Exhibit 1

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY
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                             STATE OF OKLAHOMA
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     STATE OF OKLAHOMA,
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        Plaintiff,
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                                        )CASE NO. CF-1997-244
        vs.
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    RICHARD EUGENE GLOSSIP,
        Defendant.
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        TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY OF AMANDA BASS CASTRO ALVEZ AND
10
         FERN SMITH AND COURT'S RULING IN RULE 15 PROCEEDINGS
11
                    HAD ON THE 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2025
12
                             HEARD BEFORE
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                     THE HONORABLE SUSAN STALLINGS
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                             DISTRICT JUDGE
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     Reported By:
22
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        Official Court Reporter
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TABLE OF CONTENTS PAGE CAPTION **APPEARANCES** TABLE OF CONTENTS WITNESSES AMANDA BASS CASTRO ALVEZ DIRECT EXAMINATION CROSS EXAMINATION REDIRECT EXAMINATION RECROSS EXAMINATION FERN SMITH DIRECT EXAMINATION CROSS EXAMINATION COURT'S RULING COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

1 THE COURT: Call your next witness. 2 MS. MILLER: We'll call Amanda Bass Castro Alvez. THE COURT: Good afternoon. 3 4 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon. Would you raise your right hand please. 5 THE COURT: AMANDA BASS CASTRO ALVEZ, 6 7 called as a witness, after having been first duly sworn, testified as follows: 8 9 THE COURT: Please have a seat. And as you know the 10 acoustics suck so please speak into the microphone. 11 Counsel, you may inquire. 12 DIRECT EXAMINATION 13 BY MILLER: Can you state your full name please? 14 Amanda Bass Castro Alvez. 15 16 What's your occupation? I'm an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the District 17 18 of Arizona's Capital Habeas Unit. 19 What is your title? Q. 20 I'm a Supervising Assistant Public Defenders. Α. 21 In that capacity what types of cases do you work? Q. 22 I work exclusively on death penalty cases in Arizona and Α. 23 Oklahoma. 24 How do you happen to work on Oklahoma cases if you're based in Arizona? 25

- A. I have been assigned Oklahoma cases when there has been a conflict involving the Oklahoma Capital Habeas Unit. So in that situation my office would seek appointment from the Federal District Court here in the Western District to step in as counsel in those cases. So that's how I've inherited my Oklahoma cases.
- Q. Do you currently represent any Oklahoma death row inmates who's cases are in active litigation?
- 9 A. I do, yes.
- 10 Q. How many?
- 11 A. One.
- 12 Q. Who is that?
- 13 A. Tremane Wood.
- 14 0. And what is the status of Mr. Wood's case?
- 15 A. In Mr. Wood's case we are filing a Petition for
- Certiorari in the United States Supreme Court together with a
- 17 request for a Stay of Execution.
- 18 Q. When will that be filed?
- 19 A. It was filed this afternoon.
- 20 Q. So his case is ongoing?
- 21 A. That's right.
- 22 Q. What was the underlying proceeding that prompted you to
- 23 | file a cert petition of the United States Supreme Court?
- 24 A. In September of 2024 my office was given permission by
- 25 District Attorney Behenna to review the prosecution's file in

- Mr. Wood's case for the first time. As part of that file review we discovered the basis of prosecutorial a misconduct claim and proceeded to file a petition -- a successive post conviction petition in the Court of Criminal Appeals. In March of this year the Court of Criminal Appeals remanded Mr. Wood's case to this Court for an evidentiary hearing on our claims.
- 8 Q. Who were the prosecutors in that case?
- 9 A. The prosecutors in Mr. Wood's case were Fern Smith and
 10 George Burnett.
- 11 Q. Was an evidentiary hearing held in Oklahoma County?
- 12 A. An evidentiary hearing was held.

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- 13 Q. Was -- and who was the hearing before?
- A. The hearing occurred -- initially it was set to occur
 before Judge Kathryn Savage. After a Rule 15 hearing Judge
 Savage recused and Mr. Wood's case was then transferred to
 Judge Stallings.
 - Q. Did you pursue a Rule 15 procedure in relation to Judge Stallings being assigned to Mr. Wood's case?
- A. I did not pursue a Rule 15 procedure in Mr. Wood's case with respect to Judge Stallings.
- Q. Was there an in camera discussion once the case was assigned to her?
- 24 \blacksquare A. There was an in chambers discussion with the parties.
- 25 Q. What was the purpose of that?

- A. The -- Judge Stallings' judicial assistant had reached out to us both me and to Joshua Lockett, the assigned Oklahoma Assistant Attorney General on the case to ask for, you know, the parties to just come together and talk to the Judge because it had just been assigned to Judge Stallings. And so I thought it was going to be a sort of scheduling conference because the hearing I think at that point was set for under a week away. So, yeah, that's what it was.
- 9 Q. During the course of the in camera hearing with the
 10 attorneys was anybody else from the Attorney General's Office
 11 working on that case with Mr. Lockett?
- 12 A. Christina Burns was working with Mr. Lockett on the case
 13 but she was not present at that in chambers discussion.
 - Q. Were there other attorneys from your office present?
- 15 A. There were.

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- 16 Q. Who was present?
- 17 A. There were three. I'm sorry.
- 18 Q. Who was present?
- A. Three other attorneys from my office were present. Cary
 Sandman, Alison Rose, and Keith Hilzendeger, my co-counsel.
- Q. During the course of the in camera conversation did Judge Stallings discuss a trip that she had taken with Ms. Smith?
- A. Yes, Judge Stallings did discuss a trip that she had taken with Fern Smith.
 - Q. Do you recall where the location was the trip was?

A. I do not recall the location.

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- Q. Do you recall when the trip occurred?
- A. I don't recall when it occurred. I know Judge Stallings mentioned when it had occurred. I just don't remember the timeframe.
- Q. Do you remember how Judge Stallings described the trip?
- A. I remember Judge Stallings describing it as hen doo.
 - Q. And produce familiar with the term hen doo?
- 9 A. I was familiar with the term hen parties but it's an unusual term so hen doo stuck with me.
- Q. What was your understanding of what she was talking about?
- A. Well, just my own, you know, lay knowledge of a hen party
 from watching British PBS crime dramas is it's sort of like,
 you know, a bachelorette party. People go out and get wasted
 before a big life event or something like that.
- Q. Was there any other information about who was on the trip with Judge Stallings?
- A. I believe Judge Stallings also had mentioned that it involved other ladies in the law.
- Q. Did you have the impression that it involved people that she had worked with?
- A. You know, I really don't know. I couldn't say whether it was people Judge Stallings worked with or just women who were other lawyers in, you know, that went on this trip.

- Q. Do you have any memory of whether or not there had been a pretty good lapse in time between the conversation you were having with Judge Stallings and the time the trip occurred?
 - A. Yes, I got the sense that significant time had passed.
- Q. Did you actually do a hearing in front of Judge Stallings in Mr. Wood's case?
 - A. Yes, we did.
- 8 Q. Did -- were witnesses called?
- 9 A. Yes.

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- Q. And at the conclusion of the hearing were the parties
 asked to provide proposed findings of facts and conclusions of
 law to the Court?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did both parties provide those proposed findings?
- A. I believe the State did. I was not copied on an email to

 Judge Stallings with their proposed findings if in fact they

 delivered it that way. But after we filed our proposed

 findings we emailed a file stamped copy as well a Word
- document of our proposed findings to Judge Stallings and copied both Joshua and Christina.
- Q. What was the purpose of sending a Word version of your proposed findings?
- A. That is how Judge Stallings had asked us to submit those to her.
 - Q. Did you receive a file stamped copy of the State's

proposed findings?

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- 2 A. I did received a file stamped copy of the State's proposed findings.
- Q. Did you receive a Word version of the State's proposed findings?
 - A. I did not receive a Word version.
- Q. When -- and did Judge Stallings ultimately issue an order in that case?
- 9 A. Yes. Judge Stallings did.
- Q. Did the order reflect the adoption of one side or the other's proposed findings?
- 12 A. Yes, it did.
- 13 Q. Did Judge Stallings adopt your proposed findings?
- 14 A. No, Judge Stallings did not.
- 15 Q. Did she adopt the State's proposed findings?
- 16 A. Yes, Judge Stallings did.
- Q. How similar -- and I can refresh your memory if you need to look at them, how similar to the State's proposed findings was the order that was adopted by Judge Stallings?
- 20 A. My recollection is that they were largely identical. I
- 21 think there were some things that had been changed. But it
- 22 was largely identical.
- 23 Q. Do you remember what those small things are?
- 24 A. Not off of the top of my head. You know, I think --
- 25 yeah, I just remember noticing some small changes but then

- doing a side by side comparison and just finding that it was largely the same.
 - Q. Was -- did you subpoena witnesses for that hearing?
- 4 A. I'm sorry?

- 5 Q. Did you subpoena witnesses for that hearing?
- 6 A. I did subpoena witnesses.
- 7 Q. Did you subpoena Ms. Smith?
- 8 A. I did.
- 9 Q. Was there an occasion where -- was the hearing held on the original setting date that the hearing was set?
- A. It did not occur on the original date that it was scheduled to occur.
- Q. Do you recall a situation where Ms. Smith came for the original hearing date?
- 15 A. I do recall learning about that.
- 16 Q. How did you learn about that?
- 17 A. I learned about it through a phone call with Josh
 18 Lockett. He called me.
- Q. Let me stop you there. Did -- based on the conversation with Mr. Lockett did you have the impression that Judge Stallings was upset about the fact that Ms. Smith had appeared?
- 23 MS. HINSPERGER: Object to leading.
- 24 THE COURT: Rephrase your question, counsel.
- 25 BY MS. MILLER:

Q. Sorry. Based on your conversations with Mr. Lockett did you have the impression that Judge Stallings was upset with the fact that Ms. Smith had appeared on the original hearing date?

MS. HINSPERGER: Object to leading.

THE COURT: It's the same question.

Based on your conversation Mr. Locket what if any impression did you get about that?

THE WITNESS: I got the impression from my conversation with Josh that Judge Stallings was angry that Fern Smith had not been notified of the changed hearing date.

BY MS. MILLER:

- Q. Were you -- did Judge Stallings call you to address that situation?
- 15 A. No.

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- Q. Do you recall giving an affidavit for the Court to us for the purposes of this proceeding?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 MS. MILLER: May I approach, Your Honor?
- 20 THE COURT: You may.
- 21 MS. MILLER: I'll direct the parties to Exhibit C.
- 22 BY MS. MILLER:
- Q. Does that appear to be a copy of the affidavit you provided?
- 25 A. It does.

1	Q. Is that your signature on the affidavit?
2	A. It is.
3	MS. MILLER: Judge may we admit Exhibit C?
4	MS. HINSPERGER: Object to hearsay, Your Honor.
5	THE COURT: Okay. Counsel, why don't you just
6	inquire about this? I mean, you have her here on the stand.
7	Why don't you just ask her that questions you need to ask.
8	MS. MILLER: I have asked my questions. I'm just
9	offering it for the purpose of record.
10	THE COURT: And the objection is hearsay. Your
11	response?
12	MS. MILLER: Well, I'd ask for some direction as to
13	which part of the affidavit is hearsay.
14	THE COURT: I believe the whole affidavit is hearsay.
15	MS. MILLER: It's the declarant's statement.
16	THE COURT: Yes, and you have the declarant right
17	here. You can ask her anything you want.
18	MS. MILLER: Your Honor, I'm offering it for the
19	purpose of the record. That's my response.
20	THE COURT: Okay. That will be denied.
21	MS. MILLER: I have no more questions.
22	THE COURT: Any cross examination?
23	MS. HINSPERGER: Yes, Your Honor.
24	CROSS EXAMINATION
25	BY MS. HINSPERGER:

- Q. Can you tell me what last name to you prefer to go by?
- 2 A. Bass is fine.
- Q. Okay. Great. Ms. Bass, during the Tremane Wood

 proceeding my understanding is before the evidentiary hearing

 was held Judge Stallings gave you the information about a long

 time going ago going on a trip with Fern SMith; is that
- 7 correct?

- 8 A. That's right.
- Q. You don't recall specifically when that time period would
- 10 have been?
- 11 | A. I don't.
- Q. Did she indicate or do you know, was there a date that was given?
- 14 A. There may have been. I just don't remember.
- Q. Okay. And it was your understanding that this was a group I think you said of women in the law or other female
- 17 attorneys?
- 18 A. Right.
- 19 Q. Okay. Even so having been given that information, you
- 20 did not request Judge Stallings to recuse herself; is that
- 21 correct?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- Q. In the Tremane Wood hearing you called Fern Smith as a witness, correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- Q. And the purpose of calling her was to support your claim that Ms. Smith and Mr. Burnett had committed prosecutorial misconduct in that case; is that correct?
- A. That's correct.

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- Q. But even knowing that she was a key witness in that case and that Judge Stallings had gone on this trip at some point with her at that point you did not feel a necessity to request her recusal, correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. And Judge Stallings eventually did submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, correct?
- 12 A. That's right.
- Q. And those were then sent up to the Court of Criminal
 Appeals for their determination of Mr. Wood's post conviction
 application, correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Ultimately that Court of Criminal Appeals denied his post conviction application, correct?
- 19 A. That's right.

is that correct?

Q. You had mentioned that Judge Stallings had called you in regards to Mr. -- excuse me, Ms. Smith coming up here for the evidentiary hearing was unaware that it had been rescheduled.

You had testified that Judge Stallings had called Mr. Lockett rather than yourself even though you had subpoenaed Ms. Smith;

A. That's right.

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- Q. Did you get the impression that Judge Stallings had -- was under the misapprehension that the State was the one who had subpoenaed Ms. Smith?
- A. I'm sorry. Can you say that again?
- Q. Was it your understanding that Ms. Stallings was under the misapprehension that it was the State and not the Defense that had subpoenaed Ms. Smith?
- A. You know, I don't recall what my impression was at the time of how, you know, whether Judge Stallings knew that we had both subpoenaed Ms. Smith or knew that we had and the State hadn't but was reaching out to Joshua for some other reason. I really didn't have an impression one way or another why that was happening.
 - MS. HINSPERGER: May I have just a moment, Your Honor?
- 17 THE COURT: You may.

(Counsel for the State confer.)

MS. HINSPERGER: Thank you. I have no further questions.

THE COURT: Any redirect?

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

- 23 BY MS. MILLER:
- Q. When the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the denial of post conviction relief in Mr. Wood's case did they

do it on the basis of findings of facts and conclusions of law proposed by the State of Oklahoma? That's correct. Α. During the course of that hearing how would you characterize Ms. Smith's direct testimony? MS. HINSPERGER: Objection to relevance, Your Honor. THE COURT: Counsel, relevance? MS. MILLER: It's relevant because it goes to Your Honor's demeanor during Ms. Smith's -- I'm laying the foundation to ask a question about Your Honor's demeanor during Ms. Smith's testimony. MS. HINSPERGER: Your Honor, that would be outside of the scope also of my cross examination. MS. MILLER: I don't believe it was. I think she asked about the hearing and the testimony. THE COURT: All right. Just get to the point, counsel. MS. MILLER: Your Honor, I'm laying a foundation to the question and illegal repeat it --THE COURT: Please do. MS. MILLER: -- with Your Honor's permission.

22 BY MS. MILLER:

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- What was Ms. Smith's demeanor like during her direct examination during the Wood hearing?
- I would characterize Ms. Smith's demeanor as hostile.

1 Do you have a characterization of Judge Stalling's 2 demeanor during the course of Ms. Smith's testimony during the 3 Wood hearing? 4 MS. HINSPERGER: Your honor, that's outside the scope 5 as well. 6 THE COURT: The objection is outside the scope. 7 MS. MILLER: And I believe she asked about the 8 hearing and Ms. Smith's testimony during the hearing. I'm 9 following up on her questions. 10 THE COURT: All right. Overruled. 11 You may answer. 12 THE WITNESS: I don't remember much about Judge 13 Stallings' demeanor only because I was focused on Ms. Smith. 14 MS. MILLER: May I have a moment? THE COURT: You may. 15 (Counsel for the Defense confer.) 16 BY MS. MILLER: 17 In the findings of facts that were adopted by Judge 18 19 Stallings do you remember what -- how the findings 20 characterized Ms. Smith's testimony? 21 It found Ms. Smith's testimony credible. Α. 22 Do you remember whether it uses the term resolute? Q. 23 Without reviewing that I couldn't say. I don't recall. 24 MS. MILLER: Thank you. 25 THE COURT: Any recross based on those questions?

MS. HINSPERGER: Just one.

RECROSS EXAMINATION

BY MS. HINSPERGER:

Q. Ms. Bass, after having had the opportunity to observe Ms. Smith's demeanor during the hearing to the present while Judge Stallings presided over that hearing at no point throughout or at the conclusion of that hearing did you request Judge Stallings to recuse; is that correct?

A. That's right.

MS. HINSPERGER: I have nothing further.

THE COURT: All right. Ms. Bass, thank you for coming back to Oklahoma. You are excused.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. Defense, you may call next witness.

Mr. Brewster: Judge, we call Fern Smith.

THE COURT: Good afternoon, would you raise your right hand please.

FERN SMITH,

called as a witness, after having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

THE COURT: Please have a seat and move that microphone out of your way. All right. Thank you.

Counsel, you may inquire.

MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. BREWSTER:

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- Q. Ms. Smith, you're here under subpoena?
- A. I'm sorry. I can't hear you.
- 5 Q. You're here under subpoena?
 - A. I'm here under subpoena. Yes, sir. Do you want it?
- Q. Well, I've got a copy. I just wanted to ask you, you understand that the subpoena that compelled your attendance in court today had requests for documents? It was a subpoena
- 10 duces tecum?
- 11 A. I'm sorry. I can't hear you.
- 12 MR. BREWSTER: May I move closer, Your Honor?
- 13 THE COURT: Sure.
- MR. BREWSTER: Does this move?
- THE COURT: No, you're going to walk up, pull up a chair if you have to.
- 17 MR. BREWSTER: Okay.
- THE COURT: Again, the acoustics in this place are
- 19 horrible.
- 20 MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.
- 21 BY MR. BREWSTER:
- 22 Q. Ms. Smith, you understand the subpoena that compelled
- 23 your attendance today was a subpoena duces tecum?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.
- 25 Q. And it requested documents?

A. Yes, sir.

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- Q. Did you bring any documents with you?
- A. I don't have any of the documents that you requested.
- Q. Did you bring any -- so you brought no documents with you today?
- A. I brought no documents because I didn't have any of the documents that you requested.
 - Q. What did you do to search for the documents I requested?
 - A. I looked through my personal belongings at my home.
- 10 Q. Okay. Did you do an email search?
- A. No, I wasn't asked to do an email search. But I don't
 have any email -- the only email I have concerning this Judge
 is one that I received last April. She sent me a copy of a
 findings of fact and conclusions of law in the Tremane Wood
 case.
 - MR. HARMON: Judge, May I request a copy of the subpoena? The Defense did not serve the State of Oklahoma with their subpoenas duces tecum.
- THE COURT: Do you have a copy, Counsel?
- 20 MR. HARMON: I thought that was required but maybe 21 it's not. I think it is.
- MR. BREWSTER: I have one. Do you want to review it?
- MR. HARMON: Okay. Can I review it for just a
- 24 second?
- 25 MR. BREWSTER: Sure.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

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- Q. So, Ms. Smith, I just want to go through. You were requested to bring with you copies of all communications including emails, text messages, social media, or other written exchange either indirect or direct between you and Susan Stallings concerning the Richard Glossip case and it's your testimony that you did no search in your email for any such emails or communication with Judge Stallings; is that correct?
- 10 A. Well, I don't have to. I know I didn't have any.
- Q. Okay. And you were also requested for phone records that document any calls or text messages between you and Susan Stallings from 2018 to present. What did you do to search for
- 14 those communications?
- A. I've got my phone right here. I don't have any text
 messages. I told you I don't have any text messages. I've
 never had a text message from Susan Stallings in my entire
 life.
- 19 Q. Okay. Or a phone call? You've not talked to her --
- 20 A. Not that I recall.
- Q. You've not talked to Judge Stallings on the phone since her election to the bench in 2018?
- 23 A. Not to my knowledge. I do not believe I have.
- 24 | Q. Okay.
- 25 A. I don't believe I've talked to her on the telephone or

- text message or email except the one I told you about since she left the DA's Office in the late 1990s.
- Q. Okay. And I want to get to the email you mentioned but the third category that was requested were records of travel including photographs, video, receipts, or communications regarding your trip with Judge Stallings, then just Susan Stallings, 1997. Do you recall that trip?
- 8 A. I recall the trip, yes.
- 9 Q. Do you remember --
- 10 A. I don't know if it was in 1997 but I recall the trip,
 11 yes.
- 12 Q. You recall traveling to Spain with Susan Stallings?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 \parallel Q. Okay. And did you take any photographs of that trip?
- 15 A. I didn't take photographs then, I don't take photographs
 16 now when I travel.
- Q. Okay. And you don't have any other responsive documents regarding that trip after you searched for it?
- 19 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. If I do I didn't keep them.
- Q. Other than that trip to Spain with Judge Stallings what other trips have you been on with her?
- A. I think in 1996 we went -- the only reason I remember the date is because when we came back my husband was very sick.

- The first I knew about it. He had a brain tumor. And when we arrived back from the airport he didn't come pick me up because he couldn't find his way because he had just been -just had a brain tumor and I remember that because -- that's the only reason I remember that trip because Judge Stallings was there. And it was a group of people. It wasn't just me and Judge Stallings.
- Q. I understand. And it was -- the date of 1996 is memorable for you because of your husband's illness?
- 10 A. Absolutely.
- 11 Q. And where did you go in '96 with Judge Stallings?
- 12 A. On that trip we went to Las Vegas.
- Q. Okay. So there was a trip in '96 that's memorable for you --
- 15 A. Only because of that incident.
- Q. Do you remember -- given how memorable that timeframe for you is do you recall the time of year the Vegas trip was
- 18 absolutely?
- 19 A. I absolutely do. It was in October.
- Q. Okay. So in October of '96 you went with Judge Stallings
- 21 and some other people to Vegas?
- 22 A. Several other ladies from the DA's Office, yes.
- 23 Q. Was Susan Caswell on that trip?
- 24 A. I believe -- I'm not sure it was that trip but I have
- 25 been on one when Susan Caswell was with us. But I don't think

- it was that trip.
- Q. Was Sandy Elliot on that trip?
- A. Who?

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- 4 Q. Sandy Elliott?
- 5 A. I don't believe so.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. I'm not sure.
- Q. Okay. And then the following year in '97 did you travel to Spain with Judge Stallings and other people?
- A. I'm not sure it was 1997 but we did take a trip to Spain,
 yes. With several other -- I believe there was six of us who
 went to Spain.
- Q. Okay. So six of you went to Spain. Other than the Vegas trip and the trip to Spain with Judge Stallings what other trips?
 - A. I believe there was one more trip to England and I believe we went to London and Paris. But it wasn't with Susan Stallings. I think it was a group. There were 13 of us who went. And I didn't see -- I do not believe I even saw Judge Stallings. My mother, my husband's mother, my husband, and my sister went. And then a group of other people went. And while we were there I hung around with my mother and my husband's mother and my husband and my sister and really didn't hang around with the other people.
- 25 Q. Do you recall what year the trip to England was?

- A. I don't. It would have been been before 1996 because my husband died in 1996.
- Q. And you don't remember whether Judge Stallings was on that trip or not?
- A. I believe she was on the trip but it was a group trip and I didn't see her very much during the trip.
- Q. Okay. Let's focus on the trip to Spain. There were just six people --
- 9 A. Yes.
- Q. -- that traveled together. Do you recall who else was on that trip?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. Can you tell us?
- A. Yes, a lady by the name of Robin Mayes and a lady by the name of Jo Gordon, Emily Miller. Let's see. Lisa Hammond.
- 16 How many is that?
- 17 THE COURT: That's four.
- 18 MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.
- THE WITNESS: Emily, Lisa, Jo Gordon, myself, Robin
 Mayes, and Susan Stallings. That's six.
- 21 By MR. BREWSTER:
- 22 Q. And while the trip to England was a lot more people,
- 23 right? I mean, versus six?
- 24 A. There were more, yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. And so you may not have had as much contact with

Judge Stallings on the England trip but a group six would have been been more closely traveling together?

A. Well, when we -- we were in groups. When we went to -- I believe we flew into Madrid if I remember correctly. And I think we stayed one night in Madrid. And four of us went to Portugal on the train. And Susan Stallings and Robin Mayes stayed behind and did their own thing. The group of the four of us took the night train to Portugal. And we stayed there either one or two nights. I can't remember which. And we didn't see or communicate with Robin Mayes and Susan Stallings until we got back.

And I believe we met them at -- met them somewhere. And we rented cars. Robin Mayes drove one car and Susan Stallings road with her and Jo Gordon. And the other car was driven by Lisa Hammond and myself and Emily Miller were in that car. We did go to -- although we were in separate cars we did go to -- I believe we went to Seville for one night and then we drove down to the Costa Del Sol and stayed there maybe one or two nights.

And Judge Stallings and -- it was Susan Stallings then and Robin Mayes, I believe they left -- I'm not sure but I believe they left one night before we -- the rest of us did and went -- had to drive I believe it was Majorca to get the plane out. And then Lisa Hammond, myself, and Jo Gordon then left in our own car. And so, I mean, we were there together but we didn't

- really have all that much contact.
- Q. Do you recall going together to the summit of Gibraltar?
- A. Yes. Well, we drove in separate cars. We didn't all drive in the same car. Lisa Hammond -- I believe I remember

 Lisa Hammond driving the car because it was scary going up the
- 6 mountain to where the monkeys were.
- Q. Do you remember being at the summit of Gibraltar with Susan Stallings?
- 9 A. Well, I assume she was there. I don't actually remember 10 it but that's where we were going.
- 11 Q. Okay.

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- 12 A. And -- but we went in separate cars and not together. To
 13 the best of my memory because, you know, I don't believe we
- were in the same car when we went up to the summit. We may
- 15 have met up there.
- 16 Q. That was my question.
- 17 A. To answer your question I don't remember being there but
 18 we could have been there. I don't know.
- Q. Now, I want to -- before I transition here I want to go back to your testimony a few minutes ago. You received an
- email from Judge Stallings sometime this year with a proposed findings of fact?
- 23 A. She sent me a copy of the findings of fact and
- 25 Q. And how did she send you a copy? By mail?

conclusions of law in the Tremane Wood case.

- A. Email.
- Q. Okay.

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- A. To my work address.
- 4 Q. Okay. Do you how she got your email?
- 5 A. I work for the State. Emails for people who work for the 6 State are all the same except for the name.
 - O. I understand.
- A. I doubt she even has my email for my home address because
- 9 I haven't had a computer that has an email since -- I mean, I
- 10 didn't have one when I left the DA's Office in 2007 to the
- 11 best of my knowledge. And I haven't had any communications
- 12 with Susan Stallings in, gosh, over 20 years I would assume
- 13 before this time. So I doubt she has my email at home.
- 14 \parallel Q. And my question was do you know how she got your email?
- 15 A. I have no idea.
- 16 Q. Okay. So you received an email. What email did she send
- 17 it from? Was it her work email or a private email?
- 18 A. Oh, I don't know.
- 19 Q. Well, you know that judges have standard emails too?
- 20 A. They have what?
- 21 Q. Standard emails. OSCN.net. Was it from her OSCN email
- 22 or from a private email?
- 23 A. I don't know.
- 24 Q. You don't remember? Could you check? Do you have access
- 25 to you emails on your phone?

A. No.

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- Q. You don't get work emails on your phone?
- 3 A. I don't get what?
 - Q. Your work email to your phone?
- 5 A. I do not.
- Q. Okay. Is there any way -- we could take a break that you could check from which email Judge Stallings sent you this
- 8 communication?
- 9 A. No, it's on my computer at work.
- 10 \parallel Q. Okay. To the best of your recollection do you remember
- if it was an OSCN.net?
- 12 A. I don't remember that. I told you that. I don't
- 13 remember it.
- 14 \square Q. Okay. I'm just trying to clarify.
- 15 A. I thought I was plain.
- 16 Q. So she sent you an attached, which was the file --
- 17 finding of fact in the Wood case?
- 18 A. I don't remember. I just remember I got a message on my
- 19 email at work from Judge Stallings that sent me a copy of the
- 20 findings of fact and conclusions of law in the Tremane Wood
- 21 case.
- 22 Q. Okay. Was there any address to you in the email? Like,
- 23 Fern, it was great to see you. Please see the attached?
- 24 A. I don't remember.
- 25 Q. You may not recall whether there was or not but was there

- any kind of introduction in the email or was it just a forwarded --
 - A. One again I don't remember.
- 4 Q. Okay. Did you reply to the email?
- A. I don't remember. I might have said thank you. I probably did. That's what I would normally do when someone would send me ones. So I don't recall specifically whether I did or not but I probably said thank you.
- 9 Q. Okay. Other than that email are there any other
 10 communications, phone calls, or other emails between you and
 11 Judge Stallings?
- 12 A. No.

- Q. Okay. Now, earlier this year you were subpoenaed to testify in the Wood case?
- 15 A. I was, yes.
- Q. That's the same case that she sent you the findings of
- 17 fact in, right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. And you testified at a hearing in that case?
- 20 A. I did.
- Q. Okay. You were original subpoenaed to a certain date but the hearing got moved; do you recall that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Okay. But you came to court anyway on the original day?
- 25 A. I came to court because I didn't get notification that it

1 had been moved.

- Q. Okay. You came to court and there was no hearing the day you came?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Did you have any contact with Judge Stallings on that day?
- A. I saw her in the hall. I was sitting there when she came to work. She stopped by and said what are you doing here basically. I don't remember the exact words. And she told me that the hearing had been continued and I forget the reason why. And that was the gist of our conversation. With had no conversation whatsoever about this case or about that case.
- Q. I understand. But this is someone you hadn't seen in 20 years, right?
- 15 A. Absolutely.
- 16 Q. That you've been to Vegas with?
- A. I may have said how are you doing and she might have said how am I doing. We didn't talk about Las Vegas. We didn't talk about any trips.
- 20 Q. I understand. Listen to my question.
- 21 A. Oh, I'm sorry.
- Q. This is someone that you had a close enough relationship with that you traveled together to Vegas, England, and Spain, correct?
- 25 A. Over 20 years ago.

Q. Right.

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- A. Almost -- more than probably 25 years ago.
- Q. And in the 25 years of no contact why Judge Stallings now she's a judge. She at one time was your intern, right?
- A. I don't if she was my intern or if she worked for me. I can't remember.
- Q. She at one time worked for you at the --

8 MR. HARMON: Objection. Leading.

THE COURT: All right. Rephrase your question.

10 BY MR. BREWSTER:

- 11 Q. How long did you visit with Judge Stallings on that day?
- 12 A. Five minutes maybe. Less than five minutes.
- 13 Q. And you didn't have any -- no catching up?
- 14 \blacksquare A. I knew that I was getting ready to testify in front of
- 15 her. I knew that I was not supposed to have any
- 16 communications with her. I was getting ready to testify in
- 17 her courtroom. I'm a lawyer. I know better than that. I did
- 18 not talk to her at all about anything except what I've relayed
- 19 to you because I knew better.
- 20 Q. Okay. Did you express to her that you were frustrated
- 21 | that no one communicated that the subpoena -- that the date of
- 22 the hearing had been moved?
- 23 A. Oh, I might have said something like, maybe they should
- 24 have notified me or something. But, no. It wasn't that big a
- 25

deal.

1 Okay. Do you understand that whether Judge Stallings 2 then called a party ex parte and relayed to the State that she was upset that you were put out coming to that hearing on a 3 date that --4 5 Α. I got --6 MR. HARMON: Objection. That assumes --7 THE COURT: Well, it's a mischaracterization. 8 Rephrase you question, counsel. 9 BY MR. BREWSTER: Do you have any personal knowledge of what Judge 10 11 Stallings did following your meeting in the hallway? 12 Α. What do you mean by personal? 13 Well, do you have any knowledge of what Judge Stallings did following your meeting? 14 15 Yes. Α. What is that understanding? 16 Well, someone told me -- Joshua Lockett --17 18 MR. HARMON: Objection. That would be hearsay. 19 THE COURT: All right. Hang on. So you --20 MR. BREWSTER: It's not offered for the truth. 21 think at this point it's affect on the listener. 22 THE COURT: It's all right. 23 Did you receive a phone call from Mr. Lockett? 24 THE WITNESS: I did. 25 THE COURT: All right.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

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Q. Okay. And what's your understanding of what Judge Stallings did following her meeting with you in the hallway?

MR. HARMON: Objection. That's hearsay.

THE COURT: Okay. Hang on.

MR. HARMON: That's hearsay based upon what Mr. Lockett told a witness. He's trying to prove the underlying truth of what he said.

THE COURT: All right. After speaking with Mr. Lockett did you do anything next?

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry?

THE COURT: After speaking with Mr. Lockett did you doing any after that?

THE WITNESS: No.

THE COURT: Okay.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

Q. Okay. Other than the five minute conversation you had with Judge Stallings in the hall that day have you had any other -- and the email that she sent you and your followup thank you to her is there anything other contact that you've had with Judge Stallings since she took the bench?

- A. No.
- 23 Q. Not in person?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. Not by phone?

A. No.

- Q. No by emails?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Not by text?
- 5 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. Now, I want to go back quite a long time ago when you supervised Susan Stallings, the young attorney or the young licensed legal intern in the DA's
- 9 Office; do you recall that?
- 10 A. I recall she worked there, yes.
- Q. Do you recall the relationship that you had with her
- 12 while she worked there?
- 13 A. I don't remember if I was her supervised or not to be 14 honest with.
- Q. Okay. Did you have a personal relationship with Susan Stallings when she worked at the DA's Office?
- 17 A. I never been to her home.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. I have never --
- 20 Q. Ma'am, you're a lawyer. You told me that --
- MR. HARMON: Objection. Let her -- can she not answer the question? He asked --
- MR. BREWSTER: Objection. Nonresponsive. I'd ask that the witness answer the question I asked.
- 25 MR. HARMON: I have an objection.

THE COURT: Counsel, you will address all comments to the bench.

MR. HARMON: My objection is he cuts off the witness. He asked if you had a personal relationship. She gave a responsive answer which was started off I've never been to her home. That was a responsive answer. It was much more responsive than the answers I got earlier today from the so called ethics expert.

THE COURT: All right. Objection sustained.

Ask your next question, counsel.

11 BY MR. BREWSTER:

- Q. Okay. So you've never been to Ms. Stallings' home?
- 13 A. I have never been to Ms. Stallings' home.
- Q. Okay. But you had a personal friendship with her when she worked in the DA's Office?
- A. I wouldn't call it a personal relationship. I would call it a -- the same relationship I had with all of the people who worked in the DA's Office.
- Q. Okay. Do you recall the time period she worked in the DA's Office?
 - A. I do not. I know she was there in 1996 because that's when we went to Las Vegas and that's when my husband had -- was diagnosed with brain cancer. And that's the only recollection that I can say that I can recall the date because of that event. So I don't know when she left the DA's Office.

- I know she came back at some point in time but I don't know when that was. But I know I didn't have any communications with her after she left the DA's Office and I left the DA's Office.
- Q. Okay. Did you guys -- when she was at the DA's Office did you guys ever try a case together?
- A. I don't think we did. I don't remember for sure.
- Q. Okay. Give me just the time period that you worked in the Oklahoma County DA's Office?
- 10 A. I'm sorry. I didn't hear that.

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- Q. When -- what's the time period you worked in the Oklahoma
 County DA's Office?
- A. I believe I went to the DA's Office in March of 1983 and I retired from the DA's Office in March of 2007.
- Q. Okay. So right after David Prater was elected you left the DA's Office?
- A. Three months. Well, I believe he took office in January and I left in March.
- Q. Okay. You didn't want to stay around for the Prater administration?
- A. David Prater in my opinion -- he worked for me. I was
 his team leader. He was an excellent lawyer. I liked him a
 lot. I didn't leave for any reason other than it was time for
 me to retire.
- 25 Q. Okay. Now, in that time period you worked there under

three months of David Prater, before that Wes Lane?

- A. Seven years for Wes Lane.
- Q. And before that Bob Macy?
- A. Robert H. Macy.
- Q. Okay. Robert H. -- Cowboy Bob Macy, right?

6 THE COURT: Counsel, ask your next question.

7 BY MR. BREWSTER:

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- Q. Was Robert H. Macy also known as Cowboy Bob?
 - A. I never referred to him as Cowboy Bob. I --
- 10 Q. Have you heard anyone --
- 11 THE COURT: Counsel --
- 12 MR. HARMON: Objection. Relevance.
- THE COURT: Sustained. Move on, counsel.
- 14 BY MR. BREWSTER:
- 15 Q. Was the office during the time period you were there at
- 16 the same time period Susan Stallings was there, was it a
- 17 collaborative office?
- 18 A. A what?
- 19 Q. Collaborative.
- 20 A. Collaborative what?
- 21 MR. HARMON: Objection. Relevance.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. Ask a specific question, counsel.
- 23 BY MR. BREWSTER:
- 24 Q. Was the office of the Oklahoma County District Attorney
- 25 at the time period that overlapped your tenure and Susan

Stallings' tenure, at that time was it a collaborative office?

MR. HARMON: Objection. Same question. Same
objection.

THE COURT: It is the question.

What do you mean by that, counsel?

THE WITNESS: I don't know what you mean by that?

BY MR. BREWSTER:

Q. Did you work together with your colleagues in the office?

MR. HARMON: Objection. The State will stipulate
that prosecutors work together, assistant public defenders
work together. The question's not relevant.

THE COURT: Counsel, narrowly tailer it?

MR. BREWSTER: Okay.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

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- Q. When you tried a case did you ask for input or advice or help from other district attorneys even if they weren't assigned to the same case?
- A. Not usually.
- 19 Q. Okay. You kept your business to yourself in that office?
- A. Well, I think I did my job. I knew how do do my job. I knew how to find the answers to the law that I needed. I had investigators that had assisted me. I had the Oklahoma City
 Police Department who assisted me. I don't believe that there

 -- it would be a very rare occasion when I asked another
- 25 lawyer in the office to give me advice. I gave them advice.

- Q. I appreciate that answer because my followup is when you were the lead attorney on a case it was your case, right?
- A. Right.

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- Q. When you were the lead attorney on a case you didn't rely on maybe an unassigned attorney to maybe do other things, research for you, or answer questions because it was your case, right?
 - A. No.
 - Q. Okay. And the Richard Glossip case from 1997 through 2003 was your case; is that right?
- A. I'm not sure. I'm not sure if it was my case up until
 2003. I know it was my case in 1997. I know it was my case
 threw the trial. I believe when it came back for ineffective
 assistance of counsel that it was reassigned to Connie Pope.
 But I'm not sure when that was.
 - Q. If there was --
- THE COURT: Hang on a second. For the record Connie

 Pope is Connie Smothermon.
- MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.
- 20 BY MR. BREWSTER:
- Q. If there are transcripts of you appearing in this case as late as 2003 you wouldn't dispute that you were still the lead attorney as late as 2003?
- MR. HARMON: Objection. That assumes facts not in evidence.

THE COURT: Rephrase your question, counsel.

2 BY MR. BREWSTER:

- Q. Do you dispute that you were the lead attorney in this
- 4 case in 2003?

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- 5 A. I don't know.
- 6 Q. Okay. Do you know when Connie Pope slash Connie
- 7 Smothermon became involved in this case?
- 8 A. I don't remember the date. That's been what? 22 years 9 ago.
- 10 Q. Right.
- 11 A. I don't remember.
- 12 Q. Okay. Do you recall the time period after that the first
- 13 trial that there was an appeal? Direct appeal?
- 14 A. No, I don't remember that.
- 15 Q. Do you recall when Susan Caswell was assigned the case?
- 16 A. No, I don't remember that.
- 17 \| 0. Do you recall that Susan Caswell recused from the case?
- 18 A. I don't remember that.
- 19 Q. Would your handwritten notes written contemporaneous with
- 20 that recusal refresh your memory?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. Okay.

BB.

- 23 MR. BREWSTER: Judge, I'm handing the witness what
- 24 I've marked for identification purposes as Defendant's Exhibit
- 25

THE COURT: Say that again.

MR. BREWSTER: I'm handing the witness what I've marked for identification purposes as Exhibit BB.

THE COURT: BB okay.

MR. HARMON: May I have a copy?

MR. BREWSTER: I'm not introducing it I'm just refreshing her memory.

THE COURT: No, but can he see what you're handing her?

10 MR. BREWSTER: Of course.

11 BY MR. BREWSTER:

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- 12 Q. Let me know after you've reviewed your notes. Well,
- 13 first of all are those your notes?
- 14 A. Yes. This is my handwriting, yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And there's some dates there?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Would you have dated your notes contemporaneously?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. I'll just direct you attention for time purposes
- 20 to the note dated 1-5-01.
- 21 A. Okay.
- 22 Q. After you've reviewed it let me know it it's refreshed
- 23 your memory.
- 24 A. Okay.
- 25 Q. Is your memory refreshed?

- A. I don't remember it but I see that I wrote that note.
- Q. Okay. It didn't refresh your memory?
- A. No.

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- Q. Even after reading the notes?
- A. I don't remember it at all.
- Q. But those are your notes?
- A. Yes, they are.
 - Q. And they would have been kept contemporaneous or at the same time or shortly after you're doing these things?
- 10 A. Yeah.
- MR. BREWSTER: Okay. Judge, I move to introduce

 12 Exhibit BB based on that.
 - MR. HARMON: Objection. First of all you said you weren't going to move to admit it. But it's hearsay. It's not -- she said it didn't refresh her memory. So I'd just ask what exception to the hearsay rule is this offered under.
 - MR. BREWSTER: Well, it was taken contemporaneous.

 It reflects her state of mind at the time. It's reflects her impressions of what was happening at the time. She doesn't refresh her memory independently. There's no other way to get this in. She confirmed it's her handwriting. It's her notes.
 - THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know what the relevance is of it.
 - MR. HARMON: I don't know what the relevance of it is either. I don't think counsel's identified a sufficient

exception to the hearsay rule. But he's in consultation with co-counsel so maybe he's got one.

MR. BREWSTER: It's a past recollection recorded, Judge.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. HARMON: What are the criteria for that it meets is what I would inquire of.

THE COURT: She's identified it even though she doesn't recall it. It will be admitted over objection.

MR. BREWSTER: Okay.

11 BY MR. BREWSTER:

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- Q. Let me ask. It may not refresh your memory regarding the recusal or the reason for the recusal of Susan Stallings --
- 14 THE COURT: Susan Caswell.
- MR. BREWSTER: I'm sorry. Yes, Susan Caswell?
- 16 BY MR. BREWSTER:
- Q. Does it refresh your memory that you were still the lead attorney in the case in 2001?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Okay. You think notwithstanding your contemporaneous notes of going to hearings that maybe Connie Pope had taken
- 22 over the case that early?
- 23 A. Say that again.
- Q. Well, you said it doesn't refresh your memory that you were the lead attorney in '01 based on your notes taken

- contemporaneously at that time. Are you saying that it's possible that Connie Pope was already involved as the lead attorney in the Glossip case at the time?
- A. Anything is possible.
- Q. Thank you. And I -- remind me, and I think you testified already to this but remind, was Susan Caswell on the Vegas trip or the Spain trip or the England trip?
- 8 A. I do not believe Susan Caswell was any of the trips that 9 I took with Susan Stallings.
- 10 **Q.** Okay.

trip.

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- 11 A. I do remember a trip with where Sandy Elliott and Susan
 12 Stallings and Jo Gordon and myself and I believe Carrie Kelly
 13 and maybe someone else, I can't remember, were in Las Vegas.
 14 But I do not believe that Susan Stallings was there on that
- Q. That wouldn't have been the very memorable 1996 Vegas
- trip?
- 18 A. I'm sorry. Wouldn't have been what?
- Q. You remember the '96 trip specifically because of what was going on on your life?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. You're saying there was another trip with Susan Caswell to Vegas that maybe Susan Stallings --
- A. I have not taken but one trip to Las Vegas with Judge Stallings.

- O. In October of '96?
- A. October of '96.

- Q. Thank you. When Judge Stallings was elected to the bench are you aware that she was interviewed and gave a statement crediting you as I mentor and having an impact on her her career?
- A. I read that at a later time. And I certainly hope that that was true. And I would tell you that I tried to instill that in every lawyer that worked under me or with me or for me when I was in the DA's Office. And that is that we are not here just to get convictions. Our job is to see that justice is done.
- Q. And I appreciate that. And you instilled that in Judge Stallings. You made a point?
- 15 A. I believe -- I hope so.
- Q. Okay. And that your -- and as I understand the moral lesson there, it's to seek justice not just convictions?
- 18 A. Absolutely.
- Q. But some of the convictions you obtained as lead
 prosecutor were later found to be unjust and were overturned,
 right? A number of cases of your were overturned, which
 involved allegations of prosecutorial misconduct?
- 23 MR. HARMON: Objection. Relevance.
- 24 THE COURT: Well, and it lacks specificity.
- 25 MR. BREWSTER: I'm getting --

1 THE COURT: Then get to it. 2 MR. BREWSTER: It's an opening question. I will. BY MR. BREWSTER: 3 A number of your cases notwithstanding this moral lesson 4 about justice and not convictions you sought convictions that 5 6 were found by courts to be unjust. 7 That doesn't mean --Α. 8 MR. HARMON: Judge, objection. Relevance. 9 THE COURT: Hang on a second. MR. HARMON: My objection is relevance. For instance 10 11 this was overturned -- it's. 12 THE COURT: Again, I'm going to sustain the objection 13 as to the form of the question. 14 MR. BREWSTER: Okay. 15 THE COURT: Ms. Smith, did you ever have any trials 16 that were reversed? 17 THE WITNESS: Yes. 18 THE COURT: All right. Do you recall about how many? 19 Do you have about how? 20 THE WITNESS: I don't know. 21 THE COURT: All right. 22 BY MR. BREWSTER: 23 More than 10?

DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA - OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

A whole lot more have been affirmed.

Okay. More than 10 have been overturned?

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A. I don't believe so.

Q. Do you know him how many have been overturned that involved allegations of prosecutorial misconduct?

MR. HARMON: Objection, Your Honor. We're not here to judge Ms. Smith's ability to be fair in this case. We're here to find out if Your Honor can be fair in this case. This is not relevant.

THE COURT: All right. Sustained. Move on.

MR. BREWSTER: If I could just make a proffer, Judge. It's relevant because this grand moral lesson about seeking justice and not convictions is entirely inconsistent with the record.

THE COURT: Okay. The reason that quote was brought up was because it made an impression on me. It doesn't matter what it did with Ms. Smith. Move on.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

Q. Do you understand that the US Supreme Court reversed this case based on prosecutorial misconduct?

MR. HARMON: Objection. Relevance.

THE COURT: Well --

THE WITNESS: I didn't try this case.

THE COURT: Hang on, Ms. Smith. Hang on.

My glancing -- scanning of this case, the first trial was reversed because of ineffective assistance of counsel of the defense attorney. It was the second case that Ms. Smith was

not on that got reversed.

MR. HARMON: That's true. But I feel like the

Defense is trying to create the perception -- the

misperception that Ms. Smith did something that led to the

reversal by the Supreme Court. It's not true. In the trial

she tried the defense counsel was ineffective. But Mr.

Brewster won't say that.

THE COURT: Okay. All right.

MR. BREWSTER: Judge, at this time I'd like to quote the US Supreme Court in Glossip versus Oklahoma.

MR. HARMON: Objection. We don't need a speech. This isn't his turn to testify.

MR. BREWSTER: It's my turn to --

THE COURT: Counsel, address your comments to the bench. And we are not going to talk over each other because my court reporter can't do that.

Counsel, move on.

MR. BREWSTER: Can I make an argument --

THE COURT: No.

MR. BREWSTER: -- to respond to his argument?

THE COURT: No, move on. I've ruled on it. The objection is sustained. Move on.

MR. BREWSTER: Okay.

24 BY MR. BREWSTER:

Q. Ms. Smith, do you understand how you may become a witness

in this third retrial?

MR. HARMON: Objection. It calls for speculation and it's not relevant.

THE COURT: Overruled. She can answer it if she knows.

MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.

THE COURT: Don't thank the Court for it's rulings. They weren't done for your benefit.

Ms. Smith, did you understand the question?

THE WITNESS: I'd ask that it be repeated.

11 BY MR. BREWSTER:

- 12 Do you understand how you might be a witness?
- 13 Α. No.

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Q. Okay. Do you understand that while you were lead attorney there were several items of material evidence from 15 the crime scene of this homicide in your possession in the DA's Office that were ordered to be destroyed --

18 MR. HARMON: Objection. That assumes facts not in 19 evidence.

20 THE COURT: Again, counsel, move on.

BY MR. BREWSTER: 21

- Were you pleased that a judge mentioned you as an influence on her career?
- Was I pleased what? 24 Α.
- 25 When you heard that a judge, Judge Stallings

specifically, had an influence -- that you had had an influence on her career?

MR. HARMON: Objection, Your Honor. This has no relevance to the disqualification hearing. What pleased or displeased Ms. Smith.

THE COURT: All right. You've made your objection. Sustained. Move on.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

- Q. Did you reach out to Judge Stallings to congratulate her after finding out she thanked you or credited you with your influence on her?
- 12 A. No.

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- 13 Q. Is there a reason why not?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Okay. There's no reason you didn't?
- 16 A. No.
- THE COURT: She answered the question, counsel. Move on.
- 19 BY MR. BREWSTER:
- 20 0. Was it indifference?
- 21 A. Was it what?
- THE COURT: Counsel, how is this relevant to the Rule
- 23 15 against me?
- MR. BREWSTER: Well, we're at a point, Judge, where
 the last probably 10 questions I've asked you've sustained

objections to. I'm unable to lay a foundation to get into relevant evidence. I'm trying to ask questions of this witness to lay a foundation. I'd ask for some leeway. We're getting to a point now where the Court is gatekeeping evidence in Your Honor's Rule 15 hearing. I'd ask for some leeway here.

MR. HARMON: May I respond?

THE COURT: You may.

MR. HARMON: Your Honor, the last time I checked the Court's function is to serve as a gateway to evidence and to make evidentiary rulings. I know Mr. Brewster knows the evidence code. He's a very sharp lawyer. But he's not asking questions that have any relevance to the decision that this Court has to make in the disqualification motion. They're points they want to make. They want to relitigate the Supreme Court case. That's great all day long. But not for today. That's not what we're here for. And I wouldn't have to object and the Court wouldn't have to sustain objections if Mr. Brewster would ask relevant questions. And maybe he doesn't have anymore. And that's fine to.

THE COURT: Well, all right.

Counsel, ask your next question.

MR. BREWSTER: Let me just ask the Court for some guidance. And if I ask any questions regarding the destruction of evidence in this case or the issues that are

going to come up just to present to Your Honor that whoever is presiding over this case is going to be either granting or denying relief on these issues. We have the witness here.

It's relevant --

THE COURT: Yes, but this is not an evidentiary hearing as to how the Court is going to rule in the future at some time one some evidentiary issue.

MR. BREWSTER: And I promise you I am scratching the surface of this issue. I'm scratching the surface to lay a foundation for the Rule 15. I'm not going to get into -- if I was going to into the misconduct of Fern Smith we'd need another day. Okay. But if Your Honor's ruling that this is irrelevant and is not going to allow me to ask those questions I'll move on.

THE COURT: Again, I -- the defense has an opinion about Ms. Smith and her actions in this case over the course of several years. The Court is well aware of that.

MR. BREWSTER: Okay.

THE COURT: All right. But that's not why we're here today.

MR. BREWSTER: Okay.

THE COURT: So, I mean, again I've read everything.

I understand the Defense's position. I am taking that into consideration.

MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. So let's move on. 1 2 MR. BREWSTER: May I confer with my colleagues? 3 THE COURT: Yes, of course. (Counsel for the Defense confer.) 4 Judge, at this time I'd ask the Court 5 MR. BREWSTER: to produce the email and Ms. Smith's response to the email 6 7 that was referenced in her testimony of this year. I'd ask 8 that that be produced to the parties. 9 MR. HARMON: No objection. I don't know if the Court 10 still has it or not. 11 THE COURT: I can check. 12 MR. BREWSTER: Thank you. And with that I have no 13 further questions. THE COURT: We'll be in recess. 14 (A brief recess was had.) 15 THE COURT: We are back on the record. All parties 16 17 are present. Counsel, you may continue. 18 19 MR. BREWSTER: Judge, just for the record, we took a 20 break. Your Honor checked your email and returned to the 21 Court and produced copies to both parties of an email chain 22 from May 7, 2025, between Your Honor and the witness, Fern 23 Smith. It reflects an email from Susan.Stallings@oscn.net to 24 Fern.Smith@dac.state.ok.us. It appears to be consistent with

the witness's testimony regarding this email exchange. And

I'd like to ask just a few questions of the witness now that I have this email.

THE COURT: You may.

MR. BREWSTER: Thank you.

BY MR. BREWSTER:

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Q. Ms. Smith, I'm going to hand you what I've marked as Defendant's Exhibit CC.

THE COURT: I think she has a copy.

MR. BREWSTER: Oh, okay.

10 BY MR. BREWSTER:

- Q. For purposes of the record the copy of the email chain that I'm referring to I'm marking as Defendant's Exhibit CC
- 13 but you have a copy as well?
- 14 A. I do.
- Q. Is this in fact the email exchange that you testified
- 16 about earlier?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. This is the email from Judge Stallings to you
- 19 following the Wood hearing?
- 20 A. Once again, yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. And while we don't have the attachment to it there
- 22 was an an attachment? It was the findings of fact in that
- 23 case?
- 24 A. Again, yes.
- 25 Q. And in this it's referenced it was unfiled at the time or

the version that she sent you was unfiled?

A. That what it says.

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Q. Okay. And your response to that was, "Thank you so much!! Amazing!! I don't know when I've seen a more thorough analysis and well reasoned opinion."

Is that what it says?

- A. That's exactly what it says.
- Q. And Judge Stallings responded back to you following that just to --
- 10 A. I think the exhibit speaks for itself.
- 11 Q. It probably does but if you'll indulge me. Three minutes
- 12 | later Judge Stallings responded to you saying, "which I can't
- 13 take credit for. It's the proposed findings from the AG's
- 14 Office. They did do an outstanding job. Correct?
- 15 A. That's what it says.
- Q. Okay. And at the time, May 7,2025, Tremane Wood is on
- death row and his appeal is pending, right?
- 18 A. I don't think he had an appeal pending. I think he had a
- 19 fifth application for application for post conviction relief
- 20 pending.
- 21 Q. Okay. He's on death row. He's not been executed yet.
- 22 His case is proceeding forward?
- 23 A. I believe his execution is set for November 13th.
- 24 Q. Okay. And the judge in his case, the District Court
- 25 judge that heard the fifth amended post conviction emailed a

witness in the case, you.

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THE COURT: Okay. Counsel, I didn't hear the post conviction. The Court of Criminal Appeals ordered the District Court to have an evidentiary hearing to answer eight questions. They ruled on the post conviction.

MR. BREWSTER: I appreciate the clarification, Judge.

BY MR. BRESTER:

- Q. Other than this chain -- this email chain it's your testimony that there are no other communications between you and Susan Stallings since she took the bench?
- A. Absolutely 100 percent.
- MR. BREWSTER: Thank you. That's all I have. Well,

 I would like to introduce Defendant's CC to this record.
- 14 MR. HARMON: No objection, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: It will be admitted without objection.

 Counsel, did you mark it?
- MR. BREWSTER: I did. I'm going to set it on this book.
- 19 THE COURT: Cross examination, counsel.
- 20 MR. HARMON: Thank you, Your Honor.

CROSS EXAMINATION

- 22 BY MR. HARMON:
- Q. I'm going to trying from back here. Ms. Smith, you left the DA's Office in 2007; is that right?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- Q. And I believe you testified that you thought that Susan Stallings was still employed there as of the '96, '97 timeframe?
- A. The only thing I can remember that would lead me to remember any date is the 1996 October when my husband was sick and I remember Judge Stallings went to Las Vegas with us at that time. That's the -- I don't know how long she stayed after that. I have recollection of it.
- MR. HARMON: May I approach the witness to present an exhibit?
- 11 THE COURT: You may.
- 12 BY MR. HARMON:

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- Q. Ms. Smith, this is Defendant's Exhibit AA that was
 admitted earlier during this hearing. And it's purported to
 be a resignation letter from Susan Stalling from the DA's

 Office dated May 7, 1993, addressed to Robert H. Macy.

 Looking at that, I know you're not the author of the letter,
 probably have never seen the letter before; is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. Dose you that potentially refresh your memory at all about whether or not Ms. Stalling at the time was in the DA's Office during that '96, '97 timeframe?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 | Q. Okay.
- 25 A. I mean -- no.

- Q. Okay. Ms. Smith, did you ever take any trips when it was just you and Ms. Stalling?
- 3 A. No.
- Q. And I believe you said the trip Spain, there were about six of you and there were about 13 on the London France trip, is that right?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. Do you remember about the Las Vegas trip?
- 9 A. I think Spain maybe -- not more than a week. Probably
- 10 less than a week.
- 11 Q. Do you remember how many people were on that trip?
- 12 A. To Spain.
- 13 0. To London?
- 14 A. Oh, London. Yeah, there were 13 people. And I don't
- recall how long we stayed. I think we stayed three nights in
- 16 London and three nights in Paris. I'm not sure but I think
- 17 that's probably --
- 18 Q. And that my mistake. I meant to ask about Las Vegas?
- 19 **■** A. I'm sorry.
- 20 Q. Do you remember -- Las Vegas, do you remember how many
- 21 people were on that trip?
- 22 A. No, I don't.
- 23 Q. But it wasn't just you and Susan Stallings; is that
- 24 right?
- 25 A. No.

- Q. Okay. Was this --
- A. It a was a group of people ladies from the DA's Office.
- Q. And was that -- it sounds like that was kind of a common theme during that era of the DA's Office that a group of coworkers may have traveled together?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. Did that mean you were best friends with that person?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Were you ever close personal friends with Susan 10 Stallings?
- 11 No, I considered her a friend but not a close personal 12 friend. I've never been to her home. I don't know her 13 family. I don't think she knows -- I mean, I don't know but I consider her, like I would any other person that I worked with 14 in the DA's Office, as a friend. I consider you friend. 15 worked with you in the DA's Office. And Mr. Gieger, I hope 16 I'm his friend. I hope he's my friend. I worked with him in 17 the DA's Office. 18

MR. GIEGER: I'll stipulate that we are, Your Honor.

THE COURT: For the record that was Mr. Gieger.

THE WITNESS: That doesn't mean we're personal friends. That we hang out together or anything like that.

23 BY MR. HARMON:

Q. Right. And after you left -- when you left the DA's

Office Susan Stalling was not employed at the DA's Office; is

that correct?

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- A. I don't believe so.
- Q. Okay. And that was in 2007?
- A. I left in March of 2007, yes.
- Q. And we know that then Ms. Stallings came back but you had already retired and was not working at the DA's office; is
- 7 that correct?
- 8 A. I really don't know.
- 9 Q. Okay. Did you know that Susan Stalling came back to the
- 10 DA's Office I believe it was in 2010?
- 11 A. Yes, I learned that at some time later but I don't know when she came back.
- Q. When -- prior to coming to court for Tremane Wood the day that you were subpoenaed and they had not told you about the continuance --
- MR. BREWSTER: Objection. Facts not in evidence.

 They did. They told her.
- THE COURT: Okay. Counsel, you address your comments
 to the bench. All right. I know what the facts were in that
 case. Objection overruled.
- 21 BY MR. HARMON:
- Q. Ms. Smith, when you first came to court on Tremane Wood and saw Judge Stallings in the hallway how many years had it
- 24 been seen you had seen her?
- 25 A. I can't say for sure. Probably at least 20 years.

- Q. And during that time did you have any phone calls that you recall with either Susan Stallings or then Judge Stallings?
- A. No.

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- Q. Do you recall any emails, text messages, any other form of communication other than the one that is marked as CC?
- 7 A. I don't recall any communication at all during that time 8 periods we're talking about.
 - Q. And I think you said that you had never been to her home.

 Has she ever been to your home?
- 11 Not to my knowledge. Not to my knowledge. 12 speculate on one time when she may have been there. 13 not sure she was there when my husband died. She may have There were people -- there were multiple people in and 14 out all day long every day for about three days during that 15 time period. And I don't know if she came or not. If she did 16 I appreciate it but I don't recall that. But most of the 17 18 people in the DA's Office and in the Public Defender's Office 19 and judges all came to my home. She could have. 20 know.
 - Q. And that was your home in Oklahoma City?
- 22 A. Yes.

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Q. And over a three day period of just a bunch of friends

and acquaintances and coworkers and people in the legal

community came to show you their love and support during that

time?

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- A. Yes, the came and brought flowers and food and condolences and cards and just goodwill. And oh my goodness I appreciated that so much.
- Q. And as you sit here today you don't have any specific memory of Susan Stallings being one those people?
- A. I don't.

MR. HARMON: May I have a moment, Your Honor?

THE COURT: You may.

(Counsel for the State confer.)

BY MR. HARMON:

- Q. I do have another question. When Susan Stallings was an intern I think you said that you didn't remember if you were her supervisor or not; did I understand that correctly?
 - A. I don't know. I know she worked there. I don't recall whether I was her -- whether she was an intern or whether she was actually an attorney at the time.
- 18 Q. Do you recall ever being her direct supervisor?
- 19 A. I don't recall that. I don't know whether I was or not.
- Q. And I wasn't there in the office during that time but I know that at least later on and I expect it might have been the same, interns might rotate through different teams for, you know, a couple months period or three months or how many ever months and go to a new team with a new team leader. Was
- 25 it like that back then?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And so is it possible she might have been assigned to your team for a period of time?
- 4 A. Well, I think it's quite possible. I just don't recall it.
- Q. Okay. Would there have been a lot of interns go through and rotate through the various teams?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. Nothing about that sticks out to you?
- 10 A. No.
- Q. And there's been evidence that once Ms. Stallings was
- 12 hired in the DA's Office she was assigned to the Juvenile
- 13 Division; did you know that?
- 14 A. I don't recall that.
- Q. If Ms. Stalling was -- is the Juvenile Division of the
- Oklahoma County DA's Office housed in the same building as the
- 17 main office?
- 18 A. At the time I was there it was not. The DA's Office was
- 19 here on Park Avenue and the Juvenile Office was, I don't know,
- 20 several mile on north. I don't recall the address but, no, it
- 21 was not even close.
- 22 0. Is it -- was it in the 63rd and Western area?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Okay. So from downtown that's six or seven miles at
- 25 least?

A. Yes.

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- Q. Somebody at juvenile -- at the Juvenile Office of the

 DA's Office -- well, let me ask this. Were you ever -- during

 your -- were you ever assigned to the Juvenile Division?
 - A. When I first went to work for the DA's Office I was assigned to the Juvenile. I worked in the Juvenile Division for about a year in the year of 1983 here in the courthouse. And no way was Susan Stallings in the DA's Office at that time.
- Q. During the time period that we know that Ms. Stallings
 was employed by the DA's Office in the Juvenile Division and
 they were around the 63rd and Western area how often would you
 have contact with the ADAs at Juvenile?
 - A. Probably none. I don't recall any and there wouldn't be any reason for me to have contact with them.
- Q. Ask weeks, months go by without seeing someone who's an ADA in the same office but assigned to Juvenile?
- 18 A. I'm sorry. Say that again.
- Q. Sure. Could months go by without seeing an ADA who's assigned at Juvenile?
- 21 A. Oh, sure.
- Q. Is it fair to say that as an ADA assigned to the main
 office on a felony -- as a special prosecutor or a felony team
 leader or whatever role you were in that time you wouldn't
 have had normally a reason to go to the Juvenile Division of

the DA's Office?

A. No.

- Q. Would the Juvenile ADAs normally have a reason to come to the main office of the DA's Office?
- A. No.

MS. HINSPERGER: Thank you, Ms. Smith.

I'll the pass witness.

THE COURT: Any redirect based on those questions?

MR. BREWSTER: No.

THE COURT: Ms. Smith, thank you so much for coming down and visiting with us today. You are excused.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

THE COURT: Defense, you may call your next witness.

MR. BREWSTER: Judge, we have no other witnesses but I do have just some evidentiary housekeeping, which I think -- and just some questions for the Court before I make argument.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. BREWSTER: And, one question I have is, Judge, when you searched Susan Stallings on OSCN there's a number of cases in Pottawatomie County where they attribute you as being a prosecutor in a number of criminal cases in Pott County in the 2016, 2015 timeframe that don't make any sense to me given what I know about your career.

THE COURT: I've never been a prosecutor in the

Pottawatomie County District Attorney's Office. There was one

1 occasion where I was sent there to take a plea because the DA 2 at the time, Richard Smothermon, had recused from the case. 3 So just to close the case I was sent they're to take the plea. 4 Okay. And so just one single case? MR. BREWSTER: THE COURT: 5 Yes. MR. BREWSTER: Okay. Judge, if at this time I'd like 6 7 to make some argument. We don't have any other witnesses. 8 THE COURT: No, that's fine. It's time for argument. 9 Well, hang on. Do you have any once you wish to call? 10 MR. HARMON: The State rests. 11 Okay. Make your argument. THE COURT: 12 MR. BREWSTER: Thank you, Mr. Harmon. I didn't mean 13 to skip head of you. 14 MR. HARMON: That's okay. MR. BREWSTER: Judge, I just to want kind of broadly 15 16 go over the rules here and the law that applies here. 2022 case, Fort versus State, which was a case --17 18 THE COURT: Say that again. 19 MR. BREWSTER: Fort versus State. 2022 Oklahoma Crim 20 12. It's a case a lot of people in Oklahoma County may be 21 familiar with. It involved Judge Henderson. But there's some 22 good sort of sketch about Rule 15 and judicial impartiality 23 and the right to a defendant to have an impartial judge. 24 that case I think -- and you know we're familiar with the

facts are very different than the issue here, but the general

proposition is a defendant has a constitutional right to an impartial judge under the Oklahoma and US Constitutions.

Oklahoma Constitution Article 2, Section 6, US Constitution Articles 5, 14 -- or Amendments 5 and 14. This is a fundamental constitutional right that we're talking about here. This is very important.

The Oklahoma Judicial Code of Conduct 2.11 defines when a judge shall recuse or disqualify themselves. And we heard about that from Professor Smith when a judge shall disqualify when a judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned. Now, when we started the day I thought we had enough.

I thought there was enough in the 2009 callout to Fern Smith and the how fundamental Fern Smith will be in pretrial evidentiary hearings. I wasn't allowed to get into it with her but there were a number of items from the crime scene in this case, items that weren't forensically tested with the kinds of tools we have now, weren't forensically tested with all the tools that were available in 1997. There was a roll of duct tape, there was a shower curtain, there were several -- 10 items from the crime scene that were destroyed out of the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office while Fern Smith was the lead prosecutor.

The the prejudice to Mr. Glossip is not cured by the reversal of his first trial, it's not cured by the reversal of the second trial. This is prejudice that will be decided by

the judge who oversees the third trial. Or at least the proceedings leading to the third trial. It's incredibly important that we have a judge where impartiality might reasonably be unquestioned with respect to Fern Smith's conduct and the relief that we're going to ask for.

Now, we're in a sort of hypothetical. We're in a sort of projection now to say, hey, that day is going to come. But when that day comes and should Judge Stallings deny relief for Mr. Glossip who was scheduled for death nine times, who ate three last meals, who's served 28 years in mostly H Unit, death row in Oklahoma, after two trials that were fundamentally flawed, both with allegations of prosecutorial misconduct, the second one of which the United States Supreme Court granted relief, after 28 years this case is unique.

This is not a run-of-the-mill case. This is a case that spans a 28 year history that is relevant when the minute the Oklahoma City Police Department showed up to process the crime scene through the conduct of the first trial and the appeal, through the lead up to the second trial and what happened then, and then for the next 20 years.

There were post conviction actions, there were federal habeas actions, there were attorneys -- Don Knight has fought tooth and nail for a decade and Tivon Schardl have fought tooth and nail for a decade to save this man's life. And we have now ended up in your courtroom. And I have been pleased

to be in your courtroom today.

However, this is very heavy stuff. This is a unique case. And this is different than the Epic Charter case, it's different than the Fort case. It's individual to the factors that we've heard today, we've seen today. When you took the bench you thanked your parents -- you acknowledged your parents and you acknowledge Fern Smith. Fern Smith is so fundamental to the error and misconduct that's going to be litigated leading to this third trial it's hard to believe that the judge who thanked her for making an impression and profound impact on her career can be seen as without impartiality being reasonably questioned.

Imagine what might reasonably be questioned if Your Honor were to deny relief in any shape or form along the way.

Imagine what might reasonably be questioned if Your Honor were to deny significant relief. Relief around the conduct of Fern Smith. You signaled to the community after you were elected that you were a Fern Smith kind of judge. That she made such a lasting impact from your internship at the Oklahoma County DA's Office that of all the people you've worked with and all the colleagues and all the judge you've appeared in front of you could have acknowledge any number of them.

You've had a substantial career. But you thanked Fern

Smith and you acknowledge her. You singled her out. Because
she's so fundamental to the issues in this case as we move

forward one might reasonably question whether you can be impartial in deciding whether Fern Smith's conduct warrants relief.

What has surprised me today after Ms. Smith's testimony is that what you revealed about your relationship with her is quite different than what she testified to. Actually what's on the record in this case is different than what you told us in chambers. When we asked you in chambers about Fern Smith you said I've not seen her since I left the DA's Office. When we went on the record I asked you, Judge, just to put it in the record, it's true that you've not seen Fern Smith since you left the DA's Office. And could quote the transcript —

THE COURT: That's all right. Keep going, counsel.

MR. BREWSTER: My recollection is you said, that's right. No, wait. You initially confirmed that once again twice and then corrected yourself and revealed this 1997 trip to Spain. You minimized it. You said we drove in separate cars. We weren't really that close. There were so many people there.

Well, we learned from Fern Smith today that there were six people on that trip and that's not the only trip you took with her. You went to Vegas with her in '96. She recalled it clearly because of what was going on in her personal life. You went to England with her sometime before or after that with a large group. And you went to Spain with six people.

She gave us the best of her recollection of that trip. That's different.

If the trip alone, if the 2019 callout alone was there. But now we have a conflict. We have a conflict of what Fern Smith has said and what Your Honor has represented to the partied. Fern Smith might be wrong. I don't -- you know, if I -- but I'm not the fact finder of whether what you told us is true or what Fern Smith told us is true. I just know they're different. A reasonable person might question whether you can be impartial when after you disclosed to us such a minimal relationship with her that she came in and testified to something more.

Two other trips one other international trip and a trip to Vegas. You excluded the bankruptcy exhibit but I might point out that in 1996 during the time Fern Smith clearly remembered going to Vegas with you were either in or freshly out of bankruptcy. I would understand why it might be embarrassing to disclose that you went to Vegas during or immediately after bankruptcy but -- and maybe it didn't happen. I don't know. But any person might reasonably question whether you can be impartial going forward in this case given the evolving disclosure about trips with Fern Smith.

And it's not just someone you went on trips with, it's not just someone you worked with. It's someone who will be witness material to to misconduct for a man who was on death

row scheduled to be executed nine times over 28 years and deserves a fair and impartial day in court. There are numerous other judges including, I would say most closely, Susan Caswell who have recused.

Susan Caswell recused based on at least one trip, maybe more, we don't know. It was kind of again an evolving sort of understanding of how often these women were traveling with each other. But Susan Caswell saw fit in 2001 to recuse herself from the case. What might a reasonable person say when one judge recuses for the same reason another judge refuses to recuse. I think it gives rise to an appearance of potential bias or potential conflict.

Again, we're not -- I really want to be careful and echo what Professor Smith said. We're not accusing you directly of bias. I believe that if you -- I believe that you would have disclosed or maybe recused earlier if that was the case. But these issues are real. These are not bald faced accusations. These -- we heard testimony, we saw exhibits, we've presented evidence in courts all day today.

And I was surprised by some of the evidence. We were surprised by Fern Smith's testimony. It compounds the issue quite frankly. I thought we had enough coming into this hearing but after she testified to two additional trips, trip to Vegas during you bankruptcy or shortly thereafter, and a trip to England, which previously undisclosed by the Court,

Judge, it is just so clear that there's an enough. The case law on this, Judge, is that any error should be made in favor of disqualification rather than against it.

If we're at the tipping point, if we're not sure which way to go any error should be made in favor of disqualification.

And I'm saying Miller versus Dollarhide is probably the most cited case on Rule 15, 2007 OK 58. Liljeberg versus Health Services a US Supreme Court 486 US 847 says, If a reasonable person knowing all the relevant facts would harbor doubts about a judge's impartiality the judge must be disqualified."

That's US Supreme Court case law.

There's a federal constitutional dimension, there's a state constitutional dimension, and the Code of Judicial Conduct just clearly warrants it. Judge, I can't sit down without mentioning the email following the Wood hearing. Fern Smith is not a party to that. Fern Smith was a witness to that hearing. Sending her an email and congratulating each other and thanking each other ex parte to proceeding while a man's on death row and those proceedings may come back to Your Honor or maybe further raised in other courts, it astonishes me that a court, a judge, would reach out to a witness that way.

I don't know and I'd ask Your Honor, did you send any other witnesses from that hearing the copy of findings of fact?

THE COURT: This is you argument, counsel.

MR. BREWSTER: Okay. I'm going to assume you didn't.

And I'm going to back to what Your Honor said in the first Rule 15 hearing when you treat -- I will treat Fern Smith or David Prater just like any other witness in my courtroom.

You're not sending witnesses you don't know and didn't travel to England, Spain, and Vegas with copies of your findings of fact saying I thought you'd like to see this following a death penalty evidentiary hearing. She's the only one. She's not treated like any other witness in your courtroom.

I'd further point out, Judge -- and I appreciate you echoed I think similar sentiment to what Judge Savage declared when she recused, which is, when I took the bench things changed.

I left behind being a prosecute and I take very seriously -- I think you said into the marrow of my bones I seriously being a judge.

The exhibit you wouldn't admit into the record, your Facebook page has a crime fighting cartoon super hero as an avatar and you're joking about using that crime fighting super hero's special weapon of truth. It's not very serious. It's kind of light hearted. I don't know how serious that appears to the reasonable person. And I'm concerned that the application of the judicial code in light of the case law, in light of the tie goes to the runner, any error should be resolved in favor of disqualification, Your Honor must recuse.

Fern Smith's legacy is complicated and her conduct is still impacting this case. And the email in the Wood case, the

shout out in 2019, the evolving disclosure about trips with her, the conflict in what she testified to to what you Your Honor told us about those trips, all go the toward a clear issue where a reasonable person might question. And that's the standard. That's 2.11. And so with that, Your Honor, we very somberly urge you to disqualify yourself from this case.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MR. HARMON: May it please the Court. I want address something that Mr. Knight said in his opening statement it seems like a week ago but it was this morning and said that we are -- the State is fighting to keep Your Honor as the judge. That that is absolutely not true. Judge, we were fine with Judge Coyle. We didn't ask her to disqualify or recuse. We were fine with Judge Savage. We didn't ask her to disqualify or recuse. It's been the Defense all along that has asked every judge.

And I think this is important. It may seem like a tangent at first but they think were fine with Judge Coyle. Even though she would have been in very many ways similarly situated to Your Honor in being in the DA's Office. In fact she may have been overlapping with -- in fact I think she was. I think the record will bear out she was overlapping with Connie Smothermon, who has been their devil that they've pointed to as being the destructor of evidence until now, during that time.

And they were fine with Judge Coyle until what? Until they got an unfavorable ruling on bond. In fact they said that today. They said that. Mr. Knight said that in opening. We were fine -- I'm paraphrasing his words but then she ruled against us on bond and said facts -- the evidence of guilt is evident. And, well, we can't have that so we've got to recuse her.

And what did they go to Judge Coyle about? Was it Fern Smith? No. No. It was all about Connie Smothermon and Gary Ackley and then JW Coyle had met with a witness, Mr. Sneed, and then Mack Martin, who was her campaign manager had met with Mr. Sneed as well. So it was all these other things. And I want to point that out that the State is not fighting to keep a judge.

The State is fighting to keep a fair judge who will try this case for a third time. The Defense has made that they do not want a trial. They do not want a trial contrary to how many times they say it. So the State wants this case to move forward with a fair judge who will give both sides a fair trial. And the State has an obligation in these proceedings.

And we haven't reached this stage with either Judge Coyle or Judge Savage. Both of those judged recused in the in camera hearing process, which of course is typically much less formal. In fact with Judge Coyle it was in her chambers. We were all gathered around stuffed in her office. Judge Savage

held it in her courtroom as did Your Honor. But it seemed like Judge Savage certainly had her mind made up in that regard. I don't criticize her decision but I don't think the standard that she employed of if Mr. Glossip doesn't feel comfortable with me then I'm going to recuse is the appropriate legal standard. I think we all know what that is in the Judicial Cannon Rule 2.7 that we talked about earlier. I won't be repetitive and cite that again.

But while we're on this point in preparation for today's hearing I did some counting. Because we talked about Fern Smith so much today. And we've heard from Ms. Smith, who I don't believe I've seen since she left the DA's Office in 2007. I was new. I just started in May of '06 so we didn't have much overlap and I certainly didn't know her well. I was way beneath her on the totem pole.

But we've heard so much about Fern Smith today and how all this case resolves around Fern Smith. Fern Smith either personally or directed the destruction of evidence. I want to go back to where this case started in the Supreme Court. In the Defendant's cert petition to the Supreme Court, if this was jury selection I would ask any guesses how many times Fern Smith's name was mentioned in the Defendant's cert petition to the United States Supreme Court? Zero.

In the rely brief -- in Defendant's reply brief guess how many times Fern Smith's name was mentioned in the reply brief

of the Defendant. That's a 16 page document. The cert petition was a 21 page document not counting table of contents. Zero times in the reply brief. Well, once certiorari was granted in the merit stage briefing, that was a 50 page brief. I think that was the limit. They used all 50 pages. Fern Smith's name is mentioned zero times.

Well, how about Connie Smothermon? And luckily Fern Smith has a unique name so I could control F for Fern and figure out that it wasn't mentioned. Smothermon is mentioned -- the word Smothermon is mentioned in the Defendant's merit stage brief 63 times. Not Fern Smith. Not once. In the Defendant's reply brief in the merit stage, a 23 page document, does anybody want to take a guess how many Fern Smith's name is mentioned. Zero times. Connie Smothermon is mentioned -- or the word Smothermon is mentioned 25 times.

In the United States Supreme Court opinion, which is an 82 page document with both majority and the dissents, how many times is Fern Smith's name mentioned? Zero times. Smothermon 89 times. In the disqualification hearing before Judge Coyle, an 18 page transcript, how many times is Fern Smith's name mentioned? Zero times. How many times Smothermon mentioned? 10 times.

In the disqualification hearing before Judge Savage how many times is Fern Smith mentioned? One time. One time. And it is on page five. And all it says on page five, line 12,

Fern Smith tried the first trial. That's all it says about her.

And then it goes into Connie Smith and Gary Ackley tried the 2024 trial, we anticipate in the course -- and I apologize. Let me see who was talking here. Mr. Brewster was talking. We anticipate in the course of retrying this matter for a third time that there will be motions and hearings involving testimony from Connie Smothermon and Gary Ackley and others in the Oklahoma County DA's office regarding misconduct that the US Supreme Court recognized in it's opinion reversing Mr. Glossip's conviction. That's back when Connie Smothermon and Gary Ackley were the bad guys that destroyed all the evidence.

But now when the case was reassigned to Your Honor they had to switch course. Because Your Honor told all of us in your office chambers that you had never met Connie -- to your knowledge never met Connie Smothermon. So they had to switch course. Now it's Fern Smith. It's all Fern Smith. Fern Smith's the devil. And so the level of disingenuous in this is overwhelming.

This is a sham. This is nothing more than exactly what Mr. Knight said to this Court it wasn't. Judge shopping. He said it this morning and I'll say it now. That's sexual what this is and each and every one of them know it. Fern Smith -- Mr. Brewster says that Fern Smith gave a totally different story.

She did talk about two other trips. I don't know if she's right, I Don't know if she's wrong. It doesn't matter. None of them were Your Honor and her alone. They were group trips. It became obvious in her recounting those trips that often times the two of you weren't even traveling together.

It sounded like you came back at different times on different trains in different cars -- or meant to say planes instead of trains. One group went to Portugal the other group I believe including Your Honor stayed in whatever town it was in Spain. That is not that rule. That somebody goes on a group work associate trip together they can never preside over a trial that that person was involved in or their credibility is going to be questioned.

Because we expect more of our judges. We expect more of our judge to be able to set aside personal feelings and beliefs and make judgement according to the law. Judges are human just like everyone else. I'm sure every judge in this courthouse, every judge in this state, every judge in this country has lawyers that they like better than other, lawyers they dislike more than others. Lawyers they trust more than others. Because our reputation proceeds us. We can't get away from that. But that doesn't mean that that judge isn't going to do their job and make their judgements based upon the evidence.

If I thought for one minute that Your Honor is going to

give me a favorable ruling over any of these defense counsel just because we worked in the same office several years ago I would say, yeah, you shouldn't be on this case. You shouldn't be on the bench. But that's not the situation we have here. And there's no indication in any of the rulings being -- that have been made so far that would indicate. And I think that's telling.

Defense counsel cannot point to one ruling that was made incorrectly by Your Honor in this case. They cite to the fact that you at some point did make them follow some level of the rules of evidence and authentication -- authenticating some documents and relevance. But that -- those rules got stretched pretty darn far from my perspective and I think a lot of latitude was given, which I understand the circumstances of why Your Honor did that.

But at the end of the day this is just conjecture. And this is just speculation. And it's exactly what Mr. Knight said it wasn't Judge shopping and they don't want anyone who ever had any affiliation with the Oklahoma County DA's Office and to preside over this case because they feel like that was an evil place. I can tell you it wasn't.

I wasn't there in the Macy era. I can't speak to that.

But when I was there it was an honorable place to work and we took our jobs and oaths very seriously. And I won't get on a soap box here but it's offensive to hear they throw around

things that are just because it's on internet.

Mr. Knight cited a magazine article that supposedly he read this morning. Me guess is he probably planted that story so he could talk about it. That's the sort of media campaign that is getting ran by this table over her. Over and over we'll see an op ed. We'll see a magazine article. We'll seeing something from the Huffington Post or an op ed supposedly written by a former US Attorney.

But when you cut through all of that, when you cut through kind of all the malarky at the end of the day we need a judge to try this case. And there's been nothing presented that would indicate that Your Honor could not be fair to both sides. And for those reasons, not because the State wants to try this case in front of Judge Stallings as opposed to Judge Coyle or Judge Savage or whoever but because it's time to move this case forward and give Mr. Glossip the third trial, the third fair trial that he deserves.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Knight?

MR. KNIGHT: I'm going to reply.

THE COURT: Briefly.

MR. KNIGHT: Briefly, Your Honor. In 2025 you sent an email to Fern Smith. You didn't tell us about that email. We had to get it out of Fern Smith. And that email is clearly congratulatory. Hey, I'm just sending this to you. Hey, this is great. This is wonderful yeah, you know, it's not on me

because you know what? It's them. They wrote that opinion.

And you acknowledged to her that they wrote that opinion for you in. And you're like, yeah, it's fabulous. It's great.

You didn't tell us about your relationship with her in that way. You didn't say that to us. If you had said that to us we would have said, oh boy, Judge. I don't know. Fern Smith is going to be a witness. The idea that the only person that matters in this case is Connie Smothermon from the prosecutor's side is absolutely ridiculous. And it comes from something that Mr. Harmon doesn't want to talk about. And that's Exhibit Y. Exhibit Y is Rex Duncan's report.

MR. HARMON: Objection to him referring to it. It was not admitted I don't think.

MR. KNIGHT: I believe it was admitted.

THE COURT: Hang on. Y was not admitted.

MR. KNIGHT: It's still part of the record, Your Honor. For the purposes of this hearing it's still part of the record.

MR. HARMON: May I respond?

THE COURT: You may.

MR. HARMON: It is part of the record for appellate review. It is not part of the record that can be cited to as evidence to the Court.

THE COURT: All right. Move one, counsel.

MR. KNIGHT: Your Honor, this office led by Attorney

General Gentner Drummond retained someone named Rex Duncan, a former District Attorney, to look into this case to see if there's a problem before he was executed. These people come across here as if they're some kind of angels. Oh, we're just doing our best. This is great. 28 years that man spent on death row. 28 years for a crime he didn't commit. They don't even want to talk about the fact --

MR. HARMON: Objection. That's facts not in evidence that he didn't commit the crime.

THE COURT: Counsel, it's argument. But, again, let's stick to this hearing.

MR. KNIGHT: Thank you. It went to the Supreme

Court. It went to the United States Supreme Court and they

found error in this case. It came back here. It's not just

error though in -- by Connie Smothermon. The Supreme Court

also cited error in the early part of this case.

We've talked about the fact that there was evidence that was not collected, there was evidence that was given back to soon, there was evidence that was lost, there was evidence that was destroyed. All of that stuff done at the time when Fern Smith was the prosecutor in the case. She's going to be testifying. I think you know that.

I watch you, Your Honor, when you were with her. I watched you interact with these people. Every single thing that happens in this case from this point forward if you don't

recuse is going to be looked at through the lens of the hearing that we've had here today and evidence that we presented, the very strong and undoubtedly compelling evidence that we've presented here that you and your relationship with Fern Smith, your relationship with that office, your relationship with David Prater are going to be problems that are going to be seen again and again in this case if the Court stays on this case.

I want to look back at Judge Caswell for a second. Judge Caswell, and it looks like from Matthew Haire's testimony, Judge Caswell got off the case just because of one trip.

MR. HARMON: Objection, Your Honor. Actually Mr. Haire said he didn't know what Judge Caswell recused.

THE COURT: All right. I recall the testimony. And that was the testimony. Mr. Haire said she did not say why she recused.

MR. KNIGHT: I understand she did not say -- although Fern Smith said that in her --

THE COURT: Counsel, move on. Let's wrap it up.

MR. KNIGHT: Judge Caswell got off the case because of a relationship she had with Fern Smith. That was it. She got off for whatever reason other than that. Nonetheless there were two cases at least. Connie Bacon and Antonio Ellis where she refused to get off. The OCCA had it front of them and they sent it back.

MR. HARMON: Objection. I don't think that's in evidence. I don't think it's relevant.

MR. KNIGHT: It's argument, Your Honor.

THE COURT: It is argument. But, counsel, let's stick to what we talked about today.

MR. KNIGHT: I am sticking with what we were talking about today, Your Honor. Those two cases went up. What I'm going to tell now is the most important thing about this. If the Court decides not to recuse herself it's structural error. Structural error means it comes back here automatically. There doesn't need to be any prosecutorial misconduct or no other problems with it. If the Court of Appeals finds structural error it comes back to the Court for fourth trial without any other issues needing to be resolved. What the Court is doing is setting this matter up for a fourth trial.

And the only thing the Court has to do is say, you know what, I get it. We spent a whole day talking about this. We started out with one trip, we ended up with three trips. We started out without any kind of conversations, any kind of communications, we ended with this email in 2025 that you sent her that I'm sure you didn't send to anybody else. You don't treat her like you treat everybody else.

When I spoke this morning I said when they fight hard they're fighting hard for a reason. I told the Court this morning and I'll say it again. We could move this case

forward in 20 minutes if they want to sit down with us and say, hey, let's a take look for a judge around this courthouse who isn't somebody who used to be involved in the District Attorney's Office. Now if there's somebody who was in the District Attorney's Office that just got on the bench maybe they just got -- you know they were there just a couple of years ago.

But that's not the case here, Your Honor. You stretched way back. This case stretched way back. Everything about this case is different than every other case. We are asking to start at the fair spot. That's what we're asking for.

When I said this morning, and again Mr. Harmon mischaracterizes it, I didn't say I didn't want a trial. I'll take a trial if I could have fair trial. If I could have a fair trial and a fair trial starts with a fair judge. I want to start even. I don't want to start here while they start here because of their relationship with you.

It came through today, Your Honor. I'm sorry but it did. It came through time and again. You know, I was counting for a while the number of times that you upheld an objection from them or overruled an objection from us. It one wildly out of proportion. They won way more than we did. He said you haven't even had a chance to tell Judge Stallings that she did something wrong. Well, Judge, you know, I don't know about your evidentiary rulings today but I don't think that they

were necessarily above reproach. You could very well have been wrong. And it could have been because of your bias.

We need a judge who's fair. You might not be because of these relationships that you have. Let us move on with the case. Lord knows Mr. Glossip is in jail. If anybody is suffering from the long history here it's Mr. Glossip. You think we want to move this thing along and we do. We definitely want to move this thing along. But we want to move this thing along in a fair way. Give me a fair judge.

Somebody who's not -- you know, it was an interesting part here. Fern Smith is up there. And she said I know him, I know him. You are all friends. Yeah, you're friends. You're friends. Everybody's friends. Everybody is friends. We're not friends. We don't know these people. Jen Hinsperger might be your Facebook friend. We don't know these people. We don't. You guys are all friends. It doesn't look good. It looks bad. It might lead a reasonable person to say I don't have confidence in this. I don't have confidence in this proceeding. That tears at the structure of our judicial system. And I'm going to ask the Court for that reason to recuse yourself.

THE COURT: Thank you, counsel.

MR. KNIGHT: Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Knight said in his opening statement he wasn't judge shopping. And yet with his

next breath he doesn't want any judge that was in the culture in the District Attorney's Office during that time. That's judge shopping. It's obvious from today's long hearing that the Defense wished to make the Court an distraction in this case to get what they want.

Even listening to Professor Smith, who was firm in saying, you know, reasonable people, you know, you should avoid even the appearance of impropriety and bias. Well, she certainly

In order to move this case along, in order to stop this dog and pony show so that they can continue on their journey to get the judge that they want the Court is going to recuse.

Now unfortunately nothing can happen until tomorrow. So the Court will sign a transfer order tomorrow at some time before my other hearing.

Anything else for the record?

has bias. But that's neither here nor there.

MR. HARMON: Not from the State, Your Honor.

MR. BREWSTER: Nothing from the Defendant, Your Honor.

THE COURT: We'll close the record.

(End of proceedings.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY, STATE OF OKLAHOMA
STATE OF OKLAHOMA,)
Plaintiff,
vs. CASE NO. CF-1997-244
RICHARD EUGENE GLOSSIP,)
Defendant.)
STATE OF OKLAHOMA) OUNTY OF OKLAHOMA) OUNTY OF OKLAHOMA)
I, Elliott Thompson, Certified Shorthand Reporter, within
and for the State of Oklahoma, duly appointed and qualified
reporter in the District Court of Oklahoma County, State of
Oklahoma, do hereby certify that I took down by machine
shorthand the proceedings as described on Page 1 herein, and
the foregoing is a true, complete and accurate record of my
shorthand notes so taken of said proceedings.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and official
seal this 2nd day of November, 2025.
Elliott Thompson, CSR #2021