

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

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No.: 2023-02935-CF

TOMASZ KOSOWSKI,

Defendant.

\_\_\_\_\_/

VIRTUAL DEPOSITION OF SUSAN ROCCO

DATE TAKEN: SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

TIME: 1:46 p.m. - 1:59 p.m.

Examination of the witness taken virtually before:

Tammy Kelley

Verbatim Court Reporting, Inc.  
728 S. New York Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33815 863-500-3603

APPEARANCES

Counsel for the Plaintiff:

NATHAN VONDERHEIDE, Esquire  
ALEXANDRA SPADARO, Esquire  
Office of State Attorney  
Post Office Box 17500  
Clearwater, Florida 33762-0500

Counsel for the Defendant:

AMANDA POWERS SELLERS, Esquire  
Amanda Powers Sellers, P.A.  
6344 Roosevelt Blvd.  
Clearwater, Florida 33760-1803

I N D E X

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

WITNESS

Called by the Defendant:

SUSAN ROCCO

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. SELLERS..... 4

ERRATA SHEET..... 15

CERTIFICATE OF OATH..... 16

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER..... 17

SIGNATURE LETTER..... 18

1 THE COURT REPORTER: Would you raise your  
2 right hand, please. Do you swear or affirm the  
3 testimony you shall give in this cause shall be  
4 the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the  
5 truth?

6 THE WITNESS: I do.

7 SUSAN ROCCO, called as a witness by the  
8 Defendant, having been virtually duly sworn,  
9 testified as follows:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MS. SELLERS:

12 Q Ms., is it Rocco?

13 A It's Rocco actually.

14 Q Rocco. Okay. Let me start by just some  
15 general questions. Please state your full name for  
16 the record.

17 A Susan Elizabeth Rocco.

18 Q Do you go by any nicknames?

19 A No.

20 Q What is your date of birth?

21 A April 20th, 1961.

22 Q And have you ever done a deposition  
23 before?

24 A Once. A very, very long time ago.

25 Q Okay. You're somewhat familiar with the

1 rules. You're under oath and you're expected to  
2 tell the truth. There's no right or wrong answer.

3 And if you don't understand a question  
4 that I ask you, just say, Ms. Sellers, I don't  
5 understand, can you rephrase that, because sometimes  
6 my questions can be convoluted, and that's perfectly  
7 fine. Just let me know.

8 Do you live in Pinellas County now?

9 A I do.

10 Q Have you lived in Pinellas County your  
11 whole life?

12 A No.

13 Q No. Have you lived all over or do you  
14 have one or two prior residences?

15 A I've lived in three different states  
16 before here.

17 Q Okay. Do you have a -- an arrest record?  
18 Have you ever been arrested or had to appear in  
19 court for any criminal charges?

20 A No.

21 Q Okay. Then we're gonna skip that  
22 question. Okay. Did you -- you didn't provide a  
23 statement in this case, written or otherwise. Is  
24 that correct?

25 A I did speak with a police officer.

1 Q Okay. So what I mean by statement is did  
2 they record you and, you know, you sat down with  
3 them for some time or did you write anything out?

4 A No.

5 Q Okay. And I know that you spoke with a  
6 police officer. I believe it was, looks like,  
7 Allred. Does that ring a bell?

8 A I do not remember the name.

9 Q That's okay. Do you remember when you  
10 spoke with law enforcement?

11 A I honestly don't remember exactly which  
12 day it was.

13 Q Was it on the day of the incident?

14 A It may have been.

15 Q Okay. So do you recall an incident on  
16 March 21st, 2023, that occurred at Belcher Road,  
17 your office?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. And I guess I'm kind of -- I'm  
20 trying to hurry because we got people in the waiting  
21 room, but let me just slow down.

22 Where do you work?

23 A Tampa Bay Veterinary Specialists.

24 Q And where is that located?

25 A 1501 Belcher Road South in Largo.

1 Q What do you do for the vet?

2 A I'm a receptionist.

3 Q How long have you worked there?

4 A Seven years.

5 Q And you do recall working on March 21st,  
6 2023 --

7 A Yes.

8 Q -- when law enforcement showed up at the  
9 building where your office is investigating a  
10 missing person?

11 A Correct. Yes.

12 Q Okay. Do you remember what time you  
13 arrived at work that day?

14 A I couldn't give you an exact time. My  
15 shift is 7:00 to 5:00 and I'm never late.

16 Q Okay. So, if anything, you might have  
17 been early?

18 A Correct.

19 Q All right. How do you enter your office?

20 A We have a door that faces Belcher Road in  
21 our office, in our building, and that's the door I  
22 always come in.

23 Q Is that the only -- other than the main  
24 atrium where you can enter the multiple offices, is  
25 that the only private entrance to your office?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     And when you arrived, were you the first  
3 person there?

4           A     That I don't remember.

5           Q     Do you remember if the door was locked?

6           A     I mean I would say yes the door locked.

7           Q     Okay. And when you say I would say, is  
8 that typical? Is that a typical day or do you  
9 specifically remember the door being locked that  
10 day?

11          A     I would have to say it's a typical day.

12          Q     Okay. So it's probably it was locked, but  
13 you can't say for sure?

14          A     Yes.

15          Q     Okay. What did you do when you arrived at  
16 the office?

17          A     I went into my office, turned my computer  
18 on, logged myself in, and then I put my lunch away.

19          Q     When you enter that private entrance to  
20 your office, do you lock the door behind you?

21          A     Yes.

22          Q     Do you remember if you locked the door  
23 that day behind you?

24          A     I can't say with 100-percent certainty.

25          Q     Fair enough. Once you log into your



1 computer, I imagine your work day started, what did  
2 you do, if anything, during over the course of the  
3 morning outside of working? Did you get up and go  
4 anywhere or were you at the receptionist desk most  
5 of the time?

6 A I was at the reception desk most of the  
7 time.

8 Q Do you remember going to the restroom at  
9 any time or going to get lunch or coffee or anything  
10 like that?

11 A I did go to the restroom, yes.

12 Q Do you remember what time that was?

13 A I do not.

14 Q Okay. When you went to the restroom, was  
15 there anything that was out of the ordinary?

16 A Yes.

17 Q What was that?

18 A A very strong smell of bleach.

19 Q Could you tell where that smell was coming  
20 from?

21 A No.

22 Q Did the smell emanate into the vet's  
23 office or was it just in the area of the restroom?  
24 Where was that smell generally even if you didn't  
25 know where it was coming from?

1           A     When you go in the door of our office,  
2     there was a very long hallway that goes to the  
3     restroom. And as soon as I opened the door I could  
4     smell it. As I got closer to the restroom, the  
5     smell got stronger.

6           Q     And once you were inside the lady's  
7     restroom, could you still smell it when you were in  
8     there?

9           A     Not as much, no.

10          Q     And, again, you have no idea what time  
11     that was?

12          A     No.

13          Q     Do you remember if you went to the  
14     restroom once or twice, or?

15          A     For me typically, once a morning, once in  
16     the afternoon.

17          Q     Okay. When you went to the restroom,  
18     other than the bleach smell, did you notice anything  
19     else out of the ordinary?

20          A     Not that I can remember.

21          Q     So presumably you returned to your desk  
22     after using the restroom. What did you do at that  
23     point? How long were you at your desk after using  
24     the restroom?

25          A     Probably at my desk until I got up to make

1 my lunch.

2 Q And what time would that have been?

3 A Again, I don't remember. We don't have a  
4 set lunch time. I can take it whenever I want to.

5 Q Okay. So perhaps if it got a little slow,  
6 it's just -- it's kind of flexible as far as  
7 lunchtime goes?

8 A Correct.

9 Q Did you see anyone in or around your  
10 office that you did not recognize?

11 A No.

12 Q Have you ever seen anyone in or around  
13 your office that you didn't recognize was not  
14 carrying a dog into the vet?

15 A I like to clarify at least I work in the  
16 administrative offices. So I'm not in the hospital  
17 portion.

18 Q Okay. Is the administrative office in A?

19 A No, that's the hospital.

20 Q Okay. It's in B?

21 A Correct.

22 Q All right. Can you tell me about the area  
23 and whether or not you-all have had issues with or  
24 seen people loitering around the office.

25 A For me personally, I have, I have seen a

1 couple of people come in, but they would knock on  
2 the doors of the other businesses that were off the  
3 lobby.

4 Q What business was -- would those be?

5 A The one would be Blanchard Law Office.

6 Q Okay. Do you remember a specific incident  
7 where you saw someone knocking on those doors? Did  
8 it stand out to you?

9 A No, it didn't.

10 Q Was that recent or --

11 A No.

12 Q -- a while ago?

13 A A while ago.

14 Q Okay. And what other offices?

15 A The other office that's there, it's called  
16 Ronati Group. But it was before they started there.  
17 It was a marketing office that was there at the  
18 time.

19 Q Did you ever hear of individuals entering  
20 into the office spaces and sleeping or doing drugs  
21 or passing out?

22 A I have heard of the homeless, at least we  
23 assumed homeless, trying to get in, yes.

24 Q Okay. Trying to get in. Have you heard  
25 of anyone actually getting in?

1           A     No.

2           Q     Have you spoken to anyone about this case  
3     and what happened in your office?  And that's kind  
4     of a broad question I know.  Let me narrow it down.

5                     Have you spoken to anyone within your  
6     building about this case?  And have you told anyone  
7     that you saw something or just the general talk?

8           A     I have not said I saw something because I  
9     haven't seen anything.

10          Q     Okay.  And other than the one officer that  
11     you spoke to, has any other detectives reached out  
12     to you?

13          A     No.

14          Q     Is there anything that I haven't asked you  
15     specifically that you're thinking, oh, well, maybe  
16     Ms. Sellers should ask me that, every attorney on  
17     the case might want to know that including the state  
18     attorney?

19          A     No.

20          Q     No.

21                     MS. SELLERS:  Okay, I don't think I have any  
22     questions.

23                     State?

24                     MR. VONDERHEIDE:  No questions.

25                     MS. SPADARO:  No questions.

1 MS. SELLERS: Okay. Ms. Rocco, you can opt  
2 to read your deposition once it's transcribed or  
3 you can waive the reading. The purpose of  
4 reading it would just be to, you know, see if you  
5 wanted to make any changes or corrections. It's  
6 completely up to you.

7 THE WITNESS: Okay, I would like to read it.

8 (The deposition was concluded at 1:59  
9 p.m.)  
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## ERRATA SHEET

DO NOT WRITE ON TRANSCRIPT -- ENTER CHANGES HERE

IN RE: STATE OF FLORIDA VERSUS TOMASZ KOSOWSKI

DATE TAKEN: SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

REPORTER: TAMMY KELLEY

PAGE NO.	LINE NO.	CHANGE	REASON
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Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read my deposition and that it is true and correct subject to any changes in form or substance entered here.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUSAN ROCCO

CERTIFICATE OF OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA     )  
COUNTY OF POLK        )

I, the undersigned authority, certify that  
SUSAN ROCCO, virtually appeared before me and was duly  
sworn.

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

TAMMY KELLEY  
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF FLORIDA  
MY COMMISSION NO. HH 216644  
EXPIRES: 02/07/26





REPORTER'S DEPOSITION CERTIFICATE

STATE OF FLORIDA )

COUNTY OF POLK )

I, TAMMY KELLEY, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the virtual deposition of SUSAN ROCCO, that a view 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, nor am I a relative of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 20th day of December 2024.



TAMMY KELLEY

December 20, 2024

Ms. Susan Rocco  
susan.rucco@thrivepet.com

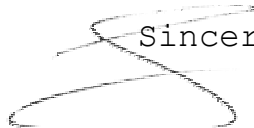
Dear Ms. Rocco:

Your deposition taken in State of Florida versus Tomasz Kosowski on September 13, 2023, has been transcribed. Per your request to review the transcript, it is being held at our office at 728 South New York Avenue, Lakeland, Florida.

Please call (863)500-3603 to make arrangements to do this during our regular business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Tammy Kelley', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Tammy Kelley