

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

Case Number: 2021-01513CF

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CORNELIUS TREVON WHITFIELD,

Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF:

PHILLIP POSTLE

TAKEN BY:

Counsel for the Defendant

DATE:

August 12, 2025

TIME:

11:19 a.m. - 11:24 a.m.

PLACE:

ZOOM Videoconference

REPORTED BY:

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

Pages 1 - 10

JTP REPORTING (727)422-8287

## APPEARANCES

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Assistant State Attorneys

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Attorneys for the State of Florida

JULIA SEIFER-SMITH, ESQUIRE

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## EXHIBITS

(No exhibits were marked for identification.)

1 WHEREUPON,

2 PHILLIP POSTLE

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

5 EXAMINATION

6 BY MS. SEIFER-SMITH:

7 Q. All right. Can you please state your name for  
8 the record.

9 A. Phillip Postle, P-O-S-T-L-E.

10 Q. My name is Julia Seifer-Smith. I'm an assistant  
11 public defender. Together with Lamark McGreen, we  
12 represent Cornelius Whitfield. Also present for the State  
13 is Theodora Danzig.

14 Can you tell me what, if anything, you reviewed  
15 before being sworn in by our court reporter?

16 A. Yesterday I reviewed the police report. That  
17 was yesterday. I haven't done anything else today.

18 Q. Okay. And that was a report or a supplement  
19 that you wrote in connection with your involvement in the  
20 case. Is that right?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Okay. Can you tell me a little bit about your  
23 history with the St. Petersburg Police Department, please.

24 A. I retired after twenty-five years. I retired  
25 three months after this date in question, and my

1 certification has since lapsed. I think it's only good  
2 for three years. I'm just a plain old Joe Q citizen now.

3 Q. At the time of your involvement in this case, so  
4 February 16th, 2021, what was your job within the  
5 St. Petersburg Police Department?

6 A. I was actually in a unit called the Downtown  
7 Deployment. That's those little demons that ride around  
8 in the golf carts downtown.

9 Q. How did you get involved in this case.

10 A. I don't recall specifically. Again, we were  
11 just called to the area. It was like all-hands-on-deck  
12 kind of thing. So, you know, we answered to the call a  
13 person shot.

14 Q. Did you go to a residential location pursuant to  
15 that call?

16 A. I went to the general area. I believe I stopped  
17 maybe two or three houses to the west.

18 Q. What occurred once you got there?

19 A. Pretty much immediately, I was flagged down by a  
20 gentleman, last name of Brown. He said he lived at a  
21 house, like, two or three to the west. And he pointed out  
22 some bloody clothing on his front porch, and he said that  
23 those clothes belonged to the girl that was shot.

24 Q. Okay. Did you actually observe the clothing  
25 there at the porch?

1           A.    I did. I immediately recognized it as being a  
2 potential secondary scene. So I took liberty to secure  
3 the secondary scene. I was there a total of an hour. It  
4 wasn't long before I notified Detective Bilbrey of my  
5 findings, and I secured that scene for I guess  
6 approximately an hour until the scene had been processed  
7 and the clothing had been collected.

8           Q.    Did Mr. Brown tell you anything else besides the  
9 location of the clothing?

10          A.    He said that she ran up to his door, knocked on  
11 his door, said she had been shot, and he noticed that  
12 there was blood coming from her right arm.

13          Q.    Did he say that -- sorry. Did he say whether or  
14 not she had said anything else?

15          A.    That I do not recall what other conversation was  
16 said.

17          Q.    I just -- I don't see anything else in your  
18 report either that he attributed to her. So, like, no  
19 indication of who the shooter was or really where it had  
20 happened. Is that right?

21          A.    No. Nothing to that extent, no.

22          Q.    It sounds like you didn't have any kind of  
23 contact with this woman?

24          A.    I did not.

25          Q.    Okay. Did you ever see her?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Okay. Anything else pertinent that Mr. Brown  
3 had told you?

4 A. Not at all. Just Detective Bilbrey had  
5 collected Mr. Brown's demographic information, and that's  
6 my total involvement.

7 Q. Okay. And so you just stood by to make sure  
8 that one of the detectives or technicians was going to  
9 collect the clothing. Is that right?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. Any other contact with any other civilians in  
12 connection with this investigation?

13 A. No.

14 MS. SEIFER-SMITH: Okay. I don't think I have  
15 any further questions. Anybody else?

16 MR. MCGREEN: No.

17 MS. TAKTIKOS-DANZIG: No.

18 MS. SEIFER-SMITH: Nobody else has any  
19 questions. Thank you very much, Mr. Postle. Enjoy your  
20 retirement.

21 (Deposition concludes at 11:24 a.m.)

22

23

24

25

1 COUNTY OF PINELLAS )

2 STATE OF FLORIDA )

3 CERTIFICATE OF OATH

4  
5 I, the undersigned authority, certify that PHILLIP  
6 POSTLE personally appeared before me by ZOOM  
7 videoconference and was duly sworn.

8 witness my hand and official seal this 30TH day of  
9 OCTOBER, 2025.

10  
11 Tamara M. Pacheco

12 Tamara M. Pacheco, RPR  
13 COMMISSION # 474485  
14 EXPIRES: March 30, 2028  
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## 1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2 STATE OF FLORIDA )

3 COUNTY OF PINELLAS )  
4

5 I, Tamara M. Pacheco, certify that I was authorized  
6 to and did stenographically report the Deposition of  
7 PHILLIP POSTLE; that a review of the transcript was  
8 requested; and that the transcript is a true and complete  
9 record of my stenographic notes.

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

15 *Tamara M. Pacheco*16 Tamara M. Pacheco, RPR  
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# ERRATA SHEET

IN THE CASE OF: STATE OF FL v. CORNELIUS WHITFIELD

NAME OF DEPONENT: PHILLIP POSTLE

CASE NUMBER: 21-01513CFANO

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 |
|------|------|-----------------|-------------------|
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Signature

Date