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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

CRIMINAL DIVISION

CASE NO.: 18-10885-CF

SPECIAL PROSECUTION

STATE OF FLORIDA,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
 vs.)
)
CHARISSE STINSON,)
)
)
 Defendant.)
-----/

DEPOSITION
OF
SCOTT LEE GORDON

TAKEN BY: The Defendant
DATE: Tuesday, February 4, 2020
TIME: 3:12 p.m. - 3:18 p.m.
PLACE: County Justice Center
 14250 49th Street North
 Clearwater, Florida 33762

Reported By: Gina M. Manning
 Court Reporter, Notary Public
 State of Florida at Large

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A P P E A R A N C E S

APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFF:

PAUL BOLAN, ESQUIRE
County Justice Center
Office of the Public Defender
14250 49th Street North
Clearwater, Florida 33762
Phone: 727-464-6516

APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANT:

ALLISON MILLER, ESQUIRE
LORI MAHIN, ESQUIRE
County Justice Center
Office of the State Attorney
14250 49th Street North
Clearwater, Florida 33762
Phone: 727-464-6221

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I N D E X

WITNESS

SCOTT LEE GORDON

<u>DIRECT EXAMINATION</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
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By Ms. Miller	4-9
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<u>CROSS EXAMINATION</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
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No cross examination.

EXHIBITS

No exhibits.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Thereupon,

SCOTT LEE GORDON

was called as a witness by the DEFENDANT and having first been duly sworn by the court reporter was examined and testified on his oath as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. MILLER:

Q. If you could please tell us your first name and spell your last name.

A. Scott Lee Gordon, G-O-R-D-O-N.

Q. We are here today on the State of Florida versus Charisse Stinson. Are you familiar with this case?

A. Yes.

Q. I believe law enforcement spoke with you back on September 2nd of 2018. Do you recall that?

A. Yes.

Q. And they asked you about a fellow tenant, I believe, at the apartment complex where you were living.

A. Directly to my left if you walked out my front door.

Q. Okay.

You were living at the Lafayette Square apartment complex; correct?

Q. Do you know the name Charisse Stinson?

1 A. Only from the news.

2 Q. Did you know one of your neighbors to be
3 Charisse Stinson at the time?

4 A. No, ma'am.

5 Q. I believe they may have shown you a picture
6 of a woman they identified as Charisse Stinson. Does that
7 sound familiar?

8 A. They showed me a picture and then they said:
9 We have a tenant, African-American. I didn't know her.
10 I didn't know the lady in the picture they showed me.

11 But the law had been called frequently to the
12 apartment to my left.

13 Q. Did you ever write a written statement in your own
14 words what you knew about it?

15 A. No, no.

16 Q. I'm going to read to you what the officer wrote
17 about his interaction with you.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. "Upon showing the residents of A105..." That's you?

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. "...Scott Gordon..." And it does say plural.

22 Do you know when you met with law enforcement if it was just
23 you or was somebody else there?

24 A. My wife was there.

25 Q. What is your wife's name?

1 A. Valerie Gordon.

2 Q. So when you're speaking with the law enforcement
3 officer, is it you and her together speaking?

4 A. Yes, she was present.

5 Q. It says: "Upon showing the residents of A105,
6 Scott Gordon, a picture of Charisse, he informed me that she
7 looked like the previous tenants of A104". Is that correct?

8 A. I don't know if I told them that she looked like
9 him. I said the police frequently visited the apartment to
10 my left.

11 I had a neighbor come to my door and tell me what
12 was going on. The police were questioning and the amber
13 alert was on the television. They, I think, were given the
14 little sketch drawing of the gentleman that was supposedly
15 parked in our complex.

16 Other than that, that's all I know about it.
17 I didn't see anybody. I didn't see any vehicles.
18 I didn't see...

19 Q. I understand.

20 The rest of the police report reads:

21 "He believed..."--'he' is you--...that her name
22 was Jasmine. She possibly worked at The Palms next
23 door, and that he heard she was looking for other
24 jobs in the Orlando area".

25 A. And that's for a fact, yes.

1 Q. So you do remember telling the officer that?

2 A. Yeah but I don't believe Jasmine -- I mean Jasmine
3 was tall and very thin and she had a little boy.

4 Between the people that came and went from that
5 apartment, the police were called several times.

6 Q. So you don't believe the picture that they showed
7 you is the person you know to be Jasmine?

8 A. No. I know for a fact that it wasn't.

9 Q. So, then, when you talked about the woman Jasmine,
10 is Jasmine the person that worked at The Palms and then she
11 was looking for other jobs in Orlando, or was that the woman
12 in the picture?

13 A. It was Jasmine.

14 Q. So all the information you provided about Jasmine
15 is not about the woman in the picture?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. "Scott also told me that those tenants had small
18 children which he believed to be about 6, 4, and 2 years of
19 age". But that would be about Jasmine?

20 A. Yes.

21 Basically, from my understanding from the police
22 officer is that she was leaving the children after they were
23 in bed and going to work at the palms. So she was leaving
24 them unattended. That's all I know about that story.

25 Q. But that's about Jasmine, not the woman in the

1 picture?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. The woman in the picture, do you know anything her?

4 A. No, ma'am.

5 Q. Did you recognize her as being, potentially,
6 a neighbor of yours at Lafayette Square apartment complex?

7 A. No, ma'am.

8 Q. I believe they also asked you if you saw a white
9 Toyota Camry pull in to the parking lot about 10; is that
10 correct?

11 A. I told -- I believe I told him that I was asleep.

12 Q. But do you recall if he asked about the car.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So you don't know the name Charisse Stinson other
15 than maybe what you saw on the news?

16 A. Other than the news, yeah. xxx

17 Q. And you did not recognize that woman in the picture
18 even as a neighbor?

19 A. No.

20 Q. You have a neighbor named Jasmine who this
21 information is about, but is not the woman in the picture
22 that the police showed you?

23 A. Right. I mean I did tell them that there's people
24 that came and went from the apartment but as far as an
25 identification saying it was her, no, I couldn't

1 give you...

2 Q. The police showing up at the apartment before
3 saying there had been some calls where the police had been
4 there, is that when Jasmine lived there or when the woman in
5 the picture lived there?

6 A. When Jasmine lived there. I don't -- I don't even
7 know if the woman in the picture was in our residence much
8 less lived there.

9 Q. So you really know nothing about the woman in
10 the picture?

11 A. No.

12 Q. And you didn't say, "The woman in the picture is
13 Jasmine"?

14 A. No.

15 MS. MILLER: Nothing further.

16 MR. BOLAN: No questions.

17 MS. MAHIN: Nothing.

18 (The deposition concluded at 3:18 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF PINELLAS)

I, Gina M. Manning, certify that SCOTT LEE GORDON
personally appeared before me on Tuesday, February 4, 2020
and was duly sworn.

Signed this 22nd day of March 2020.

Gina M. Manning _____
GINA M. MANNING
Shorthand Reporter
Notary Public - State of Florida
My Commission Number: #GG250426
Expires: September 5, 2022

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF PINELLAS)

I, GINA M. MANNING, Shorthand Reporter
and Notary Public, certify that I was authorized to and
did stenographically report the deposition of
SCOTT LEE GORDON, pages 1 through 12, that signatures and
formalities were not waived; and that the transcript
is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not a relative,
employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties,
nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am
I financially interested in the action.

Dated this 23rd day of March 2020.

Gina M. Manning

GINA M. MANNING
Shorthand Reporter
Notary Public - State of Florida
My Commission Number: #GG250426
Expires: September 5, 2022

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ERRATA SHEET

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SCOTT LEE GORDON