Witness: Ray Coyle

Date: 2004-07-19

Proceedings held July 19, 2004

Called by: People (prosecution)

Phase: Guilt

Examinations: Cross – Mark Geragos (continued from previous day)

Day 2 of 3 for this witness

Court: San Mateo County Superior Court, Redwood City (People v. Scott Peterson)

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July 19, 2004

GERAGOS: Detective Coyle, when we left off last week, we were talking about some of these 290 reports and the investigation in connection with them?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: You had a, you provided me with a list, an eight page list that had a number of names on them; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. Do you have the list in front of you?

COYLE: I do.

GERAGOS: Do you see the, I want to avoid using their names, and I'll just refer you to the number, if that's okay.

COYLE: That's fine.

GERAGOS: Second page.

COYLE: Number, number 42.

GERAGOS: Number 42. You have a Bates numbered report in connection with that?

COYLE: Yes, I do.

GERAGOS: Okay. Is this person somebody who was contacted? And cleared?

COYLE: Contacted and completed. The investigation was completed.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, so that I understand, last week when you and I talked, if I understood it correctly, the eight page list that you gave me contains 300 and some-odd numbers, right?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Out of those 300 and some-odd names, 280 I think were the number you estimated were the people who have been contacted?

COYLE: I believe I said 285. It was close.

GERAGOS: Out of those 285, when we were doing this with the exhibit last week, I don't have it right in front of me, I'll get it at the break, but when we were doing this last week, there was a column that said eliminated?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Did you, and if I understood your testimony correct, this list was given to you at some point having been pre-done, if you will, or collated by somebody prior to you dealing with this whole area, right?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. So when you get the list, somebody has previously alphabetized on some kind of an Excel sheet all of these names of the registered sex offenders in Modesto, is that right?

COYLE: No. It was a select group of registered sex offenders, and some parolees as well. So they're not, not everybody on the list was a registered sex offender. And this is definitely not all the registered sex offenders in Modesto. This is just a particular group that was selected.

JUDGE: If I ask one question?

GERAGOS: Sure.

JUDGE: Because I,

GERAGOS: Sure.

JUDGE: When you testified last time, when you were shown that list you said they've been cleared to date.

COYLE: Completed.

GERAGOS: Completed.

JUDGE: To date. But when you say "to date," what date are you referring to? Is it today?

COYLE: Yeah. Up until today. Now. Up until that date then.

JUDGE: So when you said up to date, they were cleared up at the time you testified two weeks ago?

COYLE: What I meant by that is I have about 24 files that I'm still working on, because those people have never been contacted or located.

JUDGE: Okay. I just thought, just troubling me when he said "to date." I don't know what he meant.

GERAGOS: I understand.

COYLE: In other words, I'm still continuing to go, still continuing to work on those.

JUDGE: Still working on those.

GERAGOS: So I understand the sequence, you, you receive this list that somebody has culled out a, what you call a select group of sex offenders and parolees, is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Somebody's made an assessment that out of, is it fair to say out of the thousands of sex offenders, of over a thousand sex offenders in Modesto, these are the, these are the most likely, candidates most likely not to succeed?

COYLE: I don't know how many we have. I just know this is not a complete list. I don't know if it's in the thousands or not.

GERAGOS: Okay. Then you don't know what the screening process was to eliminate the others before this list was compiled, do you?

COYLE: Essentially, essentially I do know, based on conversations I've overheard. I wasn't in on the original process, no.

GERAGOS: Okay. So you get this list, and then there's the specific column, which is to the right, that says eliminated; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, that to your mind is different than contacted; is that correct?

COYLE: I didn't have anything to do with either, either of those columns as far as contacted or eliminated. I didn't set this up, and I'm not sure what was in their mind. My mindset at the point in time that I got this was what I felt I needed to do with it. It had nothing to do with contacted or eliminated.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, the, I've counted, I went through your file and I counted approximately 23 either parolees or 290 registrants that you personally talked to; is that an accurate number?

COYLE: I would think that the number, off the top of my head, is a little bit closer to 50 that I personally interviewed.

GERAGOS: Okay. I've got, basically, the reports, and I guess it looks like you've done something since we were last here. You now have Bates number stamps that correspond; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, did you do something to, when you contacted them, to either, last week you had said 280 had been contacted; is that correct?

COYLE: No, I said completed.

GERAGOS: Completed means, what does completed mean to you?

COYLE: As far as I'm concerned, that term means that something was done in regards to that person, and it was taken as far as it could go. In some of those cases it was merely checking with vital statistics to find out that that person was deceased. Obviously that's as far as we could go. In some of the cases we interviewed the person himself and an alibi person or two. In some cases we interviewed a staff person for several of the guys that were in a particular program and were in a lock-down facility during that time period. So there's, there's a lot of variation in what we did to complete that.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, when you get to complete, that does not mean eliminated; isn't that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. So when you say 280 were completed, that does not mean that, by any means, that 280 were eliminated as potential suspects in this case?

COYLE: Essentially I'm the only person I know that I can eliminate.

GERAGOS: You're the only person who makes a determination as to whether or not you can eliminate someone?

COYLE: No, I'm saying that if, if I'm going to say somebody's eliminated, as far as I'm concerned I'm the only guy that didn't do it, that I know of.

GERAGOS: Okay. Well, do you know for a fact, for instance, when somebody has indicated to you where their alibi is, there's a number of these people, and I'll direct you specifically to number 42, did you take a look at this particular investigation?

COYLE: Yes, I did.

GERAGOS: Okay. When you took a look at this, did you conduct this investigation?

COYLE: No, I did not.

GERAGOS: Somebody else did?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Was this in one of the ones that you totaled as the 280 for completed?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And this person was listed as what, a parolee or as a sex offender?

COYLE: I'd have to refer back to the report. Is that all right?

GERAGOS: That's fine.

JUDGE: Sure.

GERAGOS: If it helps you, I've got it on 30, Bates number stamp 3579.

COYLE: I do it alphabetically here.

GERAGOS: It actually starts,

JUDGE: Mr. Geragos, if you're going to project it, I think it would be a good idea to cover the names. If you're going to,

GERAGOS: I wasn't planning on projecting it. I was going to avoid that.

JUDGE: Okay.

COYLE: I don't believe he was a parolee, no.

GERAGOS: So, registered sex offender?

COYLE: Sex offender, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And then this person was contacted; is that correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he claimed that he was out of state; is that correct?

COYLE: Let me check just a second here. You're talking about number 42?

GERAGOS: Yeah. Let me just show you, since we're trying to avoid putting names up, if I could just show you what I'm looking at. Is this the same?

COYLE: Okay. Let me, I'll turn to that page.

GERAGOS: Sure enough. Take a minute to read it to yourself, refresh your recollection.

COYLE: Yes, he claimed he was out of state.

GERAGOS: Okay. And then somebody received a questionnaire, a questionnaire later on that was filled out. The questionnaire was the page you were just reviewing, right?

COYLE: Right.

GERAGOS: Okay. And so they were reviewing the information that this particular gentleman gave them, right?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And the, this particular gentleman, we'll just call him Edward and won't say a last name, Edward stated that he had spent last Christmas Eve with his sister Carol; is that correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he said he hadn't seen or talked to his sister in a year, correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. The investigator then went out and spoke to another gentleman; is that correct? At the address that was apparently listed for the sister?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And at that address that was apparently listed for the sister, what did the gentleman who was there say?

COYLE: He did not know them and did not have any information on how to contact her.

GERAGOS: In fact, he said that he had lived at that residence for three years, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: So this registered sex offender is saying I was with my sister, she lives over at this address on blank avenue, and that's where I was a year ago, right?

COYLE: Well, no. According to the report that we just went through, the portion just before that, he claimed that he was with his sister in Patterson. Our officer, or our Detective Blake finds an address through DMV records that he then goes to.

GERAGOS: When he went there,

COYLE: So it's a different, different locations.

GERAGOS: Yeah. But when they went there, they were unable to find any sister as having resided there within the last three years, correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. And next they, somebody called the Stanislaus County Sheriff, right?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And they said they didn't even have any entries for the sister's name, correct?

COYLE: Right.

GERAGOS: Okay. And this person also on their questionnaire, can you tell me on question number eight of the questionnaire, what was the vehicle that this person has access to?

COYLE: At that time a Chevy van 1985, white.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did that, is that significant in any way to you in terms of this investigation?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: Okay. So a van, or white van, mid 80s, with a sex offender who's giving us an address that can't be verified, is this a completed investigation? Does this go into the completed column?

COYLE: Well, there's additional reports.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, on the additional, is this a completed investigation?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: The, give you another one that I believe is listed on your list as number 18. Do you have that in front of you?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, is this a completed or cleared person?

COYLE: This is a completed one, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, completed does not mean eliminated, correct?

COYLE: Right. I'm not using that term at all.

GERAGOS: Okay. This person basically said that they were at the Mission, first of all, they're a registered sex offender, correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Told the officers that he had slept at the Mission. You knew that to be the Gospel Mission?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: On the 23rd? Is that correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: He left in the morning of the 24th?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Went to the library, he said, at 8:30?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. Then he had gone to the park; is that correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And then he went to the grocery store?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. The, he says he doesn't own a vehicle; is that correct?

COYLE: That's what he says, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And is that basically the, he was then looked at, didn't see any signs of a struggle on him; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Now, that would have been on what date that somebody looked at him to see if he had signs of a struggle?

COYLE: August 18th, 2003.

GERAGOS: So it would have been about nine months after the incident itself?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And did that then complete the investigation?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Did anybody, as far as you know, go to the library to confirm whether he had been to the library?

COYLE: Not as far as I know, no.

GERAGOS: Did anybody go to the place called the Tower Park to see if he had actually been there?

COYLE: Not as far as I know.

GERAGOS: Did anybody go to run a DMV on him to see if he had access to a vehicle?

COYLE: I don't know whether anybody did or not.

GERAGOS: You certainly didn't.

COYLE: I did not.

GERAGOS: And there's no report that's contained in there that shows that?

COYLE: I don't have a report to that effect, no.

JUDGE: Mr. Geragos, would this be a good time to take the afternoon recess?

GERAGOS: Sure.

JUDGE: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, we'll take the recess until, give you until 3:00 o'clock. Remember the admonition I've heretofore given you. We'll pick up where Mr. Geragos left off.

<recess>

GERAGOS: That one that we just did was the, that was the extent of the investigation as far as you know?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. The, that one that looks like, we've got one that looks like on your list, No. 141. And if your, at any point if you want, I know you've got some of the Bates numbers, but I've also got supplemental.

COYLE: Go ahead. I'm with you.

GERAGOS: Is this person, I'll just call him Robert, is this kind of a two-fer, both currently off of parole, at least mid '03 and a registered sex offender, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And his last known address was what?

COYLE: I believe the Gospel Mission.

GERAGOS: That's right over by Covena, correct?

COYLE: It's a few blocks away, but, yeah, it's in the general area.

GERAGOS: And then it looks like there was an Officer Locke who did this investigation?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. The first notification was, it looks like sometime in mid January the Modesto parole office tried to or came up with some a list of names of people who were parolees or former parolees?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. He was one of them that's currently discharged from parole and whereabouts were unknown?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And then does, and that was January of '03 was when the person, the whereabouts were unknown, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Then the, there was some investigation that was done in an address for a similar name that came back to a place in Citrus Heights?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: They were unable, however, they went to Citrus Heights, checked the address and were told he didn't live there, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And then somebody contacted this guy's ex-employer who advised that he was no longer working for him and they had no current info on him, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Does that, does that basically constitute the extent of the investigation as to Robert?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And basically nobody's ever found this person?

COYLE: No, that's correct.

GERAGOS: The next one I'm going to refer you to is 139. And that last one that we did that I called Robert that was a, that was completed in terms of the investigation; is that correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: That's one of the 285 names?

COYLE: Right.

GERAGOS: This person, looks like this person was contacted; is that right?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Was originally contacted, where, at the jail?

COYLE: At the jail, yes.

GERAGOS: And that was when, in July of '03?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And this person is a registered sex offender?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And where did he list as his address?

COYLE: I believe the mission as well.

GERAGOS: On Yosemite in Modesto?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he was questioned, while he was in the jail that was at Stanislaus County Jail?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: He was questioned about where he was on the 24th between 8:30 and 5:00?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he said he couldn't remember?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And he had no one to verify his whereabouts?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And he says he remembered, he admitted to being near the foot bridge south of Scenic and Coffee Road?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: All right. In July he had no visible injuries or scars on his hands or face, correct?

COYLE: According to the report, yes, that's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. It says he didn't have access to any vehicles?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: It said he couldn't remember where he was on either the 24th or the 25th?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now somebody told him that they had a day pass or that he had a day pass issued for that day, according to the staff.

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he said he didn't remember checking out that day, had no family members to go to and visit, and didn't have any alibi, so to speak; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Did that constitute the completed investigation for this gentleman who's No. 139 on your list?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: All right. And that goes into the count of 285?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: He had, it looks like No. 68.

COYLE: I'm with you. Go ahead.

GERAGOS: Do you have it in front of you?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: This person was contacted when?

COYLE: I believe it was on 12/31/02.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, if I'm correct, it looks like he was contacted by an officer, is it Fainter?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And is this the sum total of the notes that we've got on him?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. So he contacted this particular gentleman whose number I gave you, and this guy said he was home alone on Christmas Eve and on Christmas day, his family is from Oakland, he has no friends around and he works at, and he gave a specific thing?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Did that complete the investigation of this person?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he goes into the 280?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Do you know how, was he contacted by phone?

COYLE: I believe at that point everybody was being contacted in person.

GERAGOS: And so, as far as you know, nothing was done in order to confirm whether this person was at home on Christmas Eve or Christmas day, all you know is that he was contacted, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he just said I was home alone and then that went into the completed file?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: I've got another one here which it looks like 248. No.

COYLE: Oh, sorry. Okay.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, this person was contacted on May 6 of last year?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And gave his daughter's information as his contact person?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Is that to be as an alibi, so to speak?

COYLE: Well, it appears that he said he was going to be going there, gave her name, so it looks like we contacted her. She said he was going to come, but did not.

GERAGOS: And did he say he was home alone on the 24th all day?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And that nobody else can verify his statement?

COYLE: Well, when we did contact her she said that she did call him at home on the 24th.

GERAGOS: So she received some calls from him?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: But she didn't say that she called him?

COYLE: Correct. She talked to him on the phone.

GERAGOS: She talked to him on the phone. He called her. She doesn't recall the exact time, right?

COYLE: Right.

GERAGOS: Do you know if any phone records were obtained to verify that these calls were made?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: And this person is a registered sex offender?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: In the Modesto area?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And was, at least by somebody's judgment, thought to be a high risk-type person?

COYLE: I couldn't say that they thought he was high risk, no.

GERAGOS: He was culled out, so to speak, out of the larger universe of sex offenders that live in Modesto?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Now, I've got another one here that's, it looks like 66. Now, and by the way, the one that I just referred to, I'll call him Larry, Larry is a completed one; is that correct?

COYLE: Yeah.

GERAGOS: Because he was contacted?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And that goes into the 285?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Now, this one I just gave you, 66, is this one not complete?

COYLE: This is not complete, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. This is a person who has an extensive criminal history?

COYLE: I don't know if I can say extensive. He does have some sex crime history, yes.

GERAGOS: He's been arrested for rape and oral copulation of a child under 14?

COYLE: Yes. Excuse me, sorry, they were all adults, I think.

GERAGOS: Are you looking at 38513.

COYLE: 38513?

GERAGOS: Bates numbered stamp, I'm sorry.

COYLE: Okay.

GERAGOS: Right at the, let me show you mine.

COYLE: Okay.

GERAGOS: Right there, second line, do you want to read that to yourself to see if that refreshes your recollection?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Was he apparently arrested for rape and oral copulation of a child under 14 in '83?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Then in '85 another arrest for the same crime along, except this crime a sexual battery?

COYLE: Yes, that's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. The one contact in Modesto was July of '03 was arrested drunk in public?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. It looks like you never were able to find him; is that correct?

COYLE: No, there's additional reports on him under 38496 and 38497.

GERAGOS: Okay. The 38496 says there's a list and it looks like a supplemental report and somebody's classified him as a high risk sex offender. And here they put down that his victims were all adults; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct. I was reading from this page originally before you referred me to the other one.

GERAGOS: Okay. This person specifically was later contacted this year?

COYLE: Yes, he was.

GERAGOS: Okay. He was drinking when he was contacted?

COYLE: Yes, appeared he had been drinking, but he was non-intoxicated, according to the officer that interviewed him.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, did you at any point, this was not completed and why was that?

COYLE: I did not sign off as this one as a completed because they attempted to contact the father to verify his alibi and apparently was unable to reach him and there were no later indications that they were able to talk to him.

GERAGOS: Okay. So he gave his father as an alibi for the 24th; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And nobody's been able to contact the father to see whether that was correct?

COYLE: As far as I know, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Somebody spoke to his sister and she indicated that she's not sure where he was on the 24th, he might have been in Modesto; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: He didn't live in Modesto, did he?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: It appears that she, I guess the sister, she being the sister, indicated that she thought that on the 24th of December her brother may have been in Modesto, right?

COYLE: She, I think she said she didn't know where.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did you show her anywhere where he has access to vehicles?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did anybody run a DMV as far as you know showing if he's got any vehicles?

COYLE: Not as far as I know.

GERAGOS: Do you know if anybody ran his father's DMV to see if he had any vehicles?

COYLE: I don't have that information either.

GERAGOS: Okay. I will show you, and is that the extent of the investigation at this point as far as you know?

COYLE: To this date, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, there's a, I'm going to point you to another one, numerical list. I'll just show it to you to see if you can find it for me because I'm having trouble with the first name. It's Bates No. 32582.

DISTASO: What's the number on the list?

GERAGOS: I can't tell because it doesn't, That's the witness, who's the subject here?

COYLE: 1, 2, 3, 4.

GERAGOS: I'll take them in order then. We'll start with the first one who is, it looks like 238.

COYLE: 238. Is that right, 238?

GERAGOS: 238, that's the first one in this report?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And it looks like in this, and correct me if I'm wrong, Officer Beffa, did some investigation, right?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he talked to somebody who was in charge of the halfway houses?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And where is this, where are these halfway houses located?

COYLE: On Angle Lane in Modesto, which is out in the Yosemite Boulevard area.

GERAGOS: How far away is that from Covena?

COYLE: Oh, eight, ten blocks maybe, maybe a little further.

GERAGOS: So this is separate and apart, this Angle Lane halfway house is separate and apart from the Gospel Mission area?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. So we the Gospel Mission, which is five or six blocks away from the Covena house?

COYLE: I think it's a little more than that.

GERAGOS: Less than a mile?

COYLE: Yeah.

GERAGOS: Okay. And we've got a halfway house that also has parolees and sex offenders living at it and that's approximately how far away?

COYLE: It's probably a couple blocks further than the mission, but, again, this is sort of the same general area.

GERAGOS: Okay. When you contacted or Officer Beffa contacted the person who runs the halfway house, he was told that there were one, two, three, four registered sex offenders that were there at the appropriate time period?

COYLE: Actually, the report that you're referring to under 32940 is really an additional supplement because all four of those subjects had previously been contacted, but the Randall Hughes, the witness, had not been indexed so the officer was sent back out to re-contact him and get his information and verify.

GERAGOS: Were all four of these people, was that completed at that point?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now the underlying investigations as to those four individuals, were you able to establish in any of those four where the people were on the 24th?

COYLE: Just referring to the one subject that you started with in that one, the first one there, according to him, and when he was originally interviewed, he said he was at the Bethesda Ministries all day the entire day.

GERAGOS: Okay. Was Mr. Hughes the guy, the witness that was contacted, was he able to verify that?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: How about the second person that was there, which I think is, it looks like number 70?

COYLE: Yes, he also was interviewed and said that he was there all day long.

GERAGOS: Okay. And the next, the other two, same thing?

COYLE: I can't see that, the third one there.

GERAGOS: And the third one?

COYLE: Was, I can't see that he was contacted, however, he went to the halfway house and ended up speaking to Mr. Hughes again, the witness who verified he was also there.

GERAGOS: That's No. 1, isn't it?

COYLE: That's correct, No. 1.

GERAGOS: He hasn't been contacted, correct?

COYLE: Reading this report, it does not appear he was personally, no.

GERAGOS: Okay. And then the last one looks like, let's see if I can remember the number.

COYLE: 155.

GERAGOS: Right. Contacted or not?

COYLE: Yes, he was and he says that he was there all day.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did you receive any records from the, this halfway house showing like a sign-in sheet or anything like that?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: Did you receive any parole notifications or anything of that nature that would have verified that the people were there on the 24th and the 25th?

COYLE: There was nothing to do with parole, no.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did you have anything at that halfway house, other than Mr. Hughes saying that they were living there at the time?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: Okay. And Mr. Hughes is a person who's in charge of the location, if I understand correctly?

COYLE: He's staff there, yes.

GERAGOS: Staff. Okay. Then I'm going to point you to a No. 35.

COYLE: I'm with you. Go ahead.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did this, were you able to contact this person?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And when you contacted this person, were they able to give you some information as to where they said they were on the 24th?

COYLE: Where he said he believed he was, yes.

GERAGOS: And where did he say he believed he was?

COYLE: Visiting his brother out of town.

GERAGOS: Did you contact his brother?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Did his brother tell you he was unable to give you an answer?

COYLE: He said he couldn't recall whether it was the 24th or the 25th that his brother was there.

GERAGOS: And he said he needed to think about it before giving you a definite answer?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: He said his brother later called you back?

COYLE: I contacted him later personally, yes.

GERAGOS: And he said he could not recall for sure whether it was Christmas Eve, Christmas day or Christmas day and the day after?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And did that complete the investigation as to him?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And let me show you, ask you to refer you to No. 9.

COYLE: Go ahead.

GERAGOS: This person is a registered sex offender?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. When you first tried to find him, somebody tried to, it wasn't you personally, back on December 29th?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. He listed an address on Kerr, K-e-r-r?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Two officers went over to try and contact him at that Kerr Avenue address?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now, when a registrant lists an address, it's extremely important, it's a violation of law if they are listing an address where they are not staying, correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. That in and of itself can be a strike offense, correct?

COYLE: I wouldn't have any information about strikes, I just know it is a criminal offense, but I don't know what.

GERAGOS: Okay. When the officers went over to this address on Kerr Avenue, what happened?

COYLE: Apparently there was no one there that answered the door. They talked to somebody else who said that their relative was in charge of the property and they didn't know the person we were looking for.

GERAGOS: Okay. You went a little bit farther and said no one under the name of this particular sex offender lived at that location, correct? I'm looking at the first paragraph.

COYLE: Right, he didn't know anybody by that name staying at the residence, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Then at some point somebody went back to this Kerr Avenue address?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And they interviewed two people who lived there, two residents?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Both the residents said they lived at that residence for how long?

COYLE: Two years.

GERAGOS: And they didn't know this sex offender and no one under his name stayed with them?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: They had a back house, but there was no one under this sex offender's name who lived there?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And whoever the officer was, I think Musto, went to the back house and contacted the resident and she also denied knowing who the person was and she lived there for over a year?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Then at some point somebody conducted a driver's license check?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: They found a name that matched that had another address?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Went to the address, attempted to contact him, no answer?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Left a note?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Do you remember what date that was? It's either May 5th

COYLE: I believe it's May 5th, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Then this gentleman was contacted on May the 7th?

COYLE: Yes. He actually leaves a message on the 6th or he telephoned on the 6th and they arranged for a meeting on the 7th.

GERAGOS: He said he was at home on the 24th between 8:30 and 5:00?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And he said he might have visited some friends in the surrounding area, that he would not have done so until after 5:00 o'clock?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: He says he has a car, a four-door Accord?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And did that complete the investigation of this gentleman?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: That went into one of the 285 that was noted by you to be complete?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: I've got another one that's listed on your list as I think 101?

COYLE: 101. Go ahead.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, the, specifically this person was contacted by Officer Musto?

COYLE: Actually, it was two officers together, Officer Kelly and Officer Musto, I believe.

GERAGOS: Was this person contacted over the phone?

COYLE: In person on one occasion. I'm looking to make sure that he wasn't.

GERAGOS: I'm at 3120. Is that what?

COYLE: Yes, on that occasion that was by phone.

GERAGOS: Now this person by phone said he had never seen Laci Peterson before and never had contact with her?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Then he says, "I observed no visible signs of cuts or scratches on this gentleman's arms or hands"?

COYLE: Yeah, I believe he does a supplement later saying that was entered in error there.

GERAGOS: Because it would have been very hard to observe that, he didn't have a video, phone or anything?

COYLE: Absolutely. It would have been hard.

GERAGOS: So at some point later on somebody goes back and takes a look and sees that on this report he's got telephone contact and he's writing in the report "I observed no visible signs of cuts or scratches"?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. Was this person completed?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And this person had access to a car? I'm once again referring you to the neighbor who gave Officer Kelly and Musto the original information that same as?

COYLE: Yes, it appears he has a car that's connected to him somehow, yes.

GERAGOS: And this was a completed investigation?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And goes into that list of 285?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now, I'm going to return for just one moment to the gentleman you started off with. There was

COYLE: Which number was that?

GERAGOS: It was No. 42.

COYLE: Go ahead.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, this person had a history of mental illness; is that correct?

COYLE: I don't know if I could say "history," we did contact him at our mental health facility at one point.

GERAGOS: He was not apparently in an institution on the 24th and 25th?

COYLE: I don't believe he was, no.

GERAGOS: Okay. He was interviewed by one of the sergeants, correct?

COYLE: No, I don't think so.

GERAGOS: It looks like Sergeant Conner, Corder, I'm sorry. Is it Corder?

COYLE: Well, that's, that is, yeah, that's who spoke to our detective but

GERAGOS: Okay. So Sergeant Corder, if I understand what happened with this particular person, Sergeant Corder arrested this gentleman for some vandalism and traffic violations?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And while he interviewed this guy, this guy claimed he committed a murder in Modesto around Christmas time?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Said he murdered a female named Alisa Peterson at Scenic Park?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: He said the only witness was the dog?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Said he was driving his sister's white Chevy van during that time period?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Said he murdered her by breaking her neck?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And then he called friends over to pick up the body and drive it over to the Bay Area?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now it looks like on the next page that there was an Officer Wolfe who interviewed this gentleman later on; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And that would have been about a year later in sometime December 2002?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: 2003, I'm sorry.

COYLE: 2003.

GERAGOS: And he was eliminated, is that correct, as a suspect because of his history of mental illness?

COYLE: No, I wouldn't say he was eliminated. I can't say eliminated at all. He was completed because of the witnesses who were also interviewed by our detective.

GERAGOS: Can I show you a report by Detective Brocchini?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay.

COYLE: I've got that.

GERAGOS: You've got that there. Did Detective Brocchini write Kegel was eliminated as a suspect because of his history of mental illness?

COYLE: That's what's written here, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. You certainly weren't going to eliminate him because he's got a history of mental illness?

COYLE: I didn't want to eliminate anybody, but, I mean, I didn't want to eliminate him at all, no.

GERAGOS: Okay. But that report was prepared, the one that you and I are reading from is from Brocchini; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Is it a fair statement, I'm not going to go through every single one of these. I mean, you've got Bates number stamped here. Is the selection of the number of these items that I've gone through, has that been somewhat typical of what you would find if we went through the 280 of these?

COYLE: No. I wouldn't say so.

GERAGOS: Has there been an out of whack from the others?

COYLE: Just from memory, I would say the vast majority of the 285 there was some person who said, whether his employer, a relative or whatever that said I was with him on that day. Do I know whether they were lying or not? No, I don't. But the vast majority who said I was with him and they were here.

GERAGOS: Okay. And when you say the "vast majority," either a friend or a mother or wife or somebody would say

COYLE: Employer in several cases.

GERAGOS: Say I was with him. The rest were, fall into the categories of the ones we done today or this afternoon?

COYLE: No, I wouldn't even say the rest. Then there were a large group that were incarcerated in county jails in California state prison system and state prisons outside of California at the time. Then there was a group who were deceased.

GERAGOS: Well, how many would you say, you had a category or somebody had a category as "eliminated"; correct?

COYLE: Not me.

GERAGOS: You did not?

JUDGE: Not eliminated, completed.

GERAGOS: But somebody had started that category prior to you?

COYLE: Right. Somebody did.

GERAGOS: You, however, did not eliminate anybody unless they were incarcerated or dead; is that correct?

COYLE: Well, I didn't even consider them eliminated. I mean I guess they would be if they were dead at the time, sure. But I wasn't going by that, I was going by completed investigations.

GERAGOS: Now, the, I think you were also asked on direct whether you had been in the house on Covena on the 26th and the 27th?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And what was your function on the 26th and the 27th?

COYLE: I was assisting in the search. I was one of the search team members.

GERAGOS: Now, what, specifically what area did you, were you responsible for?

JUDGE: Detective Coyle, there's a pointer there.

COYLE: Initially the master bedroom, and then eventually assisting in some of the outside areas, and a little bit in the dining room and kitchen area as well.

GERAGOS: Now in the master bedroom did you see a hamper in there?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now, I've got one photo, it's not really great, it's not color, but does that look like the hamper that you saw in there?

COYLE: Yes, the bottom end of it, yeah.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, is it a fair statement that when you went in there you did not see what appears to be People's 10 in the hamper?

COYLE: No, that's not a fair statement.

GERAGOS: I'm going to show you some notes. Tell me if you know what these are.

COYLE: Well, I see what it says.

GERAGOS: Can I ask you, did you say that you've been shown, did you tell somebody that you've been shown the photograph of the hamper from 12/26, 12/27 search?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Did you tell them you did not recall seeing the shirt that I'm pointing to, this shirt, People's 10, is that what you referred to?

COYLE: When I said at that point in time

JUDGE: It's not a shirt, I think it's a maternity blouse.

GERAGOS: I'm just using "shirt" because that's what on the notes. But I assume what you're referring to was the blouse, People's 10?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: In the notes it indicates that you did not recall seeing the shirt, did you tell them that?

COYLE: When I was, that conversation was in regard to, did you see this particular shirt? I said, gee, I don't recall that. I don't remember that. I was then shown a photograph and I said, well, yes, now I recall it. But at the point in time prior to being shown the picture, I didn't remember that specific item.

GERAGOS: Did you, now you apparently, if I understand correctly, we've had some testimony from some of the other officers, the officers would be If I can mark this as next in order.

JUDGE: Okay.

GERAGOS: I'll find the color and substitute the color.

JUDGE: OOOO.

GERAGOS: Were you assigned or somebody else to search the master bedroom?

COYLE: Not, not necessarily. I believe I began searching it myself. There were other officers that came along as they finished their specific areas.

GERAGOS: Now, I'll give you another exhibit, which is People's 7. Is that how the hamper looked when you went in there to do the search?

COYLE: Well, I actually had partially searched it originally on the evening of the 26th, then completely searched it on the 27th. I don't recall when that photo was specifically taken, whether it was after the partial search, before any search was done, the photographs upon leaving the residence or somewhere in between.

GERAGOS: These, is it a fair statement that you had gone in, had taken a look at the stuff or searched on the 26th; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Came back the next day on the 27th, searched again?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. Would that explain, for instance, why People's 7 looks like that and then the items that I'm marking, which I'm taking from a video camera look like they do?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And also a fair statement that it appears it looks like it's light in that room?

COYLE: Right. This was daylight.

GERAGOS: Okay. That would have been a video taken the next day on the 27th?

COYLE: Correct. And this may have been the exit video.

GERAGOS: The exit video. So that would have been after somebody had searched that hamper area at least once or twice; is that correct?

COYLE: Correct.

GERAGOS: And does that, do those two pictures that I showed you accurately represent what the condition of the hamper was when you left the house?

COYLE: Well, I can't say for sure that that was the exit video. I'm just assuming that but

GERAGOS: Because it's day time and it appears different in terms of the clothes that are in the hamper?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Now, I'm specifically going to set these up here for one second. You don't need to look at them quite yet, but let me just finish here. So this is the hamper presumably when you come into the house; is that correct?

COYLE: Again, I don't know when that photograph was taken. I don't know if this was prior to any searching or whether that was after I had initially searched it. I also don't know whether somebody came along behind me and searched again.

GERAGOS: Now, when you have the next photo. We've got, this is the one that we were referring to that looks like it's light in the room?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And also appear that there's some blue items there. And I'll show you one of the other pictures because it loses something in the projection. Does that look blue to you?

COYLE: Powder blue, although, it's hard to tell with the light. It may be white and it's just reflecting. I'm not sure, but light colored.

GERAGOS: I'm showing you People's 17, did you notice these pajamas in this hamper?

COYLE: Actually, it almost looks more like a shirt than pajamas as far as the color, but it's hard to tell because of the video still.

GERAGOS: Did you, when you did the search, did you itemize what was in the hamper?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: Did you, is there anyplace in your report where you note what was in the hamper?

COYLE: No.

GERAGOS: Now the, you did seize a comforter; is that correct?

COYLE: I didn't seize anything. I did point out a comforter, yes.

GERAGOS: Is this the comforter? <4Q>

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And is this comforter as well?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Both these pictures accurately represent the comforter on the day you did the search?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And there's, it looks like a little square, not at square, but a right angle ruler there; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Mark these next in order.

JUDGE: Quadruple Q1 and 2.

GERAGOS:

GERAGOS: Now, the comforter was taken because it appeared that there was a small stain on it; is that correct?

COYLE: Yeah, two small spots. I just pointed them out to Detective Skultety.

GERAGOS: Can you tell me on here, can you see the two small spots?

COYLE: Definitely not, no.

GERAGOS: That's quadruple Q1. This is quadruple Q2. Can you see the two small spots in that picture?

COYLE: I can't from here, no.

GERAGOS: I'm going to show you the item not projected. Can you see it there?

COYLE: I can see one of them.

GERAGOS: How big would you say the spot was?

COYLE: I mean, it was just fractions of an inch.

GERAGOS: 16th, 32nd, fleck?

COYLE: Maybe an eighth, eighth of an inch.

GERAGOS: And is that why you put, is that item that's right there at the vortex, if you will?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: May I publish this to the jury because it's hard to see?

JUDGE: If you want to move it into evidence.

DISTASO: No objection.

JUDGE: Okay. You can publish it to the jury. So QQQQ1 is admitted into evidence, same number, same letter.

GERAGOS:

GERAGOS: Now, did you, you hand searched the entire room; is that correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And when you say hand searched, what do you mean by that?

COYLE: It means I opened stuff, went through things, handled things. Rather than a visual search, I handled things.

GERAGOS: Okay. And that was done on the 26th when you came in?

COYLE: I little bit, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did you do more of that on the 27th?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And when did you that on the 27th were you also looking for forensic evidence of some kind?

COYLE: Well, I mean if I had seen any, I'm sure I would have called that to someone's attention, but we actually did the forensic search on the evening of the 26th prior to doing hand searching.

GERAGOS: And did you on that day you executed the search warrant, find a binder with some life insurance documents on it?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Do you know where you found those from?

COYLE: I believe it was on the bookshelf in the second bedroom, the room that was set up kind of as a guest room, office-type room.

GERAGOS: Does that picture look familiar?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Is that you?

COYLE: That's me.

GERAGOS: With the placard and the bookshelf and pointing to the life insurance document?

COYLE: Actually, I'm just holding the placard next to it, but, yes.

JUDGE: Quadruple R.

GERAGOS: Does that accurately represent what was going on that day?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And how the room looked?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: The life insurance documents, were those the principle life documents that are dated 6/25 of '01?

COYLE: At this point I can't recall. I just pointed the documents out to Detective Skultety who was collecting.

GERAGOS: That would have been from right about here?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Do you want to mark that with red. What the judge has been asking, if you just draw a line out to the margin and then write "life insurance" or "LI"?

COYLE: (complies.)

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, did you also search the kitchen area?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And you found a camera there, correct?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And then while you were there you also located the tarp, the boat tarp?

COYLE: Well, once I went outside, not while I was searching the kitchen, but, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And where did you locate that?

COYLE: Actually, I found it originally when we were doing a walk-around on the 26th I pointed it out to Detective Brocchini, and then on the day of the 27th it was out in the backyard area.

GERAGOS: Okay. After you, did you point out anything besides the placard that I showed or that's up there with the life, that pertain to the life insurance and the comforter that you put, that the jury's looking at right now, did you point out anything else at the house?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: What else?

COYLE: Numerous items. Several pieces of jewelry, a diary out of the dresser, a pair of shoes out of the closet, passports, a Social Security card. I believe I also found a checkbook that I pointed out in the bedroom, the other bedroom. I can't recall whether that was taken into evidence or not.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did you, when you were in the bedroom, did you look for, were you looking for some black maternity pants?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Can you tell me, did you find some black maternity pants hanging in the closet on a hanger?

JUDGE: In the master bedroom.

GERAGOS: In the master bedroom?

COYLE: I don't recall that, no.

GERAGOS: You recovered some from the nursery; is that correct?

COYLE: Someone did, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Now, at some point were you told that you had found some black maternity pants in the closet of the home hanging on a hanger?

COYLE: Somebody told me apparently according to that report, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Well, what I'm asking you is, when you went through, did you not see the black maternity pants hanging on a hanger?

COYLE: I did not find any black maternity pants, no, not in the master bedroom.

GERAGOS: Were you later told that there were some that were hanging up?

COYLE: I believe I was told there were some black maternity pants found, I don't know where they were found.

GERAGOS: Okay. And did you tell, was this Detective Grogan?

COYLE: I don't know who wrote that report. I didn't see who was the author there.

GERAGOS: Did you tell them, Detective Grogan, that there was a pillow in the bedroom where the dog slept?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Is that correct?

COYLE: Well, I mean obviously it appeared to be that. I don't have any information that that's actually where the dog slept, but that's what it looked like.

GERAGOS: Okay. The, specifically the, you were shown a series of photographs by Detective Grogan in February; is that right?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. And they, they told you basically, the detectives, that they were looking for a specific recollection by you of certain items; is that correct?

COYLE: A specific item, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And they told you that they were trying to determine if the clothes were inside the house on that date?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. And they showed you various items; is that correct?

COYLE: Photographs, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. And one of them was the hamper; is that right?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And the photos that I just went through?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: Okay. You could not, at that point, say anything except that you remembered that you found some khaki-colored men's walking shorts; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: You found corduroy men's pants?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: White or tan pajama top?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: There were two pairs of boxer shorts and a pair of women's panties in the hamper?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Now, did you

COYLE: Those were the items that I could recall seeing.

GERAGOS: Right. And you did not, and that item that I just showed you, you didn't recall seeing the blouse, the black and tan blouse, correct?

COYLE: When they asked me if I remembered seeing a black blouse, I said I couldn't recall seeing that, but obviously once I saw the photographs, yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Well, when they asked you, and I'm going to show you this report, did you state you did not see the blouse during the search of the house?

COYLE: I don't believe that were my words. I said I didn't remember it.

GERAGOS: Would this report by Grogan be inaccurate if it says "Coyle said he did not see the blouse during the search of the home"?

COYLE: I'm not sure I can say inaccurate, I'm just not sure that that's what I said exactly. Maybe that's what he interpreted, but I don't recall if that's what I said.

GERAGOS: Did you also tell them that you did, when you were doing the hand search, you were opening drawers?

COYLE: That's correct, yes.

GERAGOS: And as you were opening the drawers were you pulling out clothes?

COYLE: I don't think I really pulled anything out. I sort of lifted stuff up, looked underneath, you know, felt around in between, but I don't think I pulled clothes out of the drawers, no.

GERAGOS: Okay. And you told that to Detective Grogan that you did not unfold each item of clothing from the drawers; is that correct?

COYLE: That's correct.

GERAGOS: And some of the items of clothing that you were looking for could have been present, correct?

COYLE: Well, I guess I was trying to say that I didn't see anything. I was given a briefing as everyone else was for the specific items. I didn't recall seeing those, but, again, I told him I

didn't unfold each item. So theoretically something could have been present there that I missed, but I didn't see the ones I was looking for.

GERAGOS: Now, was there an issue of a camouflage jacket that you were also looking for?

COYLE: It seems to me that that was part of the briefing information, however, I don't recall seeing a jacket.

GERAGOS: Okay. And on the search warrant on, were you there on 2/18 as well on February 18th?

COYLE: No, I was not.

GERAGOS: Okay. Did they ask you if the camouflage jacket was hanging inside the closet on 12/26 or 12/27?

COYLE: I can't recall if I was asked that or not.

GERAGOS: Let me show you one paragraph and see, and this is Detective Grogan's 3/13 report, the yellow highlighted portion, can you read that silently to yourself and see if that refreshes your recollection.

COYLE: (complies.)

GERAGOS: Does that refresh your recollection?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: Okay. Would you tell me if you were asked if you had seen the camouflage jacket hanging in the house on December 26th or 27th?

COYLE: Yes.

GERAGOS: And what did you tell them?

COYLE: That I did not see one.

JUDGE: Let's stop right there.