

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

Case Numbers: 21-01513CFANO/21-01099CFANO

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CORNELIUS TREVON WHITFIELD,

Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF:

MALLORY MARZO

TAKEN BY:

Counsel for the Defendant

DATE:

December 4, 2023

TIME:

1:04 p.m. - 2:07 p.m.

PLACE:

Pinellas Co. Justice Center  
14250 49th Street - 1100-4  
Clearwater, FL

REPORTED BY:

Tamara M. Pacheco, RPR  
Notary Public, State of FL

Pages 1 - 44

## APPEARANCES

THEODORA TAKTIKOS-DANZIG, ESQUIRE

THOMAS KOSKINAS, ESQUIRE

Assistant State Attorneys

14250 49th Street North

Clearwater, Florida 34620

Attorneys for the State of Florida

JESSICA MANUELE, ESQUIRE

MARGARET RUSSELL, ESQUIRE

Assistant Public Defenders

14250 49th Street North

Clearwater, Florida 34620

Attorneys for the Defendant

INDEX

| MALLORY MARZO                   | PAGE: |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Examination by Ms. Manuele..... | 4     |
| Certificate of Oath.....        | 42    |
| Errata/Signature Page.....      | 43    |
| Certificate of Reporter.....    | 44    |

EXHIBITS

(No exhibits were marked for identification.)

1 WHEREUPON,

2 DETECTIVE MALLORY MARZO

3 (the deponent herein, being first duly sworn, was examined  
4 and testified as follows:)

5 EXAMINATION

6 BY MS. MANUELE:

7 Q Could you please state your name and occupation  
8 for the record.

9 A Sure. It's Detective Mallory Marzo, M-A-R-Z-O.  
10 Last name was Webster at the time of both of these cases  
11 however. I'm a detective in the Major Crimes Unit at  
12 St. Pete Police Department.

13 Q How long have you been with St. Pete PD?

14 A I started in March of 2010 as a crime analyst  
15 and then went to the Academy and became a sworn officer in  
16 2013.

17 Q As a crime analyst what were you doing?

18 A Similar to detective. It was a lot of research.  
19 I worked with the Street Crimes Unit a lot, which is no  
20 longer a thing, and worked for some of the, like,  
21 uniformed Majors and administrative staff. But a lot of  
22 research just trying to help identify, you know, people by  
23 phone numbers or social media stuff, things like that.

24 Q Okay. And what year -- you're currently with  
25 the Major Crimes Unit, right?

1 A Yes.

2 Q How long have you been in that unit?

3 A Since May of 2020.

4 Q And what's your call sign?

5 A D42.

6 Q would that have been the same back in  
7 February of '21?

8 A Yeah. It changes as you change units.

9 Q Okay. We're here today because you've been  
10 listed as a witness in the State of Florida versus  
11 Cornelius Whitfield regarding the homicide of Darren  
12 Barnes February 1st or 2nd of '21 and then a triple  
13 homicide from February -- February 16th of '21. I believe  
14 you're officially listed, but you were involved in both  
15 cases of the investigation, correct?

16 A That's correct, yes.

17 Q And did you write supplemental reports for each  
18 case?

19 A I did, yes.

20 Q All right. And I have some evidence vouchers,  
21 but as far as actual narratives, I have one narrative  
22 under each case number. Is that right?

23 A That's correct.

24 Q Okay. Do you have copies of both of those  
25 reports with you today?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q Have you had an opportunity to review them?

3 A I have.

4 Q Was there anything in those supplements that you  
5 found to be inaccurate or that you'd like to change?

6 A No.

7 Q And then likewise, when you're reviewing those  
8 reports, was there anything that you realized you had left  
9 out inadvertently or that should maybe be explained or  
10 anything you would like to add to those supplements?

11 A No.

12 Q Tell me how you first became involved in the  
13 case.

14 A Sure. So the first homicide on February 2nd,  
15 2021, I was at home and on call and was contacted by  
16 Sergeant Scott Elizondo, and he asked me to respond to 175  
17 73rd Avenue North, particularly apartment 113 for what  
18 appeared to be a double shooting. He requested that I  
19 serve as the crime scene detective for this case.

20 Q All right. About what time do you think you  
21 arrived on scene?

22 A According to my report, about an hour later  
23 after I was contacted. Around 0205 hours on February 2nd.

24 Q Okay. So by the time you arrived, I'm guessing  
25 Mr. Green has already been transported to the hospital.

1 Is that right?

2 A Yes.

3 Q What about Deronrick Green? Was he on scene  
4 still?

5 A He was. He was still inside the apartment.

6 Q No, no, no. I'm sorry, not the decedent.  
7 Rodney Green's brother.

8 A Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

9 Q That's okay.

10 A No, he was not on scene any longer.

11 Q Okay. At any time did you ever speak to Rodney  
12 Green? He's the individual who was shot in the face but  
13 survived at the apartment.

14 A I did not.

15 Q Okay. And then his brother was present when  
16 police first arrived but indicated he wasn't there at the  
17 time of the shooting but had come right about the same  
18 time police got there. Do you believe you ever spoke to  
19 that gentleman?

20 A I did not. I do know he was transported to the  
21 station to be interviewed.

22 Q All right. Do you recall if there were any  
23 other lay witnesses on scene when you got to the Emerald  
24 Pointe apartments?

25 A No witnesses. There were family members of

1 Mr. Green and of Mr. Barnes but no witnesses to this.

2 Q Okay. And do you know who -- I guess who had  
3 relayed any information to family to arrive?

4 A I don't. It seems like it always just gets out  
5 some way or another.

6 Q But you guys hadn't -- as far as you know, you  
7 hadn't done an official death notice yet?

8 A No, we had not.

9 Q Okay. When -- that night or like two in the  
10 morning, so I guess early in the morning, do you ever do  
11 any walk-through or enter the apartment prior to the  
12 warrant being obtained?

13 A No.

14 Q Once you get out there around 2 a.m., are you  
15 consistently on scene until the processing is completed on  
16 the two?

17 A Unfortunately, yes, I was there all day. I had  
18 a few bathroom breaks here and there.

19 Q Okay. What is taking -- there's kind of a gap  
20 from when you arrive to when you get the warrant signed.

21 A Yes.

22 Q What are you doing during that time?

23 A Detective Christina Kenney came eventually after  
24 we realized we would need to work on a search warrant. So  
25 she was there on scene with me writing a lot of it,



1 getting descriptions. I kind of assisted her with making  
2 sure she knew where everything was, how to describe things  
3 for the warrant.

4 Other than that, I did speak with victim Barnes'  
5 mother for a little while. It was just a lot of waiting  
6 around for the most part. I know other officers and  
7 detectives had started canvassing and stuff, but it was  
8 two in the morning and throughout the early morning. So  
9 we weren't having a lot of luck with people there. Just  
10 waiting for a lot of it.

11 Q Okay. Did anybody from -- I know at some point  
12 you speak to Jessica Tierney who is employed by the  
13 apartment complex or manager of the apartment complex?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Was -- about what time of day are we talking?  
16 Is this the middle of the night or after the sun has come  
17 up during regular working hours, if you recall?

18 A She was during daylight hours; so it would have,  
19 you know, been later in the morning. I would say closer  
20 to regular working hours.

21 Q Do you know if law enforcement, yourself or any  
22 other law enforcement, like, had to seek her out? Were  
23 you guys looking for somebody as a contact or if she kind  
24 of, you know, came to you guys, see if you were there, if  
25 you remember?

1           A     I don't remember. I do know ultimately the only  
2 cameras there were at the clubhouse, so I know we did seek  
3 her out for that purpose alone. I don't remember if she  
4 kind of showed up and said, Hey, I'm here. What can I do?  
5 I don't remember that detail.

6           Q     Okay. And was there any other staff, other  
7 maintenance people or managers or anybody else that worked  
8 for or at the complex that you spoke with?

9           A     No, I don't believe so.

10          Q     Okay. Ms. Barnes, I think Leslie -- I'm sorry,  
11 Leslie Carter, is that Barnes' mom's name?

12          A     Let me take a look if I put that in my report.

13          Q     I thought I saw it in your report. Maybe I  
14 didn't see it in your report. I'm sorry.

15          A     That's okay.

16          Q     Oh, yes. It's the last page. It looks like the  
17 paragraph before Brittany Barnes' statements.

18          A     Yes, yes, yes. Leslie Carter, that would be  
19 Darren Barnes' mother, yes.

20          Q     When you spoke to her that night, do you  
21 remember if that was in person or if that was over the  
22 phone?

23          A     It was in person. Uh-huh.

24          Q     Do you recall how she had gotten to the scene,  
25 like if she came with somebody or was by herself?

1           A     She was standing with other people. I tend to  
2 just in those heightened circumstances try to pull people  
3 away one-on-one. So I was just speaking directly with  
4 her. So the people she was with I assumed were family  
5 members, but I'm not sure.

6           Q     Okay. As far as if any of them had transported  
7 her there, fair to say you don't know about that either?

8           A     I'm not sure. I know she does not live there,  
9 so I assume some sort of transportation there.

10          Q     Okay. And I believe you also spoke to Deanna  
11 Barnes?

12          A     Yes.

13          Q     Was that that night at the scene, or was that  
14 some later time also?

15          A     One second. So that was not the dark/early  
16 hours of the evening. That was later in the crime scene  
17 processing. I know I spoke to her on February 3rd, which  
18 was the second day of processing. I don't believe I spoke  
19 to her prior to that.

20          Q     Okay. Were Laquanda and Deronrick the only two  
21 civilians that were transported from the homicide scene to  
22 the police station that night or early morning?

23          A     I'm not sure.

24          Q     Okay.

25          A     Actually, I do want to correct, it does look

1 like I spoke to her the first -- the morning I was there  
2 also via phone.

3 Q Oh, Deanna?

4 A Yes. I apologize. So, yes, I spoke to Deanna  
5 on the phone on the 2nd and then again later in person and  
6 on the phone on February 3rd.

7 Q Okay. Do you know if your conversation with her  
8 on the 2nd would have been recorded?

9 A No, it was not.

10 Q Okay. And I'm sorry, you said on the 2nd you  
11 believe that was on the phone -- I'm sorry, in person and  
12 on the phone?

13 A The 2nd was on the phone, and then on the 3rd, I  
14 spoke to her on the phone and then also in person at the  
15 scene.

16 Q Okay. Are Deanna and Brittany related, or did  
17 they just have the same last name, if you recall?

18 A Brittany Barnes, the renter of the apartment?

19 Q Yeah.

20 A I don't believe they're related. I'm assuming  
21 not because I know that Brittany eluded to a romantic  
22 relationship with Darren, so I would assume they're not  
23 related.

24 Q Okay. I was going to ask if that was a typo or  
25 if that was in fact -- it was Darren that she had -- it's

1 coincidental they had the same last name.

2 A Yes.

3 Q So best you understood, Brittany at some point  
4 had a romantic relationship with the decedent, meaning  
5 they would not be related?

6 A In theory, hopefully, no. Yes, I'm assuming the  
7 last name is a coincidence.

8 Q Okay. Deanna was a sister, right?

9 A Yes.

10 Q All right. And do you know if Leslie Carter, if  
11 that was Deanna's mom also?

12 A I don't know.

13 Q Okay. The -- how you guys get to Deanna, is  
14 that from the car being in the parking lot?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And that's a Jetta that's registered in her  
17 name. Is that right?

18 A That's correct.

19 Q In speaking with her, she indicated to you that  
20 she had brought the car over to the apartment complex  
21 about 6 p.m. on February 1st. Is that right?

22 A That's correct.

23 Q And that she had given her keys to her brother  
24 to use, right?

25 A That's right, yeah.

1 Q Did she indicate how long she stayed at the  
2 apartment herself?

3 A She did not. From what I see and what I notated  
4 in the report, she made it seem like she brought him the  
5 car, and then she was picked up to go to a client's house  
6 because she does hair braiding. It didn't seem like she  
7 spent any amount of time at the apartment on the 1st, just  
8 brought him the car keys and that was pretty much it.

9 Q Do we know if she actually entered the unit or  
10 not?

11 A I don't know.

12 Q Okay. And then after you do a search -- she  
13 gives consent for you guys to search the car, right?

14 A Correct. Yes.

15 Q And then after you search the car, you guys find  
16 some drugs in there, right?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And she indicates that those -- that was not  
19 hers, right?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q Did you happen to ask her if -- well, do you  
22 remember where the drugs were? Was it something in plain  
23 view, or how much searching was required to find them?

24 A They were, from what I recall, in the center  
25 console area. More so kind of underneath where typically

1 a radio and things are. Not like in the center thing that  
2 you open, if that makes sense.

3 Q Yeah, the open console area kind of? Not the  
4 one that closes?

5 A Right. Kind where you throw your phone  
6 typically or something like that.

7 Q Okay. Was there any conversation about were  
8 those things that would have -- like were they there when  
9 you dropped the car off and this is new stuff in the car?

10 A She, you know, denied all knowledge of the crack  
11 cocaine and just, you know, kind of avoided the questions  
12 on it. So not -- it was in plain view. She would have  
13 seen it when she dropped it off.

14 Q If it was there?

15 A Yes.

16 Q So this is kind of an opinion, you know, that I  
17 would object to giving in the courtroom of course usually.  
18 Based on like your conversation with her, did you form an  
19 opinion as to whether she probably knew the drugs were  
20 there versus he must have gone somewhere or been in the  
21 car after she dropped it off?

22 A Based on what she said to me, it seemed more  
23 like Darren Barnes or someone who he was with would have  
24 placed it there, and they were not there when she dropped  
25 it off.

1 Q Gotcha.

2 A Yeah.

3 Q Did the vehicle have a SunPass on it?

4 A I'd have to look back at the pictures. I don't  
5 know.

6 Q Okay. Do you know if there was any kind of,  
7 like, research into any vehicle movements that night, like  
8 if it had been picked up on any -- you know, some of the  
9 sheriff's office vehicles that automatically run  
10 registrations or the cameras that will catch them, do you  
11 know if anybody did any kind of research on that to see if  
12 the car had been mobile at that time?

13 A As in like hit on a tag or something?

14 Q Yeah.

15 A Not out on scene at least. I'm not sure if that  
16 was done back at the station.

17 Q Okay. And Charles Hale, there was an EBT card  
18 for Charles Hale found in the vehicle also?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Do you remember where that was, like if it was  
21 in the same area of the drugs or if it was somewhere else?

22 A It was. From my memory, I believe everything  
23 was located in that kind of open center console area, cup  
24 holder area.

25 Q Did you -- did anybody ever contact Mr. Hale as



1 far as you know?

2 A I don't know. I know that I didn't. I'm not  
3 sure if anyone else attempted to identify him.

4 Q The EBT card, were you able to tell if that was  
5 an active card?

6 A I didn't do any further research other than  
7 finding and documenting it.

8 Q Okay. And then about noon is when -- a little  
9 after noon is when you get the warrant and start doing the  
10 actual processing of the scene. Is that right?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q while they're doing the processing, are you  
13 present to kind of direct them as to what you want  
14 collected or processed?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. As to the -- I think it was Mr. Barnes.  
17 There was a bunch of cash found on his person. Is that  
18 right?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q And jewelry?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Okay. Was there anything -- well, I guess at  
23 the time you guys are processing the house, is Mr. Green  
24 still unable to communicate?

25 A To my knowledge, yes. I think he went to

1 surgery immediately.

2 Q Okay. The bag of prescriptions that was  
3 located, are those the same prescriptions that came back  
4 belonging to Deronrick?

5 A The ones that were located in the living room.

6 Q I'm sorry, yes, ma'am.

7 A Yes.

8 Q Like at evidence marker 25, I guess?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. What kind of bag are we talking about?  
11 Like a CVS plastic bag or like -- if you remember.

12 A It was either like a CVS plastic bag or like a  
13 ziplock bag. It was one or the other. It was a plastic  
14 bag of some sort.

15 Q Okay. Not like a duffel bag or anything? Or  
16 maybe -- I don't know.

17 A I'd have to look back at the pictures.

18 Q Both cell phones were located inside the jacket  
19 pocket of Mr. Barnes. Am I reading that right?

20 A Yes.

21 Q The -- there were some receipts that you found,  
22 right, Metro receipt from the trashcan?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Is that a different trashcan than the trashcan  
25 where the Burger King and Boston Market receipts were

1 found?

2 A Yeah. So the 140 Metro receipt was in a small  
3 little trashcan in the living room, and then there was a  
4 larger kitchen trashcan where the other receipts were  
5 found. So the 140 Metro was found in that smaller living  
6 room trashcan.

7 Q Okay. Do you recall if all of those were  
8 timestamped or not?

9 A I would have to look at the pictures.

10 Q Okay. It was probably photographed though?

11 A They were. For sure I know they were.

12 Q Okay. Then the -- there's a list of drugs that  
13 were collected from the kitchen. Were there any -- other  
14 than what was found in the vehicle outside and what is  
15 listed here in the kitchen, were there any other drugs  
16 found anywhere?

17 A If you'll give me just a moment to make sure  
18 there was nothing in the bedrooms.

19 (Deponent reviews report.)

20 A No. It looks like just kitchen. There was a  
21 small bag I believe from the living room also and then the  
22 volkswagen vehicle.

23 Q The kitchen cabinets that there were some drugs  
24 found in, do you recall if you guys had opened those  
25 cabinets or if those cabinets were open already?

1           A     I know some of the kitchen cabinets were open.  
2 I'd have to look back through the pictures to say for sure  
3 the ones with the drugs were the open ones or it was  
4 another cabinet.

5           Q     Okay. Were -- there was a mention specifically  
6 of a chain with a cross on it that was found in one of the  
7 bedrooms.

8           A     Southeast bedroom, I believe.

9           Q     Yes, at evidence marker 31. Was there any  
10 other -- was there any other jewelry? Like, if there was  
11 other jewelry in that room found, would it have been photo  
12 marked and photographed or evidence marked and  
13 photographed, or is it just because that one was like in  
14 the bed area?

15          A     Just because of its proximity to the bed, the  
16 bloodstains on the bed and that type of thing.

17          Q     Okay. Do you recall if there was any jewelry  
18 that wasn't photographed?

19          A     I remember a lot of really nice belts. Jewelry  
20 in particular I don't remember.

21          Q     Okay.

22          A     Typically anything of great value. You know, of  
23 course, if we find piles of cash, things like that, we're  
24 going to collect it for safe keeping. Typically really  
25 nice jewelry we probably would have done the same with,

1 even if we thought it was evidence related or not.  
2 Nothing sticks out in my memory as loads of jewelry being  
3 found that wasn't marked, you know, so, no.

4 Q Looking at the -- I think we're still in the  
5 southeast bedroom. There's some jeans with a wallet?

6 A Yes.

7 Q The wallet is in plain view in a pair of jeans.

8 A Yes.

9 Q Explain that to me what you mean.

10 A The wallet is halfway hanging out of the pocket  
11 in a pair of jeans.

12 Q Is there any money? Is that the one there's  
13 only a Subway gift card?

14 A That's correct.

15 Q And I guess a Florida DL card also?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Any cash in there?

18 A No cash in that wallet.

19 Q Is that the same pair of pants that had cash in  
20 the pocket or a different pair of pants?

21 A No. There was another pair of pants that were  
22 inside of the closet that the 820 in cash was found in.

23 Q Okay. The cigarette butts -- there's an ashtray  
24 filled with cigarette butts. Are those all collected?

25 A The porch one or there was another ashtray in

1 the living room.

2 Q Both. Do you know if either sets were  
3 collected?

4 A The cigarette butts on the porch were collected.  
5 There was -- yes. The ashtray contents from the living  
6 room were also marked. Let me refer to Frankland's  
7 report. I think he did a lot of the living room  
8 processing. Maybe it wasn't Frankland. I apologize. We  
9 had a lot of techs on this particular one.

10 (Deponent reviews report.)

11 A Yes. The ashtray contents from the porch and  
12 the living room were both collected, yes.

13 Q Okay. Did the apartment unit appear there was  
14 people living there or somebody living there?

15 A Appeared to be to me. There were -- you know,  
16 there was food. There were things in the refrigerator.  
17 There were beds with bedding on it, clothing in the  
18 closet. It looked like someone was living there.

19 Q Okay. When you speak to Ms. Tierney, was she  
20 aware of anybody officially living -- like did she have  
21 any names associated with the apartment other than  
22 Brittany Barnes?

23 A She did not.

24 Q Was -- I know she had described some problems  
25 and stuff they were having. Did she kind of explain that

1 as like Brittany has other people living there or that  
2 Brittany would just let -- like, did she believe other  
3 people were living there that weren't supposed to be doing  
4 these things or just that the apartment was available for  
5 anyone to have access to?

6 A She -- the words she used were unauthorized  
7 guests and that they had served Brittany Barnes their --  
8 the renter of the apartment, she had been served with a  
9 notice of unauthorized occupants. I took it as these were  
10 people that Brittany Barnes knew and was allowing to come  
11 over.

12 Q Okay. Did she tell you how long they had been  
13 having problems with the unit?

14 A She -- pretty soon after Brittany Barnes moved  
15 in. Ms. Tierney said Brittany began renting in October of  
16 2020, and, you know, there were already complaints in  
17 November of 2020 of, you know, heavy foot traffic,  
18 unauthorized subjects around the apartment and living in  
19 the apartment. She also mentioned an eight-year-old,  
20 complaining that someone from the apartment tried to lure  
21 him in with candy. Things like that.

22 Q And she kind of had, I guess, her maintenance  
23 employees to essentially take photos of anybody that they  
24 thought were associated with that unit?

25 A That's correct.

1 Q And then specifically, she had indicated that  
2 there were vehicles and subjects there on February 1st  
3 around 4 p.m. Is that right?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q Those -- do you remember how many photos she  
6 showed you?

7 A I believe there were three.

8 Q Do you know if they made it to evidence.com?

9 A They did. Uh-huh.

10 Q would it be uploaded by you, if you remember?

11 A I uploaded them, and I believe they're titled  
12 "Photos from Jessica Tierney." Something like that.

13 Q were those three photos from that day or just  
14 three photos over the course of the --

15 A According to her -- and I didn't really have any  
16 way to verify it -- she said those photos were from 2/1/21  
17 around 1600 hours.

18 Q Okay. And then there was also some surveillance  
19 cameras or surveillance video that she was going to  
20 upload?

21 A That's correct.

22 Q Do you know if that ever got uploaded?

23 A So she was unable to upload it from a cloud link  
24 that we send them. So later, Detective Gaddis and  
25 Detective Johnson went out with a USB drive and were able



1 to obtain the video.

2 Q Okay. Do you know if that surveillance has been  
3 uploaded on evidence.com yet or not?

4 A I don't know. It would either be in actual  
5 evidence or has been uploaded. I'm not sure.

6 Q Okay. You collected some items from the Medical  
7 Examiner's office, right?

8 A I did.

9 Q Is that some evidence vouchers. Yeah, it looks  
10 like autopsy photos and a projectile, buccal swab, receipt  
11 from the ME, and hair standard and blood standard?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Did you have any contact with any of Mr. Barnes'  
14 family at the hospital?

15 A I did not. I didn't go to the hospital.

16 Q Okay. Medical Examiner's office. Were any of  
17 the family there? Sorry.

18 A No.

19 Q When Ms. Carter contacts you about trying to get  
20 some of the son's belongings out of the apartment complex,  
21 meaning Darren's belongings, any items that were on Darren  
22 or his person did police take that night?

23 A We did. I did, yes.

24 Q So presumably, at least then mother was of  
25 the -- under the impression that Darren had other items

1 other than what he brought with him that night at the  
2 apartment?

3 A That seemed to be her assumption, yes.

4 Q Okay. Do you know if -- did you ever -- I think  
5 you reached out to Brittany to help facilitate it?

6 A That's right.

7 Q Did you ever -- do you know the end result of  
8 that, if Ms. Carter was able to get any items from the  
9 apartment complex and if so what the items were?

10 A I don't know. I just kind of left it up for  
11 them to work out between the two of them.

12 Q And Brittany, was your conversation with her or  
13 over the phone?

14 A Brittany was over the phone.

15 Q Okay. And that conversation that you have  
16 documented in your report, is that -- does that happen on  
17 February 9th or some time between February 9th and  
18 February 16th?

19 A It was on February 9th. I hung up with  
20 Ms. Carter and called Brittany right after.

21 Q Okay. Was that conversation recorded in any  
22 way?

23 A No.

24 Q Okay. Did you ever make contact with her  
25 parents to confirm whether she was actually staying there,

1 versus in the apartment?

2 A I did not.

3 Q And was there a laundry machine in the  
4 apartment?

5 A There was.

6 Q In the actual unit or the complex?

7 A Yeah, in one of the closets, there was the kind  
8 of typical apartment stackable washer/dryer.

9 Q Okay. Did she give you the names of all the  
10 people that she was letting have access to this apartment?

11 A She mentioned -- oh, yes. She mentioned both  
12 Darren and Rodney by name and said they're all longtime  
13 friends, and she allows them to crash at her apartment  
14 from time to time.

15 Q Did she indicate if there were other people that  
16 were allowed to crash at the apartment?

17 A She didn't give me any other names, no.

18 Q And as far as did she indicate that these other  
19 people had, like, keys or that they were just able to  
20 go -- like they had keys and had access without her there  
21 or that they would need to reach out to her every time  
22 they wanted to go over kind of thing?

23 A She didn't say specifically either way. I don't  
24 know that I asked if they had keys, but she made it seem  
25 that they stayed there frequently, and she allowed them to

1 do so.

2 Q Did you ask her about any contacts she had with  
3 either Darren or Rodney on February 1st or the days  
4 leading up to it?

5 A She told me that she had not seen them due to  
6 being positive for COVID-19 just because she hasn't been  
7 to her apartment in the last couple of weeks as a result.  
8 She didn't give me a specific day count as far as how long  
9 it had been since she had seen them, but she made it seem  
10 like she had not seen them in at least a couple of weeks  
11 due to being COVID-19 positive.

12 Q Okay. What about phone contact? Do you know if  
13 you asked her about that?

14 A I don't remember if I asked her about that.

15 Q Okay. And then the phones that you reference in  
16 your report, those were a black Motorola and iPhone.  
17 Those were the same phones you located on Mr. Barnes'  
18 person?

19 A Yes, that's correct.

20 Q So I think we're up to the 9th is when you  
21 talked to Brittany, and then -- there's a couple more  
22 things included in this report, but on February 16th, are  
23 you involved in the other investigation?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q And how do -- how did that come about?

1           A     We -- I learned about this from our police  
2 radio. We had a radio on in the office and heard officers  
3 being sent to 2968 Emerson Avenue South, who the majority  
4 of us detectives in Major Crimes were familiar with as a  
5 possible address for Cornelius Whitfield or his family. I  
6 heard over the radio there were possible multiple gunshot  
7 victims inside the residence.

8           Q     Did you respond out to the 2968 Emerson Avenue  
9 address?

10          A     I tried to. I got pretty close. It was already  
11 pretty packed with other officers, you know, coming on  
12 post. SWAT Team was kind of assembling. So I got close  
13 to the area and was contacted by Sergeant Elizondo who  
14 asked me to go over to Bayfront Hospital.

15          Q     And so did you respond there instead?

16          A     I did.

17          Q     All right. And when you get to Bayfront, who do  
18 you make contact with there?

19          A     I go to the ER. I made contact with  
20 Shirleyleene Harilal maybe.

21          Q     And who is she with?

22          A     She was with Officer Eric Clague in an ER room.

23          Q     All right. And was Elizondo in there also with  
24 her?

25          A     Yes, he was also in the room with her.

1 Q And that's at approximately 5 p.m. that you made  
2 contact with them. Is that right?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q Is your statement with Ms. Harilal recorded?

5 A No.

6 Q Any particular reason?

7 A We don't typically record victims, especially in  
8 a hospital setting.

9 Q Any -- no reason you couldn't though, right?

10 A No, no reason I couldn't.

11 Q Were you -- when you were speaking with her, was  
12 Clague and Elizondo still there?

13 A Elizondo was not. I don't remember if Clague  
14 stayed around or not. Usually I like to shuffle the  
15 uniforms sort of out of the room. I think it calms  
16 everyone a little bit. But I don't remember if he was in  
17 the room with me or not.

18 Q Okay. And as far as the statement that she  
19 provided you at that time, any additional details other  
20 than what you've included in your report?

21 A No.

22 Q Okay. Did you ever watch Ms. Harilal's  
23 statement or interview with Elizondo?

24 A No.

25 Q Ms. Harilal indicated to you that Cornelius had

1 been off and different since his return home from prison.  
2 Did you ever elaborate at all on that?

3 A And we're still speaking on the first interview  
4 at the hospital?

5 Q Yes.

6 A She spoke about how he, you know, normally  
7 sleeps in the same room as her when he's home and that he  
8 hadn't been sleeping in the room with her. And then  
9 just -- I didn't elaborate -- have her elaborate at the  
10 time, which she just kind of expressed as a mother he just  
11 seemed off or different.

12 Q And then she also said they had been trying to  
13 get him help. Did she elaborate on what kind of help?

14 A From what she said to me, you know, just trying  
15 to talk to him as a family, discussing among themselves as  
16 a family sort of his different than normal behavior and  
17 voicing concerns to one another about him. She never  
18 spoke to me about any type of professional therapy or  
19 anything like that.

20 Q Was it your impression that she was talking  
21 about some kind of psychiatric help?

22 A To me, yes, that's the impression I got.

23 Q And you included that she said he sometimes  
24 stares into a distance and talks to himself. Any other  
25 examples that she had offered up?

1 A No, not during the initial interview.

2 Q About how long does your conversation with  
3 Ms. Harilal last, that conversation in the hospital?

4 A It was a pretty short interview. I just wanted  
5 to kind of get the basic facts. She was in pain from  
6 being shot and very emotional after seeing her mom and  
7 grandmother when she went into the house herself. So it  
8 was a pretty short interview. I would say -- I don't  
9 know -- 20 minutes.

10 Q Did she see mom and grandma? Is that right?

11 A She -- in the next interview when she actually  
12 comes into the station, the recorded one, she talks  
13 about -- let me just double check. The interviews are  
14 running together for me.

15 Q I'm looking at where you had mentioned about  
16 granny, but I want -- you can check, but I can point you  
17 if that helps at all.

18 A Please point out.

19 Q Under the third paragraph of her -- I'm sorry,  
20 fourth -- third paragraph of the first statement. It's my  
21 301, but I think yours is --

22 A Okay.

23 Q In looking at that paragraph, she mentions  
24 specifically seeing granny. So I'm just trying to figure  
25 out if she had mentioned them both in the first interview



1 or if it was just --

2 A Sure. Okay. So first interview she only  
3 mentions granny, seeing granny covered in blood. I can  
4 wait until we get to the second one if you want.

5 Q Okay. That's fine. So you were just saying  
6 that she appeared in shock. Not necessarily that she was  
7 saying I appeared because I saw both of them, but that was  
8 your impression, that she was in shock at the time?

9 A Correct, in that she had seen her granny, yes.

10 Q And I'm sorry, how long -- I know you said  
11 pretty short -- was that about?

12 A I was in and out of her room. The first kind of  
13 initial statement that I get, it may have been 20 or so  
14 minutes. It was a fairly short interview.

15 Q Okay. And then in your -- did you observe a  
16 large crowd of family at the hospital, or am I reading  
17 that somebody else told you there might be one coming?

18 A There -- I was told by I believe -- yes,  
19 Sergeant Danny Barber made me aware there was a large  
20 crowd of family members at the hospital.

21 Q Did you ever see or speak to any of them?

22 A I did.

23 Q Who did you speak to?

24 A Almost all of them. I initially after they had  
25 identified the three victims at the scene and confirmed

1 they were all deceased, I notified Shirleyleene first, and  
2 then the large group was -- I did not get everyone's  
3 names, but I know they included Antonio's oldest child,  
4 Andrianna Graham and one of Shirleyleene's sons, Rashad  
5 Whitfield. It was a large group. I would say 30ish  
6 people. And I did go and deliver the death notification  
7 to the large group as a whole.

8 Q Okay. As far as any specific people other than  
9 Rashad and Andrianna, would you be able to provide any  
10 specifics?

11 A I would not be. They were all extremely  
12 emotional. They appeared to all be family, at least close  
13 family and friends and know each other really well.

14 Q Okay. And was she released or discharged from  
15 the ER while you were still on scene?

16 A Let me see. She was released while I was still  
17 there.

18 Q And you indicate in your report she refused to  
19 come to St. Pete for a more in-depth interview at that  
20 time. Was that you that asked?

21 A I did ask. We always try to get them back and  
22 get them on camera if we can or just have a little more  
23 comfortable environment to speak with them a little more  
24 in depth. She did not wish to go that day.

25 Q Okay. What is the next contact you had with

1 Ms. Harilal?

2 A So the next contact I have is the next morning  
3 on February 17th, 2021.

4 Q And tell me about that.

5 A They were still in the process of finishing  
6 crime scene processing. I think they had gotten to the  
7 point where it was going to be kind of all hands on deck  
8 to really thoroughly search the house and what was left  
9 because I know a large portion of it got knocked off. So  
10 myself and a large group of detectives went out to 2968  
11 Emerson Avenue South. I wasn't tasked with searching the  
12 rest of the house thankfully, but myself and Detective  
13 Mike Bletsch were tasked with locating Shirleyleene again  
14 to interview her, and as luck would have it, she was there  
15 at the scene, just happened to be outside.

16 Q And what conversation do you have with her at  
17 the scene?

18 A Just checking on her, how she's feeling. I  
19 expressed to her that we do need to talk more in depth  
20 with her and ask her if she would be comfortable on this  
21 day going back to St. Pete Police Department to speak  
22 longer, and she said that she would.

23 Q And was that recorded?

24 A That was not, no. The talking on scene was not,  
25 but ultimately, the interview was recorded.

1 Q Okay. Was there -- we were talking a little bit  
2 before, I can't find the interview yet, but you're going  
3 to help me with that. I haven't seen that yet. Forgive  
4 me if it's in that interview. But at any time is there  
5 any conversation with you and Ms. Harilal about, you know,  
6 why didn't you guys go in my house and get him that day?  
7 I cleared my family out, and I told you I put a cell phone  
8 in there. And I left my house because you told me you'd  
9 call me when it was safe to go back in. Was there any  
10 conversation of her asking about that, like what happened  
11 to that plan?

12 A Are you referring to I guess after the first  
13 murder?

14 Q Yeah, February 3rd when she came in to the  
15 station and met with the detectives and gave them full  
16 range to go have at her house. Did she ever bring up to  
17 you, like, what happened? Did you guys do that? Why not?  
18 Anything like that?

19 A I do remember us, you know, trying to plead with  
20 the family after the first murder to essentially turn him  
21 in. They indicated they would be of help. All I remember  
22 from my second recorded interview with her is she was kind  
23 of blaming herself for not turning him in. I don't  
24 remember anything about a phone being on in the house. I  
25 don't remember anything like that.

1 Q Yeah. Like, she was very cooperative in that  
2 interview and said -- I mean, she called the family  
3 multiple times, told them to all leave. I'm letting the  
4 police come in and search. They called all the family.  
5 Everyone is going to allow them to search. They all  
6 leave. They're going to give her a phone. She'll leave  
7 the phone in the house. In case a hostage situation,  
8 heaven forbid, happens, there will be a phone to call.  
9 She seemed very, very cooperative. And so was there any  
10 indication that position had changed or --

11 A She did mention to me that she had seen him the  
12 Saturday before the 16th. So I guess that would have  
13 been -- the 16th was a Tuesday, so the Saturday before.

14 Q Just a few days before?

15 A Correct, like three or four days before. She  
16 saw him. The whole family saw him. But no one called the  
17 police to turn him in, and she felt remorse for that.  
18 That's really the only thing I recall in that.

19 Q Do you recall ever seeing any other officers'  
20 reports or efforts documenting what efforts were made on  
21 the 3rd after they got the warrant and had permission to  
22 go search the house, like what happened or if anything  
23 ever happened?

24 A I don't know. I personally wasn't a portion of  
25 that. I don't know if I was still crime scene or what I

1 was doing exactly. I do know they brought the family in  
2 to try and convince them to like help us out, but past  
3 that, I don't really know.

4 Q Okay. And then the conversation at the station  
5 on the 17th, that one is recorded, right?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q And then after -- how does she then leave the  
8 police department?

9 A Let's see. I drove her to 5945 Fairfield Avenue  
10 South where she requested to be dropped off. She was  
11 staying with some family members there at the time.

12 Q That's what I was going to ask. Do you remember  
13 who that was she was staying with at the time?

14 A I know she was with the two-year-old baby Mya or  
15 Mia, and I want to say Tanisha might have been there as  
16 well.

17 Q Okay.

18 A Tanisha who was the godmother of Mia.

19 Q Oh, might have been in that apartment?

20 A That apartment, yes.

21 Q And any conversation or contact with Ms. Harila  
22 in between the 17th -- February 17th and February 24th?

23 A There could have been phonecalls or texts. I  
24 don't remember. Nothing that was past, you know, me  
25 checking in with her, how are you doing, how are you

1 feeling, that type of thing. Nothing that were statements  
2 about the homicide or anything like that.

3 Q And on 2/24, that's when you speak to Rashad  
4 whitfield. Is that right?

5 A That's correct.

6 Q Is that the first time you talked to him?

7 A I spoke to him at the hospital.

8 Q Okay. Any other times other than that? I'm  
9 sorry.

10 A No.

11 Q And do you know if he ever showed up to talk to  
12 detectives?

13 A He unfortunately didn't. He ghosted me.

14 Q Was he supposed to show up to talk to you?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Any subsequent contact with him?

17 A No, ma'am.

18 Q Anything like maybe after you wrote your report  
19 that you can think of that sticks out?

20 A No.

21 Q And then you showed a photo to Shirleyleene of a  
22 brown Volvo?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did that photo get turned in to evidence?

25 A That was a photo taken from the exterior of the

1 crime scene. It was parked at the crime scene.

2 Q which scene? I'm sorry.

3 A The Emerson, the 2968 Emerson Avenue South. So  
4 that car was parked there. Detective Jason Harris wanted  
5 me to verify with Shirleyleene that the brown Volvo in the  
6 picture was a car he had been told belonged to Cornelius.  
7 So that particular photo, I don't know if it's one that  
8 Jason Harris just snapped on his phone or if it was an  
9 actual crime scene photo, but photos of the vehicle do  
10 exist in evidence.com.

11 Q Okay. And the one that you showed though, it  
12 was still at the scene, or you don't know?

13 A It was still parked at the scene in the photo.  
14 I don't know when it was removed from the scene though.

15 Q Gotcha. But the photo that you showed her would  
16 have been a photo from the scene?

17 A From the scene, yes.

18 Q Okay. And did -- you return some property to  
19 Shirleyleene. Anybody else you returned any property to?

20 A I believe just Shirleyleene, I believe. Let me  
21 just double check. Yeah, just Shirleyleene. I pretty  
22 much exclusively just dealt with her in this case.

23 Q Any contact with her since end of February 2021?

24 A Not that I remember, no.

25 Q Okay. As far as you know, have you ever had any



1 contact with Cornelius whitfield?

2 A I don't believe so, no.

3 Q As far as you know, did you have any involvement  
4 investigating -- what is her last name -- Julia,  
5 Cornelius' child's mom? She was locked up around this  
6 time. But it doesn't really help you without a last name.

7 A That's not ringing a bell to me. I would think  
8 if I did, I would have connected it during these cases.

9 Q Uh-huh.

10 A Doesn't sound familiar.

11 Q Sorry, I can't think of her last name.

12 MS. MANUELE: Do you have any questions?

13 MS. RUSSELL: I do not.

14 BY MS. MANUELE:

15 Q Do you know if the apartment complex was  
16 successful in evicting Brittany after all this?

17 A I didn't speak to Brittany again after this. I  
18 know they were very fired up in beginning the process, but  
19 I don't know if they officially went through with all of  
20 it.

21 MS. MANUELE: I don't have any other  
22 questions.

23 MR. KOSKINAS: That's it. You're all set.

24 (Deposition concludes at 2:07 p.m.)

25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

COUNTY OF PINELLAS        )  
STATE OF FLORIDA         )

CERTIFICATE OF OATH

I, the undersigned authority, certify that  
DETECTIVE MALLORY MARZO personally appeared before me and  
was duly sworn.

witness my hand and official seal this 20th day  
of December, 2024.

Tamara M. Pacheco

Tamara M. Pacheco, RPR  
COMMISSION # 474485  
EXPIRES: March 30, 2028

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

ERRATA SHEET

IN THE CASE OF:           STATE OF FL V. CORNELIUS T. WHITFIELD  
NAME OF DEPONENT:        MALLORY MARZO  
CASE NUMBER:               21-01099CFANO

                  Please read the transcript of your deposition.  
If you feel you need to make corrections, please note on  
this page. DO NOT mark on the transcript itself.  
                  Sign and date the transcript below.

| PAGE | LINE | ERROR/AMENDMENT | REASON FOR CHANGE |
|------|------|-----------------|-------------------|
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |
|      |      |                 |                   |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA )

COUNTY OF PINELLAS )

I, Tamara M. Pacheco, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the Deposition of MALLORY MARZO; that a review of the transcript was requested; 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.

Tamara M. Pacheco

Tamara M. Pacheco, RPR