and Emotional Deaths. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

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21. Dolinak, D., and Matshes, E. Identification. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

22. Matshes, E. and Lew, E. Forensic Osteology. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

23. Dolinak, D., Lew, E. and Matshes, E. Forensic Photography. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

24. Dolinak, D., Dowling, G., Matshes, E. and Lew, E. Select Autopsy Topics. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

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PUBLICATIONS – OTHER PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Matshes E. (2010). Forensic Pathology Curriculum for Anatomic Pathology Residents. *University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine*.

2. Matshes E. & Lew, E. (2004). Competent Death Investigation: A Plan for Change in Saskatchewan. Report submitted to Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, and Saskatchewan Department of Justice.

3. Matshes E. & Juurlink B. (2002). Crash Course in Human Osteology – Laboratory Manual. *University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine*.

4. Matshes E. & Sher B., eds. (2001). Forensic Pathology Workshop 2001. *Saskatoon District Health Forensic Pathology Training Manual*.

SCIENTIFIC MEETING ABSTRACTS

1. Gonda, J., and Matshes, E. Cardiac sarcoma masquerading as pericarditis. California Society of Pathologists (CSP) 2025 Annual Meeting (Long Beach, CA).

2. Snyder V., Curry C., Lathrop S., Lew E. and Matshes E. Morbid obesity is not a risk factor for the development of clinically significant coronary artery atherosclerosis. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2014 Annual Meeting (San Diego).

3. Curry C., Snyder V., Lathrop S., Andrews S. and Matshes E. An evaluation of the utility of post-mortem computed tomography in the diagnosis of lethal coronary artery atherosclerosis and hypertensive heart disease. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2014 Annual Meeting (San Diego).

4. Snyder V. and Matshes E. Assessment and diagnosis of trauma in the high cervical spine using dissection, radiography, computed tomography, and magnetic resonance imaging. National Association of Medical Examiner's 2013 Annual Meeting (Milwaukee).

5. Matshes E., Shuman M. and Lew E. Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages are not pathognomonic of abusive pediatric head injury. American Academic of Forensic Sciences 2010 Annual Meeting (Seattle).

6. Deisch J., Matshes E., Quinton R. and Gruszecki, A. Child deaths due to television falls with injury patterns that may mimic child abuse. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2009 Annual Meeting (Denver).

6. Matshes E. and Lew E. Resuscitation-related injury in infants and children. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day, and

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7. Jadavji I., Matshes E. and Urbanski, S. The significance of diverticular disease of the vermiform appendix in surgical pathology. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

8. Matshes E. and Lew, E. Resuscitation-related injury in infants and children. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

9. Matshes E., Taylor K., Burbridge B. and Juurlink, J. Computed tomography (CT) study of spheno-occipital synchondrosis closure. Canadian Association of Pathology 2006 Annual Conference (St. John's Newfoundland).

10. Matshes E., Burbridge B. and Juurlink, J. Computed tomography (CT) study of spheno-occipital synchondrosis closure. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2005 Research Day.

11. Kamencic H., Kelly M., Matshes E., Griebel R.W., Paterson P.G, and Juurlink B.H.J. 2001. Pro-cysteine compound decreases inflammatory response and promotes retention of function after spinal cord injury. Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences. 28 (Suppl 2): S58.

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13. Matshes E., Waghray R. and Pylypchuk G. Retrospective analysis of coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A postmortem study. July: Annual meeting of the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks (ISHIB), July 2001, Las Vegas, NV.

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15. Kamencic H., Lyon A., Griebel R., Matshes E., Kelly M., Paterson PG. and Juurlink B. 2000. The pro-cysteine compound L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate promotes retention of function following spinal cord trauma. Restorative Neurology and Neuroscience, 28(Suppl 2): S58.

16. Kamencic H., Griebel R., Lyon A., Paterson P., Kelly M., Matshes E. and Juurlink B. Oxidative stress following spinal cord trauma can be ameliorated by pro-cysteine compounds. First Oxidative Stress Consortium, Hamilton, May 2000.

SCIENTIFIC MEETING POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Sudden death in infants with congenital heart disease. Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

2. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. When infants die suddenly, is routine screening for metabolic diseases warranted? Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

3. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Grown-up congenital heart disease and sudden death in a medical examiner's population. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2010 Annual Meeting (Washington D.C.)

4. Bromley A., Lew. E. and Matshes E. Excited Delirium: A Controversial Diagnosis. Canadian Association of Pathology 2009 Annual Conference (Halifax, Nova Scotia), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2009 Research Day.

5. Matshes E. and Lew E. Homicide by unspecified means. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario) and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2008 Research Day.

6. Hamilton L., Matshes E. and Steele, L. A rare cause of thoracic aortic rupture and sudden death. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario).

7. Fauth C., Burak, K., Gao Z. and Matshes, E. Combined autologous graft-versus host disease and veno-occlusive disease in the liver after stem cell transplant: a case report. Canadian Association of Pathology 2006 Annual Conference (St. John's Newfoundland), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

8. Matshes E, Waghray R., and Pylypchuk G. Coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A Retrospective Study. 9th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2002, Saskatoon.

9. Kamencic H., Matshes E., Smith-Windsor C., Kelly M., Griebel R., Paterson P. and Juurlink B. Procysteine compound (OTC) decreases early inflammatory response following spinal cord injury. 9th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2002, Saskatoon.
10. Matshes E., Waghray R. and Pylypchuk G. Retrospective analysis of coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A postmortem study. July: Annual meeting of the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks (ISHIB), July 2001, Las Vegas, NV.

11. Kamencic H., Matshes E., Lyon A., Paterson P, Griebel R. and Juurlink B. Oxidative stress following spinal trauma can be ameliorated by pro-cysteine compounds. 7th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2000, Saskatoon.

SPEAKER AT SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP

1. Snyder V., Matshes E., Andrews S., Pinckard, K. How and why you can and should integrate advanced imaging techniques into your daily autopsy practice. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV). Half-day workshop.

2. Milroy C., Cavilla M., and Matshes E. Child homicides: The critical role of interdisciplinary expert collaboration. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV). Half-day workshop.

3. Snyder V., Zumwalt R., Pinkard K., Gerrard C., Hatch G. and Matshes E. Advanced Forensic Pathology and Forensic Radiology Techniques in the Assessment of Cervical Spine and Craniocervical Junction Trauma. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2014 Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA). Half-day workshop.

4. Matshes E. World Congress of Infant Head Trauma 2013. Academic Forensic Pathology Incorporated (Dallas, TX). Three-day congress

5. Matshes E. and Milroy C. Forensic Histopathology Update. Forensic Unit, Department of Pathology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre, July 2013, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Two-day workshop.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

1. **Abusive Head Trauma Forensic Autopsy Position Paper Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners

2. **NAME Standards Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners / SUDC Foundation

3. **Sudden Death in Pediatrics Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners / SUDC Foundation

4. **Second Autopsy Performance Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners

SELECTED AWARDS

List available upon request

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

List available upon request

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved
Date: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 3:36:00 PM

Chris,

I'm not doubting you, but he may be confused. He informed us that he hadn't spoken with anyone about this case. I will let you know when I hear back from him.

VR

Todd

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 2:37 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

Good Afternoon Todd –

Thanks for bringing that to our attention. Prior to recommending him, we confirmed with him that he would be available for trial. Obviously, things can change, but that is frustrating. Once he gets back to you, please let us know and we can go from there.

V/r,

Chris

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 1:54 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)

<clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

LCDR Dempsey,

I have provided the remaining necessary info to CNRMA in order for Dr. Matshes to be approved to work with us. However, I didn't want to surprise you with this tomorrow morning, but he cannot confirm he is available for the trial dates (I'm waiting to hear back when he will know for sure) and he also stated his preference to move the trial dates to accommodate his participation.

I don't think either party wants to shift these trial dates.

I just wanted to put it on your radar before it comes up with the military judge tomorrow.

Standing by to discuss your alternate thoughts. It doesn't make sense for us to work with someone who cannot be available for our trial dates.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL (571) 369 8409
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Controlled by: CNLSC, DCAP
CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Sunday, December 21, 2025 2:14 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

LCDR Mihill,

That is not what the Court ordered. You specifically requested that the Government find a substitute expert on your behalf and the Court ordered that be done as a result. We have complied. Dr. Matshes was previously appointed as a forensic pathologist in the western circuit and has all that he needs to quickly contract with the Government.

Prior to the Court's ruling, we were under the impression that your expert was unwilling to reduce her rate as you had ample notice and opportunity to provide us with that information. After the court's order, we provided you an additional opportunity to speak with Dr. Banerjee about reducing her fee (although we were not required to) and did again on Friday. Her fee of $10,000/day is far from insignificant. The difference from Dr. Matshes is $115,000 in this case.

If she is able to match Dr. Matshes rate, please let us know. Thank you.

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 8:03 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)

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<cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

LCDR Dempsey,

I have no idea at this point. We need to begin working, pre-trial consultation, with Dr. Banerjee. You all have endorsed 30 hours at $600/hr. Dr. Banerjee has agreed to that rate for pre-trial consultation.

Additionally, a quick search of Dr. Matshes demonstrates that he is the subject of multiple controversial issues and has some opinions that do not necessarily represent the broader field of forensic pathology.

We need to at least conduct our pre-trial consultation before we will be positioned to ask Dr. Banerjee to take *half* of her normal rate. A rate that she has been approved for in other courts martial.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL (571) 369 8409
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CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 5:02 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

Good Afternoon Defense,

Dr. Matshes charges $600/hour, but only $5,000/day for trial. Would Dr. Banerjee come down from her listed $10,000/day to meet that number? Thanks.

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 1:46 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

Good Afternoon Government,

After receiving your endorsement we spoke to Dr. Banerjee who agreed to work at $600/hr pretrial. Since $600/hr was the apparent rate for Dr. Matshes I presume this will alleviate the issue and you'll endorse Dr. Banerjee for the Defense? Happy to discuss.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: Priya Banerjee <autopsymd@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 1:43 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reduced rate approved

Hello,

I just wanted to send in writing that I will work at the $600 per hour rate for all pre-trial work.

Thank you,

Priya Banerjee, MD
Board Certified Forensic Pathologist
Anchor Forensic Pathology Consulting
autopsymd@gmail.com
Cell: [redacted]
www.anchorforensicpathology.com

From:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
To:	Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc:	Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Beasley-Ledet, R T (Roni) CDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA); Thomas, Manuel L CIV USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA)
Subject:	RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants
Date:	Thursday, January 29, 2026 8:52:00 AM

Ms. Russell,

Thank you for the quick turn on this. It now appears Dr. Matshes may not be available to participate. If we can clear this up I will get this returned as soon as possible.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 6:16 AM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Beasley-Ledet, R T (Roni) CDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil>; Thomas, Manuel L CIV USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <manuel.l.thomas.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

Good morning,

Please find attached the signed approval letter for Dr. Matshes. I am including an expert consultant agreement and a sample invoice. Please return the signed agreement to our office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

Thank you,
~Ms. Carlisha R., MBA

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 9:01 AM
To: Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Beasley-Ledet, R T (Roni) CDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil>; Thomas, Manuel L CIV USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <manuel.l.thomas.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

Ms. Russell,

Ahh, ok. I was under the impression you had already gotten that from the trial counsel. I will get it for you today.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 6:23 AM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Beasley-Ledet, R T (Roni) CDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil>; Thomas, Manuel L CIV USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <manuel.l.thomas.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

Good morning, LCDR,

Dr. Matshes is one of the experts I am still waiting to receive the cage code for. We are not able to provide any cage codes if the requested expert(s) does not already have a cage code as directed by our N8 office.

Thank you,
~Ms. Carlisha R., MBA

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 4:14 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

Hello Ms. Russell,

I may have missed it, but the defense has not received any approved contract for Dr. Matshes' participation in this case. Until we have that information we cannot work with this expert. Please let me know if I missed the contract or if it remains forthcoming. Thanks for your help.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL (571) 369 8409
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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addressed or their designee.

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CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE
Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2025 11:23 AM
To: Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

Good Morning Ms. Carlisha,

Please find Dr. Matshes' rate sheet attached here. I'm sorry about that.

I will let them know to begin the application process (if necessary).

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2025 10:56 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)

<clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

Good morning,

I am in receipt of the request. Can you please verify that Dr. Marc LeBeau and Dr. Evan Matshes are in possession of their cage codes? If not, they can start the process through sam.gov.

- Also, I did not see a fee schedule attached for Dr. Matshes.

Thank you.

Thank you,
~Ms. Carlisha R., MBA

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 12:40 PM
To: CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

CNRMA Legal -

Attached are two endorsements for experts ICO CSSN Copeland.

1. Defense Consultant – Pathology – The government obtained an adequate substitute – Dr. Matshes
2. Government Consultant – Forensic Toxicology – Dr. LeBeau

Please let me know if you have any questions, and Happy Holidays!

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From:	Evan Matshes
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); James Buckley
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] US v. Copeland
Date:	Wednesday, January 28, 2026 12:39:07 PM
Attachments:	CV_Matshes_2025_update.pdf

Hi Todd,

Thanks for reaching out and for the detailed questions. Please see below:

- I am *not yet* able to confirm availability for June 3–26, pending resolution of current scheduling conflicts. Once those are resolved, I'll provide an update. If trial delay is an option, that is preferable over June.
- I have previously been qualified as an expert in military courts, including cases involving serious charges such as murder and sexual assault. I have worked for both prosecution and defense at various points.
- Pediatric forensic pathology remains a central focus, but my practice and expertise also cover general forensic pathology and adult cases. I am an expert in sexual assault, women's health, gynecologic pathology, and because I trained in and practice gynecology, rape and sexual battery remains a major focus of my practice.
- I have not seen any media coverage about this case.
- Past allegations and related media coverage have not impeded my expert qualification. I have been cross-examined on these matters in the past, but the outcomes have not restricted my ability to serve as an expert. The ultimate outcome of the spurious reviews and complaints is that my work is of high quality and reliable.
- Updated CV is attached.
- I have *not* had any discussions about the facts of this case with Special Trial Counsel or anyone else.

I am happy to speak with you at any time.

Let me know if there are additional materials or questions you'd like me to consider.

We have an agency level investigator we have authorized for CUI DOD work — Investigator Buckley is CC'd to this email to assist with meeting coordinations, evidence review, etc.

Evan

Evan Matshes MD FRCPC

Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist
Associate Professor of Medical Education, Pathology (CUSM)

NAAG FORENSIC PC
matshes@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

NOTICE – I only accept electronic service at subpoena@naagforensic.com

---

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Wednesday, 28 January 2026 09:29
To: Evan Matshes <matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>, Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>, HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>, Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>, Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: US v. Copeland

Good Afternoon Dr. Matshes,

LCDR Amanda Serfess, LCDR Clifton Morgan, and myself represent CSSN Jermiah Copeland in court martial proceedings currently pending in Norfolk, VA. The Special Trial Counsel recently provided us your information as an "adequate substitute" for participation in the trial of our client, CSSN Jermiah Copeland. While we have been waiting to receive a contract in order to work with you, we don't yet have that to pass along. However, the trial is approaching and we have yet to be able to begin much substantive work with a forensic pathologist.

A couple of preliminary questions immediately stand out for me, and I am not certain the Government has asked you any of these questions as we have not been provided any discovery of communications or emails they may have had with you. Some of them may seem blunt, but they do need to be asked before we begin working together.

1. Are you currently available from 3-26 June 2026 to support the defense of CSSN Jermiah Copeland?

2. The case involves allegations of premeditated murder and sexual assault. Have you previously been qualified as an expert in military courts to work on this type of case? If so, how long ago was that and did you work for the prosecution or the defense?
3. I note from a quick review of the CV the government provided that your work and research tends to be in pediatric forensic pathology, is that still your central area of focus?
4. Have you seen any media coverage of this case? For reference, the deceased in this case is named A[redacted] R[redacted].
5. A cursory open-source search also revealed some information about past issues/allegations which have ultimately resolved in your favor, have any of those allegations, news stories, or subsequent litigation impeded your ability to be qualified as an expert? And if it did not impede your ability to be qualified, did those allegations result in any areas of cross examination at resulting trials?
6. Could you please provide an updated CV for me and let me know if you have had any discussions about the facts of this case with Special Trial Counsel or anyone else?
7. Is there a good day/time when we can discuss the case? Recognizing, of course, that we cannot pay you anything for your time until a formal contract is in place with the US Government.

My apologies for the barrage of questions from the outset, but, as I mentioned, the trial is coming and we need to ensure we make the most efficient use of time. Thanks for your consideration and I look forward to speaking with you.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill

LCDR, USCG

Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program

1254 Charles Morris Street SE

Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374

(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL (571) 369 8409

todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From:	Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA)
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Subject:	RE: 2025-1719 - United States v. Jermiah Copeland
Date:	Wednesday, January 28, 2026 1:01:59 PM
Attachments:	image001.jpg

LCDR,

Received and thank you. I will get that letter over to you once it is signed.

Thank you,
~Ms. Carlisha R., MBA

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 12:10 PM
To: Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: 2025-1719 - United States v. Jermiah Copeland

Ms. Russell,

Please see below for the CAGE code for Dr. Matshes. Please let us know when we can work with this expert.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 12:08 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)

<laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: 2025-1719 - United States v. Jermiah Copeland

Good morning Mr. Mihill,

Here are the information you are requesting:

CAGE Code: 9G8H2
Email: matshes@naagforensic.com

Please let me know if there's anything else I can help with!

An Luu
Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC
www.naagforensic.com
luu@naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346
DIRECT: 1-619-803-6372



From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 6:47 AM
To: An Luu
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: RE: 2025-1719 - United States v. Jermiah Copeland

Hello An,

I was under the impression the Government was working to establish this contract. Has anyone reached out to you the get the CAGE Code for Dr. Matshes in order for him to participate?

The documents you sent me are not ones that I can sign in order to obligate funds on behalf of the Navy and they must go through Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNRMA).

If you could provide me the CAGE code and email address or contact information for Dr. Matshes I would greatly appreciate. I can then start helping to make the necessary connections.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill

LCDR, USCG

Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program

1254 Charles Morris Street SE

Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374

(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL (571) 369 8409

todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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From: An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 12:11 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] 2025-1719 - United States v. Jermiah Copeland

Hello,

Please see attached letters for your review.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me!

Thank you,

An

_____

An Luu

Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC

www.naagforensic.com

luu@naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-619-803-6372

Image



From:	Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject:	FW: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)
Date:	Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:26:45 PM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.jpg Outlook-3oi2nuzq.jpg Matshes - EXPERT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT (signed).pdf 2025-1719 NCP.pdf 2025-1719 ENL.pdf

---

From: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:10 PM
To: An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Updating email string with NAAG Case 2025-1719

Amanda Newby
Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

To: lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1519 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Attached is the signed contract and the NCP which will provide information on how to send discovery materials to our office.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

An

An Luu

Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC

www.naagforensic.com

luu@naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-619-803-6372



From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 6:46 AM
To: Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>

Subject: Re: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Attached please find your approval and draft contract for this case. Please sign and return to Ms. Russell (cc'd above). Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile [redacted]

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From: James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 9:55 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good morning CDR Mayo,

I believe Dr. Matshes is away from the office this morning. Please feel free to forward Dr. Matshes CV and our fee schedule to Defense and the convening authority.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/R

James Buckley

James Buckley, MFS

Director of Death Investigation

NAAG FORENSIC PC

buckley@naagforensic.com

www.naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-619-417-4928

cid107809*image001.png@01D992CB.C21CBD20

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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 6:30 AM
To: Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Good Morning, and thank you for forwarding your CV and fee schedule. I spoke with Investigator Buckley yesterday. May I forward your CV and Fee Schedule to Defense and the Convening

Authority for funding? Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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From: Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 11:00 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti,

Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Thank you for reaching out. I'm interested in assisting with this matter. We are established DOD contractors and happy to serve.

- I'll need to review the case details and confirm there are no conflicts. Please send any available information for a preliminary review — I will ask Investigator Buckley at my agency to call you to complete the conflict check over the phone.
- My CV and DOD rate sheet are attached.

I look forward to the chance to work together,

Evan

Evan Matshes MD FRCPC
Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist

Associate Professor of Medical Education, Pathology (CUSM)

NAAG FORENSIC PC

matshes@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

NOTICE – I only accept electronic service at subpoena@naagforensic.com

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Thursday, 18 December 2025 07:53

To: Evan Matshes <matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to inquire about your availability to serve as an expert consultant for the defense in a Navy court-martial. The accused in the case is charged with, among other charges, murder. Trial is scheduled for 3 – 26 June 2026 on board Naval Station Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia. Although I am the prosecutor assigned to this matter, the court has directed me to assist in identifying a potential defense consultant.

If you are interested, I am happy to answer any questions you might have. Also, if available, please send a current CV and fee schedule. Thank you!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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From:	Evan Matshes
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Amanda Newby; An Luu
Cc:	Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA)
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] Re: US v Copeland Availability
Date:	Thursday, February 5, 2026 4:51:35 PM
Attachments:	image001.png image001[22].png image002[60].png

Hi everyone,

Sorry for the delays. It's been a heavy few weeks.

We have tried everything to make me available during that period in June. Unfortunately, there are too many complications to commit. This pains me.

If there is a chance you can move the trial to July or August, I'll be all over it for you. If not, I do hope to have the chance to serve you again in the future.

Evan

_____

Evan Matshes MD FRCPC
Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist
Associate Professor of Medical Education, Pathology (CUSM)

NAAG FORENSIC PC
matshes@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

NOTICE – I only accept electronic service at subpoena@naagforensic.com

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From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 1:15 PM
To: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>, An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>, Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>, Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>, HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>, Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>, Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: US v Copeland Availability

Hello Amanda,

Just wanted to follow up on the scheduling issues with Dr. Matshes. Again, we do not need him present for 3-7 June, but will need him present from 8-26 June.

This is a time sensitive issue, thanks for your help.

VR

LCDR Todd Mihill

From: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 1:54 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>; Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: US v Copeland Availability

Thank you for the information, I understand completely on not knowing exact dates.
I will get with Dr Matshes today/tomorrow and get back with you.

Thanks again.

Amanda Newby
Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

NAAG FORENSIC PC
newby@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346
DIRECT: 1-505-859-5499

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From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 10:49 AM
To: Amanda Newby; An Luu; Evan Matshes
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: RE: US v Copeland Availability

Hello Amanda,

This would be in person participation, in Norfolk, Virginia.

As we are the defense I cannot guarantee when he would be called upon to testify or when he will be assisting in the cross examination of government witnesses.

That said he would need to be available for the duration of the trial dates, perhaps exclusive of 3 and 4 June.

VR

Todd

From: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 1:38 PM
To: An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: US v Copeland Availability

Morning Lieutenant Mihill,

Let me take a look at Dr Matshes schedule with him as June is quite impacted with trials.

I have a couple of questions first, will this be in person in VA, one or two days?

I know you mentioned June 3-26th would he be closer to beginning of trial or end

Thank you

Amanda Newby

Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

NAAG FORENSIC PC

newby@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-505-859-5499

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From: An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 9:27 AM
To: todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>; Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: US v Copeland Availability

Good morning Mr. Mihill,

I am looping in @Amanda Newby to discuss Dr. Matshes' trial availability!

An Luu

Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC

www.naagforensic.com

luu@naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-619-803-6372

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 6:42 AM
To: An Luu; Evan Matshes
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: US v Copeland Availability

Good Morning,

I am following up on confirmation as to whether Dr. Matshes is available for the trial dates in this case; 3-26 June 2026. If someone could please let me know that would be much appreciated. Unfortunately, if he is not available for the trial dates any pre-trial consultation would not be beneficial. Thanks for your consideration.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill

LCDR, USCG

Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program

1254 Charles Morris Street SE

Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374

(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL (571) 369 8409

todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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6 Feb 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
Via: Staff Judge Advocate, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (FORENSIC PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Dr. Emma Lew CV and Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in forensic pathology is necessary. Special Trial Counsel does not endorse the Defense's requested expert – Dr. Banjeree. Instead, Special Trial Counsel has obtained an adequate substitute, Dr. Emma Lew. Her CV and fee schedule are attached.

2. Accordingly, I respectfully request CNRMA execute funding for 30 hours of evidence review and consultation ($18,000) and presence at trial at a rate of $5,000/day from 8 June 2026-26 June 2026.

3. As evidenced in enclosure (3), Dr. Lew is qualified for this appointment with specialized experience. The Government is unable to obtain an adequate government substitute for the Defense in this area.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO [redacted]

Copy to:
Defense Counsel

Emma Oy Hir Lew, M.D.
Curriculum Vitae

I. **GENERAL**:

Retired from: Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department
Number One on Bob Hope Road
Miami, Florida 33136-1133
(305) 545-2425

II. **EDUCATION**:

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, B.S. in Physiology (High Honours), 1976
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, M.D. Degree (Great Distinction), 1982
Rotating Internship, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 1982-1983
Anatomical Pathology Residency, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., 1983-1984
Anatomical Pathology Residency, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, 1985-1988
Forensic Pathology Fellowship, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, Florida, 1991-1992

III. **CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE**:

Medical Licensure, State of Florida, August 1992, (ME 0062926)
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology, June 1992, Forensic Pathology
F.R.C.P.C., December 1988, Anatomical Pathology
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology, November 1988, Anatomical Pathology
Medical Licensure, Province of Saskatchewan, 1988 (#7263)
FLEX, 1983
Licentiate of Medical Council of Canada, 1983 (#54861)

IV. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS**:

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
National Association of Medical Examiners
Florida Association of Medical Examiners

V. **APPOINTMENTS**:

Department Director and Chief Medical Examiner (September 30, 2016, to August 31, 2021)
Interim Chief Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department (April 18, 2016, to September 29, 2016)
Deputy Chief Medical Examiner/Director of Forensic Pathology Services, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, Florida (April 2001 to April 17, 2016); (coverage of duties to March 2020)
Associate Medical Examiner, District V, Florida (March 2000)
Associate Medical Examiner, Volusia County and Seminole County, Florida (December 1998)
Associate Medical Examiner, Palm Beach County, Florida (August 1996-December 1996)
Voluntary Assistant Professor of Pathology, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, Florida (September 1992-Present)
Associate Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, Florida (July 1992-April 2001)
Associate Director of Residency Training, Pathology, University of Saskatchewan (March 1990-June 1991)
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Saskatchewan (July 1988- June 1991)
Chief (Administrative) Resident, Department of Pathology, University of Saskatchewan (1986-1987)
Junior Lecturer, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Leeds, Leeds, England (1984-1985)

VI. **FORENSIC PATHOLOGY CONSULTANT:**

United States Attorney, Tucson, AZ, April 2018, November 2018
Saskatoon City Police, (Neil Stonechild Inquiry), Canada (March 2004)
United States Border Patrol, Bahamas, (January 2001 and July 2001)
Cayman Islands Police, (July 1998)
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mexico (December 1998 and January 1999), Costa Rica (March 2000), Ecuador (February 2001), Haiti (July 2006)
Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police, (1996 to 2006)
Bermuda Police, (February 1994, April 1999)

VII. **HONOURS:**

Proclamation from the Miami-Dade County Office of the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners that Wednesday, July 28, 2021, is Dr. Emma O. Lew Day
The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow Award (February 2020)
Government & Law Award (Non-elected Category) 29th annual ***In the Company of Women Awards*** **(**March 2017)
Life Alliance Miracles for Life Awards (Medical Examiner of the Year) (November 2016)
Metro-Dade Police Department Silver Medal of Valor, December 1996 (ValuJet Flight 592)
Mary Tom Award, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Neuropathologists, Victoria, Canada, 1987
Anatomy Award, Department of Anatomy, University of Saskatchewan, 1979
Medical Research Council of Canada sponsorship of year in post-graduate education, 1976-1977
RODA (Research on Drug Abuse) Summer Scholarship, Medical Research Council of Canada, 1975

VIII. **PAPERS PUBLISHED IN JOURNALS**:

Boland, D.M., Reicy, L. J., Seither, J.M., Radtke, J.M., Lew, E.O. Forty-Three Fatalities Involving the Synthetic Cannabinoid, 5-Fluoro-ADB: Forensic Pathology and Toxicology Implications. Journal of Forensic Sciences 2019 Jun 19.

Stroberg ED, Hutchins KD, Lew EO. A rare presentation of Alexander Disease. Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2018) V24; H1: 657.

Rapkiewicz AV, Kenerson K, Hutchins KD, Garavan F, Lew EO, Shuman MJ. Fatal Complications of Aesthetic Techniques: The Gluteal Region. J Forensic Sci., 2018. doi: 10.1111/1556-4029.13761.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. An Approach to the Classification of Apparent Asphyxial Infant Deaths. *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 2017. 7(2), 200-211

Snyder V., Curry C., Lew E. and Matshes E. Morbid obesity is not a risk factor for the development of clinically significant coronary artery atherosclerosis. *Academic Forensic Pathology.* 5(1), 38-46.

Matshes E.W., Hamilton L.E., & Lew E.O. (2012). Routine Metabolic Testing is Not Warranted in Unexpected Infant Death Investigations. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 346-356. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.053

Matshes E., Selanders L. and Lew E. Skull base fractures are markers of severe forces in the first two years of life. *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 2 (4), 318-323.

Matshes E., Selanders L., Hatch G. and Lew E. Injuries of the upper cervical spinal column are markers of severe forces in the first two years of life. *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 2(4), 324-331.

Matshes E.W., McKenzie B., & Lew E.O. (2012). Lethal Neurotoxicity Induced by Endosulfan Ingestion. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(1), 100-103. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.014

Matshes E., Milroy C., Parai J., Sampson B., Reichard R., and Lew E. What is a complete autopsy? *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 1 (1), 2-7.

Matshes E., Evans R., Pinckard K., Joseph J., White C and Lew E. Shaken infants die of neck trauma, not of brain trauma. *Academic Forensic Pathology.* 1 (1), 82-91.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. 2010. Two-Handed Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Can Cause Rib Fractures in Infants. AM J Forensic Med Pathol 31: 303-307.

Hamilton L, Lew EO, Matshes EW. 2010. "Grown-up" Congenital Heart Disease and Sudden Death in a Medical Examiner's Population. J Forensic Sci. Vol. 56, No. 5 pp 1206-1212.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. 2010. Homicide by unspecified means. AM J Forensic Med Pathol 31: 174-177.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. 2010. Do resuscitation-related injuries kill infants and children? AM J Forensic Med Pathol 31: 178-185.

Gyori E, Lew EO. 2007 Unsuspected central nervous system gummas in a case of "cerebral infarct" associated with cocaine use. Am J Forensic Med Pathol 28:208-211.

Boland DM, Rein J, Lew EO, Hearn WL. 2003. Fatal cold medication intoxication in an infant. Journal of Analytical Toxicology Vol 27, 7: 523-529.

Lew EO, Bannach BG, Rodriguez, III WC. 1996. Septic tank burial: Not just another skeleton in the closet. J Forensic Sci. Vol. 41, No. 5 pp. 887-890.

Lew EO and Wetli CV. 1996. Mortality from Hurricane Andrew. J Forensic Sci. Vol. 41, No 3 pp. 449-452

Lew EO and Kennington, RH. 1996. Not under the hammer: A revolver suicide. J Forensic Sci., Vol. 41, No. 2 pp. 317-319

Lew EO, Mittleman RE, Murray D. 1991. Endotracheal tube ignition by electrocautery during tracheostomy: Case report with autopsy findings. J Forensic Sci 36:1586-1591

Lew EO, Rozdilsky B, Munoz DG, Perry G. 1989. A new type of neuronal cytoplasmic inclusion: Histological, ultrastructural, and immunocytochemical studies. Acta Neuropathol 77:599-604

Friedman L, Patel M, Lew E. Silberberg P. 1989. Benign histiocytic fibroma of rib with CT correlation. Can Assoc Radiol J 40:114-116

Lew EO, 1989. Homicidal hanging in a dyadic death. A case report. Am J Forensic Med Pathol 9:283-286

Lew EOH, Richardson JS. 1981. Neurochemical and behaviourial correlates of the interaction between amphetamine and Δ^9 –tetrahydrocannabinol in the rat. Drug and Alcohol Dependence 8:93-101

IX. **PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS AND ABSTRACTS**:

Co-author in: Miami Vice: Brazilian Butt Lift Lessons Learned from the Miami Morgue. The Aesthetic Meeting 2019 (Scientific Sessions). Abstract #8063. Presented in New Orleans in May 2019.

Co-author in: Update on Gluteal Fat Grafting presented at Florida Plastic Surgery Forum, Florida Society of Plastic Surgeons. December 2018.

Co-author in: Gluteal Fat Grafting Mortality: The Miami Experience: Review of Autopsy Findings presented at Florida Plastic Surgery Forum, Florida Society of Plastic Surgeons. December 2018.

Co-author in: Hosting International Forensic Pathology Scholars. NAME 2018 Annual Meeting.

Schoen N, Richardson AM, Armstrong V, Sedighim S, Marshall H, Janecki J, Baig M, Bidot C, Lew E, Jagid J, Bullock MR. Gunshot Wounds to the Head in Urban South Florida: Novel Epidemiologic Insight. For digital poster presentation at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons: 2018 Annual Meeting in Houston, TX, Oct. 2018.

Stroberg E, Hutchins K, Lew E. A Rare Presentation of Alexander Disease. February 2018. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 70th Annual Scientific Meeting. Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2018) V24; H1.

Armstrong V, Richardson AM, Janecki J, Baig M, Marshall H, Sedighim S, Schoen N, Bidot C, Lew E, Bullock MR, Jagid J. Gunshot Wounds to the Head: A Modern Series in an Urban Melting Pot. Presented at AMA Research Symposium in Honolulu, November 2017.

Hutchins KD, Garavan G, Kenerson KL, Lew EO, Rapkiewicz AV. Fatal complications of aesthetic techniques: Gluteal liposculpture. Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2017) V23;H101:257.

Schoen N, Richardson AM, Janecki J, Baig M, Marshall H, Sedighim S, Armstrong V, Bidot C, Lew E, Jagid J, Bullock MR. Gunshot Wounds to the Head in Urban South Florida: An Epidemiologic Evaluation of the Public Health Burden. Accepted for presentation at the UMMSM Neurosurgery (Rosomoff) Research Day in June 2017.

Schoen NB, Richardson AM, Janecki J, Baig M, Bidot C, Marshall HS, Lew EO, Jagid JR, Bullock MR. November 2016. Gunshot Wounds to the Head in Urban South Florida: An In-Depth Epidemiologic Evaluation. AMA Research Symposium, Orlando, Florida.

Snyder V., Curry C., Lathrop S., Lew L. and Matshes E. Morbid obesity is not a risk factor for the development of clinically significant coronary artery atherosclerosis. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2014 Annual Meeting (San Diego).

Matshes E., Shuman M. and Lew E. Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages are not pathognomonic of abusive pediatric head injury. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2010 Annual Meeting (Seattle).

Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Sudden death in infants with congenital heart disease. Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. When infants die suddenly, is routine screening for metabolic diseases warranted? Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Grown-up congenital heart disease and sudden death in a medical examiner's population. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2010 Annual Meeting (Washington D.C.)

Bromley A., Lew E. and Matshes E. Excited Delirium: A Controversial Diagnosis. Canadian Association of Pathology 2009 Annual Conference (Halifax, Nova Scotia), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2009 Research Day.

Matshes E. and Lew E. Homicide by unspecified means. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario) and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2008 Research Day.

Matshes E. and Lew E. Resuscitation-related injury in infants and children. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day, and Canadian Association of Pathologists 2007 Annual Meeting.

Lew, EO. 2005. Fashion Faux Pas: Versace and Cunanan. National Association of Medical Examiners 2005 Annual Meeting.

Shaw, K-P, Burt M, Hyma BA. 2003. Combined Experiences of Valujet 592, Singapore Airlines 006 and China Airlines 611 Aviation Disasters. National Association of Medical Examiners 2003 Annual Meeting. Co-presenter.

Shaw, K-P, Mont EK, Lew EO, Hyma BA. 2003. Retrospective Study of 58 Cases of Congenital Bicuspid Aortic Valve Encountered in a Forensic Setting. National Association of Medical Examiners 2003 Annual Meeting.

Lew EO, Kennington RH. 1996. Not under the hammer – a revolver suicide. Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Abstract G75.

Wetli CV, Lew EO. 1994. Deaths from Hurricane Andrew and its aftermath. Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Abstract. G78.

Hoppe B, Lee MA, Munoz DG, Lew E, Shuaib A. 1990. Polyradiculoneuropathy in olivopontocerebellar atrophy: An autopsy report. XXVth Meeting of the Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences, Abstr. P22.

Lew EO, Murray RB. 1988. Variations in the cytopathology of salivary gland lesions. Proceedings of the 1988 Joint Meeting of the Canadian Congress of Laboratory Medicine and Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists. P-43.

Lew EO, Rozdilsky B, Munoz DG, Perry G. 1987. A new type of neuronal inclusion in human pathology. Can J Neurol Sci 15:173

Lew EOH. 1987. The Bradford Stadium mass disaster. Journal of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science 20:3. Special Edition – Abstracts of the 11th Meeting of International Association of Forensic Sciences, Vancouver, B.C.

Richardson JS, Novakovski DM, Lew EO. 1977. Brain monoamines and free choice ethanol consumption by rats. Proceedings of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies 20:143

Lew EO, Richardson JS, Novakovski DM. 1977. Behaviourial and neurochemical correlates of the interaction of tetrahydrocannabinol with amphetamine. Proceedings of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies 20:144

X. **EDITED VOLUME**:
Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Dolinak, D., Matshes, E., and Lew, E., editors. Elsevier. Boston. 2005.

Reviewer for Medicolegal Neuropathology (A Color Atlas), Dolinak and Matshes, 2002, CRC Press.

XI. **LECTURER**:

- Death Investigation Courses:
  Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department (1992 to July 2021)
  Florida Department of Law Enforcement, 1995
  Injuries and Death Investigation (Forensic Nurse) Miami-Dade Medical Examiner Department (1996 to 1998)
- Participation in Trial Advocacy/Litigation Skills Class: St. Thomas University, College of Law, Miami (1992 to 1995)
- International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners, Dublin, Ohio (June 1994)
- University of Miami Anthropology 308 (Human Variation-Anthropology of Race), (1994 to 1998)
- American Psychiatric Association, Miami, Florida (May 1995)
- Participation in Trial Advocacy/Litigation Skills Class: University of Miami, College of Law (1995 to approximately 2015)
- Jackson Memorial Hospital Highland Park Pavilion, Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (1995 to 2001)
- American Society of Clinical Pathologists Workshop (Suicide: Problems and Pitfalls) and Dinner Seminar, Washington, D.C., (October 1998)
- Underwater Police Science Technology, Sponsored by Miami Police Department and National Academy of Police Diving (1996 to 1998)
- Jackson Memorial Hospital, Department of Education and Development Courses (1996 to 2006)
- School of Justice and Safety Administration, Criminal Investigation Conference (April 1997)
- Miami-Dade Police Crime Scene Investigations Course (1997 to 2011, 2016 to 2021)
- American Association for Medical Transcription - Greater Miami Chapter 1998 Annual Fall Symposium
- Miami-Dade Police Internal Affairs Investigations Course (2000 to 2021)
- Miami-Dade Police Homicide Investigations Course (2001 to 2019)
- Miami-Dade Police Basic Police Sniper Course (2000)
- Miami-Dade Police Arson Investigation for the 21st Century Course (2000 to 2002)
- Miami-Dade Police Use of Deadly Force Investigations Course (2001 to 2006)
- Miami-Dade Police Advanced Homicide Investigations Seminar (2003 to 2005)
- Miami-Dade Police South American-Caribbean International Fugitive Conference (2004)
- Miami-Dade Police Tactical Operations Section, Special Response Team Conference (November 2007)
- Miami-Dade Police Sexual Crimes Investigations (2008 to 2010)
- Miami-Dade Police Violent Crime Scene Reconstruction (2013 to 2019)
- American Society of Clinical Pathologists Educational Course – Current Topics in Forensic Pathology, (Spring 1997), (Spring 1999), (Spring 2001)

- Society for the Scientific Detection of Crime (Masters of Disaster Seminar), Columbus, Ohio (March 1998)
- Wisconsin Coroners and Medical Examiners Association Annual Conference, Ashland, Wisconsin (June 2001)
- Forensic Pathology Workshop, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (August 2001)
- Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (February 2002, February 2015)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation International Training Unit (Headquarters): Kazakhstan (June 2000); Jamaica (October 2000 and March 2001); Armenia (September 2001); Colombia (March 2002)
- American Osteopathic College of Pathologists/American Osteopathic Association Convention (October 2002)
- Ninth Annual Florida Gang Investigators Association Training Conference (October 2002)
- Saskatchewan Police College Child Abuse Investigator's Course, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada (November 2003)
- Forensic Aspects of Child Abuse Conference, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (November 2003)
- A Practicum in Forensic Odontology, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department and Miami-Dade County University (December 2003, 2005, 2007)
- Surgical Grand Rounds, Royal University Hospital (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan) (April 2004)
- Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police (Spring Meeting 2004)
- Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science Annual Congress (June 2004)
- Florida Division of the International Association for Identification (FDIAI) Educational Training Conference (November 2004, October 2007, October 2016)
- International Forensic Photography Workshop, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department (2005 to Present)
- Speaker, Paul Kneafsey Memorial Lectureship and Primary Adjudicator 2005 Research Day, Calgary, Alberta, Canada (September 2005)
- Forensic Aspects of Child Abuse: A Seminar for Health and Justice Professionals, Calgary, Alberta, Canada (October 2005)
- Smoky Mountain Criminal Justice Conference (Tenth Annual Criminal Justice Conference for Tennessee) (November 2005)
- Jornada de Actualizacion en Patologia Forense, Ministerio Pùblico Instituto de Medicina Legal, Panama City, Panama (March 2006)
- International Association of Women Police, 44th Annual Conference (Canada, September 2006)
- Regional Organized Crime Information Center, 15th Annual Homicide Conference (Arkansas, October 2006)
- Florida Association for Women Lawyers (February 2008)
- Miami-Dade Police Department Citizens Police Academy (2008 to 2019)
- Annual Medical Examiner's Symposium (Alberta, Canada, March 2009)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Quarterly Tactical Firearms Training (August/September 2009)
- Performance Standards of Forensic Autopsy and Inspection Conference (Taipei, Taiwan, May 2010)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation ERT Basic Arson School (September 2010 to 2013)
- Masters 14 Conference for Advanced Death Investigation. (Saint Louis University, July 2011)
- Joint Meeting of the American Medical Technologists (AMT) and Caribbean Association of Medical Technologists (CASMET). (August 2011)
- Fanshawe College (London, Ontario) Police Class (2012 to 2014, 2016 to 2019)

- Florida Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Justice Advanced Course: Investigation and Supervision of Officer-Involved Deadly Force Incidents (April 2012 to 2021).
- 5th Annual International Veterinary Forensic Sciences Conference (May 2012)
- Practical Death Investigation Photography (Calgary, Alberta, Canada. May 2012)
- Crime Scene Investigations Course. (Miami-Dade College, School of Justice, August 2012)
- Antique Automobile Club of America (South Florida Region) (April 2013)
- Carnival Cruise Lines Physicians Annual Conference: Preservation of Death Scene and Evidence (August 2013)
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement Sex Crimes Investigation (Miami Police Training Center) (October 2013)
- Florida Division International Association for Identification Annual Training Conference. Welcome speech as one of three local dignitaries at the Opening Ceremonies. (October 2013)
- Miami-Dade Mayor's Executive Interns (November 2013)
- Caribbean Overseas Territories (COT) Serious and Organized Crime Working Group (February 2014)
- Miami-Dade Police Special Response Team/Ryder Trauma Center Fellows (February 2014)
- German International Police Association (IPA) Educational Program (February 2014, May 2015)
- Carnival Cruise Lines Shipboard Security Training CVSSA Model Course 11-01 (May 2014, May 2015, April 2016, May 2018)
- Volusia County Sheriff's Office Death & Crime Scene Investigation Conference (September 2016, 2018)
- Florida Court Reporters Association (FCRA) Annual Convention (June 2017)
- SOFT/TIAFT Meeting Workshop "From the Street to the Lab: Updated Trends and Case Reports for Novel Psychoactive Substances" (January 2018)
- West Texas Forensic Pathology Workshop, Lubbock, TX (February 2019)
- Rotary Club of Miami (February 2020)
- Association of Firearm &Toolmark Examiners 52nd Annual Conference Keynote Speaker (August 2021)

2025 COMPLEX CASE FEE SCHEDULE

Criminal Matters (DoD)

STANDARD SERVICES (PRE-DETERMINED FLAT RATE OPTIONS)

We recommend the below flat rate options for guaranteed / predictable pricing:

SERVICE	INCLUDES	FLAT RATE
VERBAL OPINION	Comprehensive case review; verbal consultation; and short narrative (written) summary of expert findings upon request	**$5,000**
EXPERT REPORT	Comprehensive, professionally assembled written report with all necessary exhibits (including custom professional medical illustrations when deemed necessary)	**$10,000**
TESTIMONY	Fees customized for each case, based on the requirements of the case and the requests of the attorneys. Based on a daily rate of $5000 per day, plus out-of-pocket travel expenses.	**$5,000 per day**

HOURLY RATE OPTIONS

For those agencies that prefer or require hourly billing instead of the guaranteed flat rate option above, or for special circumstances necessitating the use of on-demand expertise, the following hourly rates would apply:

Forensic pathologist	$600
Surgical pathologist	$500
Molecular pathologist	$500
Neuropathologist	$600
Radiologist	$700
Child abuse pediatrician	$650
Internist	$400
Forensic attorney	$400
Paralegal/case manager	$150
Medical/death investigator	$250
Laboratory technician	$150
Admin Assistant	$50

Wherever possible paramedical / paralegal support staff are used first to minimize billing; charged by the 0.1 hour for all time spent on the approved task

SPECIALIZED LABORATORY SERVICES

The following core laboratory functions are available:

SERVICE	INCLUDES	FLAT RATE
ORGAN/TISSUE DEEP DIVE	Detailed review of organs and tissues retained as evidence by State Agencies with additional testing / retesting as indicated by medicolegal demands	**$12,000**
FIRST (FORENSIC) AUTOPSY	Transportation costs and regulatory fees to transfer the body to NAAG Forensic facilities in California; all professional and paraprofessional time related to the examination and evaluation; all laboratory fees; comprehensive autopsy report	**$10,000** FROM WITHIN CALIFORNIA **$15,000** USA; OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA
SECOND AUTOPSY	Transportation costs and regulatory fees to transfer the body to NAAG Forensic facilities in California; all professional and paraprofessional time related to the examination and evaluation; all laboratory fees; comprehensive autopsy report	**$15,000** FROM WITHIN CALIFORNIA **$20,000** USA; OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA
EXHUMATION WITH SECOND AUTOPSY	Second autopsy fees plus all fees related to disinterment and reinterment of the remains	**$25,000**
GENETIC / MOLECULAR TESTING	Coordination of sample collection, chain of custody, laboratory testing, interpretation of results	**CUSTOM**

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
To: CNRMA Legal Group
Cc: newby@naagforensic.com; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Subject: ICO Copeland - Substitute Expert Pathologist - Dr. Lew
Date: Friday, February 6, 2026 2:22:20 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.jpg
Outlook-3oi2nuzq.jpg
Outlook-signature_.png
CV LEW Jan 2026.pdf
RateSheet_2025_Consultation_COMPLEX_DOD.pdf
Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Forensic Pathology)dtd 6 Feb 26.pdf

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CNRMA Legal,

Defense's expert consultant in pathology – Dr. Evan Matshes is no longer available for trial.

A substitute expert -Dr. Emma Lew is available for trial. Her CV and fee schedule are attached.
CAGE Code# 9G8H2, UEID: PVJ9ZR8ME42

Can you please execute a new contract for Dr. Lew as soon as possible? Thank you.

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 5:24 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

In speaking with Dr. Matshes, we are going to assign Dr Emma Lew to this trial I have attached her CV. I think you will be thrilled to have her as a high profile pathologist.

She can be the consulting expert and/or testifying expert on this case. She can commit to June 7-27th to be in court. If you decide to also use Dr. Matshes as testifying expert he would only be available very end of trial 24th-25th.

I hope you find this solution to your satisfaction. We appreciate you choosing NAAG and do enjoy working with you.

I would still suggest sending a subpoena over for Dr Emma Lew please.

Thank you

Amanda Newby
Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

NAAG FORENSIC PC
newby@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346
DIRECT: 1-505-859-5499

signature_4080762604



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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 1:58 PM
To: Amanda Newby
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Subject: FW: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Ms. Newby,

Please see below. I can issue a federal subpoena today in line with contracting below if needed. Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:27 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

From: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:10 PM
To: An Luu <Luu@naagforensic.com>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Updating email string with NAAG Case 2025-1719

Amanda Newby

Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

To: lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>;
carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Amanda Newby <newby@naagforensic.com>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1519 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Attached is the signed contract and the NCP which will provide information on how to send discovery materials to our office.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

An

_———————————————

An Luu

Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC

www.naagforensic.com

luu@naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-619-803-6372



From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 6:46 AM
To: Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Attached please find your approval and draft contract for this case. Please sign and return to Ms. Russell (cc'd above). Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

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From: James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 9:55 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good morning CDR Mayo,

I believe Dr. Matshes is away from the office this morning. Please feel free to forward Dr. Matshes CV and our fee schedule to Defense and the convening authority.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/R

James Buckley

James Buckley, MFS

Director of Death Investigation

NAAG FORENSIC PC

buckley@naagforensic.com

www.naagforensic.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

DIRECT: 1-619-417-4928





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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 6:30 AM
To: Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Good Morning, and thank you for forwarding your CV and fee schedule. I spoke with Investigator Buckley yesterday. May I forward your CV and Fee Schedule to Defense and the Convening Authority for funding? Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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From: Evan Matshes <Matshes@naagforensic.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 11:00 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Thank you for reaching out. I'm interested in assisting with this matter. We are established DOD contractors and happy to serve.

- I'll need to review the case details and confirm there are no conflicts. Please send any available information for a preliminary review — I will ask Investigator Buckley at my agency to call you to complete the conflict check over the phone.
- My CV and DOD rate sheet are attached.

I look forward to the chance to work together,

Evan

Evan Matshes MD FRCPC
Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist

Associate Professor of Medical Education, Pathology (CUSM)

NAAG FORENSIC PC

matshes@naagforensic.com | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: 1-800-985-5346

NOTICE – I only accept electronic service at subpoena@naagforensic.com

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Thursday, 18 December 2025 07:53
To: Evan Matshes <matshes@naagforensic.com>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to inquire about your availability to serve as an expert consultant for the defense in a Navy court-martial. The accused in the case is charged with, among other charges, murder. Trial is scheduled for 3 – 26 June 2026 on board Naval Station Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia. Although I

am the prosecutor assigned to this matter, the court has directed me to assist in identifying a potential defense consultant.

If you are interested, I am happy to answer any questions you might have. Also, if available, please send a current CV and fee schedule. Thank you!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC

Priya Banerjee, MD
20 Manning Drive
Barrington, RI 02806
Cell: [redacted]
Email: autopsymd@gmail.com
www.anchorforensicpathology.com
EIN: [redacted]

FEE SCHEDULE

*Expedited rate (review with opinion and/or report) $1700 per hour

Non-Refundable Retainer (4 hours) $3400

Review of materials and reports $850 per hour

Testimony (Hearing, Grand Jury, Trial etc) $10,000 per 8 hours

Car related travel mileage billed at the established government rate (in addition to travel time costs). Mileage between locations will be established via google maps. Tolls also billed at cost.

Priya Banerjee, M.D.

Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC.

Board Certified Forensic and Anatomic Pathologist
20 Manning Drive, Barrington Rhode Island 02806
Email: autopsymd@gmail.com; Cell: [redacted]
EIN: [redacted]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

4/1/2016-present	President and Founder Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC Contract forensic pathologist: Clark County, NV (Las Vegas metro region) Criminal and Civil medical-legal consultant, Private autopsy pathologist
5/3/2022-present	Know Your Rights Camp, Colin Kaepernick Foundation Autopsy Team Pathologist (New England to Mid Atlantic Region)
7/1/2010 – 8/9/2021	Assistant Medical Examiner Office of the State Medical Examiners State of Rhode Island, Providence, RI
7/1/2012-present	Clinical Assistant Professor Brown University, Depart. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
1/25/17-5/2020	Adjunct Professor of Justice Studies Roger Williams University Forensic Pathology and Forensic Seminar Series
1/23/20-2022	Adjunct Professor, Graduate Medical Sciences/Boston U. Medicine Forensic Medicine and Death Investigation Course
1/30/2019-8/1/2021	Expert Forensic Pathologist, Rhode Island Cold Case Task Force
5/2018-12/2020	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of New Hampshire

12/2012-2/2013	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of Maine

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

8/2000-5/2004	**University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, M.D.**
7/2004– 6/2005	**Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, PA Internal Medicine Preliminary Year
7/2005-6/2009	**The Johns Hopkins Hospital** Baltimore, MD AP/CP Pathology Residency
7/2009-6/2010	**Office of Chief Medical Examiner, State of Maryland** Baltimore, MD Forensic Pathology Fellow
8/1996-5/2000	**University of Maryland, College Park** B.S. Cell, Molecular Biology and Genetics (Magna Cum Laude) Concentration Criminology and Criminal Justice
5/16/2014	National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Workshop
2/21/2014	Rhode Island Traffic Incident Management Responder Training
5/2-5/3/2014	FEMA/New Mexico Tech Medical Preparedness and Response Bombing Incidents Course
5/10-5/12/2011	Medicolegal Death Investigation Training Seminar National Forensic Science Training Center Tampa Florida
6/7-6/11/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Anthropology Course
5/3-5/7/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Forensic Odontology Course

BOARD CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

American Board of Pathology: Board Certified in Forensic Pathology 2012

American Board of Pathology; Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology, 2011

*all CME/Maintenance of Certification maintained for both areas

State of Rhode Island	Allopathic Physician Medical License MD13342
State of Pennsylvania	Medical License MD 436021 (inactive, in good standing)
State of Nevada	Medical Doctor License #23829

AWARDS, HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS:

June 18, 2019	Brown University School of Medicine, Clinical Teaching Award
2012-current	National Association of Medical Examiners
2011-current	College of American Pathologist, Fellow
2011-current	Rhode Island Criminalists Association, Associate Member
2007	College of American Pathologists., Leadership Development Award

GUEST LECTURES AND MEDIA EXPERIENCE:

Vinnie Politan

February 28, 2025	Death Of Gene Hackman and his Wife https://pagesix.com/2025/02/28/celebrity-news/gene-hackman-and-wife-betsy-arakawa-may-have-been-dead-for-weeks-before-their-bodies-were-found-sheriff/
October 11, 2024	How Forensic Pathologists Analyze Human Remains, expert interview https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/east-bay/how-forensic-pathologists-analyze-human-remains/
2024-current	Multiple appearances on Court TV
April 1	Preston Lord murder, Opening Statements Spotlight with Julie Grant CourtTV
July 7, 2023	Expert TV interview "Toxicology Report for Alex Fierro" on Court TV. https://x-default-stgec.uplynk.com/ausw/slices/4a8/5a41d9ac062d41bbb88c8ded2e0ef1c0/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1_e.mp4
May 16, 2023	Expert TV interview "Children's Book Author Charged with Murder of Husband." https://www.courttv.com/title/medical-examiner-eric-richins-had-5xlethal-dose-of-fentanyl-in-system/?fbclid=IwAR1r5CeBoNBxfMqMKJISO310ifbSsuhYpsyVMoMdnxLPGgQbH4RThTV4Pp0

January 5, 2023 Expert TV interview, " DNA found on sheath 'the money' for Idaho police forensic pathologist" on Cuomo Show, NewsNation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFSKkKnMabs

October 3, 2022 Expert contributor quoted: US monkeypox deaths are rare; here's why they can be difficult to confirm (author: Jaqueline Howard) CNN Health online. https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/03/health/monkeypoxdeaths-difficult-to-confirm

August 21, 2022 Expert TV Interview, "Tell No Tales", Forensic Files II Episode, HLN network. Season 3, Episode 16.

May 11, 2022 TV Interview, Morning in America (News Nation) "Vicky White died by Suicide" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LVq3KjQxkc

May 10, 2022 TV Interview, Inside Edition: Bahamas Deaths of Three US Visitors https://www.insideedition.com/toxic-ac-leak-theorized-as-possiblecause-in-mysterious-deaths-of-americans-at-bahamas-resort-74759.

February 11, 2022 Interview, CNN Newsroom: (9 am hour): Forensic Pathologist on Bob Saget Autopsy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kdze5p25SXI

February 10, 2022 Interview, CNN Tonight with Laura Coates; Dr. Banerjee https://video.snapstream.net/Play/4hTGjGopBrT1Ywz5NAbchZ?accessToken=bew086lmmeopi

February 10, 2022 Interview, Inside Edition https://www.insideedition.com/after-bob-sagets-autopsy-raises-alarmaround-skull-injuries-what-doctors-say-to-do-if-you-hit-your.

January 12, 2022 Interview, Today Show on Bob Saget Death and Autopsy https://www.today.com/video/bob-saget-s-final-performance-latestdetails-on-his-death-130675269917

December 16, 2021 Interview, American Radical Podcast Episode 4: Cause of Death https://www.msnbc.com/msnbc-podcast/cause-death-n1286073

October 25, 2021	Interview, Real Time Crime Podcast re: Brian Laundrie
October 23, 2021	CNN interview: The manhunt for Brian Laundrie is over. But several big questions remain; https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/23/us/gabby-petito-brianlaundrie-questions/index.html
October 21, 2021	Determining Brian Laundrie's cause of death could be "challenging," says forensic pathologist; https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/brian-laundrie-news-10-21-21/index.html
October 21, 2021	CNN Interview: Wolf Blitzer Situation Room: Forensic pathologist explains what was 'odd' about the scene; https://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2021/10/21/brianlaundrie-remains-family-crime-scene-banerjee-sot-tsrvpx.cnn
September 21-22, 2021	Multiple appearances: Fox and Friends, local Fox stations, Law and Crime network re Death and autopsy of Gabby Petito https://www.foxnews.com/media/gabby-petito-autopsy-challenges-cause-death-pathologist https://video.foxnews.com/v/6278085320001#sp=showclips https://video.foxbusiness.com/v/6273622961001#sp=show-clipsoin
April, 2021	Multiple appearances, MSNBC, CNN/HLN and Law and Crime Network re: Derek Chauvin trial and the autopsy of George Floyd https://www.msnbc.com/katy-tur/watch/chuck-rosenberg-i-think-the-defenseattorney-got-a-little-too-cute-went-a-little-bit-too-far-109936709537
March 29, 2021	Forensic Pathologist Dr. Priya Banerjee: Learning from the dead to help the living. Profile in Boston Globe
December 6, 2019	Member interview on "Searching for answers: Inside a secret meeting of RI's Cold Case Task Force." https://www.wpri.com/news/special-reports/searching-for-answers-inside-a-secret-meeting-of-ris-cold-case-taskforce/
2019-Present	Multiple Expert Appearances (recurring) on Law and Crime Network, recurring shows
November 11, 2019	Expert Appearance on Law and Crime Network: "Linda Kenney Baden asks Why the Blunt Force Trauma Killed the Victim but Not the Gunshot Wounds?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PlseesVo6S4&t=33s

October 31, 2019	"What's Going on with Jeffrey Epstein's Autopsy?" online article in Rolling Stone Magazine: https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culturefeatures/jeffrey-epstein-autopsy-baden-homicide-suicide-906192/
November 2, 2018	Water Intoxication Death, Coroner Talk Podcast with Darren Drake
September 26, 2018	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony for Oklahoma National Association of Attorney Generals, Oklahoma City, OK.
September 6, 2018	RIH Department of Pathology Grand Rounds: Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony
September 8, 2017	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony National Association of Attorney Generals, Providence, RI.
June 8, 2017	Organizing Physician and Lecturer: Select Topics in Forensic Pathology (Gunshot Wounds)
April 5, 2017	Expert Medical Examiner: Opioid Panel/Drug Overdose Deaths. Johnson and Wales University.
February 8, 2017	Radio interview with Jay Oliver ft. Joe Giacalone on LI in the AM, LINews Radio. Part 3 of Long Island Serial Killer. https://soundcloud.com/jvcbroadcasting/dr-priya-banerjee-interview
January 27, 2017	Guest Lecturer: The Medicolegal Autopsy: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender and Criminal Defense Lawyer
December 5, 2016	TV Interview with Reporter Tim White, WPRI. "How investigators identify human remains that have been underground for decades" http://wpri.com/2016/12/05/how-investigators-identify-human-remainsthathave- been-underground-for-decades/
June 24, 2016	Lecturer, Overview of the RI Medical Examiners Office and Death Investigation Rhode Island State Police Training Academy
2016-present	Lecturing Forensic Pathologist, Mock Scene Investigation University of Rhode Island BPS 101: Scientific Evidence Class I and II
2011-2014	Guest Lecturer: Fire Related Deaths Annual Fire Investigation Training Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators

March 24, 2014	Medical Examiner/Witness Fire Scene Investigation Training with Mock Crime Scenes Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators
April 26, 2013	Guest Lecturer: The Medical Examiner System in Rhode Island Univ. of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
March 26, 2013	Presenter, Rhode Island Health Careers Expo and Fair Rhode Island School Based Coordinator Network
November 12, 2013	Lecturer: Gunshot Wounds at "Patterns of Injury and the Story They Tell" Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
October 16, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Forensic Pathology and Forensic Identification for Dentists Greater Woonsocket Dental Association, Rhode Island
March 14, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Overview of Forensic Pathology and the Rhode Island Medical Examiner System West Coventry Fire District, Greene, Rhode Island.
February 8, 2012	Forensic Pathology 101: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender
September 16, 2011	Guest Lecturer: Medicolegal Death Investigations University of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
July 11, 2013	Guest Expert, Episode 30, TheForensicweek.com Show (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr6seMRVNQk)
December 13, 2012	Guest Expert, Episode 3, The Forensicweek.com Show (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zasZIp4BCvw)
September 28, 2010	Medicolegal Autopsy and Gunshot Wounds at The Relationship Between the Fundamental of Forensic Pathology and Your Professional Practice Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
November, 2009	Guest Expert Witness, University of Maryland Mock Trial
April, 2009	Guest Forensic Pathologist, Mock Crime Scene for the Community University of Maryland, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

PUBLICATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS:

Truong LV, **Banerjee, P**. Hepatic Hemangiosarcoma Presumed by Imaging as Hemangioma: A Case Report and Literature Review **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at American Academy of Forensic Sciences Meeting, February 2023.

Truong LV and Banerjee, P. Autopsy and Forensics: Forensic Entymology. https://www.pathologyoutlines.com/topic/forensicsentomology.html. February 2, 2021.

Almeida R; **Banerjee, P,** et al. Death Attributed to Dichlorvos (DDVP) Intoxication. (**Poster Presentation**). Presented at the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. September, 2020.

Belova N. and **Banerjee, P**. Drowning Deaths in Rhode Island, A Retrospective Review. **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at the National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October 2018.

Banerjee, P; Detora D; Iwuc P, Stanley C, and Ogilvie L. A case of suicide by injected xylazine. **(Platform Presentation)** Presented at Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting, November, 2014.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Eight Cases from 1999-2009. J Forensic Sci 2014 May;59:865-868.

Banerjee, P and Stanley C. Fatal Salt Intoxication from Table Salt Administration **(Poster).** Presented at National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October, 2012.

Ellis, CL, **Banerjee, P**, Carney, E, Sharma, R, Netto GJ. Adrenal lymphangioma: clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical characteristics of a rare lesion. Hum Pathol. 2011 Jul;42(7):1013-8.

Carney EM, **Banerjee P**, Ellis CL, Albadine R, Sharma R, Chaux AM, Burger PC, Netto GJ. PAX2(-)/PAX8(-)/inhibin A(+) immunoprofile in hemangioblastoma: A helpful combination in the differential diagnosis with metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma to the central nervous system. Am J Surg Pathol. 2011 Feb;35(2):262-7.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z and Fowler DR. Rat Bite Fever, a Fatal Case of Streptobacillus moniliformis Infection in a 14 months old boy. J Forensic Sci. 2011 Mar;5ß6(2):531-3.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Seven Cases from 1999-2009. **(Platform Presentation),** American Academy of Forensic Sciences, February, 2010.

Banerjee, P and Netto GJ. Adrenal Lymphangiomas: Clinicopathologic Review of a Rare Lesion **(Poster)**, USCAP, March 2009.

Banerjee, P et al. Pax-2(-)/Inhibin(+) Immunoprofile in Hemangioblastoma: A Helpful Combination in the Differential Diagnosis with Metastatic Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma to CNS **(Platform Presentation)**, USCAP, March 2009.

Iacobuzio-Donahue CA, Fu B, Yachida S, Luo M, Abe H, Henderson CM, Vilardell F, Wang Z, Keller JW, **Banerjee P**, Herman JM, Cameron JL, Yeo CJ, Halushka MK, Eshleman JR, Raben M, Klein AP, Hruban RH, Hidalgo M, Laheru D. DPC4 Gene Status of the Primary Carcinoma Correlates With Patterns of Failure in Patients With Pancreatic Cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2009 Mar 9.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z and Fowler DR. Rat Bite Fever, a Fatal Case of Streptobacillus moniliformis Infection in a 14 months old boy **(Poster)**, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Feb, 2009

Banerjee, P et al. Advanced Stage Pancreatic Cancers Have Distinct Morphologic and Immunolabeling Profiles Compared to Resectable Disease **(Poster)**, USCAP, March, 2008.

Banerjee, P, Lee, MT and Detrick, BD. Albumin assessment in monoclonal gammopathies: comparison between direct and indirect measurements **(Poster),** Association of Medical Laboratory Immunologists. August, 2007.

Banerjee, P and Crain, B. A Two-year-old Girl with a New Limp. Brain Pathol. 2008 Oct;18(4):60810.

Keane MM, Rubinstein Y, Cuello M, Ettenberg SA, **Banerjee P**, Nau MM, Lipkowitz S. Inhibition of NF-kappa B activity enhances TRAIL mediated apoptosis in breast cancer cell lines. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2000 Nov; 64(2):211-9.

Ettenberg SA, Rubinstein YR, **Banerjee P**, Nau MM, Keane MM, Lipkowitz S. cbl-b inhibits EGFreceptor-induced apoptosis by enhancing ubiquitination and degradation of activated

receptors. Mol Cell Biol Res Commun. 1999 Aug; 2(2):111-8.

Keane MM, Ettenberg SA, Nau MM, **Banerjee P**, Cuello M, Penninger J, Lipkowitz S. cbl-3: a new mammalian cbl family protein. Oncogene. 1999 Jun 3; 18(22):3365-75.

5 Nov 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Todd Mihill, USCG

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Defense Expert Request dtd 24 Oct 25 – Dr. Priya Banerjee

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in pathology is necessary.

2. However, this expert's hourly fees far exceed the reasonable hourly rate for an expert in this field. The government will provide funding for an expert in this field who falls within the parameters of the fees generally provided to experts appointed under 10 U.S.C. § 3006A. For an expert in this field, the reasonable fee rate is $275-400/hour.

3. The government will assist Defense in finding an adequate substitute for this expert and is standing by receive any defense proposed substitutes in this field.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION TO COMPEL** **(Expert Consultant in Pathology)** **4 March 2026**

The Defense respectfully submits the following supplemental evidentiary enclosure in support of the above titled motion:

Enclosure K: Fee Schedules of Experts on List

From: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 10:03:41 AM

From: Laura Knight, MD <lauraknight.md@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2026 9:46 PM
To: Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil>; Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA) <yvette.martinez22.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE

Thank you for reaching out. My docket is full currently, and FL is a bit far away for me.

Some other experts I know personally and would recommend, who are excellent forensic pathologists and routinely do consult work are:

1) Dr. Gregory J. Davis
Retired ME (2024) from University of KY
GregoryJDavisMD@gmail.com

2) Dr. Lee Ann Grossberg
Lee Ann Grossberg, M.D.
Forensic Pathology Consultation Services, P.A.
1127 Eldridge Parkway, Suite 300-386
Houston, Texas 77077
TheDoc@forensicpathservices.com
www.forensicpathservices.com
(281) 650-6527

3) Dr. Judy Melinek (currently working in New Zealand)
Judy Melinek, M.D.
Forensic Pathologist
CEO, PathologyExpert Inc.
drjudymelinek@pathologyexpert.com
www.pathologyexpert.com

3739 Balboa Street #102
San Francisco, CA 94121
Mobile: [redacted]
Office: +1 (415) 850-7056

4) Dr. Priya Banerjee

Rhode Island

- **Company:** Anchor Forensic Pathology LLC
- **Phone:** 401-252-1319
- **Cell:** [redacted]
- **Website:** www.anchorforensicpathology.com

Best regards,

Dr. Laura Knight
Knight Forensics PLLC
Reno, NV

There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact. ~Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

On Wed, Feb 11, 2026 at 9:17 AM Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil> wrote:

> Good morning, Dr. Knight,
>
> I am writing from the Defense Service Office in Pensacola, Florida. I am requesting a copy of your CV and fee schedule.
>
> Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.
>
> Thank you for your time and consideration.
>
> V/R
> WO1 Edward Lujan
> Defense Service Office
> Defense Clerk
> Work Phone: 850-452-3730

From: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:35:18 AM

From: Andrew Baker <andrewbakermd@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 1:37 PM
To: Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil>; Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA) <yvette.martinez22.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE

May I ask why you reached out to me? Is this a DoD case? I stopped taking DoD cases many years ago.

Thank you,
ab

Sent from my iPhone

> On Feb 11, 2026, at 10:49 AM, Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil> wrote:
>
> Good morning, Dr. Baker,
>
> I am writing from the Defense Service Office in Pensacola, Florida. I am requesting a copy of your CV and fee schedule.
>
> Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.
>
> Thank you for your time and consideration.
>
> V/R
> WO1 Edward Lujan
> Defense Service Office
> Defense Clerk
> Work Phone: 850-452-3730

From: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA)
Cc: Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: FW: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:10:02 AM

Good morning, LCDRs,

Dr. Arden is unavailable in June.

Very respectfully,
LNC(AW) Orlando M. Navedo
Defense Paralegal
Defense Service Office Southeast
Office: 850-452-4321
Mobile: [redacted]

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CUI

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POC: LNC Orlando Navedo, orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil,
(850)452-4321

From: Ronni Arden <rbarden@ardenforensics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 9:56 AM
To: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA) <yvette.martinez22.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Jonathan Arden <jlardenmd@ardenforensics.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE

Thank you for letting us know. Dr. Arden is not available in June at all, he already has three other trials and vacation scheduled. Can you give me some information about what kind of case it is and maybe we can refer you to trusted colleagues.

He is sorry he can't help.

Kind regards,
Ronni

From: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 10:41 AM
To: Ronni Arden <rbarden@ardenforensics.com>
Cc: Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA) <yvette.martinez22.mil@us.navy.mil>; Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Jonathan Arden <jlardenmd@ardenforensics.com>
Subject: RE: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE

Good morning,

Thank you for providing Dr. Arden's CV and fee schedule. This case is currently scheduled to go to trial 3-26 June 2026. Do you know if Dr. Arden will be available on those dates?

Thanks again for your assistance.

Very respectfully,
LNC(AW) Orlando M. Navedo
Defense Paralegal
Defense Service Office Southeast
Office: 850-452-4321
Mobile: [redacted]

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CUI

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POC: LNC Orlando Navedo, orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil, (850)452-4321

From: Ronni Arden <rbarden@ardenforensics.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 9:04 PM
To: Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Jonathan Arden

<jlardenmd@ardenforensics.com>
Cc: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil>; Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA) <yvette.martinez22.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE

Officer Lujan –

I hope I'm addressing you correctly. Thank you for your email and for your call earlier today. Dr. Arden's CV and fee schedule are attached. Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Kind regards,
Ronni

Ronni B. Arden
Arden Forensics, PA
333 Las Olas Way #1104
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

703-749-0227 (Office)
703-563-6059 (Fax)
[redacted] (Mobile)
rbarden@ardenforensics.com

From: Lujan, Edward D Jr WO1 USN (USA) <edward.d.lujan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 2:05 PM
To: Jonathan Arden <jlardenmd@ardenforensics.com>
Cc: Navedo, Orlando M CPO USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <orlando.m.navedo.mil@us.navy.mil>; Martinez, Yvette PO1 USN (USA) <yvette.martinez22.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: CV AND FEE SCHEDULE

Good Afternoon Dr. Arden,

I am writing from the Defense Service Office in Pensacola, Florida. I am requesting a copy of your CV and fee schedule.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

V/R
WO1 Edward Lujan
Defense Service Office



FORENSIC PHYSICIAN CONSULTANTS

Jared Brooks MD Kristy Barker MD

PO Box 369
457 E Bridge St
Plainwell MI 49080
forensicphysiciansmd@gmail.com

2026 Fee Schedule

Description	Rate
Retainer	$7,500*
Review of records	$750/hour
Remote testimony	$3,800
Expedite fee	Expedited reviews are available; please inquire separately
In-person testimony	$7,500/day

All services are performed on a replenishable retainer basis, unless satisfactory alternative arrangements have been made in writing and agreed to by both parties. The standard retainer is equal to 10 hours at review rate.

Thank you for inquiring about our medical expert services.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE MOTION TO SUPPRESS** **(THE SEARCH OF CSSN COPELAND'S CELLPHONE (CASS))** **18 February 2026**

MOTION

Pursuant to the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 311, and Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(b)(3), the Defense respectfully moves this Court to suppress all evidence obtained and derived from the unlawful search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone pursuant to the 5 June 2025 Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS).

SUMMARY

On 3 June 2025, NCIS agents seized CSSN Copeland's cellphone after placing him in handcuffs to conduct a search of his barracks room pursuant to a CASS. During an interview with CSSN Copeland the agents attempted to get CSSN Copeland's permission to search his cellphone. After initially consenting to the agents searching his phone, he later revoked consent during that same interview. The agents exercised dominion and control of his cellphone by placing it into airplane mode. Afterward, NCIS completed a digital extraction of CSSN Copeland's phone and later got a CASS. Specifically, this CASS purported to authorize the search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone for evidence of Articles 86 and 107, UCMJ. This CASS was invalid as it was overly broad without particularity. If there was any particularity, there was no probable cause at the time to believe that CSSN Copeland's cellphone contained evidence of violations of Articles 86 or 107, UCMJ. Therefore, this court should suppress all evidence derived from the search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone.

GOOD CAUSE

The Government preferred charges in this cause on 22 August 2025. The Government did not discover the 5 June 2025 CASS at issue until 21 November 2025, which was attached to the Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) report, which was only 5 days prior to the initial motions deadline. This was not enough time, considering the number of other motions the Defense raised, to form a proper analysis of the issues surrounding the CASS. Additionally, a "particularized objection" is required to preserve suppression issues and keep them from being waived. *United States v. Blackburn*, 80 M.J. 205, 209-10 (C.A.A.F. 2020). The interest of

justice and preservation of CSSN Copeland's constitutional rights favor this Court ruling on the issues raised in this motion.

BURDEN

"[T]he prosecution has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the evidence was not obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure" or that some valid exception applies. MIL. R. EVID. 311(d)(5)(A).

FACTS

1. CSSN Copeland was marked unauthorized absent (UA) for 29 May 2025 to 1 June 2025. CS3 A.R. did not go to work 30 May 2025 to 1 June 2025; although, she was scheduled to do so. (Enclosure A).

2. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CS3 A.R.'s mother and she told NCIS that her daughter has attempted suicide and suffers from mental illnesses that require medication. (Enclosure B).

3. On 1 June 2025, NCIS interviewed CSSN Copeland. (Enclosure C).

4. On 3 June 2025, NCIS went to CSSN Copeland's barracks room to execute a CASS. After conducting a safety check CSSN Copeland's cellphone was seized, and CSSN Copeland was taken to NCIS to be interrogated. (Special Agent Jessica Gokey Art. 39a Testimony of 10 Dec 25).

5. Although NCIS claimed to have probable cause to search CSSN Copeland's phone prior to seizing it, NCIS agents did not seek or obtain a search authorization for CSSN Copeland's cellphone before taking it. (*Id*).

6. At the beginning of the interrogation, NCIS agents provided CSSN Copeland his Article 31b rights, notifying him that he is suspected of committing only unauthorized absence and false official statement, in violation of Articles 86 and 107, UCMJ. (Enclosure D).

7. During the interrogation, NCIS agents asked CSSN Copeland permission to search his cellphone. Initially, CSSN Copeland agreed and provided the agents the passcode to his phone. (*Id*).

8. The NCIS agents tested the passcode to ensure it worked and placed CSSN Copeland's phone into airplane mode. (Special Agent Jessica Gokey Art. 39a Testimony of 10 Dec. 25).

9. Later in the interrogation, CSSN Copeland revoked his consent to search his cellphone. After being asked if he was still good with the permissive authorization (consent) to search his phone, CSSN Copeland shook his no, and verbally stated no. (AE XXIX: Enclosure B - CD of CSSN Copeland's Recorded Interview of 3 Jun 25).

10. CSSN Copeland also asked for his phone back after being dropped off back at his barracks room. (Special Agent Bernadette Duffy Art. 39a Testimony of 10 Dec 25).

11. During the interrogation, CSSN Copeland admitted to reaching out to CS3 A.R. several times after she went missing. However, none of those attempts at communication were successful. (Enclosure D).

12. On 21 November 2025, the Government discovered the Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) report, which was created from the search of CSSN Copeland's phone that details the following:

a. On 04Jun25, Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) executed by S/COPELAND, dated 04Jun25.

b. Between 05Jun25 and 09Jun25, DFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05Jun25. (Enclosure F).

13. On 5 June 2025, NCIS obtained a CASS for CSSN Copeland's cellphone. According, to the affidavit, NCIS claimed to only be investigating violations of Articles 86 and 107, UCMJ. (Enclosure A).

14. Regarding unauthorized absence, the affidavit alleged that CSSN Copeland failed to report to work and was marked unauthorized absence for the period of 29 May through 1 June 2025. (*Id*).

15. For false official statement, the affidavit stated that during an interview on 1 June 2025, CSSN Copeland reported that he and a roommate dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks. However, during a subsequent interview on 3 June 2025, he stated that he never left the building and that CS3 A.R. may have taken an Uber or Z-Trip. (*Id*).

16. The affidavit noted that CS3 A.R.'s whereabouts were unknown, but her cellphone last pinged in Suffolk, VA on 31 May 2025. (*Id*).

17. NCIS' coordination with local law enforcement to get location data on vehicles CSSN Copeland was known to drive and interviews with people with knowledge of CSSN Copeland's whereabouts all indicated that he remained within the vicinity of Norfolk, VA, which is where he lived and worked. (Enclosures G, H, I).

18. Despite the NCIS agent's years of law enforcement experience, the affidavit did not allege that CSSN Copeland used his cellphone to facilitate unauthorized absence, to make false official statements, or to communicate any false information. (Enclosure A).

19. The affidavit did not identify, with reasonable belief or even suspicion, any specific communication, digital record, or application believed to contain evidence of the alleged offenses. (*Id*).

20. Based solely on the affidavit and attachments, the Commanding Officer authorized the search and seizure of CSSN Copeland's cellphone.

LAW

The Fourth Amendment's Purpose

The Fourth Amendment states, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." US CONST. amend. IV. The "purpose of the Fourth Amendment was to prevent the use of 'governmental force' to search a man's house, his person, his papers or his effects and to prevent their seizure *against his will.*" *Love v. United States*, 170 F.2d 32, 33 (4th Cir. 1948), *cert. denied*, 336 U.S. 912 (1949). The Fourth Amendment was "the founding generation's response to the reviled 'general warrants' of the colonial era, which allowed British officers to rummage through homes in an unrestrained search for evidence of criminal activity." *Riley v. California*, 573 U.S. 373, 403 (2014).

The military rules of evidence have codified the bulk of the Fourth Amendment precedent in M.R.E. 311, 314, and 315. Under M.R.E. 311, absent certain exceptions, "evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure made by a person acting in a government capacity is inadmissible against the accused." Under M.R.E. 315, probable cause is required for "evidence obtained from reasonable searches conducted pursuant to a search warrant or search authorization. Under M.R.E. 314, several types of searches which do not require probable cause are outlined, including consent searches.

Reasonable Expectation of Privacy

The Fourth Amendment "protects people, not places,"[1] and this protection includes people's expectations of privacy that "society is prepared to recognize as reasonable." *Carpenter*, at 2213 (2018) (quoting *Smith v. Maryland*, 442 U. S.735, 740 (1979).

Modern cellular phones are comparable to "minicomputers" which contain information touching "nearly every aspect" of a person's life "from the mundane to the intimate." *Riley*, at 393, 395. Even when the Government has the right to seize a cellular phone (as in a search

[1] *Carpenter v. United States*, 138 S. Ct. 2206, 2213 (2018) (citing *Katz v. United States*, 389 U. S. 347, 351, (1967)).

incident to lawful arrest), a warrant is required to search the phone. *Id.* at 403. When it comes to seizing a cellular phone, a seizure of digital evidence is complete "when the digital content is in the exclusive control of authorized personnel, secure from unauthorized manipulation or destruction." *United States v. Strong*, 85 M.J. 58, 60-62 (C.A.A.F. 2024) (finding the seizure of digital evidence had not occurred when agents attempted to put the accused's cellphone into airplane mode but was unsuccessful, and the accused was able to remotely reset her cellphone.).

Probable cause determination

Where an expectation of privacy exists the Fourth Amendment requires a warrant or, in the military, a search authorization. Mil. R. Evid. 311. An authorizing Commander (in place of an unbiased magistrate) must be able to determine from the face of the search authorization application and attached affidavits or relied upon oaths, that there is a "fair probability that … evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place." *Illinois v. Gates*, 462 U.S. 213, 238 (1983). To be constitutionally valid, a search authorization can only be issued "when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a common-sense judgment would lead to the conclusion that there is a fair probability that evidence of a crime will be found at the identified location." *United States v. Perkins*, 78 M.J. 550, 553 (N-M Ct. Crim. App. 2018). Normally searches pursuant to prior authorization are given deference, but upon review of a Commander's search authorization, a military judge "may conclude that the commander's probable cause determination "reflected an improper analysis of the totality of the circumstances." *Id*.

A commander must make an independent determination of probable cause and "his action cannot be a mere ratification of the bare conclusions of others." *Id*. Bare conclusions include conclusory allegations and factually unsupported statements by the affiant that the search is likely to yield evidence or fruits of crime. *Gates*, 462 U.S. at 239. Probable cause for searching a particular place exists in an affidavit only when the affidavit sets forth facts constituting a substantial basis for finding a fair probability that first, a crime has been committed, and second, the particular place may contain the fruits, instrumentalities or evidence of the crime committed. *See id.* at 236, 238-239.

Probable cause requires a sufficient nexus between the alleged crime and the item to be seized. *United States v. Nieto*, 76 M.J. 101, 106 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (citing *United States v. Rogers*, 67 M.J. 162, 166 (C.A.A.F. 2009). The question of nexus focuses on whether there was a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place. *Id*. (citing *United States v. Clayton*, 68 M.J. 419, 424 (C.A.A.F. 2010)). Such a nexus "may be inferred from the facts and circumstances of a particular case, including the type of crime, the nature of the items sought, and reasonable inferences about where evidence is likely to be kept." *Nieto*, 76 M.J. at 106 (internal quotation marks omitted) (citations omitted).

Particularity Requirement: General Searches Prohibited

When warrants are issued upon probable cause, the Fourth Amendment, by its terms, requires particularity in the warrant—not in the supporting documents.[2] The "manifest purpose of [the] particularity requirement was to prevent general searches." *United States v. Richards*, 76 M.J. 365, 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017) *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 2701 (2018) (citing *Maryland v. Garrison*, 480 U.S. 79, 84 (1987)). "The Fourth Amendment requires that a search warrant describe the things to be seized with sufficient particularity to prevent a general exploratory rummaging in a person's belongings." *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (quoting *United States v. Carey*, 172 F.3d 1268, 1272 (10th Cir. 1999)).

Exclusionary Rule as the Remedy for Unlawful Searches and Seizures

"Evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure made by a person acting in a governmental capacity is inadmissible" if there is a timely motion to suppress, the accused had a reasonable expectation of privacy in the property searched, and "exclusion of the evidence results in appreciable deterrence of future unlawful searches or seizures and the benefits of such deterrence outweigh the costs to the justice system." Mil. R. Evid. 311(a). There are exceptions to this rule, including the inevitable discovery doctrine and the good-faith doctrine. *See* Mil. R. Evid. 311(c)(2), (3).

Inevitable Discovery

M.R.E. 311 codifies the inevitable discovery exception to the exclusionary rule as follows: "Evidence that was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure may be used when the evidence would have been obtained even if such unlawful search or seizure had not been made." Mil. R. Evid. 311(c)(2). The inevitable discovery doctrine does not apply unless the government establishes by a preponderance of the evidence "that when the illegality occurred, the government agents possessed, or were actively pursuing, evidence or leads that would have inevitably led to the discovery of the evidence in a lawful manner." *United States v. Eppes*, 77 M.J. 339, 347 (C.A.A.F. 2018) (quoting *United States v. Wicks*, 73 M.J. 93, 103 (C.A.A.F. 2014)).

Good Faith Exception

The Good Faith Exception, codified in M.R.E. 311(c)(3), reads:

> Evidence that was obtained as a result of an unlawful search or seizure may be used if:

---

[2] *Groh v. Ramirez*, 540 U.S. 551, 557 (2004); *see also Massachusetts v. Sheppard*, 468 U.S. 981, 988n.5 (1984) ("[A] warrant that fails to conform to the particularity requirement of the Fourth Amendment is unconstitutional"); *United States v. Stefonek*, 179 F.3d 1030, 1033 (CA7 1999) ("The Fourth Amendment requires that the warrant particularly describe the things to be seized, not the papers presented to the judicial officer . . . asked to issue the warrant").

(A) the search or seizure resulted from an authorization to search, seize, or apprehend issued by an individual competent to issue the authorization under Mil. R. Evid. 315(d) or from a search warrant or arrest warrant issued by competent civilian authority, or from such an authorization or warrant issued by an individual whom the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith believed was competent to issue the authorization or warrant;

(B) the individual issuing the authorization or warrant had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause or the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith believed that the individual issuing the authorization or warrant had a substantial basis for determining the existence of probable cause; and

(C) the officials seeking and executing the authorization or warrant reasonably and with good faith relied on the issuance of the authorization or warrant. Good faith is to be determined using an objective standard.[53]

The "good-faith inquiry is confined to the objectively ascertainable question whether a reasonably well trained officer would have known that the search was illegal in light of all of the circumstances." *Herring v. United States*, 555 U.S. 135, 145 (2009) (quoting *United States v. Leon*, 468 U.S. 897 (1984) (internal quotation marks omitted). The exception is not applicable when the affidavit was "so lacking in indicia of probable cause as to render official belief in its existence entirely unreasonable" or "the warrant was facially deficient." *United States v. Hernandez*, 81 M.J. 432, 440 (C.A.A.F. 2020) (citing *Leon*, 468 U.S. at 914, 923-24.

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Doctrine

"Evidence derivative of an unlawful search, seizure, or interrogation is commonly referred to as the 'fruit of the poisonous tree' and is generally not admissible at trial." *United States v. Conklin*, 63 M.J. 333, 334 (C.A.A.F. 2006).

ARGUMENT

I. The search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone should be suppressed because his rights under the Fourth Amendment and the Military Rules of Evidence were violated.

All evidence obtained and derived from the search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone should be suppressed because the search violated CSSN Copeland's rights under the Fourth Amendment and the Military Rules of Evidence for two reasons: (1) the CASS was invalid for lack of particularity; and (2) the CASS was not supported by probable cause. As such, the exclusionary rule is necessary to deter the unreasonable investigative practices used in this case.

i. The CASS lacked particularity and effectively authorized a general search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone.

The 5 June 2025 CASS to search CSSN Copeland's cellphone lacked particularity and, therefore, was an unconstitutional general search limitless in scope by any measure. The Supreme Court has made clear that particularity is required on the face of the warrant, or the warrant must properly incorporate the supporting documents.[3] Here, the alleged crimes the CASS sought to obtain evidence of involves violations of Articles 86 and 107, UCMJ. Both offenses involve actions of CSSN Copeland's perceived misconduct that occurred within a finite time period: 29 May 2025 through, at the most, 3 June 2025. However, the CASS for CSSN Copeland's cellphone provides no temporal limitations at all. While a few of the items to be seized purports to be "pertaining to the Subject Offense(s)," some of the listed "items" open the search of CSSN Copeland's phone to an unknown amount of data, information and time. For example, the affidavit sought to obtain "[c]ontextual information necessary to understand the evidence . . . ." There is no explanation of what the NCIS agent considers contextual information, no locations of where they anticipate this contextual information being located, or how far back in time the agents anticipate could lead to obtaining this "contextual information." The NCIS agent's affidavit effectively sought, and the CASS authorized a review of years of digital data within CSSN Copeland's phone in an effort to investigate a four day unauthorized absence period and alleged inconsistent statements made in two interviews completed in just two days. It also give the agents unbridled discretion to determine what is "contextual." Failure of the CASS to limit a digital search to a relevant timeframe is indicative of how facially overbroad the CASS is, and it is precisely the type of general search authorization the Fourth Amendment was designed to prohibit. Therefore, the CASS is facially and constitutionally deficient.[4]

ii. There was no probable cause to search CSSN Copeland's cellphone, as no logical nexus existed between the phone and the suspected offenses of Articles 86 and 107, UCMJ.

There was no probable cause to support the 5 June 2025 CASS to search CSSN Copeland's cellphone for evidence of Article 86 or Article 107. First, at the time the CASS was signed, CSSN Copeland was not absent without leave and no one suspected him of being absent. He was in NCIS custody. Even if the Article 86 violation NCIS referenced in its CASS for CSSN Copeland's phone solely pertained to CS3 A.R., which was not stated, there was nothing to suggest or indicate a probability that evidence of CS3 A.R.'s whereabouts would be inside CSSN Copeland's cellphone. In the affidavit, NCIS stated that CS3 A.R.'s cellphone last pinged at a location in Suffolk, VA, which is nowhere close to where NCIS knew CSSN Copeland was or had been. Furthermore, there was no indication that CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R. had been in communication with each other by phone; call or text. Sure CSSN Copeland mentioned reaching out to CS3 A.R. to ask if she was okay. However, many people were because CS3 A.R.

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[3] *Groh v. Ramirez*, 540 U.S. 551, 557 (2004); *United States v. McGrew*, 122 F.3d 847, 849-50 (9th Cir. 1997).

[4] *See Ramirez*, 540 U.S. at 557 (2004); *see also Massachusetts v. Sheppard*, 468 U.S. 981, 988 n.5 (1984); *United States v. Stefonek*, 179 F.3d 1030, 1033 (7th Cir. 1999).

was missing and had not been heard from at that time. (Enclosures J, K). At no point did NCIS have reason to believe CS3 A.R. communicated back to CSSN Copeland. The fact CSSN Copeland called to check on her, does not establish probable cause to believe there is evidence of CS3 A.R.'s ongoing Article 86 violation on CSSN Copeland's cellphone.

Second, there was also nothing to suggest evidence of Article 107 would be on his phone either. At the time, NCIS believed CSSN Copeland may not have been completely truthful about every statement he made during his previous interviews. However, there is no evidence that any of the suspected lies pertained to digital evidence or electronic communications that would be present on CSSN Copeland's cellphone. Based on their investigation, NCIS agents knew CSSN Copeland was truthful about CS3 A.R. visiting his barracks room the night before she was last seen. He was truthful about the fact she called and texted her ex-boyfriend from *her* cellphone the night CS3 A.R. was in his barracks room. He was also truthful about the fact that CS3 A.R. stayed the night at his barracks room and was there when his Chief came to his room the next morning. The suspected false statements all pertained to what happened after his Chief left his barracks room when it came to CS3 A.R.'s movements and whereabouts. However, there was no nexus to suggest evidence of those potential false statements would probably be on CSSN Copeland's phone.

The CASS is void of any factual allegations that provide a logical, particularized nexus between CSSN Copeland's cellphone and the suspected offenses. Even if NCIS had probable cause to suspect CSSN Copeland of committing Articles 86 and 107, that does not equate to probable cause to search CSSN Copeland's phone. *See Nieto*, 76 M.J. at 106. The information provided by the NCIS agent does not establish that CSSN Copeland used his cellphone to facilitate his or CS3 A.R.'s unauthorized absence. It fails to indicate whether any false statements were communicated via CSSN Copeland's cellphone or whether the phone was used to fabricate evidence. There was no factual basis tying digital evidence to unauthorized absence or false official statement, simply conclusory assertions that there was probable cause to believe evidence of both alleged offenses were present on his phone. Generalized assumptions that people use phones are insufficient, and speculation does not replace nexus. *See id*. at 106-07. Both are what the NCIS agents did in this case.

The boilerplate and inaccurate language within the NCIS agent's affidavit calls into question the determination and reliability of the agent's assertions. When even discussing CSSN Copeland's cellphone, the agent stated:

> f. As discussed in this Affidavit, your Affiant has reason to believe that one or more digital devices will be found during the search. The passcode or password that would unlock the DEVICES subject to search under this warrant currently is not known to law enforcement. Thus, law enforcement personnel may not otherwise be able to

Devices and digital data are two separate things. Although the agent claimed "digital devices will be found during search," the device being searched pursuant to this CASS was already seized. Additionally, the agent's affidavit stated that CSSN Copeland's "passcode or password . . . [was] not known to law enforcement." However, that is categorically false. CSSN Copeland gave the agent that wrote this affidavit the passcode to his phone during his 3 June 2025

interview prior to him revoking his consent for them to search his cellphone. The agent also verified the passcode was correct before making this false assertion.

II. All evidence obtained and derived from NCIS's search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone should be excluded because it is necessary to deter the unreasonable investigative practices.

Exclusion of the evidence discovered in this case from CSSN Copeland's phone is warranted. The exclusionary rule is fundamentally a balancing test between the benefits of deterring Fourth Amendment violations and the costs to the justice system associated with the suppression of evidence. In this case, the benefits of deterring the violations of CSSN Copeland's Fourth Amendment rights far outweigh the costs to the justice system. Furthermore, excluding the evidence obtained from CSSN Copeland's phone would ensure the protection of the justice system by deterring unconstitutional law enforcement practices, and attempts to deceive, which is the driving purpose of why the exclusionary rule was created.

i. The Government cannot prove that the unlawfully obtained property would have been inevitably discovered in a lawful manner.[56]

Based on the lawful evidence NCIS possessed or was actively pursuing at the time this CASS was signed, lawful discovery of the digital data and information within CSSN Copeland's phone would not be inevitable. First, NCIS obtained a 2703(d) Order for T-Mobile Records pertaining to CS3 A.R. and CSSN Copeland's AT&T cellular phone accounts. (Enclosure E). The records showed that CSSN Copeland attempted to contact CS3 A.R. 5 times on 1 June 2025. However, CSSN Copeland already told NCIS he tried reaching out to CS3 A.R. to see if she was okay. There is no evidence that any of those attempts at contact were successful, and thus, does not establish probable cause for a search of his cellphone. Second in their affidavit, NCIS stated that CS3 A.R.'s cellphone pinged in Suffolk, VA. There was no evidence that CSSN Copeland visited Suffolk, VA such that they would have been able to establish contact. In fact, NCIS' coordination with local police and CSSN Copeland's roommate captured CSSN Copeland's potential whereabouts in the vicinity of Norfolk, VA – the place he is stationed and works. Again, the only thing NCIS suspected at this time, according to them, were violations of Articles 86 and 107. There was nothing NCIS had or was in the process of obtaining lawfully that would sufficiently provide a nexus between those offenses and CSSN Copeland's phone.

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[5] Initial unlawful search conducted on 4 June 2025 when the DFE conducted a full file system extraction of CSSN Copeland's cellphone "pursuant to a PASS" after CSSN Copeland had already revoked his consent to search his phone. Unlike in *Strong* where the agents were unsuccessful in placing the accused's phone in airplane mode, the agents in this case were successful in placing CSSN Copeland's phone in airplane mode the day it was seized on 3 June 2025. Thus, by the time the DFE extracted CSSN Copeland's phone of all its digital content and data, NCIS had already established dominion and control of CSSN Copeland's phone, and its digital content. No additional extraction was necessary to accomplish that prior to obtaining authorization to search it. *See* Defense Motion to Suppress the search of CSSN Copeland's phone pursuant to a PASS.

[6] Defense Motion to Suppress search of CSSN Copeland's barracks room pursuant to a CASS.

ii. The Good Faith exception does not apply in this case.

The good faith exception does not apply to the facts of this case for two reasons. First, it is objectively unreasonable for the NCIS agents, especially one with as many years of experience in law enforcement as the agent who obtained the CASS in this case, to believe the CASS was properly supported by probable cause. The agent was unable to articulate any logical connection between the alleged offenses and CSSN Copeland's cellphone, beyond mere conclusory statements, assumptions, and speculations. Second, even assuming the agent did reasonably believe there was probable cause, she failed to articulate it within the affidavit the CASS relied upon. There was nothing stated about what evidence the agent believed she would find on CSSN Copeland's phone. If anything, it was a laundry list of items and data the agent wanted to search with no end in mind or particularity stated, which is indicative of the phishing expedition the agents intended to engage in with the search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone. As such, the CASS was facially deficient.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Pursuant to the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, M.R.E. 311, and R.C.M. 905(b)(3), the Defense respectfully moves this Court to suppress all evidence obtained and derived from the unlawful search of CSSN Copeland's cellphone pursuant to the 5 June 2025 CASS.

EVIDENCE & HEARING

The Defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this Motion:

- Enclosure (A): Command Authorization for Search and Seizure of 5 June 2025
- Enclosure (B): Results of Contact with Ms. Esmeralda Castle of 1 Jun 25
- Enclosure (C): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 1 Jun 25
- Enclosure (D): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 3 Jun 25
- Enclosure (E): Results of 18 USC 2703(D) Court Order to AT&T
- Enclosure (F): Portions of DFE Report of CSSN Copeland's phone
- Enclosure (G): Results of License Plate Reader Network Queries
- Enclosure (H): Results of Flock Camera Queries
- Enclosure (I): Interview Summary of AR John Calisse of 3 Jun 25
- Enclosure (J): Interview Summary of FCC Brad Parker of 3 Jun 25
- Enclosure (K): PASS Results of HT3 Michael Gillespie Cellphone

The Defense requests oral argument on this matter.

[redacted]
C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 18 February 2026, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]
C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**ENCLOSURES TO DEFENSE MOTION TO SUPPRESS (THE SEARCH OF CSSN COPELAND'S CELLPHONE (CASS))** **18 February 2026**

- Enclosure (A): Command Authorization for Search and Seizure of 5 June 2025
- Enclosure (B): Results of Contact with Ms. Esmeralda Castle of 1 Jun 25
- Enclosure (C): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 1 Jun 25
- Enclosure (D): Results of Interview of CSSN Copeland of 3 Jun 25
- Enclosure (E): Results of 18 USC 2703(D) Court Order to AT&T
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Search Authorization

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

TO: Special Agent Jessica Gokey and other NCIS Agents

Affidavit(s) having been made before me by Special Agent Jessica Gokey

That there is reason to believe that on the person of and/or on the premises known as:
an Apple IPhone, which was located on the person of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND

which is/are under my jurisdiction, there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See attachment B

I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the person and/or premises above described and that grounds for application for issuance of a command authorized search exist as stated in the supporting affidavit(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH the person and/or place named for the property specified and if the property is found there to seize it, leaving a copy of this authorization and receipt for the property taken. You will provide a signed receipt to this command, containing a full description of every item seized.

Any assistance desired in conducting this search will be furnished by this command.

Dated this 5 day of JUNE, 2025.

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.114026[redacted] Date: 2025.06.05 07:43:22 -04'00' [redacted]

Signature of Person Authorizing Search

CAPT, USN, Commanding Officer

Rank, Service, Title

NAVSTA Norfolk

Command

Page 1 of 1

NCIS 5580/7 (Rev. 7-2021)

Naval Criminal Investigative Service

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
VS.
CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

BEFORE the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia

The undersigned, being duly sworn, requests authority to search:
CSSN Jermiah Copeland's personal cellular telephone(s) more particularly described in Attachment A.

Believing that there is now being concealed certain property, namely:
See Attachment B.

The request for authorization to search and seize is made in connection with an investigation into the offense(s) of :
Article 86 and 107 of the UCMJ, more particularly described in Attachment B to the attached affidavit.

The facts and circumstances known to me tending to establish the foregoing grounds for authorization to search and seize, including comments demonstrating the reliability of the information and/or informant, are as follows:
See attached Affidavit, incorporated herein by reference. [redacted]

[redacted]
Signature of Affiant
Representative, Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, this 5th day of June, 2025.

[redacted]
Signature of Person Administering Oath

LT, USN, STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
Rank, Service, Title

NCIS 5580/1 (1/2001) (Formerly NCISFORM 023/08-92)

AFFIDAVIT

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. I, Jessica Gokey, am a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assigned to the NCIS Resident Agency Norfolk, VA and have been employed with NCIS since March 2022. During my tenure as a Special Agent, I have completed approximately 900 hours of instruction at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA, where I attended the Special Agent Basic Training Integrated Program (SABTI). I was provided instruction on investigations, federal law, and other various practice issues for investigators. I am a member of the Military Criminal Investigative Organization Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. I have attended the National Criminal Justice Training Center's Internet Crimes Against Children certification course and additional training through ICAC for an approximate total of 90 hours. I spent eight (8) years as an active duty member of the United States Navy, where I was a Master-at-Arms (MA). As a MA, I was a first responder to base incidents, misdemeanor crimes, and traffic accidents. During my tenure as a MA, I was employed with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) where I worked various cases to include Domestic Violence cases, simple assaults, and other misdemeanor crimes. I have a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

2. The following facts and information are known to your Affiant based upon information gained from the conduct of this investigation, witness observations, training and experience, and/or through information relayed through other law enforcement officers.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application for a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure to review the cellphone belonging to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND as annotated in Attachment A.

4. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure, your Affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your Affiant has set forth the facts believed necessary to establish probable cause to believe that evidence of violations of Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 86 (Unauthorized Absence) and Article 107 (False Official Statement)

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

1. This United States is investigating violations of Article 86 (Unauthorized Absence) and Article 107 (False Official Statements).

2. On May 28, 2025, CSSN [redacted] was known to be in the barracks room located at [redacted] located onboard Naval Station Norfolk, who is occupied by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND.

3. On 01 June 2025, COPELAND was interviewed by NCIS. According to COPELAND, [redacted] came to his barracks room to have dinner and have a couple drinks.

4. COPELAND stated [redacted] called an "ex-boyfriend from Texas" and was confronting the person about returning personal items. COPELAND stated, [redacted] became emotional and began to cry.

5. COPELAND stated the relationship with [redacted] was platonic and he is a friend from work and no sexual acts have happened between them.

6. During an interview with PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, who is a roommate of COPELAND, at approximately 0645 on 29 May 2025, GORDILLOCRUZ stated he was leaving for work and saw his roommate, later clarified to be COPELAND and an unknown female on the floor naked.

7. GORDILLOCRUZ stated the female looked to have darker skin, and black curly hair. He could see [redacted] breasts and could see COPELAND's head resting on [redacted] stomach area. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could not see if [redacted] was wearing anything below COPELAND's head. GORDILLOCRUZ stated COPELAND was also naked but his back was facing upwards.

8. GORDILLOCRUZ stated he could tell [redacted] was breathing by her chest moving up and down. GORDILLOCRUZ stated, he had never seen the female before and has not seen her since.

9. COPELAND stated, he was late for work on the morning of 29 May 2025 and FCC Brad PARKER knocked on his door to say COPELAND was going to be labeled as Unauthorized Absence (UA). FCC PARKER stated COPELAND and [redacted] were in a state of undress and [redacted] waved and rolled over into a blanket. FCC PARKER told COPELAND to report to work and left the barracks room.

10. COPELAND continued explaining, the two of them got dressed and a roommate took him and [redacted] to [redacted] residence located at Miller Hall onboard Naval Station Norfolk at approximately 1000.

11. COPELAND's movements are unknown after dropping [redacted] off at Miller Hall. However, we know after speaking with Command, COPELAND was marked UA for the days of 29-31 May 2025 and on 01 June 2025.

12. On 02 June 2025, NCIS spoke to FCC PARKER to verify [redacted] work schedule. FCC PARKER stated [redacted] was scheduled to work day shift Friday,

May 30, 2025 - Sunday, June 1, 2025 with a report time of 0500-0530 hours. FCC PARKER stated V/A.R. failed to report all three (3) days.

13. NCIS interviewed all remaining roommates of COPELAND who stated they did not give a ride to COPELAND and V/A.R. on the morning of 29 May 2025.

14. The whereabouts of V/A.R. are still unknown. Her cellphone last pinged on 31 May 2025 for last known location. The last known was approximately Latitude 36.896558 Longitude -76.435536, which appears to be located in Suffolk, VA.

15. Additionally, NCIS spoke with her mother in Texas and she conveyed V/A.R. has attempted suicide in the past and suffers from depression, for which she is prescribed medication. Emergency Room's, psychology departments, morgues, and jails were all negative for her presence when called.

16. On 03 June 2025, NCIS executed a Command Authorized Search and Seizure on the barracks room belonging to COPELAND. During the search, a pair of black rimmed glasses were located within the residence. It was unknown at the time, V/A.R. was known to wear black rimmed glasses.

17. On 03 June 2028, NCIS conducted a follow-up interview with COPELAND who stated he remained in his barracks room and the common space lounges within X-2. COPELAND stated he never left the X-2 building during his period of unauthorized absence.

18. COPELAND also stated, contrary to his 01 June 2025 interview, that neither he nor his roommate dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks on the morning of 29 May 2025. COPELAND stated he believed V/A.R. had taken an Uber or Z-Trip back to her barracks.

BIOMETRIC ACCESS TO DEVICES

19. This warrant permits law enforcement to compel CSSN Jermiah COPELAND to unlock any DEVICES requiring biometric access subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant. The grounds for this request are as follows:

a. I know from my training and experience, as well as from information found in publicly available materials published by device manufacturers, that many electronic devices, particularly newer mobile devices and laptops, offer their users the ability to unlock the device through biometric features in lieu of a numeric or alphanumeric passcode or password. These biometric features include fingerprint scanners, facial recognition features and iris recognition features. Some devices offer a combination of these biometric features, and the user of such devices can select which features they would like to utilize.

b. If a device is equipped with a fingerprint scanner, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device through his or her fingerprints. For example, Apple offers a feature called "Touch ID," which allows a user to register up to five fingerprints that can unlock a device. Once a fingerprint is registered, a user can unlock the device by pressing the relevant finger to the device's Touch ID sensor, which is found in the round button (often referred to as the "home" button) located at the bottom center of the front of the device. The fingerprint sensors found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Touch ID.

c. If a device is equipped with a facial-recognition feature, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device through his or her face. For example, this feature is available on certain Android devices and is called "Trusted Face." During the Trusted Face registration process, the user holds the device in front of his or her face. The device's front-facing camera then analyzes and records data based on the user's facial characteristics. The device can then be unlocked if the front-facing camera detects a face with characteristics that match those of the registered face. Facial recognition features found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Trusted Face.

d. If a device is equipped with an iris-recognition feature, a user may enable the ability to unlock the device with his or her irises. For example, on certain Microsoft devices, this feature is called "Windows Hello." During the Windows Hello registration, a user registers his or her irises by holding the device in front of his or her face. The device then directs an infrared light toward the user's face and activates an infrared-sensitive camera to record data based on patterns within the user's irises. The device can then be unlocked if the infrared-sensitive camera detects the registered irises. Iris-recognition features found on devices produced by other manufacturers have different names but operate similarly to Windows Hello.

e. In my training and experience, users of electronic devices often enable the aforementioned biometric features because they are considered to be a more convenient way to unlock a device than by entering a numeric or alphanumeric passcode or password. Moreover, in some instances, biometric features are considered to be a more secure way to protect a device's contents. This is particularly true when the users of a device are engaged in criminal activities and thus have a heightened concern about securing the contents of a device.

f. As discussed in this Affidavit, your Affiant has reason to believe that one or more digital devices will be found during the search. The passcode or password that would unlock the DEVICES subject to search under this warrant currently is not known to law enforcement. Thus, law enforcement personnel may not otherwise be able to

access the data contained within the DEVICES, making the use of biometric features necessary to the execution of the search authorized by this warrant.

g. I also know from my training and experience, as well as from information found in publicly available materials including those published by device manufacturers, that biometric features will not unlock a device in some circumstances even if such features are enabled. This can occur when a device has been restarted, inactive, or has not been unlocked for a certain period of time. For example, Apple devices cannot be unlocked using Touch ID when: (1) more than 48 hours has elapsed since the device was last unlocked; or, (2) when the device has not been unlocked using a fingerprint for 8 hours and the passcode or password has not been entered in the last 6 days. Similarly, certain Android devices cannot be unlocked with Trusted Face if the device has remained inactive for four hours. Biometric features from other brands carry similar restrictions. Thus, in the event law enforcement personnel encounter a locked device equipped with biometric features, the opportunity to unlock the device through a biometric feature may exist for only a short time.

h. Due to the foregoing, if law enforcement personnel encounter any DEVICES that are subject to seizure pursuant to this warrant and may be unlocked using one of the aforementioned biometric features, this warrant permits law enforcement personnel to: (1) press or swipe the fingers (including thumbs) of COPELAND to the fingerprint scanner of the DEVICE; (2) hold the DEVICE in front of the face of COPELAND and activate the facial recognition feature; and/or (3) hold the DEVICE in front of the face of COPELAND and activate the iris recognition feature, for the purpose of attempting to unlock the DEVICE in order to search the contents as authorized by this warrant. In pressing or swiping a person's thumb or finger onto a device and in holding a device in front of a person's face, law enforcement may not use excessive force, as defined in Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 386 (1989); specifically, law enforcement may use no more than objectively reasonable force in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them.

Further, law enforcement may compel the use of the biometric features described above if: (1) the procedure is carried out with dispatch and in the immediate vicinity of the premises to be searched, and if, at the time of compulsion, the government has (2) reasonable suspicion that the suspect has committed a criminal act that is the subject matter of the warrant; and (3) reasonable suspicion that the individual's biometric features will unlock the device, that is, for example, because there is a reasonable suspicion to believe that the individual is the user of the device. The proposed warrant does not authorize law enforcement to require that resident's state or otherwise provide the password or any other means that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICE. Moreover, the proposed warrant does not authorize law enforcement to ask residents to identify the specific biometric characteristics

(including the unique finger(s) or other physical features) that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICE.

CONCLUSION

20. Based upon the information, your Affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe the cellphone belonging to COPELAND may constitute evidence of Article 86 (Absence without leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements) of the UCMJ.

21. Your affiant respectfully requests a CASS be issued, authorizing NCIS Agents, forensic examiners tasked by NCIS, and other law enforcement entities and their forensic components to search and retain evidence as described above.

[redacted]

Jessica Gokey, Special Agent
Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of June, 2025

SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Digitally signed by SCHLARMANN.MATTHEW.TED.[redacted] Date: 2025.06.05 07:44:11 -04'00'

CAPT
Commanding Officer

ATTACHMENT A: PLACES TO BE SEARCHED

This Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) applies to the information associated with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND and his cellular telephone identified as an iPhone, dark in color, which was located on COPELAND's person when seized. Located at the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Norfolk Field Office Evidence Facility, 1650 Gilbert Street, Norfolk, VA 23511.

ATTACHMENT B: PARTICULAR ITEMS TO BE SEIZED

The following materials, which constitute evidence of the commission of a criminal offense, contraband, the fruits of crime, or property designed or intended for use or which is or has been used as the means of committing a criminal offense, namely violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 86 (Unauthorized Absence) and Article 107 (False Official Statement).

1. Cellular Telephone or storage media used as a means to commit the violations described above, to include the **TARGET DEVICE(S)**.
2. The telephone number, ESN number, serial number, SIM card number, or any other device identification number associated with and or contained in the device (s).
3. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this CASS.
4. For any cellular telephone or storage medium whose seizure is otherwise authorized by this CASS, and any cellular telephone or storage medium that contains or in which are stored records or information that is otherwise called for by this warrant, to include the **TARGET DEVICE(S)** (hereinafter, "CELLULAR TELEPHONE"):
5. Evidence of who used, owned, or controlled the CELLULAR TELEPHONE at the time the things described in this CASS were created, edited, or deleted, such as logs, registry entries, configuration files, saved user names and passwords, documents, browsing history, user profiles, email, email contacts, "chat," instant messaging logs, photographs, and correspondence;

6. Evidence indicating how and when the cellular telephone was accessed or used to determine the chronological context of cellular telephone access, use, and events relating to the crime(s) under investigation and to the cellular telephone user;
7. Evidence indicating the cellular telephone user's knowledge and/or intent as it relates to the crime(s) under investigation;
8. Evidence of live and deleted historical navigation data tracks, routes, and waypoints, GPS fixes, favorites, past journeys, trip logs, and user entered data, Latitude, Longitude, and Altitude coordinates, and related dates and times pertaining to Subject Offense(s);
9. Evidence of live and deleted logs, records, documents, and other items that may constitute evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or instrumentalities of violations of crimes, pertaining to Subject Offense(s);
10. Evidence of live and deleted contact lists, call logs, text messages and multimedia messages (SMS and MMS messages), e-mails, chats, video conference communication data, contact information, installed application information including their content and any other information which can be used to identify potentially associated persons pertaining to Subject Offense(s);
11. Evidence of the attachment to the CELLULAR TELEPHONE of other storage devices or similar containers for electronic evidence;
12. Evidence of programs (and associated data) that are designed to eliminate data from the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;
13. Passwords, encryption keys, and other access devices that may be necessary to access the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;

14. Documentation and manuals that may be necessary to access the CELLULAR TELEPHONE or to conduct a forensic examination of the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;
15. Records of or information about Internet Protocol addresses used by the CELLULAR TELEPHONE;
16. Records of or information about the CELLULAR TELEPHONE's Internet activity, including firewall logs, caches, browser history and cookies, "bookmarked" or "favorite" web pages, search terms that the user entered into any Internet search engine, and records of user-typed web addresses; and
17. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment.
18. The term "cellular telephone" includes all types of electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing devices performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, including desktop cellular telephones, notebook cellular telephones, mobile phones, tablets, server cellular telephones, and network hardware.
19. This CASS does not authorize law enforcement personnel to compel any other individuals found at the SUBECT PREMISES to provide biometric features, as described in the preceding paragraph, to access or otherwise unlock any DEVICE. Further, this warrant does not authorize law enforcement personnel to require that resident's state or otherwise provide the password or any other means that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICES, including by identifying the specific biometric characteristics (including the unique finger(s) or other physical features) that may be used to unlock or access the DEVICES.

20. This CASS authorizes a review of electronic storage media and electronically stored information seized or copied pursuant to this CASS in order to locate evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities described in this warrant. The review of this electronic data may be conducted by any government personnel assisting in the investigation, who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, and technical experts. Pursuant to this warrant, NCIS may deliver a complete copy of the seized or copied electronic data to the custody and control of attorneys for the government and their support staff for their independent review.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF CONTACT WITH ESMERALDA CASTLE, CIV

1. On 01JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) made initial contact with Esmeralda CASTLE, CIV, mother of CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/R[redacted], USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to her daughter's missing status.

2. This contact was conducted via cellphone and not recorded.

3. RA attempted to contact CASTLE two times via phone call and followed up with a text message, with no response. After speaking with ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG-95 and learning he was in contact with CASTLE, RA instructed ET3 RICH to ask CASTLE to call RA.

4. RA asked CASTLE when the last time she spoke with V/R[redacted] and CASTLE stated she had not spoken with V/R[redacted] in approximately a week, however, V/R[redacted] did attempt a Facetime call Wednesday 28MAY25, but CASTLE did not answer. CASTLE stated V/R[redacted] most likely called her younger sister after she did not answer, but CASTLE was not certain. RA gathered contact information for the 3 siblings of V/R[redacted] to contact.

5. RA asked CASTLE if she had access to V/R[redacted] banking records, which CASTLE stated she did not.

6. RA asked CASTLE if she would be concerned about V/R[redacted]'s mental health or concerned V/R[redacted] may commit suicide, which CASTLE stated she did not think V/R[redacted] would have committed suicide. However, CASTLE did disclose V/R[redacted] had gone into mental health treatment sometime in the last year for inpatient treatment. RA followed up asking if CASTLE knew the reasoning for the inpatient treatment, which CASTLE responded, V/R[redacted] was under a lot of pressure at work due to them being short staffed and V/R[redacted] was also having problems with sexual harassment onboard DDG-95. RA followed up asking if CASTLE knew who was sexually harassing V/R[redacted], which CASTLE stated an older white male.

7. RA asked CASTLE what, if anything had she been told about V/R[redacted] missing. CASTLE stated she had been contacted by ET3 RICH, and he was concerned about V/R[redacted] missing and to "not trust the command." RA asked CASTLE to explain further about not trusting the command. CASTLE stated ET3 RICH said they had lied to CASTLE and V/R[redacted] was not found in a room, and she had not returned to work on Friday. CASTLE continued saying she called the Quarterdeck of DDG-95 and spoke to a Chief PARKER, who was identified as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95. CASTLE stated FCC PARKER told

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **01JUN25**

her V/R[redacted] was located and words to the effect of the situation being dramatized or blown out of proportion. CASTLE explained she told FCC PARKER it was very unlike V/R[redacted] to miss work as she was terrified of missing work.

8. RA asked CASTLE if she knew where V/R[redacted] might be or where she may have gone, which CASTLE could not provide any further information into where V/R[redacted] may have gone. RA explained to CASTLE that NCIS would be conducting an investigation into V/R[redacted];s missing status and would contact her immediately with any significant updates. No further information was gathered from this interview.

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of V/[redacted]. The interview took place in the lounge area on third floor of building X2, Willis Manor, located on Naval Station Norfolk (NOB), and was not recorded.

2. As background, V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, NCIS and S/COPELAND's mother contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and V/[redacted]. The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms in Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at V/[redacted] door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

3. During his interview, S/COPELAND described his relationship with V/[redacted] as co-workers. S/COPELAND stated he texted with V/[redacted] on Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss recipes and ingredients for tacos. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] came over to his barracks room, made tacos and they both consumed alcohol. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] gradually became more upset as the night progressed and they spoke about her current and past romantic relationships. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] spoke on the phone to two (2) ex-boyfriends, both of which were confrontational calls. One call was with an ex-boyfriend he still believed was located in Texas (NFI) and the other call was with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95.

4. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] and HT3 GILLESPIE argued over returning a motorcycle helmet and that HT3 GILLESPIE wanted it back. S/COPELAND said V/[redacted] explained her relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE was toxic and described her most recent ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, as at first being a sweetheart and then he wasn't. S/COPELAND said ET3 RICH and HT3 GILLESPIE do not get along, that they have issues with each other, and opined it was due to their relationships with V/[redacted] S/COPELAND said HT3 GILLESPIE has come to the galley on the ship a lot, which sometimes caused issues. S/COPELAND said he did not know of any instances of HT3 GILLESPIE being violent toward V/[redacted] and that HT3 GILLESPIE was more of a topic of conversation than ET3 RICH was during their evening together.

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EXHIBIT 5

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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S/COPELAND described his role during the evening as a sounding board for V/ V/A.R.

5. S/COPELAND recalled one of his roommates walked into the barracks suite (common area) and asked if V/ V/A.R. was okay as she was upset, which he (S/COPELAND) responded yes.

6. S/COPELAND explained V/ V/A.R. spent the night in his barracks room and they did not have sexual intercourse. S/COPELAND said he was supposed to work on Thursday 29May25, however, he woke up late as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room at approximately 0900 and woke he and V/ V/A.R. S/COPELAND said he misunderstood FCC PARKER and did not report to work. S/COPELAND said he borrow his roommate's vehicle and drove V/ V/A.R. back to her barracks at approximately 1000 hours. S/COPELAND said this was the last time he saw V/ V/A.R.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Bernadette DUFFY conducted an interview of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to the Unauthorized Absence of CSSN [redacted] (V/[redacted], USN, DDG-95 and himself.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of his Article 31(b) Rights by use of Military Suspect's Acknowledgement and Waiver of Rights form for an alleged violation of Article 86 (Absence without Leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements). S/COPELAND, with full understanding of his rights, elected to waive his right to remain silent; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. S/COPELAND was asked to recall the events on the night of 28JUN25 and what transpired the following days. S/COPELAND stated he and V/[redacted] were talking about food and making tacos. S/COPELAND continued saying, V/[redacted] was going to come over to his barracks, located at Building X-2, Willis Manor, Room 335, to make salsa and eat dinner. S/COPELAND explained he went to the Food Lion and bought the ingredients to make tacos and then he went back to X-2. S/COPELAND stated he then went and picked V/[redacted] up from her barracks, Miller Hall, and brought her back to his room. COPELAND explained later he utilized his roommates vehicle, later identified as a belonging to AR John CALISSE, USN, VAW-124 and being a white Jeep Compass, to pick up V/[redacted] S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] was wearing a black shirt, black pants, slip on Uggs, a bracelet, and a hair clip. S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] was also carrying her purple backpack. S/COPELAND stated he could not recall what time he picked V/[redacted] up but after returning to the room they began to make tacos.

5. S/COPELAND stated after eating, him and V/[redacted] started listening to music and started talking. S/COPELAND explained V/[redacted] began talking about HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, and how she saw him with another girl on his motorcycle and how it had really upset V/[redacted] S/COPELAND stated V/[redacted] then text HT3 GILLESPIE "Fuck you" and then called an ex-boyfriend (NFI) from Texas. S/COPELAND explained he was sitting on the

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couch, and she was sitting on floor talking to the ex-boyfriend. S/COPELAND continued explaining how when V[redacted] ended the phone call with the ex-boyfriend, she started to call other people (NFI) and talk about how "GILLESPIE's not shit."

6. S/COPELAND explained he did not know much about the relationship between HT3 GILLESPIE and V[redacted], but S/COPELAND did recall V/[redacted] was mad about the amount of money she would spend on HT3 GILLESPIE. S/COPELAND provided the example of HT3 GILLESPIE needed a lawyer and V[redacted] gave him $500.00 to hire one even though HT3 GILLESPIE could have received a public defender. S/COPELAND did not believe HT3 GILLESPIE and V[redacted] were in any physical altercations or abusive relationship. S/COPELAND stated V[redacted] went on a "rampage" and was becoming "agitated." S/COPELAND stated after completing the phone calls V[redacted] was becoming "emotional" and "crying."

7. S/COPELAND stated one of the roommates, "the Mexican" later identified as PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124), walked into the common area of the room and asked if V[redacted] was okay. S/COPELAND stated he told PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ, V/[redacted] was fine and PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ proceeded to his room. S/COPELAND stated the night ended and they both went to sleep together in S/COPELAND's bed. S/COPELAND stated they did not have sexual intercourse. After going to sleep, S/COPELAND was awoken by FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, knocking on the door of his bedroom. S/COPELAND said he could not remember what time it was but knew the sun was up. S/COPELAND stated FCC PARKER asked if the person in his bed was V/[redacted], which S/COPELAND replied it was V[redacted]. S/COPELAND explained FCC PARKER told him to get to work and asked if he had a ride, which S/COPELAND stated he told FCC PARKER one of his roommates could give him a ride to work. S/COPELAND admitted though he did not go to work due to "one of his roommates" not coming home. S/COPELAND further explained, him being UA was a big misunderstanding because he had the weekend off and he did not realize if you are marked UA for one day, you are marked UA for the days you remain away from work.

8. S/COPELAND stated he was marked UA Thursday, 29JUN25 until Sunday, 01MAY25 when base security located him within his barracks room. When asked his whereabouts for Friday and Saturday, S/COPELAND responded, he stayed in the barracks both days but would move from lounge to lounge. S/COPELAND stated he mostly hung out in the 5th floor lounge and Ms. Mary (NFI) could vouch for his whereabouts during the time frame.

9. RA asked S/COPELAND about the morning of 29JUN25 and what had transpired after FCC PARKER left the room. S/COPELAND recalled him and V[redacted] woke up and cleaned the kitchen and V/[redacted] left in an Uber, later clarified to be a Z-Trip.

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10. RA asked S/COPELAND if he would sign a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellphone, S/COPELAND agreed to signing a PASS and provided his passcode, [redacted] PII [redacted]. Prior to signing the PASS, S/COPELAND requested to call his mother, and would not sign the PASS; Enclosure (C) pertains. PA asked S/COPELAND if he would be fine with answering further questions and call his mother later, S/COPELAND agreed.

11. RA had previously informed S/COPELAND NCIS was conducting a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) in his barracks room and the common area and began to ask questions about S/COPELAND's barracks room and his electronics. S/COPELAND stated he had an iPhone15 in his room and a PlayStation 5 in the common room.

12. RA inquired about V/[redacted]'s electronics to include her iPhone. S/COPELAND stated the only electronic V/[redacted] had with her was her iPhone15. S/COPELAND confirmed the Apple iWatch was also his, which was located in his barracks room.

13. RA asked S/COPELAND if the statement he gave was true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, which S/COPELAND stated this statement was the correct statement. RA then confronted S/COPELAND on the discretions between his previous statement, given on 01JUN25 and the statement he gave during this interview.

14. RA asked S/COPELAND about him and V/[redacted] being naked on the floor by the couch, S/COPELAND denied being on the floor naked with V/[redacted]. S/COPELAND stated he and V/[redacted] fell asleep in his bed, clothed.

15. RA asked S/COPELAND about him changing his story about dropping V/[redacted] off at her barracks, to V/[redacted] leaving on her own after cleaning, to which S/COPELAND stated he did not remember saying he had previously dropped V/[redacted] off at her barracks. RA asked S/COPELAND about how he knew V/[redacted] was taking a Z-Trip from his barracks versus walking from his barracks, and S/COPELAND stated he just assumed V/[redacted] had taken a Z-Trip back to her barracks.

16. RA inquired about S/COPELAND telling FCC PARKER he would wait for his roommate to get home to take S/COPELAND to work. RA asked about S/COPELAND's roommate's work schedule and why he would tell FCC PARKER the roommate would take him to work knowing his roommate does not get home until approximately 1600-1700. S/COPELAND stated he would not ask anyone else to take him to work. S/COPELAND stated he did not know when his roommate would be home due to a squadron's working hours being different from the ships work schedule.

17. PA conducted another PASS for a backpack, barracks room, and

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

electronics, S/COPELAND signed the PASS; Enclosure (D) pertains.

18. Shortly after singing the PASS, RA, PA, and S/COPELAND left NCIS and travelled to S/COPELAND's barracks room to execute the PASS in his presence.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25
(B) MILITARY RIGHTS/03JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION UNSIGNED/03JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION SIGNED/03MAY25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF 18 USC 2703(D) COURT ORDER TO AT&T

1. On 04JUN25, LCDR Paul S. LAPLANTE, USN, Military Judge, signed a Court Order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2703(d) to AT&T for telephone number [redacted PII]4307 for telephone records pertaining to CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95). Additionally, on 04JUN25, NCIS requested AT&T records pertaining to S/COPELAND under exigent circumstances.

2. On 04JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) served the Court Order to AT&T and received AT&T exigent reference number 4346012; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. On 04JUN25, AT&T provided the AT&T records pertaining to telephone number ([redacted PII]4307. A review of the AT&T subscriber information revealed the account belongs to S/COPELAND with an address of 300 A Avenue, Apt 1605, Fort Gregg Adams, VA 23801. The email provided is jermiahcopeland7@gmail.com. The account is currently active, and the service start date was listed as 23OCT23.

4. AT&T provided timing advances with device location, historical location information, mobility with cell location and wireline information. A review of the mobility records revealed S/COPELAND contacted CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, DDG 95, on 01JUN25 a total of five (5) times between 1902 EST and 1904 EST hours. No other telephone calls between S/COPELAND and V/[redacted V/A.R.] were noted.

5. A copy of the results were placed on a CD-R and appended as Enclosure (B).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) SIGNED 18 USC 2703(D) COURT ORDER TO AT&T/04JUN25
(B) RESULTS OF 18 USC 2703(D) COURT ORDER TO AT&T/04JUN25

REPORTED BY: TIFFANY L MARTINEZ, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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SUMMARY

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, Supervisory Digital Forensic Examiner (SDFE) John DAVISON, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic examination based on a verbal request on 04Jun25, and a written request dated 17Jun25, from Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, NCISRA Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of the following device based on the request:

    a. iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

2. The case agent request specified the analysis of the following specific activity
    a. Conduct a digital forensic examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

3. The examination of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND disclosed the artifacts:
    a. Communications from a phone number and social media accounts identified as belonging V/[redacted]
    b. Geolocation data from 28May25 to 02Jun25, to include location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    c. Route traveled on 02Jun25, by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    e. Screenshots of marked location from 02Jun25, near location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    d. Three large thumbnails of images of S/COPELAND with a black luggage
    d. Text messages and phone calls from 28May25 to 03Jun25.
    e. Timeline analysis for 29May25
    f. Voicemails and audio recordings
    g. Google searches conducted by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND
    h. Contact information
    i. User Account information

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SEARCH AUTHORIZATION

1. On 04Jun25, Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) executed by S/COPELAND, dated 04Jun25.

Click for a copy of the PASS.

1. Between 05Jun25 and 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

1. Between 10Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 10Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

EVIDENCE

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 for examination from SA Caroline ROBINSON, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

2. DFE BUSH copied the GrayKey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to a Seagate hard drive with serial number Z9A4RSFN. On 12Jun25, DFE BUSH enter the hard drive into evidence under NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO K8J9D Item 8JY7H to the Temporary Evidence Locker, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

FORENSIC ACQUISITION AND VERIFICATION

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained a full file system extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Graykey Extraction Tool OS version 1.26.3.31482045, App Bundle: 6.3.1.31921520. SA ROBINSON provided DFE BUSH the Personal Identification Number (PIN) 980377 to access the device. The device was isolated from network connectivity via airplane mode and could not be write-protected due to established forensic processes. The digital forensic extraction was verified through established forensic processes.

WORKING COPY

1. On 05Jun25, SDFE DAVISON obtained a working copy of the Graykey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND from DFE BUSH for examination.

EXAMINATION DETAILS

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of an iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using Magnet Axiom Version 9.2.1.44383, Magnet Axiom Version 9.4.1.45125, Cellebrite Inseyets Physical Analyzer version 10.5.0.1027, and ILEAPP version 2.2.0. The Apple ID associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max listed as "jermiahcopeland7@gmail.com" and the Directory Services Identifier (DSID) listed as 17163425203. A DSID is a unique numerical value associated with an Apple ID account to ensure each account has a unique number in case a user changes an email address associated with an Apple account. The phone number associated with device is PII -4307 and the device phone name is listed as "Jermiah's iPhone." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot from the device information displayed in Axiom and took a screenshot of the Graykey Extraction report.

SUMMARY

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, Supervisory Digital Forensic Examiner (SDFE) John DAVISON, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic examination based on a verbal request on 04Jun25, and a written request dated 17Jun25, from Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, NCISRA Norfolk, VA. SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of the following device based on the request:

    a. iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

2. The case agent request specified the analysis of the following specific activity
    a. Conduct a digital forensic examination of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND

3. The examination of iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND disclosed the artifacts:
    a. Communications from a phone number and social media accounts identified as belonging V/[redacted]
    b. Geolocation data from 28May25 to 02Jun25, to include location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    c. Route traveled on 02Jun25, by the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    e. Screenshots of marked location from 02Jun25, near location where the remains of V/[redacted] were recovered.
    d. Three large thumbnails of images of S/COPELAND with a black luggage
    d. Text messages and phone calls from 28May25 to 03Jun25.
    e. Timeline analysis for 29May25
    f. Voicemails and audio recordings
    g. Google searches conducted by the user of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND
    h. Contact information
    i. User Account information

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SEARCH AUTHORIZATION

1. On 04Jun25, Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) Samuel BUSH, NCIS Digital Forensics Norfolk, VA, conducted a digital forensic acquisition of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) executed by S/COPELAND, dated 04Jun25.

Click for a copy of the PASS.

1. Between 05Jun25 and 09Jun25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 05Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

1. Between 10Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of a seized iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 pursuant to a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure (CASS) executed by Capt Matthew SCHLARMAN, NAS Norfolk, VA, dated 10Jun25.

Click for a copy of the CASS.

EVIDENCE

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND maintained on NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO 13Y9L Item XUQP3 for examination from SA Caroline ROBINSON, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

2. DFE BUSH copied the GrayKey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND to a Seagate hard drive with serial number Z9A4RSFN. On 12Jun25, DFE BUSH enter the hard drive into evidence under NCIS evidence custody log number NFFO K8J9D Item 8JY7H to the Temporary Evidence Locker, NCISRA Norfolk, VA.

FORENSIC ACQUISITION AND VERIFICATION

1. On 04Jun25, DFE BUSH obtained a full file system extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using the Graykey Extraction Tool OS version 1.26.3.31482045, App Bundle: 6.3.1.31921520. SA ROBINSON provided DFE BUSH the Personal Identification Number (PIN) 980377 to access the device. The device was isolated from network connectivity via airplane mode and could not be write-protected due to established forensic processes. The digital forensic extraction was verified through established forensic processes.

WORKING COPY

1. On 05Jun25, SDFE DAVISON obtained a working copy of the Graykey extraction of the iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND from DFE BUSH for examination.

EXAMINATION DETAILS

1. Between 05Jun25 and 08Aug25, SDFE DAVISON conducted a digital forensic examination of an iPhone 15 Pro Max belonging to S/COPELAND using Magnet Axiom Version 9.2.1.44383, Magnet Axiom Version 9.4.1.45125, Cellebrite Inseyets Physical Analyzer version 10.5.0.1027, and ILEAPP version 2.2.0. The Apple ID associated with the iPhone 15 Pro Max listed as [redacted]@gmail.com" and the Directory Services Identifier (DSID) listed as 17163425203. A DSID is a unique numerical value associated with an Apple ID account to ensure each account has a unique number in case a user changes an email address associated with an Apple account. The phone number associated with device is [redacted] PII -4307 and the device phone name is listed as "Jermiah's iPhone." SDFE DAVISON took the following screenshot from the device information displayed in Axiom and took a screenshot of the Graykey Extraction report.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/ PII

RESULTS OF LICENSE PLATE READER NETWORK QUERIES

1. On 04Jun25, Investigative Analyst (IA) Mary OAKLEY coordinated with Newport News Police Department Criminal Intelligence Unit to conduct License Plate Reader (LPR) queries pertaining to the following vehicles of interest:

- Black 2015 Dodge Challenger 2 door- VA tags PII
- White 2014 Jeep 4 door- VA TEMP tags PII

Senior Law Enforcement Intelligence Analyst, Kristin MCMANUS, CIV, Newport News PD Intelligent Unit, produced LPR hit results on Wednesday, 28May25 between 0624-0758 HRS and Sunday, 01Jun25 between 1813-2121 HRS in the Norfolk and Suffolk areas only on VA tags PII. In relation to VA TEMP tags PII, hit results were 1937HRS on 27May25 at SB Granby Street and E Taussig Blvd, 1444 HRS on 01Jun25 at EB Admiral Taussig Blvd and Maryland Ave, and 0440 HRS on 02Jun25 at Hampton Blvd/W 25th Street.

2. On 07Jun25, additional queries were conducted in relation to a Blue 2004 Ford 2 door coupe with VA tags PII. Multiple hit results returned between Wednesday, 28May25 0613HRS and 05Jun25 2129 HRS. All hits were in the Norfolk and Portsmouth areas. At the request of Special Agent (SA) Jessica GOKEY, individual maps were created for each day by IA OAKLEY documenting the LPR hits to display time and direction of travel; Enclosure (A) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) VA PII MOVEMENT MAPS/VARIOUS DATES

REPORTED BY: MARY E OAKLEY, Representative
OFFICE: NORFOLK FIELD OFFICE

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 04JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF FLOCK CAMERA QUERIES FROM THE NORFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT REAL TIME CRIME CENTER

1. On 04JUN25, Participating Investigator (PI) contacted the Norfolk Police Department Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) and spoke with Ray SMITH, CIV, Civilian Investigator, RTCC.

2. As background, investigative efforts yielded CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), was driving the Dodge Challenger of CSSA Deontae WILLIAMS, USN, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) while he was deployed. CSSA WILLIAMS and S/COPELAND were stationed together on CVN 75 prior to his transfer to DDG 95.

3. PI was assisted by SMITH who was able to provide FLOCK camera images of Virginia License Plate [redacted PII]), which was displayed on a 2 (two) door, Black in color Dodge Challenger. The 5 images of the FLOCK camera queries occurred on 01JUN25 beginning at 1813hrs, located at Towne Pt Rd and Twin Pines Rd in the City of Portsmouth, Virginia. The second and third camera query of ([redacted PII]) occurred on 1823:37hrs and 1823:39hrs, at the intersection of Hampton Blvd and Redgate Ave, in the City of Norfolk, Virginia. The fourth camera query of [redacted PII] occurred at 2116hrs located at the intersection of East Little Creek Road and Interstate 64, in the City of Norfolk, Virginia. In the fourth image, the above-mentioned vehicle appears to be under tow, by an unidentified tow company (NFI). The fifth and final query occurs at 2121hrs, located at the intersection of East Little Creek Rd, and Chesapeake Blvd, located in the City of Norfolk, Virginia. There were no further images captured of [redacted PII]) after the final captured image at 2121hrs. The above-mentioned images captured by Smith from the "FLOCK" camera system were sent on 04JUN25; Enclosure (A) pertains.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) FLOCK CAMERA IMAGES DATED 6/1/25

REPORTED BY: MICHAEL S MORLANG, Investigator
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 1 LAST DO V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN

1. On 03Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) John KOWALSKI conducted an interview of AR John CALISSE, USN, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124 regarding his knowledge related to the whereabouts of CSSN [redacted V/A.R.] (V/[redacted V/A.R.] USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of AR CALISSE was recorded using an audio/visual recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. AR CALISSE reported on 29May25, while at his barracks Willis Manor, Building X-2, Room 335, on Naval Station Norfolk, at approximately 0200, he heard his suitemate CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, and an unknown female singing karaoke in S/COPELAND's room. AR CALISSE stated he always heard loud music coming from S/COPELAND's room at all times of the night. AR CALISSE did not recall seeing any signs that S/COPELAND was consuming alcohol in the common area. AR CALISSE stated at approximately 1900 on 28May25, S/COPELAND requested to use his white 2014 Jeep Compass to which he obliged. AR CALISSE reported S/COPELAND returned at approximately 2000, knocked on his barracks door, and when he opened the door to obtain the keys, he observed a female in the kitchen area cooking, who he later identified as V/[redacted V/A.R.]

4. AR CALISSE recalled waking up the morning of 29May25, at approximately 0500, to report to work on time. At approximately 0530, AR CALISSE stated he exited his room and upon walking into the common area observed S/COPELAND and an unknown female laying naked in the middle of the common room floor. AR CALISSE stated he observed them on their backs, face up, with their eyes closed. AR CALISSE stated he observed S/COPELAND laying on the thigh of the unknown female. AR CALISSE stated he did not see any clothing belonging to S/COPELAND. AR CALISSE stated he observed the female wearing red pajama pants with flowers, with one pant leg slightly on at the ankle, and her bra pulled down exposing her breast. AR CALISSE reported walking past them in order to leave the room and believed both S/COPELAND and the female to be breathing. AR CALISSE stated when he returned from work at approximately 1700, S/COPELAND and the female were not in the barracks room.

5. AR CALISSE described the female as brown skinned, long brown hair, and

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA 03JUN25

with what he believed to be a possible nose piercing. AR CALISSE stated this was his first time seeing the female; however, confirmed it was V/ V/A.R. when showed a photograph.

6. AR CALISSE stated he did not see S/COPELAND again until Sunday 01Jun25, at approximately 1400, when he asked him for a ride to report to DDG 95. AR CALISSE agreed to provide transportation to S/COPELAND after returning from Walmart. AR CALISSE stated he transported S/COPELAND along with ISSA Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, VAW 124, at approximately 1700. AR CALISSE stated S/COPELAND was on DDG 95 for approximately one hour while ISSA GORDILLACRUZ and AR CALISSE waited in the parking lot for him to return. AR CALISSE stated when S/COPELAND returned to the vehicle he informed him he was required to do a urinalysis for not reporting to work on 30May25. AR CALISSE stated while driving from DDG 95 back to the barracks they stopped at Chipotle located at 4712 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23508, at approximately 1900.

7. AR CALISSE stated when they returned to the barracks, S/COPELAND asked if he could use his car to get something to eat. AR CALISSE allowed S/COPELAND to use his vehicle giving him the key at approximately 2000. AR CALISSE stated when he woke up the next morning and proceeded to go to work, he noticed his car key was not on the kitchen counter where S/COPELAND normally leaves it after borrowing his car. AR CALISSE stated he called S/COPELAND to find out his location and was angry because he caused him to be late for work. AR CALISSE reported meeting S/COPELAND in the X-2 parking lot at approximately 0630 and watched him drive the vehicle into the parking lot. AR CALISSE stated he was unaware of the locations S/COPELAND traveled to while he had his vehicle.

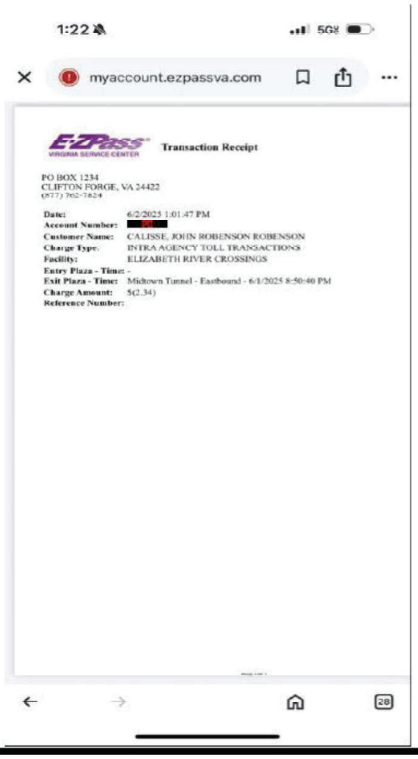
8. During his interview, AR CALISSE signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his Jeep Compass which will be documented under separate cover.

9. At the conclusion of the interview, while returning AR CALISSE to VAW-124, he located EZ Pass transactions and provided screenshots of the charges from 27May25 to 02Jun25 without being requested; Enclosure (B) pertains. AR CALISSE stated the charge on 01Jun25 was his return from the ship; however, all other charges were believed to be accrued by S/COPELAND.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: INTERVIEW OF AR JOHN CALISSE, USN/03JUN25
(B) PHOTO TEMPLATE: SCREENSHOTS OF EZPASS LOCATIONS/03JUN25

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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



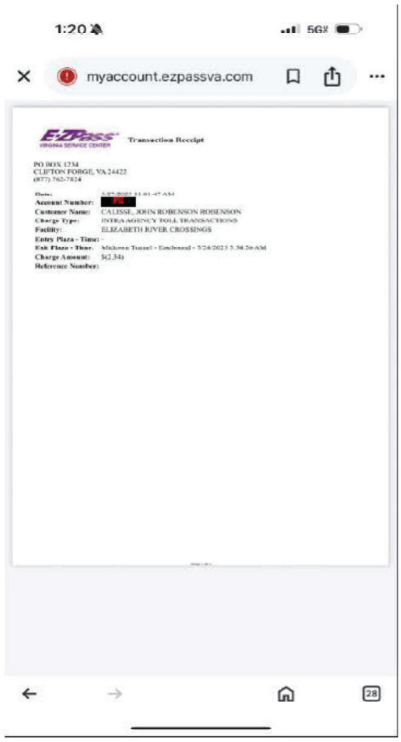
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2. TITLE: S/COPELAND JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. DATE TAKEN: 03JUN25
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Description: Screenshot of EZ Pass transaction of travel locations from 27May25 to 02Jun25		6. PHOTOGRAPHER: SA ANTHONY JONES

NCIS 5580/91 (Rev 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (1) OF (3) **ENCLOSURE (B)**

000217_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



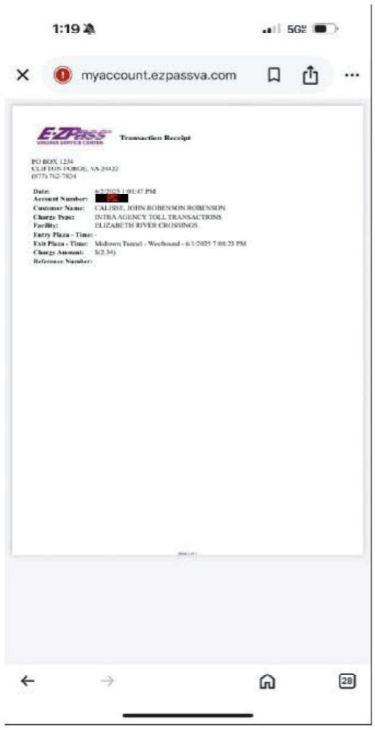
1. OFFICE CODE: Naval Criminal Investigative Service Resident Agency Norfolk, VA		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. DATE TAKEN: 03JUN25
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Description: Screenshot of EZ Pass transaction of travel locations from 27May25 to 02Jun25		6. PHOTOGRAPHER: SA ANTHONY JONES

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PHOTOGRAPH (2) OF (3) **ENCLOSURE (B)**

000218_COPELAND

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: Naval Criminal Investigative Service Resident Agency Norfolk, VA		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	4. DATE TAKEN: 03JUN25
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: Description: Screenshot of EZ Pass transaction of travel locations from 27May25 to 02Jun25		6. PHOTOGRAPHER: SA ANTHONY JONES

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PHOTOGRAPH (3) OF (3) **ENCLOSURE (B)**

000219_COPELAND

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Investigator (RI) and Participating Agent (PA) Caroline ROBINSON interviewed FCC Brad PARKER (FCC PARKER), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), regarding his knowledge of the disappearance of CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/R[redacted]), USN, DDG 95.

2. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio/visual recording system and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio recorder and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. On 03JUN25, FCC PARKER signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to allow NCIS to obtain screenshots of messages pertaining to the disappearance of V/R[redacted]. Results of PASS will be documented in a separate investigative action.

5. FCC PARKER described the incident as it was reported to him. FCC PARKER stated on 29MAY25 at 0700, he was advised V/R[redacted] was not doing well and began calling friends on the ship. FCC PARKER identified the friends as co-worker, CSSN COPELAND, later identified as CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, ET3 RICH, later identified as ET3 Daniel RICH (ET3 RICH), USN, DDG 95, and "Gillespie", later identified as HT3 Michael GILLESPIE (HT3 GILLESPIE), USN, DDG 95. FCC PARKER clarified S/COPELAND, ET3 RICH, and HT3 GILLESPIE all stated she was seeking help that evening. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND relayed ET3 RICH went to her barracks room, Miller Hall BLDG U-16, she was not there and did not answer her cell phone. FCC PARKER stated he learned S/COPELAND did not show up for the "breakfast shift" at his schedule time (NFI).

6. FCC PARKER stated on the morning of 29MAY25, he went to locate S/COPELAND at his barracks room, Willis Manor, X-2, RM 335B, Bed A, on board Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, VA. According to FCC PARKER, S/COPELAND answered the door with groggy eyes, a pair of basketball shorts and the lights in his room were off as if he just woken up. FCC PARKER stated he did not notice

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

any indications of alcohol use. FCC PARKER indicated he told S/COPELAND they needed to go to work, to which S/COPELAND stated he was not alone. FCC PARKER stated he asked S/COPELAND if it was V/R[redacted] and S/COPELAND confirmed. FCC PARKER stated he recognized V/R[redacted] in S/COPELAND's bed. FCC PARKER clarified V/R[redacted] looked up, dismissively waved, rolled over and went back to sleep. FCC PARKER relayed V/R[redacted] was wrapped in a blanket with only her feet being exposed. FCC PARKER relayed at 0854, he texted LSC Rob JANSON (LSC JANSON), USN, DDG 95, confirming S/COPELAND and V/R[redacted] were in S/COPELAND's room.

7. FCC PARKER stated he told S/COPELAND to step out of the room and into the common area. FCC PARKER relayed he asked if they were ok and if V/R[redacted] was in any imminent danger to which S/COPELAND replied "I do not think so." FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND relayed he went to pick V/R[redacted] up, who was having problems with her boyfriend (NFI) in Texas, and they watched movies. FCC PARKER said he asked S/COPELAND if he had a ride to work, to which S/COPELAND said he did. FCC PARKER stated he departed after he advised S/COPELAND to ensure V/R[redacted] was returned to her room and to get to work. FCC PARKER drew a sketch depicting the layout of S/COPELAND's room; Enclosure (C) pertains.

8. FCC PARKER relayed he was there for approximately five (5) to ten (10) minutes. Additionally, FCC PARKER indicated there was a logbook in the lobby where he signed in and out from. FCC PARKER stated at 1241, S/COPELAND called him stating he dropped off V/R[redacted] at her barracks room and was waiting for his ride. FCC PARKER stated at 1523, he texted S/COPELAND asking why he was still not at work. FCC PARKER relayed at 1636, S/COPELAND texted him saying he was still waiting on a ride to work. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND never showed up at work and he did not hear from him until 01JUN25.

9. FCC PARKER stated on the morning of 30MAY25, V/R[redacted] and S/COPELAND did not show up to work. FCC PARKER conveyed he attempted to locate both of them in their respective rooms but was unsuccessful. FCC PARKER relayed he attempted to call and text V/R[redacted] and S/COPELAND but they did not answer. FCC PARKER stated he spoke with V/R[redacted]'s roommate (NFI) who stated she had not seen V/R[redacted] since the night of 28MAY25. FCC PARKER relayed at 0950, he called LSC JANSON advising V/R[redacted] was not in her room. FCC PARKER advised at 1017, he called and texted S/COPELAND from his barracks room, but he did not answer. FCC PARKER stated he spoke with S/COPELAND's roommate (NFI) who related he was in the room earlier that morning but did not know when S/COPELAND left.

10. FCC PARKER stated on 31MAY25, ET3 RICH filed a missing person report for V/R[redacted]. FCC PARKER did not identify the filing agency. FCC PARKER advised S/COPELAND called him on the afternoon of 01JUN25 about his unauthorized absence (UA) status. FCC PARKER relayed the command called and

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

texted him, to which S/COPELAND stated he does not normally answer his phone when he is not on duty. FCC PARKER relayed he asked S/COPELAND if he had heard from V/R[redacted]. According to FCC PARKER, S/COPELAND stated he had not seen her since he dropped her off the afternoon of 29MAY25.

11. FCC PARKER conveyed on the morning of 29MAY25, V/R[redacted]'s LPO, CS1 HOWELLEL, later identified as CS1 Daryl HOWELLEL, USN, DDG 95, began sending daily texts to her. FCC PARKER stated on 01JUN25, the Commanding Officer, later identified to be CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN, DDG 95, mandated daily checks on V/R[redacted]'s room until she was found. FCC PARKER relayed on the same day, CS2 BRYANT, later identified as CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG 95, went to her barracks room and she was not there.

12. FCC PARKER advised on 02JUN25, he went to V/R[redacted]'s barracks room because he was advised she left her phone in her room but was unable to locate it. FCC PARKER relayed the building manager (NFI) let him into the room and he "visually" looked for the her phone. FCC PARKER clarified he did not touch anything in the room. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND did not have a driver's license and is pending reckless driving charges with Virginia Beach Police Department.

13. No further information was obtained.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE RECORDED INTERVIEW OF FCC PARKER/03JUN25
(B) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF FCC PARKER/03JUN25
(C) SKETCH BY FCC PARKER/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: JESSE A CLAAR, Investigator
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE REGARDING HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE'S IPHONE

1. On 03JUN25, HT3 Micheal GILLESPIE, USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) authorized the search of his personally owned Apple iPhone XR, Serial Number # DX3FJFRQKXKN, by signing a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS); Enclosure (A) pertains. Subsequently, on 03JUN25, HT3 GILLISPIE's cellular device was manually reviewed and revealed the following pertinent information:

2. Text Messages:
-Numerous text messages between HT3 GILLESPIE and contact "R[redacted]" with telephone number [redacted PII]0672. The messages beginning on 27MAY25 appear to show plans of HT3 GILLESPIE responding to the residence of "R[redacted]" and retrieving clothing and a helmet. The last message sent from "R[redacted]" is on "Wednesday" at 23:22 hours. HT3 GILLESPIE continues to send numerous texts but receives no response.

3. Phone Calls:
-HT3 GILLESPIE appears to miss a Facetime Audio call from "R[redacted]" on "Wednesday". HT3 GILLESPIE makes numerous calls to "R[redacted]" following the missed call.

4. Video Recorded Interaction
-HT3 GILLESPIE sent a video recorded interaction between him and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95. HT3 GILLESPIE reported this interaction was recorded without S/COPELAND's knowledge. The video's metadata indicates it was created on 01JUL25 at approximately 2004 hours. In the video, you can see S/COPELAND's nametag. S/COPELAND indicates CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/R[redacted]), USN, DDG 95 stayed overnight in his room and left the following morning. S/COPELAND stated "chief" walked in his room and instructed S/COPELAND to drop V/R[redacted] off at her room. S/COPELAND advised he dropped her off at her building at approximately 1300 hours, however, she walked towards the front or side of the building. S/COPELAND advised while V/R[redacted] was in his room the night prior, she was "tripping" and described a moment wherein V/R[redacted] called someone she used to talk to in Texas and indicated he did "things" to her and questioned why he did those "things". S/COPELAND stated his roommates were also home in their rooms at the time and he and V/R[redacted] were in the living room. S/COPELAND stated V/R[redacted] consumed alcohol prior to them meeting and he only consumed approximately two (2) cups of "Buzzball". S/COPELAND stated when V/R[redacted] was crying, one of the aforenoted roommates came in and asked if everything was ok.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

S/COPELAND advised he didn't answer his phone because it was set to "Do Not Disturb".

5. Internet Searches
-RA reviewed the search history of HT3 GILLESPIE. RA observed the "Private Tab" of the Safari Application. There was no observable search history.

6. A total of 25 digital photograph screenshots and one (1) video depicting an interaction between HT3 GILLESPIE and S/COPELAND was captured via Airdrop. All photographs and videos were placed on a DVD-R; Enclosure (B) pertains. Five (5) photographs were appended to a NCIS Photo Template; Enclosure (C) pertains.

7. Nothing further to report.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE REGARDING HT3 GILLESPIE'S PHONE/03JUN25
(B) DVD-R CONTAINING 25 PHOTOGRAPHS AND ONE VIDEO FROM HT3 GILLESPIE'S CELLULAR DEVICE/03JUN25
(C) NCIS PHOTO TEMPLATE CONTAINING FIVE (5) PHOTOGRPAHS/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: NIGAL M TUFT-WILLIAMS, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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000244_COPELAND

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS FOR UNREASONABLE MULTIPLICATION OF CHARGES** **24 FEB 26**

MOTION

1. Pursuant to Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(b)(12), the Government respectfully requests that this Court grant in part the Defense motion to dismiss. Specifically, the Government does not object to merger for sentencing of Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V.

FACTS

2. CSSN Copeland is charged with domestic violence against CSSN S.R. on 11 April 2025 through both strangulation and violent assault by unlawfully pushing CSSN S.R. with his hands.

3. The Government adopts and incorporates by reference the Government's statement of facts in its Response to Defense's Motion to Exclude Evidence Pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b), paragraph 7.

BURDEN

4. The moving party bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence under R.C.M. 905(c)(1) and the burden of persuasion under R.C.M. 905(c)(2).

LAW

5. The Government adopts the Defense's law on this point and supplements with the following.

6. Both Article 128b (Strangulation) and Article 128b (Violent Offense) are different forms of a violation of Article 128b.[1]

7. The allegation of Article 128b (Strangulation) in this case carries a maximum punishment of 8 years confinement, a dishonorable discharge, and total forfeitures.

8. The allegation of Article 128b (Violent Offense) in this case carries a maximum punishment of a dishonorable discharge, total forfeitures, and 3.5 years confinement.

1. *See* 10 U.S.C. § 928b.

ARGUMENT

9. Charge V, Specification 1 and Charge V, Specification 2 are aimed at distinct criminal actions and carry different punitive exposure. In this case, they are part of the same course of conduct but highlight two distinct criminal actions. The Accused pushed CSSN S.R. onto a couch and then proceeded to strangle her. The criminality of the Accused's offenses is not exaggerated and these Specifications do not evidence prosecutorial overreach. It is not unreasonable to believe that the members may find guilt on one offense and not the other. As such, application of the factors under *United States v. Quiroz*[2] should not require merger for findings. However, merger for sentencing is appropriate in this case.

EVIDENCE AND ENCLOSURES

10. The Government offers no evidence or enclosures.

ORAL ARGUMENT

11. The Government requests oral argument on this matter.

RELIEF REQUESTED

12. The Government respectfully requests that this Court grant the Defense motion in part by merging Charge V, Specifications 1 and 2 for sentencing.

[redacted]

C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

2. *United States v. Quiroz,* 55 M.J. 334, 336-39 (C.A.A.F. 2001).

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 March 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 5 March 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) LXXIII, LXXIX, LXXX and LXXXVI, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 5 March 2026, and AEs LXXIII, LXXIX, LXXX and LXXXVI.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelopes containing these items shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the items in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of March 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 March 26**

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So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of March 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO SUPPRESS** **26 February 2026**

MOTION

The Government respectfully requests this Court deny the Defense Motion to Suppress the evidence obtained from the search of the Accused's iPhone 15. Defense's Motion is without good cause.

FACTS

1. On or about 8 October 2025 this Court issued a Trial Management Order scheduling four Article 39(a), UCMJ, sessions to litigate pretrial motions.

2. On 21 November 2026, the Defense was provided a copy of the command authorization for search and seizure dated 5 June 2025 for the accused's iPhone 15 as it was appended to a pre-publication digital forensic examiners report.[1]

3. On 26 November 2026, the Defense made a strategic decision and filed eighteen pretrial motions.[2]

4. Of those eighteen motions, three were motions to suppress:

   a. evidence obtained from the accused's barrack's room[3]

   b. statements made by the accused to NCIS[4] and

   c. evidence obtained from the accused's iPhone 15[5].

5. In its motion to suppress evidence obtained from the iPhone 15, the Defense expressly acknowledged the existence of a Command Authorization for Search and Seizure dated 5 June 2025 for CSSN Copeland's iPhone 15.[6]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) LXXVI at 3
[2] AEs XXVII, XXXII, XL
[3] AE XL
[4] AE XXXII
[5] AE XXVIII
[6] AE XXVIII at 3-4.

6. The Government filed written responses to each of the Defense's motions approximately ten calendar days after the motions were filed.[7]

7. Fifteen days after the Defense filed its motions, and approximately twenty days after the Defense received the search authorization, the Court convened an Article 39(a) session to litigate the Defense's motions.

8. At no time prior to the Article 39(a) session or after did the Defense request to delay litigation of the motion to suppress evidence derived from the accused's iPhone 15 or supplement prior the military judge's ruling. Defense did, however, supplement matters related to other motions after the 39(a) hearing.

9. On 27 January 2026, the military judge issued a written ruling denying all three motions to suppress.[8]

10. In that written ruling, the military judge concluded, as a matter of law, that the command authorization for search and seizure (CASS) for the accused's cellular phone was valid.

> "Because the full file system digital extraction was not a search of the contents of the digital media but was merely a step necessary to seize the digital media, and *a valid CASS was executed* prior to the search, the search was not unlawful."[9]

11. The military judge further concluded that the search of the cellular phone was valid pursuant to a lawful permissive authorization for search and seize (PASS).[10]

12. The military judge additionally concluded that, regardless of the PASS and CASS, the contents of the cellular phone would have been inevitably discovered.[11]

13. Approximately twenty-two days after the military judge issued his written ruling, the Defense filed another motion to suppress seeking to relitigate the suppression of evidence obtained from the accused's iPhone 15, which had previously been litigated and denied by this Court.

14. It its motion, Defense lists several facts that directly contradict the Court's ruling. Facts irrelevant to the specific issue regarding the propriety of the 5 June 2025 CASS for the accused's iPhone 15.[12]

15. To the extent this Court entertains Defense's motion, the Government incorporates by reference the Statement of Facts set forth in the Government's Response to Defense's Motion to Suppress.[13]

[7] AE LVIII
[8] AE LXIX
[9] AE LXIX at 19 (emphasis added)
[10] *Id*. at 18
[11] *Id*. at 20
[12] Numerous examples exist throughout AE LXXVI. For example, Defense lists under" Facts": " Later in the interrogation, CSSN Copeland revoked his consent to search his cellphone." The Court found the opposite in AE LXIX. Moreover, the inclusion of this fact also has no bearing on the determination of the validity of the 5 June 25 CASS.
[13] AE LVIII, 1-17

BURDEN OF PROOF

Defense as the moving party bears the burden to establish good cause to file an out of time motion to reconsider.

If this motion is entertained by the Court, the Government bears the burden of proof and persuasion by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c)

Pursuant to M.R.E. 311(d)(5), the Government bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that either (A) the evidence was not obtained as the result of an unlawful search or (B) the evidence obtained from an unlawful search fits into any one of a number of exceptions to the exclusionary rule.

LAW

I. GOOD CAUSE

"Parties seeking reconsideration of a military judge's written ruling or order must file a motion within fourteen (14) days after the ruling or order is filed, unless the court extends the time for good cause shown. A motion to reconsider must be based on:

(a) An intervening change in the controlling law;
(b) The availability of new evidence; or
(c) The need to correct clear error or prevent manifest injustice."[14]

"[It] is not good cause when the defense knew or could have known about the evidence in question prior to the relevant deadline."[15]

II. COMMAND AUTHORIZED SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Evidence obtained from reasonable searches conducted pursuant to a . . . search authorization . . . is admissible at trial when relevant and not otherwise inadmissible[.]"[16] A "search authorization . . . is valid only if issued by an impartial individual" meeting certain qualifications, such as being a "commander . . . who has control over the place where the property or person to be searched is situated or found."[17]

Evidence may be "seized based on a reasonable belief that the property or evidence . . . [contains] evidence of crime[.]"[18] Property may also be temporarily detained while awaiting a search authorization.[19]

"A search authorization, whether for a physical location or for an electronic device, must adhere to the standards of the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution."[20] "The Fourth

[14] Rule 10.9 of the Uniform Rules of Practice
[15] United States v. McCall, 81 M.J. 625, 628 (N.M.C.C.A. 2021)
[16] Mil. R. Evid. 315(a).
[17] Mil. R. Evid 315(d).
[18] Mil. R. Evid. 316(c)(1).
[19] Mil. R. Evid 316(c)(5)(-6)
[20] *United States v. Richards*, 76 M.J. 365, 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017)

Amendment requires that a search warrant describe the things to be seized with sufficient particularity to prevent a general exploratory rummaging in a person's belongings."[21]

"Despite the importance of preserving this particularity requirement, considerable support can be found in federal law for the notion of achieving a balance by not overly restricting the ability to search electronic devices."[22] "[I]t is folly for a search warrant to attempt to structure the mechanics of the search and a warrant imposing such limits would unduly restrict legitimate search objectives."[23] "[T]he manner in which a warrant is executed is subject to later judicial review as to its reasonableness.' [24] "Instead of attempting to set out bright line rules for limiting searches of electronic devices, the courts have looked to what is reasonable under the circumstances." [25]Searches conducted pursuant to a search authorization are presumptively reasonable.[26]

"Though a temporal limitation is one possible method of tailoring a search authorization, it is by no means a requirement."[27] In *Richards*, the accused's commanding officer was provided an affidavit detailing that the accused was known to have had a sexual relationship with a child since April 2011, with sexual communications beginning one year earlier. *Id*. at 367. The CO signed a CASS authorizing a search for evidence of child sexual abuse communications—without a temporal limitation. *Id*. at 370. The CAAF looked to both the authorization and its accompanying document to determine if the CASS was sufficiently particularized. *Id*. Ultimately, the CAAF held that "the authorization allowed for a search of the unallocated space and through potential communications materials that did not have an immediately clear date associated with them." *Id*. In sum, while the relationship with the child was known to have existed within a certain date range, the CASS was nonetheless reasonably particularized despite not limiting the search to only that date range. *Id*.

ARGUMENT

I. DEFENSE'S MOTION IS WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE

A. THE DEFENSE FAILED TO FOLLOW PROPER PROCEDURES FOR RECONSIDERATION

To the extent the Defense believed new evidence or additional grounds existed following the Court's ruling, the appropriate procedural mechanism was a timely motion for reconsideration. The deadline for such relief was 10 February. That deadline fell approximately eighty-one days

[21] *United States v. Carey*, 172 F.3d 1268, 1272 (10th Cir. 1999).
[22] *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (citing *United States v. Richards*, 659 F.3d 527, 541 (6th Cir. 2011) (allowing search of an entire server known to contain websites harboring child pornography).
[23] *United States v. Shields*, 83 M.J. 226, 231 (C.A.A.F. 2023) (internal quotation redacted).
[24] *Id.* (quoting *Dalia v. United States*, 441 U.S. 238, 258 (1979)).
[25] *Richards*, 76 M.J. at 369.
[26] *United States v. Wicks*, 73 M.J. 93, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2013).
[27] *Richards*, 76 M.J.at 370 (C.A.A.F. 2017)

after the Defense received the search authorization on 21 November—more than sufficient time to investigate, develop, and present any additional arguments or evidence.

Rather than pursue the proper procedural remedy within the required timeframe, the Defense now seeks to relitigate an issue that has already been fully litigated and resolved. This attempt disregards the rules of this Court and attempts to undermine the finality of the Court's prior ruling.

The lawfulness of the evidence obtained from the accused's iPhone 15 was fully litigated during the Article 39(a) session after the Defense had notice of the relevant evidence, an opportunity to be heard, and a full opportunity to present argument. This Court issued a written ruling denying the motions and resolving the validity of the PASS, CASS, and whether the evidence would have been inevitably discovered.

The Defense's present filing does not identify any intervening change in law, newly discovered evidence, or other basis warranting reconsideration. Moreover, the Defense's motion squarely contradicts findings of fact made by this Court in its previous ruling – findings irrelevant to the determination of the validity the 5 June CASS. Defense appears to flatly refuse to accept this Court's ruling. Defense's motion is merely an attempt to counterbalance their dissatisfaction with the outcome of its prior tactical decision. Reconsideration is not intended to provide a second opportunity to litigate issues previously resolved simply because a party is dissatisfied with the result.

B. DEFENSE MADE A TACTICAL DECISION TO FILE EIGHTEEN MOTIONS AND CANNOT NOW CLAIM LACK OF TIME

The Defense's request for reconsideration is the product of its own strategic choices. The Defense elected to file eighteen pretrial motions at the first Article 39(a), session, including three motions to suppress. This was a tactical decision made with full knowledge of the status of discovery. Having chosen to proceed in this manner, the Defense cannot now claim that it lacked adequate time to prepare. Defense received the 5 June CASS for the iPhone 15 approximately five days before its filing deadline and approximately twenty days before the Article 39(a) session. The Defense never sought to defer litigation of that motion to suppress and never asserted that additional time was necessary to prepare. Its present claim of insufficient preparation time arises solely from its own decision to file an extensive number of motions simultaneously. A party may not manufacture time constraints through its own strategic choices and then rely on those self-created circumstances as grounds for relief from an adverse ruling.

C. THIS COURT SHOULD DENY THE DEFENSE'S REQUEST

The Defense made a strategic decision regarding how and when to litigate its suppression motion. Defense had neither the facts, nor the law to succeed regarding a motion to suppress so they employed the only tactical tool left in their arsenal– an attempt to overwhelm the government with an excessive number of pre-trial motions in a short period of time. That tactical decision was unsuccessful. Defense must move on. The interests of judicial efficiency, finality,

and adherence to this Court's rules weigh strongly against permitting re-litigation of matters fully and fairly decided. The Defense has demonstrated no legal or factual basis justifying relief, and its request should therefore be denied.

II. IF THIS COURT DOES ENTERTAIN DEFENSE'S UNTIMELY MOTION - THE COURT MUST AGAIN FIND THAT THE 5 JUNE 2025 COMMAND AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE WAS VALID AND THE EVIDENCE OBTAINED IS ADMISSIBLE

A. THIS COURT HAS ALREADY DETERMINED THAT THE CASS WAS VALID AND THAT THE SEARCH WAS LAWFUL

This Court has already ruled that - among other legal bases- the search of the accused's iPhone 15 was conducted pursuant to a valid CASS. That ruling in its totality resolved the admissibility of the evidence obtained from the accused's iPhone 15. Although the Defense did not, in its initial motion, squarely challenge the CASS on probable cause or particularity grounds, it did move to suppress evidence obtained as a result of the search of the phone. As a result of that filing, the Government bore the burden of establishing that the CASS was lawful. It satisfied that burden. In assessing admissibility in its ruling, the Court necessarily evaluated the validity of the CASS and found the CASS to be an independent basis for admissibility. Indeed, despite the Defense's initial and erroneous argument—that the search of the iPhone 15 was conducted before the CASS was signed—the Court examined the sequence of events, determined that acquisition of the phone's contents constituted a seizure, and found that the ensuing search was conducted pursuant to a valid CASS. The validity of the CASS has been adjudicated and Defense is without legal rule or argument to disturb the Court's prior and final ruling.

B. THE COURT FOUND PROBABLE CAUSE EXISTED TO AUTHORIZE THE SEARCH

Moreover, the arguments advanced by Defense in their untimely motion to suppress have likewise been decided by this Court. By finding the CASS to be valid, the Court necessarily finds that probable cause existed for the issuance of the CASS.

Even if the Court had not already ruled that the CASS was valid, probable cause is clear. First, the accused was the last known person to see the victim alive. He told investigators that he and the victim were merely friends and had not engaged in any sexual activity. That statement was directly contradicted by his roommate, who reported observing the accused and an unidentified female naked on the floor of the accused's barracks room on 29 May 2025. The accused further told investigators that he and his roommate returned the victim to her barracks room at approximately 1000 on 29 May 2025. That account was again disputed by roommates, none of whom corroborated his version of events. After the accused was last seen with the victim, he himself was unaccounted for over the course of several days. During the period in which both the accused and the victim were missing, the victim's cellphone appeared to generate geolocation data placing it in Suffolk, Virginia. When questioned again on 3 June 2025, the accused claimed he never left the barracks. He also contradicted his prior 1 June statement—despite previously

asserting that he personally returned the victim to her barracks room, he later stated that he did not take her back and instead believed she left via a rideshare. These evolving accounts, coupled with contradictory witness statements and objective potential geolocation data placing the victim in an area off base, provided strong evidence that the accused was not being truthful about his whereabouts, his knowledge of the victim's disappearance, and whether he continued to be assisting her in her ongoing unauthorized absence.

C. ATTACHMENT B SATISFIES THE PARTICULARITY REQUIREMENT

Attachment B is narrowly tailored and highly particularized, identifying with specificity the categories of data authorized for seizure, including chats, messages, photographs and geolocation information. The items authorized for seizure were directly tied to the investigative objectives. Specifically, the authorized data would assist investigators in determining the accused's location with respect to his own unauthorized absence and in assessing what investigators reasonably believed to be ongoing deception regarding his knowledge of the victim's whereabouts. Given the accused's shifting and inconsistent accounts of what occurred on the morning the victim disappeared—including conflicting statements about how and when the victim left his room—investigators had ample reason to question his credibility. Moreover, investigators could not discount the possibility that the accused was actively assisting the victim in the commission of her unauthorized absence. Under these circumstances, the seizure of geolocation and related digital data was a targeted effort to resolve specific factual disputes central to the investigation.

Defense cites *United States v. Richards* for the proposition that the particularity requirement prevents general searches.[28] Defense, however, fails to acknowledge that in *Richards*, the CAAF upheld the trial court's decision to admit evidence obtained with a search authorization that did not explicitly provide temporal boundaries. In *Richards*, the government obtained a search authorization to investigate alleged violations of a Florida statute regarding "computer pornography; traveling to meet a minor."[29] The affidavit accompanying the search request described a relationship the accused had with a minor that had been ongoing for about seven months.[30] After the search authorization was granted, various electronic devices belonging to the accused was sent to DCFL. The case background information provided to examiners at DCFL included an allegation of sexual abuse of a child from almost two decades prior to the current allegation.[31] Law enforcement requested that DCFL

> "Search SUBJECT's Cell Phones, laptop computers, digital cameras and memory cards for all videos, images and possible online communication. To include, but not limited to the following: any and all information saved or maintained on SUBJECT's cellular telephones, laptop computers or hard drives; all associated SIM cards, components, peripherals or other data, relating to the matter being investigated."[32]

[28] AE LXXVI at 6
[29] Richards at 367
[30] *Id.*
[31] *Id.*
[32] Id. at 368

During a search of the media found on one of the accused's electronic devices, the examiner found child pornography.

At the trial level, the accused argued that because the search authorization was without a temporal limitation, the search authorization was overbroad. Both the trial court and the CAAF disagreed. CAAF looked at the crime under investigation and found that the authorization and accompanying affidavit provided context and a timeframe for where investigators could search. CAAF found,

> "Here, the authorization and accompanying affidavit did not give authorities carte blanche to search in areas clearly outside the scope of the crime being investigated. They were entitled to search Appellant's electronic media for any communication that related to his possible violation of the Florida statute in his relationship with AP."[33]

Here, despite no temporal limitation, the CASS is highly particularized as to what it authorizes searching. The CASS facially references the affidavit, and therefore the affidavit is an accompanying document and its relative date range is part of the reasonableness analysis in reviewing the CASS and resulting search. The resulting search in this case is more tailored than in *Richards* because searching for a specific pin cite to find the victim's and the accused's location is far more a narrowly tailored search pursuant to the limitations of the CASS than looking through unallocated data.

Even setting *Richards* aside, the Defense's premise fails because the CASS, when read in context, contains a functional temporal limitation. Attachment B authorizes the search of information "which can be used to identify potentially associated persons pertaining to Subject Offense(s)" and repeatedly ties the material sought to "the crime(s) under investigation." The scope of the search is therefore tethered to the specific offenses being investigated. When read together with the affidavit—which defines the investigative timeframe—there is a clear and objective temporal boundary.

While an express temporal limitation is not required as discussed above[34], the Defense further concedes that a timeframe of 29 May through 3 June would have constituted a reasonable temporal limitation in this case.[35] That concession is significant. The most probative evidence—evidence leading to the discovery of the victim's body—was recovered within that very period. Accordingly, even under the Defense's own narrow view of what would have been reasonable, the search at issue falls squarely within a timeframe supported by probable cause. The absence of an explicit date range therefore does not undermine the validity of the CASS or the admissibility of the evidence obtained.

III. THIS COURT ALREADY DETERMINED INEVITABLE DISCOVERY APPLIES

[33] *Id*. at 370
[34] See *Richards* at 370 ("Though a temporal limitation is one possible method of tailoring a search authorization, it is by no means a requirement.")
[35] AE LXXVI at 6

This Court has already concluded that the doctrine of inevitable discovery applies and that the Government met its burden. The Defense again fails to meet the requirements for reconsideration. This Court should adhere to its prior ruling and decline to disturb its well-reasoned decision.

IV. FINALITY AND JUDICIAL ECONOMY REQUIRE DENIAL OF THE MOTION

The Court has already determined that the CASS was supported by probable cause and that the resulting search was lawful. The Defense has identified no new facts, no intervening change in law, and no manifest injustice warranting reconsideration. The Court should deny the Defense's motion and decline to revisit its prior ruling.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to suppress because the Court has already ruled on this issue and the Defense has failed to demonstrate good cause to relitigate the matter.

EVIDENCE

The government incorporates by reference Enclosures 1-45 of AE LVIII and the testimony provided during the ensuing 39(a) session.

ORAL ARGUMENT

The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 26th of February 2026.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 23 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

(Place or Places of Trial)

On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Date or Dates of Trial)

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 23 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE LXXXII through AE XCIV).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL (Pathologist)** **26 February 2026**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703, the Government respectfully requests that the Court deny Defense's Motion to compel that the convening authority authorize funding for Dr. Priya Banerjee.

FACTS

1. On 22 October 2025, Defense requested an expert consultant in pathology.[1]

2. One 5 November 2025, the Government agreed with Defense that an expert pathologist was necessary for Defense, but the Government would not endorse Defense's preferred expert, Dr. Priya Banerjee because her fee schedule far exceeded the rate prescribed by the JAGMAN. The Government instead would provide an adequate substitute for Defense.

3. The Government attempted to find an active-duty pathologist to assist defense.[2]

4. The Government obtained a list of qualified civilian pathologists and forwarded them to Defense in effort to allow Defense to vet some potential adequate substitutes prior to trial. Defense declined to engage with any potential expert other than Dr. Banerjee prior to the 39(a) hearing. [3]

5. On 3 December 2025, the Convening Authority denied Defense's request for Dr. Banerjee and provided a copy to Defense that same day.[4]

6. At an Article 39(a) on 10 December 2025, the Court ordered the government to find an adequate substitute for defense in the field of forensic pathology.

[1] Enclosure E to Appellate Exhibit (AE) X
[2] Enclosure (1)
[3] Enclosure (2)
[4] Enclosure (3)

7. Per the Court's order, on 19 December 2025, the Government forwarded Dr. Evan Matshes's CV and fee schedule to the convening authority for funding.[5]

8. Also on 19 December 2025, Defense informed the government that Dr. Banerjee was willing to lower her hourly rate to $600/hour, but would not say if Dr. Banerjee would negotiate her daily trial fee of $10,000 per day.[6]

9. On 22 December 2025, the Court issued a written ruling in regard to Defense's requests for expert consultants and denied Defense's request for Dr. Priya Banerjee noting that the Government had provided an adequate substitute, Dr. Matshes.[7]

10. On 29 January 2026, Dr. Matshes' consulting firm returned a sign consulting agreement to the government.[8]

11. On 5 February 2026, Dr. Matshes consulting firm informed the government they had made a scheduling error and Dr. Matshes would no longer be available for trial. The firm, however, was able to provide a qualified pathologist, Dr. Lew, for the same rate.[9]

12. On 6 February 2026, the government notified defense and the convening authority of the change in experts and provided all parties with Dr. Lew's CV and fee schedule. Dr. Lew's hourly rate is $600 per day and daily in court rate is $5000 per day[10].

13. On 18 February 2026, the Convening Authority approved funding for Dr. Lew's pre-trial consultation with Defense.[11]

14. Dr. Lew is a forensic pathologist with three decades of experience in her field.[12]

BURDEN OF PROOF

15. The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden of persuasion and the burden of proof on any factual issue, the resolution of which is necessary to decide the motion, by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c)(1)-(2).

LAW

Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 703(d)(2) provides when the "employment of a Defense expert . consultant is considered necessary" the Defense may request government funding for that expert "in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned." When raised before the military judge, "[t]he military judge shall determine . . . in the case of an expert consultant, whether the assistance is necessary for an adequate Defense."[13]

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[5] Enclosure (4)
[6] AE LXXV, Enclosure (C)
[7] AE LXIV at 6
[8] Enclosure (5)
[9] Enclosure (5)
[10] Enclosure (6)
[11] Enclosure (7)
[12] Enclosure (6)
[13] R.C.M. 703(d)(2).

JAGMAN 0146(l) states," (1) The convening authority will authorize the employment of an expert consultant or witness and will fix the limit of compensation to be paid such expert based on the normal compensation paid by U.S. Attorneys for attendance of a witness of such standing in U.S. courts in the area involved. Information concerning such normal compensation may be obtained from the nearest GCMCA having a judge advocate assigned in other than an additional duty, temporary duty, or temporary additional duty capacity."

Indeed, the requirement that the government provide for expert consultation stems from the Due Process demand that an accused be given the "basic tools" necessary to present a Defense.[14] The right to expert assistance is triggered upon a demonstration of both necessity, and that denial of expert assistance would "result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[15]

"An accused is entitled to expert assistance provided by the Government if he can demonstrate necessity."[16] But the mere possibility of assistance is not sufficient to prevail on the request.[17] Instead, the accused has the burden of establishing "that a reasonable probability exists that (1) an expert would be of assistance to the Defense and (2) that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[18] "In order to satisfy the first prong of this test… [t]he Defense must show (1) why the expert is necessary; (2) what the expert would accomplish for the accused; and (3) why Defense counsel is unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert would be able to develop."[19]

"An accused is not, however, entitled to a specific expert of his own choosing."[20]

"It is well-established that an indigent is not entitled to all the assistance that a wealthier counterpart might buy, but only to the basic and integral tools." [21] "As long as the Government [is] willing to provide competent assistance at government expense (…) the Government's burden [is] satisfied. The defense [can] either accept such assistance or look to its own resources."[22]

ARGUMENT

I. This Issue Is Settled: The Court Considered the Government's Articulated Basis for Denial, Declined to Order the Defense's Preferred Expert, and Required an Adequate Substitute; the Defense Cannot Now Seek Reconsideration Through an Untimely Filing.

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14 *United States v. Short*, 50 M.J. 370, 373 (C.A.A.F. 1999).
15 *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 458 (C.A.A.F. 2008) (citations omitted).
16 *United States v. Gunkle*, 55 M.J. 26, 31 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
17 *Freeman*, 65 M.J. at 458 (citing *United States v. Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005)).
18 *Freeman*, 65 M.J. at 458.
19 *United States v. Lloyd*, 69 M.J. 95, 99 (C.A.A.F. 2010).
20 *Short*, at 373.
21 *United States v. Ndanyi,* 45 M.J. 315, 319 (C.A.A.F. 1996)(citing, *Britt v. North Carolina*, 404 U.S. 226, 227, 30 L. Ed. 2d 400, 92 S. Ct. 431 (1971))
22 *Ndanyi* at 319

On 22 December 2025, in its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Court expressly acknowledged that the Government denied the Defense's preferred expert based on her fee schedule and ordered—not that the Defense receive its preferred expert—but that the Government provide an adequate substitute. The Government endeavored to acquire an expert whose fees fell within service regulations and procured an expert consultant whose fees - considering the high likelihood of a defense request for services at trial either as a consultant or witness – fell far below that of the Defense requested expert. As the Court ruled previously when ordering the government to find an adequate substitute on this basis, cost to the government is a permissible reason to deny a Defense requested expert. This issue is settled. Any challenge to the Court's rationale or to the propriety of ordering an adequate substitute was required to be raised within the prescribed period for a motion for reconsideration. That time has expired. Accordingly, the Defense should not be permitted to relitigate this issue.

But even if this Court were to entertain Defense's untimely motion to relitigate this particular matter, the CAAF has spoken on this issue. Defense is not entitled to the most expensive expert money can buy. They are entitled to the "basic… tools" of the area of expertise. In fact, it is likely the leading reason why the government is permitted to substitute a specific expert requested by Defense for another expert – often employed by the government. Here, the government was unable to obtain a government employed expert in forensic pathology and thus, found an expert whose fee schedule was more reasonable. Furthermore, the government has provided an expert whose qualifications far exceed the basic tools required to assist defense. Like CAAF articulated in *Ndanyi,* Defense can either accept the Government's help or pay for an expert themselves. Defense has the means through Independent Defense Funding to pay for Dr. Banjeree should they choose.

II. The Only Proper Issue Before the Court Is the Adequacy of the Government's Substitute – Dr. Lew—

As a preliminary matter, the Government notes that the Defense's motion continues to reference Dr. Matshes despite having been notified, well in advance of its filing deadline, that Dr. Matshes had been replaced by Dr. Lew due to a scheduling conflict. Any challenge to Dr. Matshes's qualifications is therefore moot, and the Government does not address those arguments.

Dr. Lew is a highly qualified forensic pathologist with more than 33 years of professional experience.[23] She has served as a consultant in forensic pathology for both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney's Office and previously held the position of Chief Medical Examiner for a major U.S. city. Her training, education, and extensive professional experience plainly establish that she is more than qualified to consult with the Defense.

Rather than meaningfully addressing Dr. Lew's credentials, the Defense merely alludes—without explanation or analysis—to purported concerns regarding her reputation and her area of experience. They offer no substantive challenge to her qualifications and instead appear to invite the Court to engage in a fanciful scenario where members disregard the military judge's instructions and conduct independent internet research. That improper, rogue research would

[23] CV Dr. Lew

ignore the voluminous number of published articles and even her CourtTV appearances in which Dr. Lew testified as an expert in her field and instead find a regional newspaper article concerning what appears to be a human resources dispute. Further improper research would yield an autopsy, among more than three decades of work, in which a party disagreed with Dr. Lew's findings. This speculative and unsupported argument does not call into question Dr. Lew's qualifications as an expert in the field of forensic pathology. Defense makes no meaningful attack on Dr. Lew's credentials as a forensic pathologist and thus, the motion to compel the production of Dr. Banerjee should be denied.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion to compel expert assistance of Dr. Banerjee as discussed above.

EVIDENCE

Enclosure (1): Email Response from AFMES dtd 27 Oct 25

Enclosure (2): Government Request for Referrals – Forensic Pathologist

Enclosure (3): Convening Authority Denial of Dr. Banerjee dtd 3 Dec 25

Enclosure (4): Funding Request to Convening Authority for Dr. Matshes dtd 19 Dec 25

Enclosure (5): Scheduling Correspondence with NAAG Forensic PC

Enclosure (6): Funding Request to Convening Authority for Dr. Lew dtd 6 Feb 26

Enclosure (7): Convening Authority Funding Approval for Dr. Lew dtd 18 Feb 26

ORAL ARGUMENT

The Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]

L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 26th day of February 2026.

[redacted]

L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

Outlook

Re: Expert Request - Forensic Pathology

From Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date Mon 10/27/2025 9:54 AM
To Sundell, Zoe E COL USARMY DHA AFMES (USA) <zoe.e.sundell.mil@health.mil>
Cc Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>

Ma'am,

Copy and thank you. The defense is looking for expert assistance to review the autopsy findings in a case in which the accused is charged with murder. The prosecution is using the Norfolk Medical Examiner who conducted the autopsy as our expert. Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for where else I could find an expert pathologist or other suitable expert for defense? Thank you!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
PII

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From: Sundell, Zoe E COL USARMY DHA AFMES (USA) <zoe.e.sundell.mil@health.mil>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 9:43 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Expert Request - Forensic Pathology

CDR Mayo,

IAW DoD 5154.30, para. 3.3 AFMES can provide consultative services to a prosecution team assuming it has the resources available and depending on the case. However, AFMES pathologists are normally unavailable for nomination or assignment by convening authorities or military judges as defense consultants or members of the defense team because of confidentiality concerns. Just to be sure, you are asking on behalf of the Defense correct? Sometimes a defense team's needs may be satisfied by a medical professional other than a pathologist and they request and receive support from an MTF provider. This would not be prohibited by this provision.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

V/R,
ZS

Zoe Sundell, MD
COL, MC, USA
Chief, Forensic Pathology Investigations
Deputy Medical Examiner
Armed Forces Medical Examiner System
Defense Health Agency
115 Purple Heart Dr.
Dover AFB, DE 19902
Office: (302)346-8716
Zoe.e.sundell.mil@health.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2025 2:35 PM
To: Sundell, Zoe E COL USARMY DHA AFMES (USA) <zoe.e.sundell.mil@health.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Expert Request - Forensic Pathology

You don't often get email from lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil. Learn why this is important

Colonel Sundell,

Good afternoon. Attached please find a Defense request for a forensic pathologist ICO US v. Copeland.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information. Thank you!

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
PII

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Outlook

[Non-DoD Source] Re: Expert Consultant Request

From Lindsey Thomas <[redacted PII]>
Date Thu 10/30/2025 8:02 PM
To Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>

Hi Lauren,
I can recommend the following folks, depending on what specific issues there are.
Best wishes,
Lindsey

Consulting forensic pathologists

Dr. Andrew Baker
Minneapolis MN
[redacted PII]

Dr. Jared Brooks
[redacted PII]

Dr. Jonathan Arden
[redacted PII]
Ft. Lauderdale FL

Dr. Maneesha Pandey
[redacted PII]
Toledo OH

Dr. Laura Knight
[redacted PII]
Reno NV

Dr. Adele Maurer Lewis
[redacted PII]
Nashville TN

If the decedent is an infant or child I recommend:
Dr. Erik Christensen
[redacted PII]
Salt Lake City UT

Neuro- and pediatric forensic pathologist
Dr. Melissa Blessing

[redacted]
Iowa City IA

If you need an emergency physician who is also a medical toxicologist I recommend:
Dr. Stacey Hail
[redacted]
Dallas TX

On Oct 30, 2025, at 3:44 PM, Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil> wrote:

Dr. Thomas,

Good afternoon. We last worked together when I was a defense attorney in Norfolk. I am now a prosecutor with the Navy in Norfolk, Virginia and have been tasked to find an expert for the defense.

Defense counsel has requested assistance in obtaining an expert in the field of pathology in a case currently set for trial in Norfolk in June of 2026. The defendant in this case is charged with among other charges, murder.

Defense is seeking an expert to assist in analyzing evidence and reports, the techniques and procedures used, and the testimony of the Government's witnesses. The autopsy was conducted by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Norfolk. Defense has also requested assistance to probe alternate theories of death, different possible causes of death, and counter the evidence presented.

The case is docketed for 3 - 26 June in Norfolk, Virginia.

If you have availability (or can recommend anyone who might), please let me know. Thank you, and hope you are doing well!

Sincerely,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
[redacted]

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Outlook

RE: Discovery and Experts ICO CSSN Copeland

From Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>

Date Wed 12/3/2025 3:31 PM

To Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>

Cc Beasley-Ledet, R T (Roni) CDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil>; Wailes, Meridith A LCDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <meridith.a.wailes.mil@us.navy.mil>; Thomas, Manuel L CIV USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <manuel.l.thomas.civ@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>

15 attachments (2 MB)

11282025 - COPELAND (Borque) FUNDING APPROVAL (PRETRIAL)_rbl.pdf; Bourque - EXPERT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT.docx; 11282025 - COPELAND (Banerjee) - FUNDING DENIAL_rbl.pdf; 11282025 - COPELAND (Dickson) - FUNDING DENIAL_rbl.pdf; 11282025 - COPELAND (Englert) FUNDING APPROVAL (PRETRIAL)_rbl.pdf; Englert - EXPERT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT.docx; 11282025 - COPELAND (Sahni) FUNDING APPROVAL (PRETRIAL)_rbl.pdf; Sahni - EXPERT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT.docx; 11282025 - COPELAND (Stockholm) FUNDING APPROVAL (PRETRIAL)_rbl.pdf; Stockham - EXPERT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT.docx; 11282025 - COPELAND (Wetherill) - FUNDING DENIAL_rbl.pdf; 11282025 - COPELAND (LaValva) - FUNDING DENIAL_rbl.pdf; 11282025 - COPELAND (Sharp) FUNDING APPROVAL (PRETRIAL)_rbl.pdf; Sharp - EXPERT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT.docx; INVOICE SAMPLE.docx;

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the signed approval and denial letters based on the endorsements from OSTC. I have included the expert consultant agreements to be signed by the approved experts and returned at your earliest convenience. Attached is an invoice sample for the experts to submit upon completion of services. Thank you.

Thank you,
~Ms. Carlisha R., MBA

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 12:29 PM
To: Beasley-Ledet, R T (Roni) CDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: Discovery and Experts ICO CSSN Copeland

Roni,

Any updates? Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC
1510 GILBERT STREET
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737

5811
Ser N00J/655
3 Dec 25

From: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
To: LCDR Todd Mihill, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF A FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST CONSULTANT IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) LCDR Mihill's ltr dtd 24 Oct 25 w/negative endorsement

1. In response to reference (a), your request for the approval of Dr. Priya Banerjee, as a confidential expert consultant in the field of forensic pathologist in the subject case is denied.

2. Please do not hesitate to contact CDR Roni Beasley-Ledet, JAGC, USN should you have any questions or concerns. She can be reached at ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil.

BEASLEYLEDET.RONISHA.TOREATHER. [redacted] Digitally signed by [redacted] Date: 2025.12.03 14:42:06 -05'00'

R. BEASLEY-LEDET
By direction

Copy to:
Dr. Banerjee
File

Outlook

ICO Copeland - Additional Def & Gov Expert Consultants

From Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 12:39 PM

To CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>

Cc Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>

2 attachments (2 MB)

Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Forensic Pathology) dtd 19 Dec wencl.pdf; Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Gov Forensic Tox) dtd 19 Dec.pdf;

CNRMA Legal -

Attached are two endorsements for experts ICO CSSN Copeland.

1. Defense Consultant – Pathology – The government obtained an adequate substitute – Dr. Matshes
2. Government Consultant – Forensic Toxicology – Dr. LeBeau

Please let me know if you have any questions, and Happy Holidays!

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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19 Dec 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
Via: Staff Judge Advocate, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (FORENSIC PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Defense Expert Request dtd 24 Oct 25 – Dr. Banerjee
(2) Government Response to Defense Expert Request for Dr. Banerjee dtd 5 Nov 25
(3) Dr. Evan Matshes CV and Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in forensic pathology is necessary. Special Trial Counsel does not endorse the Defense's requested expert – Dr. Banjeree. Instead, Special Trial Counsel has obtained an adequate substitute, Dr. Evan Matshes. His CV and fee schedule are attached.

2. Accordingly, I respectfully request CNRMA execute funding for 30 hours of evidence review and consultation ($18,000) for Dr. Matshes. If Defense requires Dr. Matshes' services for trial based on their consultation, Defense should send a separate request articulating the necessity.

3. As evidenced in enclosure (3), Dr. Matshes is qualified for this appointment with specialized experience. The Government is unable to obtain an adequate government substitute for the Defense in this area.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO

Copy to:
Defense Counsel

24 Oct 25

From: LCDR Todd Mihill, USCG, Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren A. Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF A FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST CONSULTANT IN THE CASE OF UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) UCMJ, Article 46
(b) R.C.M. 703(d)
(c) *United Sates v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288, 290 (C.M.A. 1986)
(d) *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572, 623-24 (N.M.C.M.R. 1990)
(e) *United States v. Lee*, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006)
(f) *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999)
(g) *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987)
(h) *United States v. McAllister,* 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001)
(i) *United States v. Warner,* 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005)
(j) *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985)

Encl: (1) Dr. Banerjee CV
(2) Dr. Banerjee Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to references (a) through (h), CSSN Jermiah Copeland, through counsel, requests the government to appoint Dr. Priya Banerjee as a forensic pathology expert consultant to the defense team to assist in the preparation of its case, in accordance with Uniform Code of Military Justice (U.C.M.J.), Article 46; Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 703; *United States v. Ford*, 51 M.J. 445 (C.A.A.F. 1999) and *United States v. Toledo*, 25 M.J. 270 (C.M.A. 1987). CSSN Copeland further requests that the forensic pathologist be designated as a member of the defense team bound by the attorney-client privilege, in accordance with Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 502(a) and other applicable federal laws and regulations.

2. **Law.** Under the Sixth Amendment, CSSN Copeland has the right to the effective assistance of counsel and the right to present a defense. In order to adequately represent CSSN Copeland, he requires more than the advocacy skills of his attorney. This includes "the right to present a defense by means of confrontation, cross-examination and going forward with a presentation of its own evidence." *United States v. Allen*, 31 M.J. 572. The right to present evidence "necessarily includes the right to prepare." *Id.* As stated above, military due process consequently "entitles a service member to the assistance of an expert when necessary to the preparation of an adequate defense." *Id.* (quoting *United States v. Garries*, 22 M.J. 288 (C.M.A. 1986)). Congress guaranteed, through the UCMJ, that the parties to a court-martial "shall have equal opportunity to obtain witnesses and other evidence." Article 46, U.C.M.J. Under this scheme, service members are entitled to expert assistance when such assistance is necessary in mounting an adequate defense. *Ake v. Oklahoma,* 470 U.S. 68, 76-83 (1985) (holding, when necessary, due process requires appointment of a government expert). Importantly, the entitlement for an accused to expert assistance "is not limited to actual expert testimony at trial." *United States v.*

Lee, 64 M.J. 213, 217 (C.A.A.F. 2006).

To avail himself or herself of this right, an accused—through defense counsel—must submit a request for an expert to the convening authority, supported by "a statement of reasons why the employment of the expert is necessary." R.C.M. 703(d). Both references (b) and (c) provide the structure for evaluating requests for expert consultants and witnesses.

The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces has held that RCM 703(d) authorizes employment of experts to assist the defense at government expense when they are relevant and necessary. The Court established a three-prong test to determine the necessity of a requested expert:

1. Why is the expert needed;
2. What would the expert accomplish for the defense; and
3. Why is the defense unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistant would be able to develop?

3. **Factual Background**. CSSN Copeland is charged with the premeditated murder of CSSN A.R., among a myriad of other charges. During the ensuing investigation into the death of CSSN A.R., the Government performed medical tests and examinations on the deceased, resulting in scientific and medical reports regarding the evidence. The Government has secured the assistance of an expert, Dr. Fernanda Lemeira and will surely be using Dr. Lemeira's skill, knowledge, experience and expertise in the Government's case against CSSN Copeland. CSSN Copeland requires the assistance of Dr. Banerjee to meet and test the evidence that will be presented against him in order to ensure a full and fair trial on the merits.

4. **Why an Expert is needed and What the Expert would accomplish for the defense?**

At trial the Government will necessarily present medical evidence and scientific testimony as evidence against CSSN Copeland. The Defense must be afforded the opportunity prepare for, meet, and counter the Government's evidence. Dr. Banerjee will assist the Defense in analyzing evidence and reports, the techniques and procedures used, and the testimony of the Government's witnesses.

Dr. Banerjee will provide the Defense with expert opinions and assessments of the evidence that are constitutionally required to confront the Government's evidence in defense of CSSN Copeland. She has skills, education, training, and experience that the attorneys for CSSN Copeland cannot hope to attain- even through diligent effort- prior to trial. Her assistance is essential and required for a full and fair trial.

The evidence provided in discovery indicates that the cause of death for CSSN A.R. remains "undetermined." The nature of this assessment indicates that the Government will be pursuing a theory that, though cause of death is undetermined, CSSN Copeland was responsible for her death. Dr. Banerjee's training, education and experience will help the defense team probe alternate theories of death, different possible causes of death, and counter the evidence presented

by the Government's experts. These are not hypothetical results of this expert's work on the case- they are actual tangible assistance directly related to the Defense's theory of the case.

Dr. Banerjee's assistance will be required and utilized throughout litigation of pretrial legal and evidentiary issues as well as during trial on the merits. Her assistance, and its necessity to the Defense team cannot be understated.

5. **Why counsel cannot perform such duties.** The rapid growth in forensic science techniques at trial may make cases more complex than general practitioners can handle on their own. *United States v. McAllister*, 55 M.J. 270, 275 (2001); *United States v. Warner*, 62 M.J. 114, 118 (C.A.A.F. 2005). No member of the defense is an expert in the field of forensic pathology. Although counsel have and will continue to diligently research these areas, they cannot realistically be expected to attain the level of competency required to challenge and evaluate a Government's experts or challenge and evaluate the Government's evidence. Without the ability to consult with its own expert, the Defense would not be able to adequately represent CSSN Copeland within the meaning of the Sixth Amendment or the UCMJ.

6. **Adequate government substitute.** The Defense is not aware of an acceptable governmental substitute that has comparable qualifications, education or experience to that of Dr. Banerjee.

7. **Cost.** Enclosure (2) is Dr. Banerjee's fee schedule. Her rate for professional consulting is $850 per hour and trial participation rate of $10,000 per day. We have estimated that she will need 30 hours for pre-trial consultancy at a cost of $25,500.00, and trial participation for 22 days at a cost of $220,000.00. **The defense requests a total authorization of $245,500.00,** not including travel expenses to be reimbursed in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulations. Dr. Banerjee is currently available for the scheduled trial dates and is already enrolled within the federal payment system.

8. The Defense requests that the expert consultant be viewed as a member of the Defense team such that all communications between the expert consultant and the accused and his counsel will be viewed as confidential. The Defense further requests that the Government not have any conversations or other interaction with the requested expert consultant in relation to this case except for any administrative communications in securing their assistance for the Defense. The Defense understands this limitation may be removed if the defense eventually desires to have the expert testify in the case.

9. Dr. Banerjee's assistance is relevant and necessary to providing CSSN Copeland with an adequate defense to the charges. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at `todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil` or 571-369-8409.

T. M. MIHILL

Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC

Priya Banerjee, MD
PII
Cell: PII
Email: PII
www.anchorforensicpathology.com
EIN: 81-1997500

FEE SCHEDULE

*Expedited rate (review with opinion and/or report) $1700 per hour

Non-Refundable Retainer (4 hours) $3400

Review of materials and reports $850 per hour

Testimony (Hearing, Grand Jury, Trial etc) $10,000 per 8 hours

Car related travel mileage billed at the established government rate (in addition to travel time costs). Mileage between locations will be established via google maps. Tolls also billed at cost.

Priya Banerjee, M.D.

Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC.

Board Certified Forensic and Anatomic Pathologist

[redacted]

Email: [redacted]; **Cell:** [redacted]

EIN: [redacted]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

4/1/2016-present	President and Founder Anchor Forensic Pathology, LLC Contract forensic pathologist: Clark County, NV (Las Vegas metro region) Criminal and Civil medical-legal consultant, Private autopsy pathologist
5/3/2022-present	Know Your Rights Camp, Colin Kaepernick Foundation Autopsy Team Pathologist (New England to Mid Atlantic Region)
7/1/2010 – 8/9/2021	Assistant Medical Examiner Office of the State Medical Examiners State of Rhode Island, Providence, RI
7/1/2012-present	Clinical Assistant Professor Brown University, Depart. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
1/25/17-5/2020	Adjunct Professor of Justice Studies Roger Williams University Forensic Pathology and Forensic Seminar Series
1/23/20-2022	Adjunct Professor, Graduate Medical Sciences/Boston U. Medicine Forensic Medicine and Death Investigation Course
1/30/2019-8/1/2021	Expert Forensic Pathologist, Rhode Island Cold Case Task Force
5/2018-12/2020	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of New Hampshire

12/2012-2/2013	Contract Forensic Pathologist Office of the Chief Medical Examiner State of Maine

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

8/2000-5/2004	**University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, M.D.**
7/2004– 6/2005	**Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, PA Internal Medicine Preliminary Year
7/2005-6/2009	**The Johns Hopkins Hospital** Baltimore, MD AP/CP Pathology Residency
7/2009-6/2010	**Office of Chief Medical Examiner, State of Maryland** Baltimore, MD Forensic Pathology Fellow
8/1996-5/2000	**University of Maryland, College Park** B.S. Cell, Molecular Biology and Genetics (Magna Cum Laude) Concentration Criminology and Criminal Justice
5/16/2014	National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Workshop
2/21/2014	Rhode Island Traffic Incident Management Responder Training
5/2-5/3/2014	FEMA/New Mexico Tech Medical Preparedness and Response Bombing Incidents Course
5/10-5/12/2011	Medicolegal Death Investigation Training Seminar National Forensic Science Training Center Tampa Florida
6/7-6/11/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Anthropology Course
5/3-5/7/2010	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Forensic Odontology Course

BOARD CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

American Board of Pathology: Board Certified in Forensic Pathology 2012

American Board of Pathology; Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology, 2011

*all CME/Maintenance of Certification maintained for both areas

State of Rhode Island	Allopathic Physician Medical License MD13342
State of Pennsylvania	Medical License MD 436021 (inactive, in good standing)
State of Nevada	Medical Doctor License #23829

AWARDS, HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS:

June 18, 2019	Brown University School of Medicine, Clinical Teaching Award
2012-current	National Association of Medical Examiners
2011-current	College of American Pathologist, Fellow
2011-current	Rhode Island Criminalists Association, Associate Member
2007	College of American Pathologists., Leadership Development Award

GUEST LECTURES AND MEDIA EXPERIENCE:

Vinnie Politan

February 28, 2025	Death Of Gene Hackman and his Wife https://pagesix.com/2025/02/28/celebrity-news/gene-hackman-and-wife-betsy-arakawa-may-have-been-dead-for-weeks-before-their-bodies-were-found-sheriff/
October 11, 2024	How Forensic Pathologists Analyze Human Remains, expert interview https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/east-bay/how-forensic-pathologists-analyze-human-remains/
2024-current	Multiple appearances on Court TV
April 1	Preston Lord murder, Opening Statements Spotlight with Julie Grant CourtTV
July 7, 2023	Expert TV interview "Toxicology Report for Alex Fierro" on Court TV. https://x-default-stgec.uplynk.com/ausw/slices/4a8/5a41d9ac062d41bbb88c8ded2e0ef1c0/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1/4a87028b9e354bfea7b00b87cdea0ae1_e.mp4
May 16, 2023	Expert TV interview "Children's Book Author Charged with Murder of Husband." https://www.courttv.com/title/medical-examiner-eric-richins-had-5xlethal-dose-of-fentanyl-in-system/?fbclid=IwAR1r5CeBoNBxfMqMKJISO310ifbSsuhYpsyVMoMdnxLPGgQbH4RThTV4Pp0

January 5, 2023 Expert TV interview, " DNA found on sheath 'the money' for Idaho police forensic pathologist" on Cuomo Show, NewsNation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFSKkKnMabs

October 3, 2022 Expert contributor quoted: US monkeypox deaths are rare; here's why they can be difficult to confirm (author: Jaqueline Howard) CNN Health online. https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/03/health/monkeypoxdeaths-difficult-to-confirm

August 21, 2022 Expert TV Interview, "Tell No Tales", Forensic Files II Episode, HLN network. Season 3, Episode 16.

May 11, 2022 TV Interview, Morning in America (News Nation) "Vicky White died by Suicide" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LVq3KjQxkc

May 10, 2022 TV Interview, Inside Edition: Bahamas Deaths of Three US Visitors https://www.insideedition.com/toxic-ac-leak-theorized-as-possiblecause-in-mysterious-deaths-of-americans-at-bahamas-resort-74759.

February 11, 2022 Interview, CNN Newsroom: (9 am hour): Forensic Pathologist on Bob Saget Autopsy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kdze5p25SXI

February 10, 2022 Interview, CNN Tonight with Laura Coates; Dr. Banerjee https://video.snapstream.net/Play/4hTGjGopBrT1Ywz5NAbchZ?accessToken=bew086lmmeopi

February 10, 2022 Interview, Inside Edition https://www.insideedition.com/after-bob-sagets-autopsy-raises-alarmaround-skull-injuries-what-doctors-say-to-do-if-you-hit-your.

January 12, 2022 Interview, Today Show on Bob Saget Death and Autopsy https://www.today.com/video/bob-saget-s-final-performance-latestdetails-on-his-death-130675269917

December 16, 2021 Interview, American Radical Podcast Episode 4: Cause of Death https://www.msnbc.com/msnbc-podcast/cause-death-n1286073

October 25, 2021	Interview, Real Time Crime Podcast re: Brian Laundrie
October 23, 2021	CNN interview: The manhunt for Brian Laundrie is over. But several big questions remain; https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/23/us/gabby-petito-brianlaundrie-questions/index.html
October 21, 2021	Determining Brian Laundrie's cause of death could be "challenging," says forensic pathologist; https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/brian-laundrie-news-10-21-21/index.html
October 21, 2021	CNN Interview: Wolf Blitzer Situation Room: Forensic pathologist explains what was 'odd' about the scene; https://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2021/10/21/brianlaundrie-remains-family-crime-scene-banerjee-sot-tsrvpx.cnn
September 21-22, 2021	Multiple appearances: Fox and Friends, local Fox stations, Law and Crime network re Death and autopsy of Gabby Petito https://www.foxnews.com/media/gabby-petito-autopsy-challenges-cause-death-pathologist https://video.foxnews.com/v/6278085320001#sp=showclips https://video.foxbusiness.com/v/6273622961001#sp=show-clipsoin
April, 2021	Multiple appearances, MSNBC, CNN/HLN and Law and Crime Network re: Derek Chauvin trial and the autopsy of George Floyd https://www.msnbc.com/katy-tur/watch/chuck-rosenberg-i-think-the-defenseattorney-got-a-little-too-cute-went-a-little-bit-too-far-109936709537
March 29, 2021	Forensic Pathologist Dr. Priya Banerjee: Learning from the dead to help the living. Profile in Boston Globe
December 6, 2019	Member interview on "Searching for answers: Inside a secret meeting of RI's Cold Case Task Force." https://www.wpri.com/news/special-reports/searching-for-answers-inside-a-secret-meeting-of-ris-cold-case-taskforce/
2019-Present	Multiple Expert Appearances (recurring) on Law and Crime Network, recurring shows
November 11, 2019	Expert Appearance on Law and Crime Network: "Linda Kenney Baden asks Why the Blunt Force Trauma Killed the Victim but Not the Gunshot Wounds?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PlseesVo6S4&t=33s

October 31, 2019	"What's Going on with Jeffrey Epstein's Autopsy?" online article in Rolling Stone Magazine: https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culturefeatures/jeffrey-epstein-autopsy-baden-homicide-suicide-906192/
November 2, 2018	Water Intoxication Death, Coroner Talk Podcast with Darren Drake
September 26, 2018	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony for Oklahoma National Association of Attorney Generals, Oklahoma City, OK.
September 6, 2018	RIH Department of Pathology Grand Rounds: Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony
September 8, 2017	Opioid Related Deaths: Forensic Investigation, Death Certification and Expert Testimony National Association of Attorney Generals, Providence, RI.
June 8, 2017	Organizing Physician and Lecturer: Select Topics in Forensic Pathology (Gunshot Wounds)
April 5, 2017	Expert Medical Examiner: Opioid Panel/Drug Overdose Deaths. Johnson and Wales University.
February 8, 2017	Radio interview with Jay Oliver ft. Joe Giacalone on LI in the AM, LINews Radio. Part 3 of Long Island Serial Killer. https://soundcloud.com/jvcbroadcasting/dr-priya-banerjee-interview
January 27, 2017	Guest Lecturer: The Medicolegal Autopsy: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender and Criminal Defense Lawyer
December 5, 2016	TV Interview with Reporter Tim White, WPRI. "How investigators identify human remains that have been underground for decades" http://wpri.com/2016/12/05/how-investigators-identify-human-remainsthathave- been-underground-for-decades/
June 24, 2016	Lecturer, Overview of the RI Medical Examiners Office and Death Investigation Rhode Island State Police Training Academy
2016-present	Lecturing Forensic Pathologist, Mock Scene Investigation University of Rhode Island BPS 101: Scientific Evidence Class I and II
2011-2014	Guest Lecturer: Fire Related Deaths Annual Fire Investigation Training Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators

March 24, 2014	Medical Examiner/Witness Fire Scene Investigation Training with Mock Crime Scenes Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators
April 26, 2013	Guest Lecturer: The Medical Examiner System in Rhode Island Univ. of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
March 26, 2013	Presenter, Rhode Island Health Careers Expo and Fair Rhode Island School Based Coordinator Network
November 12, 2013	Lecturer: Gunshot Wounds at "Patterns of Injury and the Story They Tell" Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
October 16, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Forensic Pathology and Forensic Identification for Dentists Greater Woonsocket Dental Association, Rhode Island
March 14, 2012	Guest Lecturer: Overview of Forensic Pathology and the Rhode Island Medical Examiner System West Coventry Fire District, Greene, Rhode Island.
February 8, 2012	Forensic Pathology 101: A Primer for Criminal Defense Lawyers Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender
September 16, 2011	Guest Lecturer: Medicolegal Death Investigations University of Rhode Island Forensic Science Partnership Seminar Lecture Series
July 11, 2013	Guest Expert, Episode 30, TheForensicweek.com Show (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr6seMRVNQk)
December 13, 2012	Guest Expert, Episode 3, The Forensicweek.com Show (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zasZIp4BCvw)
September 28, 2010	Medicolegal Autopsy and Gunshot Wounds at The Relationship Between the Fundamental of Forensic Pathology and Your Professional Practice Collaborative Conference Law Enforcement by New England Organ Bank and Rhode Island Medical Examiners Office
November, 2009	Guest Expert Witness, University of Maryland Mock Trial
April, 2009	Guest Forensic Pathologist, Mock Crime Scene for the Community University of Maryland, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

PUBLICATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS:

Truong LV, **Banerjee, P**. Hepatic Hemangiosarcoma Presumed by Imaging as Hemangioma: A Case Report and Literature Review **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at American Academy of Forensic Sciences Meeting, February 2023.

Truong LV and Banerjee, P. Autopsy and Forensics: Forensic Entymology. https://www.pathologyoutlines.com/topic/forensicsentomology.html. February 2, 2021.

Almeida R; **Banerjee, P,** et al. Death Attributed to Dichlorvos (DDVP) Intoxication. (**Poster Presentation**). Presented at the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. September, 2020.

Belova N. and **Banerjee, P**. Drowning Deaths in Rhode Island, A Retrospective Review. **(Poster Presentation).** Presented at the National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October 2018.

Banerjee, P; Detora D; Iwuc P, Stanley C, and Ogilvie L. A case of suicide by injected xylazine. **(Platform Presentation)** Presented at Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting, November, 2014.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Eight Cases from 1999-2009. J Forensic Sci 2014 May;59:865-868.

Banerjee, P and Stanley C. Fatal Salt Intoxication from Table Salt Administration **(Poster).** Presented at National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, October, 2012.

Ellis, CL, **Banerjee, P**, Carney, E, Sharma, R, Netto GJ. Adrenal lymphangioma: clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical characteristics of a rare lesion. Hum Pathol. 2011 Jul;42(7):1013-8.

Carney EM, **Banerjee P**, Ellis CL, Albadine R, Sharma R, Chaux AM, Burger PC, Netto GJ. PAX2(-)/PAX8(-)/inhibin A(+) immunoprofile in hemangioblastoma: A helpful combination in the differential diagnosis with metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma to the central nervous system. Am J Surg Pathol. 2011 Feb;35(2):262-7.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z and Fowler DR. Rat Bite Fever, a Fatal Case of Streptobacillus moniliformis Infection in a 14 months old boy. J Forensic Sci. 2011 Mar;5ß6(2):531-3.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z, Levine B and Fowler DR. Fatal Caffeine Intoxication: a Series of Seven Cases from 1999-2009. **(Platform Presentation),** American Academy of Forensic Sciences, February, 2010.

Banerjee, P and Netto GJ. Adrenal Lymphangiomas: Clinicopathologic Review of a Rare Lesion **(Poster)**, USCAP, March 2009.

Banerjee, P et al. Pax-2(-)/Inhibin(+) Immunoprofile in Hemangioblastoma: A Helpful Combination in the Differential Diagnosis with Metastatic Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma to CNS **(Platform Presentation)**, USCAP, March 2009.

Iacobuzio-Donahue CA, Fu B, Yachida S, Luo M, Abe H, Henderson CM, Vilardell F, Wang Z, Keller JW, **Banerjee P**, Herman JM, Cameron JL, Yeo CJ, Halushka MK, Eshleman JR, Raben M, Klein AP, Hruban RH, Hidalgo M, Laheru D. DPC4 Gene Status of the Primary Carcinoma Correlates With Patterns of Failure in Patients With Pancreatic Cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2009 Mar 9.

Banerjee, P, Ali, Z and Fowler DR. Rat Bite Fever, a Fatal Case of Streptobacillus moniliformis Infection in a 14 months old boy **(Poster)**, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Feb, 2009

Banerjee, P et al. Advanced Stage Pancreatic Cancers Have Distinct Morphologic and Immunolabeling Profiles Compared to Resectable Disease **(Poster)**, USCAP, March, 2008.

Banerjee, P, Lee, MT and Detrick, BD. Albumin assessment in monoclonal gammopathies: comparison between direct and indirect measurements **(Poster),** Association of Medical Laboratory Immunologists. August, 2007.

Banerjee, P and Crain, B. A Two-year-old Girl with a New Limp. Brain Pathol. 2008 Oct;18(4):60810.

Keane MM, Rubinstein Y, Cuello M, Ettenberg SA, **Banerjee P**, Nau MM, Lipkowitz S. Inhibition of NF-kappa B activity enhances TRAIL mediated apoptosis in breast cancer cell lines. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2000 Nov; 64(2):211-9.

Ettenberg SA, Rubinstein YR, **Banerjee P**, Nau MM, Keane MM, Lipkowitz S. cbl-b inhibits EGFreceptor-induced apoptosis by enhancing ubiquitination and degradation of activated

receptors. Mol Cell Biol Res Commun. 1999 Aug; 2(2):111-8.

Keane MM, Ettenberg SA, Nau MM, **Banerjee P**, Cuello M, Penninger J, Lipkowitz S. cbl-3: a new mammalian cbl family protein. Oncogene. 1999 Jun 3; 18(22):3365-75.

5 Nov 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: LCDR Todd Mihill, USCG

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Defense Expert Request dtd 24 Oct 25 – Dr. Priya Banerjee

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in pathology is necessary.

2. However, this expert's hourly fees far exceed the reasonable hourly rate for an expert in this field. The government will provide funding for an expert in this field who falls within the parameters of the fees generally provided to experts appointed under 10 U.S.C. § 3006A. For an expert in this field, the reasonable fee rate is $275-400/hour.

3. The government will assist Defense in finding an adequate substitute for this expert and is standing by receive any defense proposed substitutes in this field.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]

L.A. MAYO

EVAN WILLIAM MATSHES, MD FRCPC

Board Certified Diagnostic & Molecular, Anatomic and Forensic Pathologist

PII | PII

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dedicated service and academic-oriented general and pediatric forensic pathologist. Subspecialty interests include: child abuse and domestic violence; unexpected infant and child death; general, pediatric and combat/military-related torture and extra-judicial killings; pediatric and general spine pathology; forensic neuropathology; cardiovascular pathology; virtual autopsy (PMCT and PMMR); pediatric bone pathology; bioinformatics.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Medical Director and Chief Forensic Pathologist
NAAG Forensic PC

Associate Professor of Medical Education (Pathology)
California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Diagnostic & Molecular Pathology
Board certified by the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada (June 2009)

Anatomic Pathology
Board certified by the American Board of Pathology (July 2009)

Forensic Pathology
Board certified by the American Board of Pathology (September 2010)

Maintenance of Certification ("Continuing Certification") status obtained by examination
American Board of Pathology (November 2019)

MEDICAL LICENSURE

State of California
Unrestricted license to practice medicine

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Forensic Pathology Subspecialist Training
July 2009 through June 2010
Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science
Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office
Dallas, Texas, USA

Pediatric Forensic Pathology Research Fellowship
October 2008 through June 2009 (during PGY5 year)
Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department and the University of Calgary
Miami, Florida, USA

Anatomic Pathologist Specialist Training
July 2004 through June 2009
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Doctor of Medicine ("MD")
"Great Distinction" and "Class Valedictorian"
August 2000 through May 2004
College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Bachelor of Science Degree ("BSc")
"Magna Cum Laude"
Human Anatomy & Cell Biology
College of Arts & Science, University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Medical Education (Pathology)
California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM)
Colton, CA
April 2024 through current

Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist
NAAG Forensic PC
San Diego, CA
January 2023 through current

Forensic Pathologist
Autopsy pathology, forensic neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology
NAAG Pathology Labs PC
San Diego, CA
June 2017 through 2022

Forensic Pathologist
General and pediatric forensic pathology second opinion review services
National Autopsy Assay Group LLC
San Diego, CA
April 2015 through 2022

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner
General forensic pathology
District IV Florida
Jacksonville, FL
July 2016 through September 2016

Associate Medical Examiner, Director of Pediatric Forensic Pathology and Coordinator of Forensic Neuropathology and Cardiovascular Pathology
General and pediatric forensic pathology, forensic neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology
Office of the (New Mexico) Medical Investigator
Albuquerque, NM
April 2012 through December 2014

Autopsy Pathologist
Autopsy pathology
University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services
Calgary, AB, Canada
August 2011 through June 2012

Clinical Associate Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Forensic pathology and forensic neuropathology
University of Calgary
Calgary, AB, Canada
April 2011 through January 2020

Assistant Chief Medical Examiner
General forensic pathology
Alberta Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Calgary, AB, Canada
August 2010 through September 2011

Executive Director
Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.
San Diego, CA
June 2008 through December 2018

Physician Extender, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Rockyview Hospital
Calgary, AB, Canada
October 2006 through January 2008

MEMBERSHIPS IN RELATED SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

California Homicide Investigators Association (CHIA)

International Homicide Investigators Association (IHIA)

National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME)

International Society of Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology (ISBSTP)

Society for Pediatric Pathology (SPP)

International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME)

American Academy of Neuropathologists (AANP)

International Society of Forensic Radiology and Imaging (ISFRI)

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)

College of American Pathologists (CAP)

SELECTED RELEVANT (ADJUNCT) PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Basic and Advanced Virtopsy Courses
University of Zurich (Switzerland)
March 2013

Cardiac Morphology Course
National Heart & Lung Institute, Faculty of Medicine
Imperial College London
June 2012

Dr. Kenneth M. Earle Memorial Neuropathology Review
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)
February 2007, 2012

Fetal Death Investigation
Harvard Medical School
October 2008

Forensic Anthropology
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)
June 2005

Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP)
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
May 2005

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS)
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
January 2003, September 2004

EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH GRANT FUNDING

National Institute of Justice Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant
Principal Investigator
Information Technology Support (Death Investigation Reporting Tool [DIRT])
Calendar year 2013

PUBLICATIONS – PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Bundock, E., Giese, K., Gill, J., Harris, C., Jarrell, H., Jorden, M., Love, J., Mahar, T., Matshes, E., Oleske, D., and Vincent, G. (2025). National Association of Medical Examiners Position Paper: Recommendations for the postmortem assessment of suspected head trauma in infants and young children. Pending *Am J Forensic Med Pathol.*

2. Pinneri, K., & Matshes, E. W. (2017). Recommendations for the Autopsy of an Infant who has Died Suddenly and Unexpectedly. Academic Forensic Pathology, 7(2), 171–181. https://doi.org/10.23907/2017.019

3. Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2017). An Approach to the Classification of Apparent Asphyxial Infant Deaths. Academic Forensic Pathology, 7(2), 200–211. https://doi.org/10.23907/2017.021

4. Matshes, E. W., Snyder, V. S., & Andrews, S. W. (2015). Utilitarian Aspects of Postmortem Computed Tomography. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(4), 603–613. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.064

5. Krehbiel, K., Matshes, E. W., Lathrop, S., & Pinckard, J. K. (2015). Medical Therapy-Related Deaths and the Medical Examiner. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(3), 421–435. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.046

6. Snyder, V. S., Andrews, S. W., Curry, C. R., Lathrop, S. L., & Matshes, E. W. (2015). An Evaluation of the Utility of Postmortem Computed Tomography in the Diagnosis of Lethal Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis and Hypertensive Heart Disease. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(1), 25–37. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.003

7. Snyder, V. S., Curry, C. R., Lew, E. O., & Matshes, E. W. (2015). Morbid Obesity is Not a Risk Factor for the Development of Clinically Significant Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis. Academic Forensic Pathology, 5(1), 38–46. https://doi.org/10.23907/2015.004

8. Snyder, V. S., & Matshes, E. W. (2014). Assessment and Diagnosis of Trauma in the High Cervical Spine Using Dissection, Radiography, Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Academic Forensic Pathology, 4(4), 532–544. https://doi.org/10.23907/2014.069

9. Gill, J. R., Andrew, T., Gilliland, M. G. F., Love, J., Matshes, E., & Reichard, R. R. (2014). National Association of Medical Examiners Position Paper: Recommendations for the Postmortem Assessment of Suspected Head Trauma in Infants and Young Children. Academic Forensic Pathology, 4(2), 206–213. https://doi.org/10.23907/2014.032

10. Krehbiel, K., & Matshes, E. (2013). Endocardial Involvement in Acute Leukemia. Academic Forensic Pathology, 3(1), 112–114. https://doi.org/10.23907/2013.016

11. Matshes, E. W., Selanders, L., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Skull Base Fractures are Markers of Severe Forces in the First Two Years of Life. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 318–323. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.049

12. Matshes, E. W., Selanders, L., Hatch, G., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Injuries of the Upper Cervical Spinal Column are Markers of Severe Forces in the First Two Years of Life. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 324–331. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.050

13. Matshes, E. W., Hamilton, L. E., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Routine Metabolic Testing is Not Warranted in Unexpected Infant Death Investigations. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 346–356. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.053

14. Matshes, E. W., & McKenzie, B. (2012). Sudden Infant Death Due to Truncus Arteriosus Communis Persistens with Mitral Valve Atresia and Left Ventricular Hypoplasia. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 374–378. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.056

15. Box, A., & Matshes, E. W. (2012). Aortic Dissection with Compression of the Pulmonary Trunk. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 392–393. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.060

16. Rascon, M. A., & Matshes, E. W. (2012). Peritoneal Membrane Roll - Searching for Peritonitis in a Child Abuse Case. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(3), 300–301. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.044

17. Matshes, E. W., McKenzie, B., & Lew, E. O. (2012). Lethal Neurotoxicity Induced by Endosulfan Ingestion. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(1), 100–103. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.014

18. Matshes, E. W., & Joseph, J. (2012). Pathologic evaluation of the cervical spine following surgical and chiropractic interventions. *J Forensic Sci, 57*(1), 113-119. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1556-4029.2011.01935.x

19. Matshes, E. W., & Trevenen, C. (2011). Infant Heart Dissection in a Forensic Context: Babies are Not Just Small Adults. Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(2), 156–165. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.021

20. Matshes, E. W., Milroy, C. M., Parai, J. L., Sampson, B., Reichard, R. R., & Lew, E. O. (2011). What is a Complete Autopsy? Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(1), 2–7. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.001

21. Matshes, E. W., Evans, R. M., Pinckard, J. K., Joseph, J. T., & Lew, E. O. (2011). Shaken Infants Die of Neck Trauma, Not of Brain Trauma. Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(1), 82–91. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.009

22. Matshes, E. W., & McKenzie, B. (2011). Infantile Ischemic Occipital Scalp Ulcers May Mimic Impact Sites. Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(1), 100–103. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.011

23. Matshes, E. W. (2011). Dressler's Syndrome. Academic Forensic Pathology, 1(1), 146–146. https://doi.org/10.23907/2011.019

24. Hamilton, L. E., Lew, E. O., & Matshes, E. W. (2011). "Grown-up" congenital heart disease and sudden death in a medical examiner's population. *J Forensic Sci, 56*(5), 1206-1212. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1556-4029.2011.01807.x

25. Goebl, A., Ferrier, R. A., Ferreira, P., Pinto-Rojas, A., Matshes, E., & Choy, F. Y. (2011). Gaucher disease with prenatal onset and perinatal death due to compound heterozygosity for the missense R131C and null Rec Nci I GBA mutations. *Pediatr Dev Pathol, 14*(3), 240-243. https://doi.org/10.2350/09-11-0744-CR.1

26. Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2010). Two-handed cardiopulmonary resuscitation can cause rib fractures in infants. *Am J Forensic Med Pathol, 31*(4), 303-307. https://doi.org/10.1097/PAF.0b013e3181e792eb

27. Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2010). Homicide by unspecified means. *Am J Forensic Med Pathol, 31*(2), 174-177. https://doi.org/10.1097/PAF.0b013e3181df62da

28. Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2010). Do resuscitation-related injuries kill infants and children? *Am J Forensic Med Pathol, 31*(2), 178-185. https://doi.org/doi:10.1097/PAF.0b013e3181df62ee

29. Matshes, E. W., Taylor, K. A., & Rao, V. J. (2008). Sulfuric acid injury. *Am J Forensic Med Pathol, 29*(4), 340-345. https://doi.org/10.1097/PAF.0b013e3181847e3d

30. Dupre, M. P., Jadavji, I., Matshes, E., & Urbanski, S. J. (2008). Diverticular disease of the vermiform appendix: a diagnostic clue to underlying appendiceal neoplasm. *Hum Pathol, 39*(12), 1823-1826. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.humpath.2008.06.001

31. Dolinak, D., Matshes, E., & Waghray, R. (2004). Sudden unexpected death due to a brainstem glioma in an adult. *J Forensic Sci, 49*(1), 128-130. Retrieved from https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/14979358

PUBLICATIONS – EDITORIALS WITHIN PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS

1. Matshes, E. W. (2018). Letter From the Executive Director. Academic Forensic Pathology, 8(4), vi–vii. https://doi.org/10.1177/1925362118821502
2. Matshes, E. (2012). Advocacy in Pediatric Forensic Pathology. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), xii–xiii. https://doi.org/10.1177/192536211200200404

PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS IN PRINT, AUTHOR

1. Matshes, E. W. (2005). *Human osteology & skeletal radiology: an atlas and guide*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.

2. Dolinak, D. & Matshes, E. W. (2002). *Medicolegal neuropathology: a color atlas.* Boca Raton: CRC Press.

3. Mohamed, A., Matshes, E.W., & Sher, B. (2001). *An atlas of human osteology*. Saskatoon: University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine.

PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS IN PRINT, EDITED VOLUME(S)

1. Dolinak, D. (2013). *Forensic toxicology: a physiologic perspective*. San Diego: Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.

2. Dolinak, D., Matshes, E. W., & Lew, E. O. (2005). *Forensic pathology: principles and practice*. Amsterdam; Boston: Elsevier/Academic Press.

PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS IN PRODUCTION

1. Matshes, E. W., and Milroy C.M. (~2025). *Forensic medicine of the neck*. Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.

2. Matshes, E. W. & Lew, E.O. (~2025). *The unexplained pediatric death autopsy*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.

3. Matshes, E.W., Dolinak, D., & Lew, E.O. (TBD). *Forensic pathology: principles & practice, 2nd edition*. San Diego: Elsevier.

4. Matshes, E.W., Joseph, J., & Dolinak, D. (TBD). *Medicolegal neuropathology, 2nd edition.* Boca Raton: CRC Press.

PUBLICATIONS – CHAPTERS PUBLISHED WITHIN BOOKS

1. White SM, Ackerman MJ, Burns KM and Matshes E. Evaluation for Cardiac Diseases. In: Bundock EA and Corey TS, eds. (2019). The National Association of Medical Examiners' Panel on Sudden Unexpected Death in Pediatrics. Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Investigation, Certification, and Family Needs. Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.

1. Bundock EA, Ackerman MJ, Berry SA, Landi K, Matshes E and Williams N. Evaluation for Genetic and Metabolic Disoders. In: Bundock EA and Corey TS, eds. (2019). The National Association of Medical Examiners' Panel on Sudden Unexpected Death in Pediatrics. Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Investigation, Certification, and Family Needs. Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.

2. Matshes E, Bundock EA and Sense MA. Synoptic Reporting of Unexplained Sudden Deaths in Infants and Children. In: Bundock EA and Corey TS, eds. (2019). The National Association of Medical Examiners' Panel on Sudden Unexpected Death in Pediatrics. Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Investigation, Certification, and Family Needs. Academic Forensic Pathology Intl.

3. Matshes E. Forensic Pathology. In: Gao ZH. (2017). Pathology Review. Brush Education.

4. Bromley A. and Matshes E. Forensic Pathology. In: Gao ZH. (2013). Pathology Review. Brush Education.

5. Lew E. and Matshes E. Death Scene Investigation. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

6. Dolinak D. and Matshes E. The Forensic Autopsy. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

7. Dolinak D. and Matshes E. Blunt Force Injury. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

8. Lew E. and Matshes E. Sharp Force Injury. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

9. Lew E., Dolinak D. and Matshes, E. Firearm Injuries. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E., and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

10. Dolinak D. and Matshes, E. Asphyxia. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

11. Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew, E. Environmental Injury. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

12. Dolinak D., Lew E. and Matshes, E. Aviation. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

13. Dolinak D., Lew E. and Matshes, E. Death In Custody. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E., and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

14. Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew, E. Apparent Natural Death In Infants. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

15. Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew, E. Sudden Natural Death in Childhood. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

16. Dolinak D. and Matshes E. Child Abuse. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

17. Dolinak D., and Matshes E. Forensic Neuropathology. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

18. Rao V., Lew, E. and Matshes, E. Sexual Battery Investigation. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

19. Dolinak D., and Matshes E. Acute Psychiatric and Emotional Deaths. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

20. Lew E. and Matshes, E. Postmortem Changes. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

21. Dolinak, D., and Matshes, E. Identification. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

22. Matshes, E. and Lew, E. Forensic Osteology. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

23. Dolinak, D., Lew, E. and Matshes, E. Forensic Photography. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

24. Dolinak, D., Dowling, G., Matshes, E. and Lew, E. Select Autopsy Topics. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

25. Dolinak, D. and Matshes, E. Death Certification. In: Dolinak D., Matshes E. and Lew E., eds. (2005). Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Academic Press.

PUBLICATIONS – OTHER PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Matshes E. (2010). Forensic Pathology Curriculum for Anatomic Pathology Residents. *University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine*.

2. Matshes E. & Lew, E. (2004). Competent Death Investigation: A Plan for Change in Saskatchewan. Report submitted to Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, and Saskatchewan Department of Justice.

3. Matshes E. & Juurlink B. (2002). Crash Course in Human Osteology – Laboratory Manual. *University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine*.

4. Matshes E. & Sher B., eds. (2001). Forensic Pathology Workshop 2001. *Saskatoon District Health Forensic Pathology Training Manual*.

SCIENTIFIC MEETING ABSTRACTS

1. Gonda, J., and Matshes, E. Cardiac sarcoma masquerading as pericarditis. California Society of Pathologists (CSP) 2025 Annual Meeting (Long Beach, CA).

2. Snyder V., Curry C., Lathrop S., Lew E. and Matshes E. Morbid obesity is not a risk factor for the development of clinically significant coronary artery atherosclerosis. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2014 Annual Meeting (San Diego).

3. Curry C., Snyder V., Lathrop S., Andrews S. and Matshes E. An evaluation of the utility of post-mortem computed tomography in the diagnosis of lethal coronary artery atherosclerosis and hypertensive heart disease. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2014 Annual Meeting (San Diego).

4. Snyder V. and Matshes E. Assessment and diagnosis of trauma in the high cervical spine using dissection, radiography, computed tomography, and magnetic resonance imaging. National Association of Medical Examiner's 2013 Annual Meeting (Milwaukee).

5. Matshes E., Shuman M. and Lew E. Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages are not pathognomonic of abusive pediatric head injury. American Academic of Forensic Sciences 2010 Annual Meeting (Seattle).

6. Deisch J., Matshes E., Quinton R. and Gruszecki, A. Child deaths due to television falls with injury patterns that may mimic child abuse. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2009 Annual Meeting (Denver).

6. Matshes E. and Lew E. Resuscitation-related injury in infants and children. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day, and

Canadian Association of Pathologists 2007 Annual Meeting.

7. Jadavji I., Matshes E. and Urbanski, S. The significance of diverticular disease of the vermiform appendix in surgical pathology. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

8. Matshes E. and Lew, E. Resuscitation-related injury in infants and children. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

9. Matshes E., Taylor K., Burbridge B. and Juurlink, J. Computed tomography (CT) study of spheno-occipital synchondrosis closure. Canadian Association of Pathology 2006 Annual Conference (St. John's Newfoundland).

10. Matshes E., Burbridge B. and Juurlink, J. Computed tomography (CT) study of spheno-occipital synchondrosis closure. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2005 Research Day.

11. Kamencic H., Kelly M., Matshes E., Griebel R.W., Paterson P.G, and Juurlink B.H.J. 2001. Pro-cysteine compound decreases inflammatory response and promotes retention of function after spinal cord injury. Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences. 28 (Suppl 2): S58.

12. Kamencic H., Matshes E., Damant A., Kelly M., Griebel R., Paterson P. and Juurlink B. 2001. Procysteine compound OTC prevents secondary damage following spinal cord injury. Spinal Cord Trauma: Neural Repair and Functional Recovery. Montreal, PQ.

13. Matshes E., Waghray R. and Pylypchuk G. Retrospective analysis of coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A postmortem study. July: Annual meeting of the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks (ISHIB), July 2001, Las Vegas, NV.

14. Matshes E., Kamencic H. and Juurlink B. Mediation of pro-inflammatory gene expression in acute spinal cord injury. Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, February 16, 2001.

15. Kamencic H., Lyon A., Griebel R., Matshes E., Kelly M., Paterson PG. and Juurlink B. 2000. The pro-cysteine compound L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate promotes retention of function following spinal cord trauma. Restorative Neurology and Neuroscience, 28(Suppl 2): S58.

16. Kamencic H., Griebel R., Lyon A., Paterson P., Kelly M., Matshes E. and Juurlink B. Oxidative stress following spinal cord trauma can be ameliorated by pro-cysteine compounds. First Oxidative Stress Consortium, Hamilton, May 2000.

SCIENTIFIC MEETING POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Sudden death in infants with congenital heart disease. Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

2. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. When infants die suddenly, is routine screening for metabolic diseases warranted? Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

3. Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Grown-up congenital heart disease and sudden death in a medical examiner's population. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2010 Annual Meeting (Washington D.C.)

4. Bromley A., Lew. E. and Matshes E. Excited Delirium: A Controversial Diagnosis. Canadian Association of Pathology 2009 Annual Conference (Halifax, Nova Scotia), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2009 Research Day.

5. Matshes E. and Lew E. Homicide by unspecified means. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario) and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2008 Research Day.

6. Hamilton L., Matshes E. and Steele, L. A rare cause of thoracic aortic rupture and sudden death. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario).

7. Fauth C., Burak, K., Gao Z. and Matshes, E. Combined autologous graft-versus host disease and veno-occlusive disease in the liver after stem cell transplant: a case report. Canadian Association of Pathology 2006 Annual Conference (St. John's Newfoundland), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day.

8. Matshes E, Waghray R., and Pylypchuk G. Coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A Retrospective Study. 9th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2002, Saskatoon.

9. Kamencic H., Matshes E., Smith-Windsor C., Kelly M., Griebel R., Paterson P. and Juurlink B. Procysteine compound (OTC) decreases early inflammatory response following spinal cord injury. 9th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2002, Saskatoon.
10. Matshes E., Waghray R. and Pylypchuk G. Retrospective analysis of coronary artery disease prevalence in Saskatchewan First Nations Peoples: A postmortem study. July: Annual meeting of the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks (ISHIB), July 2001, Las Vegas, NV.

11. Kamencic H., Matshes E., Lyon A., Paterson P, Griebel R. and Juurlink B. Oxidative stress following spinal trauma can be ameliorated by pro-cysteine compounds. 7th Annual Life Sciences Research Day, January 2000, Saskatoon.

SPEAKER AT SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP

1. Snyder V., Matshes E., Andrews S., Pinckard, K. How and why you can and should integrate advanced imaging techniques into your daily autopsy practice. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV). Half-day workshop.

2. Milroy C., Cavilla M., and Matshes E. Child homicides: The critical role of interdisciplinary expert collaboration. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2016 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV). Half-day workshop.

3. Snyder V., Zumwalt R., Pinkard K., Gerrard C., Hatch G. and Matshes E. Advanced Forensic Pathology and Forensic Radiology Techniques in the Assessment of Cervical Spine and Craniocervical Junction Trauma. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2014 Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA). Half-day workshop.

4. Matshes E. World Congress of Infant Head Trauma 2013. Academic Forensic Pathology Incorporated (Dallas, TX). Three-day congress

5. Matshes E. and Milroy C. Forensic Histopathology Update. Forensic Unit, Department of Pathology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre, July 2013, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Two-day workshop.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

1. **Abusive Head Trauma Forensic Autopsy Position Paper Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners

2. **NAME Standards Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners / SUDC Foundation

3. **Sudden Death in Pediatrics Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners / SUDC Foundation

4. **Second Autopsy Performance Committee**
   National Association of Medical Examiners

SELECTED AWARDS

List available upon request

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

List available upon request

Outlook

[Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

From Amanda Newby <[redacted PII]>
Date Thu 2/5/2026 5:27 PM
To Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>

1 attachment (236 KB)
CV LEW Jan 2026.pdf;

Good afternoon,

In speaking with Dr. Matshes, we are going to assign Dr Emma Lew to this trial I have attached her CV. I think you will be thrilled to have her as a high profile pathologist.

She can be the consulting expert and/or testifying expert on this case. She can commit to June 7-27th to be in court. If you decide to also use Dr. Matshes as testifying expert he would only be available very end of trial 24th-25th.

I hope you find this solution to your satisfaction. We appreciate you choosing NAAG and do enjoy working with you.

I would still suggest sending a subpoena over for Dr Emma Lew please.

Thank you

Amanda Newby
Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

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PHONE: [redacted PII]
DIRECT: [redacted PII]

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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 1:58 PM
To: Amanda Newby
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Subject: FW: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Ms. Newby,

Please see below. I can issue a federal subpoena today in line with contracting below if needed. Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted] PII

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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:27 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA

(USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

From: Amanda Newby <PII>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:10 PM
To: An Luu <PII>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: James Buckley <PII>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Updating email string with NAAG Case 2025-1719

Amanda Newby
Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

To: lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Amanda Newby <PII>; James Buckley <PII>
Subject: Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1519 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Attached is the signed contract and the NCP which will provide information on how to send discovery materials to our office.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

An

An Luu

Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC

www.naagforensic.com

PII

PHONE: PII

DIRECT: PII

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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 6:46 AM
To: Evan Matshes <[redacted PII]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <[redacted PII]>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Attached please find your approval and draft contract for this case. Please sign and return to Ms. Russell (cc'd above). Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

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lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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From: James Buckley <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 9:55 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Evan Matshes <[redacted]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good morning CDR Mayo,

I believe Dr. Matshes is away from the office this morning. Please feel free to forward Dr. Matshes CV and our fee schedule to Defense and the convening authority.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/R

James Buckley

James Buckley, MFS

Director of Death Investigation

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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 6:30 AM
To: Evan Matshes <[redacted PII]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <[redacted PII]>
Subject: RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Good Morning, and thank you for forwarding your CV and fee schedule. I spoke with Investigator Buckley yesterday. May I forward your CV and Fee Schedule to Defense and the Convening Authority for funding? Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted PII]

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From: Evan Matshes <[redacted PII]>
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 11:00 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <[redacted PII]>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Thank you for reaching out. I'm interested in assisting with this matter. We are established DOD contractors and happy to serve.

- I'll need to review the case details and confirm there are no conflicts. Please send any available information for a preliminary review — I will ask Investigator Buckley at my agency to call you to complete the conflict check over the phone.
- My CV and DOD rate sheet are attached.

I look forward to the chance to work together,

Evan

Evan Matshes MD FRCPC
Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist

Associate Professor of Medical Education, Pathology (CUSM)

NAAG FORENSIC PC

[redacted] | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: [redacted]

NOTICE – I only accept electronic service at subpoena@naagforensic.com

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Thursday, 18 December 2025 07:53
To: Evan Matshes <[redacted]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to inquire about your availability to serve as an expert consultant for the defense in a Navy court-martial. The accused in the case is charged with, among other charges, murder. Trial is scheduled for 3 – 26 June 2026 on board Naval Station Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia. Although I am the prosecutor assigned to this matter, the court has directed me to assist in identifying a potential defense consultant.

If you are interested, I am happy to answer any questions you might have. Also, if available, please send a current CV and fee schedule. Thank you!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted] PII

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Outlook

ICO Copeland - Substitute Expert Pathologist - Dr. Lew

From Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>

Date Fri 2/6/2026 2:22 PM

To CNRMA Legal Group <cnrmalegalgroup@us.navy.mil>

Cc newby@naagforensic.com <[redacted PII]>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>

3 attachments (721 KB)

CV LEW Jan 2026.pdf; RateSheet_2025_Consultation_COMPLEX_DOD.pdf; Gov. Exp. Funding Determination (Forensic Pathology)dtd 6 Feb 26.pdf;

CNRMA Legal,

Defense's expert consultant in pathology – Dr. Evan Matshes is no longer available for trial.

A substitute expert -Dr. Emma Lew is available for trial. Her CV and fee schedule are attached. CAGE Code# 9G8H2, UEID: PVJ9ZR8ME42

Can you please execute a new contract for Dr. Lew as soon as possible? Thank you.

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
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From: Amanda Newby <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 5:24 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

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I hope you find this solution to your satisfaction. We appreciate you choosing NAAG and do enjoy working with you.

I would still suggest sending a subpoena over for Dr Emma Lew please.

Thank you

Amanda Newby
Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

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[redacted] | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE: [redacted]
DIRECT: [redacted]



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Ms. Newby,

Please see below. I can issue a federal subpoena today in line with contracting below if needed. Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

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To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

From: Amanda Newby <[redacted PII]>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:10 PM
To: An Luu <[redacted PII]>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: James Buckley <[redacted PII]>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1719 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Updating email string with NAAG Case 2025-1719

Amanda Newby

Business Operations Specialist, Operations & Finance Lead

To: lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Amanda Newby <[redacted PII]>; James Buckley <[redacted PII]>
Subject: Re: NAAG CASE 2025-1519 Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Attached is the signed contract and the NCP which will provide information on how to send discovery materials to our office.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

An

An Luu

Forensic Case Management Specialist

NAAG FORENSIC PC

www.naagforensic.com

[redacted]
PHONE: [redacted]

DIRECT: [redacted]

NAAG FORENSIC PC

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 6:46 AM
To: Evan Matshes <[redacted]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1

USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <buckley@naagforensic.com>; Russell, Carlisha T CIV USN (USA) <carlisha.t.russell.civ@us.navy.mil>; Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Attached please find your approval and draft contract for this case. Please sign and return to Ms. Russell (cc'd above). Thanks!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted] PII

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

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lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

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mobile: [redacted]

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From: James Buckley <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 9:55 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Evan Matshes <[redacted]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good morning CDR Mayo,

I believe Dr. Matshes is away from the office this morning. Please feel free to forward Dr. Matshes CV and our fee schedule to Defense and the convening authority.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/R

James Buckley

James Buckley, MFS

Director of Death Investigation

NAAG FORENSIC PC

buckley@naagforensic.com

[redacted PII]
PHONE: [redacted PII]

DIRECT: [redacted PII]



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From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2025 6:30 AM
To: Evan Matshes <[redacted PII]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <[redacted PII]>
Subject: RE: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Dr. Matshes,

Good Morning, and thank you for forwarding your CV and fee schedule. I spoke with Investigator Buckley yesterday. May I forward your CV and Fee Schedule to Defense and the Convening Authority for funding? Thank you and Happy Holidays!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted] PII

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From: Evan Matshes <[redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 11:00 AM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>; James Buckley <[redacted]>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

Thank you for reaching out. I'm interested in assisting with this matter. We are established DOD contractors and happy to serve.

- I'll need to review the case details and confirm there are no conflicts. Please send any available information for a preliminary review — I will ask Investigator Buckley at my agency to call you to complete the conflict check over the phone.
- My CV and DOD rate sheet are attached.

I look forward to the chance to work together,

Evan

Evan Matshes MD FRCPC
Medical Director & Chief Forensic Pathologist

Associate Professor of Medical Education, Pathology (CUSM)

NAAG FORENSIC PC

[redacted] | www.naagforensic.com | www.sheriffcoroner.com
PHONE [redacted]

NOTICE – I only accept electronic service at subpoena@naagforensic.com

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Date: Thursday, 18 December 2025 07:53
To: Evan Matshes <[redacted]>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>, Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>, Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Expert Consultation Inquiry - Navy Court-Martial (Norfolk, Virginia)

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to inquire about your availability to serve as an expert consultant for the defense in a Navy court-martial. The accused in the case is charged with, among other charges, murder. Trial is scheduled for 3 – 26 June 2026 on board Naval Station Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia. Although I am the prosecutor assigned to this matter, the court has directed me to assist in identifying a potential defense consultant.

If you are interested, I am happy to answer any questions you might have. Also, if available, please send a current CV and fee schedule. Thank you!

V/r,

Lauren

Lauren Mayo

CDR, JAGC, USN

Chief Special Trial Counsel

Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk

lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598

mobile: [redacted]

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Counsel and is intended for the exclusive use of the individuals to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is pre-decisional, privileged or protected from release under the Privacy Act, FOIA or other applicable laws. Do not disseminate this e-mail, or its contents, to anyone who does not have an official need for access, or without the express consent of the sender. If you are not the intended recipient, you are on notice that copying, disclosure or any distribution of this message, in any form, is prohibited.

6 Feb 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
Via: Staff Judge Advocate, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (FORENSIC PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 702 (MCM 2024)
(b) R.C.M. 703 (MCM 2024)
(c) JAGINST 5800.7G (CH-2) of 1 Dec 23

Encl: (1) Dr. Emma Lew CV and Fee Schedule

1. Pursuant to Section 0145(a)(7)(b) under reference (c), Special Trial Counsel has determined that employment of a defense expert in forensic pathology is necessary. Special Trial Counsel does not endorse the Defense's requested expert – Dr. Banjeree. Instead, Special Trial Counsel has obtained an adequate substitute, Dr. Emma Lew. Her CV and fee schedule are attached.

2. Accordingly, I respectfully request CNRMA execute funding for 30 hours of evidence review and consultation ($18,000) and presence at trial at a rate of $5,000/day from 8 June 2026-26 June 2026.

3. As evidenced in enclosure (3), Dr. Lew is qualified for this appointment with specialized experience. The Government is unable to obtain an adequate government substitute for the Defense in this area.

4. I can be reached at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or at (757)-341-4598.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO

Copy to:
Defense Counsel

Emma Oy Hir Lew, M.D.
Curriculum Vitae

I. **GENERAL**:

Retired from: Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department
Number One on Bob Hope Road
Miami, Florida 33136-1133
(305) 545-2425

II. **EDUCATION**:

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, B.S. in Physiology (High Honours), 1976
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, M.D. Degree (Great Distinction), 1982
Rotating Internship, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 1982-1983
Anatomical Pathology Residency, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., 1983-1984
Anatomical Pathology Residency, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, 1985-1988
Forensic Pathology Fellowship, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, Florida, 1991-1992

III. **CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE**:

Medical Licensure, State of Florida, August 1992, (ME 0062926)
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology, June 1992, Forensic Pathology
F.R.C.P.C., December 1988, Anatomical Pathology
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology, November 1988, Anatomical Pathology
Medical Licensure, Province of Saskatchewan, 1988 (#7263)
FLEX, 1983
Licentiate of Medical Council of Canada, 1983 (#54861)

IV. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS**:

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
National Association of Medical Examiners
Florida Association of Medical Examiners

V. **APPOINTMENTS**:

Department Director and Chief Medical Examiner (September 30, 2016, to August 31, 2021)
Interim Chief Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department (April 18, 2016, to September 29, 2016)
Deputy Chief Medical Examiner/Director of Forensic Pathology Services, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, Florida (April 2001 to April 17, 2016); (coverage of duties to March 2020)
Associate Medical Examiner, District V, Florida (March 2000)
Associate Medical Examiner, Volusia County and Seminole County, Florida (December 1998)
Associate Medical Examiner, Palm Beach County, Florida (August 1996-December 1996)
Voluntary Assistant Professor of Pathology, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, Florida (September 1992-Present)
Associate Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, Miami, Florida (July 1992-April 2001)
Associate Director of Residency Training, Pathology, University of Saskatchewan (March 1990-June 1991)
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Saskatchewan (July 1988- June 1991)
Chief (Administrative) Resident, Department of Pathology, University of Saskatchewan (1986-1987)
Junior Lecturer, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Leeds, Leeds, England (1984-1985)

VI. **FORENSIC PATHOLOGY CONSULTANT:**
United States Attorney, Tucson, AZ, April 2018, November 2018
Saskatoon City Police, (Neil Stonechild Inquiry), Canada (March 2004)
United States Border Patrol, Bahamas, (January 2001 and July 2001)
Cayman Islands Police, (July 1998)
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mexico (December 1998 and January 1999), Costa Rica (March 2000), Ecuador (February 2001), Haiti (July 2006)
Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Police, (1996 to 2006)
Bermuda Police, (February 1994, April 1999)

VII. **HONOURS:**
Proclamation from the Miami-Dade County Office of the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners that Wednesday, July 28, 2021, is Dr. Emma O. Lew Day
The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow Award (February 2020)
Government & Law Award (Non-elected Category) 29th annual ***In the Company of Women Awards*** (March 2017)
Life Alliance Miracles for Life Awards (Medical Examiner of the Year) (November 2016)
Metro-Dade Police Department Silver Medal of Valor, December 1996 (ValuJet Flight 592)
Mary Tom Award, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Neuropathologists, Victoria, Canada, 1987
Anatomy Award, Department of Anatomy, University of Saskatchewan, 1979
Medical Research Council of Canada sponsorship of year in post-graduate education, 1976-1977
RODA (Research on Drug Abuse) Summer Scholarship, Medical Research Council of Canada, 1975

VIII. **PAPERS PUBLISHED IN JOURNALS**:
Boland, D.M., Reicy, L. J., Seither, J.M., Radtke, J.M., Lew, E.O. Forty-Three Fatalities Involving the Synthetic Cannabinoid, 5-Fluoro-ADB: Forensic Pathology and Toxicology Implications. Journal of Forensic Sciences 2019 Jun 19.

Stroberg ED, Hutchins KD, Lew EO. A rare presentation of Alexander Disease. Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2018) V24; H1: 657.

Rapkiewicz AV, Kenerson K, Hutchins KD, Garavan F, Lew EO, Shuman MJ. Fatal Complications of Aesthetic Techniques: The Gluteal Region. J Forensic Sci., 2018. doi: 10.1111/1556-4029.13761.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. An Approach to the Classification of Apparent Asphyxial Infant Deaths. *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 2017. 7(2), 200-211

Snyder V., Curry C., Lew E. and Matshes E. Morbid obesity is not a risk factor for the development of clinically significant coronary artery atherosclerosis. *Academic Forensic Pathology.* 5(1), 38-46.

Matshes E.W., Hamilton L.E., & Lew E.O. (2012). Routine Metabolic Testing is Not Warranted in Unexpected Infant Death Investigations. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(4), 346-356. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.053

Matshes E., Selanders L. and Lew E. Skull base fractures are markers of severe forces in the first two years of life. *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 2 (4), 318-323.

Matshes E., Selanders L., Hatch G. and Lew E. Injuries of the upper cervical spinal column are markers of severe forces in the first two years of life. *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 2(4), 324-331.

Matshes E.W., McKenzie B., & Lew E.O. (2012). Lethal Neurotoxicity Induced by Endosulfan Ingestion. Academic Forensic Pathology, 2(1), 100-103. https://doi.org/10.23907/2012.014

Matshes E., Milroy C., Parai J., Sampson B., Reichard R., and Lew E. What is a complete autopsy? *Academic Forensic Pathology*. 1 (1), 2-7.

Matshes E., Evans R., Pinckard K., Joseph J., White C and Lew E. Shaken infants die of neck trauma, not of brain trauma. *Academic Forensic Pathology.* 1 (1), 82-91.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. 2010. Two-Handed Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Can Cause Rib Fractures in Infants. AM J Forensic Med Pathol 31: 303-307.

Hamilton L, Lew EO, Matshes EW. 2010. "Grown-up" Congenital Heart Disease and Sudden Death in a Medical Examiner's Population. J Forensic Sci. Vol. 56, No. 5 pp 1206-1212.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. 2010. Homicide by unspecified means. AM J Forensic Med Pathol 31: 174-177.

Matshes EW and Lew EO. 2010. Do resuscitation-related injuries kill infants and children? AM J Forensic Med Pathol 31: 178-185.

Gyori E, Lew EO. 2007 Unsuspected central nervous system gummas in a case of "cerebral infarct" associated with cocaine use. Am J Forensic Med Pathol 28:208-211.

Boland DM, Rein J, Lew EO, Hearn WL. 2003. Fatal cold medication intoxication in an infant. Journal of Analytical Toxicology Vol 27, 7: 523-529.

Lew EO, Bannach BG, Rodriguez, III WC. 1996. Septic tank burial: Not just another skeleton in the closet. J Forensic Sci. Vol. 41, No. 5 pp. 887-890.

Lew EO and Wetli CV. 1996. Mortality from Hurricane Andrew. J Forensic Sci. Vol. 41, No 3 pp. 449-452

Lew EO and Kennington, RH. 1996. Not under the hammer: A revolver suicide. J Forensic Sci., Vol. 41, No. 2 pp. 317-319

Lew EO, Mittleman RE, Murray D. 1991. Endotracheal tube ignition by electrocautery during tracheostomy: Case report with autopsy findings. J Forensic Sci 36:1586-1591

Lew EO, Rozdilsky B, Munoz DG, Perry G. 1989. A new type of neuronal cytoplasmic inclusion: Histological, ultrastructural, and immunocytochemical studies. Acta Neuropathol 77:599-604

Friedman L, Patel M, Lew E. Silberberg P. 1989. Benign histiocytic fibroma of rib with CT correlation. Can Assoc Radiol J 40:114-116

Lew EO, 1989. Homicidal hanging in a dyadic death. A case report. Am J Forensic Med Pathol 9:283-286

Lew EOH, Richardson JS. 1981. Neurochemical and behaviourial correlates of the interaction between amphetamine and Δ^9 –tetrahydrocannabinol in the rat. Drug and Alcohol Dependence 8:93-101

IX. **PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS AND ABSTRACTS**:

Co-author in: Miami Vice: Brazilian Butt Lift Lessons Learned from the Miami Morgue. The Aesthetic Meeting 2019 (Scientific Sessions). Abstract #8063. Presented in New Orleans in May 2019.

Co-author in: Update on Gluteal Fat Grafting presented at Florida Plastic Surgery Forum, Florida Society of Plastic Surgeons. December 2018.

Co-author in: Gluteal Fat Grafting Mortality: The Miami Experience: Review of Autopsy Findings presented at Florida Plastic Surgery Forum, Florida Society of Plastic Surgeons. December 2018.

Co-author in: Hosting International Forensic Pathology Scholars. NAME 2018 Annual Meeting.

Schoen N, Richardson AM, Armstrong V, Sedighim S, Marshall H, Janecki J, Baig M, Bidot C, Lew E, Jagid J, Bullock MR. Gunshot Wounds to the Head in Urban South Florida: Novel Epidemiologic Insight. For digital poster presentation at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons: 2018 Annual Meeting in Houston, TX, Oct. 2018.

Stroberg E, Hutchins K, Lew E. A Rare Presentation of Alexander Disease. February 2018. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 70th Annual Scientific Meeting. Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2018) V24; H1.

Armstrong V, Richardson AM, Janecki J, Baig M, Marshall H, Sedighim S, Schoen N, Bidot C, Lew E, Bullock MR, Jagid J. Gunshot Wounds to the Head: A Modern Series in an Urban Melting Pot. Presented at AMA Research Symposium in Honolulu, November 2017.

Hutchins KD, Garavan G, Kenerson KL, Lew EO, Rapkiewicz AV. Fatal complications of aesthetic techniques: Gluteal liposculpture. Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2017) V23;H101:257.

Schoen N, Richardson AM, Janecki J, Baig M, Marshall H, Sedighim S, Armstrong V, Bidot C, Lew E, Jagid J, Bullock MR. Gunshot Wounds to the Head in Urban South Florida: An Epidemiologic Evaluation of the Public Health Burden. Accepted for presentation at the UMMSM Neurosurgery (Rosomoff) Research Day in June 2017.

Schoen NB, Richardson AM, Janecki J, Baig M, Bidot C, Marshall HS, Lew EO, Jagid JR, Bullock MR. November 2016. Gunshot Wounds to the Head in Urban South Florida: An In-Depth Epidemiologic Evaluation. AMA Research Symposium, Orlando, Florida.

Snyder V., Curry C., Lathrop S., Lew L. and Matshes E. Morbid obesity is not a risk factor for the development of clinically significant coronary artery atherosclerosis. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2014 Annual Meeting (San Diego).

Matshes E., Shuman M. and Lew E. Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages are not pathognomonic of abusive pediatric head injury. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2010 Annual Meeting (Seattle).

Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Sudden death in infants with congenital heart disease. Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. When infants die suddenly, is routine screening for metabolic diseases warranted? Canadian Association of Pathology 2010 Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ).

Hamilton L., Lew E. and Matshes E. Grown-up congenital heart disease and sudden death in a medical examiner's population. United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) 2010 Annual Meeting (Washington D.C.)

Bromley A., Lew E. and Matshes E. Excited Delirium: A Controversial Diagnosis. Canadian Association of Pathology 2009 Annual Conference (Halifax, Nova Scotia), and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2009 Research Day.

Matshes E. and Lew E. Homicide by unspecified means. Canadian Association of Pathology 2008 Annual Conference (Ottawa, Ontario) and University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2008 Research Day.

Matshes E. and Lew E. Resuscitation-related injury in infants and children. University of Calgary Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine 2006 Research Day, and Canadian Association of Pathologists 2007 Annual Meeting.

Lew, EO. 2005. Fashion Faux Pas: Versace and Cunanan. National Association of Medical Examiners 2005 Annual Meeting.

Shaw, K-P, Burt M, Hyma BA. 2003. Combined Experiences of Valujet 592, Singapore Airlines 006 and China Airlines 611 Aviation Disasters. National Association of Medical Examiners 2003 Annual Meeting. Co-presenter.

Shaw, K-P, Mont EK, Lew EO, Hyma BA. 2003. Retrospective Study of 58 Cases of Congenital Bicuspid Aortic Valve Encountered in a Forensic Setting. National Association of Medical Examiners 2003 Annual Meeting.

Lew EO, Kennington RH. 1996. Not under the hammer – a revolver suicide. Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Abstract G75.

Wetli CV, Lew EO. 1994. Deaths from Hurricane Andrew and its aftermath. Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Abstract. G78.

Hoppe B, Lee MA, Munoz DG, Lew E, Shuaib A. 1990. Polyradiculoneuropathy in olivopontocerebellar atrophy: An autopsy report. XXVth Meeting of the Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences, Abstr. P22.

Lew EO, Murray RB. 1988. Variations in the cytopathology of salivary gland lesions. Proceedings of the 1988 Joint Meeting of the Canadian Congress of Laboratory Medicine and Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists. P-43.

Lew EO, Rozdilsky B, Munoz DG, Perry G. 1987. A new type of neuronal inclusion in human pathology. Can J Neurol Sci 15:173

Lew EOH. 1987. The Bradford Stadium mass disaster. Journal of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science 20:3. Special Edition – Abstracts of the 11th Meeting of International Association of Forensic Sciences, Vancouver, B.C.

Richardson JS, Novakovski DM, Lew EO. 1977. Brain monoamines and free choice ethanol consumption by rats. Proceedings of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies 20:143

Lew EO, Richardson JS, Novakovski DM. 1977. Behaviourial and neurochemical correlates of the interaction of tetrahydrocannabinol with amphetamine. Proceedings of the Canadian Federation of Biological Societies 20:144

X. **EDITED VOLUME**:
Forensic Pathology: Principles and Practice. Dolinak, D., Matshes, E., and Lew, E., editors. Elsevier. Boston. 2005.

Reviewer for Medicolegal Neuropathology (A Color Atlas), Dolinak and Matshes, 2002, CRC Press.

XI. **LECTURER**:

- Death Investigation Courses:
  Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department (1992 to July 2021)
  Florida Department of Law Enforcement, 1995
  Injuries and Death Investigation (Forensic Nurse) Miami-Dade Medical Examiner Department (1996 to 1998)
- Participation in Trial Advocacy/Litigation Skills Class: St. Thomas University, College of Law, Miami (1992 to 1995)
- International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners, Dublin, Ohio (June 1994)
- University of Miami Anthropology 308 (Human Variation-Anthropology of Race), (1994 to 1998)
- American Psychiatric Association, Miami, Florida (May 1995)
- Participation in Trial Advocacy/Litigation Skills Class: University of Miami, College of Law (1995 to approximately 2015)
- Jackson Memorial Hospital Highland Park Pavilion, Adolescent Substance Abuse Program (1995 to 2001)
- American Society of Clinical Pathologists Workshop (Suicide: Problems and Pitfalls) and Dinner Seminar, Washington, D.C., (October 1998)
- Underwater Police Science Technology, Sponsored by Miami Police Department and National Academy of Police Diving (1996 to 1998)
- Jackson Memorial Hospital, Department of Education and Development Courses (1996 to 2006)
- School of Justice and Safety Administration, Criminal Investigation Conference (April 1997)
- Miami-Dade Police Crime Scene Investigations Course (1997 to 2011, 2016 to 2021)
- American Association for Medical Transcription - Greater Miami Chapter 1998 Annual Fall Symposium
- Miami-Dade Police Internal Affairs Investigations Course (2000 to 2021)
- Miami-Dade Police Homicide Investigations Course (2001 to 2019)
- Miami-Dade Police Basic Police Sniper Course (2000)
- Miami-Dade Police Arson Investigation for the 21st Century Course (2000 to 2002)
- Miami-Dade Police Use of Deadly Force Investigations Course (2001 to 2006)
- Miami-Dade Police Advanced Homicide Investigations Seminar (2003 to 2005)
- Miami-Dade Police South American-Caribbean International Fugitive Conference (2004)
- Miami-Dade Police Tactical Operations Section, Special Response Team Conference (November 2007)
- Miami-Dade Police Sexual Crimes Investigations (2008 to 2010)
- Miami-Dade Police Violent Crime Scene Reconstruction (2013 to 2019)
- American Society of Clinical Pathologists Educational Course – Current Topics in Forensic Pathology, (Spring 1997), (Spring 1999), (Spring 2001)

- Society for the Scientific Detection of Crime (Masters of Disaster Seminar), Columbus, Ohio (March 1998)
- Wisconsin Coroners and Medical Examiners Association Annual Conference, Ashland, Wisconsin (June 2001)
- Forensic Pathology Workshop, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (August 2001)
- Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (February 2002, February 2015)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation International Training Unit (Headquarters): Kazakhstan (June 2000); Jamaica (October 2000 and March 2001); Armenia (September 2001); Colombia (March 2002)
- American Osteopathic College of Pathologists/American Osteopathic Association Convention (October 2002)
- Ninth Annual Florida Gang Investigators Association Training Conference (October 2002)
- Saskatchewan Police College Child Abuse Investigator's Course, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada (November 2003)
- Forensic Aspects of Child Abuse Conference, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (November 2003)
- A Practicum in Forensic Odontology, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department and Miami-Dade County University (December 2003, 2005, 2007)
- Surgical Grand Rounds, Royal University Hospital (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan) (April 2004)
- Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police (Spring Meeting 2004)
- Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science Annual Congress (June 2004)
- Florida Division of the International Association for Identification (FDIAI) Educational Training Conference (November 2004, October 2007, October 2016)
- International Forensic Photography Workshop, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department (2005 to Present)
- Speaker, Paul Kneafsey Memorial Lectureship and Primary Adjudicator 2005 Research Day, Calgary, Alberta, Canada (September 2005)
- Forensic Aspects of Child Abuse: A Seminar for Health and Justice Professionals, Calgary, Alberta, Canada (October 2005)
- Smoky Mountain Criminal Justice Conference (Tenth Annual Criminal Justice Conference for Tennessee) (November 2005)
- Jornada de Actualizacion en Patologia Forense, Ministerio Pùblico Instituto de Medicina Legal, Panama City, Panama (March 2006)
- International Association of Women Police, 44th Annual Conference (Canada, September 2006)
- Regional Organized Crime Information Center, 15th Annual Homicide Conference (Arkansas, October 2006)
- Florida Association for Women Lawyers (February 2008)
- Miami-Dade Police Department Citizens Police Academy (2008 to 2019)
- Annual Medical Examiner's Symposium (Alberta, Canada, March 2009)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Quarterly Tactical Firearms Training (August/September 2009)
- Performance Standards of Forensic Autopsy and Inspection Conference (Taipei, Taiwan, May 2010)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation ERT Basic Arson School (September 2010 to 2013)
- Masters 14 Conference for Advanced Death Investigation. (Saint Louis University, July 2011)
- Joint Meeting of the American Medical Technologists (AMT) and Caribbean Association of Medical Technologists (CASMET). (August 2011)
- Fanshawe College (London, Ontario) Police Class (2012 to 2014, 2016 to 2019)

- Florida Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Justice Advanced Course: Investigation and Supervision of Officer-Involved Deadly Force Incidents (April 2012 to 2021).
- 5th Annual International Veterinary Forensic Sciences Conference (May 2012)
- Practical Death Investigation Photography (Calgary, Alberta, Canada. May 2012)
- Crime Scene Investigations Course. (Miami-Dade College, School of Justice, August 2012)
- Antique Automobile Club of America (South Florida Region) (April 2013)
- Carnival Cruise Lines Physicians Annual Conference: Preservation of Death Scene and Evidence (August 2013)
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement Sex Crimes Investigation (Miami Police Training Center) (October 2013)
- Florida Division International Association for Identification Annual Training Conference. Welcome speech as one of three local dignitaries at the Opening Ceremonies. (October 2013)
- Miami-Dade Mayor's Executive Interns (November 2013)
- Caribbean Overseas Territories (COT) Serious and Organized Crime Working Group (February 2014)
- Miami-Dade Police Special Response Team/Ryder Trauma Center Fellows (February 2014)
- German International Police Association (IPA) Educational Program (February 2014, May 2015)
- Carnival Cruise Lines Shipboard Security Training CVSSA Model Course 11-01 (May 2014, May 2015, April 2016, May 2018)
- Volusia County Sheriff's Office Death & Crime Scene Investigation Conference (September 2016, 2018)
- Florida Court Reporters Association (FCRA) Annual Convention (June 2017)
- SOFT/TIAFT Meeting Workshop "From the Street to the Lab: Updated Trends and Case Reports for Novel Psychoactive Substances" (January 2018)
- West Texas Forensic Pathology Workshop, Lubbock, TX (February 2019)
- Rotary Club of Miami (February 2020)
- Association of Firearm &Toolmark Examiners 52nd Annual Conference Keynote Speaker (August 2021)

2025 COMPLEX CASE FEE SCHEDULE

Criminal Matters (DoD)

STANDARD SERVICES (PRE-DETERMINED FLAT RATE OPTIONS)

We recommend the below flat rate options for guaranteed / predictable pricing:

SERVICE	INCLUDES	FLAT RATE
VERBAL OPINION	Comprehensive case review; verbal consultation; and short narrative (written) summary of expert findings upon request	**$5,000**
EXPERT REPORT	Comprehensive, professionally assembled written report with all necessary exhibits (including custom professional medical illustrations when deemed necessary)	**$10,000**
TESTIMONY	Fees customized for each case, based on the requirements of the case and the requests of the attorneys. Based on a daily rate of $5000 per day, plus out-of-pocket travel expenses.	**$5,000 per day**

1075 El Camino Real | Suite 305 | San Diego, California USA 92130 | PII | admin@naagforensic.com

HOURLY RATE OPTIONS

For those agencies that prefer or require hourly billing instead of the guaranteed flat rate option above, or for special circumstances necessitating the use of on-demand expertise, the following hourly rates would apply:

Forensic pathologist	$600
Surgical pathologist	$500
Molecular pathologist	$500
Neuropathologist	$600
Radiologist	$700
Child abuse pediatrician	$650
Internist	$400
Forensic attorney	$400
Paralegal/case manager	$150
Medical/death investigator	$250
Laboratory technician	$150
Admin Assistant	$50

Wherever possible paramedical / paralegal support staff are used first to minimize billing; charged by the 0.1 hour for all time spent on the approved task

SPECIALIZED LABORATORY SERVICES

The following core laboratory functions are available:

SERVICE	INCLUDES	FLAT RATE
ORGAN/TISSUE DEEP DIVE	Detailed review of organs and tissues retained as evidence by State Agencies with additional testing / retesting as indicated by medicolegal demands	**$12,000**
FIRST (FORENSIC) AUTOPSY	Transportation costs and regulatory fees to transfer the body to NAAG Forensic facilities in California; all professional and paraprofessional time related to the examination and evaluation; all laboratory fees; comprehensive autopsy report	**$10,000** FROM WITHIN CALIFORNIA **$15,000** USA; OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA
SECOND AUTOPSY	Transportation costs and regulatory fees to transfer the body to NAAG Forensic facilities in California; all professional and paraprofessional time related to the examination and evaluation; all laboratory fees; comprehensive autopsy report	**$15,000** FROM WITHIN CALIFORNIA **$20,000** USA; OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA
EXHUMATION WITH SECOND AUTOPSY	Second autopsy fees plus all fees related to disinterment and reinterment of the remains	**$25,000**
GENETIC / MOLECULAR TESTING	Coordination of sample collection, chain of custody, laboratory testing, interpretation of results	**CUSTOM**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC
1510 GILBERT STREET
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737

5811
Ser N00J/075
17 Feb 26

From: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
To: LCDR Clifton E. Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (FORENSIC PATHOLOGY)

Ref: (a) LCDR Morgan's ltr dtd 24 Oct 25
(b) CDR Mayo's ltr dtd 6 Feb 26

Encl: (1) Sample Invoice
(2) Expert Consultation Agreement

1. In response to reference (a) and (b), your request for the approval of Dr. Emma Lew as a substitute for Dr. Evan Matshes as an expert consultant in the subject case is approved.

2. Dr. Lew is approved for thirty (30) hours of pre-trial consultation, at a rate of $600/hour for a total of $18,000.00.

3. Advance approval is required prior to agreeing to or accepting services in excess of this amount.

4. Ensure Dr. Lew is registered in the System for Awards Management (SAM) at www.sam.gov and that she has applied for a CAGE # and her Unique Entity Identifier #. As of 4 April 2022, the unique entity identifier used across the federal government changed from the DUNS Number to the Unique Entity ID (generated by SAM.gov). The Duns number will no longer be needed. These numbers will be used to process his invoice for payment by the Defense Finance Accounting System (DFAS). Ensure her profile is set on "public view" vice "private view" in order to expedite payment of services.

5. Please submit invoices in the format provided in enclosure (1), to prevent their rejection by DFAS or Commander, Naval Installations Command (CNIC) Headquarters. **All invoices must be in proper format with a CAGE # and the Unique Entity ID # on them.** Invoices should be submitted within **30** days of completion of services.

6. All invoices for expert services shall be submitted via requesting counsel to: "Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic" and e-mailed to CNRMALegalGroup@us.navy.mil. The originating requesting counsel must certify the work performed prior to payment and shall be "cc'd" on invoice submission. Requesting counsel shall ensure the invoice does not exceed authorization letter parameters.

Subj: FUNDING FOR DEFENSE EXPERT CONSULTANT ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN COPELAND (FORENSIC PATHOLOGY)

7. The authorization for Dr. Lew has been completed and services may now begin.

BEASLEYLEDET.RONISHA.TOREATHER.[redacted]
Digitally signed by BEASLEYLEDET.RONISHA.TOREATHER.[redacted]
Date: 2026.02.17 13:45:18 -05'00'

R. BEASLEY-LEDET
By direction

Copy to:
Dr. Lew
File

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION TO RECONSIDER (DEFENSE MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF EXPERT PATHOLOGIST)** **5 MARCH 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion seeking the production of an expert consultant in Pathology.[1] The Government responded on 5 December 2025[2] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 10 December 2025. During oral argument the Government conceded the need for a defense expert in Pathology and the court directed the Government to provide an adequate substitute. On 19 December 2025, the Government complied with the court's order and provided the defense with a government funded Pathologist. Thereafter, on 22 December 2025, the court issued a written ruling granting the defense motion for an expert in pathology, but denying the motion with respect to the specific Pathologist sought by the defense.[3]

On 18 February 2025, the defense filed a motion to reconsider the court's ruling,[4] and on 26 February 2026, the Government filed a response.[5] The court heard oral argument on the motion to reconsider on 5 March 2026.

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) X.
[2] AE IX.
[3] AE LXIV.
[4] AE LXXIV.
[5] AE LXXXII.

2. Burden.

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence.[6]

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

a. On 9 June 2025, the remains of CS3 A.R. were found in a secluded area of Norfolk. An autopsy was performed on 10 June 2025 by Dr. Fernanda Lameira of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

b. Also on 9 June 2025, CSSN Jermiah Copeland entered pretrial confinement upon being suspected of numerous violations of the UCMJ, including sexual assault and the premeditated murder of CSSN A.R.

c. The autopsy performed by Dr. Lameira resulted in an "undetermined" cause of death. Dr. Lameira has been identified as a Government witness for trial. She will testify regarding her medical findings and the conduct of the autopsy.

e. A second private autopsy was performed by Dr. Nemanja Rodic on 28 June 2025. This autopsy concludes the manner of death is "deferred."

f. On 24 October 2025, the Defense requested the assistance of Dr. Priya Banerjee as an expert consultant prior to, and for trial. Dr. Banerjee indicated she could be of assistance in the matter and that her schedule would allow her participation. She also noted that she is already in the federal payment system and has worked with the military before.

g. On 5 November 2025, the Government responded to the Defense request, acknowledging that the assistance of a forensic pathologist was necessary for the Defense, but denied Dr. Banerjee because her fees were excessive. The Government indicated that they would assist the Defense in finding an adequate substitute.

h. After filing a motion to compel expert production and pursuant to this Court's direction, the Government identified Dr. Evan Matshes as an adequate substitute for the defense. Dr. Matshes is not a government employee, but is a civilian expert in the field of forensic pathology.

i. On 19 December 2025, Dr. Matshes was positively endorsed by the special trial counsel at a rate of $600 per hour for 30 hours of pre-trial consultation.

[6] Rule for Court Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

j. The same day, 19 December 2025, Dr. Priya Banerjee notified the defense that she could conduct pre-trial consultation for a discounted rate of $600 per hour. The Defense promptly notified special trial counsel of this fact the same day.

k. On 21 December 2025, special trial counsel stated that they were unwilling to endorse Dr. Banerjee's participation even at the discounted rate. The cited reasons were that 1) the Government had complied with this Court's directive to find a substitute for the defense and 2) Dr. Banerjee's rate for trial participation was too excessive.

l. On 22 December 2025, this court granted the defense motion for an expert consultant in Pathology for both pre-trial consultation and consultation at trial. The court denied the defense's motion to compel production of Dr. Banerjee, noting that the Government had provided an adequate substitute.

m. On 22 December 2025, the Convening Authority reached out to special trial counsel looking for a fee schedule and a CAGE code for Dr. Matshes.

n. On 28 January 2026, the Defense spoke with Dr. Matshes regarding his availability for trial. He noted that he had a scheduling conflict, he would see if he could resolve it, and that he preferred to shift the Accused's trial dates out of June in order for him to participate.

o. Also on 28 January 2026, the Defense was made aware that the Convening Authority still did not have a CAGE code for Dr. Matshes in order for a contract to be finalized. The same day the Defense reached out to Dr. Matshes' office, the defense counsel received the information and passed along the information to the Convening Authority.

p. On 29 January 2026, the Defense received a signed contract for Dr. Matshes to begin working on 30 hours of pre-trial consultation. But on 5 February 2026, Dr. Matshes confirmed that he was NOT available for the scheduled trial dates in June, and NAAG (Dr. Matshes' practice group) notified the Government that another Pathologist in their practice group, Dr. Emma Lew, could commit to the trial dates. The practice group attached Dr. Lew's CV in their email response to Government counsel and indicated that she billed at the same rate as Dr. Matshes.

q. On 6 February 2026, the Government notified the defense and the Convening Authority of the change in experts and provided all parties with Dr. Lew's CV and fee schedule. Dr. Lew's hourly rate is $600 per day and daily in court rate is $5000 per day.

r. On 18 February 2026, the Convening Authority approved funding for Dr. Lew's pre-trial consultation with Defense.

s. Dr. Lew is a board certified forensic pathologist with three decades of experience in her field, including nearly five years as the Chief Medical Examiner for Miami-Dade County, Florida. Prior to her service as Chief Medical Examiner, she was Deputy Chief Medical

Examiner and Director of Forensic Pathology Services for 15 years. She has been a Voluntary Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of Miami School of Medicine since 1992 and has published numerous journal articles, proceedings and abstracts.

t. Additional facts necessary to resolve the motion are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 703(d)(2) provides when the "employment of a Defense expert consultant is considered necessary" the Defense may request government funding for that expert "in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned." Indeed, the requirement that the government provide for expert consultation stems from the Due Process demand that an accused be given the "basic tools" necessary to present a Defense.[7] An accused has a right to the assistance of an expert upon a showing of necessity.[8] In order to determine necessity, courts apply a two-pronged test: "[T]he accused has the burden of establishing that a reasonable probability exists that (1) an expert would be of assistance to the defense and (2) that denial of expert assistance would result in a fundamentally unfair trial."[9] The first prong of that test is demonstrated by satisfying three conditions:

> First, why the expert assistance is needed. Second, what would the expert assistance accomplish for the accused. Third, why is the defense counsel unable to gather and present the evidence that the expert assistant would be able to develop.[10]

The defense is required to show more than a mere possibility of assistance.[11] Likewise, "[a]n accused is not . . . entitled to a specific expert of his own choosing."[12] "'All that is required is that competent assistance be made available.'"[13]

With regard to the second prong, a trial is considered fundamentally unfair where the government's actions are "so outrageous that due process principles would absolutely bar the government from invoking judicial processes to obtain a conviction."[14]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The Government concedes and this court has granted the defense's motion for an expert consultant in Pathology. The defense avers, however, that the court should reconsider its ruling denying a specific Pathologist, Dr. Banerjee, for two reasons. First, the defense contends that the

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[7] *United States v. Short*, 50 M.J. 370, 373 (C.A.A.F. 1999).
[8] *United States v. Bresnahan*, 62 M.J. 137, 143 (C.A.A.F. 2005) (citing *United States v. Gunkle*, 55 M.J. 26, 31 (C.A.A.F. 2001).
[9] *United States v. Freeman*, 65 M.J. 451, 458 (C.A.A.F. 2006).
[10] *United States v. Gonzalez*, 39 M.J. 459, 461 (C.M.A. 1994) (citations omitted).
[11] *See Short*, 50 M.J. at 372.
[12] *Id.* at 373.
[13] *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Burnette*, 29 M.J. 473, 475 (CMA 1990)).
[14] *United States v. Russell*, 411 U.S. 423, 431-32 (1973).

Government denied Dr. Banerjee solely because of costs and yet she has agreed to reduce her pretrial consultation fees to the level the Government has contracted to pay Dr. Lew, their adequate substitute. Second, the defense argues that Dr. Lew is not an adequate substitute.

First, while Dr. Banerjee has agreed to reduce her pretrial fees, there is no evidence that she has agreed to reduce her in-court fees. She currently bills $10,000 per day for in-court consultation compared to $5,000 per day for Dr. Lew. As the court has already granted the defense's request for expert consultation both pretrial and during trial, the significant cost disparity for the respective experts in-court consultation was reasonable for the Convening Authority to consider in providing a substitute for Dr. Banerjee. The defense also contends that there is no evidence that the Convening Authority had concerns about the higher costs, but rather those concerns only arise from the prosecutors. The evidence of record, however, belies such an argument. Government Counsel presented the defense's request for Dr. Banerjee along with her CV and fee schedule to the Convening Authority, along with their recommendation that he deny the request. Likewise, Government counsel provided Dr. Lew's CV and fee schedule to the Convening Authority with a recommendation that he approve it. Absent evidence to the contrary – none of which has been provided to the court – the court presumes regularity and that the Convening Authority acted on the requests in the normal course of business and considered the material provided to him when he made his decisions to deny Dr. Banerjee and approve Dr. Lew.

Second, the court finds that Dr. Lew is an adequate substitute for Dr. Banerjee. In their filing, the defense does not attack Dr. Lew's credentials or experience beyond reference to the fact that she has mostly done work for government agencies and not as a defense consultant. Rather, the defense cites two news articles that are critical of Dr. Lew and argues that their expert must be beyond reproach.[15] The defense contends that members could ignore the military judge's orders and research Dr. Lew and come across these articles and question her credibility. Of course, members are presumed to follow the military judge's instructions,[16] but more importantly these articles reveal at most a human resources issues and a single autopsy in 33 years as a pathologist where one of the parties disagrees with her determination. The defense also argues that it would be unfair for the Government to provide Dr. Lew and then be able to attack her credentials based on these perceived controversies. On this point the court agrees, and the Government is estopped from attacking Dr. Lew's credentials.

Dr. Lew has been board certified as a Pathologist since 1988 and as a Forensic Pathologist since 1992 and she most recently served as the Chief Medical Examiner for a major American metropolitan area. Accordingly, the court finds that Dr. Lew is an adequate substitute

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[15] One article details a lawsuit filed by her deputy Medical Examiner in which a jury awarded him damages after he was fired after he had made protected whistleblower communications alleging wrongdoing by another Medical Examiner. *See* https://www.floridabulldog.org/2024/08/jury-tells-miami-dade-to-pay-10-million-to-whistle-blowing-ex-deputychief-medical-examiner/. The other details her conclusion that a Florida inmate's death was the result of an accident. *See* https://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/emma-lew-miami-dade-medical-examiner-who-said-darren-raineys-deathwas-an-accident-gets-promotion-10796694/.

[16] *See United States v. Quezada*, 82 M.J. 54, 59 (C.A.A.F. 2021) ("This Court presumes that the members follow the military judge's instructions absent evidence to the contrary.").

for Dr. Banerjee and that she is more than capable of providing "competent assistance" to the defense.[17]

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion to Reconsider the Court's Ruling Denying the Production of Dr. Banerjee, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED.**

So ordered this 5th day of March, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

[17] *Short*, 50 M.J. at 373.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF (MERGE UNREASONABLY MULTIPLIED CHARGES)** **10 MARCH 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 18 February 20265, the defense filed a motion for appropriate relief asking the court to merge Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V for findings, or, alternatively, for sentencing.[1] The Government responded on 24 February 2026[2] and the court heard oral argument on the motion on 5 March 2026.

2. Burden.

The Defense, as the moving party, bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of the evidence.[3]

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) LXXII.
[2] AE LXXVIII.
[3] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

a. In Specification 1 of Charge V, preferred on 22 August 2025, the government alleges a violation of Article 128b, Uniform Code of military justice (UCMJ), (Domestic Violence - Strangulation):

> In that Culinary Specialist Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 11 April 2025, commit an assault upon CSSN S.R., U.S. Navy, the dating partner of the accused, by unlawfully strangling her with his hands.

b. In Specification 2 of Charge V, preferred on 22 August 2025, the government alleges a violation of Article 128b, Uniform Code of military justice (UCMJ), (Domestic Violence - Violent Offense):

> In that Culinary Specialist Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 11 April 2025, commit an assault upon CSSN S.R., U.S. Navy, the dating partner of the accused, by unlawfully pushing her with his hands.

c. Additional facts necessary to resolve the motion are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

"What is substantially one transaction should not be made the basis for an unreasonable multiplication of charges against one person."[4] Courts ordinarily decide merger requests at the sentencing phase by considering the *Quiroz* factors, as well as any other relevant factors."[5] Ultimately, with respect to both the findings and the sentence, "the application of the *Quiroz* factors involves a reasonableness determination."[6]

The Court of Military Appeals in *United States v. Quiroz* gave a five-part test to use when evaluating claims of unreasonable multiplication of charges:

1) Did the accused object at trial that there was an unreasonable multiplication of charges and/or specifications?;

2) Is each charge and specification aimed at distinctly separate criminal acts?;

3) Does the number of charges and specifications misrepresent or exaggerate the [accused's] criminality?;

4) Does the number of charges and specifications *unfairly* increase the [accused's] punitive exposure?; and

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[4] R.C.M. 307(c)(4).
[5] *United States v. Forrester*, 76 MJ 389, 394 (C.A.A.F. 2017) (citing *United States v. Campbell*, 71 MJ 19, 24 n. 9 (C.A.A.F. 2012)).
[6] *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Anderson*, 68 MJ 378, 386 (C.A.A.F 2010)).

5) Is there any evidence of prosecutorial overreaching or abuse in the drafting of the charges?[7]

Acts that are "so united in time, circumstance, and impulse in regard to a single person" may constitute a single offense.[8] When reviewing various charges in a certain case, it should be noted whether the offenses address distinct criminal purposes, in addition to whether they constitute separate and distinct criminal acts.[9]

The concept of unreasonable multiplication of charges may apply differently to findings than to sentencing, and as such, "the nature of the harm requires a remedy that focuses more appropriately on punishment than on findings."[10] Accordingly, the President has directed that "terms of confinement for two or more specifications shall run concurrently . . . [w]hen an accused is found guilty of two or more specifications and the military judge finds that the charges or specifications are unreasonable multiplied[.]"[11]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The defense argues this court should merge the two specifications under Charge V, both alleging that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. on 11 April 2025, because both specifications allege conduct that occurred during the same interaction between the Accused and CSSN S.R. The defense specifically cites a recent opinion from the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals (NMCCA) where the court held that a military judge abused his discretion when he failed to merge two domestic violence specifications. In *United States v. Porath*, the accused was charged with two specifications of violating Article 128b, each by committing a violent offense against his spouse – placing her in a chokehold and unlawfully pushing her.[12] Notably, Porath was charged with placing his spouse in a "choke hold" as the conduct underlying the assault consummated by a battery, he was not charged domestic violence by strangulation. In concluding that the military judge abused his discretion by not merging the specifications for findings, the court reasoned that the accused "should not be separately convicted for what amounts to a single, brief, uninterrupted attack involving multiple offensive touchings united in time, circumstance, and impulse."[13] The court, therefore, held that "multiple convictions for domestic violence stemming from the same altercation, *both involving an underlying offense of assault consummated by a battery*, were unreasonable in this case."[14]

While defense likens the case at bar to *Porath*, when analyzing this case through the lens of

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[7] 55 M.J. 334, 338 (C.A.A.F. 2001) (emphasis in original).
[8] *United States v. Rushing*, 11 M.J. 95, 98 (C.M.A. 1981).
[9] *See id*. at 24 (finding that a false official statement charge and a larceny charged are aimed at distinct purposes and harms).
[10] *Campbell*, 71 M.J. at 23 (citing *Quiroz*, 55 M.J. at 339).
[11] R.C.M. 1002(b)(2)(b)(iii).
[12] *United States v. Porath,* No. 202400223, 2025 CCA LEXIS 539, at *12-13 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 24, 2025).
[13] *Id.* (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).
[14] *Id*. at 13 (emphasis added).

Quiroz, the distinction becomes clear. First, unlike the specifications at issue in *Porath*, the two specifications here are aimed at distinct criminal acts. In *Porath* the accused was charged with two specifications of domestic violence by committing a violent offense; specifically, Porath was charged with two assaults consummated by a battery on his spouse. Here, although the Accused is charged with two specifications of domestic violence, Specification 1 alleges a strangulation – a form of aggravated assault,[15] while Specification 2 alleges an assault consummated by a battery. In short, the Accused is charged with two different forms of domestic violence in violation of Article 128b.

Second, because the specifications are aimed at different harms – including the more serious allegation of strangulation—the charging scheme does not exaggerate the accused's criminality. Indeed, as our sister service court of criminal appeals recognized, "it is difficult to see how, pre-findings, an assault consummated by a battery offense and an aggravated assault could be merged into a coherent specification."[16] Such a merged specification would necessarily "create a facially duplicitous specification, that is, a specification which alleged two separate crimes with separate elements: Article 128b(1), UCMJ (a violent offense), and Article 128b(5), UCMJ (strangulation)"[17] in violation of R.C.M. 307(c)(4) which admonishes that "[e]ach specification shall state only one offense." The impracticality of merging two specifications alleging two different crimes bespeaks the obvious – Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V are aimed at distinct criminal acts which do not exaggerate the Accused's criminality.

Finally, there is no evidence of prosecutorial overreach. Nor is the charging scheme unreasonable. Indeed, as noted above, the Government is not simply charging an assault "blow-by blow" but are charging two distinct crimes: an aggravated assault by strangulation upon the Accused's intimate partner, CSSN S.R. and an assault consummated by a battery upon her by unlawfully pushing her. Put simply, "[a]ggravated assault is a different offense than an assault consummated by a battery[.]"[18]

With respect to whether the specifications represent an unreasonable multiplication for sentencing, the Government concedes the issue. The appropriate remedy is concurrent sentences.[19]

[15] *See* Article 128(b)(3), UCMJ; 10 U.S.C. § 928(b)(3).
[16] *United State v. Boykin*, No. 20160136, 2017 CCA LEXIS 400, at *4 (A.C.C.A. 12 Jun. 2017) (unpub. op.).
[17] *United States v. Covitz*, No. ACM40913, 2025 CCA LEXIS 105, at *14 (A.F. Ct. Cim. App. 19 Mar. 2025) (unpub. op.).
[18] *Id* at n.10.
[19] R.C.M. 1002(b)(2)(b)(iii).

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion for Appropriate Relief to Merge Specifications 1 and 2 of Charge V, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED**.

So ordered this 10th day of March, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **11 March 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 5 March 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) LXXIII, LXXIX, LXXX and LXXXVI, which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 412 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 5 March 2026, and AEs LXXIII, LXXIX, LXXX and LXXXVI.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelopes containing these items shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the items in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of March 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

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So **ORDERED**, this 11th day of March 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF** **(PRIVATE MEETING WITH DEFENSE TEAM INCLUDING EXPERTS)** **12 March 2026**

MOTION

Pursuant to the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution and Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(a) the defense moves this Court to order the government to permit the defense, to include its experts, to meet with CSSN Copeland, in private, in order to prepare for trial or order the release of CSSN Jermiah Copeland from pretrial confinement.

SUMMARY

On 9 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was ordered into pretrial confinement. On 16 June 2025, a 7-day reviewing officer held a hearing and approved continued confinement. That same day, the defense began requesting to confer privately with CSSN Copeland. The trial counsel, the brig, and CSSN Copeland's commanding officer denied those requests. The defense requests that this Court review CSSN Copeland's confinement and find that it interferes with his right to counsel – namely his right to confer privately with his attorneys and defense team – and order that the defense be permitted to meet with CSSN Copeland privately in the same room to have confidential meetings in preparation for trial at least once every two weeks. These meetings can be at the brig, in building A-50, or at another location in Hampton Roads, Virginia. Alternatively, this Court should order the release of CSSN Copeland from pretrial confinement.

BURDEN

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of evidence. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. On 9 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was ordered into confinement. (AE XXIII at 2).

2. CSSN Copeland is confined at the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston (NCBC) Detachment Chesapeake. He is classified as a maximum status prisoner. This means, he is in his cell alone for at least 22 hours per day. At least one military judge has ruled that this type of confinement is illegal pretrial punishment. (AE VII at 2-14).

3. On 16 June 2025, an Initial Review Officer (IRO) hearing was held at the NCBC, where the defense team met with CSSN Copeland for the first time. That same day, a 7-day reviewing officer approved continued confinement. (*Id.* at 163-170).

4. Based on CSSN Copeland's status, his defense team cannot have a contact visit with him at the brig. The brig will only allow the defense team to meet with him behind glass. This room makes it difficult, if not impossible, for the attorneys to hear our client and makes it difficult for CSSN Copeland to hear his attorneys. Additionally, communications from outside this room can be heard while inside, which means communications within the room can also be heard. Further, there is no means to review discovery with CSSN Copeland in this room as there are only tiny slots to pass a few sheets of folded paper and no way for CSSN Copeland to review a video or electronic evidence. (*Id.* at 186; 194).

5. On 16 June 2025, the defense demanded a speedy trial and requested that CSSN Copeland be brought to building A-50 to meet with his defense counsel. (*Id.* at 180; AE XXIII at 8).

6. On 24 June 2025, after the defense followed up on our initial request, the trial counsel responded to inquire as to why the defense wanted to meet with our client in-person. The defense responded and explained. The same day, the Staff Judge Advocate for the USS JAMES E. WILLIAM's ISIC stated that the command was standing by to assist. However, on 30 June 2025, the trial counsel stated that "the government would not be able to support…." The defense asked the trial counsel for justification as to why the government would not support our request. However, the trial counsel never responded. (AE VII at 174-176).

7. Despite the trial counsel not responding to the defense's request for justification, on 1 July 2025, the trial counsel submitted a request for excludable delay from 10 June 2025 to 25 July 2025. (Enclosure (A): Excludable Delay Request of 1 Jul 25). That same day, the defense objected to that request. (Enclosure (B): Defense Objection to Excludable Delay of 1 Jul 25).

8. On 9 July 2025, the convening authority granted the government request for excludable delay until 25 July 2025. (Enclosure (C): Grant of Excludable Delay ltr of 9 Jul 25).

9. On 25 July 2025, CSSN Copeland again demanded a speedy trial. (AE XXIII at 9). The Office of Special Trial Counsel neither acknowledged nor responded to this request.

10. On 30 July 2025, the defense requested discovery citing Rules 3.4 and 3.8 of the JAG Corps Rules for Professional Responsibility because the defense requires and is entitled to fairness and equal access to discovery. Further, the defense explained that discovery would reduce the risk of prejudicial speedy trial issues if charges were ever preferred in this case. The trial counsel neither acknowledged nor responded to this request. (Enclosure (D): Defense's Initial Discovery Request of 30 Jul 25).

11. Instead, on 8 August 2025, the trial counsel once again requested excludable delay. (Enclosure (E): Second Excludable Delay Request of 8 Aug 25).

12. On 29 July 2025, CSSN Copeland through counsel submitted a formal request for redress to the Commanding Officer, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS to meet with his attorneys in a private, confidential in-person setting. (AE VII at 183).

13. On 7 August 2025, the USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS denied CSSN Copeland's request and later refused to provide any reasoning. (*Id.* at 191).

14. On 11 August 2025, the defense objected to the second request for excludable delay. (Enclosure (F): Defense Objection to Second Excludable Delay of 11 Aug 25). As of this filing, the convening authority has not responded to the trial counsel's request.

15. On 13 August 2025, CSSN Copeland filed a complaint pursuant to Article 138, UCMJ. (AE VII at 171-193).

16. On 21 August 2025, NCIS was permitted to meet with CSSN Copeland at the brig and have a contact visit. The special agents were allowed to be in a room with CSSN Copeland. Touch him and take a buccal swab, get his fingerprints, and take his photograph. (Proffered testimony from SA Fritzer Philemon).

17. On 22 August 2025, the government preferred charges in this case. On that same day, the defense reached out about scheduling the Article 32 hearing and meeting with our client in preparation for the hearing. (AE VII at 199- 201).

18. On 26 August 2025, the defense filed an application for a pre-referral motion for the court to review CSSN Copeland's pretrial confinement and order the government to stop interfering with CSSN Copeland's right to counsel. On 27 August, the chief trial judge for the central circuit ordered a hearing pursuant to Article 30a. (Enclosure G: Defense MFAR (Review of PTC) of 26 Aug 25).

19. On 23 September 2025, the trial counsel sent the defense an official pre-arraignment plea agreement offer. The details of the plea offer request that CSSN Copeland plea to several specifications, including unpremeditated murder, for a limit on confinement of 46 years. Additionally, the trial counsel requested a proffer with acceptance and for CSSN Copeland to waive any protections afforded by M.R.E. 410. (Enclosure (I): OSTC Plea Offer of 23 Sep 25).

20. On 25 September 2025, in response to the plea offer, the defense requested to meet with our client in-person to discuss the deal. On 29 September 2025, the defense counsel followed up suggesting that we could schedule a time near the arraignment when defense counsel would already be in Norfolk. (AE VII at 202-205).

21. On 30 September 2025, the brig emailed CSSN Copeland's command to inform them that CSSN Copeland had requested an in-person legal visit with his defense team. (*Id.* at 206).

22. On 1 October 2025, the trial counsel responded to the defense counsel's email. (*Id.* at 202-205).

23. CSSN Copeland submitted a "510-request" to be temporarily released for a legal meeting. In response, the brig staff emailed the legal officer on the USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS regarding the best dates to accommodate this request (*Id.* at 206).

24. On 6 October 2025, the Commanding Officer, Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston granted CSSN Copeland an exception to policy to allow contact visits with CSSN Copeland at the Chesapeake Brig. (*Id.* at 218).

25. On 17 February 2026, the defense reached out to the brig staff to coordinate a meeting between CSSN Copeland and a defense expert. In response the Officer in Charge, Naval Consolidated Brig Detachment Chesapeake informed the defense that due to misconduct, CSSN Copeland lost the "privilege" to meet with members of the defense in a contact room. (Enclosure (J): Email from OIC Det Charleston of 17 Feb 26).

26. The defense contacted the trial counsel to seek assistance or alternative accommodation.

27. On 25 February 2026, the defense followed up with the trial counsel regarding the status of the defense's request. The Brig's OIC responded that "The prisoner is still able to meet with his counsel/defense team, whether in the no-contact booth, or if they conduct a TR and take him to A-50 or wherever." (Enclosure (K): Email from Brig OIC of 25 Feb 26).

28. That same day, the trial counsel responded that they were still waiting for the convening authority and command's response regarding their willingness to accommodate the defense's request. In the email, the trial counsel attached its filing from the Article 30(a) proceeding and informed the defense that the trial counsel's position that it does not see any issue with the brig's policy. (Enclosure (L): Email from Trial Counsel of 25 Feb 26).

29. Both the defense's mitigation specialist and forensic psychologist (recidivism) must meet with CSSN Copeland in an unobstructed environment. (Enclosure (M): Email from Dr. Nameeta Sahni; Enclosure (N): Letter from Daniel LaValva of 18 Feb 26).

30. From 9 through 11 March 2026, the parties attempted to come to a solution outside of the court. (Enclosure (H): Emails between trial counsel, defense counsel, and the brig OIC). As of this filing, the defense has not received a response indicating that our experts can meet with CSSN Copeland in a contact space at either the brig or building A-50 or any other location.

LAW

31. "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense."[1] Necessarily included in the Sixth Amendment right to counsel is the right of an accused to *confer privately* with his attorney.[2]

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[1] U.S. CONST. amend. VI.
[2] *United States v. Brooks*, 66 M.J. 221, 223 (C.A.A.F. 2008) (citing *United States v. Godshalk*, 44 M.J. 487, 490 (C.A.A.F. 1996); *Geders v. United States*, 425 U.S. 80, 88-91 (1976)) (emphasis added).

32. The accused has the right to be represented by counsel during an investigation under Article 32, UCMJ, and before a general or special court-martial.[3] In the military justice system, the right to counsel includes the right to counsel detailed under Article 27, UCMJ. The right to the services of detailed counsel "is substantial, and extends to both the pretrial and the trial proceedings."[4]

33. "The right to be heard would be, in many cases, of little avail if it did not comprehend the right to be heard by counsel…. [A defendant] is unfamiliar with the rules of evidence…. He lacks both the skill and knowledge adequately to prepare his defense, even though he [may] have a perfect one. He requires the guiding hand of counsel at every step in the proceedings against him."[5] Courts have concluded that an order preventing a defendant from consulting his attorney even during an overnight recess infringes upon this substantial right.[6]

34. "A concomitant right is the right to confidential communications between the attorney and client."[7] M.R.E. 502(a) requires confidential communications "for the purpose of facilitating the rendition of professional legal services to the client."

35. "Pretrial confinement is physical restraint, imposed by order of competent authority, depriving a person of freedom pending disposition of offenses."[8] It is "not punishment and shall not be used as such."[9] Moreover, "[a] person should not be confined as a mere matter of convenience or expedience."[10] In fact, "[p]retrial confinement inevitably makes defense of a case more difficult," so "unless there is a need for it, pretrial confinement should be avoided."[11]

36. An accused is presumed innocent until proved guilty, and, therefore, punishment for an alleged offense is prohibited before trial.[12]

37. The Department of the Navy Corrections Manual (SECNAV M-1640.1 of May 2019) permits military judges to make exceptions to brig policies. This includes allowing a confinee in any status (including "MAX" and "MDI") to meet without escorts or restraints.[13]

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[3] Article 38(b)(1), UCMJ. *See* U.S. CONST. amend. VI; *United States v. Davis*, 60 M.J. 469, 473 (2005).
[4] *United States v. Tellier*, 13 C.M.A. 323, 327 (1962); s*ee United States v. Eason*, 21 C.M.A. 335, 337-39 (1972).
[5] *Geders v. United States*, 425 U.S. 80, 88-89 (1976) (quoting *Powell* v. *Alabama,* 287 U.S. 45, 68-69 (1932); *see also Argersinger* v. *Hamlin,* 407 U.S. 25, 31- 36 (1972); *Gideon* v. *Wainwright,* 372 U.S. 335, 343-345 (1963).
[6] *Id.* (referencing *United States* v. *Venuto,* 182 F. 2d 519 (CA3 1950); *People* v. *Noble,* 42 Ill. 2d 425 (1969); *Commonwealth* v. *Werner,* 206 Pa. Super. 498 (1965)).
[7] *United States v. Godshalk*, 44 M.J. 487, 490 (C.A.A.F. 1996) (citing Mil. R. Evid. 502).
[8] R.C.M. 304(a)(4).
[9] R.C.M. 304(f).
[10] R.C.M. 305(i)(B), Discussion.
[11] *Berta v. United States*, 9 M.J. 390, 393 (C.M.A. 1980) (mem.).
[12] E*.g.,* 10 U.S.C. § 813.
[13] Department of the Navy Corrections Manual at 4-6, 4-7.

ARGUMENT

38. **A review of CSSN Copeland's pretrial confinement demonstrates that his pretrial status is interfering with his rights to counsel.** CSSN Copeland has the right to counsel, included in that right is the right to meet and confer privately with counsel and the defense team and to meet with experts and participate in his own defense. CSSN Copeland is not prohibited from doing so as a punishment for non-violent alleged misconduct regarding disrespect.[14]

39. The defense and CSSN Copeland repeatedly requested to be able to meet in-person privately and have a confidential meeting. Initially, the brig only permitted the defense a "no-contact" visit. This occurs in a room where defense counsel would have to shout and CSSN Copeland would have to shout back through a Plexiglass window.[15] This is unacceptable considering conversations from outside the door can be heard within the room. That is neither private nor in-person. Even according to the Navy's correctional manual "MAX" and "MDI" prisoners must be escorted at all times; however, a military judge may order exceptions.[16] Additionally, CSSN Copeland's command could escort him to another secure location outside of the brig to allow him to meet with counsel and has no problem allowing such a transport to occur.[17] In October, the Commanding Officer of the brig granted an exception to policy allowing for in-person visits with CSSN Copeland.

40. Then, in February 2026, the defense made a request for CSSN Copeland to meet with our experts at the brig and the brig stated that it removed this "privilege" from CSSN Copeland because of some disciplinary infractions. These disciplinary infractions are not for violence, instead they are for alleged disrespect.[18] Now, the government continues to deny the defense's reasonable requests to facilitate a private, confidential meeting with our client. Finally, no brig policy or instruction should interfere with CSSN Copeland's rights to counsel – or his right to confer privately with his attorneys. The government cannot on one hand say that there is a reasonable governmental interest for these policies and then have the brig say that the reason for not allowing CSSN Copeland meaningful participation in his own defense is because of a non-violent alleged infraction of disrespect that has absolutely nothing to do with staff or facility safety.

41. While the phone does allow communication with the client that the defense presumes are confidential, it is not sufficient to prepare for trial or pretrial hearings, now or on a consistent basis. For instance, the defense cannot review discovery with the client over the phone. Further,

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[14] As of this filing, the defense has not received any documents regarding the alleged misconduct.
[15] As of this filing, CSSN Copeland's defense team consists of three attorneys, three paralegals, and numerous expert consultants. The available space in the "no contact room" consists of enough space for two plastic chairs, enough room for two people, on the attorney side of the window.
[16] Department of the Navy Corrections Manual, SECNAV M-1640.1 of 15 May 19 at 4-6, 4-7.
[17] *See* Encl K.
[18] After over six months in solitary confinement, unsurprisingly, CSSN Copeland disagreed with brig personnel about his treatment.

if CSSN Copeland desires to testify in his own defense, whether at the preliminary hearing, an Article 39(a), or at trial, his defense counsel could not properly prepare him for that decision or the hearing over the phone. Importantly, as of last week the brig has begun (for the first time in years) enforcing visiting hours for attorneys to meet and work with their clients. Achieving a phone call with CSSN Copeland is contingent on the availability of brig counselors. Frequently the calls must be arranged multiple days in advance; another inhibition on CSSN Copeland's right to counsel when faced with the often unpredictable and unscheduled needs of protracted litigation.

42. This Court must review CSSN Copeland's confinement and find that it interferes with his right to counsel – namely his right to confer privately with his attorneys – and order that the defense be permitted to meet with CSSN Copeland privately in the same room for a confidential meeting in preparation for trial at least once every two weeks. These meetings can be at the brig, in building A-50, or another location in Hampton Roads, Virginia.

43. The defense is not challenging the brig's policy as such policy does not prohibit in-person meetings with CSSN Copeland in a non-contact room. It both permits exception to the policy, including allowing the military judge to grant such an exception, and it allows the command/convening authority to transport CSSN Copeland to another location for an in-person meeting with the defense's experts.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Pursuant to the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution and Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 906(a) the defense moves this Court to order the government to permit the defense, to include its experts, to meet with CSSN Copeland, in private, in order to prepare for trial or order the release of CSSN Jermiah Copeland from pretrial confinement.

EVIDENCE & HEARING

44. The defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this Motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Excludable Delay Request of 1 Jul 25
b. Enclosure (B): Defense Objection to Excludable Delay of 1 Jul 25
c. Enclosure (C): Grant of Excludable Delay ltr of 9 Jul 25
d. Enclosure (D): Defense's Initial Discovery Request of 30 Jul 25
e. Enclosure (E): Second Excludable Delay Request of 8 Aug 25
f. Enclosure (F): Defense Objection to Second Excludable Delay of 11 Aug 25
g. Enclosure (G): Defense MFAR (Review of PTC) of 26 Aug 25
h. Enclosure (H): Emails between trial counsel, defense counsel, and the brig OIC
i. Enclosure (I): OSTC Plea Offer of 23 Sep 25
j. Enclosure (J): Email from OIC Det Charleston of 17 Feb 26
k. Enclosure (K): Email from Brig OIC of 25 Feb 26
l. Enclosure (L): Email from Trial Counsel of 25 Feb 26
m. Enclosure (M): Email from Dr. Nameeta Sahni of 25 Feb 26
n. Enclosure (N): Letter from Daniel LaValva of 18 Feb 26

45. Unless the government concedes the motion or this Court grants the relief on the basis of pleadings alone, the defense requests a hearing to present evidence and argument on this matter at arraignment. The defense proposes an Article 39(a) on Thursday, 26 March 2026.

[redacted]

LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 12 March 2026, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]

A. M. SERFESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF** **(Interference- Rights to Counsel)** **12 March 2026**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Excludable Delay Request of 1 Jul 25
b. Enclosure (B): Defense Objection to Excludable Delay of 1 Jul 25
c. Enclosure (C): Grant of Excludable Delay ltr of 9 Jul 25
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n. Enclosure (N): Letter from Daniel LaValva of 18 Feb 26

1 Jul 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
Via: Staff Judge Advocate, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 707 (2024 ed.)

1. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government respectfully requests excludable delay for the period beginning on 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025.

2. On 10 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was placed in pre-trial confinement. Per reference (a), this event requires CSSN Copeland be brought to trial within 120 days of the imposition of restraint. CSSN Copeland is under investigation for violating Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 107 (False official statement), Article 117a (Wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images), Article 118 (Murder), Article 120 (Rape and sexual assault), Article 128 (Assault), and Article 128b (Domestic Violence). These alleged violations primarily span four separate, complex alleged incidents and investigation remains ongoing into each.

3. Taken alone, any of one of these offenses is extremely complex and several lengthy investigative steps remain. Specific to the allegation of murder, these steps include receipt and analysis of digital evidence, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, and interviews of several witnesses. NCIS and counsel for the Government are working on this case daily to further the investigation and move with reasonable diligence toward trial. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government may receive excludable delay to thoroughly investigate a case and prepare for trial. Therefore, the Government respectfully requests the time beginning on 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025 be excluded.

4. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact me via e-mail at lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil or via phone at (757) 341-4598.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO[redacted]

Copy to:
Detailed Defense Counsel

1 Jul 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: OBJECTION TO EXCLUDABLE DELAY REQUEST ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST. Amend. VI
(b) Barker v. Wingo, 407 U.S. 514 (1972)
(c) Article 10, U.C.M.J.
(d) R.C.M. 707
(e) Request for excludable delay of 1 Jul 25

Encl: (1) Emails with the special trial counsel
(2) Additional emails with the special trial counsel

1. Per references (a) through (d), CSSN Copeland, through counsel, once again demands a speedy trial or immediate release from pre-trial confinement. Further, CSSN Copeland objects to any excludable delay.

2. CSSN Copeland has been held in pre-trial confinement for 23 days without being charged with a crime. Further, CSSN Copeland has not been provided any discovery, therefore, he is being denied the ability to defend against whatever charges the government might prefer. CSSN Copeland is in a maximum status at the brig and remains in his cell for at least 22 hours per day.[1] His defense is not permitted to have in-person private conversations with him, and the trial counsel has expressed a lack of willingness to assist in solving this issue, as seen in enclosure (1).

3. On 1 July 2024, the trial counsel submitted a letter to you requesting excludable delay from 10 June 2025 to 25 July 2025, as set forth in reference (e).

4. The defense objects to this lengthy excludable delay request. The trial counsel must act with the diligence required when someone is incarcerated – they must take the "immediate steps" required by reference (c). There must be a required higher degree of specificity before granting a request for what amounts to continued pre-trial confinement, and you should request that higher specificity from the trial counsel. Especially in this case where the confinement is so severe and the defense's access to our client has been restricted.[2]

[1] A status that at least one military judge has held is illegal pretrial punishment.

5. Per reference (d), prior to referral, all requests for pre-trial delay, together with supporting reasons, will be submitted to the convening authority for resolution. The discussion section provides further instructions.

> The decision to grant or deny a reasonable delay is a matter within the sole discretion of the convening authority or a military judge. This decision should be based on the facts and circumstances then and there existing. Reasons to grant a delay might include, for example, the need for: time to enable counsel to prepare for trial in complex cases; time to allow examination into the mental capacity of the accused; time to process a member of the reserve component to active duty for disciplinary action; time to complete other proceedings related to the case; time requested by the defense; time to secure the availability of the accused, substantial witnesses, or other evidence; time to obtain appropriate security clearances for access to classified information or time to declassify evidence; or additional time for other good cause….

Here, the trial counsel provided no evidence or documents supporting the reason for the delay. The generalized notion of the need to conduct further investigation does not amount to the specificity required under the Rules. Why does the government need until 25 July 2025? What do they expect will be completed by that date? Based on the enclosures to Commanding Officer's 48/72 hour letter for CSSN Copeland's initial review officer hearing, the Art. 120 investigation started in July 2024 – a year ago. However, according to the trial counsel's request for excludable delay there "several lengthy investigative steps" remaining. You should demand more specificity. Additionally, R.C.M. 707 does not address excludable delay when the accused is in pre-trial confinement.

6. Per reference (c), when accused is ordered into arrest or confinement before trial, *immediate steps shall* be taken to inform the person of the specific offense of which the person is accused and to try the person or to dismiss the charges and release the person. Immediate steps require more than diligence, it requires immediacy. CSSN Copeland has been in confinement for the last 23 days.

7. CSSN Copeland requests that the government take immediate steps to take him to trial or release him from pre-trial confinement.

8. The defense requests the government to provide the defense with any documents, or communications with NCIS, the name and contact information of all investigators, and a written response to the government's excludable delay request.

Subj: OBJECTION TO EXCLUDABLE DELAY REQUEST ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

9. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have at 757-341-4559 or via email at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

Copy to:

CDR Mayo
CSSN Copeland
NCIS

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: Re: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 2:10:03 PM

LCDR Serfess,

You are more than welcome to address your concerns with the brig or NCIS.

The government cannot support a 2 July meeting in A-50. I've asked the brig if you can use the IRO room - but the brig is unable to accommodate. I suggest you liaise directly with the brig regarding any future visits.

V/r,

LAM

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:44 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Please find LCDR Morgan and I's notice or representation attached.

Our understanding is the CSSN Copeland's cell was searched and his IRO package was taken from him because according to NCIS he cannot have that documentation. Is there a sealing or protection order in this case? Please let us know why CSSN Copeland cannot review and keep the documents associated with his case. Please let us know what the Government believes CSSN Copeland can have and review in his case. If NCIS has questions about how CSSN Copeland received documents, please have them reach out me and LCDR Morgan.

Please let me know if you need anything from me. Are we good for Wednesday? We have a couple of A/C spaces in the defense that we can use to meet with CSSN Copeland – the same spaces being used today with a client from the brig.

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia
757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2025 2:33 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

I just wanted to follow up and see if we are good for 2 July.

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia

757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:32 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

2 July at 1030 would be best for us.

Thank you

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia
757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:26 PM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

LCDR Serfess,

Yes, received. I'll forward your request to the command IRT a meeting. When are you requesting the meeting?

v/r,

LAM

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:59 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Did you receive our demand for a speedy trial? Can we arrange a time/place to have a confidential meeting with our client in person?

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia
757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2025 4:18 PM

To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Please find a demand for a speedy trial ICO CSSN Copeland attached.

Additionally, please let us know how we can schedule a time for CSSN Copeland to come to A-50 so that he can meet with his defense attorneys.

Let me know if you need anything from us.

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia
757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Maddrell, Elisabeth C LT USN COMNAVSURFGRUMIDLANT (USA)
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA)
Subject: RE: ICO Copeland: Defense Request for In Person Meeting in A-50
Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:20:58 PM

CDR Mayo,

Copy all and standing by.

Elisabeth Maddrell
LT, JAGC, USN
Surface Group Judge Advocate
Commander, Naval Surface Group Mid-Atlantic
Office: 757-341-4915
Cell: [redacted]
NIPR: elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil
SIPR: elisabeth.maddrell@navy.smil.mil

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Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON
POC: LT Elisabeth Maddrell, elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil, 757-341-4915

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:13 PM
To: Maddrell, Elisabeth C LT USN COMNAVSURFGRUMIDLANT (USA) <elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)

<cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Crossley, Shelley L CIV (USA) <shelley.l.crossley.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: ICO Copeland: Defense Request for In Person Meeting in A-50

LT Maddrell -

Forwarding defense request below.

I'll also call the brig tomorrow and see if I can help with a contact visit. The room LCDR Serfess is referring to with the glass does require folks to get closer to the glass to talk. I've dealt with it, too. It's doable, but I understand the preference to meet in a different room. I don't have any SA on what RLSO Security will require here though. So - I'll get more information on that as well. MTF.

V/r,

LAM

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:45 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

We need to have a confidential meeting. The brig will not allow us to have a "contact" visit. We can only meet with him in the room with the glass – where we have to yell for him to hear us (not confidential) and frankly we cannot hear him and do want him to have to yell. Building A-50 is where the rest of the defense team is so that seems like the best place. Further, it seems like the least risk of a potential member seeing him in shackles.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia
757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

From: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:41 PM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

LCDR Serfess,

Also - I don't want to presume the reason for your request - but can you pls foward me why you need to meet him in A-50? I will forward that request to the command with your requested date and cc you all.

V/r,

LAM

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil

desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:31 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

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2 July at 1030 would be best for us.

Thank you

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
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Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

LCDR Serfess,

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v/r,

LAM

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk-Groton
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
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Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA); Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA)
Subject: RE: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

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From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2025 4:18 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Dempsey, Christopher B LT USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Cannaday, Patricia T LT USN NAVY JAG WASH DC (USA) <patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: Demand for Speedy Trial ICO CSSN Copeland

CDR Mayo,

Please find a demand for a speedy trial ICO CSSN Copeland attached.

Additionally, please let us know how we can schedule a time for CSSN Copeland to come to A-50 so that he can meet with his defense attorneys.

Let me know if you need anything from us.

V/r
Amanda Serfess
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Assistant Senior Defense Counsel
Defense Service Office Southeast
Norfolk, Virginia
757-341-4559
amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC
1510 GILBERT STREET
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737

5810
Ser N00J/412
9 July 25

From: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY REQUEST ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) Your ltr dated 01 Jul 25
(b) LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel ltr of 1 Jul 25

1. Pursuant to Rules of Courts-Martial 707, the Government's request for excludable delay, reference (a), from 10 June 2025 to 25 July 2025 is hereby approved. In response to that request, I received reference (b), Defense Counsel's objection to the Government's request.

2. In weighing the Government's request against Defense's objection, I have determined that the Government's request is reasonable in both length and rational based on the Government's stated basis.

3. My point of contact for this matter is Staff Judge Advocate, CDR Beasley-Ledet, JAGC, USN (757) 322-2936, or via email at ronisha.t.beasleyledet.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
C. A. LAHTI

Copy to:
Detailed Defense Counsel
File

30 Jul 25

From: LCDR Clifton E. Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: INITIAL DISCOVERY REQUEST ICO CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) JAGINST 5803.1E, Rule 3.4
(b) JAGINST 5803.1E, Rule 3.8
(c) R.C.M. 305(i)(2)(B) Discussion
(d) R.C.M. 309
(e) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(f) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(g) *Kyles v. Whitley*, 514 U.S. 149 (1995)
(h) *United States v. Webster*, 1 M.J. 216 (C.M.A. 1975)
(i) *United States v. Chamblin*, No. 201500388, 2017 CCA LEXIS 694 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. Nov 8, 2017)
(j) *United States v. Barry*, 76 M.J. 407 (C.A.A.F. 2017)

1. The Defense has already submitted two speedy trial requests in relation to the Government's investigation and case into CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN. CSSN Copeland has been in confinement for over 50 days without charges. First, CSSN Copeland has the right to dispute his pretrial confinement, to do so requires discovery. Second, the professional rules of responsibility require fairness. If the trial counsel has access to discovery, out of fairness, it should be shared with the defense. Finally, providing discovery to the defense will assist in avoiding speedy trial prejudice and permit the defense to be prepared if the government pursues charges in this case. In accordance with references (a) and (b), which govern fairness to opposing parties and Government counsel responsibilities, and references (c) and (d), which govern pretrial confinement and pre-preferral sessions of court, the Defense requests the Government produce for use, inspection, and/or copying the following in the subject case:

a. Evidence

(1) Any evidence that is material to either the issue of guilt or the sentence, regardless of admissibility, that is known to the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, witnesses, or consultants.

(2) Any sworn or signed statements relating to the charged offenses, and any notes derived from those oral statements relating to the charged offenses.

(3) Any books, papers, documents, photographs, tangible objects, media, electronic records, or copies or portions thereof, which are within the possession, custody, or control of the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, and which are relevant to defense preparation or are intended for use by the trial counsel as evidence in the prosecution case-in-chief at trial.

(4) Any results or reports of physical or mental examinations, and of scientific tests or experiments, or copies thereof, which are within the possession, custody, or control of the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, and which are relevant to defense preparation or are intended for use by trial counsel as evidence in the prosecution case-in-chief at trial.

(5) Evidence known to the government that reasonably tends to negate the guilt or reduce the degree of guilt of the Accused on a charged offense, or is otherwise favorable to the Accused under reference (e).

(6) Evidence that adversely affects the credibility of any prosecution witness or evidence.

(7) All evidence or information of any identification of the Accused.

(8) A written list of, and access to, all evidence seized from the person or property of the Accused, or believed to be owned by the Accused, as well as any search warrant, consent form, command authorization or other basis upon which any search was conducted or any evidence was seized.

(9) Notice of the government's intent to offer any out-of-court statement under the residual hearsay exception.

(10) Copies of any diagrams that any witness has used for identification purposes and any notes or writing that any witness has reviewed and indicated was correct or adopted as an accurate statement.

(11) Copies of any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued in this case.

b. Investigative Documents, Records, and Procedures.

(1) A complete, legible, color copy, including all attachments, of any investigative report created by any investigative agency or command related to this case, specifically including but not limited to:

(a) All Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Interim Reports of Investigation;

(b) All memoranda or reports drafted by personnel assigned to USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) relating to this case; and

(c) All local law enforcement reports addressing the allegations, interactions, complaints, and arrests.

(d) All reports and notifications drafted by the Navy Absentee Collection and Information Center (NACIC) regarding CSSN Copeland and CSSN A.R.

(2) Any agency or law enforcement documents and data, made in connection with this case, including all attachments. This request includes all forms and documents, including witness reliability forms, data sheets, and other relevant documents. This request includes, but is not limited to, the following relevant documentation:

(a) Interview logs;

(b) Interview records;

(c) Source dossier and forms related to any Confidential Informants;

(d) Informants' notes;

(e) Any document detailing the disbursement of any funds in support of the investigation in this case;

(f) Investigative records checks, including NCIC checks, run on any person during the investigation of this case;

(g) Any documents related to searches and seizures;

(h) Internal communications, emails, or other documents used to brief, respond to, and/or request investigative activities related to this case. This request specifically includes any communication between law enforcement and a member of the Accused's command, the convening authority, the staff judge advocate, or any officer directing the investigation;

(i) All records reflecting the chain of custody of any evidence seized and/or tested; and

(j) All personal or business notes, memoranda, and other writings prepared by investigators in the case that are not furnished pursuant to any other provisions of this request.

(3) The names of all government investigators who have participated, or are presently participating, in the investigation of this case, as well as their accreditation, any previous law-enforcement or investigative jobs held, and a statement as to their length of service in such jobs.

(4) Any evidence of the revocation or suspension of the credentials of any investigators involved in this case, or evidence that any investigator was a subject or suspect in an internal affairs investigation.

(5) Notice of any expected forensic or scientific testing that may destroy evidence.

(6) All laboratory reports, expert conclusions or statements, chain of custody documents, forensic notes, and other evidence or documents relied on by government experts in the performance of their services. This includes any laboratory tests, field tests, and reports thereof, including but not limited to DNA, fingerprints, blood samples, handwriting exemplars, and chemical analyses of substances seized, regardless of the results of the tests.

(7) Copies of any inspections by accrediting bodies of any laboratory conducting forensic or scientific testing of evidence in this case.

c. Witnesses.

(1) The full names, locations, and telephone numbers of all individuals interviewed in this case or otherwise used in developing the case against the Accused.

(2) Any evidence from unit personnel files demonstrating any disciplinary actions against a potential government witness.

(3) Any evidence or information of any promises of immunity or leniency made to any potential government witness by trial counsel or military authorities or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities. This includes the contents of any formal or informal pretrial agreement reached with any co-conspirator or potential witness.

(4) The contents of any prior inconsistent statement or any statement that tends to show bias or motive to fabricate made by any potential witness in this case known by the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities.

(5) Any evidence that a potential witness consumed alcohol or drugs prior to witnessing the events that give rise to his or her testimony.

(6) Any evidence tending to show that any potential witness's ability to perceive, remember, communicate, or tell the truth is impaired.

(7) Any evidence that any potential witness has been diagnosed as an alcoholic, alcohol abuser, or controlled substance abuser.

(8) Any evidence that any potential witness sought or received mental health treatment, including specifically the mental health treatment records of the complaining witness.

(9) Notice of the government's intention to employ an expert witness or consultant and the name, contact information, and resume for the intended expert witness or consultant. This request includes the government's written request to the Convening Authority as well as the Convening Authority's written response.

(10) All personnel records for law enforcement and potential military witnesses for evidence of adverse performance, bias, or any evidence that would constitute grounds for impeachment.

d. Information and records regarding the Accused.

(1) The contents of all statements, oral or written, made by the Accused that are relevant to the case. This includes statements that are within the control of the government and military law enforcement agents, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, witnesses, or consultants.

(2) Any records of the Accused's prior civilian or court-martial convictions which the government may offer on the merits for any purpose, including impeachment.

(3) Copies of all documents, including emails, pertaining to any pretrial confinement or restrictions on the liberty of the Accused, including any change in the liberty status of the Accused since the alleged misconduct that forms the basis for the charges in this case.

(4) The Blue Ribbon copy of the Accused's service record book.

(5) Pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 404, 413, or 414, all evidence or information pertaining to any other crimes, wrongs, or acts committed by the Accused that the government may seek to introduce at trial for any purpose, and notice of the government's intent to introduce such evidence.

e. Sentencing.

(1) Evidence known to the government which reasonably tends to mitigate the Accused's responsibility or might lead a fact-finder to adjudge a less severe sentence.

(2) Written material that will be presented by the government at presentencing proceedings, if any.

(3) The names, addresses, and a synopsis of expected testimony for the witnesses the government intends to call at presentencing proceedings, if any.

f. Unlawful Command Influence

(1) In light of reference (i), evidence of any direct communication, whether written or oral, by any senior military leaders—including civilians—which may have influenced the disposition decisions or actions of:

(a) Any officers acting under R.C.M. 305 in this case.

(2) In light of reference (j), evidence of any direct communication, whether written or oral, by any senior military leaders—including civilians—which might influence the post-trial disposition decisions or actions of:

(a) The Staff Judge Advocate under R.C.M. 1106; or

(b) The Convening Authority under Article 60, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1107.

2. Specific Items Requested. In addition to the above items, these specific items are promptly requested.

a. The defense requests discovery of the following items that are relevant to defense preparation:

(1) Physical access for Defense to visit CSSN Copeland's barracks room in an unaltered state, which is located at X-2 barracks, room 335B.

(2) Any and all surveillance camera footage from X-2 barracks and Miller Hall from 28 May 2025 to 10 June 2025. If there is no surveillance camera footage at either of those two barracks, defense requests surveillance camera footage during the requested timeframe from surrounding buildings that are angled toward those barracks.

(3) The full autopsy report from the autopsy performed on CSSN A.R. on or about 11 June 2025.

(4) The names, contact information, and current commands of CSSN Copeland's and CSSN A.R.'s roommates from their barracks.

(5) All muster reports and liberty logs for the CS Department onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) from 26 May 2025 to 10 June 2025.

(6) All records of leave chits for CSSN Copeland and CSSN A.R. while stationed onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

(7) Phone records and call logs for CSSN A.R. from 25 May 2025 to 10 June 2025.

(8) Bank records for CSSN A.R. from 25 May 2025 to 10 June 2025.

(9) Full phone extraction from CSSN A.R. and CSSN Copeland's cellular phones.

(10) Copy of the following documents listed in LT Maddrell's email to CAPT Santicola of 3 June 2025:

a. Initial CMEO report of 17 September 2024;

b. CDRE's disposition and LOI issued of 31 January 2025;

c. "CSSN Appeal" of 12 March 2025;

d. CNSL CMEO Denial letter of 30 May 2025; and

e. UA SITREP for CSSN Copeland and CSSN A.R. of 1 June 2025.

(11) Any and all enclosures, to include media, missing from the investigations previously provided to defense relating to the accused. This request includes enclosures and media from prior charges, acts or wrongs the government anticipates providing notice as M.R.E. 404(b) evidence.

3. The Defense expects that the government will make a diligent effort to comply with this discovery request. As to any particular requested information, the Defense will regard any nonresponse or response without comment as an affirmative assertion by the government that the requested information does not exist. This is a continuing request, and as such, this request includes a request for any information that the government later discovers before, during, or after trial of this case, if any.

4. The Defense requests a response in writing within seven (7) days of service of this request. Please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have. You may reach me at (757) 341-4486 or via email at clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III

08 Aug 25

From: LT Patricia Cannaday, JAGC, USN, Trial Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR EXCLUDABLE DELAY ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 707 (2024 ed.)

1. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government respectfully requests excludable delay for the period beginning on 25 July 2025 through 15 August 2025.

2. On 10 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was placed in pre-trial confinement. Per reference (a), this event requires CSSN Copeland be brought to trial within 120 days of the imposition of restraint. On 1 July 2025, the Government requested excludable delay from 10 June 2025 through 25 July 2025. This request was granted 9 July 2025.

3. CSSN Copeland is under investigation for violating Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 107 (False official statement), Article 117a (Wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images), Article 118 (Murder), Article 120 (Rape and sexual assault), Article 128 (Assault), and Article 128b (Domestic Violence). These alleged violations primarily span four separate, complex alleged incidents and investigation remains ongoing into each.

4. Although NCIS and the Government have exercised all expedience in this case, several lengthy investigative steps remain. First, as to the allegation of murder, outstanding steps include receipt of the final reports of investigation, forensic analysis of multiple pieces of physical evidence, a report of the autopsy of the victim's body, a finalized toxicology report, and interviews of several witnesses. The Government is also waiting on returns from various providers relating to UCMJ Article 30a matters, and it is unclear when those results will be in the Government's possession. Second, regarding the sexual assault allegations, NCIS recently acquired information concerning pre-service incidents and a fifth post-service allegation, which may provide evidence regarding the current charges, or could constitute further charges. NCIS requires time to pursue these leads by interviewing witnesses, gathering court documents, and reviewing digital evidence.

5. Pursuant to reference (a), the Government may receive excludable delay to thoroughly investigate a case and prepare for trial. Accordingly, the Government respectfully requests the time beginning on 25 July 2025 through 15 August 2025 be excluded.

6. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact me via e-mail at patricia.t.cannaday.mil@us.navy.mil or via phone at (757) 341-4509.

[redacted]
P. T. CANNADAY

Copy to: Detailed defense counsel

Enclosure (E)

11 Aug 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Subj: OBJECTION TO SECOND EXCLUDABLE DELAY REQUEST ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST. Amend. VI
(b) Barker v. Wingo, 407 U.S. 514 (1972)
(c) Article 10, U.C.M.J.
(d) R.C.M. 707
(e) Request for excludable delay of 1 Jul 25
(f) Defense objection to excludable delay of 1 Jul 25 w/ encls
(g) Your ltr 5810 Ser N00J/421 of 9 Jul 25
(h) Second Request for excludable delay of 8 Aug 25

Encl: (1) Request for Redress to meet with counsel of 29 Jul 25
(2) Email from USS JAMES E WILLIAMS of 7 Aug 25
(3) Demand for speedy trial of 16 Jun 25
(4) Demand for speedy trial of 25 Jul 25
(5) Request for Discovery of 30 Jul 25

1. Per references (a) through (d), CSSN Copeland, through counsel, objects to any excludable delay and demands a speedy trial or immediate release from pre-trial confinement.

2. CSSN Copeland has been held in pre-trial confinement for 62 days – over two months – without being charged with a crime. Further, CSSN Copeland has not been provided any discovery, despite the defense submitting a formal request to the trial counsel for discovery. Therefore, he is being denied the ability to defend against whatever charges the government might prefer. CSSN Copeland is in a maximum status at the brig and remains in his cell for at least 22 hours per day.[1] His defense is not permitted to have in-person private conversations with him, and the trial counsel has expressed a lack of willingness to assist in solving this issue, as seen in enclosure (1) of reference (f).

3. On 1 July 2024, the trial counsel submitted a letter to you requesting excludable delay from 10 June 2025 to 25 July 2025, as set forth in reference (e). That same day, the defense objected to that request as many of the alleged offenses occurred over year ago and the government failed to state with any specificity why excludable delay was necessary in a case where the accused remains in the most restrictive confinement without proper access to counsel. On 9 July 2025, you granted the government request for excludable delay until 25 July 2025. On 25 July 2025, CSSN Copeland again demanded a speedy trial. The Office of Special Trial Counsel neither acknowledged or responded to this request. On 30 July 2025, the defense requested discovery citing Rules 3.4 and 3.8 of the JAG Corps Rules for professional responsibility because the

[1] A status that at least one military judge has held is illegal pretrial punishment.

defense requires and is entitled to fairness and equal access to discovery. Further, discovery would reduce the risk of prejudicial speedy trial issues if charges are ever preferred in this case. The trial counsel neither acknowledged or responded to this request. Instead, on 8 August 2025, the trial counsel once again requested excludable delay.

4. On 29 July 2025, the defense once again requested to meet with CSSN Copeland for an in-person private meeting. On 7 August 2025, the USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS denied CSSN Copeland's request providing no reasoning.

5. The defense again objects to this lengthy excludable delay request. The trial counsel must act with the diligence required when someone is incarcerated – they must take the "immediate steps" required by reference (c). A higher degree of specificity is required before granting a request for what amounts to continued pre-trial confinement, and you should request that higher specificity from the trial counsel. Especially in this case where the confinement is so severe and CSSN Copeland's access to defense counsel has been restricted.

6. Per reference (d), prior to referral, all requests for pre-trial delay, together with supporting reasons, will be submitted to the convening authority for resolution. The discussion section provides further instructions.

> The decision to grant or deny a reasonable delay is a matter within the sole discretion of the convening authority or a military judge. This decision should be based on the facts and circumstances then and there existing. Reasons to grant a delay might include, for example, the need for: time to enable counsel to prepare for trial in complex cases; time to allow examination into the mental capacity of the accused; time to process a member of the reserve component to active duty for disciplinary action; time to complete other proceedings related to the case; time requested by the defense; time to secure the availability of the accused, substantial witnesses, or other evidence; time to obtain appropriate security clearances for access to classified information or time to declassify evidence; or additional time for other good cause….

Here, the trial counsel once again provided no evidence or documents supporting the vague reason for the delay. The generalized notion of the need to "conduct further investigation" does not amount to the specificity required under the Rules. Why does the government require excludable delay until 15 August 2025? What specific actions do they expect to be completed by that date? What has trial counsel and NCIS done between 25 July 2025 and 8 August 2025 to take immediate steps to bring this case to trial? Why are there witnesses who have not been interviewed? The military has no jurisdiction over pre-service misconduct. CSSN Copeland should not linger in maximum confinement while law enforcement investigates civilian charges. You must demand more specificity; you must demand charges. Additionally, R.C.M. 707 does not address excludable delay when the accused is in pre-trial confinement.

6. Per reference (c), when accused is ordered into arrest or confinement before trial, *immediate steps shall* be taken to inform the person of the specific offense of which the person is accused and to try the person or to dismiss the charges and release the person. Immediate steps require

more than diligence, it requires immediacy. CSSN Copeland has been in confinement for the last 62 days.

7. CSSN Copeland requests that the government take immediate steps to take him to trial or release him from pre-trial confinement.

8. The defense requests the government to provide the defense with the requested discovery and a written response to the government's excludable delay request.

9. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have at 850-452-5572 or via email at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil

A. M. SERFESS

Copy to:

CDR Mayo
CSSN Copeland

29 Jul 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
To: Commanding Officer, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95)

Subj: REQUEST FOR REDRESS ICO CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST. amend. VI
(b) R.C.M. 502
(c) Article 138, UCMJ

1. On behalf of CSSN Copeland, the defense respectfully requests to be able to meet with CSSN Copeland in a private room to have a private conversation where he can consult with his attorneys without the risk of being heard by people who are not members of his defense. CSSN Copeland has been in pretrial confinement since 9 June 2025. Based solely on the fact that CSSN Copeland has "Article 118" on his confinement order, he has been placed in a "maximum status." Because CSSN Copeland is in that status, he cannot have a "contact" visit with his attorneys at the brig. This means that his attorneys can only meet with him separated by a plexiglass wall. This room is not soundproof – the brig staff or anyone else can hear from outside the room. Further, because of the plexiglass, it is difficult for CSSN Copeland to hear his attorneys and even more difficult for his attorneys to hear him. This is inadequate to properly represent CSSN Copeland and does not meet the requirements of reference (a).

2. Understanding that you cannot order the brig to have a different policy, you do have the authority to transport CSSN Copeland to a different location so that he can meet with his attorneys. Defense counsel regularly meet with clients who are in pretrial confinement at building A-50 on Naval Station Norfolk. Commands transport pre-trial confinees, including other pretrial confinees who are accused of murder and attempted murder, to consult with their attorneys. A-50 is a secure building, it is the same building where CSSN Copeland will meet with his attorneys should charges in this case ever be pursued. CSSN Copeland simply requests to exercise his constitutional right to counsel, which must include the right to meet and openly discuss his case. The right to counsel includes the right to effective counsel. CSSN Copeland's attorneys cannot be effective if we cannot meet and openly discuss the case with our client. Despite twice demanding a speedy trial, CSSN Copeland has been in pretrial confinement for 50 days without being brought to trial or being able to meet with his attorneys in a private setting. Please allow CSSN Copeland to have a privileged, in-person meeting with his attorneys.

3. If you have any questions, need amplifying information, or need assistance in coordinating the release of CSSN Copeland's personal property, LCDR Amanda Serfess, detailed defense counsel, can be reached at 850-452-5572 or via email at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)

From: Maddrell, Elisabeth C LT USN COMNAVSURFGRUMIDLANT (USA)
Sent: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:20 AM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Cc: co@ddg95.navy.mil; michelle.matthews; Demazure, David R LTJG USN (USA); xo@ddg95.navy.mil
Subject: RE: Request for Redress CSSN Copeland
Signed By: elisabeth.c.maddrell@navy.mil

Defense Team,

I apologize for the delayed response. JWS CO has denied this request.

Very Respectfully,

Elisabeth Maddrell
LT, JAGC, USN
Surface Group Judge Advocate
Commander, Naval Surface Group Mid-Atlantic
Office: 757-341-4915
Cell: [redacted]
NIPR: elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil
SIPR: elisabeth.maddrell@navy.smil.mil
Legal Distro: cnsg_ml_n01l_jag@us.navy.mil

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POC: LT Elisabeth
Maddrell, elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil, 757-341-4915

-----Original Message-----
From: Rogers, Cody LCDR USN, DDG95 <cody.rogers@ddg95.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 9:11 PM
To: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; co@ddg95.navy.mil
Cc: Maddrell, Elisabeth C LT USN COMNAVSURFGRUMIDLANT (USA)

<elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; michelle.matthews <michelle.matthews@ddg95.navy.mil>; Demazure, David R LTJG USN (USA) <david.demazure@ddg95.navy.mil>; xo@ddg95.navy.mil
Subject: RE: Request for Redress CSSN Copeland

Good evening,

This is LCDR Cody Rogers, I am acting XO on the JWS. We are in receipt of the below email and discussing with our JAG. We will provide a response in a few days once we are able to discuss. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

LCDR Cody Rogers
Plans and Tactics Officer
Senior Watch Officer
USS James E Williams
cody.rogers@ddg95.navy.mil
cody.rogers@ddg95.navy.smil.mil
Cell: [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 1:30 PM
To: CO <co@ddg95.navy.mil>
Cc: Maddrell, Elisabeth C LT USN COMNAVSURFGRUMIDLANT (USA) <elisabeth.c.maddrell.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Matthews, Michelle A CDR USN, DDG95 <michelle.matthews@ddg95.navy.mil>; Demazure, David LTJG USN, DDG95 <david.demazure@ddg95.navy.mil>; XO <xo@ddg95.navy.mil>
Subject: Request for Redress CSSN Copeland

CO,

Good afternoon. I, along LCDR Morgan (copied) represent CSSN Copeland. CSSN Copeland has the right to be represented by counsel. To effectuate that right, he needs to able to have a private conversation with his attorneys. We have made the request, but have not received a clear answer on why he cannot meet with his attorneys in-person in a private room. Please find a request for redress ICO CSSN Copeland attached.

I am available to answer any questions.

V/r
Amanda Serfess

16 Jun 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JACG, USN, Trial Counsel

Subj: DEMAND FOR SPEEDY TRIAL ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST., Amend. VI
(b) Barker v. Wingo, 407 U.S. 514 (1972)
(c) Article 10, U.C.M.J.
(d) R.C.M. 707

1. Per references (a) through (d), CSSN Copeland, USN, through counsel, demands a speedy trial or immediate release from pre-trial confinement. On 9 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was placed in pre-trial confinement. As of today, no charges have been preferred. Based solely on the fact that the offense of violating Article 118 appears on the confinement order, CSSN Copeland has been placed in "Maximum" status in the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston, Detachment Chesapeake. CSSN Copeland spends 22 hours per day in his cell with no other human contact. He is not permitted to have contact visits with his attorneys. As such, CSSN Copeland demands a speedy trial and requests to be brought to trial immediately.

2. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have at 757-341-4559 or via email at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

25 Jul 25

From: LCDR Amanda Serfess, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: Office of Special Trial Counsel
Via: CDR Lauren Mayo, JACG, USN, Trial Counsel

Subj: DEMAND FOR SPEEDY TRIAL ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) U.S. CONST., Amend. VI
(b) Barker v. Wingo, 407 U.S. 514 (1972)
(c) Article 10, U.C.M.J.
(d) R.C.M. 707
(e) My ltr of 16 Jun 25
(f) CDR Mayo ltr of 1 Jul 25
(g) CNRMA ltr of 9 Jul 25

1. Per references (a) through (d), CSSN Copeland, USN, through counsel, demands a speedy trial or immediate release from pre-trial confinement. On 9 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was placed in pre-trial confinement. On 1 July 2025, the detailed special trial counsel requested excludable delay until 25 July 2025 and Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic approved the request. As of today, 25 July 2025, no charges have been preferred. Based solely on the fact that the offense of violating Article 118 appears on the confinement order, CSSN Copeland has been placed in "Maximum" status in the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston, Detachment Chesapeake. CSSN Copeland spends 22 hours per day in his cell with no other human contact. He is not permitted to have contact visits with his attorneys. As such, CSSN Copeland demands a speedy trial and requests to be brought to trial immediately. Additionally, CSSN Copeland requests to have a private meeting with his attorneys.

2. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have at 850-452-5572 or via email at amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS

30 Jul 25

From: LCDR Clifton E. Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Detailed Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: INITIAL DISCOVERY REQUEST ICO CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) JAGINST 5803.1E, Rule 3.4
(b) JAGINST 5803.1E, Rule 3.8
(c) R.C.M. 305(i)(2)(B) Discussion
(d) R.C.M. 309
(e) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(f) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(g) *Kyles v. Whitley*, 514 U.S. 149 (1995)
(h) *United States v. Webster*, 1 M.J. 216 (C.M.A. 1975)
(i) *United States v. Chamblin*, No. 201500388, 2017 CCA LEXIS 694 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. Nov 8, 2017)
(j) *United States v. Barry*, 76 M.J. 407 (C.A.A.F. 2017)

1. The Defense has already submitted two speedy trial requests in relation to the Government's investigation and case into CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN. CSSN Copeland has been in confinement for over 50 days without charges. First, CSSN Copeland has the right to dispute his pretrial confinement, to do so requires discovery. Second, the professional rules of responsibility require fairness. If the trial counsel has access to discovery, out of fairness, it should be shared with the defense. Finally, providing discovery to the defense will assist in avoiding speedy trial prejudice and permit the defense to be prepared if the government pursues charges in this case. In accordance with references (a) and (b), which govern fairness to opposing parties and Government counsel responsibilities, and references (c) and (d), which govern pretrial confinement and pre-preferral sessions of court, the Defense requests the Government produce for use, inspection, and/or copying the following in the subject case:

a. Evidence

(1) Any evidence that is material to either the issue of guilt or the sentence, regardless of admissibility, that is known to the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, witnesses, or consultants.

(2) Any sworn or signed statements relating to the charged offenses, and any notes derived from those oral statements relating to the charged offenses.

(3) Any books, papers, documents, photographs, tangible objects, media, electronic records, or copies or portions thereof, which are within the possession, custody, or control of the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, and which are relevant to defense preparation or are intended for use by the trial counsel as evidence in the prosecution case-in-chief at trial.

(4) Any results or reports of physical or mental examinations, and of scientific tests or experiments, or copies thereof, which are within the possession, custody, or control of the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, and which are relevant to defense preparation or are intended for use by trial counsel as evidence in the prosecution case-in-chief at trial.

(5) Evidence known to the government that reasonably tends to negate the guilt or reduce the degree of guilt of the Accused on a charged offense, or is otherwise favorable to the Accused under reference (e).

(6) Evidence that adversely affects the credibility of any prosecution witness or evidence.

(7) All evidence or information of any identification of the Accused.

(8) A written list of, and access to, all evidence seized from the person or property of the Accused, or believed to be owned by the Accused, as well as any search warrant, consent form, command authorization or other basis upon which any search was conducted or any evidence was seized.

(9) Notice of the government's intent to offer any out-of-court statement under the residual hearsay exception.

(10) Copies of any diagrams that any witness has used for identification purposes and any notes or writing that any witness has reviewed and indicated was correct or adopted as an accurate statement.

(11) Copies of any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued in this case.

b. Investigative Documents, Records, and Procedures.

(1) A complete, legible, color copy, including all attachments, of any investigative report created by any investigative agency or command related to this case, specifically including but not limited to:

(a) All Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Interim Reports of Investigation;

(b) All memoranda or reports drafted by personnel assigned to USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) relating to this case; and

(c) All local law enforcement reports addressing the allegations, interactions, complaints, and arrests.

(d) All reports and notifications drafted by the Navy Absentee Collection and Information Center (NACIC) regarding CSSN Copeland and CSSN A.R.

(2) Any agency or law enforcement documents and data, made in connection with this case, including all attachments. This request includes all forms and documents, including witness reliability forms, data sheets, and other relevant documents. This request includes, but is not limited to, the following relevant documentation:

(a) Interview logs;

(b) Interview records;

(c) Source dossier and forms related to any Confidential Informants;

(d) Informants' notes;

(e) Any document detailing the disbursement of any funds in support of the investigation in this case;

(f) Investigative records checks, including NCIC checks, run on any person during the investigation of this case;

(g) Any documents related to searches and seizures;

(h) Internal communications, emails, or other documents used to brief, respond to, and/or request investigative activities related to this case. This request specifically includes any communication between law enforcement and a member of the Accused's command, the convening authority, the staff judge advocate, or any officer directing the investigation;

(i) All records reflecting the chain of custody of any evidence seized and/or tested; and

(j) All personal or business notes, memoranda, and other writings prepared by investigators in the case that are not furnished pursuant to any other provisions of this request.

(3) The names of all government investigators who have participated, or are presently participating, in the investigation of this case, as well as their accreditation, any previous law-enforcement or investigative jobs held, and a statement as to their length of service in such jobs.

(4) Any evidence of the revocation or suspension of the credentials of any investigators involved in this case, or evidence that any investigator was a subject or suspect in an internal affairs investigation.

(5) Notice of any expected forensic or scientific testing that may destroy evidence.

(6) All laboratory reports, expert conclusions or statements, chain of custody documents, forensic notes, and other evidence or documents relied on by government experts in the performance of their services. This includes any laboratory tests, field tests, and reports thereof, including but not limited to DNA, fingerprints, blood samples, handwriting exemplars, and chemical analyses of substances seized, regardless of the results of the tests.

(7) Copies of any inspections by accrediting bodies of any laboratory conducting forensic or scientific testing of evidence in this case.

c. Witnesses.

(1) The full names, locations, and telephone numbers of all individuals interviewed in this case or otherwise used in developing the case against the Accused.

(2) Any evidence from unit personnel files demonstrating any disciplinary actions against a potential government witness.

(3) Any evidence or information of any promises of immunity or leniency made to any potential government witness by trial counsel or military authorities or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities. This includes the contents of any formal or informal pretrial agreement reached with any co-conspirator or potential witness.

(4) The contents of any prior inconsistent statement or any statement that tends to show bias or motive to fabricate made by any potential witness in this case known by the government or agents thereof, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities.

(5) Any evidence that a potential witness consumed alcohol or drugs prior to witnessing the events that give rise to his or her testimony.

(6) Any evidence tending to show that any potential witness's ability to perceive, remember, communicate, or tell the truth is impaired.

(7) Any evidence that any potential witness has been diagnosed as an alcoholic, alcohol abuser, or controlled substance abuser.

(8) Any evidence that any potential witness sought or received mental health treatment, including specifically the mental health treatment records of the complaining witness.

(9) Notice of the government's intention to employ an expert witness or consultant and the name, contact information, and resume for the intended expert witness or consultant. This request includes the government's written request to the Convening Authority as well as the Convening Authority's written response.

(10) All personnel records for law enforcement and potential military witnesses for evidence of adverse performance, bias, or any evidence that would constitute grounds for impeachment.

d. Information and records regarding the Accused.

(1) The contents of all statements, oral or written, made by the Accused that are relevant to the case. This includes statements that are within the control of the government and military law enforcement agents, including closely aligned civilian authorities or entities, witnesses, or consultants.

(2) Any records of the Accused's prior civilian or court-martial convictions which the government may offer on the merits for any purpose, including impeachment.

(3) Copies of all documents, including emails, pertaining to any pretrial confinement or restrictions on the liberty of the Accused, including any change in the liberty status of the Accused since the alleged misconduct that forms the basis for the charges in this case.

(4) The Blue Ribbon copy of the Accused's service record book.

(5) Pursuant to Mil. R. Evid. 404, 413, or 414, all evidence or information pertaining to any other crimes, wrongs, or acts committed by the Accused that the government may seek to introduce at trial for any purpose, and notice of the government's intent to introduce such evidence.

e. Sentencing.

(1) Evidence known to the government which reasonably tends to mitigate the Accused's responsibility or might lead a fact-finder to adjudge a less severe sentence.

(2) Written material that will be presented by the government at presentencing proceedings, if any.

(3) The names, addresses, and a synopsis of expected testimony for the witnesses the government intends to call at presentencing proceedings, if any.

f. Unlawful Command Influence

(1) In light of reference (i), evidence of any direct communication, whether written or oral, by any senior military leaders—including civilians—which may have influenced the disposition decisions or actions of:

(a) Any officers acting under R.C.M. 305 in this case.

(2) In light of reference (j), evidence of any direct communication, whether written or oral, by any senior military leaders—including civilians—which might influence the post-trial disposition decisions or actions of:

(a) The Staff Judge Advocate under R.C.M. 1106; or

(b) The Convening Authority under Article 60, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1107.

2. Specific Items Requested. In addition to the above items, these specific items are promptly requested.

a. The defense requests discovery of the following items that are relevant to defense preparation:

(1) Physical access for Defense to visit CSSN Copeland's barracks room in an unaltered state, which is located at X-2 barracks, room 335B.

(2) Any and all surveillance camera footage from X-2 barracks and Miller Hall from 28 May 2025 to 10 June 2025. If there is no surveillance camera footage at either of those two barracks, defense requests surveillance camera footage during the requested timeframe from surrounding buildings that are angled toward those barracks.

(3) The full autopsy report from the autopsy performed on CSSN A.R. on or about 11 June 2025.

(4) The names, contact information, and current commands of CSSN Copeland's and CSSN A.R.'s roommates from their barracks.

(5) All muster reports and liberty logs for the CS Department onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) from 26 May 2025 to 10 June 2025.

(6) All records of leave chits for CSSN Copeland and CSSN A.R. while stationed onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

(7) Phone records and call logs for CSSN A.R. from 25 May 2025 to 10 June 2025.

(8) Bank records for CSSN A.R. from 25 May 2025 to 10 June 2025.

(9) Full phone extraction from CSSN A.R. and CSSN Copeland's cellular phones.

(10) Copy of the following documents listed in LT Maddrell's email to CAPT Santicola of 3 June 2025:

a. Initial CMEO report of 17 September 2024;

b. CDRE's disposition and LOI issued of 31 January 2025;

c. "CSSN Appeal" of 12 March 2025;

d. CNSL CMEO Denial letter of 30 May 2025; and

e. UA SITREP for CSSN Copeland and CSSN A.R. of 1 June 2025.

(11) Any and all enclosures, to include media, missing from the investigations previously provided to defense relating to the accused. This request includes enclosures and media from prior charges, acts or wrongs the government anticipates providing notice as M.R.E. 404(b) evidence.

3. The Defense expects that the government will make a diligent effort to comply with this discovery request. As to any particular requested information, the Defense will regard any nonresponse or response without comment as an affirmative assertion by the government that the requested information does not exist. This is a continuing request, and as such, this request includes a request for any information that the government later discovers before, during, or after trial of this case, if any.

4. The Defense requests a response in writing within seven (7) days of service of this request. Please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have. You may reach me at (757) 341-4486 or via email at clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil.

[redacted]
C. E. MORGAN III

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES **v.** **COPELAND, JERMIAH** **CSSN/ E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF** **(REVIEW OF PRETRIAL CONFINEMENT AND ORDER GOVERNMENT TO REFRAIN FROM INTERFERING IN CSSN COPELAND'S ATTORNEY CLIENT RELATIONSHIP AND PREPARATION WHILE HE IS IN PRE-TRIAL CONFINEMENT)** **26 Aug 2025**

MOTION

Pursuant to Article 30a and Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 309(b)(6), the defense moves this Court to order the government to permit the defense to meet with CSSN Copeland, in private, in order to prepare for trial – including the Article 32 preliminary hearing – or order the release of CSSN Jermiah Copeland from pretrial confinement.

SUMMARY

On 9 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was ordered into pretrial confinement. On 16 June 2025, a 7-day reviewing officer held a hearing and approved continued confinement. That same day, the defense began requesting to confer privately with CSSN Copeland. The trial counsel, the brig, and CSSN Copeland's commanding officer denied those requests. Pursuant to Article 30a and R.C.M. 309, this Court can review the pretrial confinement of an accused prior to referral. The defense requests that this Court review CSSN Copeland's confinement and find that it interferes with his right to counsel – namely his right to confer privately with his attorneys – and order that the defense be permitted to meet with CSSN Copeland privately in the same room to have confidential meetings in preparation for trial at least once every two weeks. These meetings can be at the brig, in building A-50, or at another location in Hampton Roads, Virginia. Alternatively, this Court should order the release of CSSN Copeland from pretrial confinement.

BURDEN

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of evidence. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. On 9 June 2025, CSSN Copeland was ordered into confinement. (Enclosure (1): Confinement Order of 9 Jun 25).

2. CSSN Copeland is confined at the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston (NCBC) Detachment Chesapeake. He is classified as a maximum status prisoner. This means, he is in his cell alone for at least 22 hours per day. At least one military judge has ruled that this type of confinement is illegal pretrial punishment. (Enclosure (2): Ruling from U.S. v. DC3 Reimonenq of 14 Mar 25).

3. On 16 June 2025, an Initial Review Officer (IRO) hearing was held at the NCBC, where the defense team met with CSSN Copeland for the first time. That same day, a 7-day reviewing officer approved continued confinement. (Enclosure (3): IRO Memo of 17 Jun 25).

4. Based on CSSN Copeland's status, his defense team cannot have a contact visit with him at the brig. The brig will only allow the defense team to meet with him behind glass. This room makes it difficult, if not impossible, for the attorneys to hear our client and makes it difficult for CSSN Copeland to hear his attorneys. Additionally, communications from outside this room can be heard while inside, which means communications within the room can also be heard. Further, there is no means to review discovery with CSSN Copeland in this room as there are only tiny slots to pass a few sheets of folder paper and no way for CSSN Copeland to review a video or electronic evidence. (Enclosure (4): Complaint Pursuant to Article 138 of 13 Aug 25 w/encls at 16; Enclosure (5): Mrs. Hoffmeister Affidavit).

5. On 16 June 2025, the defense demanded a speedy trial and requested that CSSN Copeland be brought to building A-50 to meet with his defense counsel. (Enclosure (4): Complaint Pursuant to Article 138 of 13 Aug 25 w/encls at 10; Enclosure (6): Demand for Speedy Trial of 16 Jun 25).

6. On 24 June 2025, after the defense followed up on our initial request, the trial counsel responded to inquire as to why the defense wanted to meet with our client in-person. The defense responded and explained. The same day, the Staff Judge Advocate for the USS JAMES E. WILLIAM's ISIC stated that the command was standing by to assist. However, on 30 June 2025, the trial counsel stated that "the government would not be able to support…." The defense asked the trial counsel for justification as to why the government would not support our request. However, the trial counsel never responded. (Enclosure (4): Complaint Pursuant to Article 138 of 13 Aug 25 w/encls at 4-6).

7. Despite the trial counsel not responding to the defense's request for justification, on 1 July 2025, the trial counsel submitted a request for excludable delay from 10 June 2025 to 25 July 2025. (Enclosure (7): Excludable Delay Request of 1 Jul 25). That same day, the defense objected to that request. (Enclosure (8): Defense Objection to Excludable Delay of 1 Jul 25).

8. On 9 July 2025, the convening authority granted the government request for excludable delay until 25 July 2025. (Enclosure (9): Grant of Excludable Delay ltr of 9 Jul 25).

9. On 25 July 2025, CSSN Copeland again demanded a speedy trial. (Enclosure (10): Second Demand for Speedy Trial of 25 Jul 25). The Office of Special Trial Counsel neither acknowledged nor responded to this request.

10. On 30 July 2025, the defense requested discovery citing Rules 3.4 and 3.8 of the JAG Corps Rules for Professional Responsibility because the defense requires and is entitled to fairness and equal access to discovery. Further, the defense explained that discovery would reduce the risk of prejudicial speedy trial issues if charges were ever preferred in this case. The trial counsel neither acknowledged nor responded to this request. (Enclosure (11): Defense's Initial Discovery Request of 30 Jul 25).

11. Instead, on 8 August 2025, the trial counsel once again requested excludable delay. (Enclosure (12): Second Excludable Delay Request of 8 Aug 25).

12. On 29 July 2025, CSSN Copeland through counsel submitted a formal request for redress to the Commanding Officer, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS to meet with his attorneys in a private, confidential in-person setting. (Enclosure (4): Complaint Pursuant to Article 138 of 13 Aug 25 w/encls at 13).

13. On 7 August 2025, the USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS denied CSSN Copeland's request and later refused to provide any reasoning. (*Id.* at 21).

14. On 11 August 2025, the defense objected to the second request for excludable delay. (Enclosure (13): Defense Objection to Second Excludable Delay of 11 Aug 25). As of this filing, the convening authority has not responded to the trial counsel's request.

15. On 13 August 2025, CSSN Copeland filed a complaint pursuant to Article 138, UCMJ. (Enclosure (4): Complaint Pursuant to Article 138 of 13 Aug 25).

16. As of this filing, no response has been issued to CSSN Copeland.

17. On 21 August 2025, NCIS was permitted to meet with CSSN Copeland at the brig and have a contact visit. The special agents were allowed to be in a room with CSSN Copeland. Touch him and take a buccal swap, get his fingerprints, and take his photograph. (Proffered testimony from SA Fritzer Philemon).

18. On 22 August 2025, the government preferred charges in this case. On that same day, the defense reached out about scheduling the Article 32 hearing and meeting with our client in preparation for the hearing. (Enclosure (14): Emails with the trial counsel of 22 Aug 25).

19. As of this filing, the defense has not been able to coordinate a means to have a private in-person meeting with CSSN Copeland.

LAW

20. "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense."[1] Necessarily included in the Sixth Amendment right to counsel is the right of an accused to *confer privately* with his attorney.[2]

21. The accused has the right to be represented by counsel during an investigation under Article 32, UCMJ, and before a general or special court-martial.[3] In the military justice system, the right to counsel includes the right to counsel detailed under Article 27, UCMJ. The right to the services of detailed counsel "is substantial, and extends to both the pretrial and the trial proceedings."[4]

22. "The right to be heard would be, in many cases, of little avail if it did not comprehend the right to be heard by counsel…. [A defendant] is unfamiliar with the rules of evidence…. He lacks both the skill and knowledge adequately to prepare his defense, even though he [may] have a perfect one. He requires the guiding hand of counsel at every step in the proceedings against him."[5] Courts have concluded that an order preventing a defendant from consulting his attorney even during an overnight recess infringes upon this substantial right.[6]

23. "A concomitant right is the right to confidential communications between the attorney and client."[7] M.R.E. 502(a) requires confidential communications "for the purpose of facilitating the rendition of professional legal services to the client."

24. Article 30a of the UCMJ states that "the President shall prescribe regulations for matters relating to proceedings conducted before referral of charges and specifications to court-martial for trial, including the following: … Pre-trial confinement of an accused…."

25. Article 30a was revised to include review of the pretrial confinement of the accused under a provision called "Expansion of pre-referral matters reviewable by military judges and military magistrates in the interest of efficiency in military justice."[8]

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[1] U.S. CONST. amend. VI.
[2] *United States v. Brooks*, 66 M.J. 221, 223 (C.A.A.F. 2008) (citing *United States v. Godshalk*, 44 M.J. 487, 490 (C.A.A.F. 1996); *Geders v. United States*, 425 U.S. 80, 88-91 (1976)) (emphasis added).
[3] Article 38(b)(1), UCMJ. *See* U.S. CONST. amend. VI; *United States v. Davis*, 60 M.J. 469, 473 (2005).
[4] *United States v. Tellier*, 13 C.M.A. 323, 327 (1962); s*ee United States v. Eason*, 21 C.M.A. 335, 337-39 (1972).
[5] *Geders v. United States*, 425 U.S. 80, 88-89 (1976) (quoting *Powell* v. *Alabama,* 287 U.S. 45, 68-69 (1932); *see also Argersinger* v. *Hamlin,* 407 U.S. 25, 31- 36 (1972); *Gideon* v. *Wainwright,* 372 U.S. 335, 343-345 (1963).
[6] *Id.* (referencing *United States* v. *Venuto,* 182 F. 2d 519 (CA3 1950); *People* v. *Noble,* 42 Ill. 2d 425 (1969); *Commonwealth* v. *Werner,* 206 Pa. Super. 498 (1965)).
[7] *United States v. Godshalk*, 44 M.J. 487, 490 (C.A.A.F. 1996) (citing Mil. R. Evid. 502).
[8] National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2020, Subtitle D – Military Justice (available at https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-116publ92/html/PLAW-116publ92.htm).

26. "A military judge detailed under regulations of the Secretary concerned may conduct proceedings under Article 30a, before referral of charges and specifications to court-martial for trial, and may issue such rulings and orders as necessary to further the purpose of the proceedings. A military judge may issue such orders and rulings only when the matters would be subject to consideration by a military judge in a general or special court-martial."[9]

27. After action by the 7-day reviewing officer under R.C.M. 305(j)(2)(C), a military judge may, upon application of an accused for appropriate relief, *review the propriety of pretrial confinement*.[10]

28. "Pretrial confinement is physical restraint, imposed by order of competent authority, depriving a person of freedom pending disposition of offenses."[11] It is "not punishment and shall not be used as such."[12] Moreover, "[a] person should not be confined as a mere matter of convenience or expedience."[13] In fact, "[p]retrial confinement inevitably makes defense of a case more difficult," so "unless there is a need for it, pretrial confinement should be avoided."[14]

29. An accused is presumed innocent until proved guilty, and, therefore, punishment for an alleged offense is prohibited before trial.[15]

30. The Department of the Navy Corrections Manual (SECNAV M-1640.1 of May 2019) permits military judges to make exceptions to brig policies. This includes allowing a confinee in any status (including "MAX" and "MDI") to meet without escorts or restraints.[16]

ARGUMENT

31. **This Court has the authority to detail a military judge to this proceeding to review the pretrial confinement of the accused.** R.C.M. 309 states that a military judge may conduct proceedings pursuant to Article 30a, before referral of charges. R.C.M. 309(a)(6) states that after action by a 7-day reviewing officer, a military judge may review the propriety of pretrial confinement. Propriety means "the quality or state of being proper or suitable."[17] Here, there was action by the 7-day reviewing officer. Therefore, this court may review the quality of CSSN Copeland's confinement and issue remedies "as necessary to further the purpose of the proceedings."[18]

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[9] R.C.M. 309(a)(1).
[10] R.C.M. 309(a)(6).
[11] R.C.M. 304(a)(4).
[12] R.C.M. 304(f).
[13] R.C.M. 305(i)(B), Discussion.
[14] *Berta v. United States*, 9 M.J. 390, 393 (C.M.A. 1980) (mem.).
[15] E.*g.,* 10 U.S.C. § 813.
[16] Department of the Navy Corrections Manual at 4-6, 4-7.
[17] MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY (available at https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/propriety).
[18] R.C.M. 309(a)(1).

32. Further, it is clear that the expansion of Article 30(a) to ruling on matters relating to the pretrial confinement of the accused was intended to increase "efficiency in military justice." That is evident from the title of the section of the NDAA that included the expansion. Ordering the government to stop interfering with CSSN Copeland's rights to counsel at the prereferral stage will increase efficiency and prevent speedy trial issues and other litigation in the future. This Court should hear this application pursuant to Article 30a, as it is a proper review of the propriety of CSSN Copeland's pretrial confinement.

33. **A review of CSSN Copeland's pretrial confinement demonstrates that his pretrial status is interfering with his rights to counsel.** CSSN Copeland has the right to counsel, included in that right is the right to meet and confer privately with counsel. CSSN Copeland has been unable to confer privately with his attorneys despite numerous requests.

34. The defense and CSSN Copeland have repeatedly requested to be able to meet in-person privately and have a confidential meeting. The brig will only permit the defense a "no-contact" visit. This occurs in a room where defense counsel would have to shout and CSSN Copeland would have to shout back through a Plexiglass window. This is unacceptable considering conversations from outside the door can be heard within the room. That is neither private nor in-person. Even according to the Navy's correctional manual "MAX" and "MDI" prisoners must be escorted at all times; however, a military judge may order exceptions.[19] Additionally, CSSN Copeland's command could escort him to another secure location outside of the brig to allow him to meet with counsel. However, the government continues to deny the defense's reasonable requests to facilitate a private, confidential meeting with our client. Further, despite these restrictions put in place to keep CSSN Copeland from meeting with his counsel, NCIS has been permitted to be in the same room with him and have contact visits. Finally, no brig policy or instruction can interfere with CSSN Copeland's rights to counsel – or his right to confer privately with his attorneys.

35. While the phone does allow communication with the client that the defense presumes are confidential, it is not sufficient to prepare for trial or pretrial hearings, now or on a consistent basis. For instance, the defense cannot review discovery with the client over the phone. Further, if CSSN Copeland desires to testify in his own defense, whether at the preliminary hearing, an Article 39(a), or at trial, his defense counsel could not properly prepare him for that decision or the hearing over the phone.

36. This Court must review CSSN Copeland's confinement and find that it interferes with his right to counsel – namely his right to confer privately with his attorneys – and order that the defense be permitted to meet with CSSN Copeland privately in the same room for a confidential meeting in preparation for trial at least once every two weeks. These meetings can be at the brig, in building A-50, or another location in Hampton Roads, Virginia.

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[19] Department of the Navy Corrections Manual, SECNAV M-1640.1 of 15 May 19 at 4-6, 4-7.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Pursuant to Article 30a and R.C.M. 309(b)(6), the defense moves this Court to order the government to permit the defense to privately meet with CSSN Copeland in-person in order to prepare for trial, including the Article 32 preliminary hearing, or order the release of CSSN Jermiah Copeland from pretrial confinement. If the government cannot facilitate CSSN Copeland's right to confer with counsel while he is in pretrial confinement, this Court should order CSSN Copeland's release.

EVIDENCE & HEARING

37. The defense requests the production of SA Fritzer Philemon for in person or telephonic testimony at the Article 30a hearing.

38. The defense offers the following enclosures as evidence in support of this Motion:

a. Enclosure (1): Confinement Order of 9 Jun 25
b. Enclosure (2): Ruling from U.S. v. DC3 Reimonenq of 14 Mar 25
c. Enclosure (3): IRO Memo of 17 Jun 25
d. Enclosure (4): Complaint Pursuant to Article 138 of 13 Aug 25 w/encls
e. Enclosure (5): Mrs. Hoffmeister Affidavit
f. Enclosure (6): Demand for speedy trial of 16 Jun 25
g. Enclosure (7): Excludable Delay Request of 1 Jul 25
h. Enclosure (8): Defense Objection to Excludable Delay of 1 Jul 25
i. Enclosure (9): Grant of Excludable Delay ltr of 9 Jul 25
j. Enclosure (10): Second Demand for Speedy Trial of 25 Jul 25
k. Enclosure (11): Defense's Initial Discovery Request of 30 Jul 25
l. Enclosure (12): Second Excludable Delay request of 8 Aug 25
m. Enclosure (13): Defense Objection to Second Excludable Delay of 11 Aug 25
n. Enclosure (14): Emails with the trial counsel of 22 Aug 25

39. Unless the government concedes the motion or this Court grants the relief on the basis of pleadings alone, the defense requests a hearing to present evidence and argument on this matter. The defense is available for an Article 39(a) motions hearing on the following dates: 8-19 September 2025.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFES
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 26 August 2025, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]
A. M. SERFESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

From:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
To:	Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc:	Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA)
Subject:	23 March Contact Visit
Date:	Wednesday, March 11, 2026 9:57:20 AM

Good Morning Government,

Any further movement on the in-person meeting between our expert and CSSN Copeland on 23 March?

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Controlled by: CNLSC, DCAP
CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE
Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From:	Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
To:	Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA); Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA); Wailes, Meridith A LCDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA)
Subject:	RE: CSSN Copeland
Date:	Friday, March 6, 2026 10:41:39 AM

Good Morning Sir,

I have spoken with the Defense and they are comfortable with this just being the experts meeting with CSSN Copeland for these evaluations in a contact setting (and not his attorneys). As discussed, these evaluations require a contact setting due to the nature of the examinations. Please let me know if the brig cannot accommodate ASAP, so we can speak with the CA about arranging travel to our building. The military judge has made clear that this meeting needs to happen in a contact setting one way or the other. We are only requesting an exception to the contact policy for these evaluations and not for any other purpose.

To be clear, I understand your concerns for safety and believe they are valid. We will absolutely respect any determination you make. However, we are interested in ensuring this court-martial stays on track and the Accused receives a fair trial, so we need to find the best course to conduct these evaluations in a contact setting.

Thank you, sir!

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2026 5:08 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>; Wailes, Meridith A LCDR USN COMNAVREG MIDLANT VA (USA) <meridith.a.wailes.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Mihill,

The request below is void of details (to include how many people are on this team), which makes it difficult for me to consider granting a second exception to policy. My previous CO assumed the risk and granted an ETP; however, as you know it was rescinded due to the behavior of the prisoner. If it weren't for that, the current CO was fine with letting the approval stand and we wouldn't be having this conversation. I spoke with the CO earlier today and he concurs with my assessment of the situation.

I don't need to know the details that may cross into HIPAA, but "meaningful, face-to-face manner", "tiny room does not foster the trust necessary to meaningfully work and collaborate" are nice to haves, not requirements. The only part that seems to be close to a requirement "falls squarely under the umbrella of privileged information". I don't believe the process/procedure/tests are HIPAA, the results likely are and I certainly don't need to know them. You mentioned defense team and paralegals, who I would not recommend an exception to policy for. The medical evaluation portion could be considered, I just don't know anything about it, or whether it could be conducted in the no contact booth.

V/R,

OIC

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:25 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Government,

Thank you for the positive endorsement. Any tests or processes employed by our experts in preparation of CSSN Copeland's defense would fall squarely under the umbrella of privileged information, I know you can appreciate that.

In consultation with our experts it is clear that in order for them to do their work, they must be able to engage with CSSN Copeland in a meaningful, face-to-face manner. This engagement allows for an unobstructed exchange of information and eliminates any physical barriers between CSSN Copeland and the team that is working on his defense. It is imperative that CSSN Copeland trusts those working in his defense and being forced to converse through glass, in a tiny room does not foster the trust necessary to meaningfully work and collaborate with the defense team and expert consultants on matters central to the defense theory of the case.

I appreciate your consideration.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:17 AM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Defense,

We intend to positively endorse your request for this meeting to take place in the PTC room, but to help us explain to the CA/Command/Brig, is there a specific test that would require this to be a contact visit? Beyond simply saying "in-person meetings in order to properly facilitate their work," it would just help to have more specificity.

As you know, we are not the final say on these types of issues. Thanks.

V/r,

Chris

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 7:47 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Todd,

Thank you for the details. I will speak to the interested parties and get back to you soon.

V/r,

Chris

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:34 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Dempsey,

These meetings will be with his attorneys, paralegals, and expert consultants. There will likely be more than 4 or 5 individuals present, in addition to CSSN Copeland. Additionally, these meetings will likely last several hours with some folks coming and going during the meetings.

Additionally, the expert consultants have requested in-person meetings in order to properly facilitate their work with CSSN Copeland and to adequately prepare his defense.

Given these logistical concerns and the brig's stated intent to preclude further contact visits, command transport for secure meetings within building A-50 seems the most appropriate course of action. Let me know if you need anything additional to help facilitate.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 4:22 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon Defense,

Thank you for letting us know. Is there anything specific about these meetings that would require this to be a contact meeting at the brig (vice in the non-contact booth)?

Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:46 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: CSSN Copeland

Government,

The brig has notified us that an in-person meeting with CSSN Copeland at the brig is not possible.

Requesting your assistance in securing transport of CSSN Copeland to Bldg. A-50 on March

23-25 for in person meetings which are essential in the preparation of his defense.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL[redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 5:15 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA) <deonta.j.green.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>; Wilcox, Keonna P CPO USN NAVCRUITDIST RAL NC (USA) <keonna.wilcox1@navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Mihill,

We have the attached exception to policy letter signed by our previous CO which allowed us to conduct contact visitation and our current CO is OK with leaving this in place; however, one of the caveats (1.d) states that if he has any disciplinary issues, the exception to policy will be revoked. He received a DR last week, which resulted in a loss of privilege.

V/R,

OIC

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:17 PM
To: Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA) <deonta.j.green.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon IC1 Green,

The Defense counsel for CSSN Copeland are respectfully requesting in person, contact visits with CSSN Copeland from 23-25 March 2026. While we likely will not need all three days, but we would like to have that option available if we need it. We would like to meet with CSSN Copeland in the IRO room, or other contact room, in order to facilitate confidential communications. We will likely be spending several hours with the client on those days.

If this is not feasible, please advise alternate COAs that are agreeable to the brig in order to facilitate this request. Copying CDR Flanagan for his awareness on the request. Thanks, as always, for your help.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

23 Sep 25

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN. Special Trial Counsel
LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Trial Counsel
To: CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, USN
Via: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: PRE-ARRAIGNMENT PLEA AGREEMENT OFFER ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND, USN

Ref: (a) M.R.E. 410
(b) *United States v. Kastigar,* 406 U.S. 441 (1972)

Encl: (1) Charge Sheet dtd 22 Aug 25

1. The Office of Special Trial Counsel (OSTC) has considered the merits of the case against you, CSSN Jermiah Copeland, USN and the significant impact that immediate acceptance of responsibility would have on all parties involved. In return for that acceptance of responsibility, OSTC offers a plea agreement under the following terms:

2. You will agree to the following:

a. You must plead guilty to the following charges and specifications at a general court-martial: The sole Specification of Charge VIII (Article 118, Pre-meditated Murder), amended to the lesser included offense of Article 118(2) (Unpremeditated Murder), Specification 2 of Charge VII (Article 107, False Official Statement), Specification 2 of Charge V (Article 131b, Obstruction of Justice), Specification 1 of Charge IV (Article 120c, Indecent Recording), Specification 2 of Charge VI (Article 128b, Domestic Violence – Violent Offense), and Charge I, Specification 2, amended by exceptions and substitutions to the lesser included offense of Article 128 (Assault Consummated by Battery).[1]

b. You will voluntarily participate in any sex offender treatment program offered to you, to include truthful admissions of your misconduct required for rehabilitation.

3. In return for your acceptance of responsibility, OSTC would agree to the following sentencing terms:

a. Confinement for a term of 46 years (552 months). This term is calculated based on the following sentences to run consecutively:
   i. 480 months for the sole Specification of Charge VIII,
   ii. 36 months for Specification 2 of Charge VII, and
   iii. 36 months for Specification 2 of Charge V, to run consecutively.*

[1] Except "touch through the clothing, the vulva, breast, and buttocks of ABHAN C.R., U.S. Navy, with CSSN Copeland's body part, to wit: his hands, with an intent to gratify the sexual desire of CSSN Copeland without the consent of ABHAN C.R." and substitute "unlawfully touch the neck of ABHAN C.R. with his hand."

* The remaining Specifications will receive confinement pursuant to the maximum allowable under the relevant military sentencing parameters, to run concurrently.

b. A Dishonorable Discharge,
c. Reduction in rank to E-1,
d. Total forfeitures, and
e. No other lawful punishments

4. The following conditions exist regarding this offer:

a. Prior to the signing of a plea agreement, your counsel will provide OSTC with a written confessional proffer protected by MRE 410 as to the charges and specifications in paragraph 2a above.

b. If the OSTC is satisfied with your counsel's MRE 410 proffer, you will provide OSTC with a signed Stipulation of Fact that is consistent with your counsel's MRE 410 proffer for which you waive *United States v. Kastigar* and M.R.E. 410 protections as detailed in the footnote below.[2] This paragraph will be deemed complete when both you and OSTC's signature is affixed to the stipulation of fact.

c. Upon successful completion of items 4(a) and 4(b) above, OSTC will provide you with a signed plea agreement with the terms as outlined above.

5. **This offer will expire at the start of your arraignment on the Charges and Specifications preferred on 22 August 2025**. Acceptance is defined by the submission of the MRE 410 proffer described in para 4a. After arraignment and prior to trial, OSTC will only consider a guilty plea that includes a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole, although there is no guarantee such an offer would be accepted. Investigation into your offenses remains ongoing.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO[redacted]

[2] This includes an agreement to truthfully and completely detail your involvement in the misconduct identified in para 2a and will allow derivative use of the information provided by you. Should this agreement become void, the government will not offer in evidence in its case-in-chief, or in connection with any sentencing proceeding, your written stipulation of fact subject to the following limitations: The government may use the signed stipulation of fact, as well as any information directly or indirectly derived from the signed stipulation of fact: (1) in cross examination if you testify in any administrative or criminal proceeding; and, (2) to rebut directly or indirectly, any evidence, arguments, statements, and/or representations offered or elicited by you or on your behalf at a trial, sentencing, or any other criminal or administrative proceeding (including but not limited to motions hearing, trial, or sentencing).

From:	Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA)
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA); Wilcox, Keonna P CPO USN NAVCRUITDIST RAL NC (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA)
Subject:	RE: CSSN Copeland
Date:	Tuesday, February 17, 2026 5:14:53 PM
Attachments:	Encl 4 - Contact Visit Approval (1).pdf

LCDR Mihill,

We have the attached exception to policy letter signed by our previous CO which allowed us to conduct contact visitation and our current CO is OK with leaving this in place; however, one of the caveats (1.d) states that if he has any disciplinary issues, the exception to policy will be revoked. He received a DR last week, which resulted in a loss of privilege.

V/R,

OIC

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:17 PM
To: Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA) <deonta.j.green.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon IC1 Green,

The Defense counsel for CSSN Copeland are respectfully requesting in person, contact visits with CSSN Copeland from 23-25 March 2026. While we likely will not need all three days, but we would like to have that option available if we need it. We would like to meet with CSSN Copeland in the IRO room, or other contact room, in order to facilitate confidential communications. We will likely be spending several hours with the client on those days.

If this is not feasible, please advise alternate COAs that are agreeable to the brig in order to facilitate this request. Copying CDR Flanagan for his awareness on the request. Thanks, as always, for your help.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE
Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From:	Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA)
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA)
Subject:	RE: CSSN Copeland
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:58:31 AM

All,

The prisoner is still able to meet with his counsel/defense team, whether in the no-contact booth, or if they conduct a TR and take him to A-50 or wherever. With the latter, we would be required to provide an escort/guard from the brig staff in addition to the escorts provided by his command.

The no-contact booths were designed for this exact purpose and exist in every facility that I am aware of.

V/R,

OIC

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:54 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Government,

I wanted to follow up on the below and see where we are at with this request. We need some lead time in order to be able to schedule the necessary folks.

I understand that the brig has restricted CSSN Copeland's "privileges" because of a DR for "disrespect." Our position is that the **rights** to meet with his counsel/defense team and to prepare his defense, are not "privileges" that can be revoked by the brig OIC or brig policy.

To the extent "safety" is a concern we are happy to help mitigate whatever the perceived threat might be, but not at the expense of being able to meaningfully prepare with our client.

I appreciate your assistance and endorsement in making these meetings happen.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:25 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Government,

Thank you for the positive endorsement. Any tests or processes employed by our experts in preparation of CSSN Copeland's defense would fall squarely under the umbrella of privileged information, I know you can appreciate that.

In consultation with our experts it is clear that in order for them to do their work, they must be able to engage with CSSN Copeland in a meaningful, face-to-face manner. This engagement allows for an unobstructed exchange of information and eliminates any physical barriers between CSSN Copeland and the team that is working on his defense. It is imperative that CSSN Copeland trusts those working in his defense and being forced to converse through glass, in a tiny room does not foster the trust necessary to meaningfully work and collaborate with the defense team and expert consultants on matters central to the defense theory of the case.

I appreciate your consideration.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:17 AM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Defense,

We intend to positively endorse your request for this meeting to take place in the PTC room, but to help us explain to the CA/Command/Brig, is there a specific test that would require this to be a contact visit? Beyond simply saying "in-person meetings in order to properly facilitate their work," it would just help to have more specificity.

As you know, we are not the final say on these types of issues. Thanks.

V/r,

Chris

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 7:47 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Todd,

Thank you for the details. I will speak to the interested parties and get back to you soon.

V/r,

Chris

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:34 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Dempsey,

These meetings will be with his attorneys, paralegals, and expert consultants. There will likely be more than 4 or 5 individuals present, in addition to CSSN Copeland. Additionally, these meetings will likely last several hours with some folks coming and going during the meetings.

Additionally, the expert consultants have requested in-person meetings in order to properly facilitate their work with CSSN Copeland and to adequately prepare his defense.

Given these logistical concerns and the brig's stated intent to preclude further contact visits, command transport for secure meetings within building A-50 seems the most appropriate course of action. Let me know if you need anything additional to help facilitate.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL ([redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 4:22 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>

Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon Defense,

Thank you for letting us know. Is there anything specific about these meetings that would require this to be a contact meeting at the brig (vice in the non-contact booth)?

Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:46 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: CSSN Copeland

Government,

The brig has notified us that an in-person meeting with CSSN Copeland at the brig is not

possible.

Requesting your assistance in securing transport of CSSN Copeland to Bldg. A-50 on March 23-25 for in person meetings which are essential in the preparation of his defense.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL ([redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 5:15 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA) <deonta.j.green.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>; Wilcox, Keonna P CPO USN NAVCRUITDIST RAL NC (USA) <keonna.wilcox1@navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>

Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Mihill,

We have the attached exception to policy letter signed by our previous CO which allowed us to conduct contact visitation and our current CO is OK with leaving this in place; however, one of the caveats (1.d) states that if he has any disciplinary issues, the exception to policy will be revoked. He received a DR last week, which resulted in a loss of privilege.

V/R,

OIC

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Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon IC1 Green,

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If this is not feasible, please advise alternate COAs that are agreeable to the brig in order to facilitate this request. Copying CDR Flanagan for his awareness on the request. Thanks, as always, for your help.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program

1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
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TEL ([redacted]
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To:	Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA); Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA); Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA)
Subject:	RE: CSSN Copeland
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2026 2:53:50 PM
Attachments:	US v. COPELAND - Gov Resp (Release from PTC)) (Final) - Response.pdf

Good Afternoon CDR Flanagan and Defense,

OIC, thank you for the response.

Defense, are still waiting to hear from the convening authority on their willingness to accommodate a transfer to A-50. Of course, as outlined in our Article 30a filing on this issue, we do not see any issue with the brig's policies on this matter in light of the Supreme Court's holding in *United States v. Turner*. I've attached that filing here.

I will follow up with the convening authority and see what I am able to sort out. Thank you!

V/r,

LCDR Dempsey

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:58 AM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
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Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

All,

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The no-contact booths were designed for this exact purpose and exist in every facility that I am aware of.

V/R,

OIC

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Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:54 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Government,

I wanted to follow up on the below and see where we are at with this request. We need some lead time in order to be able to schedule the necessary folks.

I understand that the brig has restricted CSSN Copeland's "privileges" because of a DR for "disrespect." Our position is that the **rights** to meet with his counsel/defense team and to prepare his defense, are not "privileges" that can be revoked by the brig OIC or brig policy.

To the extent "safety" is a concern we are happy to help mitigate whatever the perceived threat might be, but not at the expense of being able to meaningfully prepare with our client.

I appreciate your assistance and endorsement in making these meetings happen.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374

(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:25 AM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Government,

Thank you for the positive endorsement. Any tests or processes employed by our experts in preparation of CSSN Copeland's defense would fall squarely under the umbrella of privileged information, I know you can appreciate that.

In consultation with our experts it is clear that in order for them to do their work, they must be able to engage with CSSN Copeland in a meaningful, face-to-face manner. This engagement allows for an unobstructed exchange of information and eliminates any physical barriers between CSSN Copeland and the team that is working on his defense. It is imperative that CSSN Copeland trusts those working in his defense and being forced to converse through glass, in a tiny room does not foster the trust necessary to meaningfully work and collaborate with the defense team and expert consultants on matters central to the defense theory of the

case.

I appreciate your consideration.

VR

LCDR Mihill

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:17 AM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Morning Defense,

We intend to positively endorse your request for this meeting to take place in the PTC room, but to help us explain to the CA/Command/Brig, is there a specific test that would require this to be a contact visit? Beyond simply saying "in-person meetings in order to properly facilitate their work," it would just help to have more specificity.

As you know, we are not the final say on these types of issues. Thanks.

V/r,

Chris

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA)
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 7:47 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J

PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Todd,

Thank you for the details. I will speak to the interested parties and get back to you soon.

V/r,

Chris

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:34 PM
To: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Dempsey,

These meetings will be with his attorneys, paralegals, and expert consultants. There will likely be more than 4 or 5 individuals present, in addition to CSSN Copeland. Additionally, these meetings will likely last several hours with some folks coming and going during the meetings.

Additionally, the expert consultants have requested in-person meetings in order to properly facilitate their work with CSSN Copeland and to adequately prepare his defense.

Given these logistical concerns and the brig's stated intent to preclude further contact visits, command transport for secure meetings within building A-50 seems the most appropriate course of action. Let me know if you need anything additional to help facilitate.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG

Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE
Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From: Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 4:22 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon Defense,

Thank you for letting us know. Is there anything specific about these meetings that would require this to be a contact meeting at the brig (vice in the non-contact booth)?

Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher B. Dempsey
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel
757-341-4545
Officer of Special Trial Counsel Det. Norfolk
9620 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

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From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:46 PM
To: Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>
Subject: FW: CSSN Copeland

Government,

The brig has notified us that an in-person meeting with CSSN Copeland at the brig is not possible.

Requesting your assistance in securing transport of CSSN Copeland to Bldg. A-50 on March 23-25 for in person meetings which are essential in the preparation of his defense.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL ([redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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CUI Category: PRIVACY; LEGAL PRIVILEGE
Distribution/Dissemination Control: FEDCON

From: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 5:15 PM
To: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>; Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA) <deonta.j.green.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>; Welch, Sharell A CIV USN (USA) <sharell.a.welch.civ@us.navy.mil>; Wilcox, Keonna P CPO USN NAVCRUITDIST RAL NC (USA) <keonna.wilcox1@navy.mil>; Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA) <christopher.b.dempsey2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA) <lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil>; Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA) <kathleen.e.vanetti.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: RE: CSSN Copeland

LCDR Mihill,

We have the attached exception to policy letter signed by our previous CO which allowed us to conduct contact visitation and our current CO is OK with leaving this in place; however, one of the caveats (1.d) states that if he has any disciplinary issues, the exception to policy will be revoked. He received a DR last week, which resulted in a loss of privilege.

V/R,

OIC

From: Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA) <todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 12:17 PM
To: Green, Deonta J PO1 USN (USA) <deonta.j.green.mil@us.navy.mil>
Cc: Flanagan, Brian P CDR USN NAVCONBRIG CHES VA (USA) <brian.p.flanagan.mil@us.navy.mil>; Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <clifton.e.morgan4.mil@us.navy.mil>; Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA) <amanda.m.serfess.mil@us.navy.mil>; Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA) <cindy.r.hoffmeister.civ@us.navy.mil>; HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA) <laquoston.t.hafner.mil@us.navy.mil>; Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA) <juana.j.port.mil@us.navy.mil>
Subject: CSSN Copeland

Good Afternoon IC1 Green,

The Defense counsel for CSSN Copeland are respectfully requesting in person, contact visits with CSSN Copeland from 23-25 March 2026. While we likely will not need all three days, but we would like to have that option available if we need it. We would like to meet with CSSN Copeland in the IRO room, or other contact room, in order to facilitate confidential communications. We will likely be spending several hours with the client on those days.

If this is not feasible, please advise alternate COAs that are agreeable to the brig in order to facilitate this request. Copying CDR Flanagan for his awareness on the request. Thanks, as always, for your help.

Very Respectfully,

Todd M. Mihill
LCDR, USCG
Assistant Director, Defense Counsel Assistance Program
1254 Charles Morris Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
(BROFF Norfolk, VA)

TEL [redacted]
todd.m.mihill.mil@us.navy.mil

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From:	drsahni forensicpsych.expert
To:	Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Cc:	Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); HAFNER, Laquoston T (AM2) PO1 USN (USA); Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA)
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] Re: In Person Meetings w CSSN Copeland
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2026 12:19:57 AM

Good evening all:

Apologies for the delay in reaching out on U.S. v. Copeland. I was waiting to see the status of another matter I have in Norfolk to try and schedule my in-person testing and evaluation of Copeland.

In order for me to be able to fully and thoroughly evaluate him both for mitigation considerations, diagnostic evaluation, and a comprehensive risk assessment, I will need to meet with him in-person without obstruction and with complete privacy to preserve confidentiality that cannot be guaranteed in controlled settings when officers/MPs are present in the room, glass partitions and phone use are required or we are asked to meet in a communal visiting room with other defendant visits occurring or staff easily being able to listen in on the evaluation details.

That said, the evaluation requires both time to engage him in psychological testing (which can take people between 3-7 hours to complete) and to do an exhaustive, multi-hour interview. I'll touch base with you this week to schedule dates/times for the testing and interview and to provide whatever information you need to arrange for these on-site visits.

Best,
Dr. Sahni

Sent from Dr. Sahni's iPhone

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METIS GROUP LLC

76 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE
SUITE 204A
SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

February 18, 2026

RE: CSSN Jermiah Copeland

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Daniela LaValva and I am a Mitigation Specialist retained by CSSN Copeland's defense counsel. I am reaching out as I am scheduling a visit with CSSN Copeland in late March and have learned that he has lost privileges of contact visits. I would therefore have to meet him with a glass partition between us. Although conducting the evaluation under these conditions is feasible, it is less than ideal and introduces limitations to the clinical process. Therefore, I respectfully request that CSSN Copeland be permitted to meet with me without a barrier, as this would allow for a more accurate, thorough, and clinically appropriate assessment.

I will be traveling from New Jersey to Virginia with the purpose of being able to interview CSSN Copeland in person rather than via a virtual platform. The purpose is to meet him in person to conduct a diagnostic interview that will provide an assessment and mitigation report for his defense team. Meeting with clients in person is important for several reasons; develops trust and rapport, supports comprehensive mental health status evaluation, allows for direct observation of nonverbal behavior, enhances accuracy and validity of clinical information, and promotes dignity. Meeting without a partition conveys respect and reinforces that the interaction is clinical rather than punitive. This aligns with ethical standards emphasizing dignity, respect, and person-centered care, even within correctional environments.

I appreciate that the detention facility must implement sanctions in response to behaviors occurring with the institution, however, not allowing CSSN Copeland to meet with an evaluator without a barrier interferes with his ability to meaningfully participate in the evaluation process and limits the evaluator's ability to conduct a thorough and accurate assessment, thereby adversely impacting his ability to assist in his defense.

Sincerely,

Daniela LaValva, LCSW

Daniela LaValva, LCSW
Mitigation Specialist

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF (PRIVATE MEETING WITH DEFENSE TEAM INCLUDING EXPERTS)** **16 March 2026**

MOTION

The Government respectfully requests this Court deny the Defense Motion For Appropriate Relief because the Defense currently has access to a confidential meeting space with the Accused. With regard to access to experts, since the filing of this motion by Defense, the brig agreed to allow CSSN Copeland a future meeting with two experts, Ms. LaVala and Dr. Sahni, in a contact setting.

FACTS

1. The Accused was ordered into confinement at the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston Detachment Chesapeake (the brig) on 9 June 2025.[1]

2. The Accused is classified as a MAX prisoner and has been since the start of his confinement.[2] MAX is defined as "[p]risoners requiring special custody supervision because of the high probability of escape or are potentially violent or dangerous, and whose escape would cause concern of a threat to life, property, or national security."[3]

3. The Accused is allowed visitation with his Defense counsel in a no-contact booth.[4] The no-contact booth is only occupied by the attorneys and the Accused, has plexiglass in the middle with slots to pass documents between client and attorney, allows for videos to be seen by the client, and can have white noise machines placed outside of the booth to avoid conversations being overheard by anyone outside of the attorney-client conversation.[5]

4. Twice over the period of time CSSN Copeland has been in pre-trial confinement, the brig has conducted at least 2 tests to ensure that no guard standing outside the Accused's door can hear the conversation inside the no contact room.[6]

1. AE 7, Encl. A
2. AE 49, Encl. 1.
3. AE 49, Encl. 2 at 4-5 and 4-6.
4. AE 49, Encl. 1.
5. AE 49, Encl. 2., Encl. 10.
6. Enc. 11.

5. On 2 October 2025, the Office of Special Trial Counsel made a request to CDR Flanagan for a "narrowly tailored exception" for authorized contact visitations between the Accused and his Defense attorneys.[7] On 6 October 2025, CDR Flanagan approved that request.[8] That exception has since been rescinded.

6. On 13 Mar 2026, in light of information provided by Defense experts regarding the need for a contact visit, the brig has authorized Ms. LaVala and Dr. Sahni to meet with CSSN Copeland in a contact setting.[9]

7. Throughout the Accused's pretrial confinement, it has been possible for private phone calls with attorneys to be accommodated at any time as long as the request is made during business hours (0730-1500).[10]

8. Charges were preferred against the Accused on 22 August 2025.[11] These charges include allegations of premediated murder and violent sexual misconduct.[12] These allegations span five victims in a less than one-year period.[13]

9. Both during and after the commission of the alleged offenses, but before the imposition of pretrial confinement, the Accused searched for options to escape.[14] Specifically, he searched for directions to "Bermuda" on 29 May 2025, the date of the alleged murder, and conducted searches for "norfolk airport" and "virginia airport" in the following days.

10. On 13 December 2025, brig staff observed blood in CSSN Copeland's cell.[15]

11. On 16 December 2025, brig staff observed CSSN Copeland punching the wall with both fists. Brig staff observed blood on the wall of his cell and his blanket.[16]

12. On 25 Dec 25, brig staff observed small amounts of blood throughout CSSN Copeland's cell, clipped fingernails, and cuts on the top of CSSN Copeland's hands.[17]

13. On 7 January 2026, brig staff observed cuts on CSSN Copeland's wrists.[18]

---

7. AE 49, Encl. 5.
8. AE 49, Encl. 4.
9. Encl 11.
10. AE 49, Encl. 1.
11. Charge Sheet.
12. Charge Sheet; *see* AE 8
13. Charge Sheet.
14. AE 49, Encl. 8.
15. Encl. 1.
16. Encl. 2.
17. Encl. 3.
18. Encl 4.

14. On 4 February 2026, when corrected by brig staff for sleeping during the day, CSSN Copeland stated "Show me the fuck it says that!" After brig staff provided him with the citation for the rule, CSSN Copeland yelled "Stop talking to me…just leave me the fuck alone."[19]

15. On 10 February, CSSN Copeland told brig staff that staff was "making [him] want to kill [himself] soon." When asked if he thought of killing himself that evening, CSSN Copeland replied "Nah, but…soon." Also on 10 February, CSSN Copeland was disrespectful to brig staff. He said things like, "ya'll don't do shit" and "I don't have to tell you shit."[20]

16. For the past few months, CSSN Copeland has been placed on and off prevention of injury status (POI).[21]

17. On 15 February 2026, CSSN Copeland intimated to brig staff that he could create a make shift weapon in his cell and described various ways he could harm himself. Also on 15 February, CSSN Copeland told brig staff that he doesn't feel safe in the brig and "a guy can only take so much" and he "can't take much more of this", "Eventually I'm going to lose it."[22]

18. On 27 Feb 2026, Brig staff observed CSSN Copeland with bloody tissues in his cell and blood smeared on his wall.[23]

BURDEN OF PROOF

In this motion for appropriate relief, the Defense bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence and the burden of persuasion as the moving party.

LAW

An accused in pretrial confinement is entitled to the appointment of military counsel regardless of status.[24] This right, particularly as it applies to this case, is guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution.[25]

However, that right to counsel is not absolute for prisoners in pretrial confinement. "Prison regulations that impede an inmate's constitutional rights will . . . be upheld if the regulation 'is

19. Encl 5.
20. Encl. 6.
21. Encl 7.
22. Encl 8.
23. Encl 9.
24. R.C.M. 305(e), (g).
25. *Rothgery v. Gillespie Cty., Tex.,* 554 U.S. 191, 194 (2008).

reasonably related to legitimate penological interests.'"[26] The Supreme Court held in *United States v. Turner* that there are four factors to consider when assessing the reasonableness of a prison regulation:

> (1) Whether there is a valid, rational connection between the prison regulation and the legitimate governmental interest put forward to justify it,
>
> (2) whether there are alternative means of exercising the right that remain open to prison inmates,
>
> (3) the impact the asserted constitutional right will have on guards and other inmates, and on the allocation of prison resources, and
>
> (4) the existence of obvious, easy alternatives may be evidence that the regulation is not reasonable, but is an exaggerated response to prison concerns.[27]

All four factors are not always "equally useful nor need be applied with equal value, depending on the circumstances of the case and the regulation that is challenged."[28] This test has been applied in military courts in a variety of cases.[29]

In evaluating the first *Turner* factor, a court should only strike down a regulation when a logical connection between the regulation and asserted goal does not exist or is "so remote as to render the policy arbitrary or irrational."[30] "[An Accused's] complaint may not be plausible unless it contains specific factual allegations demonstrating why the government's justifications do not have a rational connection to the challenged restrictions."[31]

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26. *United States v. Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470, *24 (D. Alaska 2021) (quoting *Turner*, 482 U.S.at 89).
27. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89-90 (cleaned up).
28. *United States v. Green*, ACM 36664, 2007 CCA LEXIS 475, at *8-9 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 12, 2007) (citing *Beard v. Banks*, 548 U.S. 521 (2006)).
29. *See e.g.*, *United States v. Guinn*, Army 20170500, 2021 CCA LEXIS 423 (A.C.C.A. Aug. 20, 2021) (considering the Frist Amendment right to familial association); *United States v. Frantz*, ACM 39657, 2020 CCA ELXIS 404 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 10, 2020) (considering policy restricting contact with son); *United States v. Arnold*, Army 20180418, 2019 CCA LEXIS 516 (A. Ct. Crim. App. Dec. 17, 2019) (considering a policy against minor visitors); *United States v. Green*, ACM 36664, 2007 CCA LEXIS 475 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 12, 2007) (considering a policy against sex offenders meeting with minors), *Felicies*, 2005 CCA LEXIS 124 (considering a policy against material and conversation that was in a foreign language).
30. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 89-90.
31. *Crawford v. Garland*, 2025 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 36440, *17 (D. Colo. Feb. 5, 2025) (citing *Gee v. Pacheco*, 627 F.3d 1178, 1185 (10th Cir. 2010).

In considering the second *Turner* factor, the existence of alternative means to exercise a constitutional right means a regulation is less likely to violate the Constitution.[32] Some deference is owed corrections officials in assessing the validity of a regulation.[33] "Alternatives are interpreted broadly; if a prisoner can still exercise the asserted right in a similar, though not identical way, the prisoner's constitutional rights are preserved."[34]

In assessing the third *Turner* factor, "the right of the prisoner is weighed against the rights of other prisoners and prison employees, and where 'the right in question can be exercised only at the cost of significantly less liberty and safety for everyone else, guards and other prisoners alike, we should defer to the informed discretion of corrections officials."[35] "Deference to prison administrators is due '[w]hen allocation of resources and the ability of administrators to protect staff and detainees at the facility are at issue.'"[36] Prisons do not need to use the least-restrictive available options.[37] "The *Turner* analysis . . . does not invalidate a policy just because it restricts one of many forms of legal assistance.:[38]

And last, in reviewing the fourth factor, "if an inmate claimant can point to an alternative that fully accommodates the prisoner's rights at de minims cost to valid penological interests," the regulation may be unreasonable. "[T]he burden is on the inmate 'to point to an alternative that accommodates their rights at de minimis cost to security."[39]

ARGUMENT

Defense asks this Court to intervene in routine brig operations based on speculation, inconvenience, and preference—not evidence. Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake's no-contact attorney meeting room has been utilized by numerous Defense counsel without issue and includes multiple safeguards to ensure confidential attorney–client communication. Defense offers no evidence that confidentiality has been compromised, no example of a communication that could be overheard, and no instance in which counsel was unable to meet with the accused. Instead, the motion rests on complaints about logistics: speaking through plexiglass, passing documents through a slot, meeting during established visiting hours, coordinating phone calls, and traveling to the brig to see their client. These are routine conditions of confinement facilities and do not remotely approach a violation of the right to counsel. The Constitution guarantees meaningful access to counsel—not the most convenient arrangement for Defense counsel. Because the brig's procedures provide regular access, ensure confidentiality, and reflect

32. *Turner*, 482 U.S. at 90.
33. *Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470, *24 (citing *Turner* at 89-90).
34. *Id*. at *25 (citing *Mauro v. Arpaio*, 188 F.3d 1054, 1061 (9th Cir. 1999)).
35. *Moi*, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 171470 at *26 (citing *Mauro*, 188 F.3d at 1062).
36. *Id*. at *26 (quoting *Bull v. City & Cty. Of San Francisco*, 595 F.3d 964, 976 (9th Cir.)).
37. *Thornburgh v. Abbott*, 490 U.S. 401, 411 (1989); *Hammer v. Ashcroft*, 570 F.3d 798, 801 (7th Cir. 2009).
38. *Sebolt v. Samuels*, 749 Fed. Appx. 458, 461 (7th Cir. 2018) (citing *Shaw v. Murphy*, 532 U.S. 223, 230 (2001)).
39. *Id*. (quoting *Casey v. Lewis*, 4 F.3d 1516, 1523 (9th Cir, 1993).

reasonable security measures—particularly in light of the accused's recent misconduct—the motion should be denied.

I. Defense Provides No Evidence that the Brig's No-Contact Room Compromises Attorney–Client Confidentiality

Defense's argument rests entirely on speculation and complaint rather than evidence. Nowhere does the Defense provide any declaration, affidavit, testing, or other evidence demonstrating that the brig's no-contact room allows brig personnel to overhear privileged attorney–client communications. Instead, the Defense merely asserts that the presence of plexiglass requires them to raise their voices. That allegation, even if accepted as true, does not establish that communications are audible to guards standing behind the prisoner's door or that confidentiality is compromised.

As CDR Flanaghan, the Officer in Charge of the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston Detachment Chesapeake testified to during the 10 December 2025 39(a) session in this case, at least two separate ad hoc tests have been conducted to determine whether conversations occurring inside the no-contact attorney meeting room could be overheard by brig personnel positioned outside the door on the accused's side of the room. On both occasions, personnel standing outside the closed door were unable to hear the conversations taking place inside. These tests were conducted by brig staff as well as the brig's Commanding Officer. Both tests confirmed that conversations within the room could not be overheard by personnel outside the door, further demonstrating that the room preserves the confidentiality of attorney–client communications.

Defense further complains that documents must be passed through a slot and alleges that only a few sheets can be transferred at a time. This complaint reflects preference, not constitutional limitation. Even accepting Defense's description of the slot, this argument again reflects a matter of convenience rather than any meaningful interference with attorney–client communication. Nothing prevents Defense from providing discovery materials to brig staff for delivery to the accused. Defense could easily provide the documents in a folder or packet for the guard to hand directly to the accused through the secure door. Defense does not explain why it has chosen instead to feed documents through the slot sheet by sheet. In any event, photographs of that slot appear to accommodate more than the few sheets alleged by the Defense.[40] Through the slot or not, the accused is able to obtain documentary evidence for review. Regardless, the existence of a minor logistical inconvenience does not rise to the level of a constitutional violation—particularly when obvious alternatives are readily available.

II. The Brig's Visiting Hours and Phone Call Procedures Are Reasonable Administrative Regulations That Do Not Interfere With the Right to Counsel

Defense also complains that the brig enforces standard visiting hours of 0800 to 1500. Confinement facilities necessarily operate within structured schedules to maintain security,

40. Encl. 10

staffing, and order. The brig's visiting hours apply generally and are not targeted at this accused or his counsel. Defense offers no evidence that these hours prevent counsel from meaningfully meeting with the accused or preparing for litigation. Indeed, the available seven-hour window each weekday provides substantial opportunity for attorney–client meetings. Defense does not explain why meetings must occur outside these hours or why the available time is insufficient for trial preparation. Additionally, on days when the Court conducts Article 39(a) sessions, Defense counsel have been able to meet with the accused in a no-contact setting for the entirety of the business day. These extended meetings further demonstrate that the accused has had substantial opportunities to consult with counsel.

Defense also complains that arranging phone calls with the accused requires advance coordination with the brig. Defense has not shown that phone access has been denied or that counsel has been unable to speak with the accused when needed. Instead, the complaint appears to be that counsel must plan ahead to coordinate those calls. The right to counsel guarantees access—not immediate, on-demand communication at any time counsel chooses. The brig's procedures allow for confidential phone communication while preserving the orderly operation of the facility. Defense has not demonstrated that these procedures have interfered with the accused's ability to consult with counsel in any meaningful way.

III. The Brig's Decision to Require No-Contact Visits Is a Reasonable Security Measure

Defense ignores the fact that the brig previously granted an exception allowing the accused to have a contact visit with counsel in October. Moreover, the brig is now allowing for an exception to allow for experts to meet in the no contact room to conduct testing. These exceptions demonstrate the brig's willingness to accommodate attorney–client access when circumstances permit. However, the brig has since rescinded an exception to allow no contact visits with defense counsel as the accused has violated brig rules, behaved disrespectfully toward brig staff, and engaged in self-harm. In light of that conduct, it is entirely reasonable for the brig to return the accused to the standard no-contact visitation procedures for routine attorney visits.

IV. Defense's Request that the Brig Transport the Accused to a Location of Counsel's Choosing Is Extraordinary and Unsupported

Perhaps the most striking aspect of the Defense motion is its request that the Court order the command to transport the accused to a location selected by Defense counsel once every two weeks so that counsel may meet with him outside the brig. Such a requirement would impose significant logistical and security burdens on brig staff and would represent an extraordinary intrusion into the management of a confinement facility. More importantly, Defense provides no evidence that such a measure is necessary to protect the accused's right to counsel. The accused already has access to confidential attorney meetings at the brig, access to confidential phone communications, and the ability to receive legal materials. Instead, the requested order appears driven primarily by convenience. Under the current arrangement, Defense counsel must travel to the brig to meet with their client (or talk over the phone). The requested remedy would shift that burden onto brig personnel and require the facility to accommodate counsel's preferred meeting

location and schedule. The right to counsel does not require a confinement facility to reorganize its operations to suit counsel's preferences. Absent any showing that the accused cannot meaningfully consult with counsel under existing procedures, there is no basis for the Court to order such an extraordinary measure.

V. Because Defense Has Shown No Violation of the Right to Counsel, the Motion Should Be Denied

Defense asks this Court to intervene in the routine administration of a confinement facility based not on evidence of interference with counsel, but on complaints about logistics and convenience. The record demonstrates the opposite of what Defense claims. The brig has provided confidential meeting space, telephone access, reasonable visiting hours, extended meetings on court days, and even previously granted a contact visit exception. When Defense presented information demonstrating that certain expert testing required in-person interaction, the brig evaluated that request and determined it could accommodate expert access on a limited basis.

Nothing in the Defense motion demonstrates that the accused has been unable to consult privately with counsel, review discovery, or participate in his defense. What Defense seeks is not protection of the right to counsel, but a preferred arrangement—one that would require the Court to micromanage brig operations and require brig personnel to transport a confined prisoner outside the facility simply to accommodate counsel's schedule. The right to counsel guarantees meaningful access. It does not guarantee convenience, preferred meeting conditions, or the relocation of a prisoner to suit counsel's preferences. Because the brig's procedures fully protect the accused's ability to consult with counsel while maintaining the security and order of the facility, the Defense motion should be denied in its entirety.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Government respectfully requests that the Court deny the Defense's motion.

EVIDENCE

Enclosure (1): Voluntary Statement and Photographs dtd 13 Dec 25

Enclosure (2): Prisoner Observation Report dtd 16 Dec 25

Enclosure (3): Prisoner Observation Report dtd 25 Dec 25

Enclosure (4): Prisoner Disciplinary Report dtd 7 Jan 26

Enclosure (5): Prisoner Disciplinary Report dtd 4 Feb 26

Enclosure (6): Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake Investigation dtd 10 Feb 26

Enclosure (7): Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake Status Review dtd 12 Feb 26

Enclosure (8): Prisoner Observation Report dtd 15 Feb 26

Enclosure (9): Prisoner Observation Report dtd 27 Feb 26

Enclosure (10): Photographs of No Contact Room at Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake

Enclosure (11): Email from Special Trial Counsel to Defense IRT Expert Visit dtd 13 Mar 26

Enclosure (12): Excerpt from 10 Dec 25 39(a) Hearing ICO CSSN Copeland – Testimony of CDR Flanaghan

ORAL ARGUMENT

If this Court requires a 39(a) for this issue, the Government requests oral argument in response to any Defense oral argument.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this motion was served on the Court and Defense Counsel this 16th day of March 2026.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO
CDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

1. Place: KILO-EAST / SPECIAL QUARTERS DAYROOM

2. Date/Time: 13DEC25 073

I, EM2 OSEI DAPAAH, make the following free and voluntary statement to MAC JONES, whom I know to be a command investigator for the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake. I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement concerning my knowledge of: SNP COPELAND

At the above date and time I EM2 Osei Dapaah (Escort) and BM2 Baker (Escort) moved prisoner Copeland from KE cell 79 to KE cell 81 as part of the random daily cell inspections. Both BM2 Baker and I entered prisoner Copeland's cell for the inspection and while searching the belongings on his desk, BM2 Baker found an almost finished toilet paper roll covered in spats of dry blood on the shelf above the desk. BM2 Baker found that all sides of the roll were covered in spots of blood with one side being completely covered in blood which he drew my attention to it. During the inspection of the item another piece of the toilet paper fell out of the inner tube of the roll; a stiff strip of the paper completely soaked in dry blood. BM2 Baker took possession of the item and the cell inspection was done at approximately 0739 and moved prisoner Copeland back to KE cell 79. Once secured back SNP Copeland into his cell BM2 Baker asked prisoner Copeland where the blood was from and if he needed to see medical. Prisoner Copeland shook his head saying "No." BM2 Baker then asked him "Do you mind telling me where the blood came from?" Prisoner Copeland then stated "No, its just blood." After which we BM2 Baker and I took the item to the KE dorm control room and placed on a paper towel. The CDO was notified of the finding at approximately 0740.----------
----------END OF STATEMENT----------

Subscribed and Sworn Before Me This 13th

Day of December, 2025

Signature [redacted]

Print: MAC JONES, L

I have read over this statement, which contains information/facts I have voluntarily provided. I have initialed corrections and made changes that I desire. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

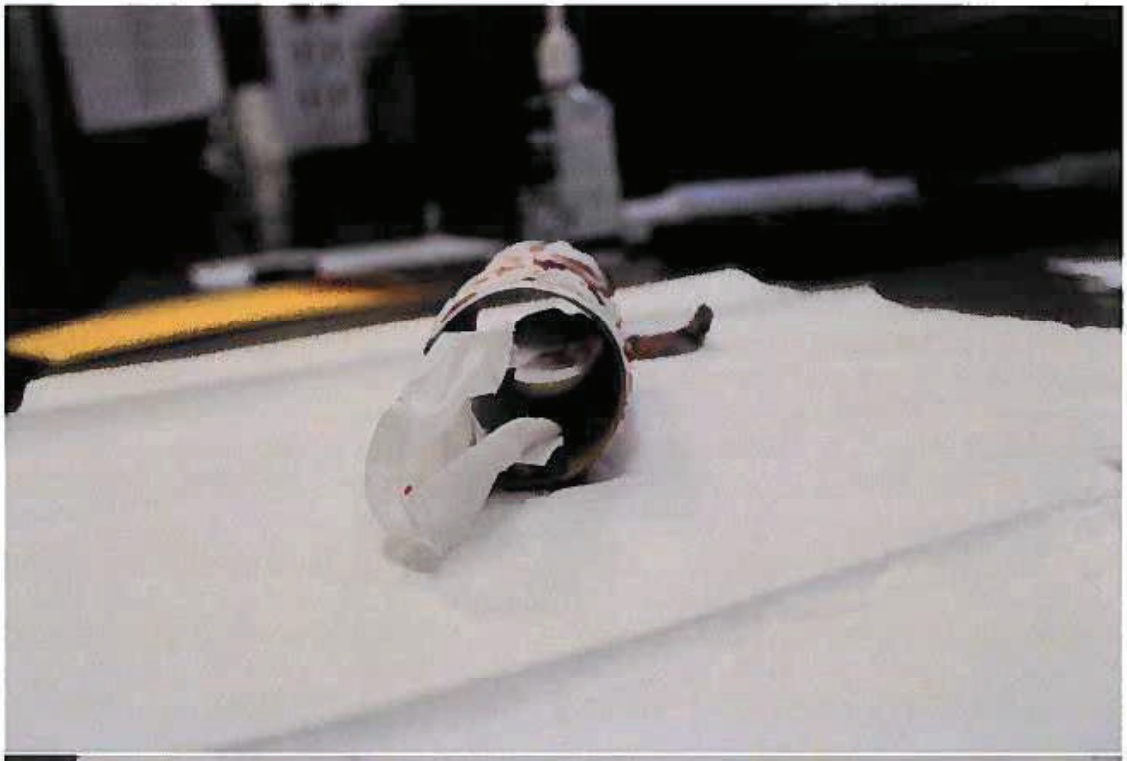
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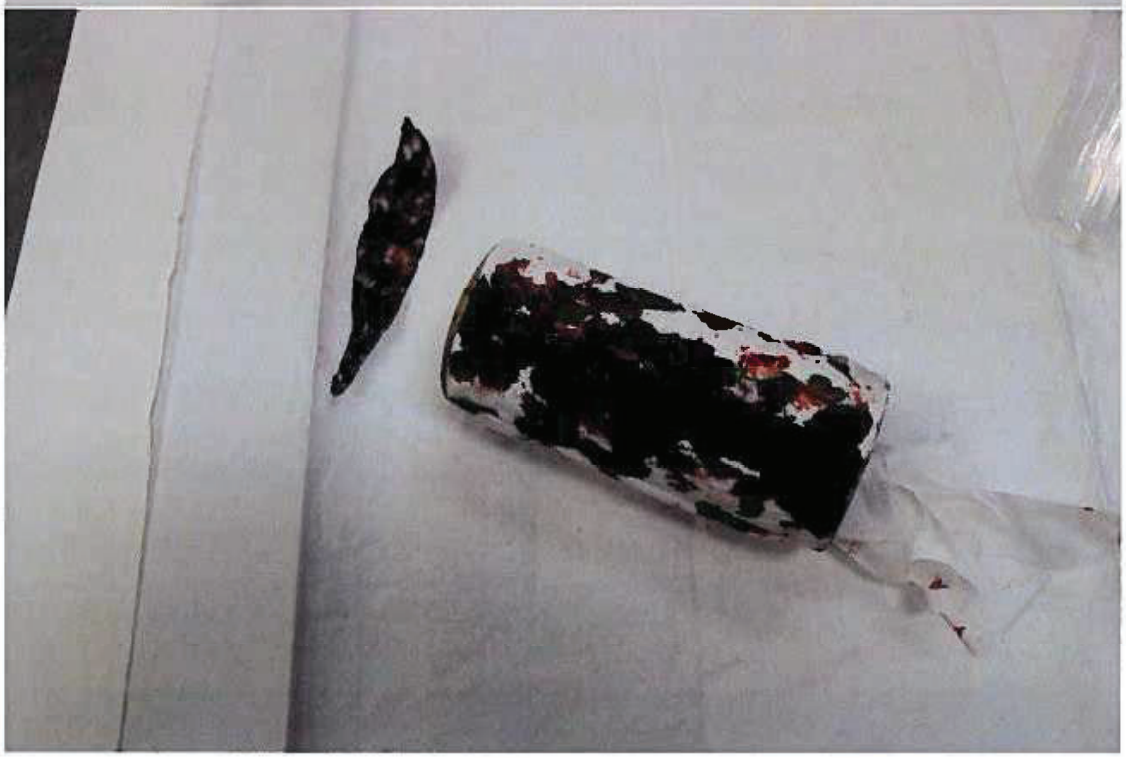
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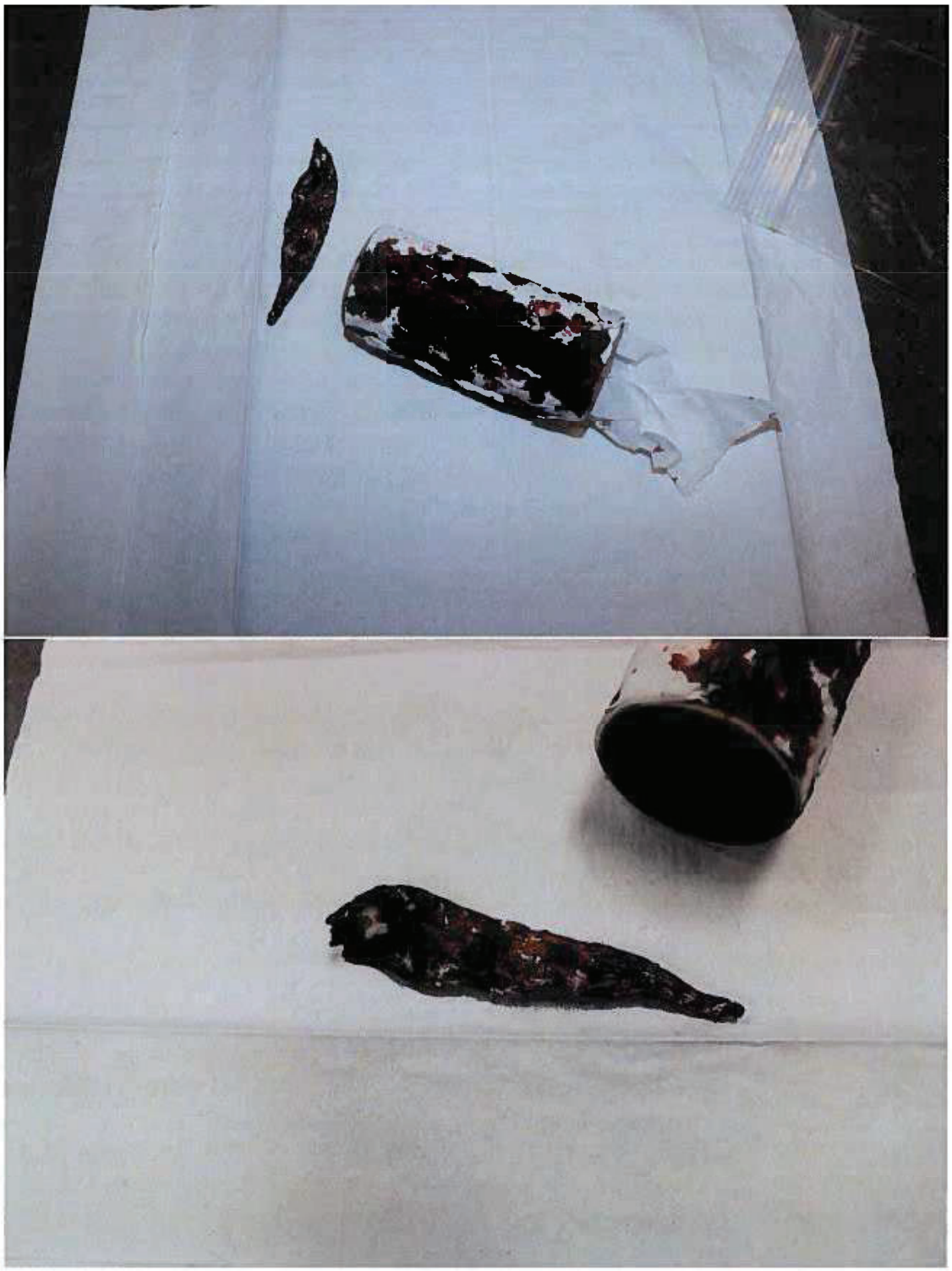
EM2 OSEI DAPAAH

Print Name















Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07 | CUI (when filled in) | (Updated 20241216)

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20251216

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to report favorable, unfavorable, injuries, or behaviors of prisoners. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JEREMIAH	00165476CJ

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
PRE/ MAX	KILO-EAST	KE	SQ	K79

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☒ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20251216	0850	KE/SQ	☒ YES ☐ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
ZUTEY, GLORIA	E-5	SQ SUPERVISOR	20251216

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CS2 EBILANE	E-5	QUARTER SUPERVISOR	20251216

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

AT THE ABOVE DATE AND TIME, I OS2 ZUTEY, SPECIAL QUARTERS SUPERVISOR, WHILE CONDUCTING ROUNDS, SAW SNP COPELAND STANDING IN HIS CELL WITH BLANKET OVER HIS HEAD, HEAD AGAINST CELL AND PUNCHING THE WALL WITH BOTH FISTS. I INSTRUCTED SNP TO STOP BUT HE IGNORED ME AND CONTINUED PUNCHING. UPON RETURNING TO THE BUBBLE AFTER MY ROUNDS, I REALIZED THE PUNCHING WAS BECOMING INTENSED, SO I WENT BACK TO ASK SNP COPELAND TO STOP AND HE ASKED IF HE WAS CAUSING ANY NUISANCE OR DISTURBING ANYONE AND I REPLIED YES. WHILE TALKING TO SNP, I SAW BLOOD ON THE WALL OF HIS CELL AND ON THE BLANKET. I IMMEDIATELY INFORMED MEDICAL AND COMMAND DUTY OFFICER AT APPROXIMATELY 0900 CDO AND MEDICAL CAME TO HAVE A CONSERSATION WITH SNP.

N.F.E.T.P [redacted]

OS2 ZUTEY

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
[redacted]	20251216

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☒ YES ☐ NO	20251216	0900

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

HM2 SILER (DUTY MEDICAL) WAS NOTIFIED OF THE SITUATION HAVING COME TO THE KE SPECIAL QUARERTS UNIT AND QUESTIONED SNP COPELAND. SNP COPELAND REFUSED MEDICAL. DUTY MEDICAL NOTIFIED THE CDO SNP COPELAND REFUSED MEDICAL ATTENTION. SNP COPELAND EVENTUALLY LET DUTY MEDICAL ADMINISTER AID TO THE KNUCKLES OF HIS HANDS. DUTY MEDICAL NOTIFED CDO AND SNP COPELAND THAT AID WAS ADMINSTERED AND NO BANDAGES ARE NEEDED.

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
CSS1 DUTCHER	20251216	0854

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

PHOTOGRAPHS OBTAINED. OR SUBMITTED AND CHAIN OF COMMAND NOTIFIED.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE TO MONITOR PRISONER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS & KEEP MEDICAL INFORMED.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE	b. [redacted]	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CDR FLANAGAN, BRIAN, OIC	☐	20251219

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022
PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI (when filled in)

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

Enclosure 2
1 of 1

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20251225

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to [illegible] favorable, unfavorable, injuries, or behaviors of prisoners. For additional information, see System of Records Notice A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JERMIAH	[redacted]

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	KE	SQ		79

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☒ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☒ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20251225	0812	SPECIAL QUARTERS	☒ YES ☐ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CANTU, A.	ABE2	RECEIVE & RELEASE SUPERVISOR	20251225

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
EBILANE, K.	CS2	ESCORT	20251225

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

At the above date and time, I, ABE2 Cantu, along with CS2 Ebilane, were conducting daily cell inspections. Upon entering cell K-79, I immediately observed a bloodstained cup at the entrance of the cell, in the right corner, containing what appeared to be approximately one ounce of blood. Next to the cup was a scrunched piece of toilet paper covered in blood.

After noting this, I continued my search and found another balled-up piece of toilet paper, also covered in blood, located on the shelf above SNP's desk. On the desk, I observed a small pile of nail clippings. Below the desk were two additional clipped nails and one drop of blood. I also noted dried blood on SNP's pillowcase, located at the head of his bed. Nothing else noteworthy was found.

I exited the cell at 0817 and proceeded to the bubble, where I notified the CDO, requesting that she bring a camera to document the evidence. At 0820, SNP was transferred to K-61.

At 0829, RSC Wilcox, MA2 Lozano, and I entered the cell to capture photographic evidence. At 0845, MA2 Lozano and I reentered the cell to collect the physical evidence, ensuring all biohazardous materials were gathered for proper disposal.

At 0905, SNP was transferred to the medical interview room for further medical evaluation. At 0906 HMCS Sandi medically evaluated SNP as well as treated his wounds. At 0918, I reentered the SNP's cell to collect the nail clippings, as they were deemed relevant to the incident.

At 0924, SNP was taken to R&R for a strip search to be evaluated for any additional wounds. Moreover, the cell door entrance and drop of blood photographs were later determined to be slightly blurry, so at 0927, FC1 Putnam and I reentered cell K-79 to retake the photos. At 0934, SNP was returned to his cell. End of statement.

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
[redacted] ABE2 CANTU	20251225

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☒ YES ☐ NO	20251225	0820

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN: OPEN WOUNDS ON HIS LEFT AND RIGHT VENTRAL POR-TION OF HIS HANDS WERE INSPECTED; CLEANED WITH ANTISEPTIC AND PLACED A THIN LAYER OF BACITRACIN UNDER DIRECT LIGHT TO PREVENT INFECTION.

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
MA2 LOZANO, G. [redacted] MA2 LOZANO	20251225	~~0825~~ 0817

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

FORWARD TO OPS.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE TO MONITOR PRISONER & MAKE REPORTS. LT MORRIS WILL BE IN THE FACILITY TODAY TO SPEAK WITH HIM.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE	[redacted]	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CPT. FLANAGAN BRIAN P, OIC		2025/12/29

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022
PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI (when filled [redacted]

Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

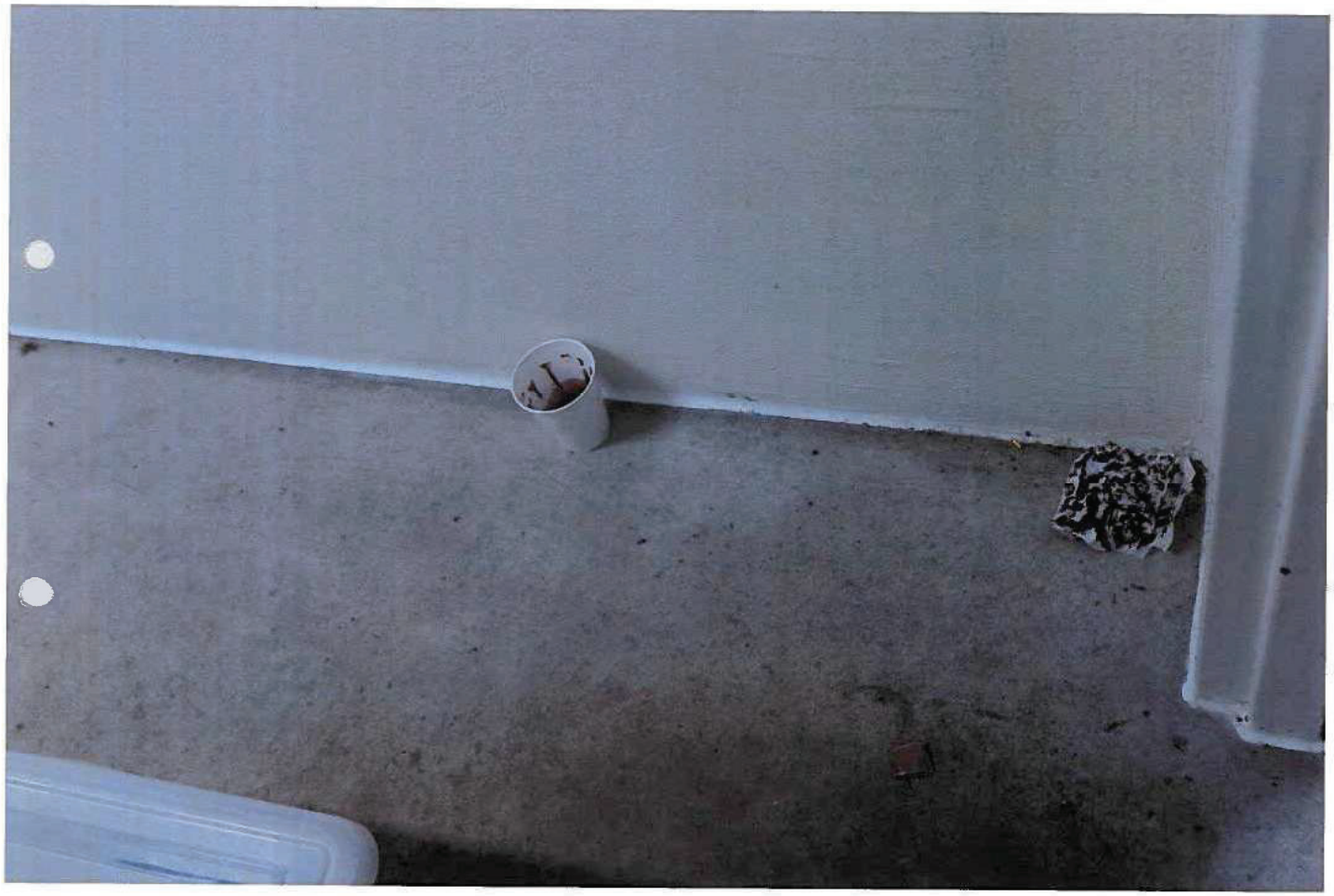
2. [illegible] Time: 12:33:23

3. 0812

I, CS2 Ebilane, make the following free and voluntary statement to MAC Jones, whom I know to be a command investigator for the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake. I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement concerning my knowledge of: SNP Copeland, incident with seized evidence.

At the above date and time, I, CS2 Ebilane, along with ABE2 Cantu, were conducting daily cell inspections. Upon entering cell K-79, ABE2 Cantu immediately observed a bloodstained cup at the entrance of the cell, containing what appeared to be blood. Next to the cup was a crumpled piece of toilet paper covered in blood. ABE2 found another crumpled piece of bloody toilet paper, located on the shelf above SNP's desk. ABE2 then found a small pile of nail clippings on the desk and below were more clipped nails and a drop of blood. There was also dried blood on SNP's pillowcase, located at the head of his bed. At 0817, we concluded the search. We exited the cell, and I relieved RSC Wilcox so that she could approach the cell. At 0820, I, along with BM2 Fields, were then directed to escort SNP to K-61 so that evidence could be collected. At 0905, I, along with ABE2, escorted SNP to the medical interview room for further medical evaluation. At 0906 HMCS Sandi medically evaluated SNP as well as treated his wounds. At 0924, BM2 Fields and I escorted SNP to R&R for a strip search to evaluate for any additional wounds. At 0926, BM2 Fields and I conducted a strip search, finding no further injuries. At 0931, we escorted SNP back to KE Special Quarters and at 0934, we returned SNP to his cell. End of statement.

N. E. E. I. P [redacted]




RICHES FT. LIL BABY
6) TO MY GRAVE
7) SMILE
8) OUT MY BUSINESS
9) THROUGH THE WIRE
10) FRFR
11) AIN'T MAD AT YOU
TWIN








THE MARTIAN
NEVER GET











PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20250107

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to report favorable, unfavorable, injuries, or behaviors of prisoners. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)				2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR				[redacted]
3. CUSTODY LEVEL	**4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM**	**5. CELL BLOCK**	**6. DETAIL**	**7. CELL #/BUNK #**
MAX	KILO WEST			KW-06

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☒ INJURY ☐ BEHAVIOR ☐ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260107	2203	KILO WEST	☐ YES ☒ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
BASNIGHT, WALTER IRVIN IV	LS2	PRISONER ESCORT	20260107

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CARLOW, ALEXANDER EDWARD	OS2	KW DORM SUPERVISOR	20260107

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

ON THE ABOVE DATE AND TIME, I, LS2 BASNIGHT, PRISONER ESCORT, AND OS2 CARLOW WERE SUPERVISING SNP COPELAND'S PERSONAL TIME. AT CELL KW-06, WHEN WE WERE CUFFING SNP, I NOTICED A WET, RED SPOT ON SNP RIGHT HAND. I PROCEEDED WITH CUFFING SNP AND ASKED "DID YOU CUT YOURSELF?" SNP RESPONDED "NO." OS2 CARLOW THEN ASKED "IS THAT A FRESH CUT?" TO WHICH SNP RESPONDED "NO." AT APPROXIMATELY 2210 OS2 CONTACTED THE CDO U/I, ABEI FERRY. ABEI THEN CAME TO KILO WEST AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE SITUATION BY OS2. ABEI THEN SPOKE WITH SNP ABOUT CUTS ON HAND. AFTER SPEAKING WITH SNP, ABEI PROCEEDED TO TAKE PHOTOS OF SNP RIGHT HAND. OS2 RETRIEVED FIRST AID KIT FROM DORM SUPERVISOR DESK, WHICH HAD NO BANDAGES. ABEI THEN WENT TO R&R TO RETRIEVE BANDAGES TO TREAT SNP WOUNDS. I WAS THEN RELIEVED AS ESCORT BY AM2 CHAPMAN.

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON [redacted]		b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
		20260107
13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED? ☒ YES ☐ NO	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD) 20260107	c. TIME 2240

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

BANDAGES WERE PUT ON THE WOUNDS TO PREVENT INFECTION.

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
RICARD, MATTHEW	20260107	2250

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

CHECK FOR CORRECTIONS AND FORWARDED TO OPS

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE TO MONITOR

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE		c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CMDCS STREETER	[redacted]	20260107

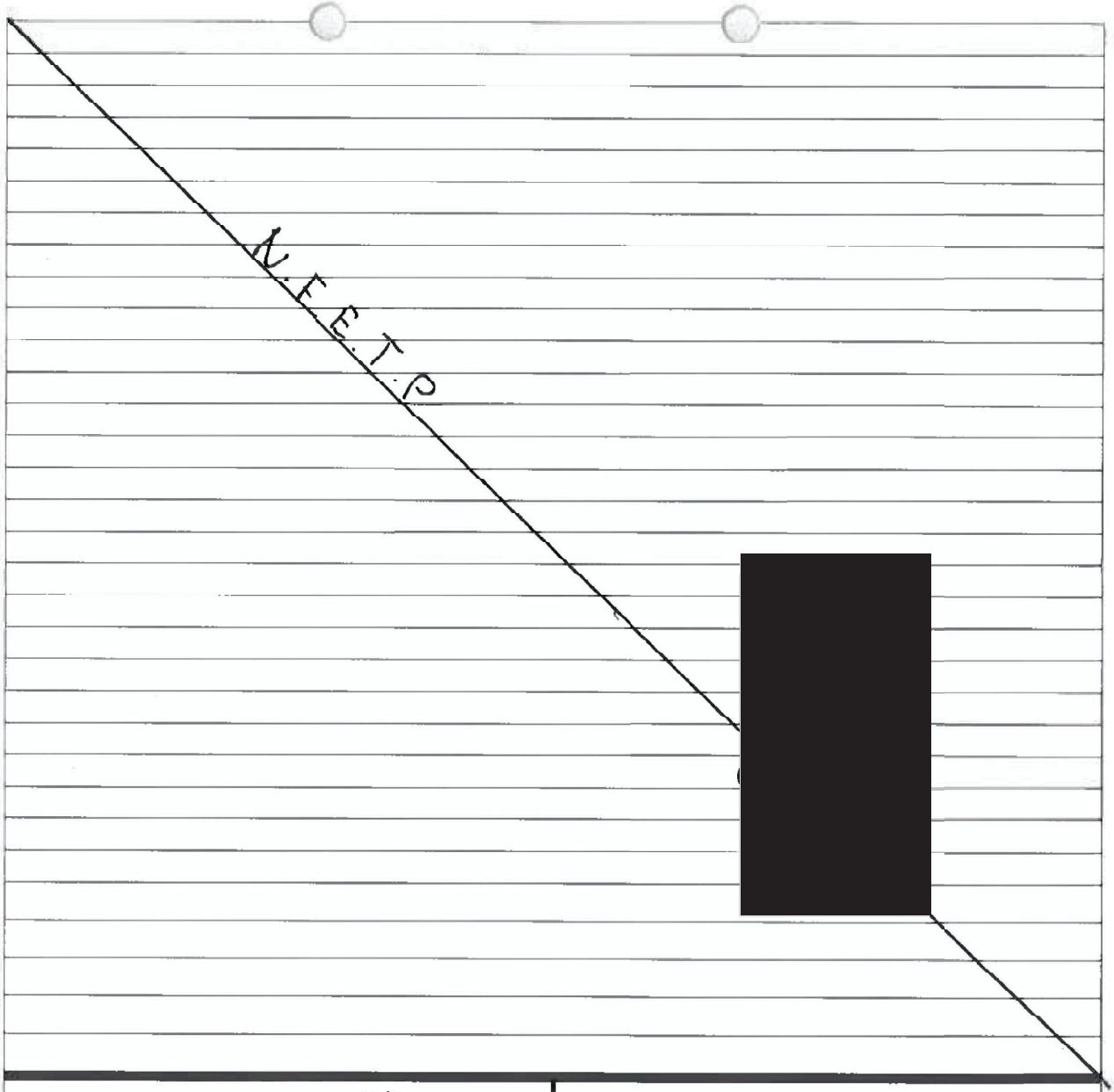
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

I, OS2 Carlow, make the following free and voluntary statement to MAC Jones, whom I know to be a command investigator for the Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake. I make this statement of my own free will and without any threats or promises extended to me. I fully understand that this statement concerning my knowledge of: Incident with SNP Copeland

On 07Jan2026, at approximately 2203, myself and LS2 Basnight were supervising SNP Copeland's personal time. While LS2 was cuffing him, we noticed a wet, red spot on SNP's right hand. LS2 then asked SNP, "Did you cut yourself?" SNP responded "No." After he was out of his cell, I took another look at his hand and asked, "Is that a fresh cut?" SNP again responded "No." At approximately 2210, I contacted the CDO U/I, ABE1 Ferry, to inform her of the situation. ABE1 then came to Kilo West and examined SNP right hand and proceeded to take pictures for evidence. Once pictures were taken, I went to grab the first aid kit from the Kilo West Supervisor desk and discovered there were no bandages. ABE1 then proceeded to retrieve bandages from R&R. She used the bandages to treat SNP wounds to prevent injury. At approximately 2252, SGT Ricard and ABE1 Ferry searched SNP cell, no contraband was found during the search. After the search, SGT Ricard asked SNP, "What did you use on your hand?" SNP responded, "I didn't use anything."

N.F.E.T.P

[redacted]



Subscribed and Sworn Before Me This 7th

Day of January 2021

Signatur[redacted]

Print: MAC Jones

I have read over this statement, which contains information/facts I have voluntarily provided. I have initialed corrections and made changes that I desire. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

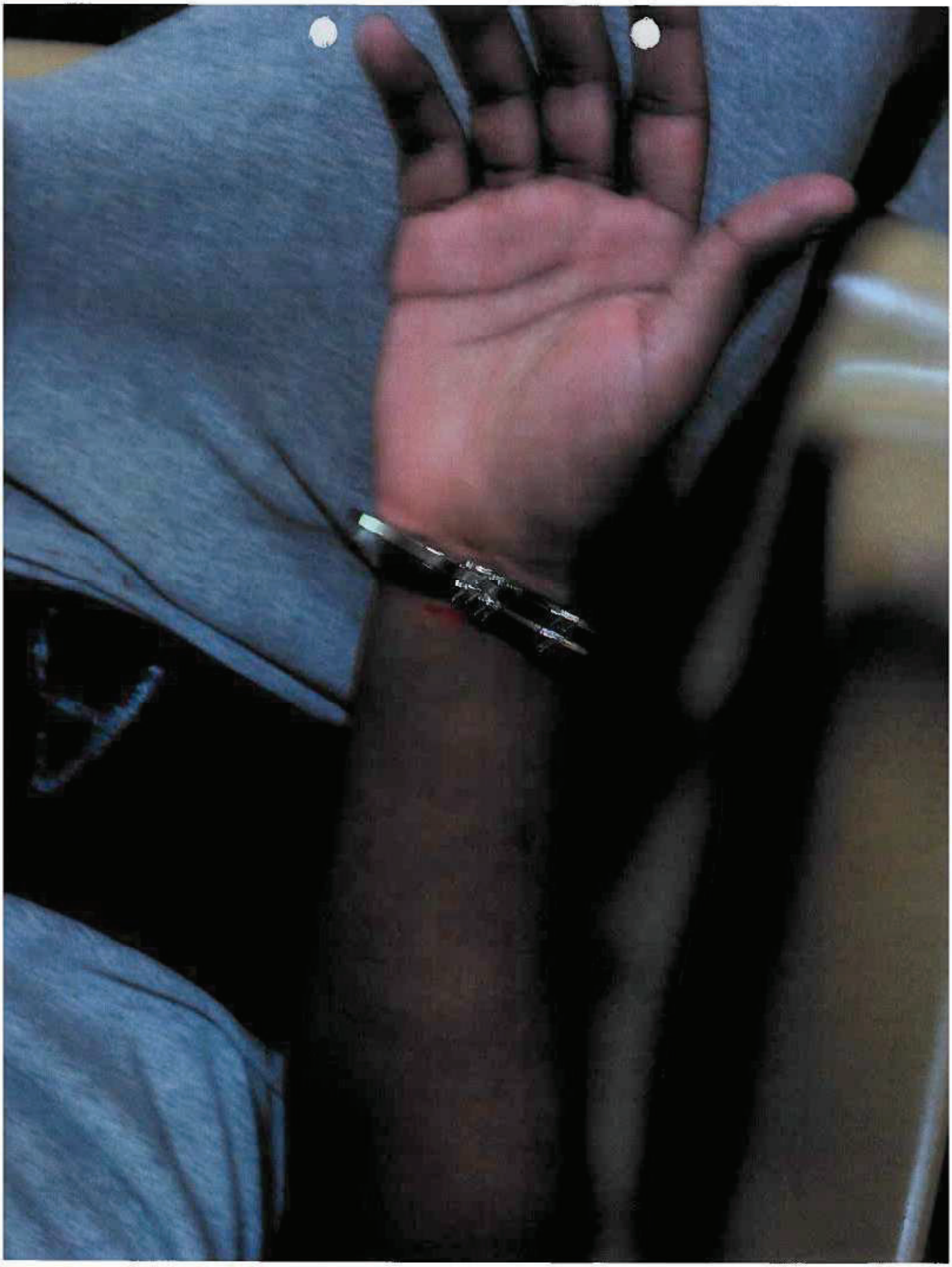
[redacted]

Signature

CARLOW, ALEXANDER

Print Name





D&A BOARD COVER SHEET

Report Number
DR 2026-09

3. INMATE'S NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)	5. ID NUMBER (RCN)
COPELAND, JERMIAH T.	00165476CJ

OFFENSES:			
1: DISRESPECT (CAT IV)	P:	F: G	V:
2:	P:	F:	V:
3:	P:	F:	V:
4:	P:	F:	V:
5:	P:	F:	V:

CURRENT NUMBER GOOD DAYS:

CURRENT NUMBER EARNED DAYS:

LENGTH OF SENTENCE:

LENGTH SERVED: 247 DAYS (11FEB26)

RELEASE DATE:

PRE-TRIAL AGREEMENT: ☐ YES ☒ NO

UNDER SUSPENDED PUNISHMENT: ☐ YES ☒ NO

REPEAT OFFENSE: ☒ YES ☐ NO

DR HISTORY:
REPORT DATE: 20260204
CHARGES: DISOBEDIENCE (CAT-III), STAFF HARASSMENT (CAT-III), DISRESPECT (IV)
RESULTS: LOP NTE 10 DAYS

[redacted]

BOARD CHAIRPERSON BOARD MEMBER BOARD MEMBER

PRISONER DISCIPLINARY REPORT/ACTION

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260204

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to record information about rules violations by a prisoner, a summary of any related investigation, findings, and disposition. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. PRISONER

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. REGISTRATION NUMBER
Copeland. J	[redacted]

2. CUSTODY LEVEL	3. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	4. CELL BLOCK	5. DETAIL	6. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	Kilo East	SQ		K-78

7. INCIDENT

a. VIOLATION(S)
Disrespect (CAT IV), Disobedience(CAT III), and Staff Harassment (CAT II)

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION
20260204	1020	NAVCONBRIG CHARLESTON DET CHESAPEAKE

e. DETAILS OF CHARGE(S) *(Include evidence (if any), use of force, list staff witness(es), and action taken.)* *(Continued on Page 3.)*
At the above date and time, I, MA2 Lozano, CDO received a call from BM2 Flores, Special Quarters supervisor, to inform me that while conducting her rounds observed SNP Copeland's cell, he was lying on his rack, wrapped up in his blankets, appeared to be sleeping. When she woke him up, she told him that he was not allowed to sleep or lay down during working hours. She then informed me that SNP Copeland stated that "the CDO gave him permission to lay down". That is why she wanted to confirm with me. He then grabbed his boxes from underneath the rack, made a makeshift bed and laid on top, covered himself in the blanket.
At 1030, I arrived at Kilo-East and I explained to BM2 Flores that I never gave him permission to do that and that I would be the one issuing him a negative (-) on his hard card. I asked MA1 Eck if he could come with me to have him sign it. MA1 and I went up into Special Quarters, MA1 handed me the Rules and Regulations Book, and I grabbed

8. INCIDENT REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. SIGNATURE	e. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	f. TIME
MA2 Lozano, G.	E-5	CDO	[redacted]	20260204	1030

9. INCIDENT REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
SGT Ricard, M.	20260204	1125

d. DISPOSITION TAKEN:

10.a. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	☐ YES	☒ NO	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME

d. DESCRIBE ANY MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

11. INVESTIGATION REQUIRED?	☒ YES	☐ NO	☐ N/A
12.a. ADVISEMENT OF RIGHTS GIVEN? *(If yes, attach original rights acknowledgment form)*	☒ YES	☐ NO	☐ N/A
b. PRISONER WAIVED RIGHTS? *(If yes, see attachment)*	☒ YES	☐ NO	☐ N/A
c. PRISONER STATEMENT *(If yes, attach statement)*	☒ YES	☐ NO	☐ N/A
13.a. INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY?	☒ YES *(Please attach copy of report)*	☐ NO	

b. BRIEF SYNOPSIS:
See attached

c. NAME AND TITLE OF INVESTIGATOR	d. SIGNATURE	e. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
MAC Jones, L	[redacted]	20260209

14. ATTACHMENTS *(Use DD Form 2719)*

PRISONER DISCIPLINARY REPORT/ACTION

15.a. INITIAL REVIEWING AUTHORITY DISPOSITION

FORWARD TO D&A BOARD.

b. INITIAL REVIEWING AUTHORITY NAME, GRADE AND TITLE	c. SIGNATURE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CMDCS STREETER	[redacted]	20260209

16. RESULTS OF DISCIPLINARY AND ADJUSTMENT BOARD

a. FINDINGS: ☑ PRISONER DID COMMIT THE OFFENSE REPORTED ☐ PRISONER DID NOT COMMIT THE OFFENSE REPORTED

FINDINGS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

	W	M	H
1.	G	G	G
2.	G	G	G
3.	G	G	G

b. RECOMMENDATION OF DISCIPLINARY AND ADJUSTMENT BOARD

LOP NTE 10 DAYS

c. APPEAL RIGHTS EXPLAINED TO PRISONER: ☑ YES ☐ NO

d. NAME AND TITLE OF BOARD PRESIDENT	e. SIGNATURE	f. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
[redacted]	[redacted]	20260210

17.a. RECOMMENDATION OF THE REVIEWING OFFICER

CONCUR WITH BOARD.

b. NAME AND TITLE OF REVIEWING OFFICER	c. SIGNATURE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CMDCS STREETER	[redacted]	20260210

18.a. ACTION TAKEN BY THE APPROVING AUTHORITY

LOP NTE 10 DAYS.

b. NAME AND TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICER		d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CDR FLANAGAN, BRIAN OIC	[redacted]	20260211

19.a. ACTION TAKEN BY THE APPEAL AUTHORITY

b. NAME AND TITLE OF APPEAL AUTHORITY	c. SIGNATURE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)

e. DETAILS OF CHARGE(S) *(Include evidence (if any), use of force, list staff witness(es), and action taken.) (Continued from Page 1.)*
CONTINUED

SNP Copeland's Handling letter. As I approached cell KE-78, I saw SNP Copeland was still lying down on top of his boxes, covered in his blankets. I knocked on the door and told SNP Copeland that he is not allowed to be laying down and sleeping during working hours. I then explained to him that just because I said, "You can't be fully covered in your blanket isn't me giving you permission to sleep". I read his handling letter where it said word for word "Make bunk daily after reveille and taps. Sitting on the bunk is authorized between reveille and taps. No laying down unless on personal time" and then I went into the Rules and Regulations Book, to PG. 38, Section 407, under #1. "You shall not lie on your bedding while in uniform (Uniform, shoes/boots)". I informed SNP Copeland that on 27JAN26 he was given a verbal warning for sleeping during the day and this time it would be a negative. He said "this is the only set that is in forcing this", "no other sets care including OIC", and "that he feels targeted because he's the only one being talked to" I explained to him that he's not the only one but it's not his job to worry about everyone else and just to focus on what is going on now, with him and if he wanted to sign is hard card or refuse. SNP Copeland went to grab a pen but turned around very quickly and said, "Show me where the fuck it says I can't lay down on my bed" I asked, "Are you refusing to sign?", he stated "No but show me where the fuck it says that! Where the fuck does it say I can't lay down on the boxes since it isn't his bed." MA1 Eck told him to "watch your language" I then opened the Rules and Regulations book to PG. 10, Section 205, under #1, "Orders given by staff personnel (military or civilian) or written orders are not subject to argument, discussion or negotiation. Orders will be obeyed immediately and without question." Handed him his hard card and he signed. MA1 Eck was about to say something when SNP Copeland then started shouting, "Stop talking to me! I don't want to talk to you no more, just leave me the fuck alone!" I grabbed the hard card and we walked away.

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

From: MAC Jones, USN, Command Investigator
To: Commanding Officer, NAVCONBRIG CHARLESTON

Subj: REPORT OF INVESTIGATION ICO: Prisoner Copeland, Jermiah T.

Encl: (1) Disciplinary Report DD Form 2714 ICO: Prisoner Copeland, Jermiah T.
(2) Advisement of Rights ICO: Prisoner Copeland, Jermiah T.
(3) Witness Statement ICO: ABE2 Cantu, A.
(4) Witness Statement ICO: OS2 Hunter, T.
(5) Video Evidence
(6) Hard Card ICO: Prisoner Copeland, Jermiah T.

CASE CONTROL NUMBER: 2026-09

SUSPECT 1: Prisoner Copeland, Jermiah T. RCN [redacted]

CHARGE(S): Disrespect (CAT-III)

COMPLAINANT: Heggenberger, L./ E-5 / USN

SYNOPSIS: On 10 February 2026 at approximately 1750, DC2 Heggenberger was CDO conducting rounds in Kilo East and was asked by Prisoner Copeland if he could do his personal time later in the evening. It was reported to Heggenberger by his watch standers that Copeland had refused. Heggenberger asked him if he had refused and Copeland replied "No, I want to do it later". Heggenberger went to verify with the watch standers in the bubble and asked ABE2 Cantu what happened? Cantu stated he went to let out Copeland for personal time before dinner, Copeland came to the door, shut it, hit the call button, and stated "Never mind, I want to do it later". Cantu stated "we can't support your personal time now, if you don't want to do it, it will be marked down as a refusal. Cantu stated Copeland acknowledged and still said "Not right now". Heggenberger left the bubble and returned to the SQ area to brief Copeland. Heggenberger stated to Copeland that he was offered personal time and that he changed his mind and decided to remain in his cell. Copeland became aggravated and raised his voice saying, "Why does it even matter if I say later?" "My family is on the West Coast. Yall don't do shit on nights. Yall treat me like shit. Heggenberger stated to Copeland that they still have tasks to do on nights and that he doesn't know what's going on and who it is that treats him poorly. Copeland further stated "I know what yall do. Yall don't do shit. Ive had staff tell me everything that goes on here. Cantu and OS2 Hunter treat me like shit". Heggenberger asked Copeland which staff member had told him about the Brig operations and what did his watch standers do for Copeland to feel that way. Copeland responded "Who are you to ask me that? I don't have to tell you shit. Yall make me want to kill myself soon". Heggenberger asked Copeland "Soon, like tonight?" Copeland replied "Naw, but soon". Heggenberger had BM2 Wells stand by Copelands cell while he contacted the chain of command and medical.

COMPLAINANT STATEMENT: In his statement, Heggenberger stated on 10 February 2026 at approximately 1750, he was CDO conducting rounds in Kilo East and was asked by Prisoner Copeland if he could do his personal time later in the evening. It was reported to Heggenberger by his watch standers that Copeland had refused. Heggenberger stated he asked Copeland if he had refused and Copeland replied "No, I want to do it later". Heggenberger further stated he went to verify with the watch standers in the bubble and asked Cantu what happened? Heggenberger stated Cantu advised him, he went to let out Copeland for personal time before dinner, Copeland came to the door, shut it, hit the call button, and stated "Never mind, I want to do it later". Cantu stated "we can't support your personal time now, if you don't want to do it, it will be marked down as a refusal. Cantu also

stated Copeland acknowledged and still said "Not right now". Heggenberger left the bubble and returned to the SQ area to brief Copeland. Heggenberger stated to Copeland that he was offered personal time and that he changed his mind and decided to remain in his cell. Heggenberger stated Copeland became aggravated and raised his voice saying, "Why does it even matter if I say later?" "My family is on the West Coast. Yall don't do shit on nights. Yall treat me like shit. Heggenberger also stated to Copeland that they still have tasks to do on nights and that he doesn't know what's going on and who it is that treats him poorly. Copeland further stated to Heggenberger, "I know what yall do. Yall don't do shit. Ive had staff tell me everything that goes on here. Cantu and OS2 Hunter treat me like shit". Heggenberger stated he asked Copeland which staff member had told him about the Brig operations and what did his watch standers do for Copeland to feel that way. Copeland responded to Heggenberger "Who are you to ask me that? I don't have to tell you shit. Yall make me want to kill myself soon". Heggenberger asked Copeland "Soon, like tonight?" Copeland replied "Naw, but soon". Heggenberger had BM2 Wells stand by Copelands cell while he contacted the chain of command and medical.

WITNESS STATEMENT: On 10 February 2026, at approximately 1732, MAC Jones met with Cantu who provided a sworn written statement. Cantu's statement corroborated with Heggenberger's statement.

WITNESS STATEMENT: On 10 February 2026, at approximately 1750, MAC Jones met with Hunter who provided a sworn written statement. Hunter's statement corroborated Heggenberger's statement.

SUSPECT STATEMENT: On 11 February 2026, at approximately 1200, MAC Jones advised SNP Copeland of his rights (Enclosure 2). SNP acknowledged his rights and provided a verbal statement and pleaded "No Plea" to his charge. In his statement, Copeland stated there was more than just Cantu and Hunter in the bubble on the day of the DR. Copeland further stated the CDO told him he was just a prisoner, never told him he was being disrespectful, and that he was not doing his incentive level 3 due to his actions. Copeland stated he just smiled and said OK to the CDO. Copeland also stated he was asked by Cantu if he was doing his personal time today and he replied yes and asked if he could do it later. Copeland stated he never raised his voice, he just stated the facts about how he felt and towards the end he got agitated. Copeland further stated he did tell the CDO that they make him want to kill himself, but the CDO didn't aske him if he had a plan to harm himself.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMENTS: MAC Jones reviewed camera footage of the interaction between Heggenberger and Copeland via C204. Heggenberger approached Copeland's cell, kneels, and began talking to him as Hunter was completing his rounds on the SQ floor. Heggenberger then proceeds to check on the other prisoners in the SQ area, sign the 509 and then departs. At 1829, Heggenberger returns as Hunter is departing SQ area and appears to ask Hunter to stand by as he talks with Copeland. Heggenberger approaches Copleand cell door with Hunter standing off to the side, as witness to the interaction. Heggenberger remains at Copelands cell door talking to him for six minutes before leaving and Wells arriving. Wells arrives and stands at Copeland cell door watching him for 23 minutes. At 1907, Heggenberger arrives again to talk with Copeland for a few moments then leave. HM2 Siler arrives to check on Copeland.

Investigations recommend the charges Disrespect be forwarded to D&A board for processing.

[redacted]

L. T. Jones, MAC
Command Investigator

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07

CUI (when filled in)

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260210

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to report favorable, unfavorable, injuries, or behaviors of prisoners. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)				2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
Copeland, Jermiah				[redacted]
3. CUSTODY LEVEL	**4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM**	**5. CELL BLOCK**	**6. DETAIL**	**7. CELL #/BUNK #**
MAX/PVD	Kilo East	SQ		K-78

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☒ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☒ BEHAVIOR ☐ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260210	1750	K-78	☐ YES ☒ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Heggenberger, L	E5	CDO	20260210

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
Hunter, T	E5	Special quarters supervisor	20260210

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

On the above date and time I, DC2 Heggenberger was doing my CDO round in Kilo East Special Quarters. As I was discussing an issue with SNP Copeland he stated "Y'all are making me want to kill myself soon". I said "Soon like tonight?". He then stated "Naw, but soon". I had BM2 Wells standby while I exited the dorm and contacted the chain of command and medical.

NFETY [redacted] 20260210

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
[redacted]	20250602

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☒ YES ☐ NO	20250610	1830

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

HM2 questioned SNP. SNP stated that he had no current homicidal or suicidal ideations.

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
HEGGENBERGER, L.	20250602	0618

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

I ordered my dorm supervisor to preform 10 minute rounds until 2200 and be extra observant for any escalated activity.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE TO MONITOR PRISONER AND KEEP MEDICAL INFORMED.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE		c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CDR FLANAGAN, BRIAN OIC	[redacted]	20260211

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI (when filled in)

Controlled By: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

STATUS REVIEW – PVD+234D/RECLASSIFICATION							
Counselor: IC1 GREEN							
Date: 20250129							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+232D**	**PVD+234D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-~~06W~~**	**K-~~06W~~**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20251013			**Next Reclassification:** 20260129			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							
CHARGES: **ARTICLE 118 – MURDER** **ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT** **ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** **ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE** **ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE** **ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT**							
COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS: SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. SNP received multiple informational reports since last reclassification board and three negatives in his hard card. SNP was placed in POI and recently removed. Stated he was going through a rough time over the holidays and plans to improve. Counselor recommendation remain MAX and continued observation.							

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 29 JAN 2026.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on 29JAN2026.

Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

[redacted]

Prisoner Signature

Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial ____

STATUS REVIEW – PVD+248D/WEEKLY REVIEW							
Counselor: IC1 GREEN							
Date: 20250212							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
		From	To	From	To	From	To
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	**PVD+242D**	**PVD+248D**	**MAX**	**MAX**	**K-78E**	**K-57E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20251013			**Next Reclassification:** 20260301			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. Discussed recent behavior, issues, multiple complaints, and the plan moving forward to mitigate the risk of disciplinary actions. Informed me he has no issues following the rules but he feels like the rules keep changing. Results of D&A board were loss of privileges for 10 days ending on 21FEB26. Placed in POI status 20260212.

Counselor recommendation remain MAX/POI and continued observation.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 12FEB2026.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.
Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

[redacted]

Prisoner Signature

Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial

STATUS REVIEW – PVD+253D/WEEKLY REVIEW							
Counselor: IC1 GREEN							
Date: 20250217							
Prisoner Name	**RCN**	**Status/Job**		**Custody**		**Unit/Cell**	
COPELAND, JERMIAH T	00165476CJ	From **PVD/POI+248D**	To **PVD+253D**	From **MAX**	To **MAX**	From **K-57E**	To **K-57E**
Adjudged: PRETRIAL	**Received:** 20250610			**MRD:** PRETRIAL			
Initial Custody: 20250610	**Last Reclassification:** 20251013			**Next Reclassification:** 20260301			
PREA Status: ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN							

CHARGES:
ARTICLE 118 – MURDER
ARTICLE 120 – SEXUAL ASSAULT
ARTICLE 128 – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
ARTICLE 117A – WRONGFUL BROADCAST OF INTIMATE
ARTICLE 131B – OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
ARTICLE 107B – FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

COUNSELOR NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
SNP met with counselor to answer all immediate questions/concerns. Discussed weekend behavior and issues. Informed me of his frustration over the past couple of days and feeling like he is being targeted. Informed him he can only control his actions, and his behavior is his responsibility. SNP has been having more issues lately but informed me he doesn't have suicidal ideations. Clinical recommendation to remove POI status.

Counselor recommendation remove POI status and remain MAX.

Package will be forwarded to the C&A (Classification and Assignment) Board on 17FEB2026.

Reclassification Only:
You will be scheduled for a C & A Board no sooner than 48 hours on N/A.
Prisoner DOES / DOES NOT wish to be present at C&A board (CircleOne) (ACA Std: 4-4302)

Prisoner Signature

[redacted] Counselor Signature

CORMIS Entry Made ☐ Initial _____

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07 CUI (when filled in) Updated 20241216

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260216

PRIVACY ADVISORY

dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/ https://

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JERMIAH, T	[redacted]

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	KILO-EAST	SQ	N/A	KE-57

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☐ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260215	2357	KILO-EAST SPECIAL QUARTERS	☐ YES ☒ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
ANDERSON, S.	E-6	CDO	20260216

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

On the above date and time, I, BM1 Anderson, entered through Kilo-Lima and approached Prisoner Copeland's cell. Prisoner had questions regarding his LOP and his POI handling letter. While explaining the differences between the two types of documentation, Prisoner stated that he "does not feel safe here". When Prisoner stated that, I then asked him "who or what makes you feel unsafe?" Prisoner declined to provide any clarity on why he feels unsafe in the facility. Prisoner then stated that he knows "nights doesn't do anything" and he doesn't understand why he cannot recieve what he requests in a more timely manner. I then explained to Prisoner that we are not at his beck and call and we do not have to drop everything the moment he makes a request. After that, Prisoner stated "a guy can only take so much " and I asked him to elaborate. Prisoner then stated "I can't take much more of this. Eventually I'm gonna lose it." Prisoner continued arguing about his privileges and what he is entitled to, claiming that "you don't care about me or my safety". I reassured him that ~~were~~ we do care about his safety, he then had nothing more to say on the matter. I exited Kilo-Lima at 0012. I immediately returned to the Kil-East Control Center and norified DC2 Heggenberger, CDO, of the nature of our conversation.

N.F.E.T.P. BM1 ANDERSON 16FEB2026 [redacted]

[redacted]

	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
	20260216

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☐ YES ☒ NO		

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
HEGGENBERGER, L.	20260216	0014

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

NOTIFIED OPERATIONS, CMDCS, AND OIC.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE to MONITOR PRISONER + MAKE REPORTS.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIE[redacted]

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CAPT. FLANAGAN, BRIAN OIC	20230223

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022 CUI (when filled in) Page 1 of 1

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

Compiled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07 CUI (when filled in) (Updated 20241216)

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260216

PRIVACY ADVISORY

https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/ [illegible]

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, JERMIAH, T.	[redacted]

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	KILO-EAST	SQ	N/A	KE-57

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☐ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260215	2233	KILO-EAST SPECIAL QUARTERS	☐ YES ☒ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
HEGGENBERGER, L.	E-5	CDO	20260215

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

On the above date and time, I, DC2 Heggenberger, CDO, was in the Special Quarters secure dayroom speaking to Prisoner Copeland about why he was not allowed to have his PMD (Personal Media Device) in his cell due to his POI (Prevention of Injury) status. As I explained to him that the cord of his PMD posed a threat to his safety, he raised his voice to me and said "Why'd you guys put me in this cell then?! It had an outlet! I can make shift a weapon and stick it in the outlet or I can pour water in it and hurt myself too!" I explained to him that his cell change was out of my control and that taking his PMD due to his status was in my control and I was doing my part to enforce the rules properly. He then continued to ask "where does it say I can't have my PMD?!" I then reiterated that due to his status he was not able to have it and showed him two different documents stating why. He began to repeat himself so I disengaged the conversation and exited Kilo-Lima to return to Kilo-East Control Center.

N.E.E.T.P. DC2 HEGG [redacted] 16FEB2026

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
[redacted]	20260216

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☐ YES ☒ NO		

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN:

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
HEGGENBERGER, L.	20260215	2233

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

NOTIFIED OPERATIONS, CMDCS, AND OIC.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE TO MONITOR PRISONER. I HAVE SINCE MET W/ PRISONER AND TRACKING AM.

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE	c. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CDR FLANAGAN, BRIAN OIC [redacted]	20260223

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022 CUI (when filled in) Page 1 of 1

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

Prescribed by: DoDI 1325.07 CUI (when filled in) (Updated 20241216)

PRISONER OBSERVATION REPORT

REPORT DATE (YYYYMMDD): 20260227

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Disclosure of this information is voluntary and will be used to report favorable, unfavorable, injuries, or behaviors of prisoners. For additional information, see System of Records Notice, A0190-47 DAPM-ACC, "Army Corrections System and Parole Board Records," NM01650-1, "Individual Confinement Records," and F031 AF SF A, "Correction and Rehabilitation Records" published at https://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNs/. When completed, this form contains personally identifiable information and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.

1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	2. REGISTRATION NUMBER
COPELAND, J.	[redacted]

3. CUSTODY LEVEL	4. HOUSING UNIT/DORM	5. CELL BLOCK	6. DETAIL	7. CELL #/BUNK #
MAX	KILO	EAST	SQ	KE-57

8. OBSERVATION

a. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: ☐ FAVORABLE ☐ UNFAVORABLE ☐ INJURY ☐ BEHAVIOR ☒ INFORMATION

b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME	d. LOCATION	e. WAS THE PRISONER NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS REPORT?
20260227	1140	KILO EAST	☐ YES ☒ NO

9. OBSERVATION REPORTED BY

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
MA1 ECK, C.	E-6	SPECIAL QUARTERS SUPERVISOR	20260227

10. WITNESS

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	b. GRADE	c. TITLE	d. DATE (YYYYMMDD)

11. OBSERVATION SUMMARY *(Give an in-depth description of the observation; include all necessary information, provide attachment if necessary)*:

On the above date and time, I MA1 Eck, Special Quarters Supervisor picked up lunch trays from SQ. While picking up prisoner Copeland's tray, I saw bloody toilet tissue on the ledge next to his sink. I asked him if he was okay to which he replied that he was okay. MA1 Eck pointed at the bloody tissue paper and asked "What it was from?" Copeland shrugged in response and MA1 Eck asked "Is that from the wounds on your hands?" Copeland responded with "Yeah." and a head nod up and down. At 1142 the CDO was notified and at 1143 medical arrived to check out his injuries. At 1206 photographs were taken of the tissue and further inspection of the cell showed a bandaid was with the tissue, a blood smear was on his desk, and the space between his bed and desk had blood drops on the ground. Photographs were obtained for each location mentioned. Medical cleaned the blood left in the cell and the tissues were disposed of. ///End Of Statement///

N.F.R.T.P. [redacted]

12. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)
[redacted]	20260227

13. WAS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION NEEDED?	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
☒ YES ☐ NO	20260227	[redacted]

d. DESCRIBE ANY IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION GIVEN: HM1 Wake, J [redacted] 27FEB26

Basic first aid administered by Senior Medical Department Representative.

14. OBSERVATION REPORTED TO

a. SUPERVISOR NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)	c. TIME
MA2 LOZANO, G [redacted]	20260227	1142

15. ACTIONS OF CORRECTIONS SUPERVISOR:

FOWARDED TO OPS.

16. ACTIONS OF REVIEWING AUTHORITY:

CONTINUE TO MONITOR PRISONER + KEEP MEDICAL STAFF INFORMED OF ANY CHANGE IN STATUS

17. CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/BRIG COMMANDER OR DESIGNEE REVIEW

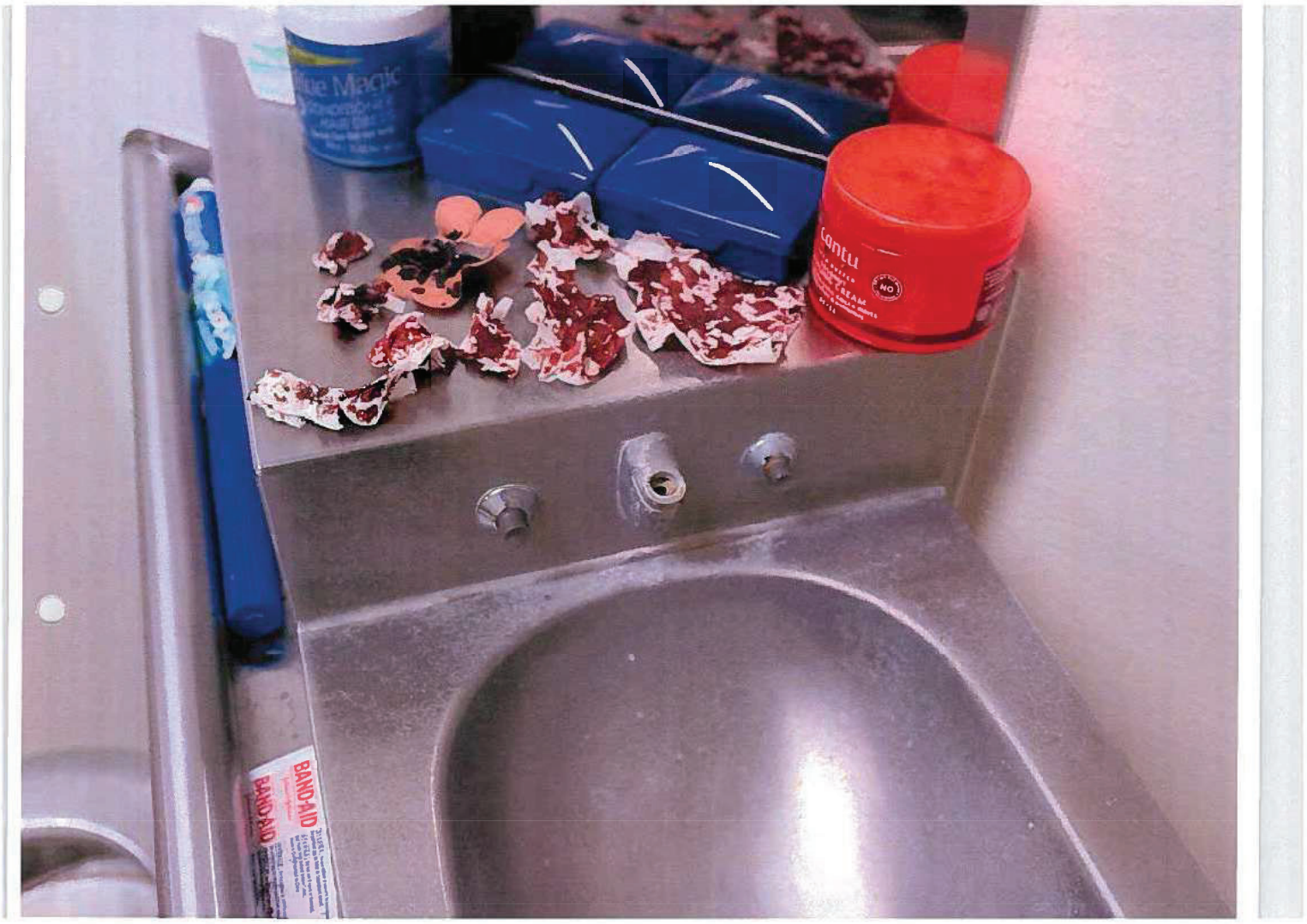
a. NAME, GRADE, TITLE	[redacted]	DATE (YYYYMMDD)
CDR MANAGAN, BRIAN OIC		20260303

DD FORM 2713, NOV 2022 CUI (when filled in) Page 1 of 1

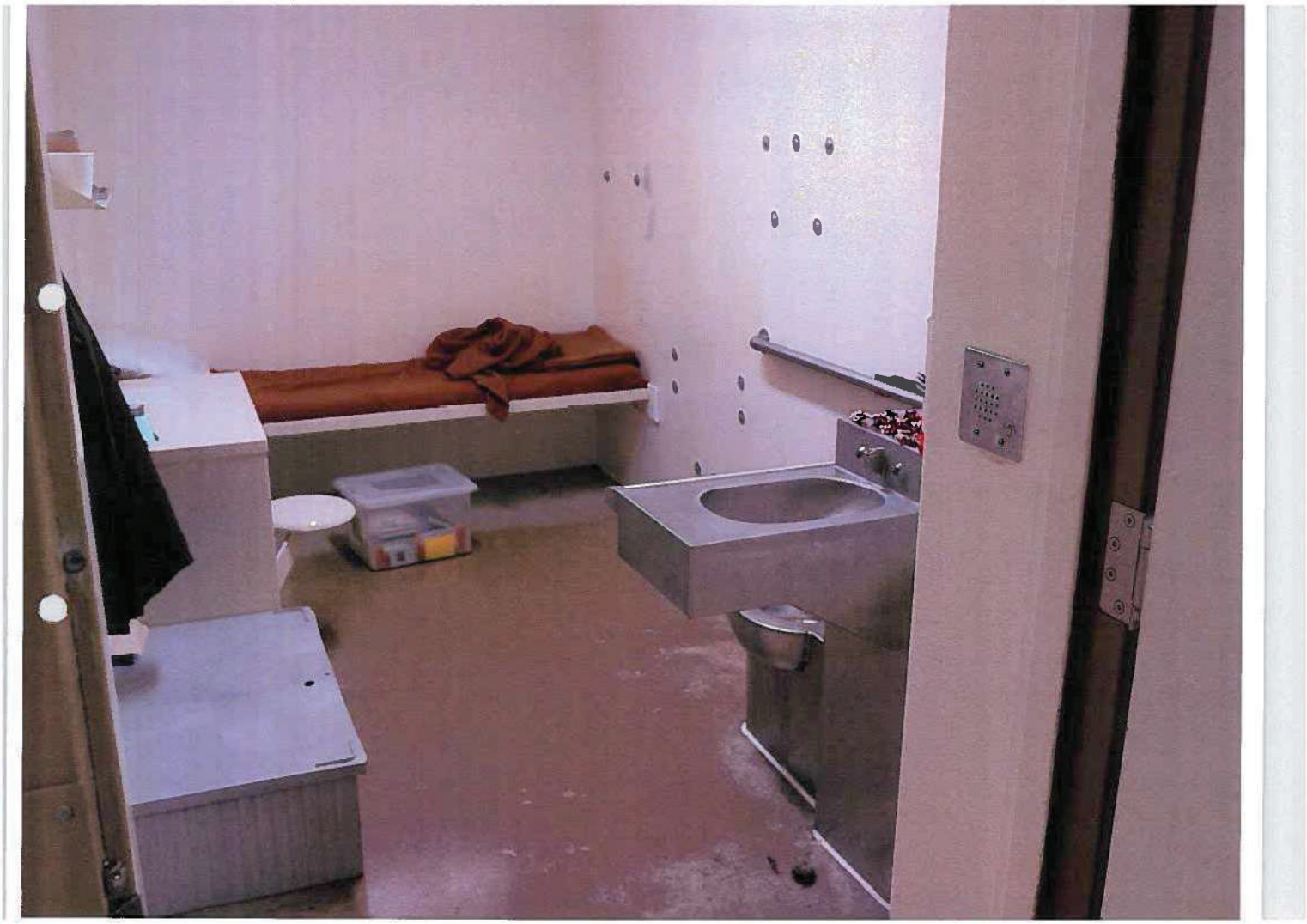
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Controlled by: OUSD(P&R)
CUI Category: CRIM HISTORY
LDC: FEDCON
POC: osd.mc-alex.ousd-p-r.mbx.upr-legal-policy@mail.mil

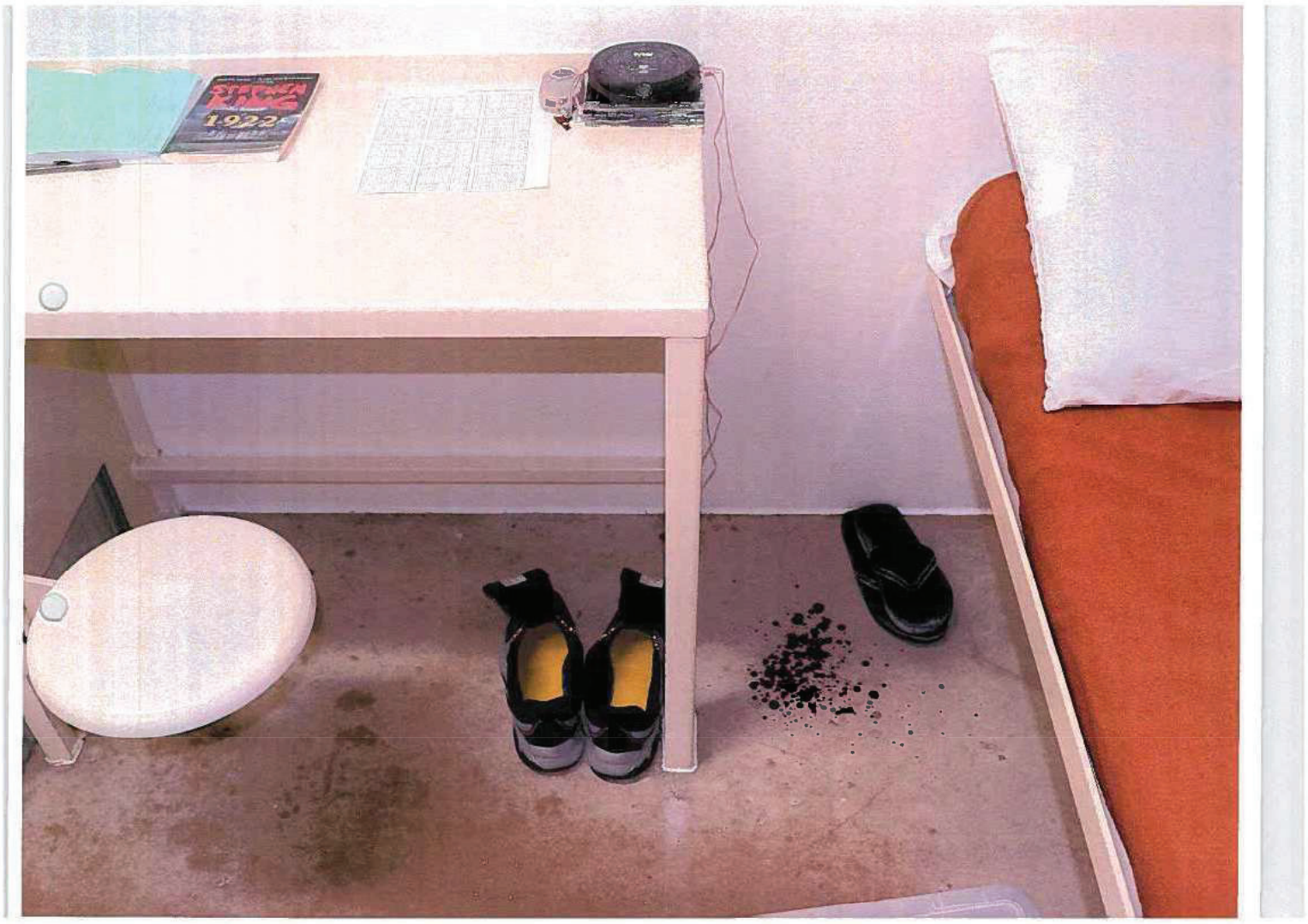

K-57


Blue Magic
Cantu
BAND-AID
BAND-AID


Magic






1922


























PREA INFORMATION
DOD Helpline: 877-995-5247


S-41B



00:29:27 Defense Counsel: Generally, an inmate in maximum custody is not allowed contact visits with their attorneys, correct?

00:29:34 CDR Flanaghan Correct.

00:29:35 Defense Counsel: And the room that we are talking about, the visitation room that they're in is a is a uh essentially. It's a it's an eight by eight cell divided in half, correct?

00:29:46 CDR Flanaghan: I don't know the specific dimensions, but yes, it is a small area divided in half with uh, plexiglass. And slots to slide documents through.

00:29:56 Defense Counsel Have you ever been down there while anybody has been in that room having a conversation, Sir?

00:29:59 CDR Flanaghan: I have not but I have had multiple people to include my, CO, there and test it out.

00:30:08 Defense Counsel: Tell me more about that, Sir.

00:30:11 CDR Flanaghan: Uh, well we had the trial counsel. I don't remember his name, but it was a Captain O6 came down for a tour. We showed him that facility. He went in there with I, believe with our Master Sergeant Gibbons that you referenced earlier. They had a conversation with other members of the trial counsel and my staff outside talking loudly if how they could hear them. They said, no, my CO did the same thing recently last month.

….

00:36:55 Trial Counsel: And I just want to also circle back to the times when people had tested out the no contact room. Just want to clarify, you said that people could not hear their discussion from outside of the room or inside of the room?

00:37:07 CDR Flanaghan: From outside. We had people…because if we have a max prisoner, go, we're still going to have guards there to make sure nothing is happening that's not supposed to and and though people stood outside where those guards would stand and they could not hear the conversation.

From:	Mayo, Lauren A CDR USN CNO (USA)
To:	Serfess, Amanda M LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE PNS FL (USA); Morgan, Clifton E III LCDR USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Mihill, Todd M LCDR USCG (USA)
Cc:	Port, Juana J PO1 USN (USA); Hoffmeister, Cindy R CIV USN DEFSVCOFF SE NOR VA (USA); Dempsey, Christopher B LCDR USN (USA); Gomez, Jocelyn M PO2 USN (USA); Vanetti, Kathleen E PO1 USN (USA)
Subject:	ICO Copeland - Expert Brig Visit (23 - 25 Mar)
Date:	Friday, March 13, 2026 5:20:01 PM

Defense,

The brig will allow a contact visit 23-25 March 26 (0800-1500) for Dr. Saini and Ms. LaVala.

Can you let me know what the experts need to bring to execute their testing? The brig will screen the items the morning of.

Thanks!

V/r,

CDR Mayo

Lauren Mayo
CDR, JAGC, USN
Chief Special Trial Counsel
Office of Special Trial Counsel Det Norfolk
lauren.a.mayo2.mil@us.navy.mil
desk: 757-341-4598
mobile: [redacted]

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NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIEF (PRIVATE MEETING WITH DEFENSE TEAM INCLUDING EXPERTS)** **18 MARCH 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 12 March 2026, the defense filed a motion for appropriate relief asking the court to "order the government to permit the defense, to include its experts, to meet with CSSN Copeland, in private, in order to prepare for trial or order the release of CSSN Jermiah Copeland from pretrial confinement."[1] The Government responded on 16 March 2026.[2]

2. Burden.

As the moving party, the defense bears the burden to prove facts necessary to resolve the motion by a preponderance of evidence.[3]

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) LXXXVIII.
[2] AE XC.
[3] Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 905(c).

a. On 9 June 2025, the Accused was ordered into pretrial confinement at the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston (NCBC) Detachment Chesapeake. He is classified as a maximum status prisoner, which means that he is in his cell alone for at least 22 hours per day.

b. The Accused is allowed visitation with his Defense counsel in a no-contact booth. The no-contact booth is only occupied by the attorneys and the Accused, has plexiglass in the middle with slots to pass documents between client and attorney, allows for videos to be seen by the Accused, and can have white noise machines placed outside of the booth to avoid conversations being overheard by anyone outside of the attorney-client conversation.

c. Based on tests conducted by Brig personnel, no one standing outside the no-contact room can hear conversations that are occurring within the room.

d. On 6 October 2025, the Commanding Officer, Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston granted the Accused an exception to policy to allow contact visits between the Accused and his counsel. That exception has since been rescinded.

e. Between December 2025 and February 2026, the Accused engaged in various efforts to harm himself and engaged in disrespectful behavior towards Brig staff.

f. On 17 February 2026, the defense reached out to the brig staff to coordinate a meeting between CSSN Copeland and a defense expert. In response the Officer in Charge, Naval Consolidated Brig Detachment Chesapeake informed the defense that due to misconduct, CSSN Copeland lost the "privilege" to meet with members of the defense in a contact room.

g. Both the defense's mitigation specialist and forensic psychologist (recidivism) must meet with the Accused in an unobstructed environment. On 13 March 2025, in light of information provided by Defense experts regarding the need for a contact visit, the Brig has authorized Ms. LaVala and Dr. Sahni to meet with CSSN Copeland in a contact setting.

h. Additional facts necessary to resolve the motion are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense."[4] "Necessarily included in the Sixth Amendment right to counsel is the right of an accused to confer privately with his attorney."[5] "[W]hen a prison regulation impinges on inmates' constitutional rights, the regulation is valid if it is reasonably related to legitimate penological interests."[6] The Supreme Court in *Turner* laid out a four factor test for courts to use in determining whether a prison restriction is reasonably related to legitimate penological interest:

---

[4] U.S. CONST. amend. VI.
[5] *United States v. Brooks*, 66 M.J. 221, 223 (C.A.A.F. 2008) (citing *United States v. Godshalk,* 44 M.J. 487, 490 (C.A.A.F. 1996)).
[6] *Turner v. Safley*, 482 U.S. 78, 89 (1987).

> (1) Whether there is a valid, rational connection between the prison regulation and the legitimate governmental interest put forward to justify it,
>
> (2) whether there are alternative means of exercising the right that remain open to prison inmates;
>
> (3) the impact the asserted constitutional right will have on guards and other inmates, and on the allocation of prison resources, and
>
> (4) the existence of obvious, easy alternatives may be evidence that the regulation is not reasonable, but is an exaggerated response to prison concerns.[7]

In *Beard v. Banks*, the Supreme Court recognized that not all four factors are equally useful nor need be applied with equal value, depending on the circumstances of the case and the regulation that is challenged.[8] The *Turner* test has been applied in military courts in a variety of cases outside of the Sixth Amendment realm.[9] However, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals dealt with application of a prison policy that restricted contact visits between a pretrial detainee and his defense counsel. In *United States v. Loera,* the court applied the *Turner's* four-part test to Loera's Sixth Amendment claims and upheld the district court's ruling which concluded that the defendant was able to assist in his own defense and receive a fair trial.[10]

Loera was placed in a Special Housing Unit (SHU) and given harsh special administrative measures, which included being confined to a windowless cell for 23 hours per day, the light in his cell was always on, he never went outdoors, and he was always alone. Because he was in the SHU, he was not permitted contact visits with his counsel. Rather, meetings with his counsel took place in a divided room, where his attorneys "were separated by a heavy metal door with a narrow rectangular plexiglass window in the top half."[11]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The defense argues this court should order the Brig to permit contact visits between the Accused and his defense counsel and experts; or alternatively to order the Accused's release from pretrial confinement, because his pretrial status is interfering with his Sixth Amendment right to counsel. The court disagrees.

---

[7] *Turner,* 482 U.S. 89-90 (cleaned up).
[8] 548 U.S. 521, 126 (2006).
[9] *See e.g.*, *United States v. Guinn*, No. 20170500, 2021 CCA LEXIS 423 (A. Ct. Crim. App. Aug. 20, 2021) (considering the First Amendment right to familial association); *United States v. Frantz,* ACM 39657, 2020 CCA LEXIS 404 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 10, 2020) (considering policy restricting contact with son); *United States v. Arnold*, No. 20180418, 2019 CCA LEXIS 516 (A. Ct. Crim. App. Dec. 17, 2019) (considering a policy against minor visitors); *United States v. Green*, ACM 36664, 2007 CCA LEXIS 475 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 12, 2007) (considering a policy against sex offenders meeting with minors).
[10] *United States v. Loera*, 24 F.4th 144, 154 (2nd Cir. 2022).
[11] *Id.* at 153.

Because the Accused's prayer for relief is predicated on the Sixth Amendment right to counsel, the court applies the four-factor test laid out in *Turner*, and concludes that the restrictions imposed by the Brig do not infringe upon the Accused's Sixth Amendment rights to counsel.

First, like the harsher restrictions in *Loera,* the Government demonstrated a sufficient connection between the restrictions placed upon the Accused and the legitimate security and safety concerns the Brig leadership has. The Accused was granted an exception to policy that permitted contact visits, but that exception was rescinded following the Accused's conduct in the Brig. Notably, these restrictions were once again lifted so that the defense experts can meet with the Accused in a contact setting in order to conduct their examinations.

Next, not only are there alternatives means of exercising his rights to counsel, there is no evidence that his rights have been abridged at all. The Accused is able to meet with counsel and have private conversations *in person*. Although the conversations take place in a divided room, similar to the one described in *Loera*, the defense has provided no evidence that they cannot effectively communicate with their client; that the contact restrictions have hampered their ability to conduct pretrial investigation or to prepare for any hearing or the trial; or that their conversations are somehow not private or that their confidentiality is compromised.

In sum, the no-contact restrictions placed upon the Accused by the Brig are reasonably related to a legitimate penological objective and do not deprive the Accused of his Sixth Amendment right to counsel.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion for Appropriate Relief, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED**.

So ordered this 18th day of March, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **USN**	**MOTION TO AMEND THE TRIAL MANAGEMENT ORDER** **26 March 2026**

NATURE OF MOTION

Pursuant to Central Judicial Circuit Rule of Practice 11.1.1, the Defense respectfully moves this Court to grant its request to amend the Trial Management Order (TMO) with the following dates/milestones:

s. Motions filed: ~~8 APR 26~~ **15 APR 26**
t. Responses to motions*: ~~15 APR 26~~ **22 APR 26**
u. Article 39(a): ~~23 APR 26~~ **30 APR 26.**

DISCUSSION

The Government and Defense are in agreement with the proposed new dates/milestones. Since the signing of the initial TMO dates, one defense counsel had to move a mission essential training to the week of 20-24 April 2026 where he will be TAD to San Diego, California. Another defense counsel has a personal scheduling conflict 23-24 April 2026. Both parties are available on 30 April 2026 for the third Article 39(a) hearing. Due to the defense counsel's recent conflicts, the Defense request the Court amend the TMO milestones with the proposed new dates.

RELIEF REQUESTED

The Defense respectfully requests this Court to amend the Trial Management Order by approving the proposed new dates.

The Defense does not request oral argument.

[redacted]
C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served a true copy of the above on the Court and Government Counsel on 26 March 2026.

[redacted]
C. E. MORGAN III
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**GOVERNMENT MOTION IN LIMINE** **14 APRIL 2026**

MOTION

1. The Government respectfully requests this Court find the following sets of evidence admissible under the below-cited rules for the annotated reasons and the evidence in paragraph 2 inadmissible:

a. Text messages ABHAN C.R. sent to CSSN Cuestabravo immediately after she was assaulted by the Accused and while she was still under the stress of that event. These messages from ABHAN C.R. fall under M.R.E. 803(2) as an exited utterance.

b. Statements made by CSSN S.R. in the presence of CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN and YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN, when she confronted the Accused not long after he assaulted and strangled her. These communications are excited utterances under M.R.E. 803(2).

c. Y.J.'s desperate request for the Accused to "stop" sexually assaulting her, or words to that effect, is an excited utterance under M.R.E. 803(2).

d. Text messages of PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz when he arrived back to his barracks room on 29 May 2025 as a present sense impression under M.R.E. 803(1).

e. Various statements of CS3 A.R. The Accused murdered CS3 A.R. to isolate her from outside help and prevent her from being a witness against him. As such, CS3 A.R.'s out-of-court statements are admissible as an exception to the rule against hearsay due to forfeiture by wrongdoing under M.R.E. 804(b)(6).

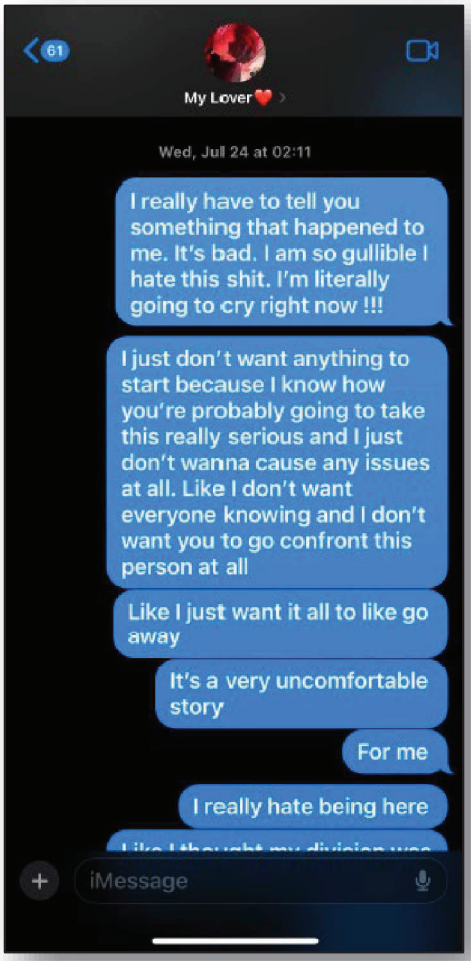
f. Additionally, CS3 A.R.'s call for help to ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, at 0214 on 29 May 2025 is separately admissible as an exception to the rule against hearsay because it is an excited utterance under M.R.E. 803(2).

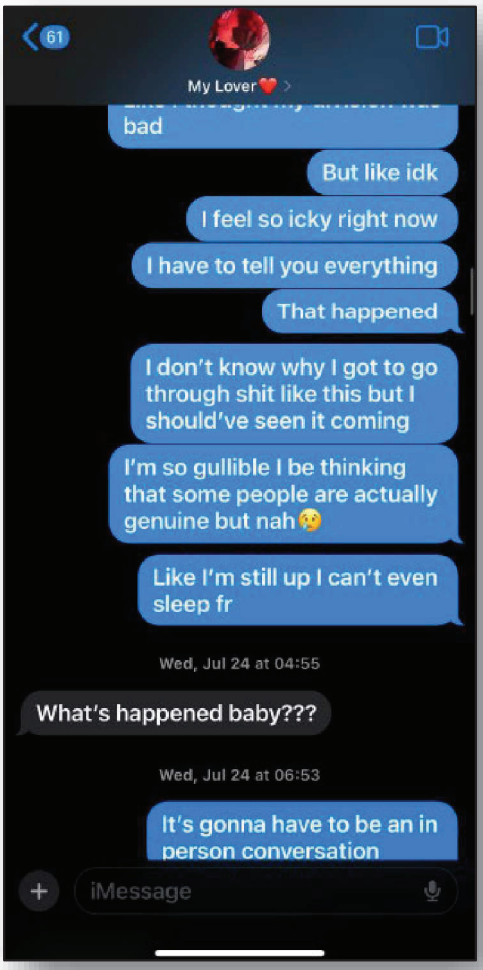
2. The Government also requests that this Court deny admission of any evidence of CS3 A.R. having "episodes," struggling with mental health, or other suggestion that she was suicidal as this evidence is not relevant and is nearly entirely inadmissible hearsay.

FACTS

A. ABHAN C.R. texted her boyfriend immediately after the Accused assaulted her.

3. On 24 July 2024, ABHAN C.R. met with the Accused and was violently assaulted by him.[1] ABHAN C.R. reported that this assault occurred at approximately 0200 on 24 July 2024.[2] After she escaped the Accused, ABHAN C.R. texted her boyfriend at 0211 through tears as she laid awake as follows:[3]





1. *See*. App. Ex. LX, para. 5; Encl. 1.
2. Encl. 1.
3. Encl. 2.

B. CSSN S.R. confronted the Accused after he pushed and strangled her and others heard this confrontation.

4. Around 0400 on 11 April 2025, the Accused pushed and strangled CSSN S.R.[4] CSSN S.R. then departed the barracks room.[5] At approximately 0530, she returned, waited outside, and confronted the Accused in his barracks room in an attempt to collect her things.[6] During at least part of this confrontation, she was on the phone with CS2 Taylor.[7] CS2 Taylor heard CSSN S.R. yelling at the Accused alleging that the Accused placed his hands on her.[8] YN3 Monaghan, who was present in the room during the loud confrontation, also stated that CSSN S.R. alleged that the Accused choked her and put his hands on her.[9]

C. Y.J. pled for the Accused to not continue to sexually assault her and others heard and intervened.

5. On 25 May 2024, the Accused sexually assaulted Y.J.[10] During the assault, Y.J. could be heard through the closed door of CSSN Copeland's barracks room pleading with the Accused to "stop."[11] Y.J.'s plea for him to "stop" was loud enough for the people in the common area to hear and come to her assistance.[12]

D. CS3 A.R. was murdered by the Accused after she made a panicked call to a friend for help. There is no evidence that CS3 A.R. was suicidal or otherwise suffering a mental health crisis.

6. On 29 May 2025, the Accused murdered CS3 A.R. after she made a panicked call for help around 0214 to ET3 Rich.[13] ET3 Rich explained that on the call, CS3 A.R. was "freaking out" and requested to be picked up "ASAP."[14] She was frantic and crying and just kept repeating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible.[15] ET3 Rich stated she sounded as if she was having a panic attack.[16]

7. CS3 A.R. was never heard from again after that frantic phone call and eyewitness accounts support that she was murdered at or near that time.[17] As outlined in depth in Appellate Exhibit

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4. App. Ex. LX, para. 7; Encl. 3.
5. Encls. 3-6.
6. Encl. 3-6.
7. Encl. 7.
8. Encl. 7.
9. Encl. 6.
10. App. Ex. LX, para. 8.
11. App. Ex. LX, para. 8; Encl. 8-9.
12. Encls. 8-9.
13. App. Ex. LX, para. 9; Encl. 10.
14. Encl. 10.
15. Encl. 10.
16. Encl. 10.
17. App. Ex. LX., para. 9.

LX, there are several reasons to believe that the Accused murdered CS3 A.R. to prevent her from obtaining help, getting away from the Accused, and becoming a witness against him.[18] In the recent past, the Accused demonstrated that he could not live with the thought of another accusation of sexual misconduct. After CSSN S.S. accused him of sexual assault in November of 2024, he made multiple attempts to kill himself in Oslo, Norway.[19] Moreover, the Accused has shown a willingness to engage in violent behavior to control women who did not comply with his demands or desires. With both ABHAN C.R. and CSSN S.R., the Accused demonstrated a desire to physically control them, including by strangulation to get what he wants.[20] In addition to Appellate Exhibit LX, the following additional evidentiary developments support that CS3 A.R. was murdered after she made a call for help (and not at a later time), supporting that this murder was motivated by an intent to prevent CS3 A.R. from speaking to anyone:

a. All three roommates provided accounts consistent with observing a dead body and mistaking CS3 A.R. for being asleep on the morning of 29 May 2025. During the early morning hours of 29 May 2025, PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN, was texting with girlfriend in the early morning hours of 29 May 2025 when he arrived back home to his barracks room from a trip:[21]



b. PSSN Gordillocruz provided that when he arrived to the barracks room at approximately 0250, he observed the Accused sitting with CS3 A.R. on the floor by the couch.[22] CS3 A.R. was hunched over with her head hanging down and the Accused looked to be holding her up and

18. App. Ex. LX., para. 9.
19. Encl. 11.
20. Encls. 1, 3-4.
21. Encl. 12.
22. Encl. 13.

preventingher from falling over with his arm around her.[23] PSSN Gordillocruz thought it was strange that they were on the floor and asked the Accused if CS3 A.R. was okay.[24] The Accused told PSSN Gordillocruz to go to his room and waved him off.[25] During this 10-second exchange, CS3 A.R. was described as completely unresponsive.[26]

c. AN John Calisse, USN, provided that when he left his room around 0545, CS3 A.R. was naked on her back with her legs splayed open and the Accused was asleep with his head on her inner thigh.[27] They were laying just a few feet from AN Calisse's bedroom door.[28] AN Calisse stated the Accused stirred when he loudly opened his bedroom door.[29] AN Calisse expressed surprise that CS3 A.R. comparatively did not move at all.[30]

d. YN3 Monaghan provided that when he left at around 0545, CS3 A.R. was turned with her face pressed into the couch, and the Accused was laying behind her with his face near CS3 A.R.'s buttocks.[31] CS3 A.R.'s hair was covering most of her face.[32] YN3 Monaghan did not observe movement from CS3 A.R. or hear her breathing, but did hear snoring from the Accused.[33]

e. When PSSN Gordillocruz departed the barracks room at approximately 0630 for work, the Accused was laying on the torso of CS3 A.R., who was laying on her back naked.[34] PSSN Gordillocruz described them as near the couch and had to jump over them to leave the barracks room.[35] Neither the Accused nor CS3 A.R. responded.[36]

f. Moreover, FCC Parker recently provided that when arrived at approximately 0855 to perform a wellness check on the Accused, he knocked on the door to the Accused's bedroom for a minute before he answered.[37] Despite this repeated knocking, CS3 A.R. lay in bed unmoving covered by a blanket.[38] FCC Parker provided CS3 A.R. did not move, speak, or acknowledge him

23. Encl. 13.
24. Encl. 13.
25. Encl. 13.
26. Encl. 13.
27. Encl. 14.
28. Encl. 14.
29. Encl. 14.
30. Encl. 14.
31. Encl. 6.
32. Encl. 6.
33. Encl. 6.
34. Encl. 13.
35. Encl. 13.
36. Encl. 13.
37. Encl. 15.
38. Encl. 15.

in any way.[39] The Accused also pressured FCC Parker to leave the room by telling him that CS3 A.R. was not clothed, but was okay and that he would take care of her.[40] FCC Parker trusted the Accused when he told him that CS3 A.R. was simply asleep.[41]

8. Prior to being murdered, CS3 A.R. made several statements relevant to this case. For example:

a. The above-described call for help to ET3 Rich at 0214 on 29 May 2025.

b. CS3 A.R. exchanged messages with CS3 Gladis Garciabarrera, USN, on 28 May 2025 prior to arriving at the Accused's barracks room and while with the Accused that night.[42]

c. At 2322 on 28 May 2025, while with the Accused, CS3 A.R. texted HT3 Michael Gillespie "Fuck you" without context.[43]

9. On 29 October 2025, the Defense requested production of Mr. Junrojel Miguel because he "has had his own experiences and personal knowledge with CS3 A.R. when she experienced 'episodes' and also described having to closely monitor CS3 A.R. to prevent her from overdosing."[44] The Defense also identified a desire to question HT3 Gillispie and ET3 Rich along the same lines.[45] Separately, the Defense indicated a desire to question LSC Robert Janson, USN, about CS3 A.R.'s "mental decline and stress before CS3 A.R. was admitted to NMC Portsmouth and after she returned."[46] The Defense proffered that "[h]is testimony provides context to show the timeline of CS3 A.R.'s mental decline based on what he perceived on [sic] her at work."[47] Similarly, the Defense seeks to question Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez about text messages CS3 A.R. sent regarding "how toxic her division's chain of command was" and tie it to "her overall mental health issues and stress."[48] And finally, the Defense seeks to also question CSSN Gladis Garciabarrera, USN, about her "personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s mental health issues/struggles."[49]

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39. Encl. 15. This statement conflicts in some respects with FCC Parker's past statements about his interactions with CS3 A.R. wherein she acknowledged him in some capacity. *See* App. Ex. LX at 9(i). FCC Parker most recently explained that he observed "movement," but believed the movement could have been light filtering in from the window or something else other than CS3 A.R. Encl. 15.
40. Encl. 18.
41. Encl. 18.
42. Encl. 18.
43. Encl. 18.
44. Encl. 18.
45. Encl. 18.
46. Encl. 18.
47. Encl. 18.
48. Encl. 18.
49. Encl. 18.

10. There is not a scintilla of evidence that CS3 A.R. committed suicide.

BURDEN

11. The proponent of the evidence bears the burden to demonstrate the admissibility of the evidence they seek to admit.[50]

LAW

12. "Evidence is relevant if: (a) it has any tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence; and (b) the fact is of consequence in determining the action."[51] When evidence offers any amount of probative value, "[t]he military judge may exclude relevant evidence if the probative value is substantially outweighed by a danger of one or more of the following: unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, misleading the members, undue delay, wasting time, or needlessly presenting cumulative evidence."[52]

13. In *United States v. Becker*, the victim fell from a window and died after landing on the ground below.[53] At issue was whether she had committed suicide or had been pushed.[54] The Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals (NMCCA) held that even in a case of this nature, the probative value of text messages sent months prior which did not directly state that the victim was suicidal were of marginal probative value as they did not "reflect [the victim's] mental state *at the time* of her death at all."[55]

14. When a statement is made out-of-court by a declarant who "was under the stress of excitement" of a startling event or condition, it is admissible under M.R.E. 803(2) as an exception to the rule against hearsay. "The implicit premise [of the exception] is that a person who reacts to a startling event or condition while under the stress of excitement caused thereby will speak truthfully because of a lack of opportunity to fabricate."[56] To be admissible under this rule, "(1) the statement must be spontaneous, excited, or impulsive rather than the product of reflection and deliberation; (2) the event that prompts the utterance must be startling; and (3) the declarant must be under the stress of excitement caused by the event."[57] Relevant to the third prong, is "the lapse of time between the startling event and the statement, whether the statement was made in response to an inquiry, the age of the declarant, the physical and mental condition of the declarant, the

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50. R.C.M. 905.
51. M.R.E. 401; *see also* M.R.E. 403.
52. M.R.E. 403.
53. *United States v. Becker*, 2025 CCA Lecis 574, at *1-16 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2025) (unpublished).
54. *Id*.
55. *Id*. at *97-99 (emphasis in original).
56. *United States v. Smith*, 83 M.J. 350, 355 (C.A.A.F. 2023) (alterations in original) (internal citations omitted).
57. *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Arnold*, 25 M.J. 129, 132 (C.M.A. 1987) (alterations omitted).

characteristics of the event, and the subject matter of the statement."[58] The time that passes "between a startling event and an utterance, while a factor in determining whether the declarant was under the stress of excitement caused by the event, is not dispositive of that issue."[59] Text messages can qualify as excited utterances.[60] And "the startling event does not have to be the actual crime itself, but rather may be a related occurrence that causes such a reaction."[61] Of note, "M.R.E. 803(2), [excited utterance], in contrast with M.R.E. 803(1), present sense impression, does not contain a corroboration requirement."[62]

15. "A statement describing or explaining an event or condition, made while or immediately after the declarant perceived it" is admissible as an exception to the rule against hearsay as a present sense impression.[63] There must be some indicia of reliability that the event described actually occurred in admitting a present sense impression.[64]

16. Military Rule of Evidence 804(b)(6) allows into evidence "[a] statement offered against a party that wrongfully caused or acquiesced in wrongfully causing the declarant's unavailability as a witness, and did so intending that result" as an exception to the rule against hearsay. For a statement to be admissible under this rule, "(1) the party against whom the statement is offered must have wrongfully caused the declarant's unavailability as a witness, and (2) the party caused the witness' unavailability with the intent to make that witness unavailable, i.e. that the accused intended their conduct to prevent the witness from testifying against them in court."[65]

17. With respect to the second prong, "the party's intent, in causing the declarant's unavailability, need not be motivated solely by the desire to prevent the declarant's would-be testimony, rather, only that it was a motivating factor in the party's decision to take such an action."[66] The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) has held that there must be some evidence that the accused "was engaged in behaviors intended to isolate the victim from outside help."[67]

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58. *United States v. Donaldson*, 58 M.J. 477, 483 (C.A.A.F. 2003) (internal citations omitted).
59. *Id*. (quoting *Arnold*, 25 M.J. 129).
60. *Id*. (citing M.R.E. 801(a)(2)).
61. *Id*. (quoting *United States v. Loosiah*, 129 F. App'x 434, 438 (10th Cir. 2005)).
62. *United States v. Henry*, 81 M.J. 91, 97 (C.A.A.F. 2021).
63. M.R.E. 803(1).
64. *United States v. Stone*, 2003 CCA LEXIS 253, at *6-8 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. Oct. 17, 2003) (unpublished); *Henry*, 81 M.J. at 97.
65. *United States v. Becker*, 81 M.J. 483, 489 (C.A.A.F. 2021) (citing *Giles v. California*, 554 U.S. 353, 364-68 (2008)).
66. *Id*. at 489 (citing *United States v. Jackson*, 706 F.3d 264, 269 (4th Cir, 2013)).
67. *Id*. at 487.

ARGUMENT

A. ABHAN C.R.'s text messages to CSSN Cuestabravo were excited utterances made under the stress of the Accused's fresh assault.

18. While still crying and unable to sleep, ABHAN C.R. sent a string of text messages to CSSN Cuestabravo explaining that a startling event had just occurred. These messages are admissible as an excited utterance, as ABHAN C.R. was still under the stress of that startling event: a violent sexual assault. In assessing "the lapse of time between the startling event and the statement, whether the statement was made in response to an inquiry, the age of the declarant, the physical and mental condition of the declarant, the characteristics of the event, and the subject matter of the statement," all factors favor admission. Primarily, the event occurred close in time, the statements were not made in response to an inquiry, the event itself was extremely violating and stress-inducing, and the subject matter of the statements indicate great excitement.

B. CSSN S.R.'s statements when confronting the Accused were excited utterances.

19. CSSN S.R. was pushed and strangled by the Accused. She then left before returning and waited outside of his barracks room for an opportunity to re-enter and gather her belongings. When she did so, she was again confronted by her assailant. She repeatedly accused him of violently assaulting her during the stress and excitement of that interaction. Again, "the lapse of time between the startling event and the statement, whether the statement was made in response to an inquiry, the age of the declarant, the physical and mental condition of the declarant, the characteristics of the event, and the subject matter of the statement," all favor admission of these statements as excited utterances.[68] CSSN S.R. was extremely troubled by what her boyfriend, the Accused, had done to her. It was completely out of character for him and nearly ended her life. While some time passed between the event and the confrontation, CSSN S.R. remained nearby, upset. And when CSSN S.R. confronted the Accused, that confrontation was in and of itself highly stress-inducing and energized. "[T]he startling event does not have to be the actual crime itself, but rather may be a related occurrence that causes such a reaction."[69] As such, CSSN S.R.'s communications during that confrontation should be admitted as excited utterances.

C. Y.J.'s loud and desperate plea for the Accused to stop sexually assaulting her is admissible as an excited utterance.

20. Y.J.'s pleas for the Accused to "stop" as he penetrated her against her will inside his bedroom. Y.J.'s desperate requests were loud and frantic enough for two other Sailors to intervene and rescue her from the Accused. These pleas for help were excited utterances made under the stress of the sexual assault she was experiencing at the hands of the Accused.

D. PSSN Gordillocruz's text messages are admissible as present sense impressions.

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68. *Donaldson*, 58 M.J. at 483.
69. *Id*. (quoting *Loosiah*, 129 F. App'x at 438).

21. When PSSN Gordillocruz arrived at his barracks, he texted "I just got home" and "I'm in my room now."[70] These text messages were sent as he arrived at his barracks and later his room. As such, they are statements "describing or explaining an event or condition, made while or immediately after the declarant perceived it" and admissible as present sense impressions.[71]

E. The Accused murdered CS3 A.R. and did so with the intent to prevent her from obtaining help and becoming a witness against him.

22. First, the Accused murdered CS3 A.R. at approximately 0214 on 29 May 2025. She made a call for help at that time and then was never heard from again despite repeated attempts to contact her. CS3 A.R. was later found deceased in the Accused's suitcase in the woods on 9 June 2025 and a mountain of digital and other forensic evidence demonstrates that it was the Accused who placed her there.[72] All three of the Accused's roommates and Chief Parker mistook CS3 A.R. to be sleeping on 29 May 2025, when she was instead already deceased.

23. Second, the Accused murdered CS3 A.R. to prevent her from obtaining help and becoming a witness against him. The Accused was aware of two separate reported allegations of sexual misconduct against him at the time CS3 A.R. came to his barracks and had an extreme suicidal reaction to the second of those allegations.[73] CS3 A.R. was described as naked by all three of the Accused's roommates on the morning of 29 May 2025. And just days later, the Accused advised CS2 Taylor that CS3 A.R. had made a sexual advance towards him, but he had declined and this upset her.[74] Whatever occurred prior to CS3 A.R.'s call to ET3 Rich at 0214 on 29 May 2025, the Accused did not want CS3 A.R. to speak with someone about it and this motivated him to murder her.

24. As such, statements made by CS3 A.R. prior to her death are admissible by the Government as any objection is forfeited by the Accused's wrongdoing.

F. CS3 A.R.'s panicked call to ET3 Rich is alternatively admissible as an excited utterance.

25. When CS3 A.R. called ET3 Rich at 0214 on 29 May 2025, he described her as frantic and "freaking out."[75] She was repeatedly requesting to be picked up as soon as possible. CS3 A.R. was frantic and panicked during the call, demonstrating that she was still under the stress or excitement of whatever event had just occurred. "[T]he lapse of time between the startling event and the statement, whether the statement was made in response to an inquiry, the age of the declarant, the physical and mental condition of the declarant, the characteristics of the event, and

70. Encl. 12.
71. M.R.E. 803(1).
72. *See* App. Ex. LX, para. 9.
73 *See* App. Ex. LX, paras. 5, 6.
74. Encl 7.
75. Encl. 10.

the subject matter of the statement" all favor admission here.[76] Moreover, no independent corroboration of the underlying event is needed for admission of an excited utterance.[77]

F. The Defense's unspecific evidence of general mental health issues CS3 A.R. had in the past are not relevant and any minor probative value is substantially outweighed by the risk of unfair prejudice. This evidence is also inadmissible hearsay.

26. There is no evidence that CS3 A.R. committed suicide. As such, any testimony suggesting as much is irrelevant, speculative, and misleading.

27. Primarily, the autopsies in this case determined that CS3 A.R. did not overdose on medication.[78] As such, any evidence suggesting that CS3 A.R. was at risk of overdosing on medication is flatly irrelevant. And beyond the low level of alcohol detected in CS3 A.R.'s remains, the Accused has never indicated that CS3 A.R. was intoxicated.[79] In sum, taking aside the extensive evidence that the Accused murdered CS3 A.R., there is no evidence CS3 A.R. committed suicide, and any testimony suggesting as much is not relevant.

28. Similarly, any testimony that CS3 A.R. had poor "mental health" or otherwise was "struggling" is completely irrelevant and speculative. There is no evidence that CS3 A.R. expressed suicidal ideation at the time she was with the Accused on 28 and 29 May 2025. To the contrary, her spending at Target on 28 May 2025,[80] along with her happy messages to CSSN Garcia-Barrera that evening indicate quite the opposite.[81] As such, any speculation about how CS3 A.R. was feeling is irrelevant and misleading. This includes any "episodes" that CS3 A.R. purportedly experienced, as any evidence about these "episodes" are just as speculative as applied to the facts here. Just as the NMCCA held in *Becker*—a case where suicidal ideation was hotly contested—this speculative, indirect evidence of suicidal ideation is not relevant.

29. Moreover, even if marginally relevant, Defense is unable to lay a foundation for this evidence. First, each witness which purports knowledge of her mental health lacks qualifications of a mental health provider and thus can only offer improper lay opinions regarding any alleged mental health ailment. Additionally, the basis for those opinions, if any exist, was likely provided by CS3 A.R. and thus the witnesses lack personal knowledge and would rely solely on what CS3 A.R. told them about her mental health. For example, if a witness personally observed an "episode" they could testify as to what they observed, i.e., crying or a distraught look. However, to the extent that CS3 A.R. described to these witnesses what caused these episodes or later described what the episodes depicted, CS3 A.R.'s statements to these witnesses are hearsay. The same reasoning applies to any

76. *Donaldson*, 58 M.J. at 483.
77. *Henry*, 81 M.J. at 97.
78. App. Ex. LX. at 9(u).
79. Encl. 19.
80. Encl. 20.
81. Encl. 16.

testimony about her medication or mental health treatment. These witnesses cannot testify to hearsay and no exception exists to allow them to do so.

30. As applied to the specific witnesses the Defense has requested production of, all would provide only inadmissible evidence with respect to this issue based on the Defense's proffer:

a. Mr. Junrojel Miguel, ET3 Daniel Rich, and HT3 Michael Gillispie: Cannot testify to CS3 A.R.'s "episodes" aside from their personal observations of how CS3 A.R. behaved during an "episode." And any input they received from CS3 A.R. is inadmissible hearsay. Even then, there is no evidence to tie CS3 A.R. having an "episode" to what occurred in this case, making this testimony irrelevant. No witness can say CS3 A.R. was suffering from an "episode" during her evening with the Accused. At most, ET3 Rich can provide his recollection of how CS3 A.R. was behaving on her call for help, but he cannot provide lay testimony that this was an "episode." These witnesses also cannot testify about monitoring CS3 A.R.'s medication to ensure she did not overdose. Any statements made to them on this point by CS3 A.R. are inadmissible hearsay and are otherwise irrelevant when applied to what occurred here. Moreover, these witnesses are not medical providers and have no expertise on the dangers of CS3 A.R.'s medication—of which none were found in her remains. Even if this evidence was admissible, there is no link to the facts of what occurred here. By all accounts, CS3 A.R. was not depressed or suicidal on 28 or 29 May 2025 and there is no evidence that she overdosed or otherwise committed suicide

b. LSC Robert Janson: LSC Janson's testimony about CS3 A.R.'s "mental decline" would be complete speculation. LSC Janson also cannot tie these observations to CS3 A.R.'s behavior on 28 or 29 May, making this testimony irrelevant. Of note, while inadmissible hearsay, LSC Janson provided that "[t]here was no suicidal ideation involved" with respect to CS3 A.R.'s issues and tied any issues specifically to her workload.[82] As such, this line of questioning would not even be in good faith.

c. Brian Teelez Mendez: Any messages CS3 A.R. shared with Mr. Mendez are inadmissible hearsay. Moreover, these messages cannot be tied in any relevant manner to suicidal ideation, let alone to the murder that occurred on 29 May 2025.

d. CSSN Gladis Garciabarrera: Any testimony about CS3 A.R.'s "mental health issues/struggles" is again inadmissible hearsay not tethered to CS3 A.R.'s night with the Accused. And, contrary to the Defense's proffer, CSSN Garciabarrera provided that CS3 A.R. was happy that day and never told her she had mental health issues.[83] Any questions suggesting the opposite would be in bad faith.

82. Encl. 21.
83. Encl. 22.

RELEIF REQUESTED

31. The Government respectfully requests that this Court find the above evidence admissible on the bases outlined herein. The Government also requests that the Court hold that any evidence regarding CS3 A.R.'s mental health or suggestion of suicidal ideation to be irrelevant.

EVIDENCE PRESENTED

32. The Government offers the following in support of this motion:

Enclosure 1 – Results of Interview of ABHAN C.R. dated 6 AUG 24.
Enclosure 2 – Screenshots of texts between ABHAN C.R. and CSSN Cuestabravo dated 24 July 2024.
Enclosure 3 – Statement of CSSN S.R. dated 11 April 2025.
Enclosure 4 – Results of Interview of CSSN S.R. dated 7 JUL 24.
Enclosure 5 – Statement of CSSN Jermiah Copeland dated 11 April 2025.
Enclosure 6 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of YN3 Sean Monaghan dated 17 FEB 2026.
Enclosure 7 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of CS2 Rezan Taylor dated 5 SEP 2025.
Enclosure 8 – Results of Interview of Y.J. dated 24 JUL 25.
Enclosure 9 – Results of Interview of AEAN JDYN Bradford dated 5 AUG 25.
Enclosure 10 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of ET3 Daniel Rich dated 5 SEP 2026.
Enclosure 11 – Results of Interview of CSSN Kaulise Cousins dated 6 NOV 24.
Enclosure 12 – Screenshot of Text Messages Sent by PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, dated 29 May 2025.
Enclosure 13 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz dated 17 FEB 2026.
Enclosure 14 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of AN John Calisse dated 17 FEB 2026.
Enclosure 15 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of FCC Bradley Parker dated 8 APR 2026.
Enclosure 16 – Messages between CS3 A.R. and CSSN Gladis Garciabarrera.
Enclosure 17 – Messages between CS3 A.R. and HT3 Michael Gillispie.
Enclosure 18 – Defense Request for the Production of Witnesses dated 29 October 2025.
Enclosure 19 – Results of Interview of the Accused dated 1, 3, and 6 JUN 26.
Enclosure 20 – Receipt from Target for Purchases of CS3 A.R.
Enclosure 21 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of LSC Robert Janson dated 9 Mar 2026.
Enclosure 22 – Rule for Court-Martial 701 Disclosure of CS3 Gladis Garciabarrera dated 18 Mar 2026.

ORAL ARGUMENT

33. The Government requests oral argument.

[redacted]

C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 24 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	(b) (6)	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

(Place or Places of Trial)

On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Date or Dates of Trial)

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 24 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE XCV through AE XCVIII).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06AUG24

CONTROL: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF [redacted]

1. As background, on 26Jul24 NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) was notified by MA1 Ronald CORTESELLI, USN, CVN 75, of an unrestricted reported of sexual assault aboard the ship that occurred on 23Jul24 at approximately 0200 hours. MA1 CORTESELLI reported ABHAN [redacted], USN, CVN 75, reported CSSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, grabbed her vulva, breasts, and buttocks over the clothing while applying pressure to her neck so that it was difficult for her to breathe.

2. On 06Aug24 at approximately 2030 hours, [redacted] was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) aboard CVN 75, while at sea in compartment 02-88-4-Q. IT2 Morgan RODRIGUEZ, USN, Uniform Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, was present for the entirety of the interview.

3. The interview was audio and video recorded in its entirety utilizing the CaseCracker system. This report serves as a synopsis of the interview and does not necessarily describe the information in the order in which it was discussed. For a verbatim account, please refer to the digital recording; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. [redacted] related she is in a relationship with CSSN Fernando CUESTABRAVO, USN, CVN 75, and was in the mess decks with him in the early morning hours of 23Jul24 when he stated he was going to sleep. [redacted] stated after CSSN CUESTABRAVO left, she began receiving SnapChat snaps from S/COPELAND, who stated he was headed to the ship and expressed he wanted to talk to her about CSSN CUESTABRAVO. [redacted] agreed, and stated S/COPELAND arrived and requested the pair go somewhere private to talk.

5. After arriving to the area of the fantail, S/COPELAND told V/[redacted] that CSSN CUESTABRAVO was talking to other women and asserted CSSN CUESTABRAVO was not treating [redacted] the way she should be treated. [redacted] related S/COPELAND suggested SHE engage in a relationship with him (S/COPELAND) to "get back at" CSSN CUESTABRAVO. [redacted] stated she told S/COPELAND she did not "do those types of things." [redacted] recalled discussing her relationship with S/COPELAND for a short period of time before S/COPELAND began to play a "game" with her wherein he pretended to arrest her. [redacted] stated S/COPELAND forced her hands behind her back and grabbed her vulva over the clothing.

6. V/ROGERS related she turned around and punched S/COPELAND in the stomach.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA **06AUG24**

V/C.R. related S/COPLEAND told her he heard she liked to be choked, at which time S/COPELAND applied pressure to her neck with one hand so that it was difficult for V/C.R. to breathe. V/C.R. recalled pushing S/COPELAND's hand away from her throat but that he would immediately replace it and keep applying pressure. While applying pressure to her neck, V/C.R. recalled S/COPELAND kissed her on the lips and grabbed her breasts, buttocks, and vulva over the clothing. V/C.R. related the physical contact lasted approximately a minute before S/COPELAND stopped of his own accord. V/C.R. stated she told S/COPELAND she was going to bed and left the fantail.

7. V/C.R. recalled being unsure if she should tell CSSN CUESTABRAVO because she was worried about his reaction, but texted him about what happened. V/C.R. stated CSSN CUESTABRAVO encouraged her to report the incident. V/C.R. stated she called the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) phone number she found on a poster aboard the ship, and was informed to get in touch with shipboard SAPR personnel. V/C.R. stated she did not know how, so CSSN CUESTABRAVO reported the incident to Security. V/C.R. stated she had bruising on her neck that CSSN CUESTABRAVO observed, but that it was now gone.

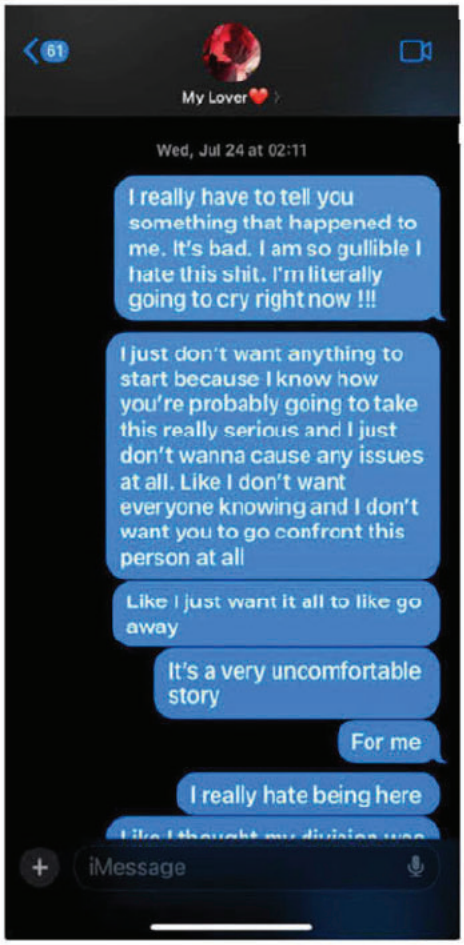
8. V/C.R. stated she told her Chief, CSC Gregory SIMMONS, USN, CVN 75, about the incident. V/C.R. related CSSN Jalen OWENS, USN, CVN 75, told CSSN CUESTABRAVO that S/COPELAND told her (CSSN OWENS) that V/C.R. had reported him.

9. V/C.R. provided RA screen shots of the texts she sent to CSSN CUESTABRAVA via Air Drop, and signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) denoting her consent; Enclosure (B) pertains. The screen shots were subsequently placed on an NCIS Photographic Template for inclusion into the case file; Enclosure (C) pertains.

11. At the conclusion of the interview, V/C.R. was provided a DD Form 2701 Victim Witness Assistance Pamphlet (VWAP).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED INTERVIEW OF V/C.R /06AUG24
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE SIGNED BY V/C.R. 06AUG24
(C) NCIS PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE/06AUG24

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1. OFFICE CODE: NFXQ		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: SA BERNADETTE DUFFY
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: SCREEN SHOT OF TEXT MESSAGE PROVIDED BY V/C.R. ON 06AUG24		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 06AUG24

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (1) OF (2)

ENCLOSURE (C)



1. OFFICE CODE: NFXQ		
2. TITLE: S/COPELAND, JEREMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	3. CCN: 26JUL24-NFXQ-00015-8CNA	4. AGENT'S NAME: SA BERNADETTE DUFFY
5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: SCREEN SHOT OF TEXT MESSAGE PROVIDED BY V/C.R. ON 06AUG24		6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 06AUG24

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (2) OF (2)

ENCLOSURE (C)

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT

PLACE: NAVAL STATION NORFOLK X-2 935 3RD FLOOR

2 DATE: 11 APRIL 2025

USN MONTGOMERY V/S.R. CS/E-2/USS. JAMES E WILLIAMS

11 APRIL 2025 04:00

I WAS IN COPELANDS BARRACKS ROOM AND WE WERE SITTING IN THE SHARED LIVING SPACE TALKING HE FELL ASLEEP AND HIS GIRLFRIEND CALLED ME ASKING IF I WAS WITH COPELAND ~~BECAUSE SHE~~ HAD A SUSPICION THAT HE WAS DOING SOMETHING SNEAKY. I ASKED HER WAS THEY STILL DATING, CAUSE A COUPLE DAYS AGO HE TOLD ME SHE'S JUST CRAZY AND STALKING MY SOCIAL MEDIA CAUSE I'm HIS "NEW GIRLFRIEND" SO I WOKE COPELAND UP I TOLD HIM I WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE AT FIRST I DIDN'T TELL HIM WHY BUT I BURSTED IT OUT OF ANGER THAT I KNOW HE LIED ABOUT NOT BEING WITH HER, HE STARTED SMILING SAYING "THAT BITCH IS FUCKING DELUSIONAL, DONT BELIEVE HER" I THEN STARTED GOING BACK AND FOURTH WITH HIM HE GOT UP AND CHOKED ME THEN STARTED CANCELING SAYING HE WAS JUST PLAYING AND THAT I SHOULD STAY AND TALK ABOUT IT, SO I LEFT OUT THE DOOR AND WENT HOME TALKING TO THE GIRLFRIEND ON THE PHONE, SHE TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD TRY TO MANIPULATE ME TO BELIEVE HIM.. I PUT BACK ON MY CLOTHES AND WALKED BACK TO HIS BARRACKS HE WOULDN'T OPEN THE DOOR SO I WAITED TILL HIS ROOMATE CAME OUT AND I CAME IN. I STATED "SO I'M LYING TRYING TO RUIN YOUR LIFE?" HE SPIT "YES" AND THERE WAS ARGUING FOR A WHILE HIS ROOMATE TRIED TO GET THE R.A. BUT COPELAND TOLD HIM NO. I PACED FOR MY SHOES AND FOLDER AND HE ACTED CLUELESS, WHILE I WAS ON THE PHONE WITH CS2 TAYLOR COPELAND SNATCHED MY PHONE AND THEN TRIGGERED ME IN SELF-DEFENSE AND I PUNCHED HIM IN HIS CHEST AND SLAMMED HIS DOOR THEN LEFT.

SGT 11 APRIL 2025 PII

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000107_COPELAND
Enclosure 3 - Page 1 of 1

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 07JUL25

CONTROL: 07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN [redacted] V/S.R. USN

1. On 07JUL25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY conducted an interview of CSSN [redacted] V/S.R., USN, Naval Station Norfolk (NAVSTA NORFOLK), VA, at NCISRA Norfolk, VA, regarding her prior relationship with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95).

2. As background, [redacted] V/S.R. was identified as a prior girlfriend of S/COPELAND who may possess information relevant to the investigation.

3. The interview of [redacted] V/S.R. was recorded using an audio/video recording system, and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

4. [redacted] V/S.R. stated she and S/COPELAND began dating circa MAR25, and the relationship lasted for approximately one (1) month. [redacted] V/S.R. stated she met S/COPELAND while assigned to DDG-95, and worked together. According to [redacted] V/S.R., the relationship began as a friendship and developed into a romantic relationship. [redacted] V/S.R. described S/COPELAND initially as "a cool person." [redacted] V/S.R. stated most of their interactions occurred while under the influence of alcohol, as S/COPELAND regularly encouraged drinking. [redacted] V/S.R. reported the relationship ended due to S/COPELAND becoming violent and dishonest about his involvement with his ex-girlfriend, identified as "Dess" (NFI).

5. [redacted] V/S.R. stated on 11APR25, while in S/COPELAND's barracks room, located at Willis Manor building X-2, Room 335, Naval Station Norfolk, VA, she accessed S/COPELAND's phone and discovered messages which indicated S/COPELAND was still in a relationship with his ex-girlfriend. Upon confronting S/COPELAND, [redacted] V/S.R. stated he became "visibly upset". According to [redacted] V/S.R. S/COPELAND pushed her onto the couch and placed both hands around her neck for approximately four to five (4-5) seconds. [redacted] V/S.R. stated while she was being strangled, S/COPELAND smiled and appeared "extremely angry", stated, "it was like he was someone else." [redacted] V/S.R. reported after S/COPELAND released her, she broke his PlayStation 5 out of anger and exited the room. [redacted] V/S.R. stated she attempted to retrieve her belongings but was denied reentry by S/COPELAND. According to [redacted] V/S.R., her personal items were never recovered.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:07JUL25-NFNF-00304-7VNA **07JUL25**

6. V/S.R. stated S/COPELAND's roommate (NFI) falsely reported to the responding law enforcement personnel she attempted to stab S/COPELAND and was the aggressor, despite being the victim. V/S.R. stated when she explained the incident to law enforcement, she was discouraged from reporting the strangulation, as they stated it would "just make the situation worse" (NFI). Following the interview, V/S.R. requested an investigation be initiated for the details she provided to NCIS.

7. At the conclusion of the interview, V/S.R. was provided a Victim Witness Assistance Pamphlet (VWAP).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: CONTAINING INTERVIEW OF V/S.R.,
USN/07JUL25

REPORTED BY: FRITZNER PHILEMON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 2 LAST EU V2 LNN

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Continued on next page (If statement provided)

Understanding my right under U.C.M.J. Article 31, I wish to make the following statement:

AROUND MIDNIGHT V/S.R. LEFT MY ROOM UPSET THAT I DIDN'T GIVE HER ATTENTION, SHE LATER COMES BACK TRYING TO GET BACK IN MY ROOM AND I WAS IGNORING HER, AROUND THIS TIME MY ROOMATE WAS LEAVING THE ROOM AND V/S.R. PUSHED MY ROOMATE OUT THE WAY TO GET INTO MY ROOM. THEN SHE PROCEEDS TO WALK IN MY ROOM WHILE I'M IN BED, SHE BEGINS TO START ARGUING WE WALK INTO THE LIVING-ROOM STILL ARGUING THEN SHE PULLS A UC KNIFE OUT HER POCKET AND CHARGED AT ME WHILE MY ROOMATE IS STILL HERE WITNESSING THEN SHE SAYS YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND IS GONNA LOVE TO HEAR YOU LIKE PUTTING YOUR HANDS ON FEMALES, I LOOK AT MY ROOMATE IN DISBELIEF ASKING WHEN DID I PUT MY HANDS ON YOU NO SHE SAYS BEFORE SHE LEFT, SHE THEN PROCEEDS TO SAY WHERE IS MY CROCS AND BLUE CROCS FOLDER NO I SAY YOUR CROCS ARE IN THE ROOM AND WHAT FOLDER ARE YOU ASKING FOR, SHE STARTS MOVING ALL MY THINGS AROUND LOOKING FOR A BLUE FOLDER, I GRAB MY VALUBIGS TO PUT IN MY CLOSET SHE GRABS MY PS5 AND THROWS IT ON THE GROUND AND COMPLETELY BREAKS IT, IVE ASKED HER MANY TIMES TO EXIT MY ROOM AND SHE NEVER LEFT UNTIL I CLOSED MY ROOM DOOR AND SHE HAD LEFT MY ROOM.

Q. Did you choke Ms V/S.R. by placing you hands around her neck? I NEVER ONCE PUT MY HANDS ON HER IT WAS A HICKEY AND MY CS^2 CAN VERIFY THAT ITS A HICKEY CAUSE IT WAS ON HER NECK DAYS BEFORE AND HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT IT CS^2 BRYANT TOLD ME TO BE MORE DISCRET AND CAT ON WHAT ME AND V/S.R. ARE DOING CAUSE HE SEES THE HICKEYS ON RICHARDSONS NECK

Q. Can you describe the knife?
A MULTITOOL KIT HAS A HAMMER WRENCH AND 3 KNIVES ON IT.

[redacted] 11APR25
1220

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN.

17 Feb 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH YN3 SEAN MONAGHAN, USN.

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 9 February 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Chris Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, spoke to YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN in person. The following disclosures are provided:

a. Prior to Copeland arriving as a roommate at approximately the end of 2024, YN3 Monaghan had the barracks room to himself.
b. YN3 Monaghan stated that on Wednesday, 28 May 25, he returned to the barracks after driving 5 hours back from New Jersey, where he had been on leave. He had gone to bed early as he had watch the next morning. He is typically a heavy sleeper but had heard his roommate Copeland and an unknown female (V/ A. R.) go in and out of the bedroom several times before he fully fell asleep. There was loud rap music being played in the common room.
c. The next morning, 29 May 25, YN3 left his bedroom at around 0545 and saw Copeland and V/ A. R. on the floor right in front of his bedroom door. YN3 believed Copeland was snoring but he heard no noise from V/A.R. V/A. R. was on her side with her face, it appeared, pressed into the couch. Her hair was covering most of her face. Copeland was lying on his side behind V/A. R., also facing the couch, with his face near V/A. R.'s buttocks (sketch attached). YN3 Monaghan described them as almost spooning.
d. Both Copeland and V/A. R. appeared to be naked and YN3 looked away to be respectful. He noticed clothing over the side of the couch and Copeland's black backpack on a bar stool. YN3 did not recall seeing any other bags, or anything that looked like a female's bag, in the room. He said he did not stop to check if they were breathing.
e. YN3 stated that the common room was quiet; there was no music playing or television on. The lights were off and the shades were pulled mostly down. The bedroom door across from the common room (Calisse and Gordillocruz's door) was open, leading YN3 to think they had both already left for work.
f. There was a half-full Buzzball bottle on the counter and other alcohol containers around the room (possibly Vodka bottle and beers). YN3 assumed that Copeland and V/A. R. were passed out from drinking alcohol.
g. When YN3 returned from watch at approximately 1300, he asked Copeland if he and V/A. R. were naked in the common room that morning. Copeland responded that they

were wearing underwear. The common room had been cleaned up with the exception of a sticky spot where the Buzzball had been.

h. When asked about his relationship with Copeland, YN3 stated that he did not have one. He drove Copeland places 2 or 3 times when he needed a ride, but did not socialize with Copeland or the other roommates. YN3 stated that he typically went to work and returned to his room to play video games.
i. Prior to this incident, YN3 Monaghan recalled that Copeland bragged about going UA multiple times and about his ability to call others to make people disappear. YN3 thought that Copeland was trying to portray the image of a gangster.
j. YN3 does not have knowledge of Copeland ever being in YN3's bed. When shown a photo taken on Copeland's phone on the morning of 29May25, YN3 confirmed it appeared to be of his bed.
k. YN3 did not question Copeland about V/A. R.
l. When asked about the air fresheners placed in his bedroom, YN3 Monaghan reported that his Chief had placed one under his bed and one near Copeland's desk when the Chief assisted in cleaning the room. YN3 clarified that his Chief and First Class assisted with his room cleaning because a high-level barracks inspection had been announced that day. YN3 added that Copeland often lit a red Yankee candle on his desk, but could not recall if he had done that that weekend.
m. When asked about the condom wrapper discovered in the bedroom, YN3 Monaghan stated that there was no possibility it was his.
n. YN3 provided that he did not let Copeland borrow his car the weekend of V/ A.R.'s disappearance and YN3 also did not leave the barracks room. When he did return to his car, he was certain it had been parked in a different spot from where he left it. YN3 Monaghan believed he had just confused himself and was paranoid. YN3 left his keys out in the open and it's possible Copeland took his car. YN3 did not notice anything off about his car when he did later drive it.
o. YN3 Monaghan stated that he distinctly remembers the sound of suitcase wheels rolling out of the bedroom, and the door closing, in the early a.m. hours during the time frame of the investigation but could not specifically recall if it was the day before, or just after, the room inspection.
p. Over the weekend that he was UA, YN3 described Copeland as wearing the same clothing each day, which was unusual for him. He described it as a black hoodie with a yellow graphic on the hood that he had up. YN3 described him as skittish and constantly paranoid. The previously mentioned suggestion from Copeland to YN3 to get out and be more social occurred sometime prior to the weekend V/A.R. went missing.
q. The previously mentioned time that Copeland asked YN3 for a ride to the gate at 0400 may not have been during that weekend.
r. YN3 noted that around the time of NCIS's search of the room, the other two roommates mentioned that the night V/ A. R. was there, they had heard weird noises in the common room, like crying and banging. YN3 did not personally hear that.
s. Copeland would sleep with two phones in his bed at night.
t. YN3 Monaghan was then asked about what if anything he had witnessed between CSSN Copeland and V/S.R.

u. YN3 had on a headset and was playing video games while Copeland and V/S.R. were in the common area on the couch. YN3 heard the front door close, but did not hear anything prior to that.
v. Early that morning, around 0640, YN3 left to go get McDonald's. When he opened the door to leave, V/S.R. pushed past him and came into the room. YN3 decided to stay in the room.
w. YN3 did not observe any marks on V/S.R.'s neck, but provided it's possible there were marks because he is unsure how marks might look on dark skin.
x. YN3 stated V/S.R. entered the room with a multitool. YN3 provided a screenshot of the item that V/S.R. had in her hand when she came into the barracks room.
y. V/S.R. placed the multitool down and YN3 grabbed it and put it on his desk for safety.
z. V/S.R. was present in the room for a long time. She was yelling at Copeland, accusing him of choking her and putting his hands on her. Copeland remained calm throughout the encounter and at one point opened his barracks closet. V/S.R. grabbed his PS5 and smashed it on the floor.
aa. Copeland told YN3 that she was crazy and was just someone he was seeing on the ship.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation. The disclosures from the interview conducted by the Government are to reflect new or different information. To the extent the information is duplicative with already discovered information, it is provided as context. This summary does not constitute a statement adopted or approved by the witness and may not reflect the witness's exact words.

[redacted]
L.A. MAYO[redacted]

UNITED STATES v. **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**R.C.M. 701(a) DISCLOSURE**

On 5 September 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed CS2 Rezan Taylor, USN, in the presence of Ms. Marie Reddish at Building A-50. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

CS2 Taylor described a call he received from CSSN S.R. on 11 April 2025 at 0604. He stated the call was approximately 10 minutes long. During the call he overheard CSSN S.R. arguing with CSSN Copeland. CS2 Taylor heard CSSN S.R. state that CSSN Copeland had placed his hands on her and CSSN Copeland was stating that CSSN V/S.R. had a knife. CS2 Taylor advised CSSN V/S.R. to leave and at 0654 she texted him that she had left. CS2 Taylor provided phone screenshots of these events.

CS3 Taylor learned later that CSSN S.R. had left and returned to CSSN Copeland's barracks, but he was not sure if the time she called him was the first or second time she was at CSSN Copeland's barracks room.

CS2 Taylor stated that he interacted with CSSN S.R. on a daily basis and based on his interactions found her to be a truthful person. He could not opine on her reputation for truthfulness among the crew.

CS2 Taylor advised that FCC Brad Parker, USN, was an interim Chief in the supply division. CS2 Taylor stated that FCC Parker was a dirt bag who failed to take initiative and did not do much.

CS2 Taylor advised he had spoken previously with CSSN Copeland about a speeding allegation.

CS2 Taylor also advised that on 9 June 25, while CSSN Copeland was on restriction, CS2 Taylor asked CSSN Copeland what happened between him and CS3 A.R. CS2 Taylor stated that CSSN Copeland advised CS3 A.R. was at his barracks room, they had been drinking alcohol, and the two began making out. CSSN Copeland then stated that CS3 A.R. wanted it to go further, but he stopped it. CS2 Taylor provided that he doubted CSSN Copeland was mature enough to have stopped the encounter at that point, but did not press him further. CS2 Taylor stated that he got the impression from CSSN Copeland that this all occurred in CSSN Copeland's bed. CS2 Taylor also provided that CSSN Copeland told him that CS3 A.R. left on her own the next morning. CS2 Taylor thought that was odd, because others had told him that CSSN Copeland had told them that he dropped her off at her barracks.

CS2 Taylor provided that CS3 A.R. was a great person who was very special. She was a great worker with a bubbly, strong personality. CS2 Taylor thought it was odd that she was with CSSN Copeland that night as there was no indication of a preexisiting relationship – other than professional.

A separate investigative action of this conversation will not be documented by NCIS.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 24JUL25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted]

INTERIVEW OF [redacted], CIV

1. On 24JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) conducted a cold call in an attempt to identify the owner of the phone number [redacted]", who was thought to have been a minor child engaged in sexual activity with CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). The phone number was found during a review of S/COPELAND's cell phone during a separate investigation.

2. [redacted], CIV, was identified as being a 19 year old dependent who was sexually assaulted by S/COPELAND. [redacted] explained she was not comfortable having a formal interview conducted at that time, however, she would tell RA what happened over the phone.

3. During the phone call, [redacted] stated she knew S/COPELAND and had a one-night stand with him sometime in the beginning of the summer in 2025. [redacted] described S/COPELAND as giving off "weird vibes" and he would constantly ask her to come over.

4. [redacted] explained on the night of the sexual assault, she had been picked up by two other males, Omar (NFI) and Jaden (NFI). After being picked up by them, [redacted] said they drove her back to S/COPELAND's barracks room located on Naval Station Norfolk and they engaged in a consensual 3-way. [redacted] explained S/COPELAND was not present however, he did return to his barracks room sometime between 0500-0600. [redacted] stated the 3-way was over and she was very tired. However, when S/COPELAND arrived at his barracks room, [redacted] said he grabbed her by the arm and pulled her into his room. [redacted] stated S/COPELAND wanted her to give him "head" or oral sex, and [redacted] said she told S/COPELAND "no" and that she was "tired." [redacted] explained S/COPELAND then attempted to penetrate her vagina and she stated it was painful and hurt when S/COPELAND penetrated her. [redacted] said she told S/COPELAND to "stop." [redacted] explained Omar was at the door and could hear her telling S/COPELAND to stop. [redacted] further explained Omar entered the room and was able to get [redacted] out of the situation. [redacted] said she told Omar "thank you" and left the barracks room.

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NORFOLK
CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **24JUL25**

5. V/Y.J. stated she had not spoken to S/COPELAND since the sexual assault occurred but when the "sailor girl" further clarified as CSSN V/A.R. went missing she spoke to Omar and Jaden in person and they had discussed the circumstances around her disappearance. V/Y.J. could not give details as to what they exactly talked about, however, V/Y.J. explained both Omar and Jaden stopped being friends with S/COPELAND due to V/A.R. missing.

6. At the conclusion of the interview, RA asked V/Y.J. if she would be willing to participate in the investigation. V/Y.J. stated she was not sure if she wanted to participate.

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 2 LAST EU V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05AUG25

CONTROL: 24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
[redacted PII]

INTERIVEW OF AEAN JDYN BRADFORD, USN

1. On 05AUG25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Lisa CARROLL conducted an interview of AEAN Jdyn BRADFORD, USN, USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN-69) in regard to the captioned investigation.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. AEAN BRADFORD stated LSSA Omeri SMOOT, USN, CVN-69, and [redacted V/Y.J.] [redacted V/Y.J.], CIV were all hanging out in CSSN Jermiah COPELAND's (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG-95) barracks room on 25MAY25. AEAN BRADFORD explained S/COPELAND was not in the barracks room but returned around 0300-0400. AEAN BRADFORD stated when S/COPELAND entered the barracks room he went right to [redacted V/Y.J.] and gave her a hug. AEAN BRADFORD stated the next thing he realized, as he was on a phone call, S/COPELAND and [redacted V/Y.J.] were in S/COPELAND's bedroom and the door was locked. AEAN BRADFORD stated he could hear [redacted V/Y.J.] say "no" and that she was "tired". AEAN BRADFORD explained he and LSSA SMOOT kept telling S/COPELAND to stop, and eventually S/COPELAND opened the door. AEAN BRADFORD observed V/JIMENEZ on the floor of S/COPELAND's room in what was described as someone who may have "rag dolled" onto the floor. AEAN BRADFORD explained [redacted V/Y.J.] did not have a shirt on but did have a bra and pants on. AEAN BRADFORD stated S/COPELAND told everyone to get out of the barracks room due to him having to go to work. AEAN BRADFORD explained he took [redacted V/Y.J.] home and on the way home [redacted V/Y.J.] told him S/COPELAND attempted to make her perform oral sex on S/COPELAND.

4. AEAN BRADFORD expressed his concerns for [redacted V/Y.J.] AEAN BRADFORD further clarified he was not going to let [redacted V/Y.J.] stay there as he was concerned what S/COPELAND might do to her if left alone with her. AEAN BRADFORD stated he never confronted S/COPELAND about the assault and did not speak to him

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CUI Categories: INV
POC: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:24JUL25-NFNF-00344-8SNA **05AUG25**

again until after he had gone missing and was found.

5. RA continued the interview of AEAN BRADFORD however, the rest of the interview conducted surrounded the events leading up to the disappearance and death of CSSN [redacted] V/A.R. and will be documented under that investigation.

6. RA asked AEAN BRADFORD to provide a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for a screenshot of the conversation between himself and [redacted] V/Y.J. showing the time and date of the incident; Enclosure (B) pertains.

7. AEAN BRADFORD provided the screen shot which confirmed the day he picked up [redacted] V/Y.J. being 24MAY25 at approximately 2341. This screenshot has been placed on a template and appended as Enclosure (C).

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC OF INTERVIEW/05AUG25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE/05AUG25
(C) PHOTO TEMPLATE/05AUG25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

PAGE 2 LAST EU V2 LNN

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/ E-3** **USN**	**R.C.M. 701(a) DISCLOSURE**

On 5 September 2025, CDR Lauren Mayo and LT Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, interviewed ET3 Daniel Rich, USN, in the presence of Ms. Marie Rendell and Special Agent Jessica Gokey, NCIS, at RLSO MIDLANT. The following is a summary of the interaction and is not intended to be verbatim:

ET3 Rich received a call from CS3 A.R. at 0214 on 29 May 2025 that woke him up. He stated she sounded was like she was having a panic attack. She was frantic and crying. She kept repeatedly stating that she needed to be picked up as soon as possible. At some point, a male who he later assumed to be CSSN Copeland, took the phone and asked how far away he was. It was not clear if the phone was passed to him or taken from her. ET3 Rich told the male that he would be there in about 10 minutes. The male replied "all right" and CS3 A.R. was then put back on the phone. She continued to be frantic and repeatedly stated she needed to be picked up. She also told ET3 Rich that she loved him. ET3 Rich hung up after telling her he was on the way.

While the male was on the phone with ET3 Rich, his tone was frantic as well, although not as frantic as CS3 A.R.

CS3 A.R. has had panic attacks in ET3 Rich's presence before. ET3 Rich opined that one possible trigger for her panic attacks would be a sexual advance.

ET3 Rich stated he had previously speculated that CS3 A.R. was outside based solely on the location of her phone according to her shared location. He advised he only believed that he heard car noises in the background because of that belief and that the background noise he heard could very well have been something else.

ET3 Rich also advised he had learned only after speaking with CS3 A.R.'s roommate later on that CS3 A.R. had lost her room key. He did not recall CS3 A.R. mentioning anything to him about having lost her room key or being locked out of her room on the phone call. He only recalled her repeatedly stating that she needed to be picked up.

A separate investigative action of this conversation will not be documented by NCIS.

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06NOV24

CONTROL: 06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/687070405/23MAR05/DURHAM, NC

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN KAULISE COUSINS, USN

1. As background, on 06Nov24, NCISRU USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75), was notified by ET2 Courtney EFF, USN, Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), CVN 75, of a sexual assault wherein V/S.S., USN, CVN 75, reported she was sexually assaulted by CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, CVN 75, in a bathroom at a bar in Oslo, Norway, during a port call on 04Nov24 at approximately 2200 hours. During the course of the investigation, CSSN KAULISE COUSINS, USN, CVN 75, was indicated as having information in reference to the offense.

2. On 06Nov24 at approximately 1400 hours, CSSN COUSINS was interviewed by Reporting Agent (RA) in the NCIS Office aboard the ship located at 02-88-4-Q. The interview was not recorded.

3. CSSN COUSINS stated he and S/COPELAND are friends, and met in approximately September 2024 when CSSN COUSINS arrived to the ship. CSSN COUSINS stated he was liberty buddies with S/COPELAND on 05Sep24 but not on 04Sep24. CSSN COUSINS recalled he and S/COPELAND were at a bar in Oslo, Norway in the evening hours and recalled S/COPELAND was in a good mood. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND stated he had sexual intercourse with V/S.S. the night prior and seemed happy about the interaction. CSSN COUSINS recalled S/COPELAND stated V/S.S. had been "kissing on him" and stated he had sex with her in a bathroom at a bar. CSSN COUSINS recalled being happy for his friend, but stated he personally felt badly about it because he knew V/S.S. had a boyfriend on the ship.

4. CSSN COUSINS recalled S/COPELAND left the bar to take a phone call, and when he returned he was very upset saying V/SIMPSON "put a charge on" him and that his life was ruined. CSSN COUSINS related S/COPELAND felt that because he is black, the Command would "fuck him over" and it was going to "fuck up his whole career." CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND stated he was going to kill himself in Oslo because there was no point in living. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND refused to come back to the ship and left the bar.

5. CSSN COUSINS stated CSC Jonathan GEORGE saw CSSN COUSINS attempting to have S/COPELAND come back to the ship and attempted to help. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND walked in front of approximately three (3) trains and opined S/COPELAND was attempting to kill himself. CSSN COUSINS recalled Shore Patrol and Security arrived and escorted S/COPELAND back to the ship.

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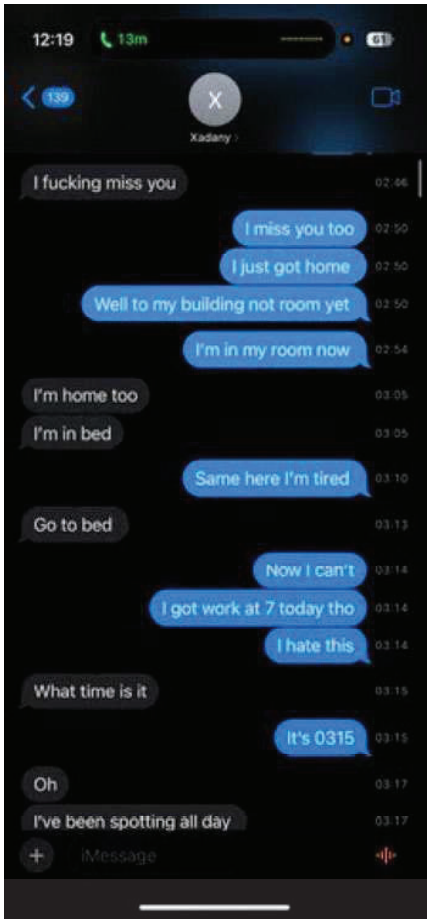
U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:06NOV24-NFXQ-00029-8SNA **06NOV24**

6. When asked directly, CSSN COUSINS stated he never had S/COPELAND's cellular telephone and could not speculate as to why S/COPELAND indicated he did. CSSN COUSINS emphatically denied ever taking S/COPELAND's cellular telephone. CSSN COUSINS stated he last saw S/COPELAND on his phone at approximately 2200 hours speaking to his parents. CSSN COUSINS recalled on the liberty boat, S/COPELAND attempted to go outside and CSSN COUSINS refused to let him. CSSN COUSINS stated S/COPELAND went to the bathroom aboard the ferry and was there the entire ride back to the ship. CSSN COUSINS speculated S/COPELAND got rid of the phone in the bathroom on the liberty boat.

REPORTED BY: BERNADETTE DUFFY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT UNIT USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)

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12:19
13m
139
X
Xadany
I fucking miss you
I miss you too
I just got home
Well to my building not room yet
I'm in my room now
I'm home too
I'm in bed
Same here I'm tired
Go to bed
Now I can't
I got work at 7 today tho
I hate this
What time is it
It's 0315
Oh
I've been spotting all day
iMessage

17 Feb 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH PSSN IRBIN GORDILLOCRUZ, USN.

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 9 February 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Chris Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, USN, spoke to PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN in the office of the CSTC. The following disclosures are provided:

a. PSSN Gordillocruz was picked up at the airport at approximately 0223 by his YN1 on 29May25. PSSN Gordillocruz had just returned from leave.
b. PSSN Gordillocruz clarified that he returned to his barracks at 0250 and his room at 0254 on 29May25 and provided text messages to support that timing. When he entered the common room of the PPV, it was quiet and relatively dark. He thinks the television might have gone into energy saving mode with a screen saver that occasionally flashed brighter when the picture changed, but no other lights were on and he did not recall any music playing.
c. When he opened the door, PSSN Gordillocruz stated that he could see V/A. R. and his roommate, Copeland, sitting on the floor near the couch next to each other. V/A. R. was hunched over with her head hanging down and Copeland looked to be holding her up with his arm around her. V/A.R. was on the side of Copeland, closest to PSSN Gordillocruz. PSSN Gordillocruz thought it was odd that they were sitting on the floor instead of the couch and he asked Copeland if V/A.R. was ok. Copeland responded by telling PSSN Gordillocruz to just go to his room, and waved him off. PSSN Gordillocruz provided this encounter lasted about 10 seconds.
d. PSSN Gordillocruz explained that V/A.R. appeared extremely intoxicated based on how she was being held up. He stated he would be shocked if she was sober. PSSN Gordillocruz explained it looked like she would fall over without Copeland having his arm around her.
e. PSSN Gordillocruz stated that V/A.R. was completely unresponsive during this exchange, did not address him, and did not move. PSSN Gordillocruz provided he had forgotten about this part of the night and had gotten confused when discussing this night in the past. When reviewing his phone records, his memory was refreshed as to what had occurred.
f. PSSN Gordillocruz continued into his bedroom and spoke with a friend from back home over the phone. PSSN Gordillocruz believed he took this call in his bathroom so as not to wake up his roommate. Approximately 30 minutes after returning to the PPV, PSSN Gordillocruz returned to the common room to get some water. He

believed that V/A. R. and Copeland were laying on the couch at that time, the room was still quiet and the television was still producing the same amount of light as when he first entered the PPV. PSSN Gordillocruz could not provide a description of how Copeland and V/A.R. were laying on the couch and provided it was just a "blur." He returned to his bedroom and went to sleep.

g. After getting a few hours of sleep, PSSN Gordillocruz entered the common room at approximately 0630/0645. His roommate Calisse had already left the barracks room for work. When he opened the door to the common room, he saw V/A. R. lying on her back on the floor and her eyes were closed. He could not be certain that she was completely naked but stated that her breasts were exposed and he did not see clothes from below her knees. Copeland was lying with his head on V/ A. R.'s stomach with his eyes closed. He only took a quick glance, but both appeared to be breathing.
h. The positioning of V/A. R.'s body (as noted in PSSN Gordillocruz's attached sketch) prevented PSSN Gordillocruz from walking out of the room without jumping over V/A. R.'s feet as they were blocking the path to the front door. Neither V/A. R. nor Copeland moved when PSSN Gordillocruz left his bedroom, jumped over her feet, or left the PPV. Gordillocruz circled an area on a different photograph of where their clothes were approximately.
i. PSSN Gordillocruz stated that he did not notice any backpacks or bags in the common room. There was clothing near the couch that PSSN Gordillocruz assumed belonged to V/A. R. and Copeland. There were no signs of injury or blood in the room. The room was light by incoming sunlight and was brighter than when he had returned from leave. PSSN Gordillocruz provided that the TV was still on, but it wasn't playing anything.
j. Upon arriving at work, Calisse asked PSSN Gordillocruz if he had seen the same thing that Calisse had seen when leaving the room. Assuming that Calisse was referring to V/A. R. and Copeland being in a state of undress and asleep on the common room floor, PSSN Gordillocruz agreed because it was not normal for anyone to be in the common room like that. PSSN Gordillocruz stated that he may have mentioned to Calisse that he thought they were breathing, but he does not specifically recall saying it.
k. When PSSN Gordillocruz returned to his PPV around noon, neither V/A. R. nor Copeland were in the common room or Copeland's bedroom. He did not recall seeing Copeland again until Sunday evening when Copeland asked for a ride to the ship because he had been declared UA and needed to check in.
l. Over that weekend, PSSN Gordillocruz recalled the command representatives coming to the PPV looking for Copeland and V/A. R. He reached out to Copeland to see if he knew anything about V/A. R.'s location and Copeland told him that he had texted her but she didn't respond.
m. PSSN Gordillocruz noted that it was not the first time Copeland had brought a woman or other people to the PPV. PSSN Gordillocruz provided that Copeland often played music loud in the barracks room.
n. PSSN Gordillocruz does not know if Copeland had more than one phone. He had not lived in the PPV with Copeland for more than 3 weeks and only had his cell phone number because they ran into each other at a party and exchanged numbers to ensure

a safe ride home.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation. The disclosures from the interview conducted by the Government are to reflect new or different information. To the extent the information is duplicative with already discovered information, it is provided as context. This summary does not constitute a statement adopted or approved by the witness and may not reflect the witness's exact words.

[redacted]

L.A. MAYO

17 Feb 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH AA JOHN CALISSE, USN

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 6 February 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN2 Nicole Orsillo, USN, spoke in person with AA John Calisse, USN. The following disclosures are provided:

2. On 28 May 2025, AA Calisse remembered seeing CSSN Copeland briefly in their shared barracks room and seeing a woman, he now believes to be CS3 V/A.R., with CSSN Copeland, although he did not know who V/A.R. was at the time. Sometime between 1800 and 2000, CSSN Copeland asked AA Calisse if he could borrow AA Calisse's car. AA Calisse said he only saw CS3 V/A.R. and CSSN Copeland because CSSN Copeland returned the car keys to him. After he got his car keys back, AA Calisse did not leave his bedroom until the next morning when he left for work. AA Calisse said when he is at the barracks, he typically stays in his room most of the time and spends that time talking to his family back home in Haiti. He utilizes text, phone calls, and video chat to communicate with his family. AA Calisse had a roommate, PSSA GordilloCruz, and when PSSA GordilloCruz is not in the room, AA Calisse said he uses speaker phone to talk to his family. On the night of 28 May 2025, AA Calisse believes PSSA GordilloCruz was on leave. AA Calisse goes to bed on the early side every night because he gets up early for work. He estimated that he went to bed around 2000 that night.

AA Calisse stated he remembered PSSA GordilloCruz returning early in the morning on 29 May 2025 and believed it was between 0200-0300. When PSSA GordilloCruz returned to the barracks, AA Calisse said he heard loud music playing in the common space in their barracks room, and believed he heard singing, but could not say for certain. AA Calisse was not sure if the light was on in the common area. He believes he fell back to sleep about a minute or two after PSSA GordilloCruz returned. He does not remember what time he initially fell asleep, but thinks it was early because he had to be up for work around 0500 and left for work around 0545.

When AA Calisse walked out of his room to leave for work, he noticed in the common area CS3 Resendiz and CSSN Copeland lying in the middle of the floor. AA Calisse said he had to walk on the furniture because CS3 V/A.R. and CSSN Copeland were blocking the walkway. AA Calisse noticed CSSN Copeland move his head a little bit when AA Calisse opened his bedroom door but said CS3 V/A.R. did not move at all. AA Calisse did notice CS3 V/A.R. lying on her back and said she either had a bra or T-shirt on and said it was pulled up, exposing her breasts. Her pants were pulled down, one pant leg was around her ankle, and her legs were

splayed open with her genitals exposed. CSSN Copeland was lying with his head on CS3 V/A.R. inner thigh. AA Calisse said he did not think much of it because he is from a place where everyone minds their own business. AA Calisse did not notice any injuries to CS3 Resendiz's body but said it was dark in the common area.

AA Calisse added that when opening his door it was fairly loud and he thought it was weird that CS3 V/A.R. did not react. AA Calisse was presented with a picture of the common area of his barracks room, and he labeled the photo noting the area where he remembered CS3 V/A.R. and CSSN Copeland lying. He remembers them lying close to his bedroom door.

That morning at work, AA Calisse remembered talking to PSSA GordilloCruz about CSSN Copeland and CS3 V/A.R. lying naked on the floor. He stated both agreed it was disrespectful.

When asked about the general noise level in the barracks room, AA Calisse described that in the past neighbors on the floor complained about how loud the music in their suite frequently was. AA Calisse said CSSN Copeland would regularly play music loudly in the common area.

CSSN Copeland and AA Calisse were not really friends. However, AA Calisse said he would let CSSN Copeland use his car to buy food, and he would occasionally drive CSSN Copeland to work.

Prior to CSSN Copeland's incarceration, they lived together for about three or four months . AA Calisse has not spoken to CSSN Copeland since he has been placed in confinement.

On 1 June 2025, AA Calisse said he was out with another friend buying things for their upcoming underway, and CSSN Copeland asked AA Calisse for a ride to work. When AA Calisse returned to the barracks, he and PSSA GordilloCruz were approached by MAs who were looking for CSSN Copeland. CSSN Copeland told AA Calisse the MAs were looking for him because he did not go to work and told AA Calisse he did not have a ride to work. AA Calisse offered CSSN Copeland a ride to work.

AA Calisse, PSSA GordilloCruz, and CSSN Copeland drove together to CSSN Copeland's command so he could get out of an unauthorized absence status. When CSSN Copeland returned to AA Calisse's car, the three of them went to get food but did not talk about anything in particular. AA Calisse stated he used to give CSSN Copeland rides to work and believes before this incident CSSN Copeland never missed work.

On Friday, 29 May 2025, CSSN Copeland did not borrow AA Calisse's car. On Saturday, 30 May 2025, CSSN Copeland asked to borrow AA Calisse's car, and AA Calisse agreed, but CSSN Copeland never got the keys. On the evening of Sunday, 1 June 2025, CSSN Copeland asked AA Calisse if he could borrow his car again, and this time CSSN Copeland took his keys from AA Calisse. AA Calisse did not see CSSN Copeland leave. AA Calisse then went to bed. The following morning, AA Calisse did not see his keys in the barracks room, and CSSN Copeland returned around 0600 with breakfast. AA Calisse was frustrated because CSSN Copeland knew AA Calisse had to be at work early. CSSN Copeland blamed gate traffic for being late returning the jeep.

There was another roommate in AA Calisse's suite, YN3 Monaghan. YN3 Monaghan and CSSN Copeland shared a room in the suite. AA Calisse said he and YN3 Monaghan did not communicate prior to the incident. After CS3 V/A.R. went missing, AA Calisse asked YN3 Monaghan what was going on. AA Calisse said YN3 Monaghan typically smelled bad.

AA Calisse reiterated music is regularly played loudly in their barracks suite, and when CS3 V/A.R. was over, he thought he heard CSSN Copeland and CS3 V/A.R. singing and could not answer for sure if they were actually yelling at each other. He thought CSSN Copeland had to work the morning CSSN Copeland and CS3 V/A.R. were lying on the floor but did not know his schedule or if he had the day off. AA Calisse did not believe he had plans to drive CSSN Copeland to work that morning. Most of the time, AA Calisse said CSSN Copeland left for work earlier than he did because he worked in Portsmouth, VA, and had to be at work around 0400. He was not sure how CSSN Copeland usually got to work.

In the April timeframe, AA Calisse was not sure if CSSN Copeland was dating another female. AA Calisse had heard MAs were called to their barracks suite before, but believed that was prior to him moving in.

When he was leaving for work the morning CS3 V/A.R. was over, AA Calisse did not notice any odd personal items or items that belonged to people other than the people who lived there.

AA Calisse answered "no" to all Giglio questions.

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[redacted]

L.A. MAYO

8 Apr 26

From: LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH FCC BRADLEY PARKER

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 8 April 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN2 Jocelyn Gomez spoke to FCC Brad Parker, USN, in person. The following disclosures are provided:

a) FCC Parker provided that on 28 May 2025 when he arrived at work in the morning, CS1 Howellel told him that CSSN Copeland had not checked into work and had not responded to calls. At quarters that same morning, FCC Parker was made aware that a friend of CS3 A.R. was concerned for her safety after receiving a call from A.R. in distress the night before. FCC Parker advised his leadership he would go up to Norfolk and check on both CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R.
b) FCC Parker stated that after checking in at the front desk at CSSN Copeland's barracks, he proceeded to his room and knocked on the main door of CSSN Copeland's barracks room only to find that it was locked and no one answered. FCC Parker was familiar with CSSN Copeland's room layout due to prior room inspections and knew that the bedroom was separate from the common area.
c) FCC Parker returned to the front desk and received a key to the room. FCC Parker then returned to the room and opened the common area door with the key. No one was present in the common area and FCC Parker proceeded to CSSN Copeland's bedroom door. CSSN Copeland's bedroom door was locked with a deadbolt, so FCC Parker's key could not open it.
d) FCC Parker knocked repeatedly on CSSN Copeland's door for approximately a minute. FCC Parker was afraid the knocking would wake up CSSN Copeland's roommate if he was also present in the room, so he decided to leave. FCC Parker did not hear anything on the other side of the door. Just as he made the decision to leave, CSSN Copeland answered the door.
e) FCC Parker described CSSN Copeland as groggy. CSSN Copeland advised FCC Parker that he had overslept.
f) FCC Parker said the lights were out in CSSN Copeland's room. FCC Parker said CSSN Copeland had black out curtains, but some dim light was coming through. When CSSN Copeland opened the door, CSSN Copeland was standing in the doorway.
g) FCC Parker observed someone laying in CSSN Copeland's bed and asked CSSN Copeland, jokingly, if that was CS3 A.R. because he was also going to check on her. CSSN Copeland confirmed that it was CS3 A.R. FCC Parker then began to move into

the bedroom and at that point CSSN Copeland told FCC Parker that she and he were not dressed. CSSN Copeland was still standing in the doorway.

h) In response, FCC Parker stepped back into the common area and CSSN Copeland put clothing on and met him in the common area. CSSN Copeland was apologetic and provided that CS3 A.R. had called him the night before looking for someone to talk with about boy problems. CSSN Copeland advised that CS3 A.R. was up all night talking.

i) FCC Parker provided that he trusted that CSSN Copeland was helping a friend out. CSSN Copeland told FCC Parker that he had a way to get to work and at least access to a car. FCC Parker was aware that CSSN Copeland did not have a license, but believed he still had a vehicle and could drive.

j) FCC Parker stated that when he observed the person in the bed, he assumed that person was sleeping. FCC Parker could not identify that the person was CS3 A.R., but relied on CSSN Copeland's statement that it was her.

k) She was not rolled up in the blanket, but was covered fully by the blanket. FCC Parker saw CS3 A.R.'s hair sticking out of the top of the blanket and may have seen a foot sticking out.

l) FCC Parker stated that CS3 A.R. definitively did not wave, gesture, or speak to him in any manner. FCC Parker advised "movement" drew his attention to the bed in the first place, but could not specify what the movement was. FCC Parker advised he believed the movement could have been light coming in from the window. FCC Parker stated he did not interact with CS3 A.R. in any capacity. CSSN Copeland advised she was still asleep and FCC Parker trusted him.

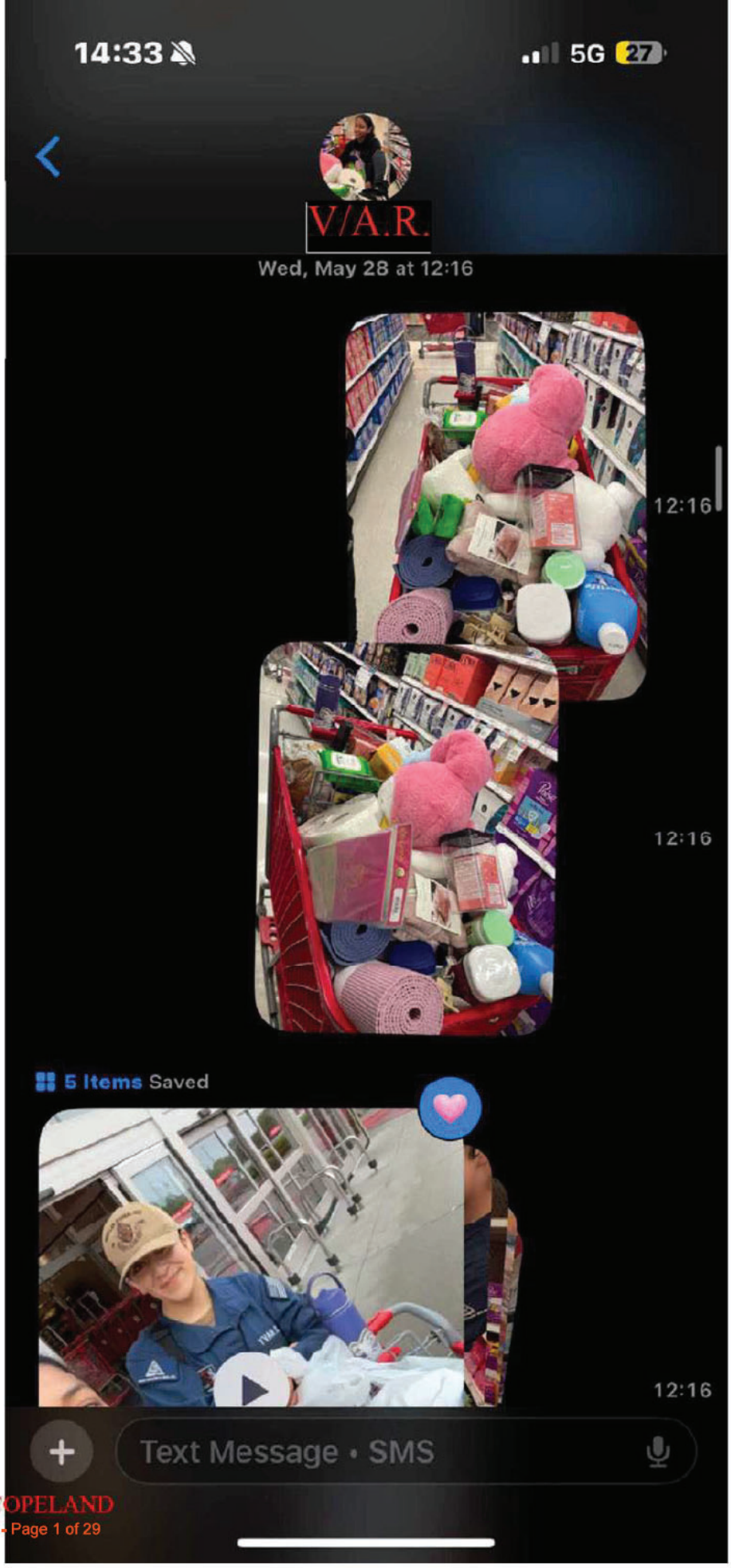
m) FCC Parker advised that over the weekend, he tried to keep in touch with CSSN Copeland. On 29 May 2025 around 1300, CSSN Copeland advised him that he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks. FCC Parker was notified the next day that CS3 A.R. did not show up to work as expected.

n) FCC Parker and others attempted to contact CSSN Copeland several times over the weekend without success. It was Sunday, 1 June, when CSSN Copeland finally returned to the ship. FCC Parker provided CSSN Copeland told him that he does not answer his phone when not on duty. FCC Parker stated he was with CSSN Copeland in the lead up to his NJP, but did not speak with him much. When he did, CSSN Copeland restated that he had dropped CS3 A.R. off at her barracks and that he did not answer his phone when off duty.

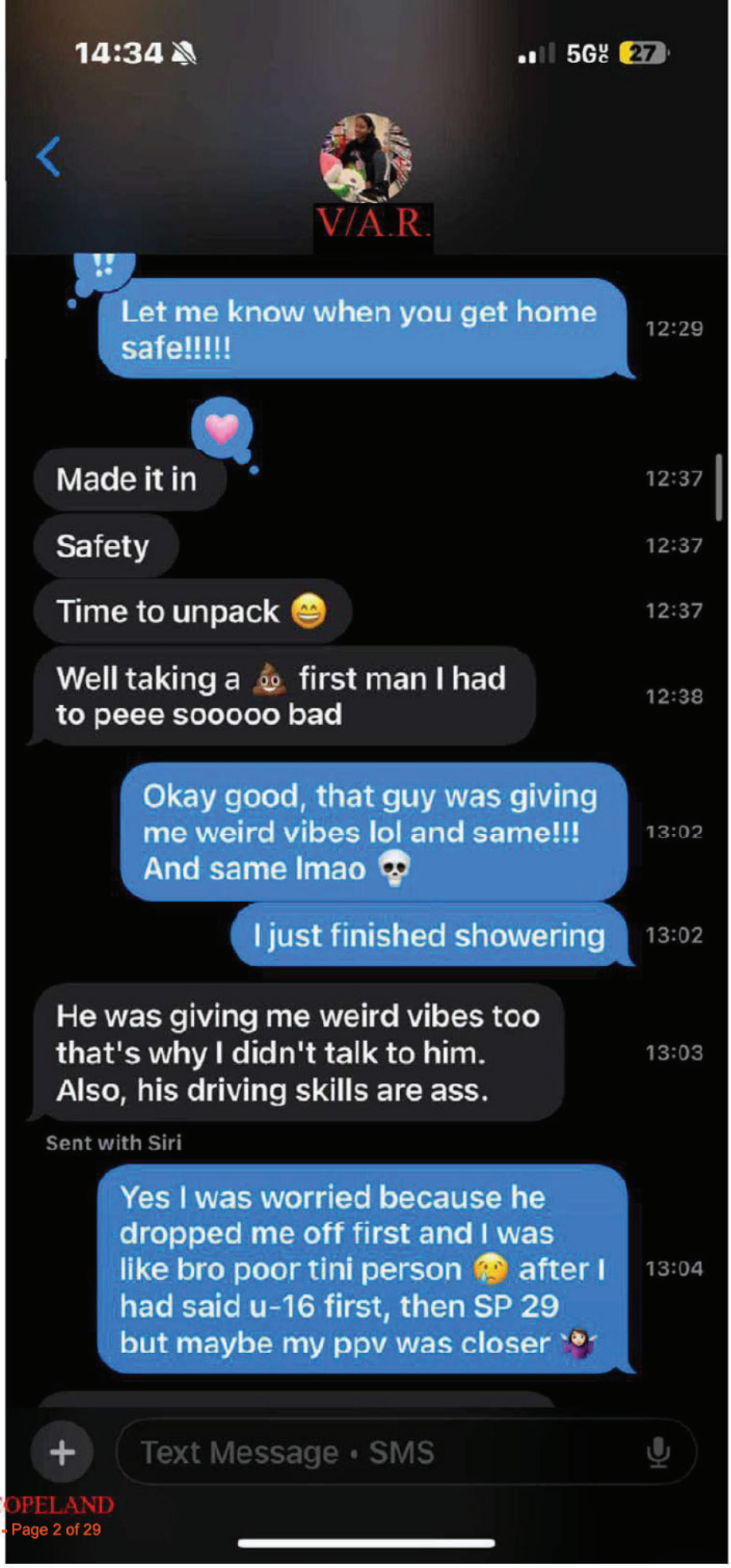
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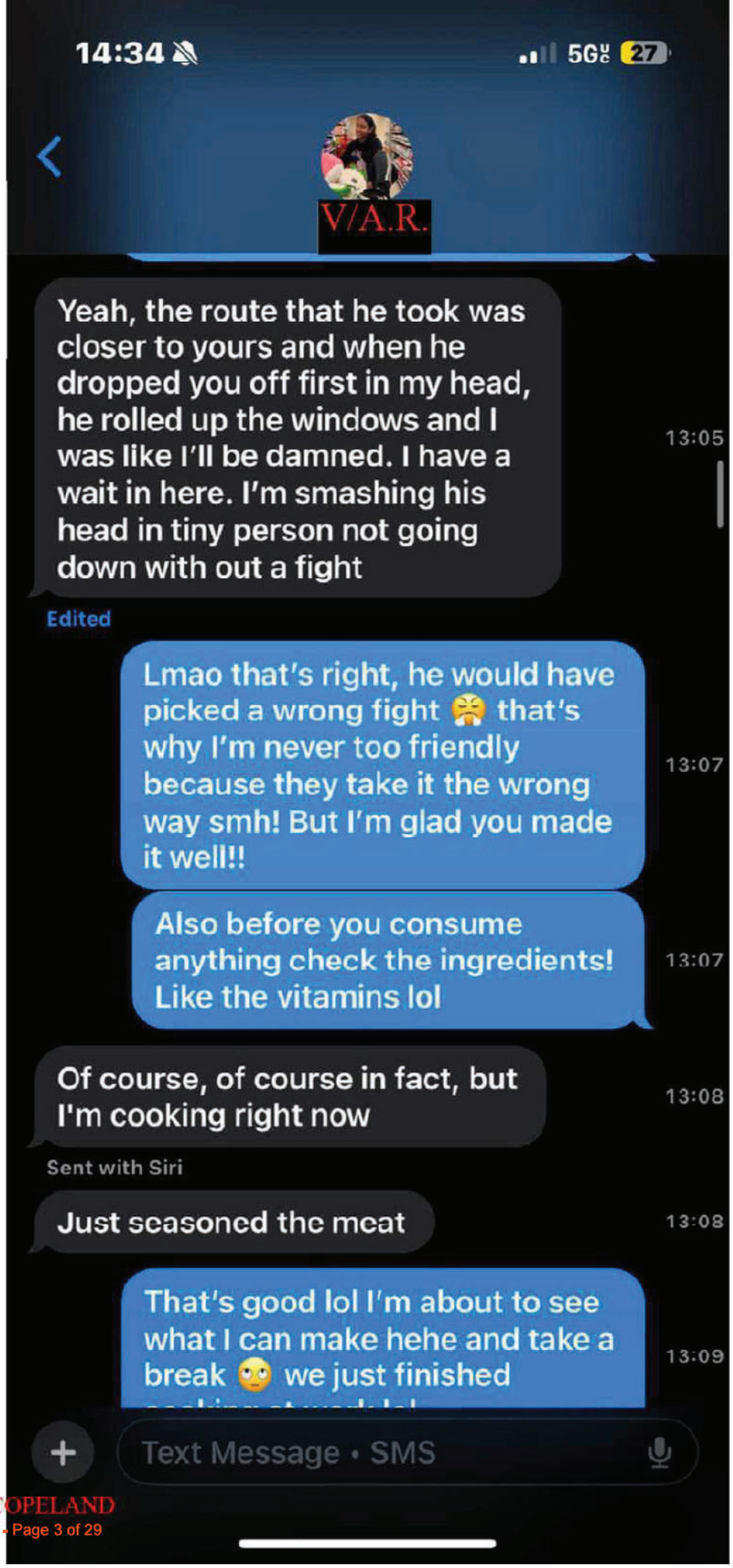
C. B. DEMPSEY



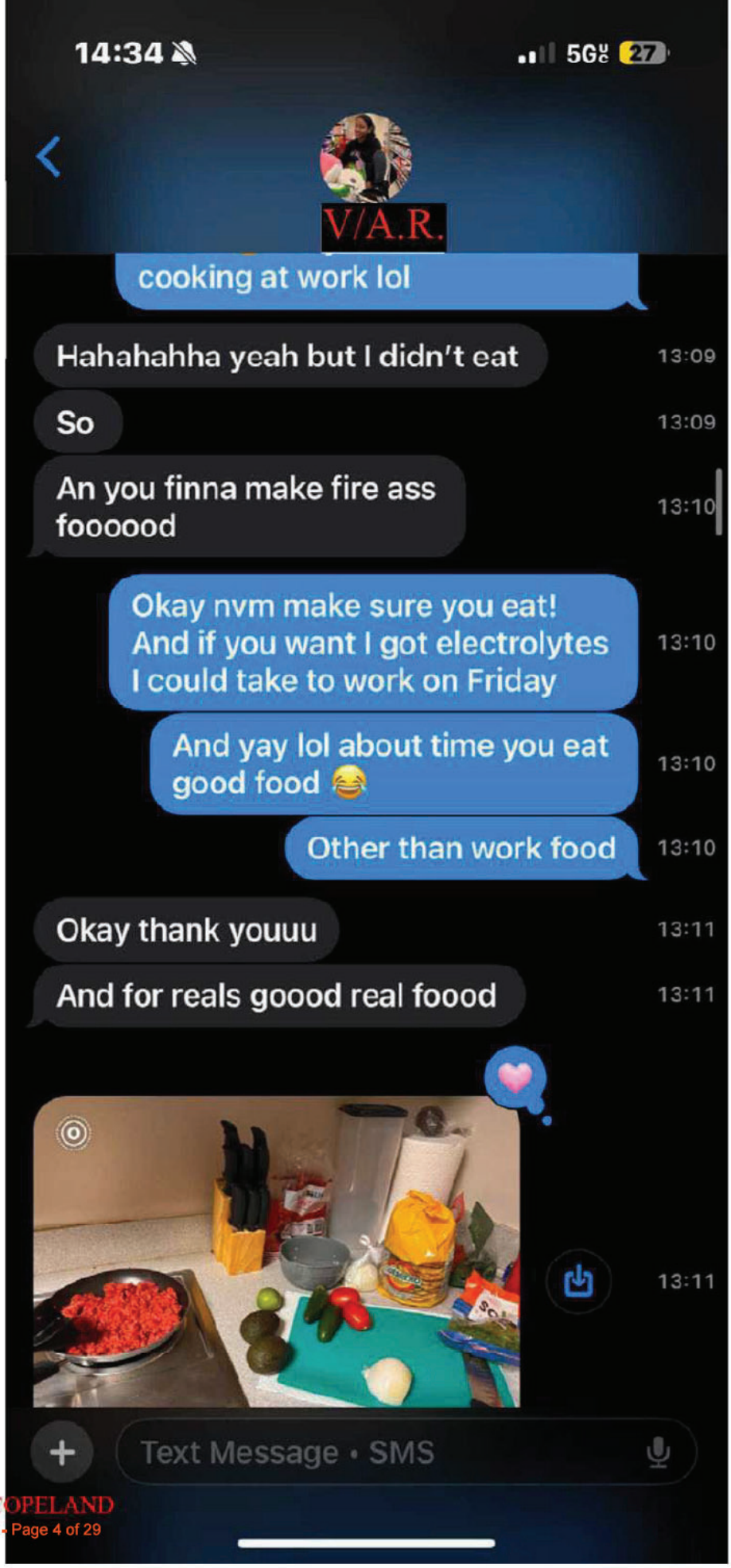
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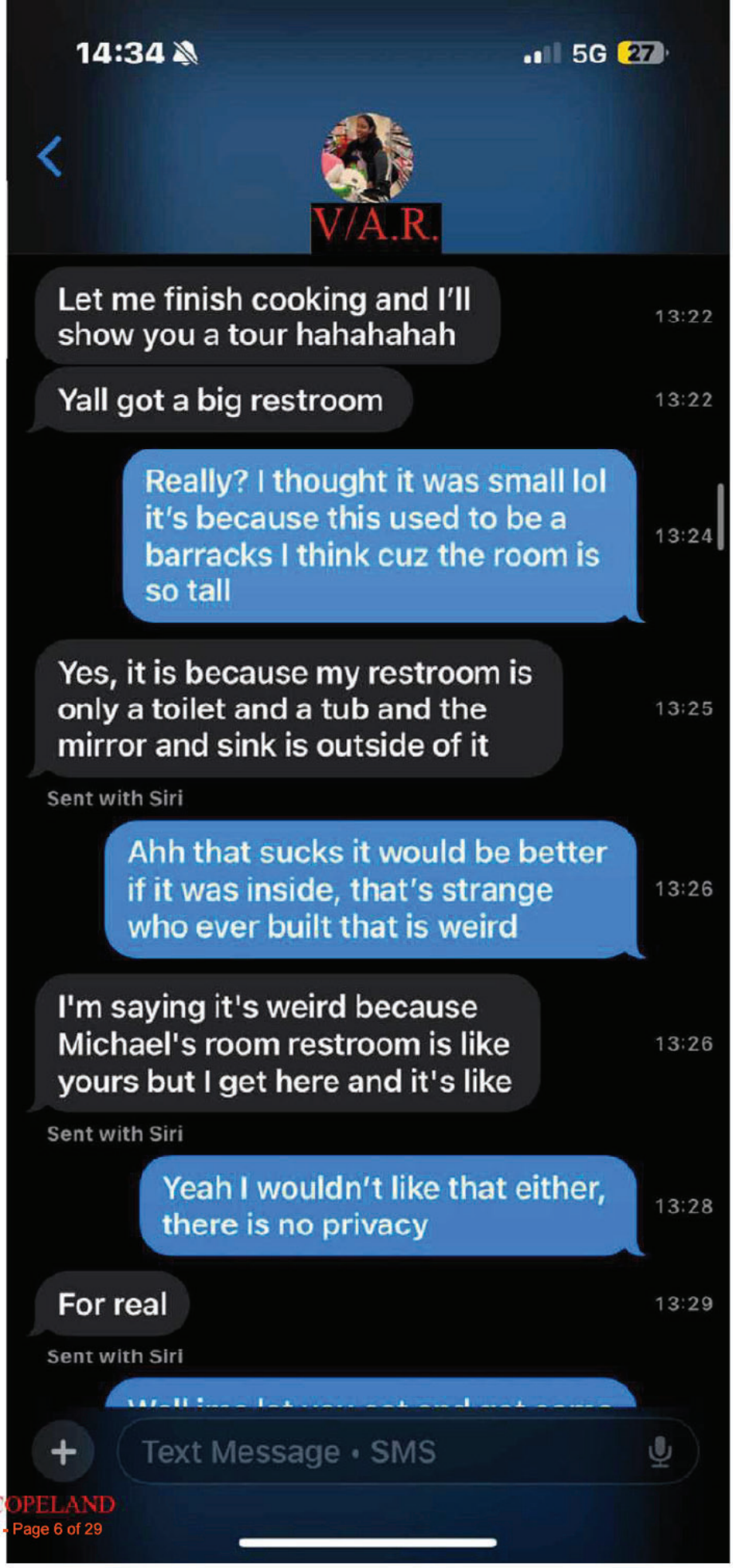
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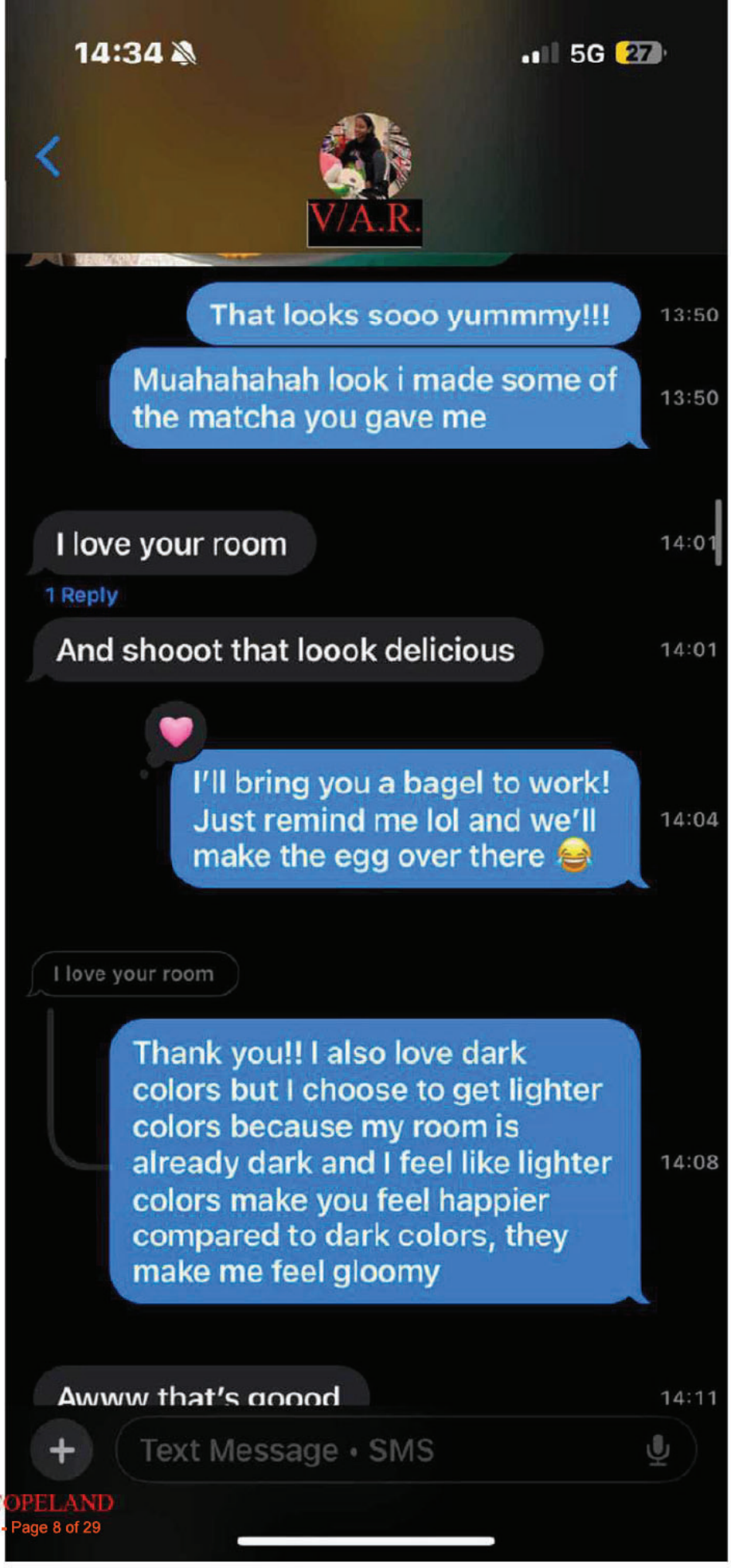
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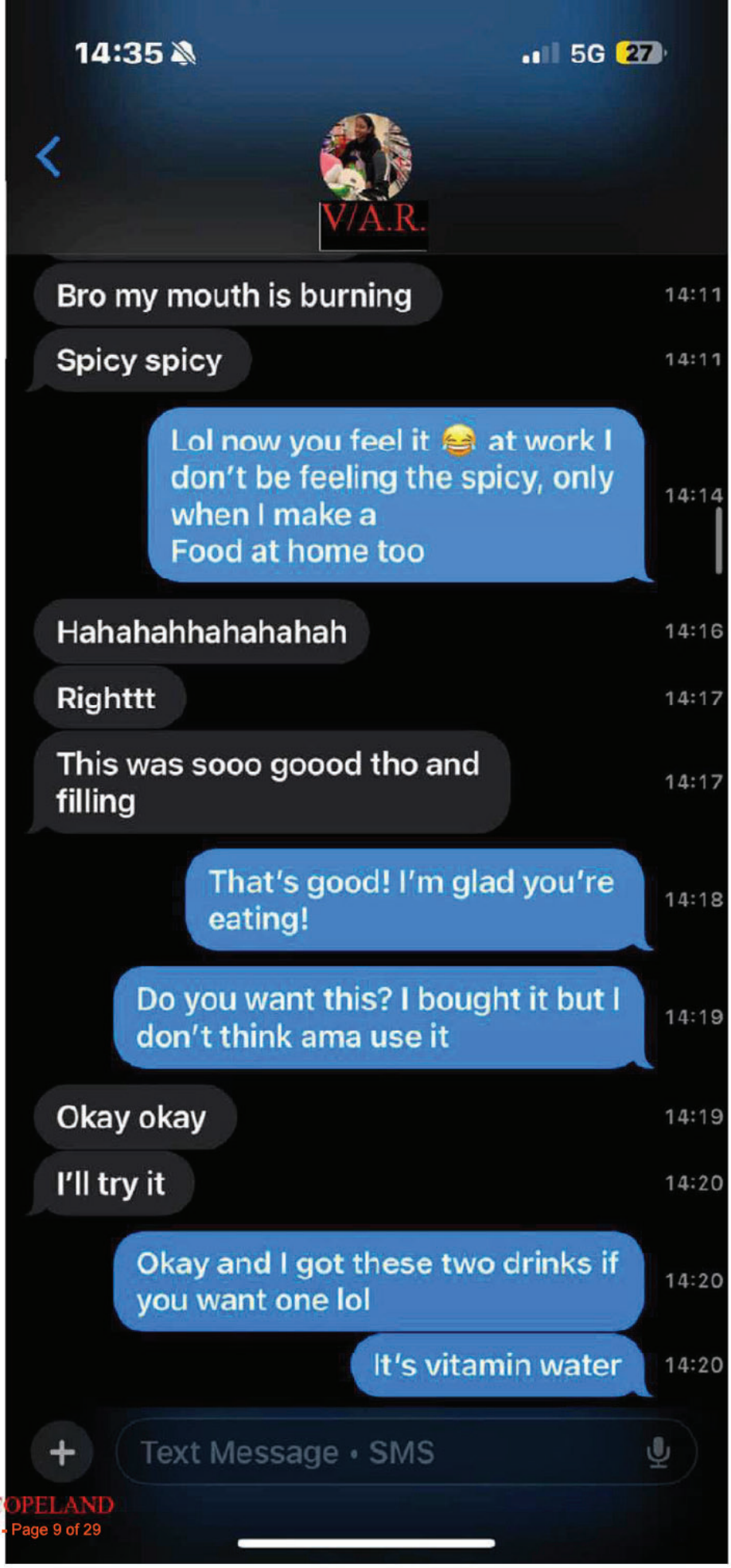
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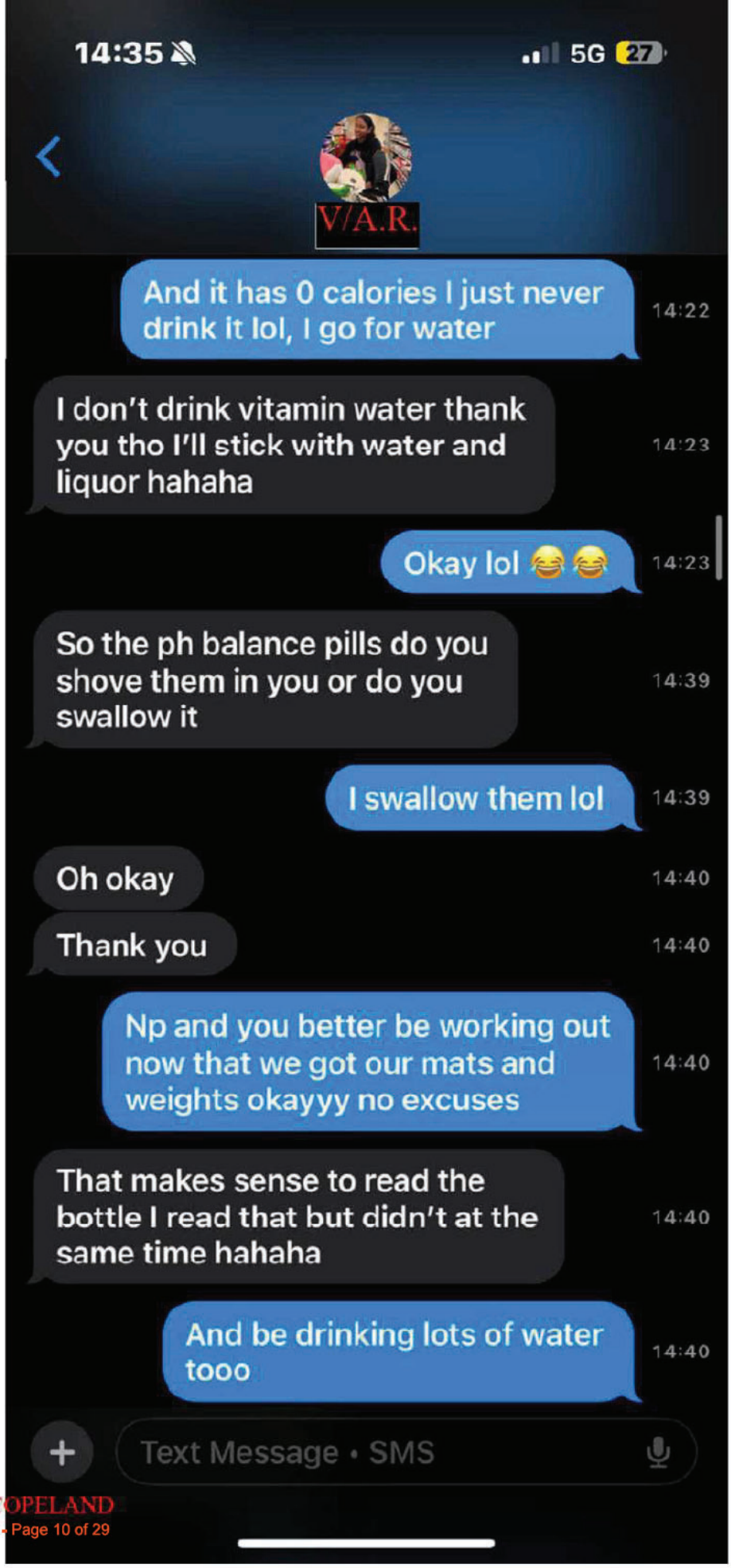
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14:35 5G 27

V/A.R.

Yessss maam 14:41

HA HA

Lmao you're me 😂😂 14:41

I'm all like whaaat does she mean shove them 😱 14:41

Well the boric acid ones you shove up your hoohaaa 14:42

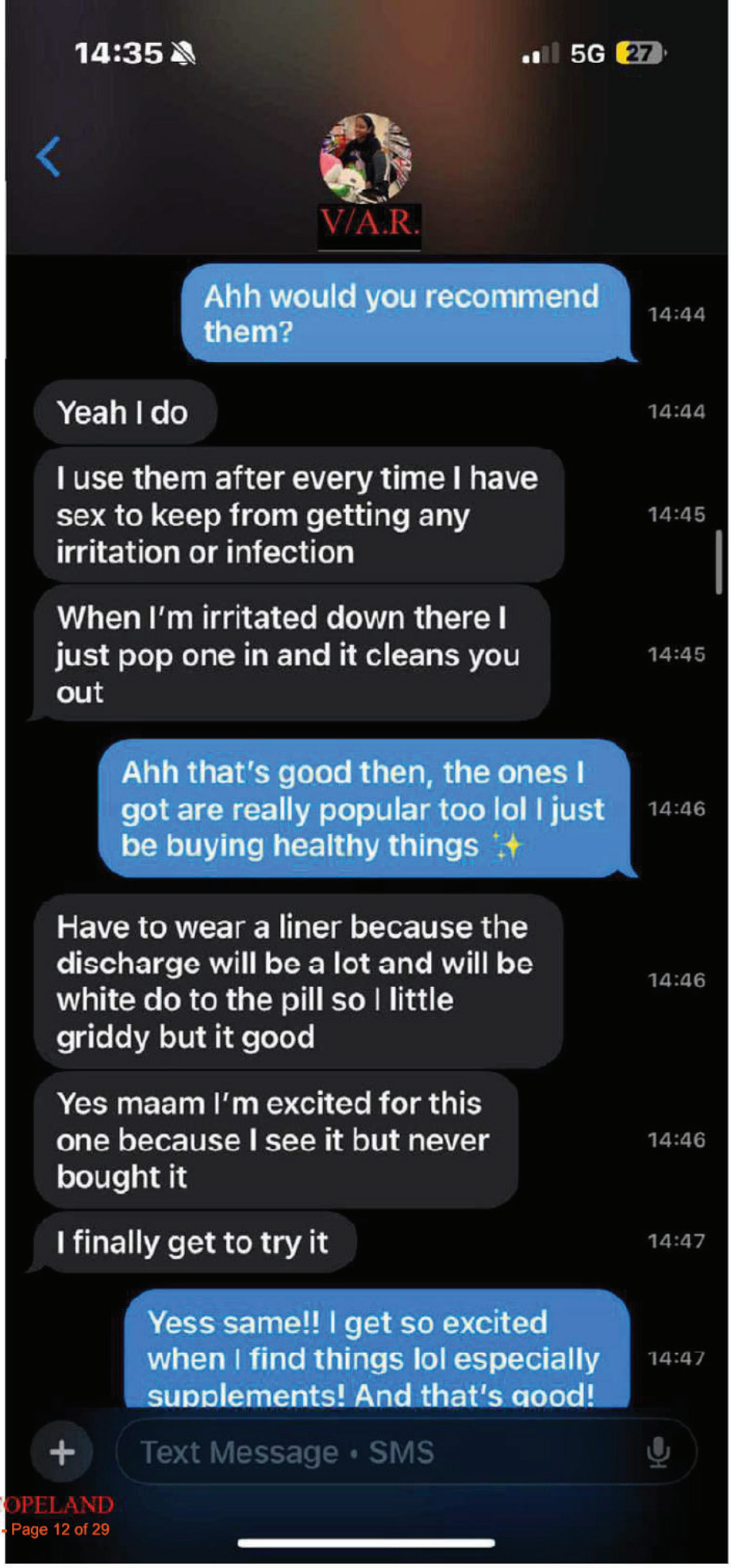
Really lol I've never heard of those lol 14:42



14:43

Text Message • SMS

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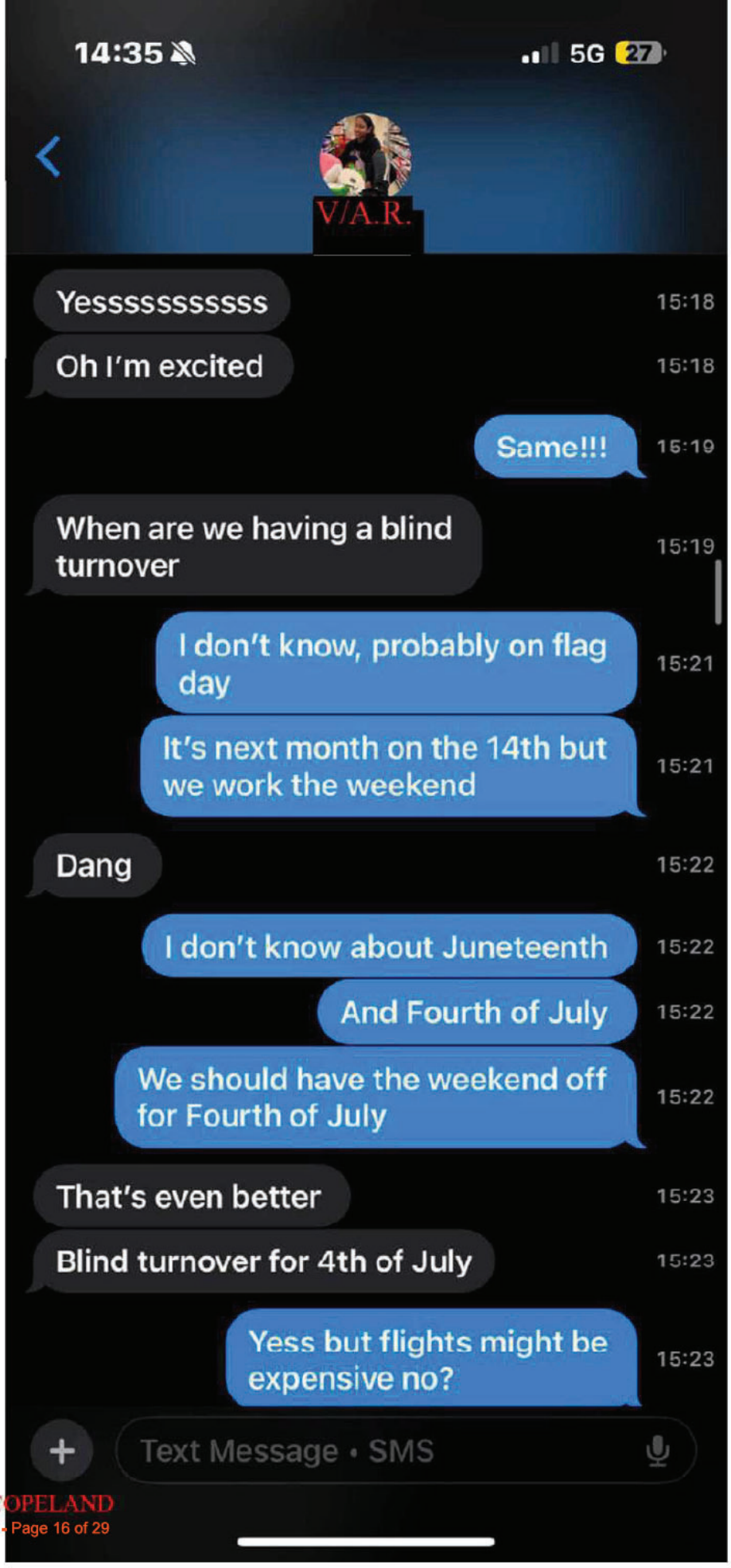
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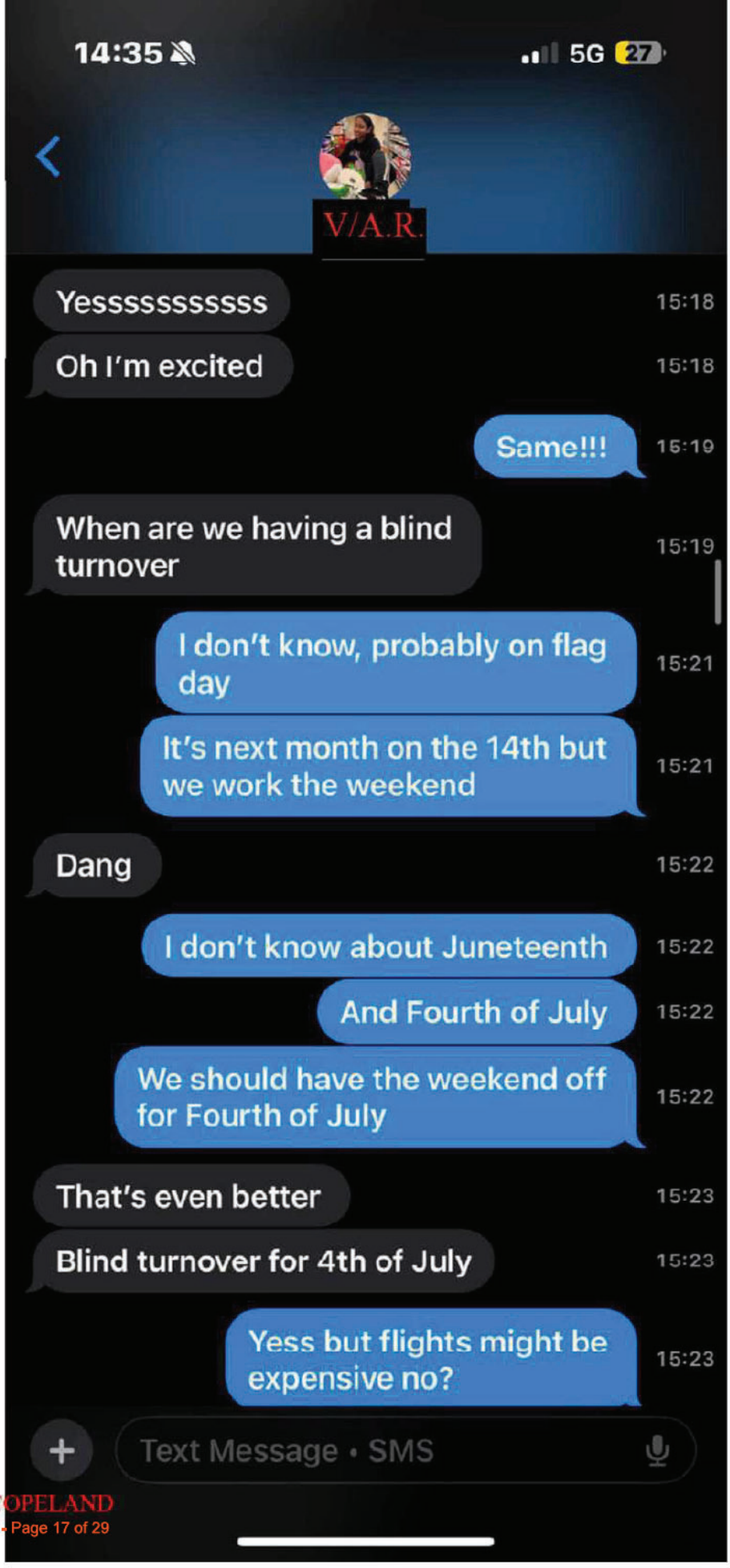
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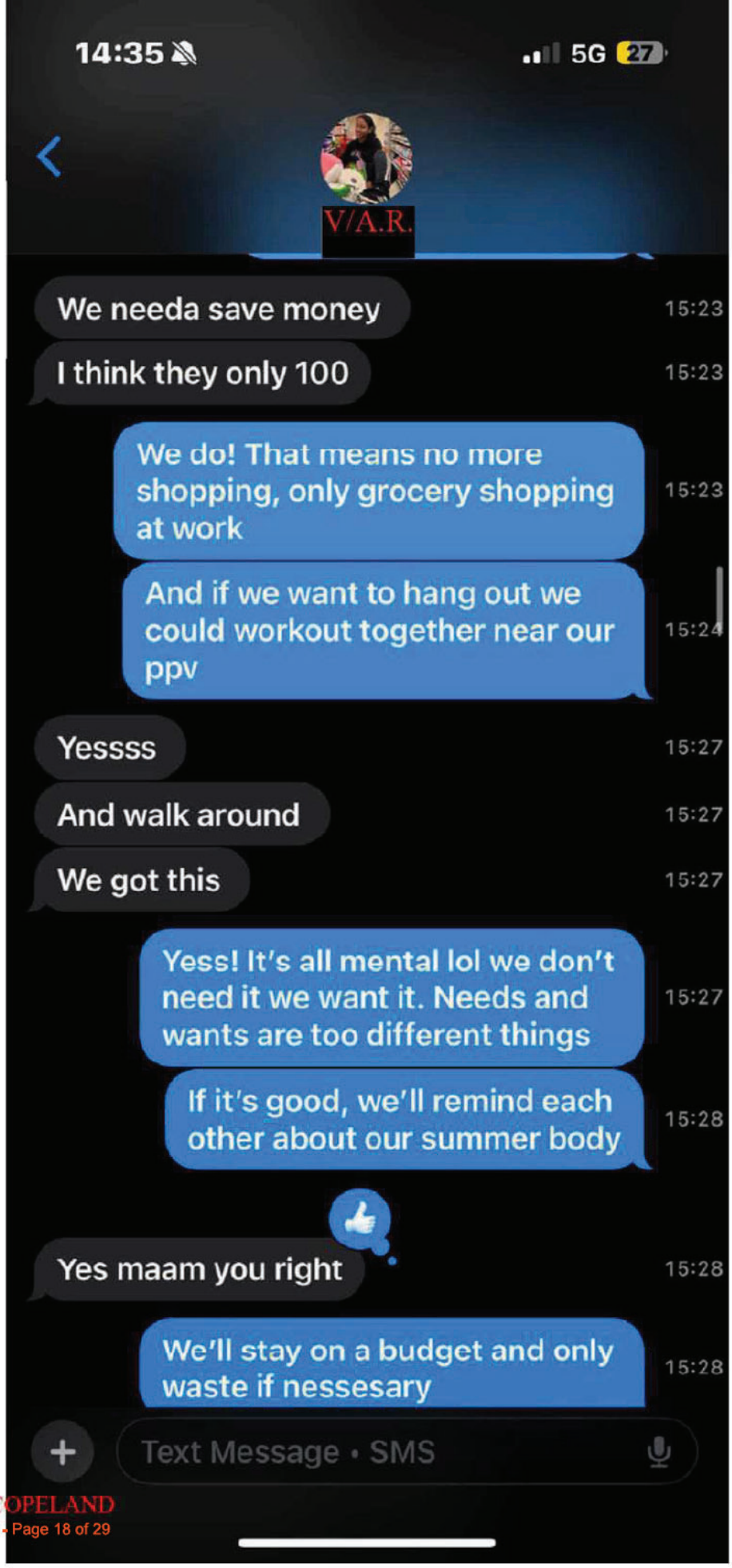
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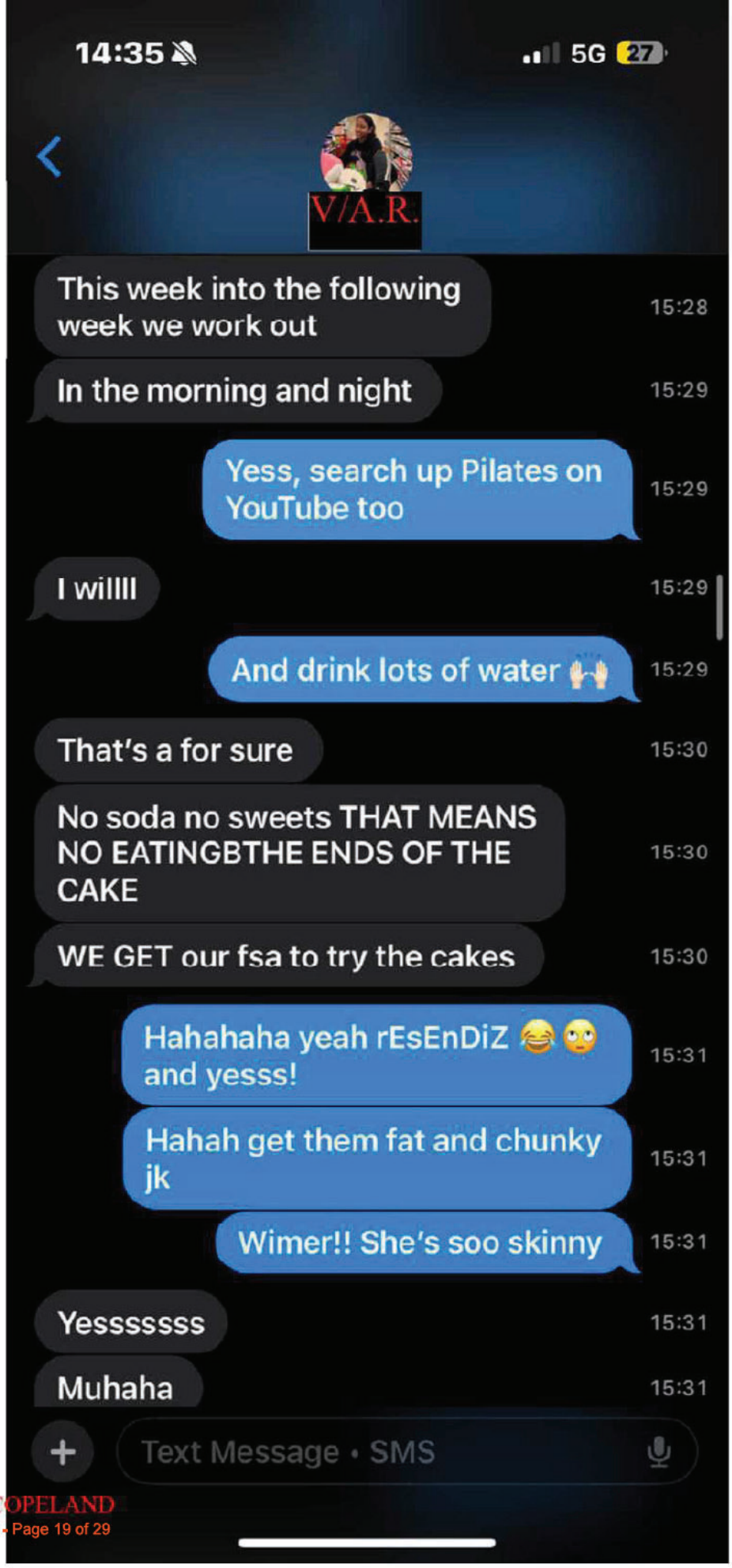
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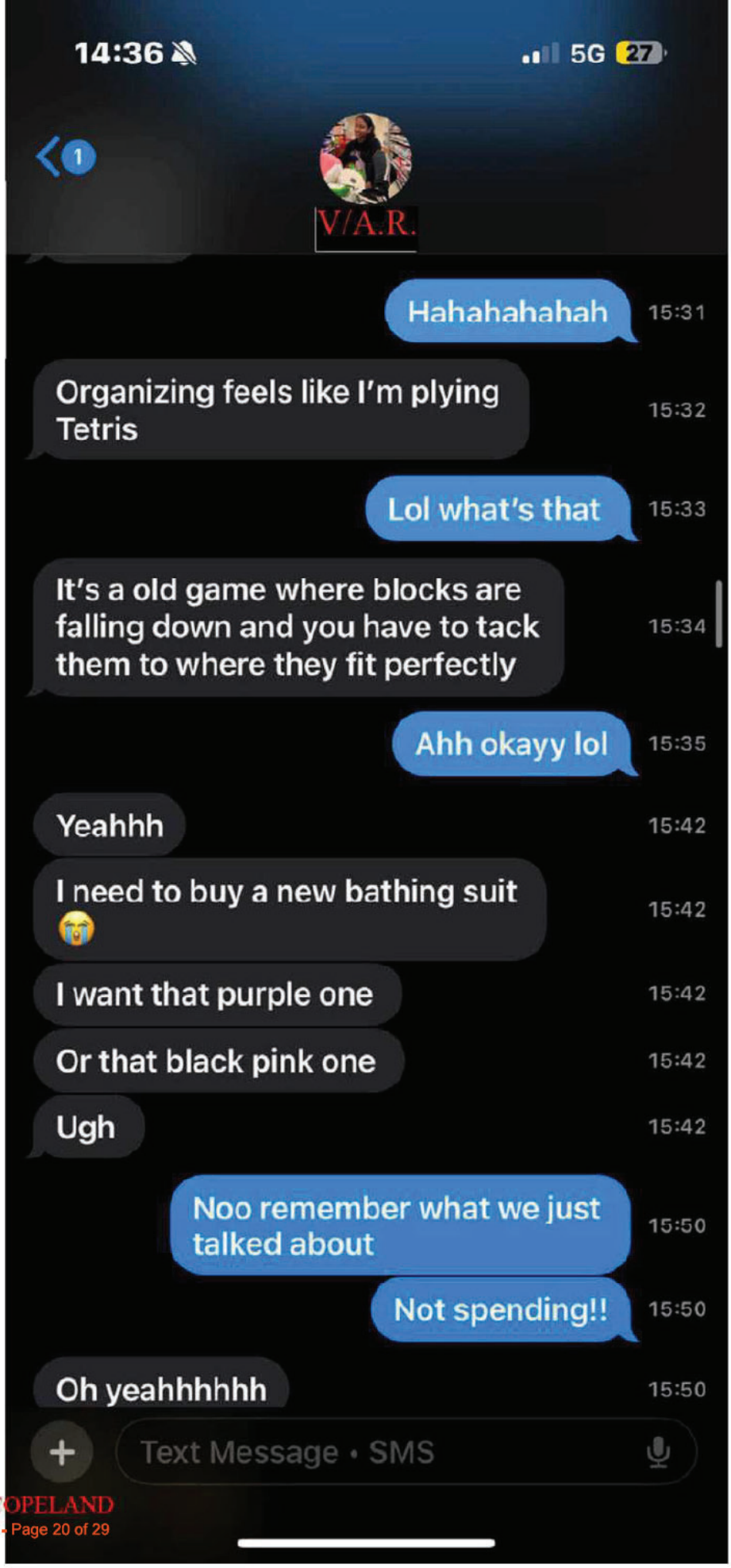
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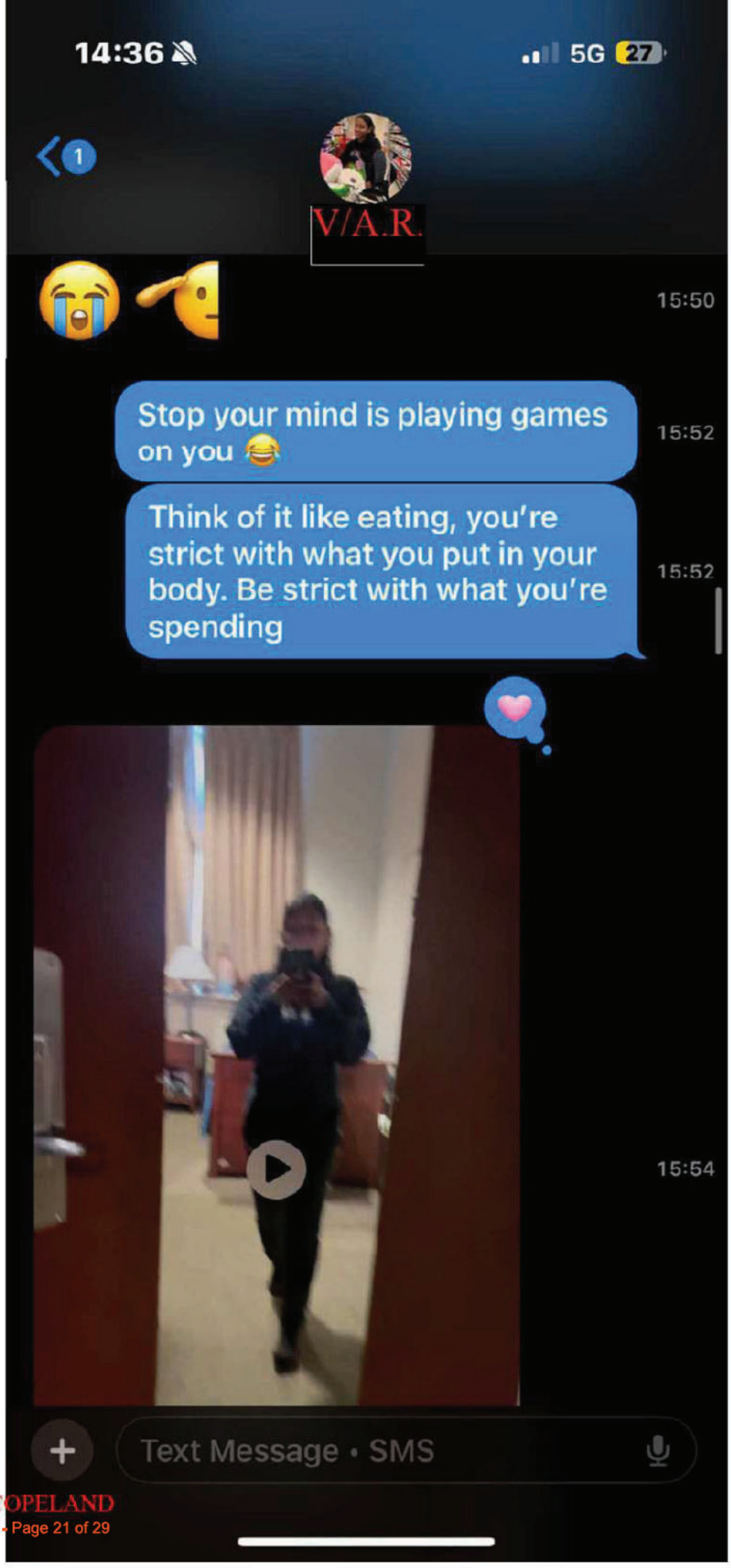
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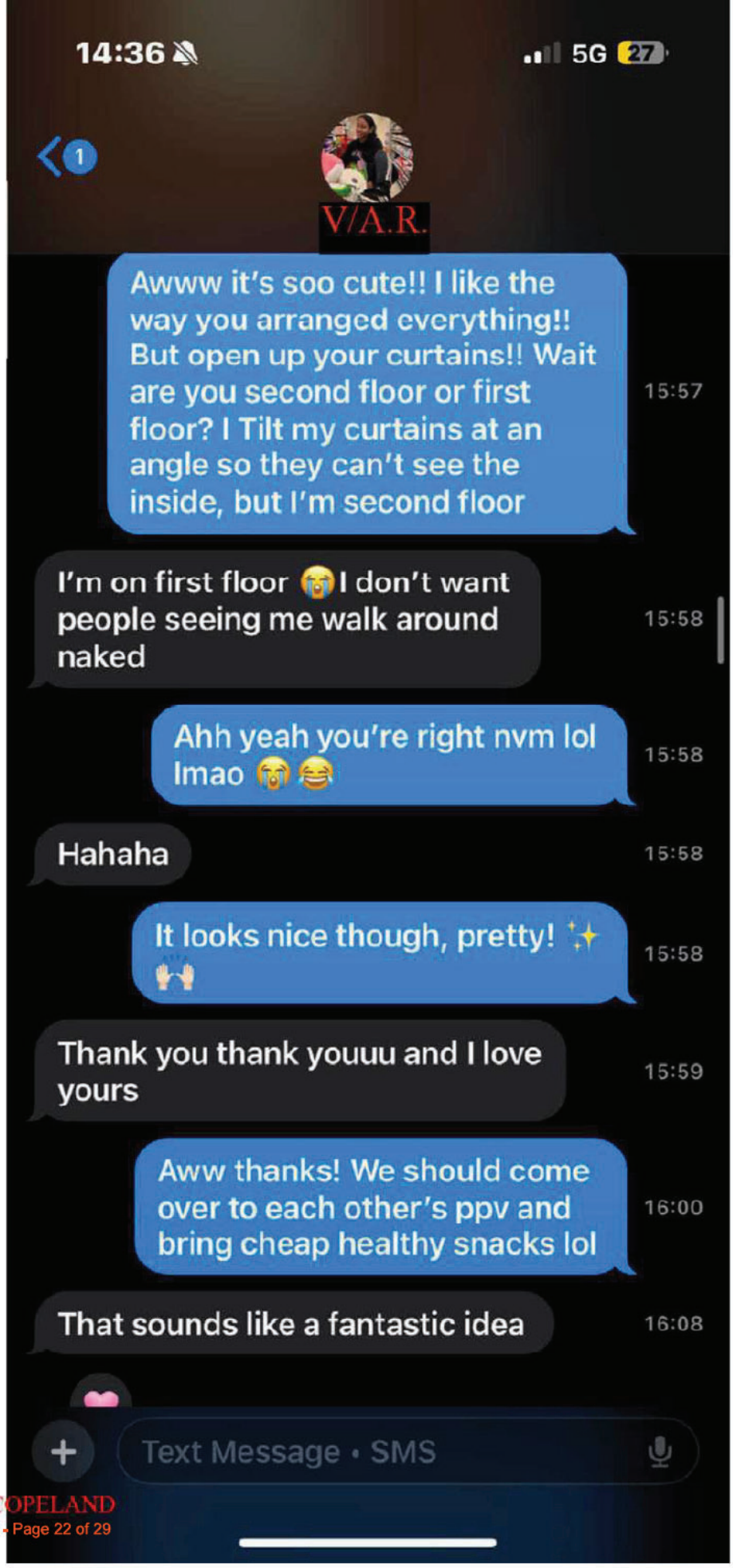
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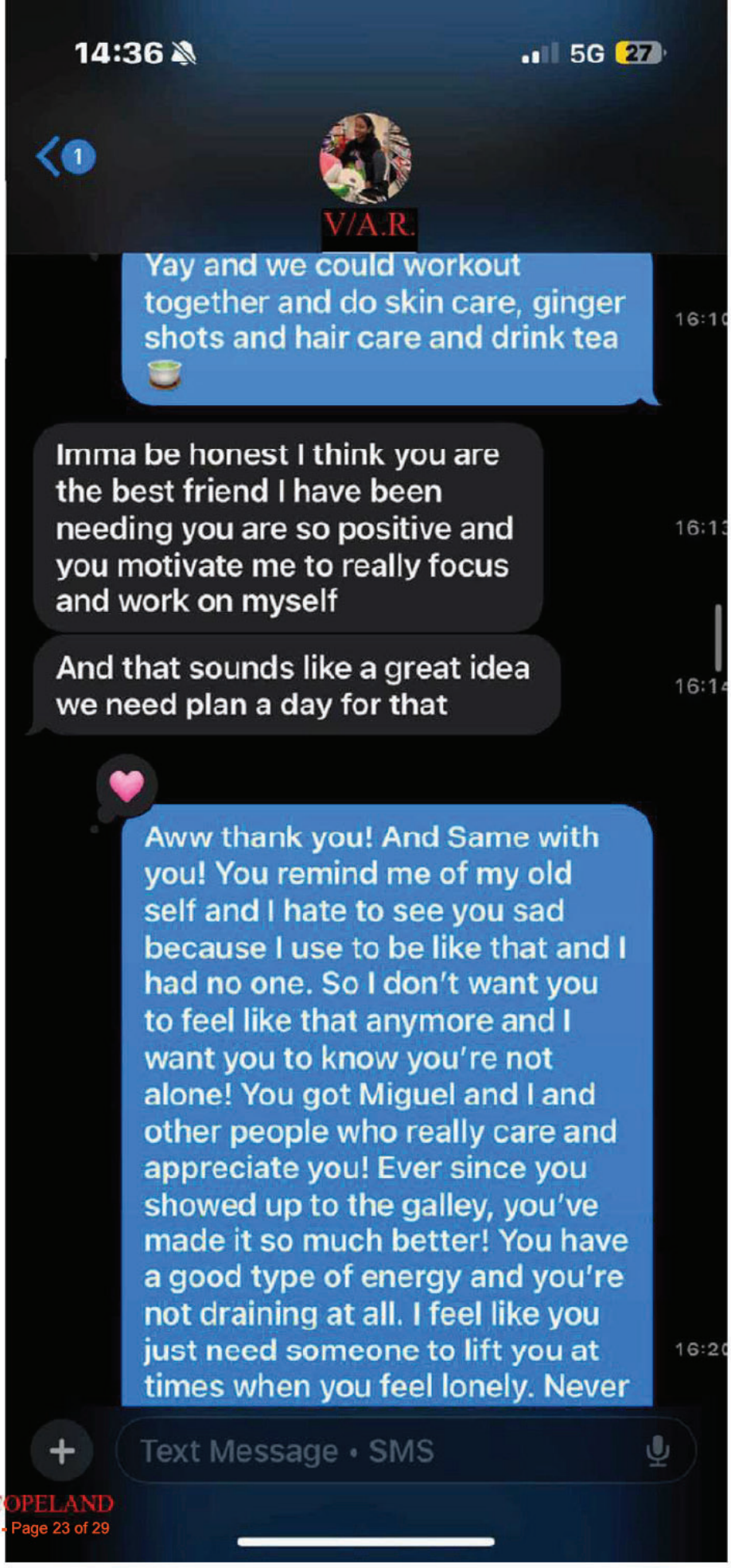
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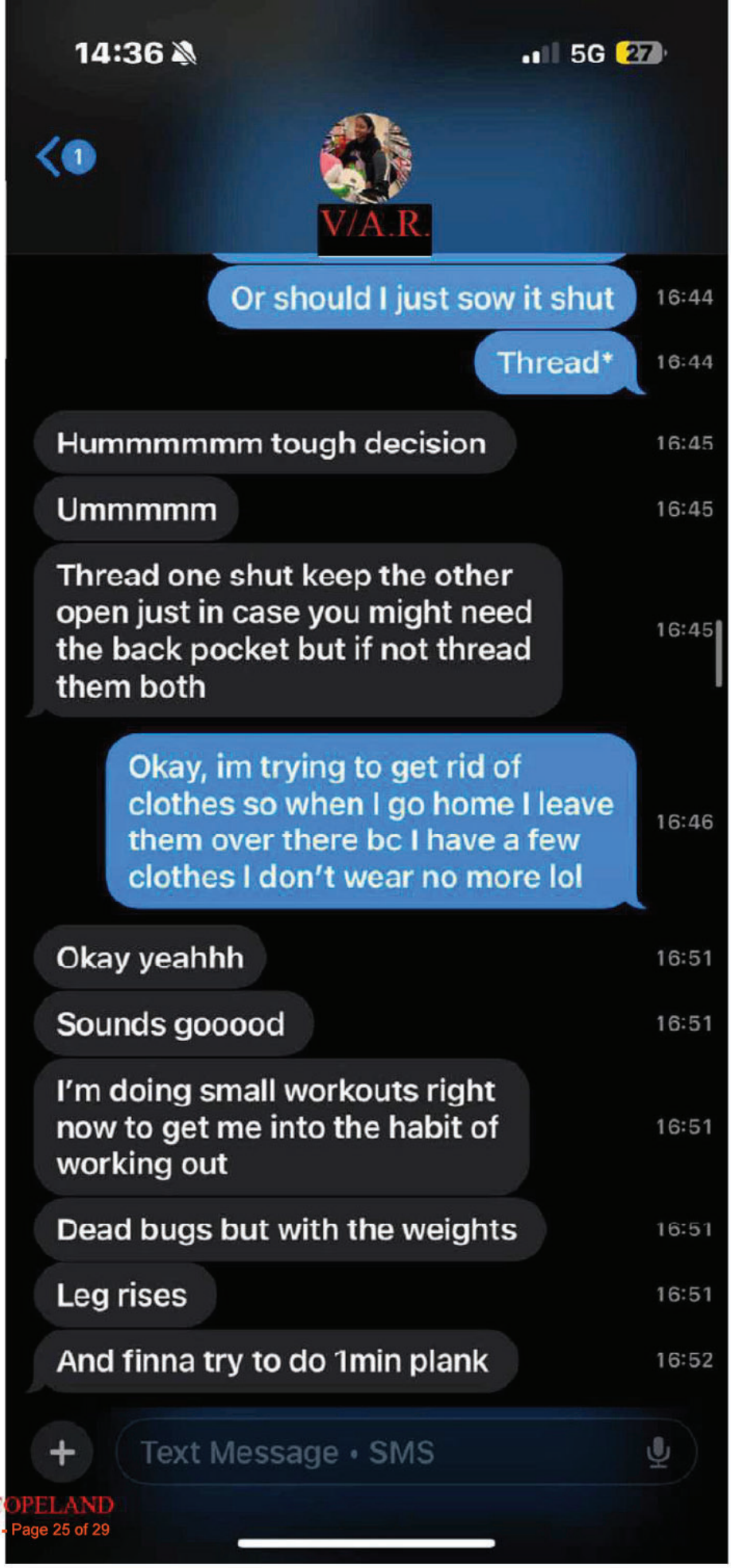
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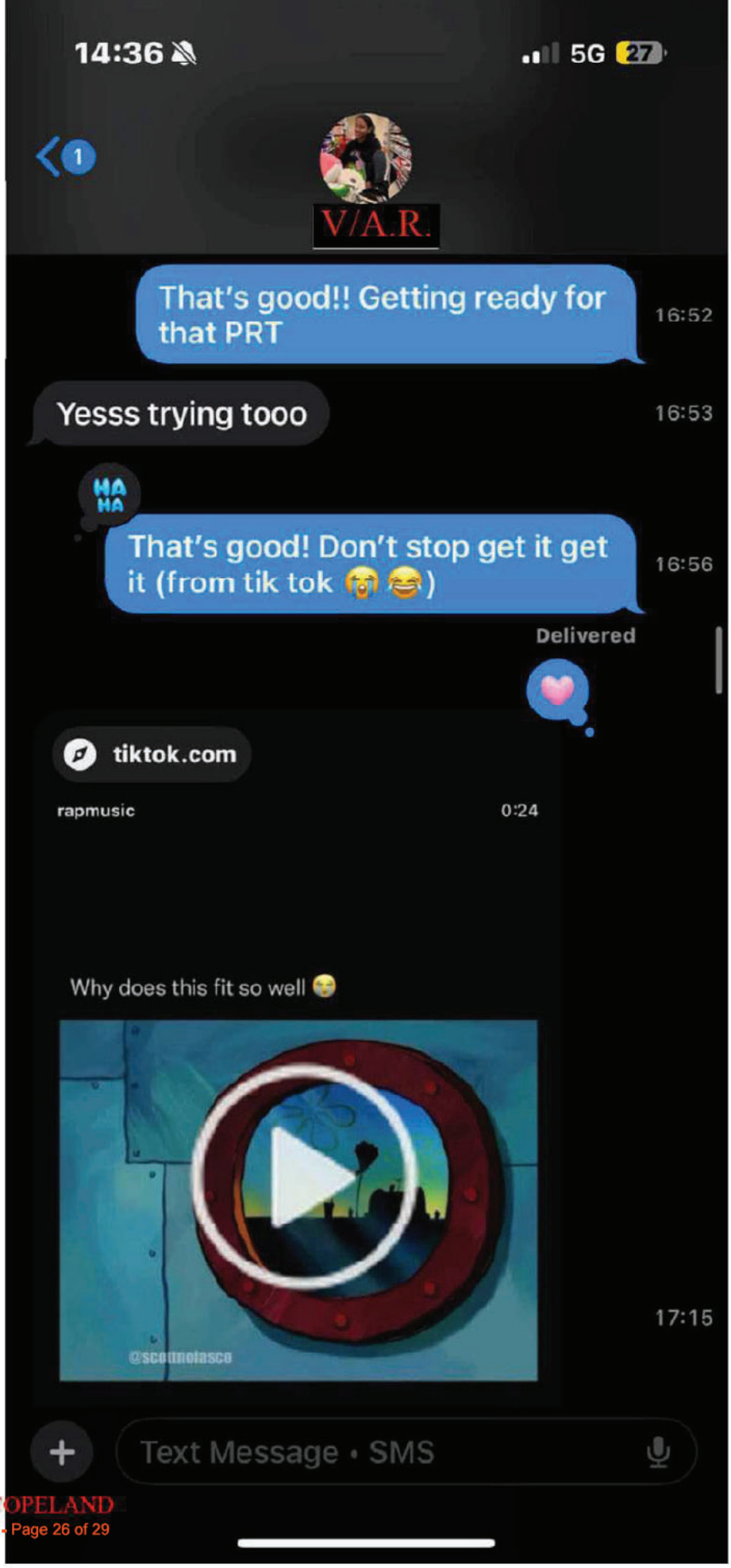
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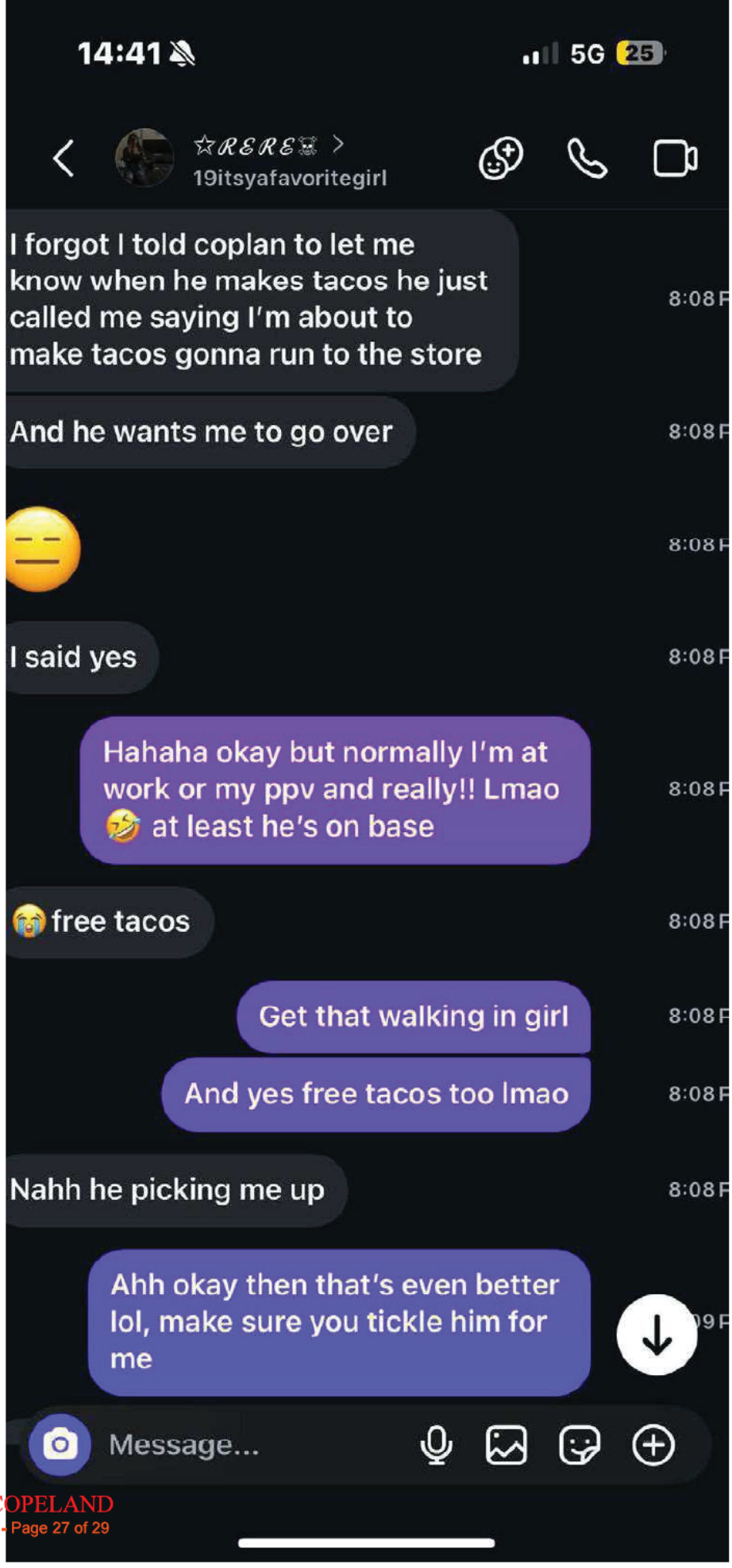
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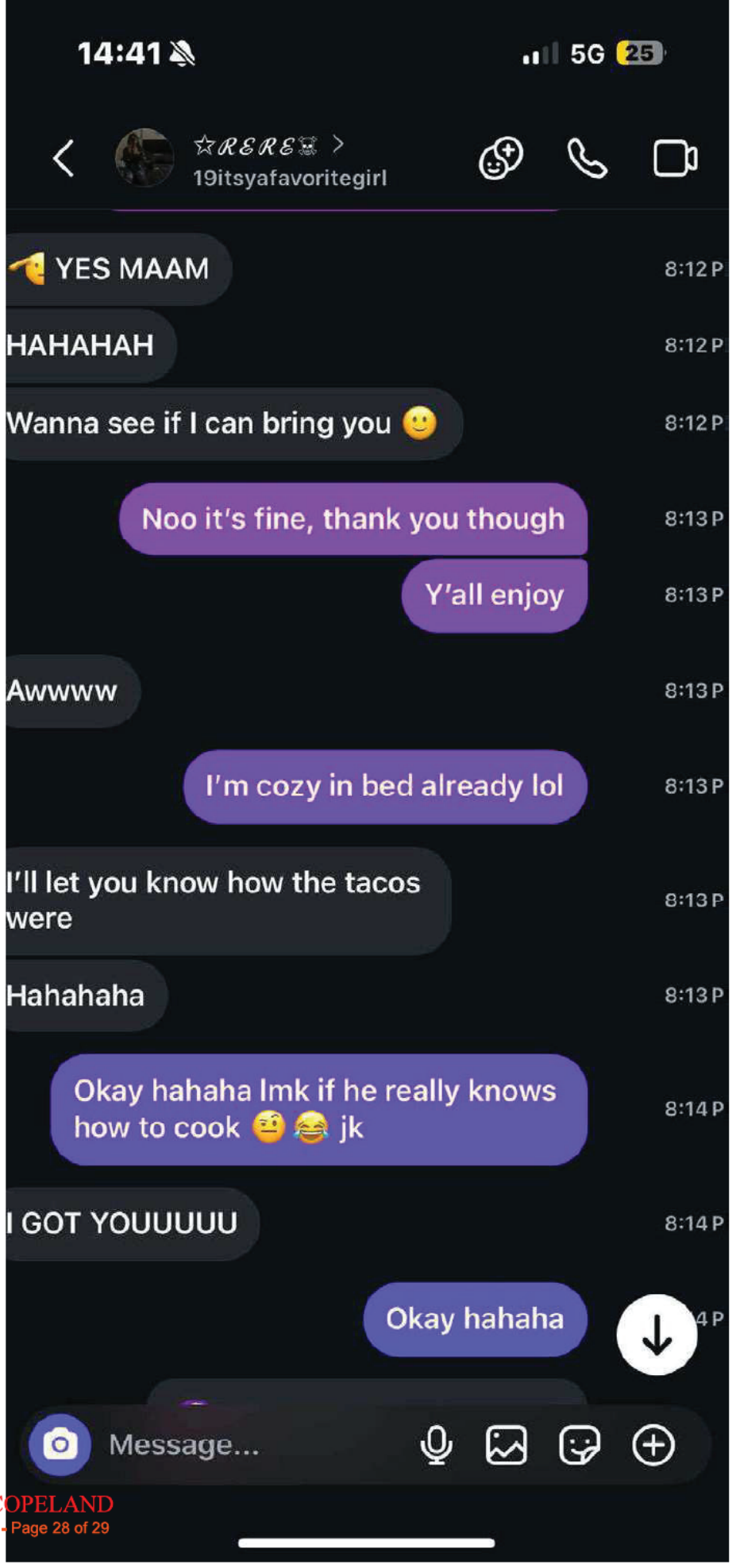
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14:41
5G 25
☆RERE☆ >
19itsyafavoritegirl
YES MAAM
8:12 P
HAHAHAH
8:12 P
Wanna see if I can bring you 🙂
8:12 P
Noo it's fine, thank you though
8:13 P
Y'all enjoy
8:13 P
Awwww
8:13 P
I'm cozy in bed already lol
8:13 P
I'll let you know how the tacos were
8:13 P
Hahahaha
8:13 P
Okay hahaha lmk if he really knows how to cook 🤔 😂 jk
8:14 P
I GOT YOUUUUU
8:14 P
Okay hahaha
4 P
Message...



008885_COPELAND
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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH FORM



1. OFFICE CODE: NFNF

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7MNA	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
PHOTOGRAPH SCREENSHOTS RECEIVED FROM HT3 GILLESPIE, USN/03JUN25	**NM TUFT-WILLIAMS 03JUN25**

NCIS 5580/91 (REV 06-2010) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE

PHOTOGRAPH (4) OF (5) **ENCLOSURE (C)**

29 Oct 25

From: LCDR Clifton Morgan III, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: REQUEST FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 703
(b) 10 USC § 846
(c) R.C.M 1001

1. Per references (a) through (c), the Defense requests that the government produce the following witnesses:

Witnesses for the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

a. **CSSN Jada Knight, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 126. CSSN Knight was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with S.S. and CSSN Copeland at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Knight can attest to appearance of CSSN S.S.'s intoxication, or lack thereof, the night of the alleged assault. Additionally, CSSN Knight provided exculpatory evidence to NCIS during her interview off CSSN S.S. drinking with her after the alleged sexual assault happened. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

b. **CSSN Kaylee Parks, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), (573-604-0576). CSSN Parks was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Parks saw CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland interacting with each other while at the bar. She will testify to seeing CSSN S.S. walk unassisted to the bathroom along with CSSN Copeland and have conversations with people afterwards. CSSN Park is also aware that CSSN S.S. had a boyfriend on board the same ship when the alleged sexual assault happened, which goes to CSSN S.S.'s motive to fabricate. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

c. **CS2 Kirsten Click, USN**, Norfolk, VA, (VFA-11). CS2 Click was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CS2 Click saw CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland kissing each other's necks and touching all over each other. She observed CSSN S.S. both before and after the alleged sexual assault and can attest to appearance of CSSN S.S.'s intoxicated condition, or lack thereof. She is aware that CSSN S.S. had a boyfriend on board the same ship when the alleged sexual assault happened. Her testimony similar to CSSN Parks and provides a motive for CSSN S.S. to fabricate the allegation. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

d. **CS3 Shamel Eaddy, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75). CS3 Eaddy was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was CSSN S.S.'s boyfriend at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CS3 Eaddy was initially approached by CSSN Copeland about the fact that CSSN Copeland had sexual contact with his girlfriend, CSSN S.S., and learned of that fact from CSSN Copeland for the first time. After CS3 Eaddy's conversation with CSSN Copeland, he then confronted CSSN S.S. about the alleged sexual contact she had with CSSN Copeland. His testimony will provide a motive for CSSN S.S. to fabricate the allegation. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

e. **CSSN Jaelen Owenskemper, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), (910-229-9528). CSSN Owenskemper was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and at the same bar with CSSN S.S. and CSSN Copeland the night of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Owenskemper will testify to seeing CSSN S.S. cuddled up with CSSN Copeland at the bar they were at. CSSN Owenskemper's testimony establishes the intimate nature of CSSN S.S.'s interactions with CSSN Copeland the same night of the alleged sexual assault. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

f. **CDR Brett Ballard, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC-11) ELEVEN. The night after the alleged sexual assault, CDR Ballard was serving as the Senior Shore Patrol representative and went to retrieve CSSN Copeland when he refused to return to the ship after experiencing a mental health decline upon becoming aware that he was being accused of sexually assaulting CSSN S.S. the night before. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

g. **CSSA McKenzie Saunders, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) (202-909-0909). CSSA Saunders was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was at the bar with CSSN S.S. at the time of the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSA Saunders noticed CSSN S.S. in the bathroom where her motor skills worked fine and observed her dancing with CSSN Copeland. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

h. **LSCM Ronnie Didier, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), (757-705-8676). During the time of the alleged allegations, LSCM Didier served onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was CSSN S.S.'s Department Leading Chief Petty Officer. He supervised the complaining witness and will testify about her character for untruthfulness. This is relevant and necessary as it goes directly to CSSN S.S.'s credibility during the merits phase of the trial.

i. **CSCM Aneuric Robles, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), (757-513-8048). During the time of the alleged allegations, CSCM Robles served onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was the Master Chief in charge of CSSN S.S.'s entire division. CSSN S.S. serving under his leadership, and he will testify about her character for untruthfulness. This is relevant and necessary as it goes directly to CSSN S.S.'s credibility during the merits phase of the trial.

j. **CS3 Raela Spratling, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75), (903-932-9248). During the time of the alleged allegations, ENS White, served onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75). She worked directly with the complaining witness and had enough interactions with her to opine about her character for truthfulness. CS3 Spratling will testify that CSSN S.S. has a character for untruthfulness. This is relevant and necessary as it goes directly to CSSN S.S.'s credibility during the merits phase of the trial.

k. **CSSN Kaulise Cousins, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69). CSSN Cousins was assigned to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75) and was CSSN Copeland's liberty buddy the night after the alleged incident in Oslo, Norway. CSSN Cousins stated CSSN Copeland's demeanor when he told him about having sex with CSSN S.S. was happy. However, there was an immediate, drastic decline with CSSN Copeland's mental state when CSSN Copeland stepped away to take a call where he learned that a claim of sexual assault was about to be made against him. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

l. **Special Agent Bernadette Duffy, NCIS**, Norfolk, VA. SA Duffy interviewed CSSN Copeland twice in reference to the allegations involving CSSN S.S. CSSN Copeland chose to waive his right to remain silent, provided a statement, and also provided SA Duffy text messages sent between him and the alleged victim surrounding the night of the alleged incident. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.S.

Witnesses for the allegations involving CSSN S.R.

m. **CS2 Joshua Bryant, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CS2 Bryant noticed a hickey on CSSN S.R.'s neck just days before the alleged incident where CSSN S.R. claims CSSN Copeland strangled her. CS2 Bryant's testimony provides alternatives reasons for a mark on CSSN S.R.'s neck. As such, his testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.R.

n. **Detective S. Gaston, CIV**, Norfolk, VA. Det. Gaston was one of the responding officers to the alleged assault involving CSSN S.R. and CSSN Copeland. Furthermore, Det. Gaston interviewed CSSN Copeland and other witnesses, whose interviews were not recorded but provides exculpatory evidence inculpating CSSN S.R. as the offender. Det. Gaston also obtained images of CSSN Copeland's personal property that corroborates CSSN Copeland's statement to police at the scene. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.R.

Witnesses for the allegations involving CSSN A.R.

o. **YN3 Sean Monaghan, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124. Monaghan was CSSN Copeland's roommate at the time of the alleged incident between CSSN S.R. and CSSN Copeland. He provides exculpatory evidence that proves CSSN Copeland did not assault CSSN S.R. In fact, Monaghan will provide testimony that CSSN S.R. assaulted CSSN Copeland and damaged his personal property. He also returned

to the room the night CS3 A.R. came to their barracks room and saw her alive. He can provide a general description that matches CS3 A.R. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CSSN S.R. and CS3 A.R.

p. **FCC Brad Parker, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). FCC Parker went to CSSN Copeland's room the morning after CS3 A.R. spoke with her two ex-boyfriends on the phone and went missing. FCC Parker will testify that he saw CS3 A.R. in CSSN Copeland's bed, and she was alive; she acknowledge his presence, rolled over and went back to sleep in CSSN Copeland's bed. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

q. **CSSN Gladis Garcia-Barrera, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). Prior to CS3 A.R. going to CSSN Copeland's room later on 28 May 2025, CSSN Garcia-Barrera was with CS3 A.R. at Target together. CSSN Garcia-Barrera will testify that CS3 A.R. told her she was going to CSSN Copeland's room to make tacos and sent her pictures of the food. This corroborates statements that CSSN Copeland provided to NCIS as well. Additionally, CSSN Garcia-Barrera, as a friend of CS3 A.R., has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s mental health issues/struggles. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

r. **AR John Calisse, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124. AR Calisse was CSSN Copeland's suitemate at the time of the alleged death of CS3 A.R. AR Calisse saw CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R. the morning of 29 May 2025 laying together with CS3 A.R.'s breast exposed. CS3 A.R. stated that he observed them on their back while both appeared to be breathing, right before he left the room to go to work. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

s. **PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 124. PSSN Gordillocruz, similar to AR Calisse, was CSSN Copeland's suitemate at the time of the alleged death of CS3 A.R. PSSN Gordillocruz also saw CSSN Copeland and CS3 A.R. the morning of 29 May 2025 laying together on the floor in the common area with CS3 A.R.'s breast exposed. PSSN Gordillocruz testimony will corroborate the evidence provided by AR Calisse. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

t. **HT3 Michael Gillespie, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). HT3 Gillespie had previously dated CS3 A.R. He has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s history with mental health issues, her emotional state when having "episodes" and her overuse of medications. Additionally, the day CS3 A.R. went missing she had an argument with CS3 A.R. and expressed anger with him via a text message saying "fuck you". His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

u. **ET3 Daniel Rich, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Mid-Atlantic Regional Calibration Center. ET3 Rich had previously dated CS3 A.R. He has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s history with mental health issues, and her emotional state when having "episodes". Additionally, the day CS3 A.R. went missing she called ET3 Rich asking him to pick her up. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

v. **CSSN Junrogel Miguel, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CSSN Miguel was close friends with CS3 A.R. and worked with her onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). CSSN Miguel has personal knowledge of CSSN A.R.'s relationship with HT3 Gillespie. Furthermore, CSSN Miguel has had his own experiences and personal knowledge with CS3 A.R. when she experienced "episodes" and also described having to closely monitor CS3 A.R. to prevent her from overdosing. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

w. **Special Agent Lisa Carroll, NCIS**, Norfolk, VA. SA Carroll was one of the agents that completed a search of HT3 Gillespie's barracks. During the search SA Carroll found and documented bottles of pills belonging to CS3 A.R. There will be evidence presented that HT3 Gillespie kept CS3 A.R.'s medications for her because of a potential fear she would overdose, based on her history with mental health issues and suicidal ideations. SA Carroll's testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

x. **LSC Robert Janson, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LSC Janson was CS3 A.R.'s Departmental Leading Chief Petty Officer onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). He can attest to her mental decline and stress before CS3 A.R. was admitted to NMC Portsmouth and after she returned (BS 1016, 1044). His testimony provides context to show the timeline of CS3 A.R.'s mental decline based on what he perceived on her at work. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

y. **LCDR Joseph McClelland, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LT McClelland was the Command Duty Officer onboard USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) on 28 May – 29 May 2025, which is the night CS3 A.R. went to CSSN Copeland's room and the day she went missing BS 1069. LT McClelland received the reports of CS3 A.R. missing and spoke directly to ET3 Rich about his phone call with CS3 A.R. Depending on what ET3 Rich's testimony will be at trial, LT McClelland will serve a witness that could potentially provide evidence of prior inconsistent statements from ET3 Rich. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

z. **Mr. Brian Teelez Mendez, CIV**, Mr. Teelez Mendez was contacted by CS3 A.R. just nine (9) days before she went missing. CS3 A.R. contacted Mr. Teelez Mendez through social media where she complained about how toxic her division's chain of command was. Mr. Teelez Mendez provided a copy of these text messages to NCIS when interviewed (BS 1202). When put in context with her overall mental health issues and stress, this shows her negative perspective had not improved. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

aa. **PS1 Clarissa Impelidodayoan, USN**, Norfolk, VA, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC-2) TWO. PS1 Impelidodayoan was one of the Sailors that came to CSSN Copeland's room and cleaned the room on 2 June 2025 to assist CSSN Copeland's suitemate, YN3 Monaghan, prepare for his room inspection (BS 1360). PS1 Impelidodayoan was even on CSSN Copeland's side of the room and stated she didn't see any unusual stains and only described the smell as vomit and alcohol (party room). This contradicts the Government's theory that CSSN Copeland stored a body in his room for days. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

bb. **LTJG Sean James, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95). LTJG James is relevant and necessary because he provides evidence of prior inconsistent statements of ET3 Rich, whom he supervises, in relation to when CS3 A.R. went missing. Furthermore, he has personal knowledge of CS3 A.R. and ET3 Rich having a "distressed" phone call close in time to CS3 A.R.'s death. His testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R.

cc. **NCC Lorenzo Carter, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74). NCC Carter was the other Sailors that came to CSSN Copeland's room and cleaned the room on 2 June 2025 to assist CSSN Copeland's suitemate, YN3 Monaghan, prepare for his room inspection (BS 1364). NCC Carter was also on CSSN Copeland's side of the room, similar to PS1 Impelidodayoan, and he stated that he didn't notice any unusual stains or smells in CSSN Copeland's room. This contradicts the Government's theory that CSSN Copeland stored a body in his room for days. Her testimony is relevant during the merits phase of the trial regarding the allegations involving CS3 A.R. and corroborates PS1 Impelidodayoan's expected testimony.

Witnesses for Sentencing

dd. **Ms. Rochell Brown, CIV**, Oak Harbor, WA, (425-508-5790). Ms. R. Brown is CSSN Copeland's mother. She will testify positively about CSSN Copeland's character as a father and son. Telephonic testimony is not sufficient, as CSSN Copeland is charged with premeditated murder. If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole. Based on the seriousness of the allegations and punitive exposure, he should be able to have all his witnesses present in-person. Her testimony is relevant during the pre-sentencing phase of trial.

ee. **Ms. Kathleen Brown, CIV**, Oak Harbor, WA, (206-854-9108). Ms. K. Brown is CSSN Copeland's grandmother. She will testify positively about CSSN Copeland's character as a father and son. Similar to Ms. R. Brown, telephonic testimony is not sufficient, as CSSN Copeland is charged with premeditated murder. If CSSN Copeland is convicted of premeditated murder, he is facing a minimum sentence of life with the possibility of parole and a maximum punishment of life without the possibility of parole. Based on the seriousness of the allegations and punitive exposure, he should be able to have all his witnesses present in-person. Additionally, Ms. K. Brown will be support for Ms. R. Brown. Her testimony is relevant during the pre-sentencing phase of trial.

Subj: REQUEST FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

2. The Defense reserves the right to request additional witnesses and will provide supplemental requests in a timely manner. Additionally, the defense reserves the right to call witnesses that appear on the government witness list.

[redacted]

C. E. MORGAN III

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 01JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]

RESULTS OF INITIAL INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 01Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Jessica GOKEY interviewed CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95) regarding his knowledge of the whereabouts of V/A.R.. The interview took place in the lounge area on third floor of building X2, Willis Manor, located on Naval Station Norfolk (NOB), and was not recorded.

2. As background, V/A.R. and S/COPELAND were placed into a Unauthorized Absence (UA) status subsequent to 29May25, after failing to report to work. On 01Jun25, after speaking with S/COPELAND's mother, NCIS and S/COPELAND's mother contacted Naval Station Norfolk (NOB) Base Police to conduct a follow-up health and welfare check on both S/COPELAND and V/A.R.. The Naval Station Norfolk Watch Commander advised NOB Security Forces located S/COPELAND in his barracks rooms in Willis Manor, Room 335. NCIS was advised that Security Forces received no answer at V/A.R.'s door when they knocked on her barracks room located on NOB, Miller Hall, Room 1083.

3. During his interview, S/COPELAND described his relationship with V/A.R. as co-workers. S/COPELAND stated he texted with V/A.R. on Wednesday, 28May25 to discuss recipes and ingredients for tacos. S/COPELAND stated V/A.R. came over to his barracks room, made tacos and they both consumed alcohol. S/COPELAND explained V/A.R. gradually became more upset as the night progressed and they spoke about her current and past romantic relationships. S/COPELAND stated V/A.R. spoke on the phone to two (2) ex-boyfriends, both of which were confrontational calls. One call was with an ex-boyfriend he still believed was located in Texas (NFI) and the other call was with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95.

4. S/COPELAND explained V/A.R. and HT3 GILLESPIE argued over returning a motorcycle helmet and that HT3 GILLESPIE wanted it back. S/COPELAND said V/A.R. explained her relationship with HT3 GILLESPIE was toxic and described her most recent ex-boyfriend, ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, DDG 95, as at first being a sweetheart and then he wasn't. S/COPELAND said ET3 RICH and HT3 GILLESPIE do not get along, that they have issues with each other, and opined it was due to their relationships with V/A.R.. S/COPELAND said HT3 GILLESPIE has come to the galley on the ship a lot, which sometimes caused issues. S/COPELAND said he did not know of any instances of HT3 GILLESPIE being violent toward V/A.R. and that HT3 GILLESPIE was more of a topic of conversation than ET3 RICH was during their evening together.

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S/COPELAND described his role during the evening as a sounding board for V/A.R.

5. S/COPELAND recalled one of his roommates walked into the barracks suite (common area) and asked if V/A.R. was okay as she was upset. which he (S/COPELAND) responded yes.

6. S/COPELAND explained V/A.R. spent the night in his barracks room and they did not have sexual intercourse. S/COPELAND said he was supposed to work on Thursday 29May25, however, he woke up late as FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG 95, came to his barracks room at approximately 0900 and woke he and V/A.R. S/COPELAND said he misunderstood FCC PARKER and did not report to work. S/COPELAND said he borrow his roommate's vehicle and drove V/A.R. back to her barracks at approximately 1000 hours. S/COPELAND said this was the last time he saw V/A.R.

REPORTED BY: MATTHEW FRANK MILLER, Supervisory Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Bernadette DUFFY conducted an interview of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) in regard to the Unauthorized Absence of CSSN [redacted V/A.R.], USN, DDG-95 and himself.

2. This interview was audio and video recorded utilizing Case Cracker. A copy of the recording was subsequently saved to an optical disc and maintained with the case file. This report should not be treated as a verbatim or comprehensive representation of the interview; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. Prior to being interviewed, S/COPELAND was advised of his Article 31(b) Rights by use of Military Suspect's Acknowledgement and Waiver of Rights form for an alleged violation of Article 86 (Absence without Leave) and Article 107 (False Official Statements). S/COPELAND, with full understanding of his rights, elected to waive his right to remain silent; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. S/COPELAND was asked to recall the events on the night of 28JUN25 and what transpired the following days. S/COPELAND stated he and [redacted V/A.R.] were talking about food and making tacos. S/COPELAND continued saying, [redacted V/A.R.] was going to come over to his barracks, located at Building X-2, Willis Manor, Room 335, to make salsa and eat dinner. S/COPELAND explained he went to the Food Lion and bought the ingredients to make tacos and then he went back to X-2. S/COPELAND stated he then went and picked V/RESENDIZ up from her barracks, Miller Hall, and brought her back to his room. COPELAND explained later he utilized his roommates vehicle, later identified as a belonging to AR John CALISSE, USN, VAW-124 and being a white Jeep Compass, to pick up [redacted V/A.R.]. S/COPELAND stated [redacted V/A.R.] was wearing a black shirt, black pants, slip on Uggs, a bracelet, and a hair clip. S/COPELAND stated V/RESENDIZ was also carrying her purple backpack. S/COPELAND stated he could not recall what time he picked [redacted V/A.R.] up but after returning to the room they began to make tacos.

5. S/COPELAND stated after eating, him and [redacted V/A.R.] started listening to music and started talking. S/COPELAND explained [redacted V/A.R.] began talking about HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, and how she saw him with another girl on his motorcycle and how it had really upset [redacted V/A.R.]. S/COPELAND stated [redacted V/A.R.] then text HT3 GILLESPIE "Fuck you" and then called an ex-boyfriend (NFI) from Texas. S/COPELAND explained he was sitting on the

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couch, and she was sitting on floor talking to the ex-boyfriend. S/COPELAND continued explaining how when V/A.R. ended the phone call with the ex-boyfriend, she started to call other people (NFI) and talk about how "GILLESPIE's not shit."

6. S/COPELAND explained he did not know much about the relationship between HT3 GILLESPIE and V/A.R. but S/COPELAND did recall V/RESENDIZ was mad about the amount of money she would spend on HT3 GILLESPIE. S/COPELAND provided the example of HT3 GILLESPIE needed a lawyer and V/A.R. gave him $500.00 to hire one even though HT3 GILLESPIE could have received a public defender. S/COPELAND did not believe HT3 GILLESPIE and V/A.R. were in any physical altercations or abusive relationship. S/COPELAND stated V/A.R. went on a "rampage" and was becoming "agitated." S/COPELAND stated after completing the phone calls V/A.R. was becoming "emotional" and "crying."

7. S/COPELAND stated one of the roommates, "the Mexican" later identified as PSSN Irbin GORDILLOCRUZ, USN, Airborne Command and Control Squadron 124 (VAW-124), walked into the common area of the room and asked if V/A.R. was okay. S/COPELAND stated he told PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ, V/A.R. was fine and PSSN GORDILLOCRUZ proceeded to his room. S/COPELAND stated the night ended and they both went to sleep together in S/COPELAND's bed. S/COPELAND stated they did not have sexual intercourse. After going to sleep, S/COPELAND was awoken by FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, knocking on the door of his bedroom. S/COPELAND said he could not remember what time it was but knew the sun was up. S/COPELAND stated FCC PARKER asked if the person in his bed was V/RESENDIZ, which S/COPELAND replied it was V/A.R. S/COPELAND explained FCC PARKER told him to get to work and asked if he had a ride, which S/COPELAND stated he told FCC PARKER one of his roommates could give him a ride to work. S/COPELAND admitted though he did not go to work due to "one of his roommates" not coming home. S/COPELAND further explained, him being UA was a big misunderstanding because he had the weekend off and he did not realize if you are marked UA for one day, you are marked UA for the days you remain away from work.

8. S/COPELAND stated he was marked UA Thursday, 29JUN25 until Sunday, 01MAY25 when base security located him within his barracks room. When asked his whereabouts for Friday and Saturday, S/COPELAND responded, he stayed in the barracks both days but would move from lounge to lounge. S/COPELAND stated he mostly hung out in the 5th floor lounge and Ms. Mary (NFI) could vouch for his whereabouts during the time frame.

9. RA asked S/COPELAND about the morning of 29JUN25 and what had transpired after FCC PARKER left the room. S/COPELAND recalled him and V/A.R. woke up and cleaned the kitchen and V/A.R. left in an Uber, later clarified to be a Z-Trip.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **03JUN25**

10. RA asked S/COPELAND if he would sign a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cellphone, S/COPELAND agreed to signing a PASS and provided his passcode, 980377. Prior to signing the PASS, S/COPELAND requested to call his mother, and would not sign the PASS; Enclosure (C) pertains. PA asked S/COPELAND if he would be fine with answering further questions and call his mother later, S/COPELAND agreed.

11. RA had previously informed S/COPELAND NCIS was conducting a Command Authorized Search and Seizure (CASS) in his barracks room and the common area and began to ask questions about S/COPELAND's barracks room and his electronics. S/COPELAND stated he had an iPhone15 in his room and a PlayStation 5 in the common room.

12. RA inquired about V/A.R.'s electronics to include her iPhone. S/COPELAND stated the only electronic V/A.R. had with her was her iPhone15. S/COPELAND confirmed the Apple iWatch was also his, which was located in his barracks room.

13. RA asked S/COPELAND if the statement he gave was true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, which S/COPELAND stated this statement was the correct statement. RA then confronted S/COPELAND on the discretions between his previous statement, given on 01JUN25 and the statement he gave during this interview.

14. RA asked S/COPELAND about him and V/A.R. being naked on the floor by the couch, S/COPELAND denied being on the floor naked with V/A.R.. S/COPELAND stated he and V/A.R. fell asleep in his bed, clothed.

15. RA asked S/COPELAND about him changing his story about dropping V/RESENDIZ off at her barracks, to V/RESENDIZ leaving on her own after cleaning, to which S/COPELAND stated he did not remember saying he had previously dropped V/A.R. off at her barracks. RA asked S/COPELAND about how he knew V/A.R. was taking a Z-Trip from his barracks versus walking from his barracks, and S/COPELAND stated he just assumed V/A.R. had taken a Z-Trip back to her barracks.

16. RA inquired about S/COPELAND telling FCC PARKER he would wait for his roommate to get home to take S/COPELAND to work. RA asked about S/COPELAND's roommate's work schedule and why he would tell FCC PARKER the roommate would take him to work knowing his roommate does not get home until approximately 1600-1700. S/COPELAND stated he would not ask anyone else to take him to work. S/COPELAND stated he did not know when his roommate would be home due to a squadron's working hours being different from the ships work schedule.

17. PA conducted another PASS for a backpack, barracks room, and

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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electronics, S/COPELAND signed the PASS; Enclosure (D) pertains.

18. Shortly after singing the PASS, RA, PA, and S/COPELAND left NCIS and travelled to S/COPELAND's barracks room to execute the PASS in his presence.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING INTERVIEW/03JUN25
(B) MILITARY RIGHTS/03JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION UNSIGNED/03JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION SIGNED/03MAY25

REPORTED BY: JESSICA R GOKEY, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 06JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF S/COPELAND

1. On 06Jun25, Reporting Investigator (RA) Tyler Mann and Participating Agent (PA) David JARRELL, conducted a second interview of S/COPELAND. As background, S/COPELAND was identified as a person of interest in the disappearance and possible death of V/A.R. as he was the last person known to have seen her prior to her disappearance.

2. On 06Jun25 at 0850, subsequent to the execution of a Military Rights Waiver, appended as Enclosure (A), CCSN Jermiah Taylor COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, was interviewed regarding his knowledge of the possible death of CSSN V/A.R., USN, DDG 95, and previously providing false statements regarding the captioned investigation. Upon waiving his Military Rights, the interview commenced. Additionally, during the interview S/COPELAND provided a handwritten timeline of events from 28May25 through 02Jun25, detailing his whereabouts for that time frame, along with his interactions with V/A.R., Enclosure (B) pertains.

3. On 28May25, S/COPELAND invited V/A.R. to his barracks room to cook dinner. Most of the evening she was communicating on her phone back and forth with a person referred to as Gil (possibly referring to Gillespie), a former boyfriend, whom had given her a bike helmet that he was now asking to be returned. This started an argument between V/A.R. and Gil which made her appear upset according to S/COPELAND. S/COPELAND asked her what the matter was, she provided the story about how Gil was trying to get the helmet back for another girl possibly, and she did not want to give it back. This led to V/A.R. calling another ex-boyfriend, who resides in Texas, to vent to him. V/A.R. made additional phone calls to other friends and family to talk. S/COPELAND was unaware of who all she spoke to that evening. After listening to her story, hanging out and listening to music; S/COPELAND stated he was tired and told V/A.R. he was going to sleep; no exact time was provided for this series of events. He proceeded to go to bed and then awoke the next morning to his Chief, FCC Brad PARKER (FCC PARKER), USN, DDG 95, knocking on his door and V/A.R. in his bed with him. S/COPELAND had on shorts and noted V/A.R. was wearing her pants, but had removed her top to sleep, he further stated they did not engage in any form of sexual activity. Upon opening the door, S/COPELAND was informed he was UA (Unauthorized Absence) and needed to report to work as soon as possible. FCC PARKER then departed and S/COPELAND started cleaning up his room and getting ready to go to work while waiting on his roommate to return to give him a ride. At some point, S/COPELAND noticed V/A.R. woke up and he informed her FCC PARKER had stopped by and he needed to go to work. She began helping

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him clean up the room and upon finishing, exited the barracks on her own sometime that morning, while S/COPELAND sat on the couch watching TV and eventually fell asleep.

4. As background, during S/COPELAND's initial interview he previously stated he borrowed his roommate's vehicle to drive V/A.R. to her barracks. When questioned regarding his previous statement of borrowing his roommate's vehicle to drive V/A.R., he said he was mistaken before and he could not have done so as his other roommate who owned the Jeep was not home, nor was his vehicle. At this time, S/COPELAND uttered a statement in which he said, "I needed to get my story straight." S/COPELAND related he woke up at around dinner time on 29May25 and realized his roommate was not home and could not take him to work. S/COPELAND stated dinner time on the ship was between approximately 15:00 and 17:30, which he was using as his time of reference. He then called FCC PARKER and told him he would not be at work because he did not have a ride or vehicle available. In addition to FCC PARKER coming to the barracks room the next morning, S/COPELAND stated his roommate, YN3 Sean MONAGHAN (YN3 MONAGHAN), USN, Helicopter Marine Squadron 12 (HM-12), was present during the night when he and V/A.R. were sleeping.

5. S/COPELAND then stated he spent the remainder of the weekend in the barracks going between his room and one of the various lounges in the building. He did not like to remain in his room due to his roommate being unclean and emanating an unpleasant odor. S/COPELAND related the Barracks Manager, Ms. Mary (NFI) saw him in the lounge at various times over the course of the weekend, along with another white male (NFI), who was instructed along with S/COPELAND to stay in the lounge by a crew in the building cleaning or polishing the floors. The white male, who S/COPELAND could not further identify, attempted to leave and return to his room multiple times, but was met by the crew and told to return until they advised he could walk down the hallway. This led to a conversation between S/COPELAND and the unidentified male that ended with S/COPELAND being offered and declining a bag of chips from the man before he left. Ms. Mary interacted with S/COPELAND both in the lounge and while he was using one of the public restrooms, she knocked on the door and he stated he was currently in the facilities using the toilet. These interactions may have happened between Friday and Saturday according to S/COPELAND.

6. In addition to interacting with the above captioned individuals, S/COPELAND stated he did in fact turn off his location services on his cellphone to his friends as one of them had apparently been spying on him via the Apple location services and he did not want to be bothered or hang out with anyone. S/COPELAND did confirm he used the phone application Life 360 and has his location constantly shared, for approximately the past year, with a female (NFI) from back home, who would often check the app to see where S/COPELAND was currently located. S/COPELAND denied leaving the barracks until Sunday. 01Jun25 in the morning when he reported to the shop

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **06JUN25**

Command Duty Officer after being informed by the base Military Police that he was UA. Upon a Master at Arms (MA) knocking on S/COPELAND's door that morning, he reported to the barge where he was order to undergo a urinalysis and was informed that he had officially been marked UA since the past Thursday morning, 28May25. After concluding all required tasks at the barge, S/COPELAND returned to his barracks until the next morning, 02JUN25, when he was ordered to report to work.

7. During the interview, S/COPELAND was questioned as to whether or not he knew V/A.R. 's current location and if he had any part in causing her disappearance or possible death to which he replied in the negative. When further questioned about what S/COPELAND would like the outcome of the investigation to be he made a statement hoping she was found. S/COPELAND expressed concerns with his own mental health at the time of the interview. Prior to the conclusion of the interview, S/COPELAND signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). Upon signing the PASS, the document was given to SA Lisa CARROLL, NCIS, and DNA samples were obtained from S/COPELAND by SA CARROLL which will be documented in a separate investigative action. Prior to ending the interview S/COPELAND was asked about access to vehicles regarding which, if any vehicles, he had access to use over the past week. S/COPELAND related he did not have access to a vehicle, other than on occasion his roommates Jeep when they were both home from work at the same time. S/COPELAND did not specify the roommate who owns the Jeep other than previously stating they reside in the same room.

8. At 1148 on 06Jun25, S/COPELAND was released to FCC PARKER. An audio recording of this interview was captured and the original SD card containing the interview along with a copy of the audio on a CD/DVD were provided to the case agent for safekeeping with the file.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) MILITARY RIGHTS WAIVER/CSSN COPELAND/06JUN25
(B) CSSN COPELAND HANDWRITTEN TIMELINE/06JUN25

REPORTED BY: TYLER BRYAN MANN, Investigator
OFFICE: POLYGRAPH RESIDENT AGENCY MID-ATLANTIC

PAGE 3 LAST EU V2 LNN

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#2 - v1's

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Norfolk, Virginia 23502-2228
05/28/2025 11:39 AM

GROCERY

211120063	GG TOMATO	B F	$1.19
218033237	FD BREAD	B F	$4.19
212261550	GUERRERO	B F	$2.49
231160066	DREAM	B F	$5.98
	2 @ $2.99 ea		
284120027	LAND O'LAKES	B F	$4.49
284110237	SRGNTO SHRED	B F	$3.19
284031157	GG EGGS	B F	$2.99
211210053	GG PEPPERS	B F	$1.39
211210215	SOLI ORG	B F	$1.99
224124770	AVOCADO	B F	$2.97
	3 @ $0.99 ea		
267014048	CITRUS	N F	$1.17
	3 @ $0.39 ea		
268020021	GG GRND BEEF	B F	$7.69
210110126	Hillshire	B F	$2.99
210110128	HILLSHIRE	B F	$2.99
211174660	ONION	B F	$0.99

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

063040292	Gimme Beauty	T		$7.99
037131315	VASELINE .25	T		$2.99
049095924	Crest 3D Whi	T		$8.99
049060297	Nair	T		$5.99
049003979	Dove 30.6oz	T		$10.99
063000938	OGX	T		$7.99
052161106	EYELINER	T		$3.00
245046363	The HoneyPot	B	+	$11.49
049010336	SheaMoisture	T		$9.99
049015448	SheaMoisture	T		$9.99
245032026	O Positiv	T		$28.99
245038262	THE HONEYPOT	T		$19.78
	2 @ $9.89 ea			
253031860	Bounty	T		$7.99

HOME

082020040	Blogilates	T	$16.99

SPORTING GOODS

082020192	AllInMotion	T	$9.99
082025073	Galam	T	$39.99
082024843	Blogilates	T	$25.98
	2 @ $12.99 ea		

SUBTOTAL	$275.82
B = VA TAX 1.00000 on $57.02	$0.58
T = VA TAX 6.00000 on $217.63	$13.06
TOTAL	$289.46
*2708 DEBIT TOTAL PAYMENT	$289.46
AID: A0000000980840	
US DEBIT	
AUTH CODE:	119361

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ENCLOSURE (C)

9 Mar 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH LSC ROBERT JANSON

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 27 February 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN1 Kathleen Vanetti, civilian paralegal, spoke to LSC Robert Janson, USN. The following disclosures are provided:

a. LSC Janson was the departmental LCPO over CSSN Copeland onboard the USS JAMES E WILLIAMS. LSC Janson provided that he believed CSSN Copeland was onboard after a transfer due to a possible sexual harassment case.

b. LSC Janson had been onboard since September 2023. LSC Janson recalled no work issues with CSSN Copeland and said he kept to himself. Outside of work, CSSN Copeland had gotten a speeding ticket and gotten into a scuffle with another CS.

c. LSC Janson said with respect to CS3 A.R., she had no issues at work. LSC Janson said he had a little more interaction with CS3 A.R than with CSSN Copeland. LSC Janson explained that CS3 A.R. was a high performer and she was given significant responsibility as a result. As a result, CS3 A.R. became too stressed with this workload and she took a few days off to decompress. She did this through mental health at NMCP. There was no suicidal ideation involved, just stress, to his knowledge.

d. LSC Janson provided that FCC Parker told him he found both CS3 A.R. and CSSN Copeland in the same room alive. FCC Parker said he opened the door and saw them both there. FCC Parker said they looked exhausted, as if they had been up the whole night. FCC Parker told LSC Janson that CS3 A.R. moved and he had asked CS3 A.R. if she was okay, to which she responded that she was fine. FCC Parker told LSC Janson he did not investigate further.

e. Later that day, CSSN Copeland did not come into work and neither did CS3 A.R. FCC Parker told LSC Janson that CSSN Copeland had a car problem.

f. LSC Janson said FCC Parker was personally fine. FCC Parker was a new Chief. LSC Janson did not believe FCC Parker had a reason to lie and had no opinion on his character for truthfulness.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation. The disclosures from the interview conducted by the Government are to reflect new or different information. To the extent the information is duplicative with already discovered information, it is provided as context. This summary does not constitute a statement adopted or approved by the witness and may not reflect the witness's exact words.

[redacted]

L. A. MAYO

008445_COPELAND

18 Mar 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Chief Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH CS3 GLADIS GARCIA-BARRERA

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 27 February 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN2 Nicole Orsillo, USN, spoke to CS3 Gladis Garcia-Barrera, USN, in person.

a. CS3 Garcia stated she was on the same Watch Team in the galley as CS3 A.R, and believes she was CS3 A.R's Watch Captain. There were three Culinary Specialists on the Watch Team – CS3 Garcia, CS3 A.R., and another Sailor named Miguel. CS3 Garcia said she met CS3 A.R. in 2024. CS3 Garcia went TAD to another ship, and when she returned back to USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) she got closer to CS3 A.R.. 28 May 2025, was one of the first times CS3 Garcia hung out with CS3 A.R. outside of work.

b. CSSN Copeland was on the Watch Team that relieved CS3 Garcia's Watch Team. CSSN Copeland's Watch Team consisted of CS3 Bucol, CS3 JeanJacques, and himself.

c. On 28 May 2025, CS3 Garcia and CS3 A.R. ordered an Uber to go to Target. When they were ready to leave Target, CS3 Garcia ordered a ride through Z-Trip. CS3 Garcia was dropped off at her PPV first, and then CS3 A.R. was dropped off. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. was happy that day. CS3 A.R. told CS3 Garcia that CSSN Copeland invited her over to make tacos. CS3 Garcia said she had heard that other Sailors from their ship were also at CSSN Copeland's barracks room but eventually left. She heard that CS3 A.R. stayed at CSSN Copeland's after everyone left. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. invited her over to CSSN Copeland's, but she declined the offer. CSSN Copeland told her he transferred from USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) because his Chief did not like him, but CS3 Garcia said she thought that was weird because that was not a reason to be transferred.

d. CS3 A.R. never told CS3 Garcia she had mental health issues, but CS3 Garcia found out when she got back from being TAD that CS3 A.R. had previously been to NMCP for mental health help. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. would joke about going UA but it was never serious. On 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. was talking to ET3 Rich, but CS3 Garcia was not sure if they were dating. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. was not romantically interested in CSSN Copeland.

e. The last message CS3 Garcia received from CS3 A.R. was a TikTok video at 1715 on 28 May 2025. CS3 Garcia clarified that the message may have been sent to her earlier than 1715, but when she is asleep. CS3 Garcia puts her phone in airplane mode, so the message may have been sent earlier. CS3 A.R.'s last message to CS3 Garcia on Instagram was at 2244 on 28 May 2025. After the message from 2244, CS3 Garcia never heard from CS3 A.R. again. CS3 Garcia received a phone call the next day from CS3 JeanJacques, HT3 Gillespie, and ET3 Rich asking about CS3 A.R.'s whereabouts, and CS3 Garcia told them CS3 A.R. had been with CSSN Copeland last. CS3 Garcia believed CS3 A.R. must have been sleeping because CS3 Garcia messaged CS3 A.R. around 0500 on 29 May 2025, and it was not like CS3 A.R. to not respond to her.

f. CSSN Copeland was scheduled to return to work the next day but did not. CS3 Garcia said when CSSN Copeland came back to work she completely avoided him. CSSN Copeland was quieter than usual. CS3 Garcia said when CSSN Copeland was asked about CS3 A.R. by others, he did not answer. CS3 Garcia heard CSSN Copeland had a scratch on his face, and believed she heard that from JJ, but did not see for herself if he did have a scratch. Prior to CS3 A.R. going missing, CS3 Garcia said she never spoke to CSSN Copeland, so she was not sure of his demeanor. She said CSSN Copeland had previously been on restriction but was not sure if he was working in the galley at that time.

g. CS3 Garcia said she heard CSSN Copeland had raped and hospitalized another female while he was on USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). Another female by the name of V/S.R. apparently slashed CSSN Copeland's tires. CS3 Garcia said that women do not do things like that unwarranted.

h. CS3 Garcia was not sure if CSSN Copeland had more than one phone. She was aware that CSSN Copeland did not have a drivers license. However, he would drive his friend's Challenger while he was on deployment. CS3 Garcia said that friend's name was LSSN Stallone.

i. CS3 Garcia said she knows FCC Parker, and knows he is the last person to see CS3 A.R. She said she was disappointed in FCC Parker for not bringing CSSN Copeland to work, and for not asking CS3 A.R. if she was okay. CS3 Garcia did not talk to FCC Parker at work and was unsure of his reputation onboard.

j. Another Sailor, GSM3 Delacruz, would talk to CSSN Copeland a lot. CS3 Garcia said she thinks if what happened to CS3 A.R. did not happen to her, then it would have happened to GSM3 Delacruz. CS3 Garcia said once CSSN Copeland apparently put something in GSM3 Delacruz's drink and it caused her to throw up.

k. CS3 Garcia said there was another instance where DCFA Swanger was with CSSN Copeland and he tried to get on top of her while he was intoxicated. Before anything escalated, DFCA Swanger left.

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH CS3 GLADIS GARCIA-BARRERA

1. CS3 Garcia shared several images of text messages, receipts and other digital evidence related to this case. Photographs were obtained of the evidence, but after review, it appeared that the transfer was incomplete due to user error. CS3 Garcia was contacted at a later date and provided a complete record of the messages. Copies of both the failed attempt at collection and the completed correct attempt will be provided in discovery.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation. The disclosures from the interview conducted by the Government are to reflect new or different information. To the extent the information is duplicative with already discovered information, it is provided as context. This summary does not constitute a statement adopted or approved by the witness and may not reflect the witness's exact words.

[redacted]

L. A. MAYO

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. Navy**	**DEFENSE MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO M.R.E. 404(b)** **15 April 2026**

MOTION

Pursuant to Rule for Court-Martial ("R.C.M.") 906 and Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 404(b), the defense moves this Court to exclude evidence of prior crimes, wrongs, or other acts of the accused.

BURDEN

As the proponent of the evidence, the government bears the burden of proof to establish any factual matters regarding the admissibility of any evidence offered pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. CSSN Copeland is charged with violating Articles 118 (Premeditated Murder), 120 (Sexual Assault and Aggravated Sexual Contact), 128 (Aggravated Assault), 120c (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), 131b (Obstruction of Justice), 128b (Domestic Violence), and 107 (False Official Statement).[1]

2. Trial is scheduled for 3-26 June 2026.[2]

3. On 5 November 2025, the government provided notice of its intent to offer evidence pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) and M.R.E. 413.[3]

4. The charged offenses occurred entirely between July 2024 and June 2025.[4]

5. CS3 Garcia was friends with CS3 A.R. and hung out with her on 28 May 2025 then never saw her again.

[1] Charge Sheet.
[2] Trial Management Order.
[3] Encl A of Def MTE M.R.E. (413): Notice under M.R.E. 404(b) and 413 of 5 Nov 25.
[4] Charge Sheet.

6. On 18 March 2026, the government provided the defense with a R.C.M. 701 disclosure regarding a conversation they had with CS3 Garcia.[5] According to the disclosure, CS3 Garica heard from an unknown source that CSSN Copeland put something in GSM3 Delacruz's drink. CS3 Garica also told the trial counsel that she heard from an unknown source that CSSN Copeland tried to get on top of DCFA Swanger while CSSN Copeland was intoxicated. "Before anything happened, DCFA Swanger left."[6]

7. On 26 March 2026, the government provided the defense with a R.C.M. 701 disclosure regarding a conversation they had with DCFN Swanger.[7] She stated that on 1 May, she invited CSSN Copeland to dinner with her and two other girls. After dinner, CSSN Copeland invited them to his barracks room.

8. DCFN Swanger stated that she, CSSN Copeland, DCFNs Trinity McCray, Flowers, Arnold, and Mr. Addison were present in the room. The group was drinking alcohol. According to DCFN Swanger, CSSN Copeland was more intoxicated than the others. At some point, CSSN Copeland asked her, "Aren't you going to get your birthday kiss?" DCFN Swanger told him words to the effect of "no, let's not, I don't know you, I just invited you to my birthday." CSSN Copeland kept his hands on top of her shoulders and pushed her from the common area into his room. DCFN Swanger got one foot into CSSN Copeland's bedroom and stated she saw CSSN Copeland's roommate in the room with headphones on, but he never said anything or acknowledged them. She believed CSSN Copeland's roommate did not see CSSN Copeland's hands on her shoulders because he was sitting in a corner of their room. DCFN Swanger stated at that moment DCFN McCray saw her being pushed by CSSN Copeland and intervened by stating it was time to go. CSSN Copeland then let go. CSSN Copeland had his hands on her for about 30 seconds. DCFN Swanger stated as they were all leaving, CSSN Copeland started following them to their cars. CSSN Copeland was shirtless and crying. It was approximately 2000 when they left.[8]

9. On 2 April 2026, there was a pretrial conference. On that same day, the trial counsel indicated that it planned to provide notice pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b) regarding the DCFA Swanger allegations.

10. As of this filing, the trial counsel has not provided additional notice pursuant to M.R.E. 404(b).

LAW

11. Military Rule of Evidence (M.R.E.) 404(b)(1) provides that evidence of other crimes, wrongs, or other acts is not admissible to prove a person's character in order to show that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with the character.[9] M.R.E. 404 states that the

[5] Enclosure (A): Gov't R.C.M. 701 Disclosure of CS3 Garcia-Barrera of 18 Mar 26.
[6] *Id*. at 2.
[7] Enclosure (B): Gov't R.C.M. 701 Disclosure of DCFN Swanger of 26 Mar 26.
[8] *Id*.
[9] MIL.R.EVID. 404(b)(1).

evidence of other crimes, wrongs, or other acts *may* be admissible to prove motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake, or lack of accident.[10] The admissibility of such evidence is also subject to the requirement that its probative value be weighed against danger of unfair prejudice.[11]

12. To determine whether uncharged conduct is admissible evidence under M.R.E. 404(b), a court must determine: (1) whether the evidence reasonably supports a finding by members that the accused committed prior crimes, wrongs, or acts; (2) the fact of consequence that is made more or less probable by the existence of this evidence; and (3) whether the probative value substantially outweighs the danger of unfair prejudice under M.R.E. 403.[12] All three factors must be present for the evidence to be admissible.[13]

13. To be admissible, the evidence must have some independent relevance under M.R.E. 401 and 402.[14] Evidence is relevant if: (a) it has any tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence, and (b) the fact is of consequence in determining the action.[15] Irrelevant evidence is not admissible.[16]

14. In order to meet the first prong of *Reynolds*, the government must show by a preponderance of the evidence that the prior crime, wrong, or act occurred.[17] M.R.E. 404(b) does not require the trial judge to determine by a preponderance of the evidence that an act was committed; but the court is required to consider all of the evidence offered and decide whether the jury could reasonably find that act was committed.[18]

15. Under M.R.E. 404(b) evidence should not be admitted if the only purpose for which it is being offered is to show the accused's predisposition to commit the crime.[19] "[G]enerally, use of any characteristic 'profile' as evidence of guilt or innocence in criminal trials is improper."[20] Such evidence is improper because it treads too closely to character evidence offered to show that an accused acted in conformity with that character and, therefore, committed the act in question, evidence prohibited under MRE 404(b).[21] M.R.E. 404(b) prohibits the "propensity inference"– that a person's character (either as a trait, or in the form of specific instances of past conduct) suggests that the person did something because of a propensity to do such things.

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[10] MIL.R.EVID. 404(b)(2) (emphasis added).
[11] *United States v. Mirandes-Gonzalez*, 26 M.J. 411, 413 (C.M.A. 1988) (citing MIL.R.EVID. 403).
[12] *United States v. Reynolds*, 29 M.J. 105, 109 (C.M.A. 1989).
[13] *United States v. Barnett*, 63 M.J. 388, 394 (C.A.A.F. 2006) (citing *Reynolds* at 109).
[14] *Reynolds*, 29 M.J. at109.
[15] MIL.R.EVID. 401.
[16] MIL.R.EVID. 402(b).
[17] *United States v. Mirandes-Gonzalez*, 26 M.J. 411, 413 (C.M.A. 1988) (citing *Huddleston v. United States*, 485 U.S. 681 (1988)).
[18] *Huddleston* at 688-90.
[19] *United States v. Booker*, 62 M.J. 703, 708 (A.F. Ct. Crim. App. 2006).
[20] *United States v. Banks*, 36 M.J. 150, 161 (C.M.A. 1992).
[21] *Id.*

ARGUMENT

16. **The government failed to provide notice. As such, this evidence should be excluded.** CSSN Copeland is in pretrial confinement in a maximum status. He has demanded a speedy trial. Therefore, the government should move expeditiously toward trial. If they have not provided notice by the third motions deadline when they have had knowledge of this information since 18 March 2026, it should be excluded. This Court must guard against propensity evidence being masqueraded as something else. Here, the government has not identified how the evidence will be used in each instance nor how they intend for this Court to be able to adequately instruct members so as to allow a full and fair trial.

17. Trial counsel must state exactly what issue it is trying to prove in order for the court to determine whether the evidence is probative, how probative it is, and whether it should be admitted in light of the other evidence in the case, and the ever-present danger of unfair prejudice. As the Eighth Circuit said in *United States v. Hogue*,

> In demonstrating the relevance of proffered other acts evidence, the government must articulate precisely the evidentiary hypothesis by which a fact of consequence may be inferred from the evidence of other acts. There must be a clear and logical connection between the alleged earlier offense or misconduct and the case being tried.[22]

Here, the government failed to provide any notice, and the military judge should demand more.[23]

18. **The uncharged conduct at issue in this case does not make a fact of consequence more probable and any probative value is outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice.** Evidence of a crime, wrong, or other act is not admissible to prove a person's character in order to show that on a particular occasion the person acted in accordance with that character. As such the government should be precluded from admitting any evidence of uncharged misconduct.

19. A fact of consequence is not made more or less probable by the existence of this evidence. The act of touching a person's shoulder and asked about a birthday kiss is not misconduct. It is not relevant to any charge in this case. The government failed to provide notice or articulate how it is relevant to any fact of consequence. Therefore, it should be excluded.

20. The probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice under M.R.E. 403. Because there is no probative value to this evidence, the danger of unfair prejudice is high. The evidence will give the members the impression that CSSN Copeland gets intoxicated and puts his hands on woman. While this is not probative of any fact of consequence, it does run the risk of substantially prejudicing CSSN Copeland by unfairly making him look like a bad person. Admission of this evidence will confuse the issues and create another trial within a trial regarding an ancillary and irrelevant issue. Therefore, it should be excluded.

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[22] 827 F.2d 660, 662 (10th Cir. 1987).
[23] *See e.g., United States v. Harvey*, 845 F.2d 760 (8th Cir. 1988).

RELIEF REQUESTED

The defense requests this Court prohibit the government from offering the above uncharged acts under M.R.E. 404(b) as they have failed to articulate any permissible purpose and have not provided any instruction that could remedy the inescapable use of the evidence merely for propensity purposes.

EVIDENCE & ORAL ARGUMENT

The defense offers the following enclosure as evidence in support of this motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Gov't R.C.M. 701 Disclosure of CS3 Garcia-Barrera of 18 Mar 26
b. Enclosure (B): Gov't R.C.M. 701 Disclosure of DCFN Swanger of 26 Mar 26

Unless conceded by the government or granted by the Military Judge based on pleadings alone, the defense requests oral argument on this matter.

[redacted]
A. M. SERRES
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 15 April 2026, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]
A. M. SERRESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. Navy**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE** **(M.R.E. 404b)** **15 April 2026**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Gov't R.C.M. 701 Disclosure of CS3 Garcia-Barrera of 18 Mar 26

b. Enclosure (B): Gov't R.C.M. 701 Disclosure of DCFN Swanger of 26 Mar 26

The defense cites the following enclosure from other defense motions:

a. Enclosure (A) of Def MTE M.R.E. (413): Notice under M.R.E. 404(b) and 413 of 5 Nov 25

18 Mar 26

From: CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, Chief Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH CS3 GLADIS GARCIA-BARRERA

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 27 February 2026, CDR Lauren Mayo, JAGC, USN, LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN2 Nicole Orsillo, USN, spoke to CS3 Gladis Garcia-Barrera, USN, in person.

a. CS3 Garcia stated she was on the same Watch Team in the galley as CS3 A.R, and believes she was CS3 A.R's Watch Captain. There were three Culinary Specialists on the Watch Team – CS3 Garcia, CS3 A.R., and another Sailor named Miguel. CS3 Garcia said she met CS3 A.R. in 2024. CS3 Garcia went TAD to another ship, and when she returned back to USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) she got closer to CS3 A.R.. 28 May 2025, was one of the first times CS3 Garcia hung out with CS3 A.R. outside of work.

b. CSSN Copeland was on the Watch Team that relieved CS3 Garcia's Watch Team. CSSN Copeland's Watch Team consisted of CS3 Bucol, CS3 JeanJacques, and himself.

c. On 28 May 2025, CS3 Garcia and CS3 A.R. ordered an Uber to go to Target. When they were ready to leave Target, CS3 Garcia ordered a ride through Z-Trip. CS3 Garcia was dropped off at her PPV first, and then CS3 A.R. was dropped off. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. was happy that day. CS3 A.R. told CS3 Garcia that CSSN Copeland invited her over to make tacos. CS3 Garcia said she had heard that other Sailors from their ship were also at CSSN Copeland's barracks room but eventually left. She heard that CS3 A.R. stayed at CSSN Copeland's after everyone left. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. invited her over to CSSN Copeland's, but she declined the offer. CSSN Copeland told her he transferred from USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) because his Chief did not like him, but CS3 Garcia said she thought that was weird because that was not a reason to be transferred.

d. CS3 A.R. never told CS3 Garcia she had mental health issues, but CS3 Garcia found out when she got back from being TAD that CS3 A.R. had previously been to NMCP for mental health help. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. would joke about going UA but it was never serious. On 28 May 2025, CS3 A.R. was talking to ET3 Rich, but CS3 Garcia was not sure if they were dating. CS3 Garcia said CS3 A.R. was not romantically interested in CSSN Copeland.

e. The last message CS3 Garcia received from CS3 A.R. was a TikTok video at 1715 on 28 May 2025. CS3 Garcia clarified that the message may have been sent to her earlier than 1715, but when she is asleep. CS3 Garcia puts her phone in airplane mode, so the message may have been sent earlier. CS3 A.R.'s last message to CS3 Garcia on Instagram was at 2244 on 28 May 2025. After the message from 2244, CS3 Garcia never heard from CS3 A.R. again. CS3 Garcia received a phone call the next day from CS3 JeanJacques, HT3 Gillespie, and ET3 Rich asking about CS3 A.R.'s whereabouts, and CS3 Garcia told them CS3 A.R. had been with CSSN Copeland last. CS3 Garcia believed CS3 A.R. must have been sleeping because CS3 Garcia messaged CS3 A.R. around 0500 on 29 May 2025, and it was not like CS3 A.R. to not respond to her.

f. CSSN Copeland was scheduled to return to work the next day but did not. CS3 Garcia said when CSSN Copeland came back to work she completely avoided him. CSSN Copeland was quieter than usual. CS3 Garcia said when CSSN Copeland was asked about CS3 A.R. by others, he did not answer. CS3 Garcia heard CSSN Copeland had a scratch on his face, and believed she heard that from JJ, but did not see for herself if he did have a scratch. Prior to CS3 A.R. going missing, CS3 Garcia said she never spoke to CSSN Copeland, so she was not sure of his demeanor. She said CSSN Copeland had previously been on restriction but was not sure if he was working in the galley at that time.

g. CS3 Garcia said she heard CSSN Copeland had raped and hospitalized another female while he was on USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). Another female by the name of V/S.R. apparently slashed CSSN Copeland's tires. CS3 Garcia said that women do not do things like that unwarranted.

h. CS3 Garcia was not sure if CSSN Copeland had more than one phone. She was aware that CSSN Copeland did not have a drivers license. However, he would drive his friend's Challenger while he was on deployment. CS3 Garcia said that friend's name was LSSN Stallone.

i. CS3 Garcia said she knows FCC Parker, and knows he is the last person to see CS3 A.R. She said she was disappointed in FCC Parker for not bringing CSSN Copeland to work, and for not asking CS3 A.R. if she was okay. CS3 Garcia did not talk to FCC Parker at work and was unsure of his reputation onboard.

j. Another Sailor, GSM3 Delacruz, would talk to CSSN Copeland a lot. CS3 Garcia said she thinks if what happened to CS3 A.R. did not happen to her, then it would have happened to GSM3 Delacruz. CS3 Garcia said once CSSN Copeland apparently put something in GSM3 Delacruz's drink and it caused her to throw up.

k. CS3 Garcia said there was another instance where DCFA Swanger was with CSSN Copeland and he tried to get on top of her while he was intoxicated. Before anything escalated, DFCA Swanger left.

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH CS3 GLADIS GARCIA-BARRERA

1. CS3 Garcia shared several images of text messages, receipts and other digital evidence related to this case. Photographs were obtained of the evidence, but after review, it appeared that the transfer was incomplete due to user error. CS3 Garcia was contacted at a later date and provided a complete record of the messages. Copies of both the failed attempt at collection and the completed correct attempt will be provided in discovery.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation. The disclosures from the interview conducted by the Government are to reflect new or different information. To the extent the information is duplicative with already discovered information, it is provided as context. This summary does not constitute a statement adopted or approved by the witness and may not reflect the witness's exact words.

[redacted]
L. A. MAYO[redacted]

26 Mar 26

From: LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel
To: Detailed Defense Counsel

Subj: GOVERNMENT DISCLOSURE: CONVERSATION WITH DCFN SAMANTHA SWANGER

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 701 (MCM 2024)
(b) *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
(c) *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972)
(d) JAGINST 5803.1E (20 Jan 15) Rule 3.8

1. On 26 March 2026, LCDR Christopher Dempsey, JAGC, USN, and LN2 Jocelyn M. Gomez, USN, spoke to DCFN Samantha Swanger, USN, in person. The following disclosures are provided:

a) DCFN Swanger stated she checked onboard the USS James E. Williams (DDG 95) on 11 April 2025. She stated she was part of the command's INDOC later that month with CSSN Copeland and a few other new sailors that were checking in.

b) DCFN Swanger stated her birthday was on Thursday, 1 May and she was making plans with two other girls to go to the Twisted Crab in Downtown Norfolk to eat to celebrate while they were at INDOC. She stated CSSN Copeland was eavesdropping and asked her if he could come along.

c) DCFN Swanger stated she thought if she invited him it would be a good opportunity to meet new people. She stated she asked CSSN Copeland why he got moved from his old ship and he said it was because of mental health issues. DCFN Swanger did not pry any further and believed this was reasonable. DCFN Swanger invited him to dinner.

d) DCFN Swanger stated after dinner at the Twisted Crab, CSSN Copeland invited her and the others to come over to his barracks and drink alcohol. DCFN Swanger and the others agreed. She stated CSSN Copeland's friend, Mr. Justin Addison, brought some cans of Four Lokos to the barracks. She stated her and her friends had a bad feeling about something but they kept drinking. She stated they were listening to music and she felt comfortable and safe with the people she was with. DCFN Swanger provided that she, CSSN Copeland, DCFN Trinity McCray, Flowers, Arnold, and Mr. Addison were present in the room.

e) DCFN Swanger stated about an hour after they arrived, CSSN Copeland started rubbing his junk on her and DCFN Trinity McCray while they were dancing. CSSN Copeland was also acting very weird while everyone else was calm and enjoying their time. CSSN Copeland had drank about 2 or 3 cans of Four Loko and was overly drunk. The group thought it would be better for him to start drinking water. DCFN McCray and CSSN Copeland went to the vending machines to get water. DCFN Swanger stated DCFN

McCray told her CSSN Copeland started pressing onto her and saying that he knew she wanted to do something with him and DCFN McCray told him something to the effect of "no, I'm gay" and removed herself from the situation.

f) DCFN Swanger stated once they got back to the room, CSSN Copeland laid on the floor. The group decided it was time to go. DCFN Swanger stated everyone was saying bye and as she was saying bye, CSSN Copeland asked for help cleaning up. DCFN Swanger agreed and got a trash bag to help with the trash. After cleaning the living room for about a minute, CSSN Copeland then said he needed help to clean his room, not the living room. DCFN Swanger was confused because the group had not been in his bedroom at all, except to transit to the bathroom. Meanwhile, the group was leaving the common area and was in the hallway with the front door still open as they waited for DCFN Swanger to finish cleaning.

g) DCFN Swanger stated that CSSN Copeland then placed his hands on top of her shoulders and asked her "aren't you going to get your birthday kiss?" DCFN Swanger told him words to the effect of "no, let's not, I don't know you, I just invited you to my birthday." CSSN Copeland kept his hands on top of her shoulders and pushed her from the common area into his room.

h) DCFN Swanger got one foot into CSSN Copeland's bedroom and stated she saw CSSN Copeland's roommate in the room with headphones on, but he never said anything or acknowledged them. She believed CSSN Copeland's roommate did not see CSSN Copeland's hands on her shoulders because he was sitting in a corner of their room. DCFN Swanger stated she felt her fight or flight instinct kick in and she was trying to get away or see if someone outside in the hallway could get her.

i) DCFN Swanger stated at that moment DCFN McCray saw her being pushed by CSSN Copeland and intervened by stating it was time to go. CSSN Copeland then let go. CSSN Copeland had his hands on her for about 30 seconds.

j) DCFN Swanger stated as they were all leaving, CSSN Copeland started following them to their cars. CSSN Copeland was shirtless and crying. It was approximately 2000 when they left.

k) DCFN Swanger stated she did not know what CSSN Copeland was crying about, but GSM3 Aaliyah De La Cruz had told her that CSSN Copeland called her that night and told her he was locked out of his room and asked if she could come over. DCFN Swanger stated GSM3 De La Cruz told her CSSN Copeland told her he was crying because he was upset, saying he was a horrible person for doing what he did to DCFN Swanger in the room and he did not know what to do.

l) DCFN Swanger stated the next day, Friday, CSSN Copeland did not show up to INDOC. She stated she told her HT1 that CSSN Copeland was not present at INDOC.

m) DCFN Swanger stated DCFN McCray later cursed CSSN Copeland out and him what he did that day was unacceptable.

n) DCFN Swanger stated she drank about ¾ of a Four Loko can that Thursday night and that they only drank at CSSN Copeland's barracks (and not at dinner). DFCN Swanger provided she was not overly intoxicated and was instead just was feeling good. CSSN Copeland had drank 2-3 Four Lokos.

o) DCFN Swanger stated she was still living onboard the ship around June 2025. She stated she stayed away from CSSN Copeland when he got back to the ship but there was always that weird feeling when someone leaves the ship and they come back. She stated everyone on board the ship knew about CSSN Copeland's reputation after what he did to DCFN Swanger.

p) DCFN Swanger stated she did not know V/A.R. but she knows that DCFN McCray was an FSA when V/A.R disappeared.

q) DCFN Swanger apologized for not coming forward with this information sooner. DCFN Swanger explained that she didn't want to distract from the efforts to find V/A.R. and prosecute V/A.R.'s case and did not want to get in trouble for drinking alcohol underage. Ultimately, DCFN Swanger decided it was time to come forward.

2. The preceding is not a verbatim recitation of any conversation and was not written contemporaneously with any conversation. The disclosures from the interview conducted by the Government are to reflect new or different information. To the extent the information is duplicative with already discovered information, it is provided as context. This summary does not constitute a statement adopted or approved by the witness and may not reflect the witness's exact words.

[redacted]
C. B. DEMPSEY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **5 May 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a), which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 513 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, and AEs XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a).

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 5th day of May 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.

Volume 25 of Volumes 25

CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

(and accompanying papers)

of

COPELAND	JERMIAH	T.	[redacted]	E-4
(Last Name)	*(First Name)*	*MI*	*(DoD ID No.)*	*(Rank)*

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)	U.S. NAVY	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
(Unit/Command Name)	*(Branch of Service)*	*(Location)*

By

General Court-Martial (GCM) COURT-MARTIAL

(GCM, SPCM, or SCM)

Convened by COMMANDER

(Title of Convening Authority)

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

(Unit/Command of Convening Authority)

Tried at

REGION LEGAL SERVICE OFFICE MID-ATLANTIC, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

(Place or Places of Trial)

On 09OCT2025, 10DEC2025, 05MAR2026, 30APR2026, 05JUN, 08-09JUN2026

(Date or Dates of Trial)

Companion and other cases NONE

(Rank, Name, DOD ID No., (if applicable), or enter "None")

This volume contains

Cover Page Volume 25 of 25, and Appellate Exhibits (AE XCIX through AE CXV).



APPELLATE EXHIBITS

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **5 May 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a), which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 513 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, and AEs XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a).

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 5th day of May 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

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F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CSSN / E-3** **U.S. NAVY**	**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO DEFENSE MOTION IN LIMINE UNDER M.R.E. 404(b) DATED 15 APRIL 2026** **20 APRIL 2026**

MOTION

1. The Government does not intend to affirmatively introduce the evidence outlined in the Defense's motion. However, the Defense has indicated a desire to introduce evidence of the Accused's character for peacefulness. Should this occur, the Government reserves its right to introduce rebuttal evidence, including the allegation made by DCFSN Samantha Swanger, USN.

FACTS

2. DCFN Swanger provided that on 1 May 2025—less than a month before the Accused murdered CS3 A.R.—she went out to dinner with a group, including the Accused, to celebrate her birthday.[1] After dinner, the Accused invited her and others back to his barracks room to drink alcohol and continue celebrating and the group agreed.[2] After the group had begun the process of leaving, the Accused was intoxicated and placed his hands on top of DCFN Swanger's shoulders and asked her "aren't you going to get your birthday kiss?"[3] DCFN Swanger told him words to the effect of "no, let's not, I don't know you, I just invited you to my birthday."[4] CSSN Copeland ignored her and kept his hands on top of her shoulders.[5] He then pushed her with his hands on top of her shoulder from the common area into his room before someone else intervened.[6] This encounter lasted about 30 seconds.[7]

1. Def. Encl. B.
2. Def. Encl. B.
3. Def. Encl. B.
4. Def. Encl. B.
5. Def. Encl. B.
6. Def. Encl. B.
7. Def. Encl. B.

3. On 5 March 2026, the Defense requested production of AA Desiclali Ramirez to testify, in part, to the Accused's "character for peacefulness."[8]

BURDEN

4. The proponent of the evidence bears the burden to demonstrate the admissibility of the evidence they seek to admit.[9]

LAW

5. Under M.R.E. 404(a)(2), "[t]he accused may offer evidence of the accused's pertinent trait and, if the evidence is admitted, the prosecution may offer evidence to rebut it."

6. "Evidence is relevant if: (a) it has any tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence; and (b) the fact is of consequence in determining the action."[10] When evidence offers any amount of probative value, "[t]he military judge may exclude relevant evidence if the probative value is substantially outweighed by a danger of one or more of the following: unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, misleading the members, undue delay, wasting time, or needlessly presenting cumulative evidence."[11]

ARGUMENT

7. The Government does not intend to introduce DCFN Swanger's testimony on the merits under M.R.E. 404(b).

8. However, if the Defense introduces evidence of the Accused's character for peacefulness, the Government intends to offer testimony from DFCN Swanger to rebut that evidence. Just about a month after he assaulted CSSN S.R., a few weeks before he assaulted Y.J., and not even a month before he murdered CS3 A.R., the Accused violently put his hands on DCFN Swanger and pushed her back into his bedroom. The Government would only call DCFN Swanger to support this evidence. This evidence is extremely close in time to a significant portion of the charged misconduct, took place in the Accused's barracks room (the scene of many of the charged offenses), would be brief, is not misleading or confusing, and is of high probative value in rebutting any evidence of the Accused's character for peacefulness. As such, this evidence of violent behavior is relevant to rebut any evidence of the Accused's character for peacefulness and its high probative value outweighs any danger of unfair prejudice.

RELEIF REQUESTED

9. The Government respectfully requests that this Court find the Defense's motion moot, but find that

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8 Enclosure 1.
9. R.C.M. 905.
10. M.R.E. 401; *see also* M.R.E. 403.
11. M.R.E. 403.

this testimony from DCFN Swanger would be relevant in rebuttal to any evidence of the Accused's character for peacefulness.

EVIDENCE PRESENTED

10. The Government offers the following in support of this motion:

Enclosure 1 – Second Supplemental Request for the Production of Witnesses ICO United States v. CSSN Jermiah T. Copeland, USN dated 5 March 2026.

ORAL ARGUMENT

11. The Government requests oral argument.

[redacted]

C. B. DEMPSEY
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Special Trial Counsel

5 Mar 26

From: LCDR Amanda M. Serfess, JAGC, USN, Defense Counsel
To: CDR Lauren A. Mayo, JAGC, USN, Special Trial Counsel

Subj: SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WITNESSES ICO UNITED STATES V. CSSN JERMIAH T. COPELAND

Ref: (a) R.C.M. 703
(b) 10 USC § 846
(c) R.C.M 1001

1. Per references (a) through (c), the Defense requests that the government produce the following witness: **AA Desiclali Ramirezvasquez, USN**, Norfolk, VA, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69). The Government is in possession of AA Ramirezvasquez's contact information. AA Ramirezvasquez has known CSSN Copeland since February 2022. They were friends and dating partners. AA Ramirezvasquez will testify to CSSN Copeland's character for peacefulness.

[redacted]

APPELLATE EXHIBIT CI
1 of 1

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. Navy**	**DEFENSE RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT MOTION IN LIMINE (PRELIMINARY RULING ON ADMISSIBILITY OF HEARSAY)** **22 April 2026**

MOTION

The defense moves this Court to deny the government's motion because the issues are either not ripe or the government has failed to meet its burden that the statements at issue are admissible. Further, the defense requests this Court deny the government's motion as to evidence regarding the possibility that CS3 A.R. committed suicide as that would be a complete defense to the charge of premeditated murder.

BURDEN

As the proponent of the evidence and the moving party, the government bears the burden. R.C.M. 905(c).

FACTS

1. CSSN Copeland is charged with violating Articles 118 (Premeditated Murder), 120 (Sexual Assault and Aggravated Sexual Contact), 128 (Aggravated Assault), 120c (Indecent Recording and Broadcasting), 131b (Obstruction of Justice), 128b (Domestic Violence), and 107 (False Official Statement).[1]

2. Trial is scheduled for 3-26 June 2026.[2]

3. CSSN C.R. told NCIS that she was on the mess decks with her boyfriend in the early morning hours of 23 July 2024 when CSSN C.R.'s boyfriend stated that he was going to bed. After her boyfriend left, she received snapchat messages from CSSN Copeland requesting the two go somewhere private to talk. CSSN C.R. agreed and went to the fantail to be in private with CSSN Copeland. During this time, CSSN C.R. alleges the assaults on the charge sheet occurred. On 24 July 2024 at 0211, CSSN C.R. sent some text messages to her boyfriend.[3]

[1] Charge Sheet.
[2] Trial Management Order.
[3] AE XCV at 1-2.

4. On 29 May 2025, in the early morning hours, ET3 Rich received a phone call from CS3 A.R. However, there is no evidence to suggest that CSSN Copeland threatened CS3 A.R. or that she was scared for her life. During the phone call, she did not say anything about CSSN Copeland, she did not say anything about a "startling offense." There was no mention of an assault, sexual assault, attempted sexual assault, or another violence. CS3 A.R. did not say anything about being frightened or threatened. According to two witnesses who were CS3 A.R.'s ex-boyfriends, ET3 Rich and HT3 Gillespie, it was normal for CS3 A.R. to have "an episode" where she would cry and panic.[4]

5. At some point that evening, after that phone call, CS3 A.R. calmed down and went back to CSSN Copeland's room. CSSN Copeland's suitemates saw CS3 A.R. alive and breathing in his room sometime during the morning of 29 May 2025 (between 0530 and 0645).[5]

6. At around 0852, FCC Parker observed CS3 A.R. alive, CS3 A.R. looked up, dismissively waved, rolled over and went back to sleep.[6]

7. Notably, FCC Parker also texted his duty section leader immediately after seeing CS3 A.R. alive.[7] On 2 June 2026, he texted with a NCIS Special Agent that CS3 A.R. was alive and acknowledged him.[8] Only after the intense media attention defense describes and cites in Appellate Exhibit XXII does FCC Parker remember a completely new version of CS3 A.R.

8. The cause and manner of death of CS3 A.R. are undetermined.[9] The defense is unaware of any expert who has opined that suicide can be ruled out as a cause of death. There is not a scintilla of direct evidence that CSSN Copeland murdered CS3 A.R. There is not a scintilla of evidence that CSSN Copeland strangled CS3 A.R.

LAW

Confrontation Clause

9. The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides, in part: "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to be confronted with the witnesses against him."[10] The Confrontation Clause requires "the declarant to be physically present in the courtroom; physical presence allows the accused to confront the declarant in person, and cross-examine him in front of the trier of fact."[11] The Confrontation Clause's mandate is analogous to the evidentiary hearsay rules: "hearsay is defined as 'a statement, other than one made by the

[4] Enclosure (A): Results of Interview of ET3 Rich of 7 Jun 25; Enclosure (B): Results of Interview of HT3 Gilespie of 8 Jun 15.
[5] AE XXV at 11-12; AE XXV at 13-14.
[6] Enclosure (C): Results of Interview and Media of FCC Parker of 3 Jun 26.
[7] *Id.* at 7. A.R. "was awake long enough to tell me she was 'okay' and went back to bed."
[8] Enclosure (D): Text messages between FCC Parker and SA Miller of 2 Jun 26.
[9] Enclosure (E): CS3 A.R. Certificate of Death.
[10] U.S. CONST. amend. VI.
[11] *United States v. Williamson*, 65 M.J. 706, 715 (Army Ct. Crim. App. 2007) (quotation marks and citation omitted).

declarant while testifying at the trial or hearing, offered in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted.'"[12]

10. The two concepts, constitutional confrontation and evidentiary hearsay, "are generally designed to protect similar values,"[13] and "stem from the same roots."[14] However, "it is quite a different thing to suggest that the overlap is complete and that the Confrontation Clause is nothing more or less than a codification of the rules of hearsay and their exceptions as they existed historically. . . ."[15] Although the "hearsay rules and the Confrontation Clause are generally designed to protect similar values," they do not completely "overlap."[16] Thus, a statement properly admitted under a hearsay exception may violate confrontational rights.[17] Similarly, a violation of the hearsay rules may not infringe upon the Sixth Amendment.[18]

11. In *Crawford*, the Supreme Court addressed the intersection between hearsay exceptions and the Confrontation Clause, holding "testimonial" statements of witnesses not testifying at trial are admissible "only where the declarant is unavailable, and only where the defendant has had a prior opportunity to cross examine."[19] The Court drew a distinction between testimonial and nontestimonial hearsay: Where nontestimonial hearsay is at issue, it is wholly consistent with the Framers' design to afford the States flexibility in their development of hearsay law . . . . Where testimonial evidence is at issue, however, the Sixth Amendment demands what the common law required: unavailability and a prior opportunity for cross-examination. The term "testimonial" applies at a minimum to prior testimony at a preliminary hearing, before a grand jury, or at a former trial; and to police interrogations.[20]

12. The Supreme Court held in *Pointer v. Texas* that "there are few subjects, perhaps, upon which this Court and other courts have been more nearly unanimous than in their expressions of belief that the right of confrontation and cross-examination is an essential and fundamental requirement for the kind of fair trial which is this country's constitutional goal."[21] "Indeed, we have expressly declared that to deprive an accused of the right to cross-examine the witnesses against him is a denial of the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of due process of law."[22]

Hearsay

13. Hearsay is not admissible unless any of the following provides otherwise: (a) a federal statute

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[12] *United States v. McCaskey*, 30 M.J. 188, 190-91 (C.M.A. 1990) (quoting MIL. R. EVID. 801(c)); *see also* Federal Rule of Evidence 801(c).
[13] *California v. Green,* 399 U.S. 149, 155 (1970).
[14] *Dutton v. Evans,* 400 U.S. 74, 86 (1970).
[15] *Green*, 399 U.S. at 155.
[16] *Id*.
[17] *Id*. at 155-56 (citing *Barber v. Page*, 390 U.S. 719, 88 S. Ct. 1318, 20 L. Ed. 2d 255 (1968)).
[18] *Id*. at 156.
[19] *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. 36, 59 (2004).
[20] *Id*. at 68 (footnotes omitted).
[21] 380 U.S. 400, 405 (1965).
[22] *Id.*

applicable in trial by courts-martial or (b) the military rules of evidence.[23]

14. "Hearsay" means a statement that: (1) the declarant does not make while testifying at the current trial or hearing; and (2) a party offers in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted in the statement.[24]

15. Out of court statements are presumptively unreliable.[25]

M.R.E. 802(2)—Hearsay, Excited Utterance

16. Excited Utterance is one possible exception to the general rule against hearsay evidence.[26] An excited utterance is "[a] statement *relating to a startling event* of condition, made while the declarant was under the stress of excitement that it caused."[27] The implicit premise [of the exception] is that a person who reacts 'to a startling event or condition' while 'under the stress of excitement caused' thereby will speak truthfully because of a lack of opportunity to fabricate."[28]

17. For a statement to qualify as an excited utterance: (1) the statement must be "spontaneous, excited or impulsive rather than the product of reflection and deliberation"; (2) the event prompting the utterance must be "startling"; and (3) the declarant must be "under the stress of excitement caused by the event."[29] Several factors inform on the third prong, including: the lapse of time between the startling event and the statement, whether the statement was made in response to an inquiry, age of the declarant, and the physical and mental condition of the declarant.[30]

18. The timing of the "startling event" impacts both the first and third prongs of the *Arnold* test.[31] Lapse of time is a named third prong factor in *Donaldson*,[32] and regarding the first *Arnold* prong, timing impacts whether the statement was spontaneous, excited, or impulsive (the closer in time, the less likely the statement resulted from "careful consideration").[33] Length in time is not dispositive, and the totality of the circumstances governs.[34] As a general proposition,

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[23] MIL. R. EVID. 802.
[24] MIL. R. EVID. 801(c).
[25] *See Idaho v. Wright*, 497 U.S. 805, 824 (1990); MIL. R. EVID. 802.
[26] MIL. R. EVID. 803(2); *see* Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, Analysis of the Military Rules of Evidence app. 16 at A16-6 (2019 ed.) [hereinafter Drafter's Analysis] ("This rule is taken from Rule 803 of the MCM (2016 Edition) without amendment."); *see* Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, Analysis of the Military Rules of Evidence app. 22 at A22-63 (2016 ed.) ("Rule 803(2) is taken from the Federal Rule [803(2)] verbatim.").
[27] MIL. R. EVID. 803(2) (emphasis added).
[28] *United States v. Jones*, 30 M.J. 127, 129 (C.M.A. 1990).
[29] *United States v. Arnold*, 25 M.J. 129, 132 (C.M.A. 1987) (internal quotation marks omitted) (citations omitted).
[30] *United States v. Donaldson*, 58 M.J. 477, 483 (C.A.A.F. 2003) (citing *Reed v. Thalacker*, 198 F.3d 1058, 1061 (8th Cir. 1999) and *Morgan v. Foretich*, 846 F.2d 941, 947 (4th Cir. 1988)).
[31] *Henry* at 4.
[32] *Donaldson* at 483.
[33] *Henry* at 6; *Arnold* at 132.
[34] *Donaldson* at 483; *Arnold* at 132 (citations omitted).

though, where a statement relating to a startling event does not immediately follow that event, there is a strong presumption against admissibility under M.R.E. 803(2)."[35]

Present Sense Impression

19. A present sense impression is an exception to the rule against hearsay. A statement of a present sense impression is one describing or explaining an event of condition, made while or immediately after the declarant perceived it.[36]

Forfeiture by wrongdoing

20. For a statement to qualify under the forfeiture by wrongdoing exception, (1) the party against whom the statement is offered must have wrongfully caused the declarant's unavailability as a witness, and (2) the party caused the witness's unavailability with the intent to make that witness unavailable, i.e., that the accused intended their conduct to prevent the witness from testifying against them in court.[37] With respect to the second prong, the party's intent, in causing the declarant's unavailability, need not be motivated solely by the desire to prevent the declarant's would-be testimony, rather, only that it was a motivating factor in the party's decision to take such an action.[38]

21. Unconfronted testimony will not be admitted without a showing that the accused intended to prevent a witness from testifying. "In cases where the evidence suggested that the defendant had caused a person to be absent but had not done so to prevent the person from testifying--as in the typical murder case involving accusatorial statements by the victim--the testimony [is] excluded unless it was confronted or fell within [another] exception."[39]

M.R.E. 403—Unfair Prejudice

22. Relevant evidence may be excluded if the danger of unfair prejudice substantially outweighs the probative value.[40] The term "unfair prejudice" relates to the "capacity of some concededly relevant evidence to lure the factfinder into declaring guilt on a ground different from proof specific to the offense charged.[41] Unfair prejudice relates to an "undue tendency to suggest

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[35] *E.g.*, *Donaldson* at 484 (CAAF 2003) (citing *United States v. Jones*, 30 M.J. 127, 129 (C.M.A. 1990); *but see Arnold* at 132, where a statement after a 12-hour lapse in time was held admissible based on the declarant's "unsolicited, spontaneous statements . . . at the first available opportunity," and when the victim was acting "not only under the influence of the attempted [crime], but also under the threat of being shot by her father.").
[36] MIL. R. EVID. 804(1).
[37] *Giles v. California*, 554 U.S. 353, 364-68 (2008).
[38] *United States v. Becker*, 81 M.J. 483, 489 (C.A.A.F. 2021) (citing *United States v. Jackson*, 706 F.3d 264, 269 (4th Cir. 2013)).
[39] *Giles*, 554 U.S. at 361-62.
[40] MIL. R. EVID. 403.
[41] *United States v. Collier*, 67 M.J. 347, 354 (C.A.A.F. 2009) (citing *Old Chief v. United States*, 519 U.S. 172, 180 (1997) (analyzing the purpose behind FED. R. EVID. 403, which is identical to MIL. R. EVID. 403) (emphasis omitted).

decision on an improper basis, commonly, though not necessarily, an emotional one."[42] Unfair prejudice is analyzed regarding the integrity of the trial process, not prejudice to a particular party or witness.[43]

Foundation

23. At trial, the proponent has the burden of establishing an adequate evidentiary foundation.[44] This burden can be met with direct or circumstantial evidence.[45] "The requirement of authentication or identification as a condition precedent to admissibility is satisfied by evidence sufficient to support a finding that the matter in question is what its proponent claims."[46] Evidence may be authenticated through the testimony of a witness with knowledge "that a matter is what it is claimed to be."[47]

Complete Defense

24. In *Holmes v. South Carolina*, a defendant tried for murder and related crimes sought to present evidence of a third-party's guilt but was prohibited by a state evidentiary rule which prohibited such evidence if the government's forensic evidence was strong.[48] The Supreme Court held that:

> [S]tate and federal rulemakers have broad latitude under the Constitution to establish rules excluding evidence from criminal trials. . . . This latitude, however, has limits. Whether rooted directly in the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment or in the Compulsory Process or Confrontation Clauses of the Sixth Amendment, the Constitution guarantees criminal defendants a meaningful opportunity to present a complete defense. . . . This right is abridged by evidence rules that infring[e] upon a weighty interest of the accused and are arbitrary or disproportionate to the purposes they are designed to serve.

Id. at 324 (alterations in original) (internal citations and quotation marks omitted).

ARGUMENT

25. Text messages ABHAN C.R. sent to CSSN Cuestabravo on 24 July 2024 are not excited utterances.

The government has the burden to demonstrate that the messages to her boyfriend are excited utterances. They must demonstrate that (1) the statement was "spontaneous, excited or impulsive rather than the product of reflection and deliberation;" (2) the event prompting the utterance must be "startling;" and (3) the declarant must be "under the stress of excitement caused by the

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[42] *Id.* (citing FED. R. EVID. 403 advisory note).
[43] *Id.*
[44] *United States v. Maxwell*, 38 M.J. 148, 150 (C.M.A. 1993).
[45] *Id.* at 150-51.
[46] MIL. R. EVID. 901(a).
[47] MIL. R. EVID. 901(b)(1).
[48] 547 U.S. 319 (2006).

event."[49] Here, the government has not done so. For one, a plain reading of the text messages suggest that CSSN C.R. deliberated. She typed out messages, maybe in an effort to cover up her rendezvous with CSSN Copeland, after she deliberated for at least enough time to get to her rack (as she discusses her inability to get to sleep). Further, she does not say anything about an assault or violence. She says she cannot believe what happened, she says it is bad, but she says nothing about a "startling offense." The messages on their own do no lay the foundation for an excited utterance and this Court should require more.

26. Statements made by CSSN S.R. in the presence of CS2 Rezan Taylor and YN3 Sean Monaghan when she confronted CSSN Copeland on 11 April 2025 are not excited utterances.

Even by the government's account of the timeline of 11 April 2025, CSSN S.R.'s statements were not made close in time to any startling event. CSSN S.R. alleges that CSSN Copeland assaulted her, then she left the room. Instead of going to get law enforcement or going home, she waited outside CSSN Copeland's room for an hour and half and then made statements. She was not under the stress of the startling event. Further, according to YN3 Monaghan, he tried to leave his room that morning and CSSN S.R. barged back into the room wielding knife before making these statements. The government has not laid the foundation for these statements as excited utterances; therefore, this Court should deny the government's motion until/unless they can lay the foundation.

27. Y.J.'s alleged request for CSSN Copeland to "stop," or words to that effect.

For Y.J.'s statements to be admissible, the government must call Y.J, she must be subject to cross examination, and they must lay the foundation for her statements to fall within a hearsay exception.

28. Text messages of PSSN Irbin Gordillocruz when he arrived back to his barracks room on 29 May 2025. (Present sense impression).

For PSSN Gordillocruz's statements to be admissible, the government must call him, he must be subject to cross examination, and they must lay the foundation for his statements to fall within a hearsay exception.

29. Various statements of CS3 A.R. as an exception to the rule against hearsay due to forfeiture by wrongdoing under M.R.E. 804(b)(6).

The government has not and cannot establish the foundation for the forfeiture by wrongdoing exception. The government's attempts to suggest that CSSN Copeland caused CS3 A.R.'s absence with the intent to prevent her from testifying are mere speculation. Compare this case with *United States. v. Becker*.[50] In *Becker*, LT Becker's wife made several previous allegations of domestic violence over the years. There, the government attempted to use the forfeiture by

[49] *United States v. Arnold*, 25 M.J. 129, 132 (C.M.A. 1987) (internal quotation marks omitted) (citations omitted).
[50] 81 M.J. 483 (C.A.A.F. 2021).

wrongdoing exception by asking the court to speculate that because his wife had made previous allegations, LT Becker murdered his wife to prevent her from testifying. The CAAF in *Becker* held that the trial court did not abuse its discretion in excluding statements from LT Becker's wife because the government failed to meet its burden to demonstrate that the accused waived his right to confrontation by wrongdoing or had forfeited his hearsay objections under M.R.E. 804(b)(6) as the preponderance of the evidence failed to show that the accused intended to prevent the wife's testimony by causing her death.[51]

Here, there is much less evidence to satisfy the government's burden to prove intent. The government alleges a phone call where CS3 A.R. was upset, which was not unusual for CS3 A.R., is enough. In that call, she is alive, she gives the phone to CSSN Copeland, she never states that CSSN Copeland did anything to her, she did not call law enforcement, she called her ex-boyfriend. There is simply nothing about that call that suggests that CSSN Copeland would have had reason to think CS3 A.R. was going to testify against him or that he murdered her with the intent to prevent her testimony. At that time, CSSN Copeland had never had criminal charges preferred against him in any case. Further, the evidence, including the statements from CSSN Copeland's roommates and FCC Parker's very consistent statements prior to 8 April 2026, suggest that CS3 A.R. was alive for hours after that phone call.

30. CS3 A.R.'s statements to ET3 Daniel Rich at 0214 on 29 May 2025 are not excited utterances.

CS3 A.R.'s statements to ET3 Rich do not fall within the excited utterance exception to the rules against hearsay. To be an excited utterance, the government must prove that (1) the statement must be "spontaneous, excited or impulsive rather than the product of reflection and deliberation"; (2) the event prompting the utterance must be "startling"; and (3) the declarant must be "under the stress of excitement caused by the event."[52] Here, the government provides no evidence that there was a "startling" or that CS2 A.R. was under the stress caused by the event. ET3 Rich received a phone call from CS3 A.R. in the early morning hours of 29 May 2025. However, there is no evidence to suggest that CSSN Copeland threatened CS3 A.R. or that she was scared for her life. During the phone call, she did not say anything about CSSN Copeland, she did not say anything about an assault, a sexual assault, or an attempted sexual assault, she did not say anything about being frightened or threatened. According to two witnesses, ET3 Rich and HT3 Gillespie, it was normal for CS3 A.R. to have "an episode" where she would cry and panic.[53] The government states that CS3 A.R. must have been under the stress of "whatever just occurred." The government fails to provide any evidence of that, let alone any evidence that "whatever just occurred" was a startling event. CS3 A.R. was likely having one of her usual "episodes." The plain language of M.R.E. 803(2) requires that the statement relate to a startling event, CS3 A.R. does not mention a startling event; therefore, the government cannot establish that CS3 A.R.'s statements were an excited utterance.

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[51] *Id.*
[52] *United States v. Arnold*, 25 M.J. 129, 132 (C.M.A. 1987) (internal quotation marks omitted) (citations omitted).
[53] Enclosure (A): Results of Interview of ET3 Rich of 7 Jun 25; Enclosure (B): Results of Interview of HT3 Gilespie of 8 Jun 15.

31. This Court should deny the government's request to preclude admission of any evidence of "CS3 A.R. having 'episodes,' struggling with mental health, or other suggestion that she was suicidal" as this request is not ripe at this time. Further, suicide is a complete defense, and the defense must be permitted to present this evidence as long it does so with admissible evidence.[54]

RELIEF REQUESTED

The defense moves this Court to deny the government's motion because the issues are either not ripe or the government has failed to meet its burden that the statements at issue are admissible. Further, the defense requests this Court deny the government's motion as to evidence regarding the possibility that CS3 A.R. committed suicide as that would be a complete defense to the charge of premeditated murder.

EVIDENCE & ORAL ARGUMENT

The defense offers the following enclosure as evidence in support of this motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Results of Interview of ET3 Rich of 7 Jun 25
b. Enclosure (B): Results of Interview of HT3 Gilespie of 8 Jun 15
c. Enclosure (C): Results of Interview and Media of FCC Parker of 3 Jun 26
d. Enclosure (D): Text messages between FCC Parker and SA Miller of 2 Jun 26
e. Enclosure (E): CS3 A.R. Certificate of Death

The defense requests oral argument on this matter.

[redacted]
A. M. SERPESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 22 April 2026, a copy of this motion was served on this Court and the Trial Counsel.

[redacted]
A. M. SERPESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

[54] *Holmes v. South Carolina*, 547 U.S. 319, 324 (2006).

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. Navy**	**DEFENSE SUPPORTING EVIDENTIARY PACKAGE – DEFENSE RESPONSE TO MOTION IN LIMINE** **(Hearsay)** **22 April 2026**

The Defense respectfully submits the following evidentiary enclosures in support of the above titled motion:

a. Enclosure (A): Results of Interview of ET3 Rich of 7 Jun 25
b. Enclosure (B): Results of Interview of HT3 Gilespie of 8 Jun 15
c. Enclosure (C): Results of Interview and Media of FCC Parker of 3 Jun 26
d. Enclosure (D): Text messages between FCC Parker and SA Miller of 2 Jun 26
e. Enclosure (E): CS3 A.R. Certificate of Death

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 07JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN

1. On 07JUN25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Devin RUIC conducted an interview of ET3 Daniel RICH, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95), regarding the captioned investigation involving CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, DDG-95, and CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG-95.

2. RA recorded the interview of ET3 RICH using an audio/visual recording system, and RA downloaded a digital copy onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. ET3 RICH stated he first met V/[redacted] circa SEP24 when he went "cranking" to assist the Culinary Specialists aboard DDG-95. The term "cranking" was used to describe a temporary duty unrelated to ET3 RICH's traditionally rated duties.

4. ET3 RICH stated V/[redacted] would have days where she had "little panic attacks" and would want to go for a drive to Virginia Beach or to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. ET3 RICH recalled V/[redacted] would sometimes start having "panic attacks" when they would consume alcohol. V/[redacted] would talk about her father, who was in prison, and would become concerned for her own safety when discussing his future release from prison. ET3 RICH believed V/[redacted] father was in prison because V/[redacted] "reported him," and believed her father had forced her to take drugs and "forced himself" on her. ET3 RICH indicated V/[redacted] claimed her father intended to "find her" upon his release from prison.

5. ET3 RICH stated there are certain "cues" with V/[redacted] that resulted with "panic attacks" in the past. ET3 RICH clarified V/[redacted] often displayed these cues during the "build-up to sex." ET3 RICH stated if V/[redacted] was not "feeling it" and sexual contact continued, V/[redacted] would have a "meltdown." ET3 RICH stated he had an experience with V/[redacted] where she "pushed away" and locked herself in the bathroom. ET3 RICH explained that during this incident, both he and V/[redacted] had still been clothed, but had begun to engage in an intimate act. ET3 RICH recalled having to "talk her down" through a bathroom door in hopes of calming her down. ET3 RICH relayed another incident when they were talking about V/[redacted] father, wherein she ran out of his room, and he looked for her for 30 minutes until she came back.

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6. ET3 RICH relayed V/[redacted] was in a relationship with HT3 Michael GILLESPIE, USN, DDG-95, until DEC24. ET3 RICH stated a lot of V/[redacted] belongings were in HT3 GILLESPIE's room while they were dating. After V/[redacted] and HT3 GILLESPIE broke up, ET3 RICH helped V/[redacted] move her stuff out of HT3 GILLESPIE's room. ET3 RICH relayed he started dating V/[redacted] circa DEC24 and believed they broke up circa MAY25. ET3 RICH stated while he was in a relationship with V/[redacted] they would primarily sleep in his room. ET3 RICH stated he and V/[redacted] broke up because she was "going through some stuff" and wanted to "work on herself."

7. ET3 RICH relayed on 29MAY25, he received a call from V/[redacted] at 0214 hours local time and she was "freaking out" and requested a "pick-up ASAP." ET3 RICH remembered V/[redacted] was crying and having a "meltdown." ET3 RICH recalled hearing "car noises" and believed V/[redacted] may have been outside. V/[redacted] passed the phone to another individual who ET3 RICH later "found out" was S/COPELAND. ET3 RICH relayed the person V/[redacted] passed the phone to asked how long it would take for ET3 RICH to arrive, to which ET3 RICH responded he was about ten to fifteen minutes away. ET3 RICH relayed he went through the gate to Norfolk Naval Station at 0228 hours and attempted to call V/[redacted] multiple times, but she did not pick up. ET3 RICH checked V/[redacted] location and saw that it was outside of the "X2 building" near the rounded driveway drop off area located in front of the building. As a note, the X2 building is also identifiable as Willis Manor, a barracks located onboard Norfolk Naval Station at 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511. ET3 RICH stated V/[redacted] was not there, and her phone was not there, and he started "freaking out a little bit." ET3 RICH showed pictures of V/[redacted] to people working at the front desk of X2, not further identified by ET3 RICH, but they were unsure if they recognized seeing her. ET3 RICH checked the front area of X2 to see if he could see her phone in the grass and did not find it. ET3 RICH went back inside X2; the individuals working the front desk suggested he call his command and the local precinct on base to report his concerns.

8. ET3 RICH attempted to call the base police office, but did not receive a response. ET3 RICH drove to base police and notified them of the situation. ET3 RICH estimated he called HT3 GILLESPIE around 0300 hours while he was with base police and HT3 GILLESPIE joined him at X2 around 0430 hours to help look for V/[redacted] ET3 RICH added HT3 GILLESPIE called him earlier on 29MAY25 at 0120 and 0143 hours, but he was asleep and missed the calls. ET3 RICH did not know why HT3 GILLESPIE called him that morning, but presumed it had to do with HT3 GILLESPIE's own concern for V/[redacted] ET3 RICH stated HT3 GILLESPIE was coming off duty from the ship that morning. ET3 RICH remembered he had to end the call with HT3 GILLESPIE because his Command Duty Officer (CDO) was calling him back.

9. ET3 RICH believed V/[redacted] phone died around 0430 hours on 29MAY25

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **07JUN25**

due to her phone's location no longer saying "Live" and instead showing "Last Location" in his iPhone's "Find My" application.

10. Around 0500 hours, HT3 GILLESPIE stayed at X2 to continue looking for V/[redacted] and ET3 RICH drove to V/[redacted] barracks at Miller Hall, accompanied by two Masters-at-Arms (MAs) and waited for the Resident Advisors (RA) to arrive and unlock her door. ET3 RICH relayed the MAs accessed V/[redacted] room around 0630 hours, but V/[redacted] was not there. ET3 RICH stated the MAs did not permit him to go into her room but he peeked his head in and noticed the room looked like a photo or video of a "Fit Check" V/[redacted] sent to her friend CSSN Gladys GARCIABARRERA, USN, DDG-95 on 28MAY25. ET3 RICH noticed the only thing that appeared missing was her backpack. ET3 RICH remembered HT3 GILLESPIE met him at Miller Hall to assist in searching. ET3 RICH remembered going back to X2 with HT3 GILLESPIE after searching Miller Hall. ET3 RICH estimated he concluded his search and left base to go to work around 0730 hours.

11. ET3 RICH stated HT3 GILLESPIE called him between 0800 and 0900 hours on 29MAY25 and told ET3 RICH he had checked S/COPELAND's room and did not see V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND in the room. ET3 RICH recalled hearing from HT3 GILLESPIE that "the bed was made" and nothing looked "messed up." ET3 RICH believed it was possible HT3 GILLESPIE found out V/[redacted] was with S/COPELAND from CSSN GARCIABARRERA.

12. ET3 RICH recalled there was an "All Hands Call" around 1000 hours on 29MAY25 and remembered a Chief pulled him aside and told him V/[redacted] was found with S/COPELAND in S/COPELAND's room and that he could "relax." ET3 RICH learned FCC Brad PARKER, USN, DDG-95, was the person who found S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] and messaged him via "GroupMe." FCC PARKER told him V/[redacted] was "ok and safe" and affirmed he had seen V/[redacted] that day.

13. ET3 RICH stated he recently attempted to find V/[redacted] location on the morning of 07JUN25 as well as when he was at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) on 06JUN25. ET3 RICH stated ETC Donald ACKLEY, USN, DDG-95 escorted him to NMCP for a Command Referral to Behavioral Health. ET3 RICH relayed he attempted to sign into V/[redacted] Navy Federal Credit Union (NFCU) account and her email account a few times on 03JUN25 or 04JUN25 on his laptop and desktop while at his barracks; ET3 RICH explained he had attempted to login to V/[redacted] accounts using saved passwords, as V/[redacted] previously borrowed and used the laptop. ET3 RICH further explained he had attempted the logins on both the barracks-wide Wi-Fi network, and on his own Wi-Fi network later in his room.

14. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for the collection of his DNA via buccal swabs; Enclosure (B) pertains. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure of his MSI brand

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CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **07JUN25**

Laptop, SN: K2309N0254935, documented in a separate report; Enclosure (C) pertains. ET3 RICH signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure for his Apple iPhone 14 Pro, SN: M1YXLVYPWD, documented in a separate report; Enclosure (D) pertains.

15. Subsequent to the completion of this interview, PA accompanied ET3 RICH to his barracks room to facilitate the execution of the signed PASS. During that search, NCIS personnel identified instructional paperwork associated with pregnancy tests in his room. ET3 RICH explained that in approximately MAR25, exact date not recalled, he and V/[redacted] had engaged in unprotected sex after consuming alcohol and afterward ET3 RICH could not recall whether he "pulled out" to avoid ejaculating in V/[redacted] ET3 RICH and V/[redacted] acquired multiple pregnancy tests from a local CVS, located in the vicinity of the Old Dominion University Campus, and waited approximately two weeks before conducting the tests. ET3 RICH reported that the test results were negative, indicating V/[redacted] had not become pregnant from the incident.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

DOD ID: [redacted PII]
DOB: [redacted PII]
PHONE NUMBER: [redacted PII]

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R: RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/07JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE FOR DNA BUCCAL SWABS FROM ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN/07JUN25
(C) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF ET3 DANIEL RICH'S MSI BRAND LAPTOP SN: K2309N0254935/07JUN25
(D) PERMISSIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF ET3 DANIEL RICH'S APPLE IPHONE 14 PRO SN: M1YXLVYPWD, USN/07JUN25

REPORTED BY: CORRIE FYLE, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 08JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/S/[redacted PII]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE, USN

1. On 08Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Investigator (PI) Tyler B. MANN conducted a follow-up interview of HT3 Michael Davontae GILLESPIE, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) at NCISRA Norfolk, VA to develop additional information pertaining to the captioned investigation. Prior to initiating the interview, RA and PI identified themselves to HT3 GILLESPIE as a Special Agent and Investigator, respectively.

2. RA recorded this interview using an audio and video recording tool. This report serves as a summary of the interview and should not be treated as a verbatim account of the information discussed. A digital copy of the recorded interview is available on the optical disc appended to this report as Enclosure (A).

3. HT3 GILLESPIE identified himself as a former romantic partner and friend to V/[redacted] HT3 GILLESPIE and V/[redacted] dated for approximately five months in 2024, with their relationship ending in approximately Nov24. HT3 GILLESPIE identified ET3 Daniel David RICH Jr., USN, DDG 95, as the individual who dated V/[redacted] after him. HT3 RICH could not provide information regarding precisely how much time elapsed between the end of his romantic relationship with V/[redacted] and the beginning of her romantic relationship with ET3 RICH but noted that their relationship had also ended prior to V/[redacted] disappearance. HT3 GILLESPIE reported that despite V/[redacted] romantic entanglement with ET3 RICH, he had engaged in intimate acts with her on at least two occasions since the end of their relationship, in or around Feb25 and in May25.

4. HT3 GILLESPIE last interacted with V/[redacted] in person on Wednesday morning, 28May25, at work aboard DDG 95. HT3 GILLESPIE admitted that the conversation with V/[redacted] became contentious, as he raised the topic of V/[redacted] returning a motorcycle helmet he previously gave to her. HT3 GILLESPIE noted there were specific care instructions for motorcycle helmets, and V/[redacted] did not ride independent of their rides together, nor did she own a motorcycle herself. V/[redacted] expressed frustration with HT3 GILLESPIE's request, and HT3 GILLESPIE withdrew the specific request for the helmet but continued to discuss the logistics of retrieving other items belonging to him from V/[redacted] barracks.

5. HT3 GILLESPIE next interacted with V/[redacted] during the late afternoon or evening of Wednesday, 28May25, via telephone. HT3 GILLESPIE reported V/[redacted] called him, and they spoke cordially about how the remainder of

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her day went. According to HT3 GILLESPIE, V/[redacted] informed him that she had a very good day, and that she had gone to Target with CSSN Gladis GARCIABARRERA, USN, DDG 95 for a shopping trip after work. HT3 GILLESPIE noted that V/[redacted] had communicated with him in this manner while they dated, as she enjoyed having someone to discuss her activities with.

6. HT3 GILLESPIE reported he had duty onboard DDG 95 during the night of 28-29May25, including a specific watch shift in the later hours of the night and early morning. HT3 GILLESPIE reported receiving a text message reading "Fuck you" from V/[redacted] sometime within the 2300-0000 hours timeframe. HT3 GILLESPIE was unsure of the specific time V/[redacted] sent the message, as he only received it upon returning to the upper decks of DDG 95 from conducting watch on the lower levels of the ship where he did not receive cell signal.

7. Upon receiving the message, HT3 GILLESPIE became confused and subsequently concerned about V/[redacted] well-being. The discrepancy between their earlier telephonic conversation and the text message was jarring, and HT3 GILLESPIE became concerned V/[redacted] may be experiencing what he referred to as "an episode." HT3 GILLESPIE elaborated that V/[redacted] suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS), associated with sexual abuse she suffered from a relative. HT3 GILLESPIE explained obliquely that he and V/[redacted] had dealt with similar traumatic events in the past, and their shared experiences drew them together and helped them support one another. HT3 GILLESPIE began attempting to call and text V/[redacted] multiple times, without success. HT3 GILLESPIE reported that at some point, exact time not recalled, he noticed an iPhone notification indicating V/[redacted] had placed her phone on "Do Not Disturb" mode.

8. Between 0100-0200 hours on 29May25, HT3 GILLESPIE attempted to call ET3 RICH to enlist his assistance in reaching out to V/[redacted] and ensure her safety. HT3 GILLESPIE explained that ET3 RICH would also be aware of the occasional severity of V/[redacted] "episodes" and could take appropriate action while HT3 GILLESPIE was stuck on duty aboard the ship; however, ET3 RICH did not answer HT3 GILLESPIE's phone calls.

9. HT3 GILLESPIE reported that sometime around after 0300 hours, exact time not recalled, he was able to depart duty to begin looking for V/[redacted] himself. HT3 GILLESPIE had historically shared his own location with V/[redacted] via the iPhone's "Find My" application and been able to observe V/[redacted] location, as well. After receiving V/[redacted] text message, HT3 GILLESPIE had opened the "Find My" application, and noted V/[redacted] cell phone was in vicinity of "X2." As a note, X2 is also identifiable as Willis Manor, a barracks located onboard Norfolk Naval Station at 9712 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511. By the time HT3 GILLESPIE departed the ship, he no longer had access to V/[redacted] location but traveled to X2 as her last known location.

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10. Upon arriving to the X2 barracks, HT3 GILLESPIE learned from the front desk workers that he was not the only individual who had recently asked about V/[redacted] ET3 RICH had been at X2 earlier. HT3 GILLESPIE and ET3 RICH met at the X2 barracks shortly thereafter to search together. ET3 RICH had enlisted the assistance of Masters-at-Arms (MAs) from base police, and accompanied them to Miller Hall, V/[redacted] assigned barracks, to look for her in her room. HT3 GILLESPIE stayed at X2 and was joined by other MAs to continue searching for V/[redacted] there.

11. HT3 GILLESPIE learned from CSSN GARCIABARRERA, at a time not specifically recalled or reported, that V/[redacted] had intended to spend the evening of 28May25 hanging out with S/COPELAND, a fellow culinary specialist from DDG95. HT3 GILLESPIE indicated that he reported this information to the MAs, who attempted to locate V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND in a room identified by a Resident Assistant (RA), not further identified, as assigned to S/COPELAND. HT3 GILLESPIE accompanied the MAs and an RA to a barracks room located on the second deck of X2 but did not find V/[redacted] or S/COPELAND. HT3 GILLESPIE noted the barracks suite inspected by the MAs and RA was empty, clean, and seemed largely uninhabited. As a note, S/COPELAND's actual barracks room was located on the third deck of the X2 building.

12. HT3 GILLESPIE noted his calls and texts to V/[redacted] cell phone stopped being delivered at approximately 0430 hours on 29May25. HT3 GILLESPIE believed V/[redacted] cell phone battery may have died, or the phone was turned off, at this time. HT3 GILLESPIE had to suspend his search for V/[redacted] sometime between 0600 and 0700 hours, as he had a scheduled dental appointment at approximately 0800 hours. HT3 GILLESPIE provided information to ET3 RICH indicating MAs had entered S/COPELAND's barracks room and failed to find either S/COPELAND or V/[redacted]

13.HT3 GILLESPIE reported having no further contact with V/[redacted] after her phone died. HT3 GILLESPIE, ET3 RICH, and CSSN GARCIABARRERA continued to communicate with one another about her disappearance and were unconvinced by the DDG 95 Command report indicating that V/[redacted] had been found and was safe on 29May25. HT3 GILLESPIE noted that S/COPELAND was the last person seen with V/[redacted] and was therefore the individual that most likely knew what happened to V/[redacted]

14. On Sunday, 01Jun25, HT3 GILLESPIE confronted S/COPELAND aboard DDG 95 and surreptitiously recorded the interaction with his iPhone. HT3 GILLESPIE showed RA and PI the video and provided a copy to PI. In that recorded interaction, S/COPELAND appeared to identify himself as the individual who asked ET3 RICH how long it would take for him to arrive when V/[redacted] called ET3 RICH at 0214 hours on 29May25. S/COPELAND claimed that V/[redacted] stayed with him after that phone call before leaving later that morning. HT3 GILLESPIE challenged S/COPELAND, informing him that he'd entered a room

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **08JUN25**

believed to be S/COPELAND's looking for V/[redacted] at which point it becomes clear that HT3 GILLESPIE and the MAs entered a room on the incorrect floor. S/COPELAND then claimed that following a visit to his room by an unidentified "Chief" he had "dropped her off" outside her building. S/COPELAND told HT3 GILLESPIE that she, V/[redacted] "was tripping" and crying while they were together. S/COPELAND also claimed that V/[redacted] had begun consuming alcohol before he arrived, and that all he consumed was a "Buzzball or two."

15. HT3 GILLESPIE signed Permissive Authorizations for Search and Seizure (PASS) for his cell phone, an iPhone XR with serial number DX3FJFRQKXKN, his car, a blue 2004 Ford Mustang with Virginia license plate [redacted PII], his motorcycle, a Kawasaki Z650 with North Carolina license plate [redacted PII]. The signed PASS forms for the execution of those searches are documented in separate reports. HT3 GILLESPIE noted that he had a fellow USN member friend staying with him at his barracks and therefore declined to immediately provide a PASS for his barracks. HT3 GILLESPIE noted he remained willing to permit a search of his barracks at a later time.

16. HT3 GILLESPIE signed a PASS for his Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA), via buccal swap, which was executed following his interview; Enclosure (B) pertains. The DNA swabs were collected and placed into evidence under ECD #HA9UT and item #455TC.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) OPTICAL DISC CONTAINING RECORDED INTERVIEW OF HT3 GILLESPIE/08JUN25
(B) PERMISSIVE AUTHROIZATION FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE/08JUN25

REPORTED BY: DEVIN RUIC, Special Agent
OFFICE: OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

PAGE 4 LAST EU V2 LNN

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 03JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/[redacted]

RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 03JUN25, Reporting Investigator (RI) and Participating Agent (PA) Caroline ROBINSON interviewed FCC Brad PARKER (FCC PARKER), USN, USS JAMES E WILLIAMS (DDG 95), regarding his knowledge of the disappearance of CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted]), USN, DDG 95.

2. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio/visual recording system and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio recorder and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Digital Video Disc-Recordable (DVD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (B) pertains.

4. On 03JUN25, FCC PARKER signed a Permissive Authorization for Search and Seizure (PASS) to allow NCIS to obtain screenshots of messages pertaining to the disappearance of V/[redacted] Results of PASS will be documented in a separate investigative action.

5. FCC PARKER described the incident as it was reported to him. FCC PARKER stated on 29MAY25 at 0700, he was advised V/[redacted] was not doing well and began calling friends on the ship. FCC PARKER identified the friends as co-worker, CSSN COPELAND, later identified as CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, ET3 RICH, later identified as ET3 Daniel RICH (ET3 RICH), USN, DDG 95, and "Gillespie", later identified as HT3 Michael GILLESPIE (HT3 GILLESPIE), USN, DDG 95. FCC PARKER clarified S/COPELAND, ET3 RICH, and HT3 GILLESPIE all stated she was seeking help that evening. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND relayed ET3 RICH went to her barracks room, Miller Hall BLDG U-16, she was not there and did not answer her cell phone. FCC PARKER stated he learned S/COPELAND did not show up for the "breakfast shift" at his schedule time (NFI).

6. FCC PARKER stated on the morning of 29MAY25, he went to locate S/COPELAND at his barracks room, Willis Manor, X-2, RM 335B, Bed A, on board Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, VA. According to FCC PARKER, S/COPELAND answered the door with groggy eyes, a pair of basketball shorts and the lights in his room were off as if he just woken up. FCC PARKER stated he did not notice

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any indications of alcohol use. FCC PARKER indicated he told S/COPELAND they needed to go to work, to which S/COPELAND stated he was not alone. FCC PARKER stated he asked S/COPELAND if it was V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND confirmed. FCC PARKER stated he recognized V/[redacted] in S/COPELAND's bed. FCC PARKER clarified V/[redacted] looked up, dismissively waved, rolled over and went back to sleep. FCC PARKER relayed V/[redacted] was wrapped in a blanket with only her feet being exposed. FCC PARKER relayed at 0854, he texted LSC Rob JANSON (LSC JANSON), USN, DDG 95, confirming S/COPELAND and V/[redacted] were in S/COPELAND's room.

7. FCC PARKER stated he told S/COPELAND to step out of the room and into the common area. FCC PARKER relayed he asked if they were ok and if V/[redacted] was in any imminent danger to which S/COPELAND replied "I do not think so." FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND relayed he went to pick V/[redacted] up, who was having problems with her boyfriend (NFI) in Texas, and they watched movies. FCC PARKER said he asked S/COPELAND if he had a ride to work, to which S/COPELAND said he did. FCC PARKER stated he departed after he advised S/COPELAND to ensure V/[redacted] was returned to her room and to get to work. FCC PARKER drew a sketch depicting the layout of S/COPELAND's room; Enclosure (C) pertains.

8. FCC PARKER relayed he was there for approximately five (5) to ten (10) minutes. Additionally, FCC PARKER indicated there was a logbook in the lobby where he signed in and out from. FCC PARKER stated at 1241, S/COPELAND called him stating he dropped off V/[redacted] at her barracks room and was waiting for his ride. FCC PARKER stated at 1523, he texted S/COPELAND asking why he was still not at work. FCC PARKER relayed at 1636, S/COPELAND texted him saying he was still waiting on a ride to work. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND never showed up at work and he did not hear from him until 01JUN25.

9. FCC PARKER stated on the morning of 30MAY25, V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND did not show up to work. FCC PARKER conveyed he attempted to locate both of them in their respective rooms but was unsuccessful. FCC PARKER relayed he attempted to call and text V/[redacted] and S/COPELAND but they did not answer. FCC PARKER stated he spoke with V/[redacted]s roommate (NFI) who stated she had not seen V/[redacted] since the night of 28MAY25. FCC PARKER relayed at 0950, he called LSC JANSON advising V/[redacted] was not in her room. FCC PARKER advised at 1017, he called and texted S/COPELAND from his barracks room, but he did not answer. FCC PARKER stated he spoke with S/COPELAND's roommate (NFI) who related he was in the room earlier that morning but did not know when S/COPELAND left.

10. FCC PARKER stated on 31MAY25, ET3 RICH filed a missing person report for V/[redacted]. FCC PARKER did not identify the filing agency. FCC PARKER advised S/COPELAND called him on the afternoon of 01JUN25 about his unauthorized absence (UA) status. FCC PARKER relayed the command called and

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texted him, to which S/COPELAND stated he does not normally answer his phone when he is not on duty. FCC PARKER relayed he asked S/COPELAND if he had heard from V/[redacted] According to FCC PARKER, S/COPELAND stated he had not seen her since he dropped her off the afternoon of 29MAY25.

11. FCC PARKER conveyed on the morning of 29MAY25, V/[redacted]'s LPO, CS1 HOWELLEL, later identified as CS1 Daryl HOWELLEL, USN, DDG 95, began sending daily texts to her. FCC PARKER stated on 01JUN25, the Commanding Officer, later identified to be CDR Timothy WINTERS, USN, DDG 95, mandated daily checks on V/[redacted]s room until she was found. FCC PARKER relayed on the same day, CS2 BRYANT, later identified as CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG 95, went to her barracks room and she was not there.

12. FCC PARKER advised on 02JUN25, he went to V/[redacted]s barracks room because he was advised she left her phone in her room but was unable to locate it. FCC PARKER relayed the building manager (NFI) let him into the room and he "visually" looked for the her phone. FCC PARKER clarified he did not touch anything in the room. FCC PARKER stated S/COPELAND did not have a driver's license and is pending reckless driving charges with Virginia Beach Police Department.

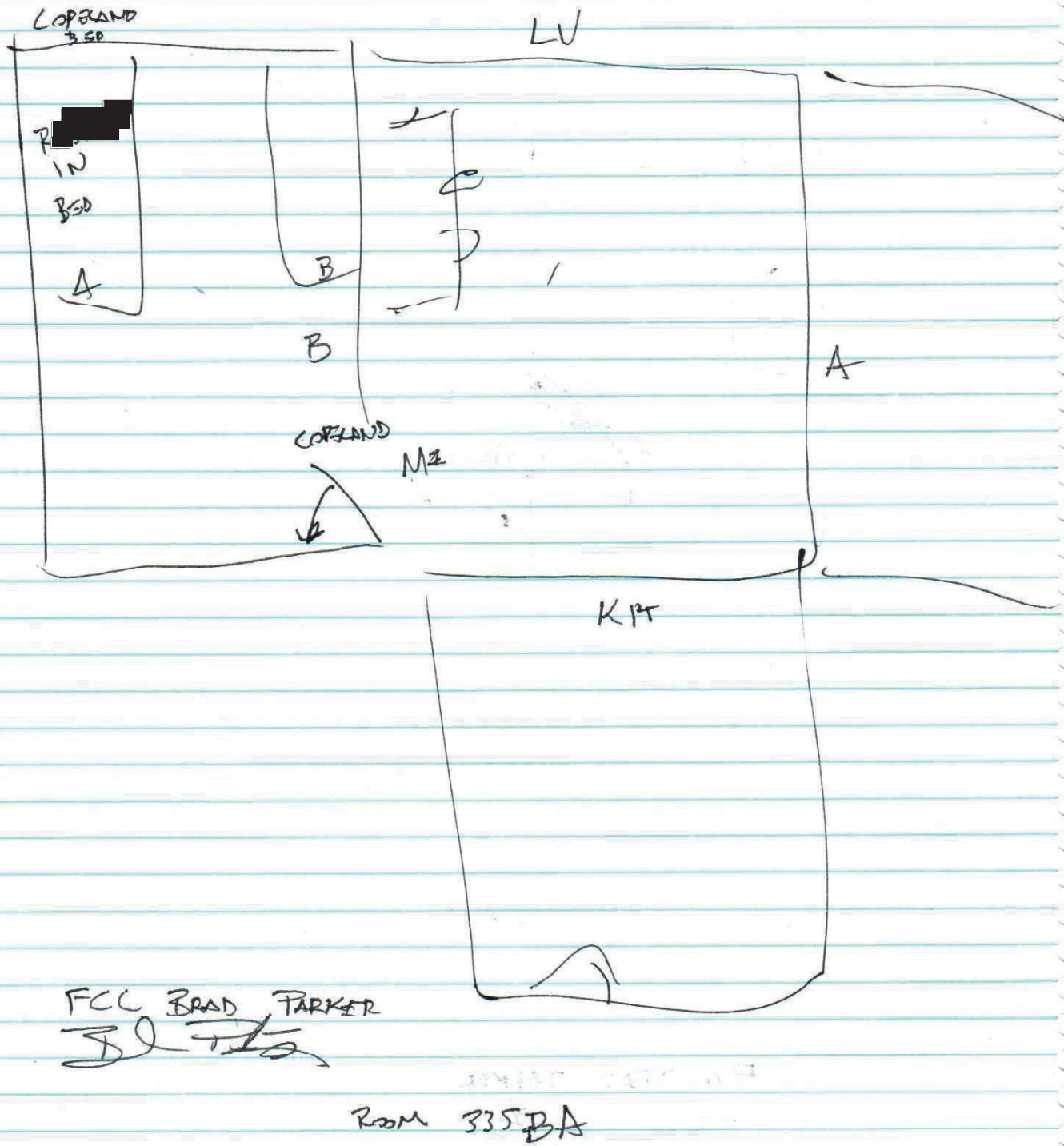
13. No further information was obtained.

ENCLOSURE(S)
(A) DVD-R CONTAINING THE RECORDED INTERVIEW OF FCC PARKER/03JUN25
(B) DVD-R CONTAINING THE AUDIO RECORDING OF INTERVIEW OF FCC PARKER/03JUN25
(C) SKETCH BY FCC PARKER/03JUN25

REPORTED BY: JESSE A CLAAR, Investigator
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

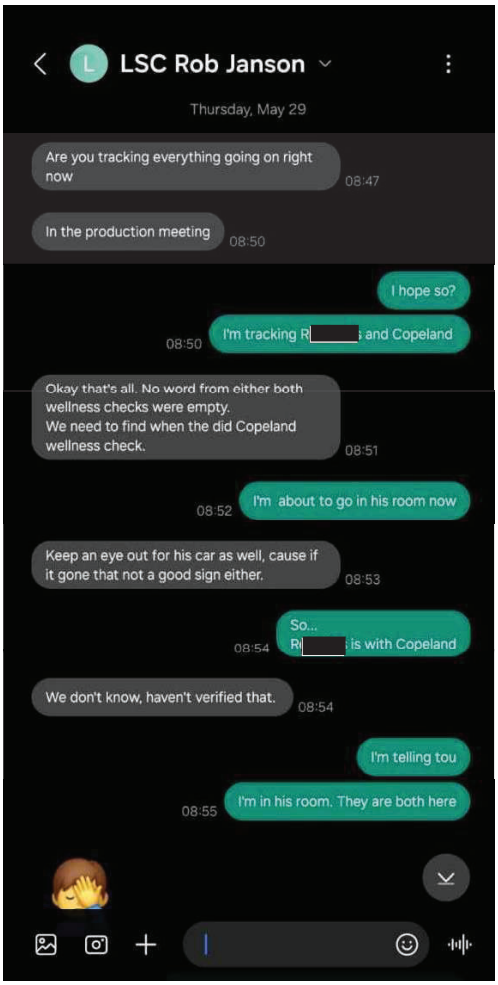
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COPELAND
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FCC BRAD PARKER
ROOM 335BA

ENCLOSURE C

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



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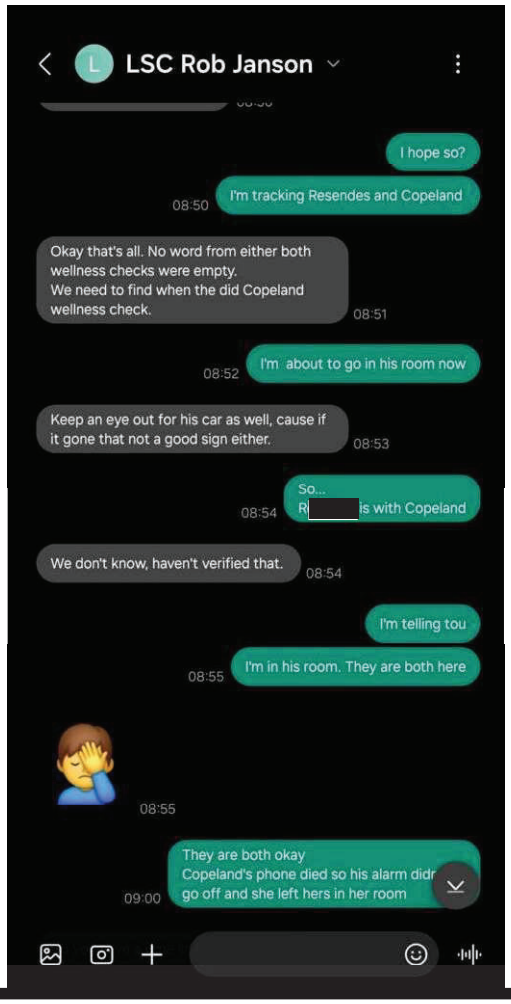
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND LSC ROBERT JANSON, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

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ENCLOSURE (C)

PHOTOGRAPH (1)

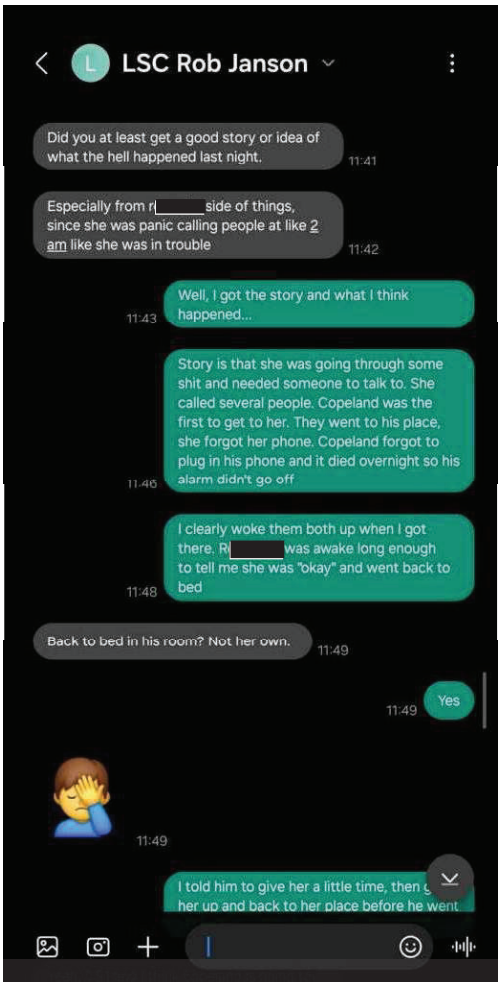


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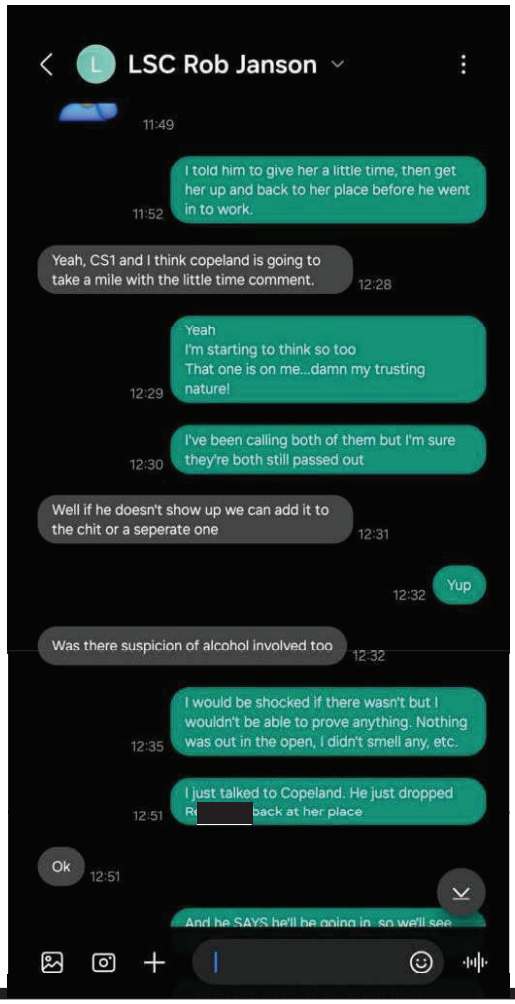
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

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TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND LSC ROBERT JANSON, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**



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5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: **TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND LSC ROBERT JANSON, USN, DDG 95.**		**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:** **SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**



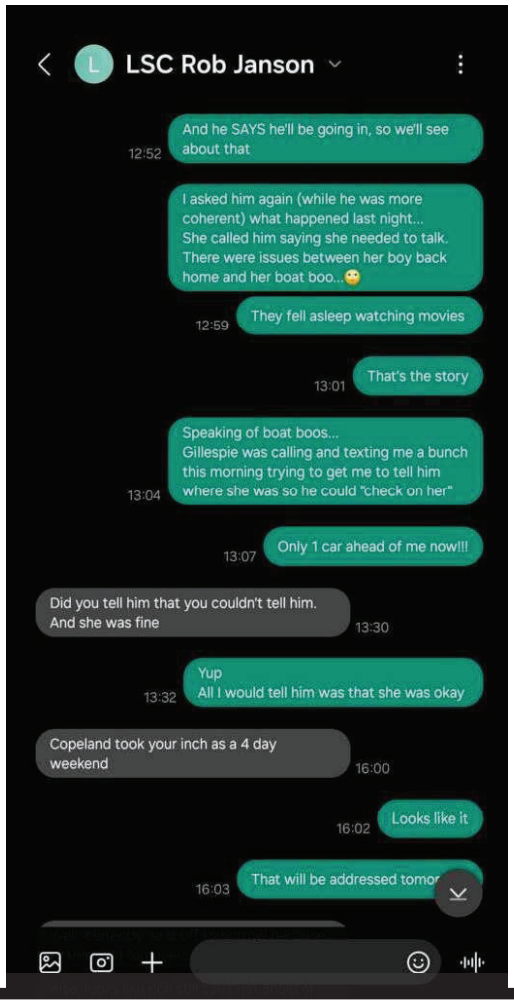
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	SA CAROLINE ROBINSON

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND LSC ROBERT JANSON, USN, DDG 95.	SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25

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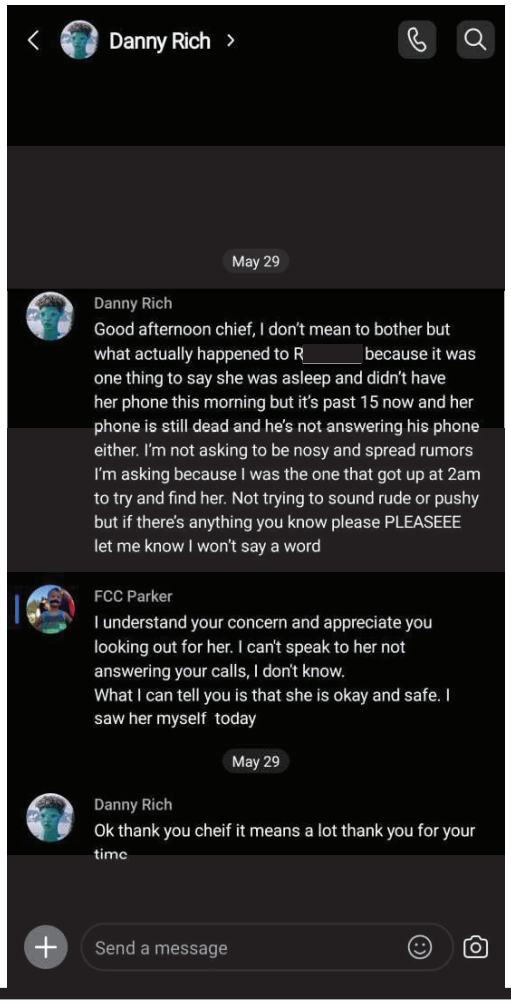
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ENCLOSURE (C)

PHOTOGRAPH (5)

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



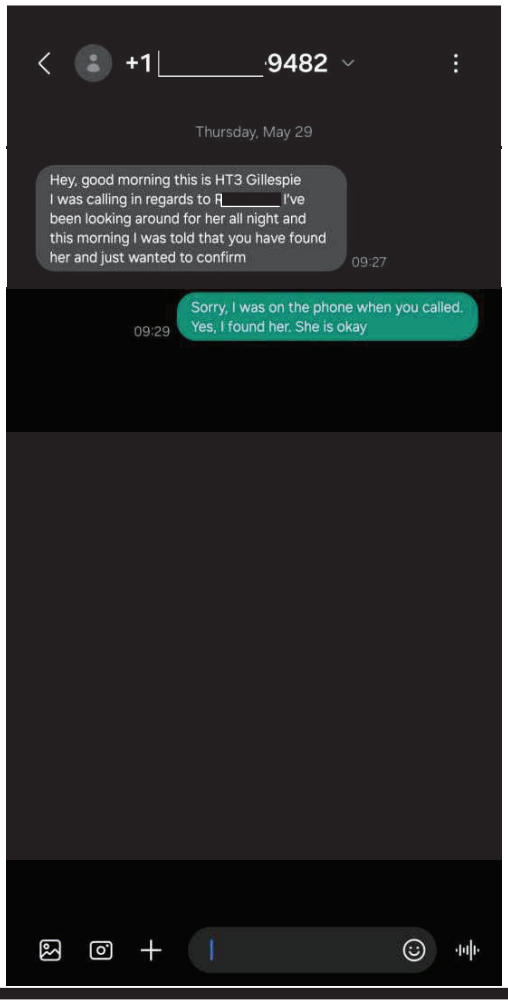
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5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION: **TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND ET3 DANIEL RICH, USN, DDG 95.**		**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:** **SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

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ENCLOSURE (C)

PHOTOGRAPH (6)

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



1. OFFICE CODE:

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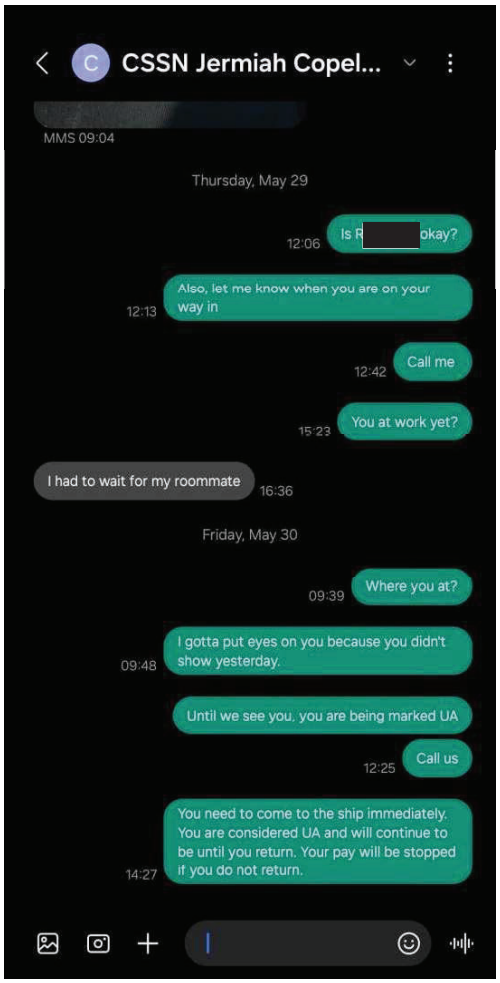
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5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND HT3 MICHAEL GILLESPIE, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

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ENCLOSURE (C)

PHOTOGRAPH (7)



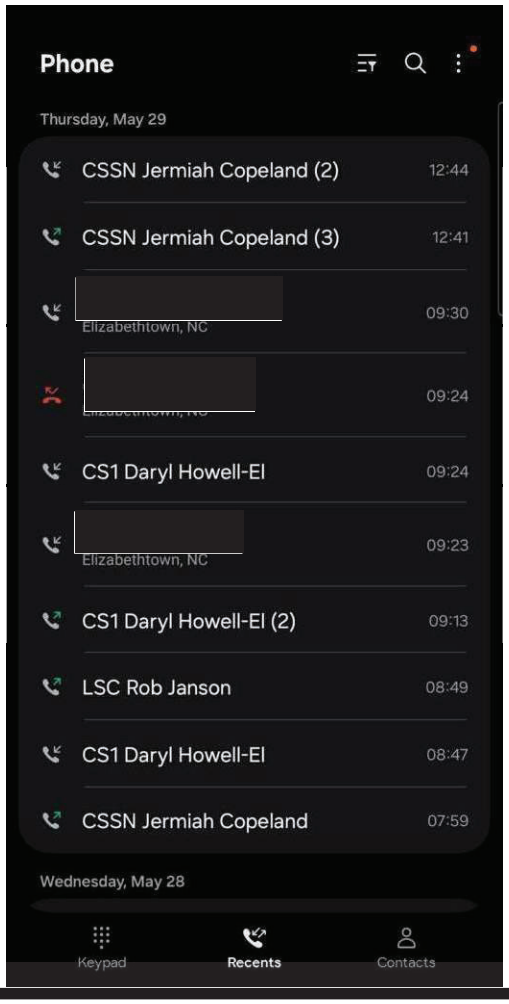
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5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) AND CSSN JERMIAH COPELAND, USN, DDG 95.	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PHOTOGRAPH TEMPLATE



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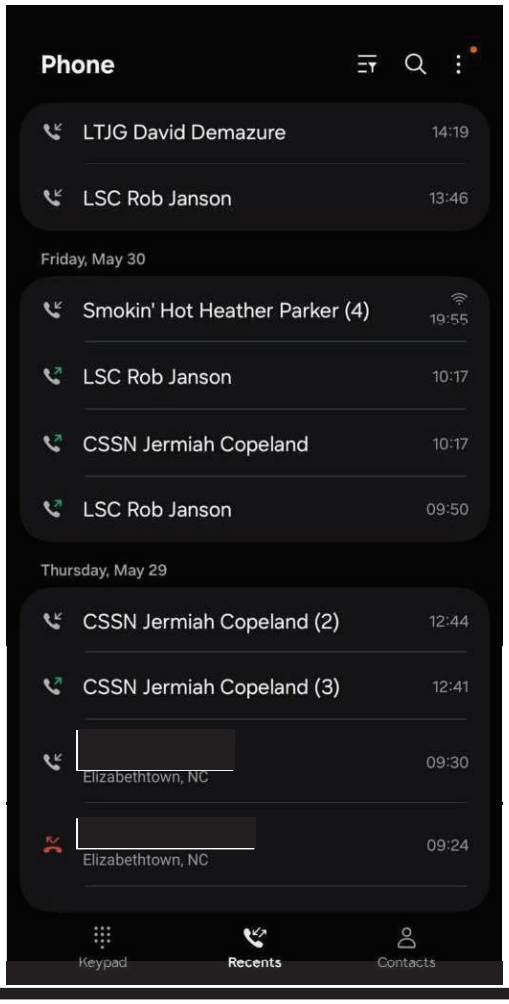
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	**6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:**
CALL LOG FROM FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).	**SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25**

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ENCLOSURE (C)

PHOTOGRAPH (9)



1. OFFICE CODE:

NFNF

2. TITLE:	3. CCN:	4. AGENT'S NAME:
S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA	SA CAROLINE ROBINSON

5. SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:	6. PHOTOGRAPHER/ DATE PHOTO TAKEN:
CALL LOG FROM FCC BRAD PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).	SCREENSHOT PROVIDED 03JUN25

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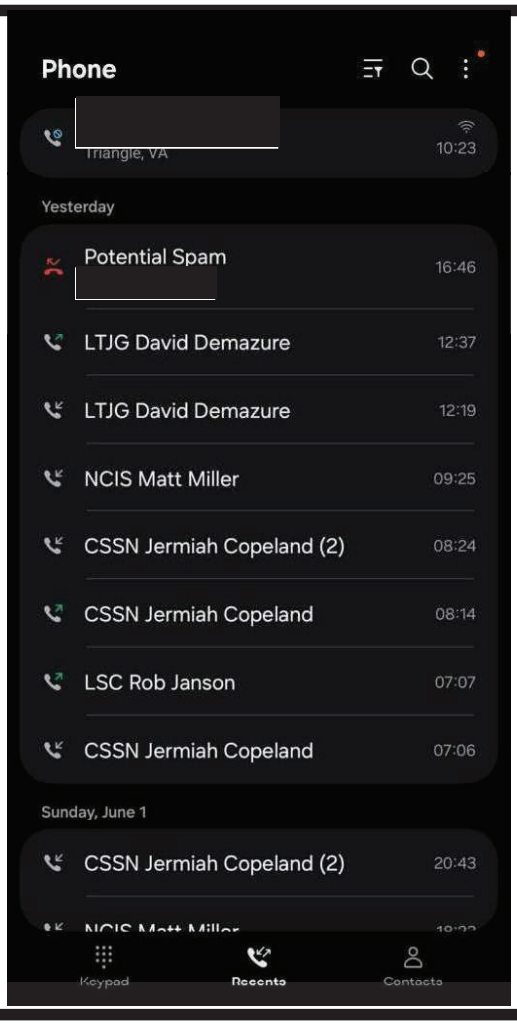
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S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN	**01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA**	**SA CAROLINE ROBINSON**

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PHOTOGRAPH
(11)

ENCLOSURE (C)



1. OFFICE CODE:

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PHOTOGRAPH
(12)

ENCLOSURE (C)

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION 05JUN25

CONTROL: 01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA

S/COPELAND, JERMIAH TAYLOR/SN USN
M/B/NEE3/[redacted] PII

RESULTS OF SECONDARY INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN

1. On 05Jun25, Reporting Agent (RA) and Participating Agent (PA) Brandon MOORE conducted a secondary interview with FCC Brad PARKER, USN, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95).

2. The interview of FCC PARKER was recorded using an audio recording device and a digital copy was downloaded onto a Compact Disc-Recordable (CD-R). This document is a summary of the interview and not a verbatim transcription. For full details of the interview, refer to the working copy of the original DVD-R; Enclosure (A) pertains.

3. FCC PARKER stated he became CSSN A[redacted] R[redacted] (V/[redacted] USN, DDG 95, Chief approximately 2 months ago. FCC PARKER relayed he would see V/[redacted] at least 4 times per week.

4. FCC PARKER was shown an image of V/[redacted] FCC PARKER stated the individual in the image was who he knows to be V/[redacted] and was the individual he saw in the bed inside of the room of CSSN Jermiah COPELAND (S/COPELAND), USN, DDG 95, on 29May25. FCC PARKER signed and dated the image; Enclosure (B) pertains.

5. FCC PARKER relayed he believed the following individuals had gone to V/[redacted] room on the specified days:
a. Thursday, 29May25 - FCC PARKER was tasked to go to V/[redacted] room; however, he located her in S/COPELAND's room, so he did not go to V/[redacted] room.
b. Friday, 30May25 - FCC PARKER and CS1 Daryl HOWELL-EL, USN, DDG 95
c. Saturday, 31May25 - No one
d. Sunday, 01Jun25 - CS2 Joshua BRYANT, USN, DDG 95
e. Monday, 02Jun25 - FCC PARKER
f. Tuesday, 03Jun25 - No one
g. Wednesday, 04Jun25 - FCC PARKER
h. Thursday, 05Jun25 - LT Yan LIANG, USN, DDG 95

6. FCC PARKER reported he went to S/COPELAND's room on Friday, 30May25, with CS1 HOWELL-EL. FCC PARKER stated CS2 BRYANT was going to go to S/COPELAND's room on Sunday, 01Jun25; however, he had gotten word that Base Police (NFI) had stopped by S/COPELAND's room and made contact with him.

ENCLOSURE(S)

WARNING:
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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

CONTROL:01JUN25-NFNF-00237-7HNA **05JUN25**

(A) CD-R: AUDIO OF INTERVIEW OF FCC BRAD PARKER, USN/05JUN25
(B) IMAGE OF V/[redacted]/05JUN25

REPORTED BY: CAROLINE E ROBINSON, Special Agent
OFFICE: RESIDENT AGENCY NORFOLK

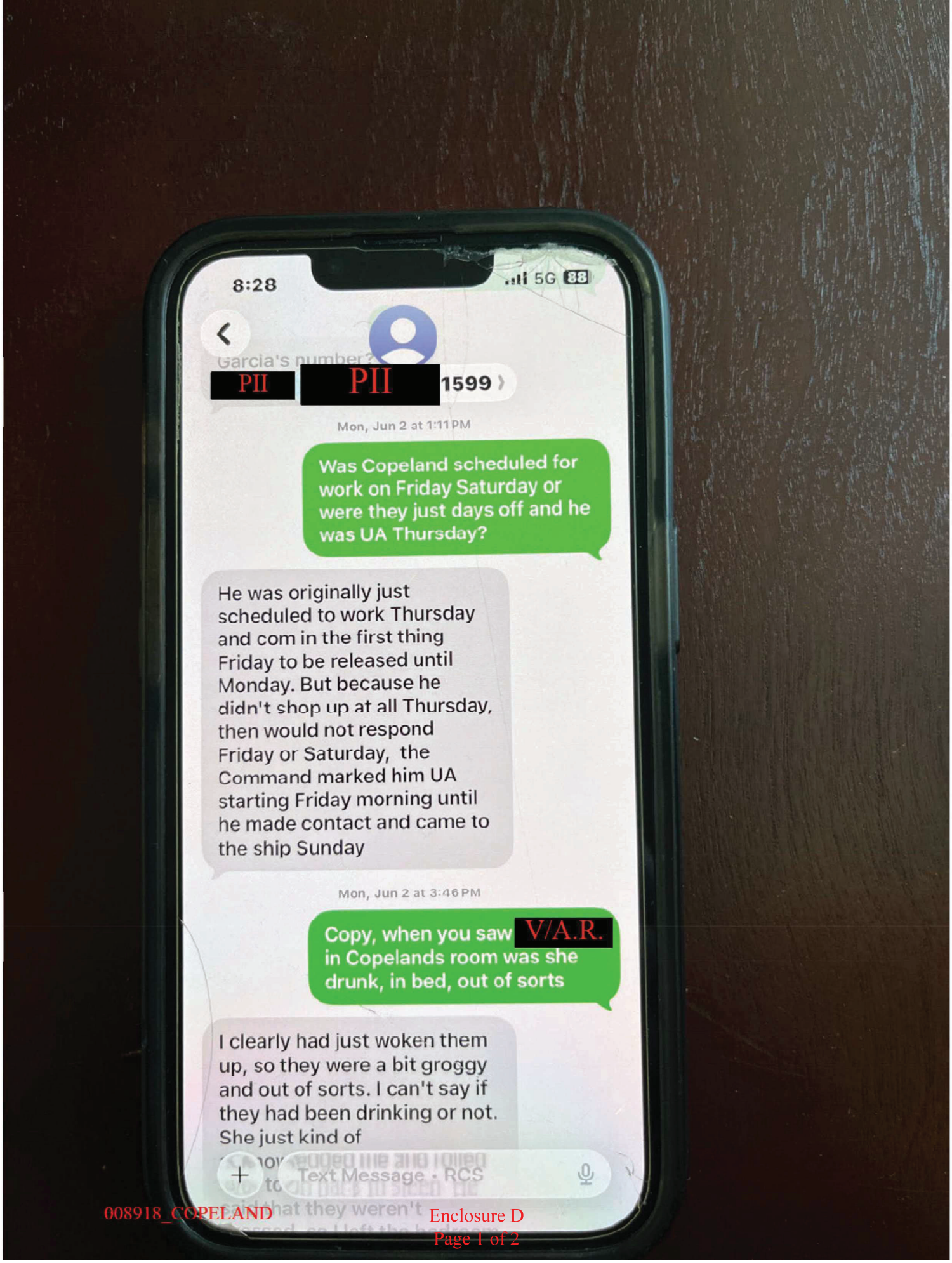
PAGE 2 LAST DO V2 LNN

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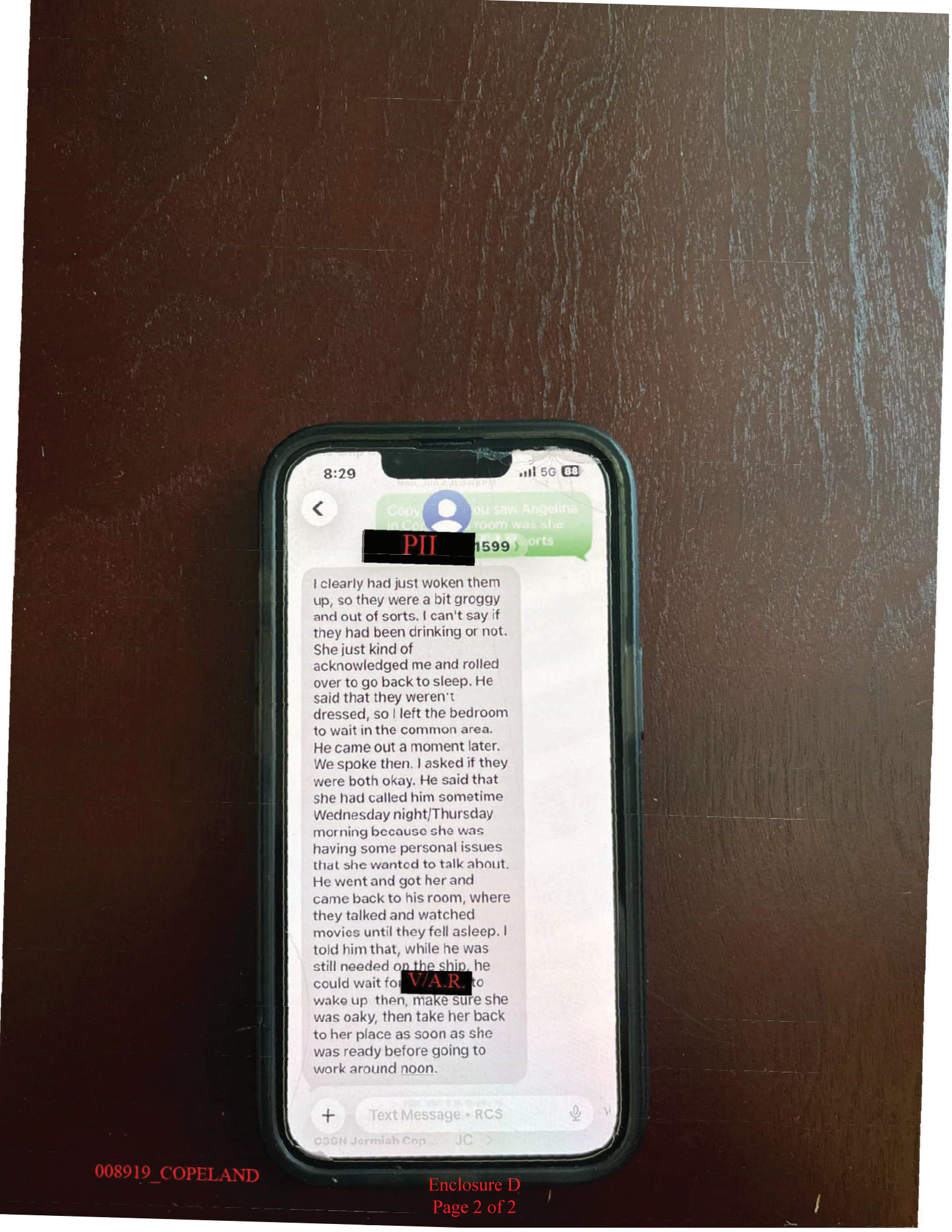
FCL BRAD PARKER

05 JUN 2015



008918_COPELAND

Enclosure D
Page 1 of 2



008919_COPELAND

Enclosure D
Page 2 of 2

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA - CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS - RICHMOND

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S CERTIFICATE

DATE RECORD FILED: JUNE 18, 2025

STATE FILE NUMBER: 25-035530

1. FULL NAME OF DECEDENT (first): [redacted] (middle): V/A.R. (last): [redacted] (suffix):

2. SEX: ☐ MALE ☒ FEMALE ☐ NOT DETERMINED

3. DATE OF DEATH: JUNE 9, 2025 ☐ ACTUAL ☐ PRESUMED ☐ APPROXIMATE ☒ FOUND

4. DATE OF BIRTH: PII

5. AGE: Years 21 | IF UNDER 1 YEAR: Months, Days | IF UNDER 1 DAY: Hours, Minutes

6. WAS DECEDENT EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? ☒ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

7. BIRTHPLACE (U.S STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY): TEXAS

8. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: PII | IF NO SSN, CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX: ☐ NONE ☐ NOT OBTAINABLE ☐ UNKNOWN

9. STREET ADDRESS (INCLUDE HOUSE AND/OR APT. # OR ROUTE NO.): PII

10. CITY OR TOWN OF RESIDENCE: PII | INSIDE CITY OR TOWN LIMITS? ☒ YES ☐ NO

11. COUNTY OF DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE (if independent city, leave blank): PII

12. U.S. STATE (OR FOREIGN COUNTRY) OF DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE: PII | 12a. ZIP CODE: PII

13. RACE OF DECEDENT (CHECK ONE OR MORE)

☒ WHITE ☐ BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ☐ FILIPINO ☐ KOREAN ☐ AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE(SPECIFY) ☐ ASIAN INDIAN ☐ CHINESE ☐ SAMOAN ☐ VIETNAMESE ☐ OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER(SPECIFY) ☐ NATIVE HAWAIIAN ☐ GUAMANIAN OR CHAMORRO ☐ JAPANESE ☐ UNKNOWN ☐ OTHER ASIAN (SPECIFY) ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

14. DECEDENT OF HISPANIC ORIGIN?

☐ NON-HISPANIC ☐ CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN ☐ CUBAN ☒ MEXICAN ☐ PUERTO RICAN ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY) ☐ UNKNOWN

15. EDUCATION (HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED)

☐ ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY (0-12) ☒ HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA ☐ GED ☐ YEARS OF COLLEGE ☐ ASSOCIATE DEGREE ☐ BACHELOR'S DEGREE ☐ MASTER'S DEGREE ☐ DOCTORATE/PROFESSIONAL DEGREE ☐ UNKNOWN

16. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

17. USUAL OR LAST OCCUPATION: CS

18. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY: UNITED STATES NAVY

19. MARITAL STATUS

☒ NEVER MARRIED ☐ MARRIED ☐ WIDOWED ☐ DIVORCED ☐ SEPARATED ☐ UNKNOWN

20. IF MARRIED, SEPARATED OR WIDOWED, NAME OF SPOUSE (if divorced leave blank):

21. FULL NAME OF DECEDENT'S FATHER OR PARENT I(first,middle,last,suffix)(maiden name,if any): JUAN P. RESENDIZ

21a. GENDER: MALE

22. FULL NAME OF DECEDENT'S MOTHER OR PARENT I(first,middle,last,suffix)(maiden name,if any): ESMERALDA CANTU

22a. GENDER: FEMALE

23. INFORMANT'S RELATIONSHIP OR SOURCE OF INFORMATION: MOTHER/PARENT I

24. FULL NAME OF INFORMANT OR NAME OF SOURCE: ESMERALDA CASTLE

25. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION OF DEATH (if none, so state): NONE

25a. SELECT ONE IF DEATH OCCURRED IN HOSPITAL: ☐ DOA ☐ OUT PAT. EMER RM ☐ INPATIENT

26. SPECIFY IF DEATH OCCURRED SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN A HOSPITAL

☐ HOSPICE FACILITY ☐ NURSING HOME ☐ LONG TERM CARE FACILITY ☐ DECEDENT'S HOME ☐ CORRECTIONAL FACILITY ☒ OTHER (SPECIFY) WOODED AREA

27. CITY OR TOWN OF DEATH: NORFOLK

28. STREET ADDRESS OR RT. NO OF PLACE OF DEATH: 2800 BLOCK OF CARY AVENUE

28a. ZIP CODE:

28b. COUNTY OF DEATH (if independent city, leave blank):

29. METHOD OF DISPOSITION

☐ BURIAL ☐ ENTOMBMENT / MAUSOLEUM ☒ CREMATION / INCINERATION ☐ CREMATION WITH BURIAL ☐ CREMATION WITH ENTOMBMENT / MAUSOLEUM ☐ BURIAL AT SEA ☐ DONATION ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

☒ REMOVAL FROM STATE (IF KNOWN, PLEASE ALSO CHECK FINAL METHOD OF DISPOSITION WHEN REMOVING FROM STATE, FROM OPTIONS SHOWN)

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

30. PLACE OF DISPOSITION - NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY: SUNSET MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

RETAINED BY USING AGENCY

31. PLACE OF DISPOSITION - STREET ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY: 657 SPRINGMART BOULEVARD

31a. CITY / COUNTY: BROWNSVILLE

31b. STATE: TEXAS

31c. ZIP CODE: 78526

31d. COUNTRY:

32. SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR/LICENSEE , VSAP OR NEXT OF KIN (ACTUAL SIGNATURE): /S/ MICHAEL EUGENE LUIKART

32a. LICENSEE'S NO.: 0502901091

32b. NAME OF FUNERAL HOME OR FACILITY: ALTMEYER FUNERAL HOMES AND CREMATORY

33. NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR / LICENSEE, VSAP OR NEXT OF KIN: MICHAEL EUGENE LUIKART

33a. STREET ADDRESS OF FUNERAL HOME / FACILITY, VSAP OR NEXT OF KIN (Include street address, city, state and zip code): 5033 ROUSE DR VIRGINIA BCH VIRGINIA 23462

34. TIME OF DEATH: To the best of my knowledge, death occurred at _____ ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐ ACTUAL ☐ APPROXIMATE ☐ PRESUMED ☐ FOUND

35. PART I. Enter the diseases, injuries, or complications that caused the death. Do not enter the mode of dying, such as cardiac or respiratory arrest, shock, or heart failure.

		INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH
IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH (Final disease or condition resulting in death)	(A) UNDETERMINED	
Sequentially list conditions, if any, leading to immediate cause. Enter UNDERLYING CAUSE (Disease or injury that initiated events resulting in death) LAST	(B) DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF)	
	(C) DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF)	
	(D) DUE TO (OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF)	

PART II. Other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause given in Part I.

36. WAS THE MEDICAL EXAMINER CONTACTED? ☒ YES ☐ NO

36a. AUTOPSY? ☒ YES ☐ NO

36b. WERE FINDINGS AVAILABLE TO COMPLETE CAUSE OF DEATH? ☒ YES ☐ NO

37. DID TOBACCO USE CONTRIBUTE TO DEATH? ☐ YES ☒ NO ☐ POSSIBLY ☐ UNKNOWN

38. IF FEMALE:

☐ PREGNANT AT TIME OF DEATH ☒ UNKNOWN IF PREGNANT WITHIN THE PAST YEAR ☐ NOT PREGNANT, BUT PREGNANT WITHIN 42 DAYS OF DEATH ☐ NOT PREGNANT WITHIN PAST YEAR ☐ NOT PREGNANT, BUT PREGNANT WITHIN 43 DAYS TO 1 YEAR BEFORE DEATH ☐ NOT APPLICABLE (if decedent's age is 0-5 or 75 years)

39. IF EXTERNAL, TO WHAT EXTENT IT CONTRIBUTED TO CAUSE OF DEATH? ☒ PRIMARY ☐ CONTRIBUTING

40. MANNER OF DEATH: ☐ NATURAL ☐ ACCIDENT ☐ SUICIDE ☐ HOMICIDE ☒ UNDETERMINED ☐ PENDING

41. DATE OF INJURY: UNKNOWN

42. TIME OF INJURY: UNKNOWN ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M

43. INJURY AT WORK? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☒ UNKNOWN

44. PLACE OF INJURY (home, farm, factory, street, office, bldg. etc.): UNKNOWN

45. LOCATION OF INJURY-STREET ADDRESS (INCLUDE HOUSE AND/OR APT. # OR ROUTE NO.):

45a. CITY / COUNTY:

45b. STATE:

45c. ZIP CODE:

45d. COUNTRY:

46. IF TRANSPORTATION INJURY, SPECIFY ☐ DRIVER/OPERATOR ☐ PASSENGER ☐ PEDESTRIAN ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

47. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY RELATING TO DEATH OCCURRED: N/A

48. SIGNATURE OF MEDICAL EXAMINER: /S/ FERNANDA DA SILVA LAMEIRA

48a. NAME OF MEDICAL EXAMINER: FERNANDA DA SILVA LAMEIRA

48b. DATE SIGNED: JUNE 10, 2025

49. OFFICE STREET ADDRESS (INCLUDE HOUSE AND/OR APT. # OR ROUTE NO.): 830 SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE SUITE 100

49a. CITY: NORFOLK

49b. STATE: VIRGINIA

49c. ZIP CODE: 23510

This is to verify that the foregoing is a reproduction of the original record on file in the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Vital Records, Richmond, Virginia.

[redacted]

APRIL 13, 2026
Date Issued

Seth Austin
Director and State Registrar

009116_COPELAND

Enclosure E

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **5 May 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a), which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 513 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, and AEs XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a).

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 5th day of May 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

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[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

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So **ORDERED**, this 5th day of May 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN, USN**	**DEFENSE NOTICE OF PLEAS** **1 May 25**

Entry of Pleas. Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Martial 910 and after all motions are filed in accordance with the trial management order, CSSN Copeland, USN through counsel, intends to enter the following pleas:

To all Charges and Specifications: NOT GUILTY.

[redacted]
A. M. SERPESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

****

Certificate of Service

I hereby attest that a copy of the foregoing notice of pleas was electronically served on this Court and trial counsel on 1 May 2026.

[redacted]
A. M. SERPESS
LCDR, JAGC, USN
Detailed Defense Counsel

U.S. Navy
Central Judicial Circuit
General Court-Martial

UNITED STATES v. Jermiah Copeland ~~CSSN/E-3~~ CS3/E-4 CBD 85JUN2C U.S. Navy 3 CBD 85JUN2C	Memorandum of Plea Agreement

AMS JTC

I, ~~CSSN~~ Jermiah Copeland, USN, the accused in the court-martial now pending, in exchange for good consideration, and after thorough consultation with my Defense Counsel, do fully understand and agree to the following terms:

1. I agree to enter pleas as indicated below. I assert that I am, in fact, guilty of the offenses to which I am pleading guilty. I am entering into this agreement freely and voluntarily. No one has threatened or coerced me into entering this agreement.

2. This memorandum sets out the entire agreement between the Special Trial Counsel and me. There are no other written, oral, or implied agreements.

3. I am satisfied with all of my Defense Counsel, LCDR Amanda Serfess, LCDR Clifton Morgan, and LCDR Todd Mihill, in all respects and consider them qualified to represent me at this court-martial.

4. I understand that I may withdraw from this plea agreement for any reason prior to acceptance of this plea agreement by the military judge. I understand that I may also request to withdraw from this plea agreement after its acceptance, but before the sentence is announced if good cause is shown.

5. I understand that per R.C.M. 705(e)(4)(B), the Special Trial Counsel may withdraw from this plea agreement:

a. at any time before my substantial performance of the promises contained in this agreement;

b. upon my failure to fulfill any material promise or condition in the agreement;

c. when inquiry by the military judge discloses a disagreement as to a material term in the agreement; or

~~d. if findings are set aside because a plea of guilty is held improvident on appellate review.~~

6. Future Misconduct

a. I understand that should I commit any misconduct (i.e., any act or omission in violation of the UCMJ which constitutes a material breach of this agreement) after the signing of this plea agreement but before the date of trial, such misconduct may be the basis for the Special Trial Counsel to unilaterally withdraw from the plea agreement, rendering the entire agreement null and void.

b. I further understand that if I commit misconduct after the date of trial, but before the date of the entry of judgment, the Convening Authority may, after first complying with notice and hearing requirements consistent with Article 72, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1108, vacate the portion of the sentence that was suspended as a result of the Military Judge's or the Special Trial Counsel's recommendation. Should the Convening Authority vacate the suspension of any portion of my sentence based on misconduct occurring after the date of trial but before entry of judgment, I understand any suspended portion of my sentence may be imposed upon me.

c. I also understand that should I commit any misconduct after the date of the entry of judgment, or violate any of the conditions of suspension stated in this agreement during the period in which any part of my sentence is suspended, the Convening Authority may, after complying with the procedures set forth in R.C.M. 1108, vacate any periods of suspension recommended by the Military Judge or the Special Trial Counsel and approved by the Convening Authority. I understand that previously suspended portion of my sentence could be imposed upon me.

7. I understand that if either side withdraws from this agreement, then my offer to plead guilty and enter into this agreement cannot be used against me in any way to prove whether I am guilty or not of the charges alleged against me at this court-martial or in determining an appropriate sentence, except as outlined below in paragraph 8(i).

Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.

5. Agreements by the accused. In exchange for the Special Trial Counsel Convening Authority's agreement, I agree to do the following:

a. Plead as follows:

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Charge I (UCMJ Art 120):	NOT GUILTY		
Specification 1 (Aggravated Sexual Contact): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer First Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, on board USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75), on or about 24 July 2024, touch through the clothing, the vulva, breast, and buttocks of ABHAN C.R., U.S. Navy, with CSSN Copeland's body part, to wit: his hands, with an intent to gratify the sexual desire of CSSN Copeland by using unlawful force.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 20 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 3 30-120 months
Specification 2 (Abusive Sexual Contact): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer First Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, on board USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 7S), on or about 24 July 2024, touch through the clothing, the vulva, breast, and buttocks of ABHAN C.R., U.S. Navy, with CSSN Copeland's body part, to wit: his hands, with an intent to gratify the sexual desire of CSSN Copeland without the consent of ABHAN C.R.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 7 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Specification 3 (Sexual Assault - Incapable of Consenting): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer Third Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDO 95), on active duty, did, at or near Oslo, Norway, on or about 4 November 2024, commit a sexual act upon CSSN S.S., U.S. Navy, by penetrating CSSN S.S. 's vulva with his penis, when CSSN S.S. was incapable of consenting to the sexual act because she was impaired by an intoxicant, to wit: alcohol, and the accused reasonably should have known of that condition.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 30 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 3 30-120 months
Specification 4 (Sexual Assault Without Consent): in that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer Third Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 25 May 2025, commit a sexual act upon Ms. Y.J., by penetrating Ms. Y.J.' vulva with his penis without the consent of Ms. Y.J.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 30 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 3 30-120 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Charge II (UCMJ Art 128): Specification (Aggravated Assault Strangulation): (1) That I did, while on active duty, on board USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) on or about 24 July 2024, commit an assault upon ABHAN C.R., U.S. Navy; (2) That I did so by strangling her with my hand; and (3) That the strangulation was done unlawfully.	GUILTY GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 3 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months
Charge III (UCMJ Art 120c):	GUILTY		
Specification 1 (Indecent Recording): (1) That I did, while on active duty, ~~on board USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75)~~ at or near Oslo, Norway on or about 4 November 2024, without legal justification or lawful authorization, knowingly record the private area of CSSN S.S., U.S. Navy; (2) That said recording was without CSSN S.S.'s consent; and (3) That said recording was made under circumstances in which the other person had a reasonable expectation of privacy.	GULTY when P STC	Dishonorable Discharge, 5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1 – 36 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Specification 2 (Indecent Broadcasting): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer Third Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did at or near Oslo, Norway, on or about 4 November 2024, without legal justification or lawful authorization, knowingly broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S., U.S. Navy, when the said accused knew or reasonably should have known that the said recording was made	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 7 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months
Charge IV (UCMJ Art 131b):	GUILTY		
Specification I (Obstruction of Justice) (1) That I on active duty, did, at or near Oslo, Norway, on or about 5 November 2024, wrongfully do a certain act, to wit: hide my cellular phone; (2) I did so in the case of United States v. ~~CSSN~~ Jermiah T. Copeland, USN, against whom I had reason to believe that there were or would be criminal proceedings pending; and (3) That I did so with the intent to impede the due administration of justice.	GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Specification 2 (Obstruction of Justice): (1) That I on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 2 June 2025, wrongfully do a certain act, to wit: concealed the dead body of CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, (2) I did so in the case of United States v. ~~CSSN~~ 3 Jermiah T. Copeland, USN, against whom I had reason to believe that there were or would be criminal proceedings pending; and (3) That I did so with the intent to impede the due administration of justice.	GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months
Specification 3 (Obstruction of Justice): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 4 June 2025, wrongfully do a certain act, to wit: hide his cellular phone, with intent to impede the due administration of justice in the case of United States v. ~~CSSN~~ 3 Jenniah T. Copeland, USN, against whom the accused had reason to believe that there were or would be criminal proceedings pending.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Charge V (UCMJ Art 128b): Specification 1 (Domestic Violence – Strangulation): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer Third Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 11 April 2025, commit an assault upon CSSN S.R., U.S. Navy, the dating partner of the accused, by unlawfully strangling her with his hands.	NOT GUILTY NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 6 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1 - 36 months
Specification 2 (Domestic Violence – Violent Offense): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer Third Class Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 11 April 2025, commit a violent offense against CSSN S.R., U.S. Navy, the dating partner of the accused, to wit: by unlawfully pushing her with his hands.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 3.5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 1 1 – 12 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Charge VI (UCMJ Art 107): Specification 1 (False Official Statement) (1) That I, on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 1 June 2025, with intent to deceive, make to Special Agent Jessica Gokey, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, an official statement, to wit: that he had returned CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, back to her barracks room on the morning of 29 May 2025 or words to that effect, (2) That said statement was totally false; (3) That I knew the statement was totally false; (4) That made said statement with the intent to deceive.	GUILTY GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Specification 2 (False Official Statement): In that Culinary Specialist ~~Seaman~~ Petty Officer First Class Jennah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES F. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 1 June 2025, with intent to deceive, make to Special Agent Jessica Gokey, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, an official statement, to wit: that he had nothing to do with the disappearance of CS3 A.R., U.S. or words to that effect, which statement was totally false, and was then known by the said CS~~SN~~3 Copeland to be so false.	NOT GUILTY	Dishonorable Discharge, 5 years confinement, Total Forfeitures	Category 2 1- 36 months

Charge/specification and elements	Plea	Max Punishment Authorized by UCMJ	Sentence Parameter Offense Category (if applicable)
Charge VII (UCMJ Art 118(a)(1)): Specification (Premeditated Murder): In that Culinary Specialist Seaman Jeremiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 29 May 2025, with premeditation, murder CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, by means of an act of the Accused.	NOT GUILTY, but GUILTY of the Lesser Included Offense of Article 118(a)(2) (Unpremeditated Murder): (1) That CS3 A.R. is dead; (2) That the death resulted from the intentional act or omission of myself; (3) That the killing was unlawful; and (4) That at the time of the killing, I had the intent to kill or inflict great bodily harm upon CS3 A.R.	For the LIO: Dishonorable Discharge, Confinement for life without the possibility of parole, Total Forfeitures	For LIO: Category 5 240-480 months

b. I agree to elect trial by military judge alone, and I waive my right to a trial by members, including enlisted members.

c. I intend to request in presentencing, at government expense, the presence of Rochelle Brown (CSSN Copeland's mother) as a witness. Provided that the Special Trial Counsel agrees to produce this witness, I will not request the production of any additional witnesses at government expense. This provision has not interfered with my selection of witnesses or in presenting a case in extenuation and mitigation. If I have further material to present, I intend to use alternative means to present this material. The government and I also agree to not object to the Court receiving telephonic testimony in lieu of live testimony offered during presentencing. This provision does not preclude objections to the content of the testimony offered.

d. The government and I agree not to object to relevant service record documents, relevant medical or autopsy reports, relevant command investigation materials, relevant Naval Criminal Investigative Service evidentiary material, relevant statements offered by the defense in extenuation and mitigation, or relevant statements offered by the government in aggravation to include written, audio, or videotaped statements or telephonic testimony of any crime victim or relevant witness being offered by either party during presentencing or relevant unsworn testimony by a crime victim who exercises the right to be reasonably heard and is called by the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1001(e) on the basis of foundation, hearsay, lack of confrontation, or authenticity. Each party will provide the other party final witness and exhibit lists covered by this paragraph at least **three** calendar days prior to the scheduled presentencing proceeding. This provision does not interfere with my ability to present an effective and complete case in extenuation and mitigation.

e. I agree, and am fully prepared, to go to trial and offer to go to trial no later than **8 June 2026.** I understand that this agreement will not be deemed to have been breached if the government is unprepared or the judiciary cannot schedule the trial by that date.

f. I agree to waive any administrative discharge board based on any act or omission to which I have plead guilty. I agree that, when the government provides notification of administrative discharge proceedings based on any act or omission to which I have plead guilty, that I will waive my right to an administrative discharge board. If the government provides this notification before my court-martial, I agree to provide my waiver to the government prior to the announcement of the sentence in this case. I understand that any administrative discharge will be characterized in accordance with service regulations and may be under other-than-honorable conditions. I fully understand the nature and purpose of an Administrative Discharge Board and the rights that I would have at such a Board.

g. I understand that by pleading guilty, I waive all motions except 1) those that are non-waivable pursuant to R.C.M. 705(c)(1)(B) and 2) those previously filed pursuant to Article 13, UCMJ and/or R.C.M. 305(l). I agree that my waiver is effective at the time this plea agreement is signed by all parties.

h. The government and I agree to enter into the Stipulation of Fact contained in Annex I to this Agreement for use during the providence inquiry and during the presentencing proceeding. I have reviewed the stipulation completely, I agree the facts therein are true and admissible, and I have no objections.

i. Additionally, if this agreement should become void due to my actions, then I agree to following waiver of my rights pursuant to M.R.E. 410: The government may use the signed stipulation of fact, as well as any information directly or indirectly derived from the signed stipulation of fact: (1) in cross examination if you testify in any administrative or criminal proceeding; and, (2) to rebut directly or indirectly, any evidence, arguments, statements, and/or representations offered or elicited by you or on your behalf at trial, sentencing, or any other criminal or administrative proceeding (including but not limited to motions hearing, trial, or

sentencing). If the reason this agreement becomes void is by no fault of my own, the protections established in M.R.E. 410 remain.

j. I agree to meet with Ms. Esmerelda Castle, Article 6b representative and mother of CS3 A.R., after I am found guilty, but before presentencing begins. This meeting will occur in ~~the pretrial confinement (PTC) room on the third floor of~~ building A-50 in Norfolk. The only people that will be in attendance at this meeting will be required brig staff, one of my attorneys, and Ms. Castle. One member of the Special Trial Counsel team may also be present. The media will not be present. Ms. Castle's attorney, Mr. Marshall Griffin will not be present. I understand that I will not be required to make any statement, comment, declaration, nor answer any questions during this meeting.

BD SSJ UNZ6 PJMS JTC

9. Agreements by the Special Trial Counsel. In exchange for my agreements, the Special Trial Counsel/Convening Authority agrees to do the following:

a. The Special Trial Counsel agrees to withdraw the language, charges, and specifications to which I have pled not guilty in return for my pleas of guilty and following the Military Judge's acceptance of my pleas as set forth above. The Special Trial Counsel agrees that, after the announcement of the sentence by the Military Judge, the withdrawn charges and/or specifications will be dismissed without prejudice to ripen into prejudice upon completion of appellate review where the findings and sentence have been upheld.

~~The remainder of this page was intentionally left blank~~

10. Sentencing Limitations.

The parties agree that the Military Judge may only sentence as follows:

a. Punitive discharge: A dishonorable discharge shall be adjudged.
b. Confinement: Shall be adjudged as set forth in Table A
c. Forfeiture: Total forfeitures shall be adjudged.
d. Fine: No fine will be adjudged.
e. Reduction: Reduction to E-1 shall be adjudged.
f. Other lawful punishments: No other lawful punishments will be adjudged

TABLE A

	Confinement				Fines	
	Minimum	Maximum	To be served consecutively with…	To be served concurrently with…	Minimum	Maximum
Charge II						
Specification	6 months	36 months	None	All	N/a	N/a
Charge III						
Specification	1 month	3 months	None	All	N/a	N/a
Charge IV						
Specification 1	1 month	36 months	None	All	N/a	N/a
Specification 2	1months	36 months	Specification I of Charge VI & Charge VII as amended	None	N/a	N/a
Charge VI						
Specification 1	1 month	36 months	Charge VII as amended & Specification 2 of Charge IV	None	N/a	N/a
Charge VII						
Specification	480 months	480 months	Specification 1 of Charge VI & Specification 2 of Charge IV	None	N/a	N/a
Total that may be adjudged (*accounting for consecutive or concurrent sentence*)	482 months	552 months				

11. Notification provisions. I have been advised of the following potential consequences of my plea(s) of guilty and resultant convictions:

a. My Defense Counsel has advised me that my guilty pleas to the charges and specifications contained in this agreement may preclude me from the ownership, receipt, or transport of any firearm and ammunition that has been transported in interstate or foreign commerce under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g).

b. My Defense Counsel has advised me that any punitive discharge that is adjudged and ultimately approved in my case may adversely affect my ability to receive Veterans' and all other benefits accrued as a result of my military service.

c. I understand that I may be placed on appellate leave under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 876a, Article 76a of the UCMJ, if the sentence, as approved, includes an unsuspended punitive discharge. I understand that an individual placed into an appellate leave status will normally not receive any pay or allowances. I further understand that I may receive pay and/or allowances upon the execution of my discharge after appellate review is complete for the amount of accrued leave I have accumulated.

d. I have been fully advised by my Defense Counsel of, and I fully understand and comprehend the meaning and effect of, my guilty pleas and all attendant effects and consequences, including the possibility that I may be processed for administrative discharge from the U.S. Navy. I understand that nothing in this agreement ensures or promises that administrative separation processing will be disapproved for the misconduct underlying the charges at this court-martial. I understand that Commander, Navy Personnel Command, or any other appropriate separation authority may initiate administrative separation processing based on the misconduct underlying this court-martial. I understand that such an administrative discharge could result in an Other Than Honorable characterization of service, unless otherwise limited by this agreement, even if part or all of the sentence, including a punitive discharge, is suspended or disapproved for any reason. I understand that if I am separated with a characterization Other Than Honorable that I may be deprived of veterans' benefits based upon my current period of active service, and that I may therefore expect to encounter substantial prejudice in civilian life in many situations.

e. My Defense Counsel has advised me that, as a result of my pleas, I may be required to register as a sexual offender in any state in which I am domiciled. I have reviewed DoD Instruction 1325.07 (series) with my counsel and understand that I am entering a plea of guilty to an offense requiring sex offender registration processing within the meaning of Appendix 4 to Enclosure 2 of that instruction. Further, my counsel has advised me that, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 14071(d), my information in the offender registry may be accessible by the public.

SIGNATURE PAGE

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read this agreement completely, discussed it with my counsel, understand it in all respects, and am prepared to abide by its terms.

Accused: [redacted] Date: 30 APR 2026
Jermiah Copeland
CS~~3~~ USN

Defense Counsel: [redacted] Date: 30 APR 24
Amanda ~~Serfess~~
LCDR, JAGC, USN

Defense Counsel: [redacted] Date: 30 Apr 24
~~Clifton~~ Morgan
LCDR, JAGC, USN

Defense Counsel [redacted] Date: 30Apr26
[redacted] Todd Mihill
LCDR, USCG

The foregoing plea agreement is approved, including the sentence limitation portion of this plea agreement.

Special Trial Counsel/Convening Authority: [redacted] Date: 4 May 2026
Ryan Stormer
CAPT, JAGC, USN

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERALCOURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **5 May 26**

The Government requests the Court seal the audio session of a closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, as well as Appellate Exhibits (AE) XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a), which contains Military Rule of Evidence (Mil. R. Evid.) 513 material.

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** Audio session and transcript of the closed hearing conducted on 30 April 2026, and AEs XCVIII, XCIX, XCIX(a), CIV, CV, and CV(a).

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 5th day of May 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

Audio file

Copeland Brig call.mp4

Transcript

00:00:01 Automated caller

Press one for English but given below.

00:00:04 Automated caller

To make a correct call dial zero plus the area code.

00:00:11 Automated caller

Please enter your 6 digit pin number at the tone thank you for using global Tel link your call is being processed.

00:00:31 Automated caller

This is a global challenge prepaid call from a prisoner at the naval consolidated Brig Chesapeake this call will be monitored and recorded the use of 3 way or.

00:00:45 Automated caller

Call waiting will disconnect the call.

00:00:47 Automated caller

If you wish to block?

00:00:52 Speaker 3

Hello hello ohh hi hi how's your day been.

00:00:59 Speaker 2

It's been good how's yours.

00:01:01

Yeah.

00:01:02 Speaker 3

Good.

00:01:03 Speaker 2

That's good that's good.

00:01:07 Speaker 3

Bye.

00:01:08 Speaker 2

Hi.

00:01:13 Speaker 3

Hi.

00:01:15 Speaker 3

How do I get my house like guys?

00:01:16 Speaker 3

Want.

00:01:21 Speaker 3

Ohh really yeah nobody likes me.

00:01:27 Speaker 2

You have you been doing good.

00:01:32 Speaker 2

No OK make sure you're doing good and listening to Gigi OK.

00:01:43 Speaker 3

OK bye.

00:01:46 Speaker 3

Uh thanks bye bye bye bye bye Oh my God.

00:01:54 Speaker 3

Hi.

00:01:57 Speaker 2

Happy rose.

00:01:59 Speaker 3

There hello.

00:02:03 Speaker 3

How do you delete it it?

00:02:06 Speaker 2

It's been wonderful how has your day been Heidi rose.

00:02:11 Speaker 3

Uh and then the struggle she's gonna pizza place.

00:02:25 Speaker 2

Where's mom at?

00:02:32 Speaker 2

How how's the school doing?

00:02:36 Speaker 2

That's good that's good.

00:02:45 Speaker 3

Well what with him wearing all day.

00:02:48 Speaker 2

Hey tell them to fill.

00:02:50 Speaker 2

Out.

00:02:51 Speaker 3

Huh.

00:02:52 Speaker 2

Tell them chill out they should not be in.

00:02:53 Speaker 2

The car screaming like that ohh.

00:03:00 Speaker 2

What don't tell him shut up just just tell them for me to lower their voices they're being too loud?

00:03:15 Speaker 3

I.

00:03:17 Speaker 2

Who is this?

00:03:19 Speaker 3

Kyle.

00:03:20 Speaker 2

Oh hey Claire.

00:03:25 Speaker 3

But.

00:03:26 Speaker 2

You need to stop all that winning alright.

00:03:29 Speaker 3

The OK.

00:03:30 Speaker 2

Yeah if you're having a problem you need to address it or tell Gigi what's what's happening OK.

00:03:37 Speaker 2

You don't have to you don't need to keep whining and crying OK if you're having something wrong make sure you tell Gigi tell auntie channel or auntie Olivia OK.

00:03:46 Speaker 3

And.

00:03:47 Speaker 3

Alright bye bye.

00:03:54 Speaker 2

How do you?

00:03:58 Speaker 3

Bye.

00:03:59 Speaker 2

Harry hello yes yes stop crying and stop screaming OK hello.

00:04:09

No.

00:04:14 Speaker 2

Ohg man.

00:04:16 Speaker 3

Oh my God.

00:04:21 Speaker 3

What do you have for me about?

00:04:27 Speaker 3

Whoa.

00:04:31 Speaker 3

Can you stop yelling then costing me he'll stop talking?

00:04:46 Speaker 2

Now I know mom got her hands full.

00:04:50 Speaker 3

Welcome everyday I'm at school we have something new to tell me about them.

00:05:02 Speaker 3

It's everyday one of them are crying or both of them are.

00:05:06 Speaker 2

Yeah no that needs to stop.

00:05:07 Speaker 3

Hey.

00:05:13 Speaker 3

Dot all day long freaking drunk.

00:05:24 Speaker 3

Some weird toilet like what are you gonna do that.

00:05:27 Speaker 2

You said what.

00:05:30 Speaker 3

Getting toilet a toilet.

00:05:37 Speaker 3

Yeah like in my back and watch them hippity bum bum toilet.

00:05:48 Speaker 2

OK no that's that's not fun.

00:05:51 Speaker 3

Toilet there's some little dude with a head in the toilet talking about some his name is Tiffany bum bum toilet.

00:05:58 Speaker 2

Yeah OK then that needs to stop.

00:06:05 Speaker 3

Have you guys watched Kitty bum bum toilet it kept saying I I love KD KD loves from skippy bum bum?

00:06:14 Speaker 3

That but then I told I told Olivia that Google what in the world some chicken bum bum bum guy 's head floating in the toilet and he got a whole rap song yeah and he doesn't care that's why I said absolutely not.

00:06:33 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:06:35 Speaker 3

No your dad said that no no stop being a problem.

00:06:45 Speaker 3

Don't even know what you're talking about.

00:06:52 Speaker 3

Like this OK OK that's it no no you don't like that song that's creepy.

00:07:05 Speaker 3

Hi stop being a follower.

00:07:09 Speaker 3

You didn't know where like being a follower rise up and be a leader.

00:07:09 Speaker 2

Right.

00:07:16 Speaker 3

It's not Pretty Little Liars little little what you guys say your ABC.

00:07:28 Speaker 2

Yeah they shouldn't even be saying that either like we we used to get our.

00:07:34 Speaker 2

For that.

00:07:35 Speaker 3

Exactly I guess you guys gotta singing those numbers and letters songs and we don't need to hear nothing.

00:07:41 Speaker 3

Else come after them.

00:07:44 Speaker 3

So John got so much attention at 30 years old I mean boy I got some loud.

00:07:56 Speaker 3

You have a lady in the year.

00:08:01 Speaker 3

The lady that has the workshop I just went in there before I went to the pizza place because I don't think the pizza was good what she was talking.

00:08:13 Speaker 3

But then you found out that for she was inviting me to church and then I told her grandpa was my dad.

00:08:22 Speaker 3

And it's just about girl please yeah yeah they probably don't joke about everything and I'm gonna call your dad and he's gonna skip in your toilet if you don't stop.

00:08:42 Speaker 2

Tell them like tell them like you gotta be for real like you're just like you're just saying it and letting them repeat the stuff they.

00:08:48 Speaker 2

Need to stop.

00:08:51 Speaker 3

Hey no more saying that.

00:08:55 Speaker 3

OK.

00:08:55 Speaker 3

Did you hear her?

00:08:57 Speaker 3

No I didn't say that Mama.

00:08:59 Speaker 3

I was saying a BCE.

00:09:04 Speaker 3

OK good.

00:09:04 Speaker 2

Yeah they were coverage.

00:09:06 Speaker 3

Do you think I called that desktop how huge their minds are she knew how to Polish it up real quick?

00:09:15 Speaker 3

There you go you hear louder.

00:09:20 Speaker 3

The sky.

00:09:22 Speaker 3

Yeah that's what you need to be singing.

00:09:25 Speaker 3

And it is something that again you better understand.

00:09:31 Speaker 3

Do you suck it so you guys start singing that again your bedtime that 7?

00:09:43 Speaker 3

Where are you at yeah I'll do each other with that one yeah that's the day I was bought them a bunch of bird book bath and letters?

00:09:55 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:09:56 Speaker 3

And then the thing with the ABC 's like they're so smart they know all their letters they know their sound.

00:10:06 Speaker 3

They know how to count good.

00:10:09 Speaker 3

Like well at the kindergarten material they look there's some fully resolved.

00:10:13 Speaker 2

That's good.

00:10:16 Speaker 3

Yeah and now we'll just start working on like this site work and writing.

00:10:23 Speaker 2

Yeah they also learn their vowels.

00:10:27 Speaker 2

And they're like no adjectives like that.

00:10:33 Speaker 3

We have that they're very very smart little ones.

00:10:36 Speaker 2

Well that's good.

00:10:40 Speaker 3

Yeah they're about to start doing may name.

00:10:43 Speaker 3

Saying right and then I.

00:10:46 Speaker 3

Found this one thing I think it's called.

00:10:50 Speaker 3

Something breed might be called Reed.

00:10:53 Speaker 3

Is there like those things I had no?

00:10:56 Speaker 3

It's the reading like just read.

00:10:59 Speaker 3

But you download it and it helps them read like little kids kids need to read it.

00:11:05 Speaker 2

Ohh.

00:11:07 Speaker 3

I think it's called weed.

00:11:09 Speaker 3

And the going like $10.00 a month or so the dark whoa I think you have the first flow.

00:11:12 Speaker 3

Yes.

00:11:21 Speaker 3

The hard water that buddy.

00:11:22 Speaker 3

Tired.

00:11:26 Speaker 3

Wait we're going to wait till the phone comes.

00:11:29 Speaker 3

Agenda.

00:11:31 Speaker 2

Well you guys are.

00:11:31 Speaker 2

Home.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL
NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

United States of America **v.** **Jermiah Copeland** **CSSN/E-3** **U.S. Navy**	**Proposed Lesser Included Offense Specification Language** **5 June 2026**

Pursuant to Rule for Courts-Marial (R.C.M. 910) and the 30 April 2026 plea agreement in this case, the defense provides the following revised specification as the lesser included offense of the sole specification of Charge VII (premeditated murder). The defense requests that this revised specification of the lesser included offense of unpremeditated murder be included in the record as an appellate exhibit.

Charge VII, Specification (unpremeditated murder): In that Culinary Specialist Seaman Jermiah T. Copeland, U.S. Navy, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95), on active duty, did, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, on or about 29 May 2025, murder CS3 A.R., U.S. Navy, by means of an act of the Accused.

[redacted]
A. M. SERVESS

APPELLATE AND POST-TRIAL RIGHTS AND POST-TRIAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING

Rule for Courts-Martial (R.C.M.) 1010 requires your defense counsel to advise you on your post-trial and appellate rights. You may also request that the military judge explain all or any portion of your appellate rights in open court prior to adjournment of your court-martial.

Access to the Court-Martial Record

Pursuant to R.C.M. 1106(c), upon adjournment of your court-martial, you have the right to request a copy of the recording of all open sessions of the court-martial and a copy of, or access to, the evidence admitted at the court-martial, and a copy of the appellate exhibits. You may request the recording, evidence, and exhibits be provided to you or your counsel. Neither you nor your counsel will be provided access to sealed or classified court-martial material or recordings unless authorized by R.C.M. 1106 or R.C.M. 1113. You may use the materials provided to prepare matters for consideration by the Convening Authority (CA) and in any appeal for which you may be eligible.

Submission of Matters to the Convening Authority

Pursuant to Article 38(c), Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and R.C.M. 1106, within 10 calendar days after the announcement of the sentence, you have the right to submit matters to the CA before that officer takes action on your case. If you elect to submit matters, you must do so within 10 calendar days after the announcement of the sentence. The CA may extend this for not more than an additional 20 calendar days for good cause shown. Your defense counsel will normally compile and submit the matters on your behalf in consultation with you. Failure to submit matters within the time prescribed waives the right to submit additional matters later. If a crime victim submits matters for the CA's consideration, you will be given 5 calendar days from receipt of those matters to submit a rebuttal to those matters. You may not seek an extension of time to submit a rebuttal to matters submitted by a crime victim. In either submission, you are prohibited from including matters that relate to the character of a crime victim unless such matters were admitted as evidence at trial.

Possible Action by the Convening Authority

a. The CA has authority to act only in certain cases. For cases involving convictions for offenses committed after 1 January 2019, under Article 60a, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1109 the CA *cannot* act on the *findings* if any of the following applies:

- you have been convicted of a sexual offense listed in Articles 120(a), 120(b) or 120b, UCMJ;

- the *authorized maximum confinement* for any *offense* of which you have been convicted exceeds two years, regardless of the court's jurisdictional maximum;
- the *adjudged sentence* includes a punitive discharge (Dismissal, Bad Conduct Discharge, or Dishonorable Discharge); or
- the *adjudged confinement* is more than six months.

In those cases, the CA may take action on the *sentence* only as provided in R.C.M. 1109(c).

b. In all other cases involving convictions for offenses committed after 1 January 2019, the CA may, but is not required to, take action on the findings and sentence and grant clemency within the limits of Articles 60a or 60b, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1109 or 1110. In those cases, the CA may take:

- no action;
- action on the findings, if allowed by law; or
- action on the sentence, if allowed by law.

c. In any case involving a conviction for an offense committed before 1 January 2019, the CA may take action on either the findings of guilty or sentence adjudged within the limits of Article 60, UCMJ, that was in effect at the time of the earliest offense for which you were convicted. The action to be taken on the findings and sentence may be limited by Article 60, UCMJ, depending on the date of the offense, the type of offense, the maximum punishment of the offense, the recommendation of the trial counsel, the existence of a pretrial agreement, and the punishment awarded. When authorized to act, the CA possesses the sole discretion to approve, disapprove, commute, or suspend the sentence in whole or in part; set aside a finding of guilty; order a rehearing on a finding of guilty; or approve a lesser included offense of a finding of guilty.

d. If the CA has the power to approve, disapprove, commute, or suspend the sentence in whole or in part, set aside a finding of guilty, order a rehearing on a finding of guilty, or approve a lesser included offense of a finding of guilty, that decision is within the sole discretion of the CA. The CA may suspend a sentence in certain cases when recommended by a military judge or by the trial counsel. The CA is not required to review the case for legal errors or factual sufficiency, but may order a rehearing only in the circumstances provided for in Article 60b, UCMJ.

In the post-trial process, the CA and the Military Judge may never increase the severity of the sentence and are not empowered to reverse a finding of not guilty.

APPELLATE AND POST-TRIAL RIGHTS AND POST-TRIAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING

Entry of Judgment

Pursuant to Article 60c, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1111, the military judge will complete the Entry of Judgment (EOJ) and attach it to the record of trial. The EOJ reflects the result of your court-martial, including the UCMJ Article and subsection violated, nature and date of the offense, as well as the results of the CA's action. The EOJ will include the final sentence, which will account for any modifications made by the CA during the post-trial review process or any post-trial ruling, order, or other determination by the military judge. The EOJ will also include the total amount of sentence credit, if any, to be applied to a sentence as of the date of the EOJ. The EOJ terminates the court-martial at the trial level, ends any period of deferment, and initiates the post-trial review process. A copy of the EOJ will be provided to you or your defense counsel according to your election below.

Certified Record of Trial

Pursuant to Article 54, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1112(b), the certified record of trial (ROT) is comprised of an audio recording of all open sessions, all evidence admitted, and all appellate exhibits. A copy of the certified ROT will be assembled and provided to either you or your defense counsel, according to your election below. Recordings and exhibits that are sealed or contain classified materials will not be provided to you. Should you need to review those materials, you or your defense counsel must submit a request pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or R.C.M. 1113.

Appellate and Post-Trial Review

a. **Automatic Review.** Pursuant to Article 65(b)(1), UCMJ, if your sentence includes death, dismissal, a punitive discharge or confinement for two years or more, the ROT will be forwarded to the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals (NMCCA) for review under Article 66(b)(3), UCMJ. The ROT will also be forwarded to an appellate defense counsel who shall be detailed to review your case and, upon your request, represent you before the NMCCA.

b. **Direct Appeal Review.** Pursuant to Article 65(b)(2), UCMJ, if your case is eligible for direct appeal review under Article 66(b)(1), UCMJ, you may request in writing the representation of appellate defense counsel who will review the ROT and be available to represent you before the NMCCA. Pursuant to Article 66(b)(1)(A), if your sentence is not subject to automatic review, you may file an appeal to have the NMCCA review your case. Under Article 66(b)(1), UCMJ, this appeal must be timely. Article 66(c), UCMJ, provides that an appeal is timely if filed before the later of: (1) the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date you are provided notice of your right to appeal in accordance with Article 65(c)(1), or (2) the date set by the NMCCA by rule or order. With respect to an appeal submitted to the NMCCA for review, the scope of review is limited to the findings and sentence

as entered into the record. Upon a specific showing by you that there was a deficiency of proof, the NMCCA may also consider whether the findings are correct in fact. The NMCCA has the authority to set aside findings, set aside the sentence, modify the sentence to a lesser sentence, affirm a lesser-included offense, order or allow additional proceedings, and/or order that the charges be dismissed.

c. **Review beyond NMCCA.** Pursuant to Article 67(a), UCMJ, after completion of NMCCA review, upon your request or that of the Judge Advocate General (JAG), the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) may review your case. You may petition the CAAF within 60 days from the earlier of (1) the date you are notified of the NMCCA's decision, or (2) the date on which a copy of the NMCCA decision is deposited in the mail for delivery to you. CAAF review of your petition is discretionary in non-death penalty cases and, if it grants your petition, CAAF may act only with respect to the findings and sentence as entered into judgment and as affirmed or set aside as incorrect in law by the NMCCA. Under Article 67a, UCMJ, you may petition the Supreme Court of the United States following a decision by CAAF.

d. **Review by a Judge Advocate**. If your case is not subject to automatic review by the NMCCA and you do not seek direct appeal review, a judge advocate will review your case in accordance with Article 65(d), UCMJ. The review is limited to whether the court had jurisdiction over you and the offense; whether the charge and specification stated an offense; and whether the sentence was within the limits prescribed by law. You may also submit written allegations of error for review. Relief recommended by this review is forwarded to the JAG for consideration, who may set aside the findings or sentence, in whole or in part.

e. **Waiver of Appellate Review**. You may waive your right to appellate review if your case qualifies for automatic review, or you may withdraw your case from appellate review at a later time. **This is a significant decision and you should fully understand your appellate rights and the implications of a waiver before you forego appellate review.** You have the right to the advice and assistance of counsel in exercising or deciding to waive your appellate rights. This may include the assistance of an appellate defense counsel in coordination with your trial defense counsel. If you submit a waiver or withdraw from the appellate review process or if you do not file an appeal in a direct-appeal case, your case will be reviewed under Article 65(d)(3), UCMJ. The review is limited to whether the court had jurisdiction over you and the offense; whether the charge and specification stated an offense; and whether the sentence was within the limits prescribed by law.

f. **Review by the JAG**. Under Article 69, UCMJ, within one year after the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date you are provided your appellate rights pursuant to Article 65(c), UCMJ, the JAG may review your application to

send your case to the NMCCA. In the event that you submit a waiver or withdrawal of appellate review under Article 61, UCMJ, before being provided notice of these rights, your application must be submitted to the JAG no later than one year after the entry of judgment under Article 60c, UCMJ. The JAG may extend the period of submission, for good cause shown, but may not consider an application submitted more than three years after the end of the applicable submission period. The scope of review is limited to whether your withdrawal or waiver of appellate review was invalid under the law. If the JAG determines that it was invalid, he or she will send your case to the NMCCA for review under Article 66, UCMJ.

Right to Counsel

a. **Post-trial Matters**. It is your trial defense counsel's responsibility to represent you through the post-trial process. Your trial defense counsel is responsible for examining the Statement of Trial Results, the findings, the sentence, the CA's Action, and the EOJ for errors or legal insufficiency. It is your trial defense counsel's obligation to advise and assist you in preparing and submitting post-trial matters or motions, if applicable, to the military judge before the EOJ, or to correct the EOJ within five days after it is provided to you.

b. **Article 65(d), UCMJ**. If your case is not subject to automatic review and you do not seek direct appeal review of your case at the NMCCA, your trial defense counsel will continue to represent you through the Article 65(d), UCMJ, review process. Your trial defense counsel will also represent you through a subsequent Article 69, UCMJ, review, subject to such review's limitations discussed above if you elect this additional review.

c. **Appellate Defense Counsel**. If your case is subject to automatic review by the NMCCA or you seek direct appeal review, you have the right to a military appellate defense counsel to represent you at no cost. Detailed appellate defense counsel represent you on appeals before the NMCCA, the CAAF, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

- Special Power of Attorney. If you wish to be represented by a military appellate defense counsel before the NMCCA, the CAAF, or the Supreme Court you may sign a special power of attorney, which authorizes a detailed military appellate defense counsel to take actions on your behalf during the appellate review process. The original, signed special power of attorney must be notarized and attached to the original record of trial. If you do not sign the special power of attorney now, you do not waive the right to a military appellate defense counsel at a later date.

APPELLATE AND POST-TRIAL RIGHTS AND POST-TRIAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING

- How to Contact Appellate Defense Counsel. If you qualify for appellate representation and have not been contacted by your military appellate defense attorney 120 days after the conclusion of your trial, you may contact the Navy-Marine Corps Appellate Defense Division at 1-202-685-7290 or 1-800-688-4613. It is your responsibility to affirmatively provide updated contact information to your appellate defense counsel throughout the appellate process. This is critical to ensuring an appellate defense counsel can form the necessary attorney-client relationship and contact you regarding your case.

- Military Appellate Defense Counsel will Contact You. The Navy and Marine Appellate Review Activity (NAMARA) will make reasonable efforts to contact you when your case is ready for appellate review. **Should NAMARA be unable to contact you and if you elected not to sign the special power of attorney,** the NMCCA will conduct the automatic review of your case under Article 66(b)(3) without input from you. No appellate attorney at NAMARA will be able to appeal the NMCCA's decision to the CAAF unless you authorize an appellate attorney to represent you at that point. For more information on appellate defense counsel visit http://www.jag.navy.mil/organization/code_45.htm.

- Civilian Appellate Defense Counsel. If you wish, you may hire a civilian attorney at no expense to the government to represent you throughout the post-trial and appellate processes.

Petition for New Trial

a. At any time within three years after the date of the EOJ, you may petition for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence or fraud on the court-martial pursuant to Article 73, UCMJ, and R.C.M. 1210.

b. A petition for a new trial on the basis of fraud on the court-martial must demonstrate how the fraud had a substantial contributing effect on a finding of guilty or the sentence adjudged.

c. A petition for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence will only be granted if: (1) the evidence was discovered after the trial; (2) the evidence would not have been discovered by you or your defense counsel during your trial if you or your counsel exercised due diligence; and (3) the newly discovered evidence, if it had been considered by the trial court, in light of all other pertinent evidence, would probably produce a substantially more favorable result for you. You may not submit a petition for a new trial on the basis of newly discovered evidence if you pleaded guilty.

APPELLATE AND POST-TRIAL RIGHTS AND POST-TRIAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING

Post-Trial Processing and Notifications

a. **Effective Date of Sentence.** Pursuant to Article 57(a) and R.C.M. 1102(b), automatic and adjudged forfeitures and adjudged reduction in rank, take effect 14 days after the sentence is announced. Automatic reduction in rank takes effect upon EOJ. Pursuant to Article 57(b) and R.C.M. 1103, you may request that the CA defer service of a sentence to confinement, forfeitures, or reduction in rank until the EOJ.

b. **Automatic Forfeitures.** If the adjudged sentence includes either (1) confinement for more than six months or death, or (2) confinement for any period and a punitive discharge, Article 58b, UCMJ, requires the automatic imposition of forfeiture of all pay and allowances at a general court-martial or 2/3 pay at a special court-martial during the period of confinement. This applies regardless of whether the sentence is suspended. If you have dependents, pursuant to Article 58b(b), you may apply to the CA to waive automatic forfeitures, to be paid to your dependents for a period of up to six months. You must establish an allotment in order for your dependents to receive any waived pay and allowances. If you are held in confinement beyond your End of Active Obligated Service date, you or your dependents will not receive any pay or allowances by operation of law.

c. **Automatic Reduction in Pay Grade.** Automatic reduction to the lowest enlisted pay grade by operation of Article 58a, UCMJ, will be effected in the Naval service in the following manner:

- For any conviction for an offense committed before 1 January 2019, reduction to the lowest enlisted pay grade will be automatically effected only when the sentence as approved by the CA includes, whether or not suspended, either: (1) a dishonorable or bad-conduct discharge, or (2) confinement in excess of 90 days if the sentence is awarded in days, or in excess of 3 months if the sentence is awarded in months or years. This automatic reduction in rank goes into effect on the date of the convening authority's action.

- Automatic reduction in pay grade is not authorized in any conviction for an offense committed on or after 1 January 2019 and before 28 July 2023.

- For any conviction for an offense committed on or after 28 July 2023, reduction to the lowest enlisted pay grade will be automatically effected for any sentence that includes: (1) a dishonorable or bad-conduct discharge; or (2) confinement in excess of 90 days if the sentence is awarded in days, or in excess of 3 months if the sentence is awarded in months or years. This automatic reduction in rank goes into effect upon EOJ.

d. **Vacation of Suspended Sentences.** If you commit misconduct after the date of trial but before completing any period of suspension established by your plea

agreement or the period of suspension recommended by the military judge or the trial counsel, or if you violate any of the conditions of suspension stated in your plea agreement during this time period, the CA may vacate any periods of suspension in accordance with R.C.M. 1108. If that occurs, any previously suspended portion of your sentence could be imposed upon you.

e. **Appellate Leave**. If your sentence includes an unsuspended punitive discharge, you may be placed on appellate leave in a no-pay status under the provisions of Article 76a, UCMJ, notwithstanding any provision regarding forfeitures or fines in any plea agreement. A service member placed in an appellate leave status will normally not receive any pay or allowances. Receipt of pay and/or allowances while in an appellate leave status will depend on the amount of accrued leave you have accumulated, request to use, and receive command approval to use, and on the sentence awarded by this court-martial. You will remain a member of the Armed Forces while in an appellate leave status and subject to military jurisdiction.

f. **Administrative Separation**. As a result of being found guilty, you may be processed for administrative discharge from the United States Navy or United States Marine Corps, as applicable. An administrative discharge could result in an Other-Than-Honorable characterization of service, unless otherwise limited in a plea agreement (as permitted by Service policy), even if part or all of the sentence, including a punitive discharge, is suspended for any reason.

Acknowledgment

By signing the document below, you acknowledge the following: (1) that prior to adjournment of your court-martial, you were provided with the above written advice; (2) that you have read and understand your post-trial and appellate rights; and (3) that you discussed your rights with your defense counsel prior to signing this form.

[redacted]

Amanda Serfess
LCDR
U.S. Navy
Detailed Defense Counsel

Jermiah T. Copeland
CS3
U.S. Navy
Accused

[redacted]

Clifton Morgan
LCDR
U.S. Navy
Detailed Defense Counsel

Todd Mihill
LCDR
U.S. Coast Guard
Detailed Defense Counsel

APPELLATE AND POST-TRIAL RIGHTS AND POST-TRIAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING

Initial below as applicable:

I specifically request that my copy of the recording of the court-martial proceedings pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 be delivered to: ✓ me. ✓ my counsel.

I specifically request that my copy of the victim(s) matters be delivered to:
✓ me. ✓ my counsel. _____ Not Applicable.

I specifically request that my copy of the CA's Action be delivered to:
✓ me. ✓ my counsel.

I specifically request that my copy of the Entry of Judgment be delivered to:
✓ me. ✓ my counsel.

I specifically request that my copy of the certified record of trial be delivered to:
✓ me. ✓ my counsel.

Initial below if you want a copy of the record of trial to be forwarded to an appellate defense counsel who shall be detailed to review your case and represent you as necessary before the Court of Criminal Appeals in any special or general court-martial resulting in a conviction:

JTC Pursuant to Articles 65 and 66, UCMJ, in the event I am convicted but receive a sentence that does not include a punitive discharge or two or more years' confinement, I hereby submit my written request that the Judge Advocate General forward a copy of the record of trial to an appellate defense counsel who shall be detailed to review my case, and I hereby submit my written request to be represented by detailed appellate defense counsel as necessary before the Court of Criminal Appeals.

Contact information for the accused after the completion of the court-martial:

Name: **Jermiah Copeland** Phone: [redacted]

Address [redacted] Email: **N/A (currently at the brig)**

[redacted]

Amanda Serfass
LCDR
U.S. Navy
Detailed Defense Counsel

Jermiah T. Copeland
CS3
U.S. Navy
Accused

Who Was Angie

When I think of Angie, I do not first think of courtrooms, investigations, or headlines. I think of my daughter.

Angie was one of those kids who loved to be sandwiched between the couch cushions. She and her sister would turn ordinary moments into adventures, jumping off couches onto piles of cushions and leaping from the top bunk onto Marissa's bed, laughing the entire time. She was playful, affectionate, and full of life.

One of my favorite memories of Angie is from when she was a little girl. She was determined to get my attention. I remember her chest-bumping me and saying, "You're going to get this love. I'm going to give it to you." It was such a simple moment, but I have never forgotten it.

As she grew older, she remained deeply connected to the people she loved while growing into her own person. She answered the call to serve her country and was building a future for herself. She was finding her way in the world, discovering who she wanted to become, and growing into a remarkable young woman.

In the months before Angie died, our relationship was changing and growing. She would always be my daughter, but we were developing a friendship as two adults. We talked more openly, shared more of our lives with each other, and I was getting to know the woman she was becoming. We were building something special together, and I treasured that.

Impact

Angie's death left a wound that reaches far beyond words. The hurt runs deep, and there will always be an ache in my heart. While I continue to move forward each day, her absence is something I feel every day, and it will remain with me for the rest of my life.

No sentence handed down today can bring Angie back. Nothing can restore the conversations we would have had, the memories we would have continued to make, or the future she was building for herself. What this Court can do is recognize that Angie mattered. She was loved. She was valued. She was a daughter, a sister, a friend, a Sailor, and a human being whose life had meaning.

That is who Angie was. And that is how I hope she will be remembered.

Justice

Today, this Court will determine an appropriate sentence, and I respect that process. Accountability matters. Angie mattered. The value of her life deserves to be recognized, and the harm that was done cannot be ignored.

At the same time, this tragedy should not be defined by anger, bitterness, or hatred. Those things cannot heal what has been broken, nor do they honor Angie. While nothing can undo what has been done, I believe every human life still has value.

Mr. Copeland will spend decades in prison. It is my hope that he uses that time to accept responsibility for his actions, to understand the harm they have caused, and to do something meaningful with the life he has been given. I hope he comes to fully understand the weight of what was taken from Angie, from our family, and from all those who loved her.

I seek accountability, not only for the actions that brought us here, but for the decisions and failures that allowed this tragedy to unfold. Accountability is not about punishment alone. It is about truth, leadership, integrity, transparency, and the courage to accept responsibility and do better. Angie deserved those things, and so do all who serve.

The best way to honor Angie is not only to remember her life, but to learn from what happened and better protect those who serve in the future.

I also extend love and compassion to everyone affected by this tragedy, including those who love Mr. Copeland. As a mother, I recognize that there is another mother who is hurting today. While our circumstances are very different, I would not wish this suffering on any parent.

I choose mercy. I choose compassion. I choose forgiveness. Not because what happened to Angie was acceptable, and not because accountability is unnecessary, but because I refuse to allow this tragedy to diminish my capacity to love.

My faith teaches me that justice and mercy can exist together. I believe every person is more than the worst thing they have ever done, and I believe in the possibility of redemption.

I hope that healing will come to all those affected by this tragedy and that, in time, something good may emerge from so much pain.

Statement of Juan P. Resendiz, Jr.

As Angelina's older brother, I want to speak from the heart. Angelina was everything to us—bright, kind, and full of dreams. Losing her has left a hole in our lives that will never fully heal. But we are determined to honor her memory. We'll keep fighting for justice and we'll never stop sharing her story, so others are protected and her light is never forgotten.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

UNITED STATES **V.** **JERMIAH T. COPELAND** **CS3/E-4, USN**	**RULING –** **DEFENSE MOTION FOR APPROPRIATE RELIFF (ILLEGAL PRETRIAL PUNISHMENT – ARTICLE 13)** **9 JUNE 2026**

1. Statement of the Case.

The charges and specifications were referred on 1 October 2025 and the Accused was arraigned on 9 October 2025. The specifications allege, generally: (1) that the Accused committed aggravated sexual contact against ABHAN C.R.; (2) that the Accused sexually assaulted CSSN S.S.; (3) that the Accused sexually assaulted Ms. Y.J.; (4) that the Accused assaulted ABHAN C.R. by strangling her; (5) that the Accused knowingly made a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (6) that the Accused broadcast a recording of the private area of CSSN S.S. without her consent; (7) that the Accused obstructed justice by hiding his cellular phone on two different occasions; (8) that the Accused obstructed justice by concealing a dead body; (9) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by strangling her; (10) that the Accused committed domestic violence against CSSN S.R. by pushing her with his hands; (11) that the Accused made false official statements on both 29 May 2025 and again on 3 June 2025; and (12) that the Accused murdered, with premeditation, CS3 A.R.

On 26 November 2025, the defense filed a motion for appropriate relief seeking confinement credit for illegal pretrial confinement pursuant to Article 13, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).[1] The Government responded on 5 December 2025.[2] Following an Article 39(a) hearing held on 10 December 2025, the military judge deferred ruling on the motion. Thereafter, on 21 May 2026, the defense filed a supplement to their motion[3] and the government responded.[4] The court heard oral argument on the motion on 5 June 2026.

2. Burden.

As the moving party, the Defense bears the burden of persuasion and, by a preponderance of the evidence, the burden of proof on any factual issue the resolution of which is necessary to decide the motion.[5]

[1] Appellate Exhibit (AE) VI.
[2] AE XLVIII.
[3] AE VI(a).
[4] AE XLVIII(a).
[5] Rule for Court Martial (R.C.M.) 905(b)(1); R.C.M. 905(c)(1).

3. Findings of Fact.

In reaching its findings and conclusions, the Court considered all legal and competent evidence presented by the parties, the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, and resolved all issues of credibility. The Court makes the following findings of fact:

a. On 9 June 2025, the Accused was ordered into pre-trial confinement. Charges were preferred against the Accused on 22 August 2025. These charges include allegations of premediated murder and violent sexual misconduct, and span five victims in a less than one-year period.

b. Both during and after the commission of the alleged offenses, but before the imposition of pretrial confinement, the Accused searched for options to flee justice. Specifically, he searched for directions to "Bermuda" on 29 May 2025, the date of the alleged murder, and conducted searches for "norfolk airport" and "virginia airport" in the following days.

c. Since he was placed in pretrial confinement, the Accused has been confined at the Naval Consolidated Brig Charleston (NCBC) Detachment Chesapeake and has been classified as a "maximum custody" prisoner during his entire pre-trial detention. MAX custody is defined as "[p]risoners requiring special custodial supervision because of the high probability of escape or are potentially violent or dangerous, and whose escape would cause concern of a threat to life, property, or national security."[6]

d. As a "maximum custody" prisoner, the Accused, is held alone in his cell for between 21 and 22 hours per day.

e. Pursuant to Secretary of the Navy and NCBC policies, all pretrial confinees are classified as "maximum custody" for the first week they are at the brig and then, generally, are converted to "Medium-In," or colloquially "general population."

f. While in "maximum custody" guards are required to check in on the inmates every 15 minutes and document their rounds. These inmates do not have contact with one another, they conduct recreation call by themselves, and they eat meals by themselves in their cells.

g. Approximately every 30 days, the Accused's classification was reviewed by a classification and adjustment board (C&A Board). The C&A Board considered a range of factors from SECNAV M-1540.1, such as his behavior at the brig, the Accused's civilian and military record, including the offenses alleged, and the potential length of confinement awarded if found guilty. Based on these factors the C&A Board awards points. The C&A Board also subtracts points for, among other things, completion of treatment programs or groups. Once the points are tabulated, if a certain points threshold for MAX custody is not met, the C&A Board recommends a reduction in classification. The OIC of Naval Consolidated Brig Chesapeake can

[6] AE XLIX at 7 (SECNAV M-1640.1 of 15 May 2019 at 4-5 – 4-6).

"override" the classification status recommendation for an accused in pretrial confinement to increase or decrease their custody classification.

h. On 11 August 2025, the C&A board recommended that the Accused remain in a MAX status but recommended a stepped down status that permitted the Accused to spend an additional hour outside his cell. The "step-down" on 11 August 2025 provided the Accused an additional hour a day outside of his cell to clean and gave the Accused and additional opportunity to prove that his behavior is improving and that re-classification may one day be appropriate.

i. The Accused completed coursework that reduced his point total and on 14 October 2025 the C&A Board recommended the Accused be reclassified to "Medium In" or MDI status. The Brig OIC overrode that recommendation. He also overrode an additional recommendation for a less restrictive status made by the C&A Board on 17 November 2025.

j. During his testimony at the Article 39a, UCMJ, hearing in December 2025, the Brig OIC acknowledged it was unlikely, based solely on the nature of the alleged offenses, that he would ever reclassified the Accused and that he would likely remain in "maximum custody" status until his pending charges have been adjudicated.

k. Between February and April 2026, the Accused engaged in various efforts to harm himself and engaged in disrespectful behavior towards Brig staff.

l. On 26 March 2026, the C&A Board elevated the point total for the Accused based upon these disciplinary issues and below average work performance and recommended that the Accused remain in MAX custody. The same result occurred at the 29 April 2026 C&A Board. Because of these findings, no override of the points system was necessary to maintain the Accused in a MAX custody classification.

m. Additional facts necessary to resolve the motion are included below.

4. Statement of Law.

Article 13, UCMJ, provides in part, "[n]o person, while being held for trial, may be subjected to punishment or penalty other than arrest or confinement upon the charges pending against him, nor shall the arrest or confinement imposed upon him be any more rigorous than the circumstances required to insure his presence."[7] In *Howell v. United States*, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF) reiterated their two-prong test for determining whether government action amounts to illegal pretrial punishment:

> The question of whether particular conditions amount to punishment before trial is a matter of intent, which is determined by examining the purposes served by the restriction or condition, and whether such purposes are "reasonably related to a legitimate governmental objective."

[7] 10 U.S.C. § 813.

> In the absence of a showing of intent to punish, a court must look to see if a particular restriction or condition, which may on its face appear to be punishment, is instead but an incident of a legitimate nonpunitive governmental objective.[8]

The "punishment prong" of Article 13, UCMJ focuses on intent, while the "rigorous circumstances" prong focuses on the conditions of the pretrial restraint.[9] Indeed, "[i]rrespective of any intent to punish, Article 13, UCMJ, is violated if the activity at issue serves no legitimate, nonpunitive purpose."[10]

In *United States v. Mosby*, the CAAF held that placement in pretrial solitary confinement did not warrant additional confinement credit even when the sole reason for that confinement was the Accused's alleged misconduct.[11] There, the accused was in maximum custody following allegations that he had lost his temper and struck and killed his 5-year old son. While in maximum custody, Mosby was confined to an individual cell with "no chance to mingle with the general prison population."[12] The military judge found that the conditions of confinement were not imposed with an intent to punish, were not unduly rigorous, and were reasonably related to legitimate governmental objectives.[13] The CAAF concurred, ruling that beyond introducing evidence that Mosby was placed in solitary confinement base on his charge alone, the defense had not introduced any evidence of an intent to punish.[14]

In *United States v. King*, the CAAF held that an accused placed into a segregated environment with all the attributes of severe restraint and discipline "without an individualized demonstration of cause in the record, was so excessive as to be punishment and is not justified" simply by the confinement facilities space limitations.[15] In that case, the accused was classified as a maximum security prisoner and was confined to a double occupancy cell with another maximum custody pretrial detainee; he remained in his cell except for appointments and emergencies, ate all meals in his cell, had no library or gym privileges, was not permitted to sleep during duty hours, was required to wear a yellow jumpsuit and shackles when released for appointments, and required two escorts whenever he was moved for appointments.[16] The CAAF found that King's classification as a maximum custody inmate was not "so egregious to give rise to any inference of intent to punish" nor were the conditions of confinement "so excessive as to amount to punishment."[17] However, when King's cell mate was convicted and prison rules prevented co-mingling pre-trial and post-trial, he was placed in 6 foot by 6 foot, windowless,

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[8] *Howell v. United States*, 75 M.J. 386, 393 (C.A.A.F. 2016) (quoting *United States v. Palmiter*, 20 M.J. 90, 95 (C.M.A. 1985) (internal alterations omitted)).
[9] *United States v. Pryor*, 57 M.J. 821, 825 (N-M. Ct. Crim. App. 2003)(citing *United States v. McCarthy*, 47 M.J. 162, 165 (C.A.A.F. 1997)).
[10] *Howell*, 75 M.J. at 394.
[11] 56 M.J. 309 (C.A.A.F. 2002).
[12] *Id.* at 310.
[13] *Id.*
[14] *Id.*
[15] 61 M.J. 225, 229 (C.A.A.F. 2005).
[16] *Id*. at 226.
[17] *Id.* at 228.

single occupancy cell, typically reserved for inmates with disciplinary problems. The CAAF held that the two-week period King was housed in this cell amounted to punishment because it was an "arbitrary response to the physical limitations" of the confinement facility.[18]

5. Analysis and Conclusions of Law.

The Defense requests three-for-one credit based on the "unduly harsh, inflexible, and arbitrary conditions of pre-trial confinement which far exceed anything required to ensure [the Accused's] continued participation in these proceedings."[19] Defense counsel conceded at oral argument that there is no evidence of intent to the punish the Accused, but rather, the oppressive and unduly harsh conditions of his confinement amount to pretrial punishment. The court disagrees.

Like the accused in *Mosby*, the Accused was placed and retained in a maximum security status based largely on the charges he is facing. But, here, the Accused's misconduct is more severe than in *Mosby*. The Accused is charged with murdering a fellow Sailor along with several other violent offenses, including sexual assault and aggravated assault. Additionally, he is charged with nonviolent offenses related to covering up two of the serious offenses with which he is charged. The Accused's status as a maximum custody detainee is reviewed monthly, and the Brig OIC ultimately has discretion to downgrade or maintain the Accused's maximum status. On at least two occasions, the Brig OIC has overridden the recommendation of the C&A Board and kept the Accused in a maximum custody status. Indeed, the Brig OIC testified that he would likely never reduce the Accused's status given the charges and the potential lengthy prison sentence the Accused was facing. But, this assertion does not point to an arbitrary decision as the defense alleges. Rather, it reflects the reasoned judgment of the officer charged with maintaining custody and control of pretrial detainees, ensuring the safety of all pretrial detainees and post-trial prisoners, and ensuring pretrial detainees appear at trial. Unlike the arbitrary decision to place the *King* accused in a small windowless cell reserved for prisoners with disciplinary issues – without any individualized demonstration of cause, but rather simply based on space limitations at the confinement facility – the Accused here was maintained in a maximum custody status precisely because of an individualized determination made by the Brig OIC, based on the charges alleged, the Accused's potential danger to the safety of others, and the length of the potential sentence the Accused was facing.

Accordingly, the Accused's maximum custody status served the legitimate security and safety concerns of the Brig leadership and was not illegal pretrial punishment.

[18] *Id.*
[19] AE VI(a) at 1.

6. Ruling.

The Defense Motion for Appropriate Relief for Illegal Pretrial Punishment, as detailed herein, is hereby **DENIED.**

So ordered this 9th day of June, 2026.

[redacted]

F. D. HUTCHISON
CAPT, JAGC, USN
Military Judge

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jamie M. Dickson, Psy.D.

(404) 276-1575
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EDUCATION/LICENSURE:

Georgia School of Professional Psychology/Argosy University-Atlanta
Doctorate of Psychology - August 2008
Master of Arts - June 2005

Middle Tennessee State University
Bachelor of Science in Psychology - December 1998
Minors in Social Work and Criminal Justice Administration

Georgia Licensed Psychologist (#PSY003318)
Alaska Licensed Psychologist (#239364)
PSYPACT Interjurisdictional Temporary Authorization to Practice (Certificate #18316)

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Forensic Specialty Group, Marietta, GA.
Clinical/ Forensic Psychologist, June 2013 - Present

- Member of an Independent Practice in Forensic Psychology
- Complete evaluations of Juveniles and Adults in criminal, delinquency, family court, and civil matters
- Conduct Pre-trial evaluations of Competency to Stand Trial, Mental State at Time of Offense, and Capacity to Waive Miranda
- Perform Psychosexual and Violence Risk Evaluations of Adults and Juveniles
- Perform Parental Fitness Evaluations
- Review Forensic Interviews and consult regarding techniques of interviewers and child/adolescent developmental issues impacting on the interview context
- Consult with attorneys regarding psycholegal issues impacting civil and criminal cases and provide expert testimony as needed

Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Kennesaw, GA.
Clinical Psychologist June 2013-Present (Contract):

- Conduct psychological evaluations with children and adolescents for purposes of diagnostic clarification and treatment planning

Clinical Psychologist September 2008 - June 2013:

- Provided Individual and Family Therapy and Specialized group treatments including Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Aggression Replacement Training and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for male and female adolescents with varying diagnoses
- Co-led teams charged with implementing the Positive Behavior Support model in various programs
- Prepared and provided trainings on mental health issues to Devereux employees and outside audiences for continuing education credits
- Supervised all therapists providing services in clinical department

- Supervised graduate students completing practicum training
- Oversaw psychological testing services and completed needed psychological evaluations
- Led and participated in multidisciplinary treatment team meetings to ensure high quality client care

Florida State Hospital, Chattahoochee, FL
Predoctoral Psychology Intern, August 2007 – August 2008
Completed major rotations on Civil and Forensic Admissions Units and a Dialectical Behavior Therapy Program as well as a minor rotation at a specialized Juvenile Justice Treatment Facility

- Provided individual and group therapy and led competency restoration groups for adolescents and adults with psychotic, mood, anxiety, substance abuse, and personality disorders
- Co-led groups for adolescent males convicted of sexual offenses
- Conducted psychological assessments and wrote reports to answer referral questions regarding cognitive, personality, and neuropsychological functioning and criminal competency and malingering issues
- Provided crisis intervention counseling for residents as the need arose
- Participated in recovery team meetings to ensure high quality care for residents

Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Kennesaw GA
Psychometrist, July 2007 - September 2008

- Conducted psychological evaluations with male and female residents ages 9-18

Advanced Practicum Student, August 2006 – June 2007

- Provided group and individual therapy to adolescent males with sexual offending and other severe behavioral issues
- Supervised Practicum Students
- Performed Psychological Evaluations

King's Psychological Learning Center, Inc., Decatur, GA
Psychometrist April 2005- May 2007

- Performed psychological evaluations with adults and children
- Performed specialized evaluations of individuals seeking social security disability benefits

Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Kennesaw, GA
Therapy Practicum Student, September 2005 – June 2006

- Provided individual and group therapy for male and female residents ages 12-16 with complex trauma histories and psychotic, mood, disruptive behavior, anxiety, and substance abuse disorders.

Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital, Adult Forensic Unit, Rome, GA
Diagnostic Practicum Student, September 2004 – August 2005

- Administered achievement tests, IQ tests, adaptive behavior scales, personality tests, and tests of malingering to adult male and female patients with psychotic, mood, personality, and substance abuse disorders and intellectual disabilities

Kid Psych, Inc., Alpharetta, GA
Psychometrist, September 2003- March 2005

- Conducted clinical interviews with parents of children referred for therapy and administered psychological tests to the child clients
- Conducted psychological evaluations with children and adults applying for Social Security Disability benefits

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Georgia School of Professional Psychology/Argosy University-Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

- Adjunct Faculty for Therapy Practicum Seminar, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014
- Teaching Assistant for Counseling Theories, Summer 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007
- Teaching Assistant for Cognitive Behavioral Theory and Therapy, Spring 2006

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

National Alliance on Mental Illness, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2014-Present

- Provide training on mental health diagnoses and de-escalation techniques when dealing with individuals with mental illness for law enforcement officers completing Crisis Intervention Team Training

St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Atlanta, Georgia, December 2013-February 2017

- Complete mental health assessments and provide individual therapy to clients residing at the City of Refuge Homeless Shelter and other indigent individuals in the Atlanta community

Dazzling Stone Home for Children, Chennai, India, July 2004 – August 2004

- Taught math and conversational English to students

Adopt-a-Family Program, **Murfreesboro, TN,** December 1997 – December 1998

- Initiated the adoption of a needy family by a local business and implemented plan to fund the family's needs

Center for Living and Learning Horticulture Program, **Franklin, TN**, August 1998 - April 1999

- Supervised mentally ill adults and teenagers working in greenhouses

Head Start Program, **Murfreesboro, TN**, October 1998 – December 1998

- Assisted with children's classroom activities

Mt. Juliet Jr. High School, Mt. Juliet, TN, September 1996 – December 1996

- Tutored students needing additional help in math

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Clinical Research Project (Dissertation Equivalent), July 2008

- "Threat/control-override delusions and violent behavior in the mentally ill: Is the violent behavior consistent with the content of the delusion?"

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

- "Child Forensic Interviewing in the USA: Current Practices and Developments," June 2025
- "Women in Forensic Psychology," April 2025
- "Forensic Interviews, Suggestibility, and Working with Experts in Child Abuse Cases," April 2024, April 2025

- "Working with Experts in Battered Persons Cases," March 2024
- "Vicarious Trauma: Dealing with the Effects of Our Clients' Trauma," April 2022
- "Counterintuitive Victim Behavior," March 2022
- "Assessing Adolescents to Stand Trial," October 2021
- "Forensic Evaluation of Juveniles," July 2019
- "Forensic Interviews: The Basics," March 2018
- "The Role of Suggestibility in Child Sexual Abuse Evaluations," January 2016
- "Understanding Trauma and Its Effects: Relationships Between Trauma and Youth Violence," September 2011, March 2012, August 2012, September 2019
- Georgia Crisis Intervention Team Training Program: Mental Disorders, An Introduction; Schizophrenia; Mood Disorders; Personality Disorders; Childhood and Adolescent Mental Health

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- American Psychological Association, Member
- Georgia Psychological Association, Member
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Member
- Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, Member
- American Psychology-Law Society, Member
- The National Register of Health Service Psychologists, Member
- Global Institute of Forensic Research, Member

ADDITIONAL TRAININGS:

- Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (four day training)
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy: Treating Adolescents with Multiple Problems (two day training)
- Introduction to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children for Mental Health Professionals
- Recreational Drugs in the Forensic Setting: Pharmacology and Mental State
- Buzzed: The Straight Facts about the Most Used and Abused Drugs from Alcohol to Ecstasy (online self-study program)
- Use of Psychotropic Medication in Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults: Diagnostic and Developmental Considerations
- Substance Abuse: The Brain Mechanics of Addiction
- Clinical Psychopharmacology: A Science, An Art, or Both…What Are Your Professional Role(s) and Responsibilities
- Forensic Interviewing in Child Sexual Abuse Cases presented by the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (40 hour training)
- Ten Step Forensic Interview Training (33 hour online training)
- Child Interviewing 2019: Update on Research and Practice (online training)
- Interviewing Children to Preserve Accurate Testimony
- General Considerations for Interviewing Children with Disabilities (online training)
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children Annual Colloquium Forensic Interview Track (16 hour training)
- Ethical and Effective Consultation and Testimony in Cases with Child Victims

- Dolls and Diagrams for Practice, Investigation, and Prosecution (online forensic interviewing course)
- Child Interviewing-Where Research Meets Practice (online forensic interviewing course)
- Assessing False Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse and Issues Regarding Recantation
- Introduction to Developmentally Appropriate Interviewing Using the Revised NICHD Protocol
- Evaluating Forensic Interviews with Children
- Trauma and Memory
- Young People and the Law: International Approaches to Care, Corrections, and Intervention (three day training)
- Safer Communities, Safer Relationships: Generating Solutions for Reducing Persistent Violence and Other Serious Offending (three day training)
- Darkstone Certified Official Hare PCL-R and PCL:SV Live Webinar Training (two day training)
- Introduction to Psychopathy
- STATIC99-R Live Webinar Training
- Advanced Assessment of Sexual Offenders: Sexual Sadistic, Child Pornography, and Non-Contact Offenders
- Adult Sexual Offender Risk Assessment and Management
- Sexual Offender Risk Assessment-State of the Science in the 21st Century
- Multidimensional Inventory of Development, Sex, and Aggression (MIDSA) On Demand Training
- Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism (ERASOR) Live Webinar Training
- Protective + Risk Observations for Eliminating Sexual Offense Recidivism (PROFESOR) Live Webinar Training
- Risk Assessment with Juvenile Sex Offenders
- Working with Sexually Reactive Youth in Residential Treatment
- Assessment of Risk for Violence in Juveniles
- Developmental Considerations in Juvenile Forensic Evaluations
- Current Trends in Medication and Understanding Mental Health in Violent Adolescents
- Violence Risk Assessment
- Assessing and Managing Violence Risk
- Competencies in the Criminal Process
- Evaluation of Competence to Stand Trial
- Interrogations and Disputed Confessions (self-study program)
- Forensic Evaluation in Miranda Waiver and False/Coerced Confession Cases
- Capacity to Waive Miranda Rights
- Assessment of Mental State Defenses in Criminal Cases
- The Insanity Defense
- Malingering and Forensic Practice: Conceptual Issues and Clinical Methods
- Comprehensive Assessment of Malingering
- Conducting Parental Capacity Evaluations in Child Protection Matters
- Child Murder by Parents
- Custody Evaluations: The Essentials
- Custody Evaluations: Advanced Topics

- Physical and Psychological Implications of Hormone Therapy for Gender Variant Clients
- Talking Sex in the Therapy Room
- Ethics: Special Issues with Sexual Minority Clients
- Exploring Sexual Attitudes: Discovering the Dark Corners of Our Counter-transference
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children Annual Colloquium (2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2023)

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES NAVY-MARINE CORPS TRIAL JUDICIARY
CENTRAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL

U N I T E D S T A T E S **v.** **JERMIAH COPELAND** **CSSN/E-3 USN**	**SEALING ORDER** **27 July 26**

The Court hereby finds good cause to seal Preliminary Hearing Exhibit (PHE) 47a, page 3; PHE 47b, pages 8 and 10; Prosecution Exhibit (PE) 34, pages 3, 13, 15, 24, 26; PE 36, pages 9, 11, and 12; Appellate Exhibit (AE) LIX, pages 424 and 426; and AE LXI, page 348; all of which depict extremely sensitive images CS3 A.R.'s body.[1]

ORDER

1. **Items Sealed.** PHE 47a, page 3; PHE 47b, pages 8 and 10; PE 34, pages 3, 13, 15, 24, 26; PE 36, pages 9, 11, and 12; AE LIX, pages 424 and 426; and AE LXI, page 348.

2. **Order.** The documents identified in paragraph 1 are hereby ordered **SEALED.** The envelope(s) containing these item(s) shall be sealed and placed only in the original record of trial, and no person shall open this envelope or examine its contents except as authorized by competent authority in accordance with Rule for Courts-Martial 1113. A copy of this order shall be placed on the envelope, over the envelope flap, in the original record of trial, and a copy of this order shall appear in lieu of the item(s) in all copies of the record of trial.

3. Appellate Counsel appointed pursuant to Article 70, UCMJ, will be permitted access to all sealed documents, as will all reviewing authorities under Articles 66, 67, 67a, and 69, UCMJ, as may be the case.

So **ORDERED**, this 27th day of July 2026.

[redacted]
F. D. HUTCHISON
Military Judge

[1] *See* Rule for Court-Martial (R.C.M.) 1113(a), Discussion, "Upon request or otherwise for good cause shown, a military judge may seal matters at his or her discretion."

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

Arrange and bind the record of trial with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. The court reporter is responsible for certifying the record of trial prior to transmittal for appellate review, in accordance with R.C.M. 1112 and JAG/CNLSCINST 5813.1G.

1. Pages 1 (Cover page) and 2 (Chronology Sheet) of DD Form 490 (enclosure 7).

2. Court reporter certification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

3. Military Judge verification of Record of Trial (enclosure 8).

4. DD Form 490 (pages 3-6 and any continuation pages if needed) (enclosure 7).

5. Completed Post-Trial Checklist from JAG/CNLSCINST 5814.1G (enclosure 2).

6. Completed Convening Authority's Action Checklist (enclosure 4).

7. Post-Trial Documents.

a. Certificates/Proof of Service of the Certified Record of Trial to the accused and victim, if applicable (enclosure 7).

b. Convening Authority's Action and Entry of Judgment (enclosure 6).

c. Any requests for copies of the court-martial record pursuant to R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A (attach written requests, and any certificates/proof of service, but do not attach the victim's post-trial rights advisement or DD Form 2704).

d. Matters submitted by the accused and/or victim under R.C.M. 1106 or 1106A, or any written waiver of the right to submit such matters. Include all responses to requests here as well.

e. Any deferment request and the action on it (including any request to waive automatic forfeitures under Article 58b).

f. Conditions of suspension and proof of service on probationer under R.C.M. 1107, if any.

g. All clemency recommendations by members or military judge, if any.

h. Statement of Trial Results (enclosure 1).

i. Crime Reporting Information.

j. Accused's request for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate review under R.C.M. 1115, if applicable.

k. All transfer orders, confinement orders, and excess leave orders.

l. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any.

8. Preliminary Hearing.

a. DD Form 457, Preliminary Hearing Officer's Report, pursuant to Article 32, if such hearing was conducted, followed by any other allied papers that accompanied the charges when referred for trial (including any matters submitted under R.C.M. 405(l), unless included elsewhere in the record of trial).*

b. Waiver of Article 32 Hearing (if applicable).

9. Pre-Trial Allied Papers.

a. Convening Order and all amending convening orders.

b. DD Form 458, Charge Sheet (unless included at the point of arraignment in the transcript).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

c. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.

d. Advice of staff judge advocate, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.

10. Record of Proceedings.

a. Substantially verbatim recording of court-martial proceedings. Segregate open and closed sessions of the court-martial in accordance with R.C.M. 1113 and the following guidance:*

b. Ensure that each closed session of the court-martial is recorded on a separate DVD marked CLOSED SESSION, placed in its own envelope marked CLOSED SESSION, and sealed.

c. Label all DVD(s) and envelopes with the information on page 1 of this template.

d. Mark all DVDs and envelopes with "1 of X." as necessary (for example, the second DVD of six DVDs and its envelope should be marked, 2 of 6). All DVDs of open sessions may be in one envelope.

e. Mark all DVDs with their beginning and ending timestamps. The timestamps for closed sessions should match those shown on the Index.

f. Verbatim transcript or summarized report prepared in accordance with JAGINST 5814.1G. Include the following:

I. A certificate of correction, if any (including any supplemental certification for additional proceedings).

II. Court reporter and transcriptionist certification of verbatim transcript.

g. Records of former proceedings (Article 30a) and/or trials, (e.g., electronic/digital record of former proceeding, including audio recording and any scanned documentation/transcripts, CD/DVD format).*

11. Prosecution exhibits admitted in evidence.

12. Defense Exhibits admitted in evidence.

13. Appellate Exhibits including but not limited to, proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), briefs of counsel submitted at trial, request to be tried by military judge alone (if any), the accused election of members under R.C.M. 903 (if any), any statement by convening authority required under R.C.M. 503(a)(2), and the election for sentencing by members in lieu of sentencing by military judge under R.C.M. 1002(b).*

14. Redaction. The following information shall be redacted in accordance with JAGMAN 1059 from the record of trial prior to releasing it to any accused or victim (including any transcript made pursuant to R.C.M. 1114 and attached to the record of trial) unless the information establishes an element of an offense, or is otherwise required:

a. Any recordings of closed sessions, any transcripts of closed sessions, and any sealed exhibits.

b. Names of minor victims, and names of minor witnesses. If an identifier is used, use only the initials.

c. Social Security Numbers.

d. Financial account information.

e. Home addresses.

f. Telephone numbers.

g. Personal e-mail addresses.

h. Dates of birth.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSEMBLING THE CERTIFIED RECORD OF TRIAL

i. Any other information that could be used to identify a specific person other than the accused.

*If the report of preliminary hearing or record of trial contains exhibits, proceedings, or other materials ordered sealed by the preliminary hearing officer or military judge, counsel for the Government, the court reporter, or trial counsel shall cause such materials to be sealed to prevent unauthorized examination or disclosure, pursuant to R.C.M. 1113. Sealed material shall be properly marked, individually placed in separate envelopes with a copy of the preliminary hearing officer or military judge sealing order affixed to it, and inserted at the appropriate place in the record of trial. Do not duplicate sealed material to include it in any copy of the record of trial. Instead, insert a copy of the sealing order in lieu of any sealed material, in any copies of the record of trial.

DIVIDERS ARE NOT NECESSARY TO SEPARATE EACH SECTION. IF USED, THEY CAN BE PAPER RATHER THAN CARD STOCK. IF A PARTICULAR COMPONENT IS NOT APPLICABLE IN THE RECORD OF TRIAL, SUCH AS AN ARTICLE 32 HEARING, EXHIBITS NOT ADMITTED, POST-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS AND VACATION HEARINGS, DO NOT INSERT A DIVIDER OR PLACEHOLDER.

FRONT AND BACK COVER MUST BE ON BLUE CARDS STOCK AND LABELED WITH GUM LABELS.

Binding. Each volume of a record of trial should be no more than 1.5 inches thick and bound at the top with metal or plastic fasteners. **DO NOT** interlace or "piggy-back" prong fasteners to create an oversized volume. **DO NOT** place hole punches where it covers up the evidence or language in the transcript. When it becomes necessary to assemble the record of trial in more than one volume, the volumes will be numbered consecutively, on the front cover, as illustrated below:

Volume 1 of 4 (Pages 1-250)
Volume 2 of 4 (Pages 251-400)
Volume 3 of 4 (Pages 401-652)
Volume 4 of 4 (Pages 653-901 and Exhibits)

Make the first volume of a multi-volume record an inch thick or smaller to allow for inclusion of post-trial documents. Limit subsequent volumes to 1.5 inches, unless dividing them requires assembling an additional volume smaller than a half inch.

Label the upper right-hand corner or the Preparation and Certification of Record of Trial Form (enclosure (8)) to reflect which copy it is, i.e., "**ORIGINAL**," "**ACCUSED**," "**REVIEW**" etc.