

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 2021-01513 CFANO

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STATE OF FLORIDA

vs.

CORNELIUS TREVON WHITFIELD

Defendant.  
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TAKEN BY: Defendant  
DATE: June 12, 2025  
TIME: 1:30 p.m. - 1:53 p.m.  
PLACE: Criminal Justice Center  
14250 - 49th Street North  
Clearwater, Florida  
REPORTED BY: Sharon K. Allbritton  
Shorthand Reporter  
Notary Public  
State of Florida at Large

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DEPOSITION OF  
OFFICER JONATHAN GOODMAN  
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## APPEARANCE:

THOMAS KOSKINAS, ESQ.  
ANTHONY BRADLOW, ESQ.  
THEODORA DANZIG, ESQ.  
Assistant State Attorney  
14250 - 49th Street North  
Clearwater, FL 33762

JULIA SEIFER-SMITH, ESQ.  
MARGARET RUSSELL, ESQ.  
LAMARK MCGREEN, ESQ.  
Assistant Public Defender  
14250- 49th Street North  
Clearwater, FL 33762

P R O C E E D I N G S

WHEREUPON,

OFFICER JONATHAN GOODMAN

the deponent herein, being first duly sworn, was  
examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. SEIFER-SMITH:

Q Can you please state your name for the  
record?

A Officer Jon Goodman. St. Petersburg Police  
Department.

Q We're here in the matter of Cornelius  
Whitfield. My court case number is 21-01513 CF. My  
name is Julia Seifer-Smith, together with Margaret  
Russell and Lamark McGreen. We're assistant public  
defenders and we represent Mr. Whitfield. Present  
from the state is Tony Bradlow.

I have a St. Petersburg Police Department  
case number of 2021-06023. And I believe you did a  
report and there's some body worn camera footage.

Did you have an opportunity to review either  
of those things before being sworn in by our court  
reporter?

A I have not gone back in and looked over the

1 body camera, but I have the supplemental report in  
2 front of me.

3 Q And did you have an opportunity to review the  
4 report?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Having reviewed that report did it jog your  
7 memory as to your involvement in the case?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Knowing that there is camera footage, do you  
10 need to take a look at it?

11 A No. I was a perimeter point. The only real  
12 interaction I had with with one subject who identified  
13 himself as the grandfather, but wouldn't give any  
14 actual information on who he was, and he was obviously  
15 distraught over the situation. So that was about it.

16 Q Was the name Cornelius Whitfield familiar to  
17 you for any reason before you were involved?

18 A I don't believe so. I'm trying to remember  
19 if they had issued a BOLO out for him for the homicide  
20 that had taken place in District 2 up north. I don't  
21 recall if they had issued that BOLO out or not yet  
22 that they were looking for him.

23 Q Were you involved in that investigation?

24 A I was not.

25 Q Not in any capacity?

1           A     Nope.

2           Q     And you became involved on February 16th  
3 pursuant to what, like an emergency call out?

4           A     Yeah. So they had dispatched out a person  
5 shot at the Emerson Avenue address, so a bunch of  
6 people came. And then as call notes came in I believe  
7 Whitfield's mother ran to a neighbor's house and said  
8 that other people were shot. And so we had multiple  
9 people shot so pretty much it was a all hands on deck  
10 to get there and figure out what was going on.

11          Q     Okay. I imagine that it was quite a chaotic  
12 scene?

13          A     Yes. As I arrived on scene I believe I  
14 positioned my cruiser initially at 30th Street South  
15 and Emerson Avenue South. And then upon getting there  
16 and trying to figure out what we need to block off, I  
17 ultimately ended up moving to 6th Avenue South and  
18 30th Street South.

19          Q     Did you have any contact with the community,  
20 like any civilians coming up to you asking--

21          A     There was a good number of people coming up  
22 based on the house being a corner house. On 30th  
23 Street there there were people looking around.  
24 Obviously there's an extremely large police presence.  
25 Everyone's trying to figure out what was going on,

1       what was happening.

2           Q       Was it just people trying to figure out what  
3       was happening, or was anybody like telling you any  
4       information about the occupants in that house?

5           A       Not that I recall, no.  Mostly just people  
6       being curious.

7           Q       Okay.  And did you assist in -- it looks like  
8       there was some sort of like S.W.A.T., I don't know  
9       what you call it, like S.W.A.T. enterprise.

10                  Did you assist with that in any way?

11          A       So they did a S.W.A.T. call up.  Essentially  
12       after positioning my cruiser where it was, I ended up  
13       taking a position behind kind of a large tree watching  
14       one of the side doors.  I believe it was the west  
15       door.  And then I pretty much held that position until  
16       a S.W.A.T. team member relieved me.  And then at that  
17       point I went back over to my cruiser and was doing  
18       more crowd control, perimeter stuff.  So I have no  
19       idea what S.W.A.T. did after that.

20          Q       Okay.  Got it.  Now you had, not like  
21       profound contact, but you had contact with somebody  
22       who is kind of interesting here.

23                  Can you tell me about that?

24          A       Yes.  So he had stated as he was -- if I  
25       remember correctly, appeared pretty distraught as he

1 was coming up on scene, and said that he was the  
2 grandfather of the people in house.

3 Q Did he give a name?

4 A No, he did not.

5 Q What did he look like?

6 A He was a black male, older. I'd have to  
7 review the body camera to actually see it. Due to how  
8 upset he was I made sure my body camera was on and  
9 recording interaction. He had to be told several  
10 times like he can't go to the house. It's an active  
11 crime scene. He's got to stay back. He was very  
12 upset, understandably so. Ultimately he never made it  
13 close to the crime scene or anything like that.  
14 Again, I was kind of the outside perimeter of the  
15 scene. So then once he realized he wasn't gonna be  
16 able to get to the scene without being arrested, he  
17 eventually turned and left.

18 Q Was he alone?

19 A I don't recall.

20 Q And in terms of getting to the scene, was he  
21 on foot?

22 A I believe he arrived in pickup truck, but I  
23 don't remember specifically.

24 Q Did you say anything? I know he was trying  
25 to get information and get to the scene, but did he

1       like give you any information?

2           A       Not that I recall.

3           Q       Okay. Do you remember asking him any  
4       questions about the people at the residence?

5           A       I do not.

6           Q       And any other kind of contact with any  
7       civilians that was notable to you?

8           A       No.

9           Q       Any further work that you did on this case?

10          A       Nope.

11          Q       Okay. About how long do you think you were  
12       on scene?

13          A       If I to ballpark, maybe an hour or so.

14          Q       Oh, that's it?

15          A       Yeah. It was not very long.

16          Q       Any participation in any debriefs like back  
17       at the station or like with your sergeant?

18          A       No.

19          Q       Okay. I don't have any other questions.

20               MS. SEIFER-SMITH: Anyone else?

21               MR. KOSKINAS: That's it. Thank you, sir we  
22       appreciate your time.

23               (DEPOSITION CONCLUDED AT 1:53 P.M.)

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## CERTIFICATE OF OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA )

COUNTY OF PINELLAS )

I, the undersigned authority, certify that  
OFFICER JONATHAN GOODMAN, personally appeared before  
me and was duly sworn.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 21  
day of JUNE, 2025.

Sharon Allbritton

Sharon K. Allbritton

Notary Public  
State of Florida  
Commission# HH307873  
Expires: January 1, 2027



1 STATE OF FLORIDA )

2 COUNTY OF PINELLAS )

3 I, SHARON K. ALLBRITTON certify that I was  
4 authorized to and did stenographically report the  
5 deposition of OFFICER JONATHAN GOODMAN; and that the  
6 transcript is a true record of the testimony given by  
7 the deponent.

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

13 Dated this 21 day of JUNE, 2025.

14  
15 *Sharon Allbritton*

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17 SHARON K. ALLBRITTON  
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