to force an entry.

- Q. So you think that he had a right to defend himself, I mean, with force necessary to kill a police officer based on the police officers' actions?
- A. Statute 776 would agree with that statement. Yes, he would have.
- Q. You think after 45 minutes of a standoff, if Michael Morrison was telling them get out of my yard, they don't get out of his yard, he could have killed all the police officers there?
- A. If he did kill all the police officers, I think that he would prevail. I wouldn't wish for that, of course. But I think if you go back to 776, it specifically addresses law enforcement officers, but then says an officer conducting official duties. This officer is not conducting official duties.

There's no bona fide law enforcement reason why he's in Mr. Morrison's back yard. You can't name a bona fide reason. They later say, well, we're just there sort of keeping the peace.

Keeping the peace? What are you talking about? It's 1:30 in the morning. You're disturbing the peace. So there is no bona fide law enforcement reason why law enforcement is there. Mr. Morrison knows that. He knows that she doesn't live there. Perhaps the

police are a little unsure about that.

But this is the time where you retreat, regroup and go, how do we avoid having to kill the guy that owns the house that we're illegally in his back yard? That's not what they do, and that's the problem I have.

- Q. I guess if we're talking prudent thing as well, wouldn't you agree the prudent thing for Mr. Morrison to have done, would have come out and said, look, I don't know why you're letting her break into my back yard but she doesn't live here?
- A. Well, the onus of reasonableness is what prudent applies to. It's not on the part of the defendant, it's on the part of the officers. We can't rely on defendants to be reasonable, obviously. It's the officers who are trained and equipped and are following certain policies and strict laws that they have been trained to follow. They're the ones that we judge as reasonable.

And the definition of reasonable is a reasonable, prudent officer. That's why I use that word. So I wouldn't impose that on Mr. Morrison because there is no expectation that he should have been reasonable. There is only an expectation that he had the right to defend himself against excessive force by

1 | police, and in this case this is what we see.

- Q. Would you agree that tactically speaking, perception is reality?
  - A. Yes.

2.

- Q. As it relates to probable cause for law enforcement officers, what one officer knows, would you agree, is transferred to all officers?
  - A. So I'm not sure I understand your question.
- Q. Would you say probable cause is transferable to all officers, information that one officer knows is being transferable to another officer?
- A. Generally speaking, yes, but it also has to do with the reasonableness of that information. In other words, if an officer tells you that he has probable cause and you have time to understand the elements of that probable cause and you choose not to but go on his bad information, then I think it holds you liable as well because of the unreasonable -- I think in this case, the timeframe alone gave everyone plenty of time to sit back and calmly go over what it is they were dealing with, who it was they're dealing with, why they were there, what their angle was, the bona fide lawful enforcement reason. I think they would have settled on a very, very different strategy.

I would submit to you that those officers

involved, if this happens again, will take a different 1 course of action because they know it's unreasonable. Would you agree -- I mean, your testimony, you 3 have benefit of hindsight? 4 Yes. 5 Α. That -- you know, say for the sake of argument Q. 6 you were the officer and someone pointed a gun at you --7 have you ever had a gun pointed at you? 8 Α. Yes. 9 And did you apologize to the person and leave Ο. 10 and walk away, or did you stay and resolve the issue? 11 I've never had a qun pointed at me on somebody 12 Α. else's property that I was illegally on, I can tell you 13 that. And the circumstances which I've had a gun 14 pointed at me twice, actually, I ended up responding. 15 shot somebody that came after me with a knife one time. 16 Again, I was on good grounds to lawfully be 17 18 I had authority. I was doing a bona fide law 19 enforcement investigation. Again, that's not the circumstances that we're talking about in this case. 20 This is a -- these officers are on thin ice the minute 21 that they show up at Mr. Morrison's house. 22 And then take that from bad to worse. 23 jump fences or she jumps fences, lets them in, go into 24

the back yard. The curtilage of the house is a very,

1	very sovereign part of our Constitution.
2	Those areas are protected, and without a
3	warrant, police officer the Constitution is against
4	law enforcement. That's exactly who it's trying to
5	address.
6	Q. Well, I mean, I understand your issue is they
7	shouldn't have been there in the first place, correct?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. But, again, once they're there and had a gun
LO	pointed at them, you really think they should have
11	totally left the property after someone pulls a gun,
L2	puts it to a police officer's head and says, I'm going
L3	to kill you, you effing police officer? You think it's
L4	reasonable for them to say, my bad, and leave?
L5	MR. BROSS: Object to the form of the
L6	question, assumes facts not in evidence.
L7	THE WITNESS: Right. I think that we have to
L8	look at the alternative, which is to stay there and
_9	insist on a shooting. That's essentially what the
20	officer did, arguably. When he first pulled the
21	weapon, he didn't shoot. Not that he couldn't
22	shoot it, he just simply didn't.
23	At this point, the officers have got to
4	understand why they're there and what grounds they

have for being there. I think a reasonable

officer, well-trained, prudent, reasonable officer would have to stop and say, what are we doing here, we really have no right to be here, and at that point would have removed themselves from that scenario.

Yes, I think absolutely that they should have retreated from that environment and not continue to force what later became a gun fight.

## BY MR. REID:

Q. I mean, you said that forced the shooting. I mean, for 30 to 40 minutes, they were trying to get Mr. Morrison to put his gun down and come out, correct?

MR. BROSS: Object to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: He did not have to come out. He did not have to put his gun down. They're telling him to do something he doesn't have to do, and you're implying he should have done that.

## BY MR. REID:

Q. Say for the sake of argument, he doesn't have to come out for the domestic violence case because of the warrant. You don't think the fact that he pointed a gun at a police officer at least gave rise to the police -- a situation where the police can ask him out of the house?

A. They can ask him, sure.

- Q. Force him out of the house?
- A. No. You better have a warrant. If you're going to pull somebody out of their house, you better have a warrant. That's the point I was making. Even when they pulled the gun, if they decided they wanted to develop probable cause on aggravated assault, get a warrant. We will go in after if we need to. Have a judge sign a warrant. They don't do that.
- Q. Again, let me give you another hypothetical.

  And I had this happen. I had a police officer come knock on my door. Apparently a wallet was found at the the park next door, and he was asking if I knew whose wallet it was. Kind of an odd thing for a police officer to do but he did.

at the police officer and said, get the hell off my property and slammed the door in his face, do you think he should have just walked off the property? Or do you think in that situation he should have been pulling me out of the house to figure out what the hell was going on?

MR. BROSS: Object to the form of the question.

THE WITNESS: Are you asking if I should kick

in your door because you pulled a gun on him? 7 BY MR. REID: 2 3 What's the proper situation, in that scenario, if I had done that? 4 5 A. It happens all the time. People come to the 6 door with guns in their hands all the time in law 7 enforcement. If they're there and want to ask you a couple questions, they slam the door, it's time for me 8 to leave. 9 There is a difference, though, if somebody 10 comes to the door with a gun because they don't know who 11 you are or they come pointing a gun and said, I'm going 12 to kill you, you MF police officer, right? 13 14 Α. No. So you think if a police officer walks to my 15 0. door and asks a question, I pull a qun on him, say I'm 16 17 going to kill you if I ever see you here again, you have 18 to just leave? If a police officer comes to the door and 19 20 you're standing there with a gun in your hand, which 21 many people do all the time, especially at 1:30 in the 22 morning --23 Q. Pointed?

A. I would probably have a gun in my hand at 1:30 in the morning if you came pounding on my door.

24

Q. My question, if you pointed at a police officer --

MR. BROSS: Object. He needs to be able to answer the question.

## BY MR. REID:

- Q. My question is, if you come to the door and you're pointed -- the police officer gets a gun pointed in their face; says, if I ever see you again on my property, I'm going to kill you, get off my property right now; the police officer has to just leave and let it go?
  - A. Legally?
  - Q. Yes.
- A. Pretty much. We do what's called field interview reports. I certainly wouldn't just let it go. I would write about it, probably call a supervisor and say a weird thing happened, knocked on this door and this guy came out with a gun, pointed at me, said he didn't want me here, get the hell off the property.

I would be interested to know what the crime was that you had committed in your own house with your own gun when you answered the door. Arguably, you could perhaps say it was assault from the person on the inside of the house, but I don't know how shaky that probable cause --

1	Q. That's what we're alleging on Morrison is
2	assault.
3	A. I think it's a weak case. Your case is
4	actually better than that case I'm speaking to in terms
5	of this case because you're there really on sort of a
6	fact-finding mission, and it's kind of normal that you
7	get compliance and cooperation from the community.
8	Gosh, we teach courses on community-oriented
9	policing, where we rely on the community to say, no, I
10	don't know whose wallet that is; and to consent to
11	things like, can I come in and can you come out. Most
12	of the time that is what they do. But if they choose
13	not to, they do have a Constitutional protection to not
14	do that, and I think sometimes we may forget that.
15	Q. Let me go back to the facts of this. You read
16	the FDLE reports, correct?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. All of them?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. And they cleared the police officers?
21	A. Criminally?
22	Q. Correct.
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. Do you have any problems with the FDLE
25	reports: Their conclusion, their opinions, their

findings, anything at all?

A. Well, I certainly can critique them for not going into enough detail to address the issue of which I addressed here today. Much of it was very small paragraphs, kind of conclusionary stuff.

There is an assumption that the law enforcement officers in that report, as far as I can read, were conducting a law -- this is where we forget sometimes the difference between what's called use of force and authority.

So when you teach the use of force continuum, for instance, which you raised the question earlier, you look at what does he do versus what do I do. That is only 50 percent of the equation. I taught classes for the last over 25 five years on this. Before you can use the continuum, you have to demonstrate that you have authority. And the authority comes, of course, from Terry versus Ohio: The reasonable belief that a crime has, is, or is about to be committed.

If you don't believe the crime has, is, or about to be committed, you cannot turn towards the force continuum to talk about proportional force. If you are imposing a police act on somebody in which a crime has not been at least reasonably suspected, then you cannot turn to the force continuum as a defense for your

1 actions.

So that's half the equation. I think that is what the FDLE report missed was it just assumed the police, because they happen to wear polyester with shiny buttons on it, were in the proper authority, and they were not.

As a matter of fact, as they stood outside in their uniforms, they had precisely the same authority that the neighbor next door did. They have no more right to be in the back yard than the neighbor did. They had no more authority to order Mr. Morrison out of the house as the neighbor next door did or you did or I did.

These officers get their authority from circumstances. They draw their authority from when a crime reasonably is, has or is about to be committed. This is a very well-established point of law, and officer are taught this, by the way. This is taught at the most basic level of the academy.

The officers knew or should have known that. They could not identify that a crime has, is, was about to be committed by Mr. Morrison when they violated -- trespassed on his property and helped facilitate a burglary. That's the point where they should have had the maturity and perhaps the resolve to disengage, to

leave and say, we don't have a crime, Good Lord, I hope we don't end up in a deadly force situation.

So that's my critique of the report. It makes the assumption that the officers had the authority. At least it implies it. They don't specifically say that. It implies the officers have the authority, where I find there is no authority of the officers to act in the way that they do.

- Q. And besides the fact that the FDLE report makes an assumption that the officer had a right to be there in the first place, any other issues you have with the report?
  - A. Well, that's a big issue.

- Q. But any other issues -- I want to make sure I'm clear.
- A. I wasn't asked really to critique that report.

  It was something I read just sort of as another

  collection of evidence. At this present moment, without

  us moving forward in trial, I would say that I don't

  recall anything about that report.

But if this continues, then I will verse myself more specifically on the details of what they wrote and where I thought it was perhaps flawed.

Q. Is that something else that you would be anticipating testifying to, about --

1	A. Again, the police aren't on trial and so I
2	don't think that I would testify but it might offer a
3	perspective that, unfortunately, has been carried
4	through this entire thread, which is the fundamental
5	fruit of the poisonous tree, is that they did not have
6	the authority to engage Mr. Morrison in what turned out
7	to be a use of force based on proportionality; which is
8	what they claimed, that he pointed a gun and therefore
9	we shot. They couldn't even enter into the continuum
10	based on the present circumstances that we're all aware
11	of.
12	Q. And you would agree that in some situations,
13	maybe if the police don't start with authority, they can
14	gain authority?
15	A. Absolutely.
16	Q. After he shot, any issue you have from that
17	point forward?
18	A. After the officer shot?
19	Q. Yes, sir.
20	A. I would have to look. And I haven't seen the
21	medical reports. My understanding is the shooting was
22	in the back. I can speak a little bit about that.
23	There is discrepancy between whether or not,
24	A Mr Morrison even had a gun in his hand at the time

and, B, whether he was actually facing the officers and



1 lifting it up to head level as the officers declared. 2 Based on the forensics of where this qunshot 3 entered, if we see shots in the back, in my experience, anecdotally -- but perhaps there is some science and I 4 looked into that as well. We usually see the second or 5 third shot go in the back. That's natural from somebody 6 7 that gets shot facing the person, then immediately turns 8 away from it. Usually not the first shot ends up in the back unless you shoot somebody in the back. 9 10 I think that's a curious question. 11 think any of us can say absolutely what position he was facing when the officer decided to shoot, but I think 12 13 the forensic evidence makes some suggestions that the jury will find interesting. 14 15 Q. You would agree you're not a medical doctor? 1.6 Α. No, I'm not. You don't have any certifications in medical 17 Ο. 18 anything, correct? 19 Α. No. 20 Q. You're not a -- you don't have any certification in forensics? 21 22 Α. No.

Q. You don't have any special training in forensics?

23

24

25

A. I've done death injury investigations. I have



a certificate in that.
Q. In your opinion, are you an expert in talking
about medical wounds?
A. I am not, but I suspect that the defense will
find one, and it would comport with perhaps my opinion
as to whether or not the officer was in eminent danger
of death or great bodily harm.
If the forensic expert says, well, he clearly
couldn't have been shooting at the time, then I would
add to that, that it was a no shoot.
Q. You would agree from your experience that
people can turn and twist very quickly?
A. Yes.
Q. And, you know, a shooting happens in a
fraction of a second?
A. Yes.
Q. I mean, there is lot of scenarios I wasn't
there, obviously someone can pick a gun up and see a
police officer pick his gun up and move a little bit
before he gets shot, correct?
A. Yes.
Q. So based on the wound alone, you can't say a
hundred percent what happened?
A. I can't say a hundred percent what happened.

I think perhaps a forensic expert could suggest it with

more authority than I have in this position, that perhaps Mr. Morrison's version of events is more accurate based on the wound pattern.

His version of events is, I think, he is reaching inside the refrigerator getting something out -- I don't remember if it was a cookie or something like that -- when he was shot.

And so it's going to be a jury's job to compare these contrasting versions of events. And the problem for the officers, which is why I was surprised to see this case go forward, is that the officers had a lot of work in front of them in dealing with just the wound pattern.

If the officer is saying he was pointing a gun at me, and the defendant is saying I wasn't pointing a gun, I was facing away from you and the bullet ended up in the back, you've got a lot of work in front of you to get a jury to accept that version over the defendant's.

- Q. Well, I mean, you would agree -- you said they might get an expert and that's fine -- as far as your expertise, you're not going to be able to testify about wound pattern or anything like that?
- A. If their expert says this likely occurred while the subject was facing away, then I would then follow that with a use of force opinion that you have to

only use deadly force when your life is in imminent 1 danger of death or great bodily harm; in other words, 2 it's ongoing, not happened a moment ago or will happen 3 in the future but is on ongoing. So I think I would comport with the expert's 5 6 finding that perhaps the determination is that the officer was not in -- the defendant was not posing a 7 8 danger at the time he was shot; that it would be considered an improper shooting, excessive force, once .9 10 again. Again, you read the FDLE findings? 11 Q. Yes, sir. 12 A. Any problems with their findings from your 13 Q. opinion on that aspect? I mean, you said you didn't 14 have any other issues with FDLE that they had no problem 15 16 with shooting? 17 Α. They mentioned it being a bladed -- a bladed 18 position. What is a bladed position? 19 Q. 20 A proper bladed position is still somewhat Α. 21 isosceles of your shoulders if you're shooting. 22 course, if --Can you describe that more, isosceles of the 23 Q. 24 shoulder?

Isosceles would be a squared position.

25

Α.

You mind standing up and show --Q. 1 I'll try to explain this the best I can. 2 Isosceles position would be essentially feet in line, 3 shoulders rolled forward. 4 Q. At your target? At your target. A bladed position is still 6 7 shoulders rolled forward, but your body is in a bladed position. 8 One foot in front of another, just forward? 9 Q. Yes, because we're protecting the firearm or 10 11 we're protecting our weapons. When we approach somebody 12 and we do an interview, we're in a bladed position. My 13 understanding is that the shot entered through the left 14 flank. Is that the fat in your back? 15 Ο. 16 Yes. So if the bullet comes in through the 17 left flank -- by the way, I think the report described it as a graze. Now I understand it went through his 18 body, certainly not a grazing wound. 19 But in your standard position, you'd literally 20 21 be shooting this way. Unfortunately, I think Mr. 22 Morrison is right-handed, which means he should have been standing this way and the bullet should have went 23

So it's a hard sell, I think, for a jury when

24

25

through here.

they look at the bullet in the left flank of a 1 2 right-handed shooter to understand conceptually how he might have been pointing the gun at them from that 3 4 position. It doesn't mean he couldn't -- I've had some 5 6 crazy cases. It turns out he's a Vietnam veteran as 7 well. My understanding, he knows firearms pretty well. I can't say that absolutely he wasn't standing this way 9 and doing this (indicating) for some reason. That's kind of what it would have taken. I don't know. 10 Where is your flank? Tell me again. 11 Q. 12 I don't really know what they define as flank. 13 I guess what I'm getting at, what's your Q. 14 understanding of where he got shot? 15 The left part of the torso. Α. When you say torso, I think anywhere on the 16 Q. 17 side --18 I'm not sure. I'm actually not sure. Α. 19 from armpits to the waist. It's in the back area, like this part? 20 0. As I understand it. Α. 21 22 This is like the meaty part of your lower Q. back? 23 24 It's a flank. I don't know. I mean, it's not 25 a medical term. I think it's more a butcher's term as

far as I know. But I understood, after even speaking with the attorneys from more clarification, it's through sort of the back.

- Q. And from your expertise on firearms as well, if you're picking -- let me start again. If you're not trained in firearms you might stand any way -- not a particular way you would always stand, correct?
  - A. I have no idea.

- Q. I mean, I think common sense, if you give 50 untrained people firearms and say shoot down the field, you're going to get a lot of different stances, correct?
- A. You get minor variations. I actually do that. We do it with what's called a simulator. I'm not sure if you're familiar with it. I've taken many civilians with no firearms training and put them on a simulator, and they're very, very similar in the way they stand. They generally face the target and put both their hands on the weapon.
- Q. And police are saying he's picking it up and raising it at head level, correct?
  - A. That's what he said, yes.
- Q. So not necessarily being in your shooting stance when you're raising the gun up?
- A. You still have the problem of being right-handed and being shot through the left flank.

That's still going to be a problem for the state, as far 1 2 as I can tell. When you're talking about this guy threatened 3 the officer and that's why he was shot, I mean, your 5 whole case is based on him threatening the officers, and I think that's going to be the most difficult part 6 forensically for the state's case. 7 All right. Any other issues we haven't 8 9 mentioned that you have with this case? Not off the top of my head. You did a good 10 job. 11 12 Any other areas you think that you would feel Q. that you would testify about? 13 I have more to read. I have more to look at. 14 Α. At this present moment, I think I spoke about everything 15 as I understand it. I don't think there's going to be 16 17 some giant revelation of something that I don't understand at this moment. 18 19 But I think I'm pretty -- I've given you pretty much what you're intending to talk about if I'm 20 asked. 21 22 If there is some, you know, new area that you haven't mentioned, will you let us know? 23 I mean, 24 obviously, you know, we're doing a deposition as fact

finding. If you haven't reviewed everything, I would

1	like to know.
2	A. Sure. I won't let you know, but I'll leave it
3	to defense counsel to let you know. I'll share with
4	him. I don't know if I'm
5	Q. Just so you know, I mean, because I might
6	want to do an another depo if there is like a whole new
7	area you're talking about.
8	A. Yes. If it's something I go home with a viola
9	moment and say, I didn't see this at all and nobody
10	mentioned it in any of the depositions and FDLE didn't
11	talk about it, I will let you know.
12	MR. REID: No other questions.
13	MR. BROSS: No questions.
14	THE WITNESS: I'll read it.
15	THEREUPON, the deposition of ROY BEDARD, taken
16	at the instance of the State of Florida, was concluded
17	at 12:00 p.m.
18	NOTE: The original and one copy of the
19	foregoing deposition will be held by John Reid, Esquire;
20	copy to A. Michael Bross, Esquire.
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	WITNESS NOTIFICATION LETTER
2	
3	June 8, 2016
4	Roy Bedard
5	3057 Tipperary Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32309
6	
7	IN RE: State of Florida vs. Michael Jon Morrison
8	Deposition of Roy Bedard, taken on May 25, 2016 U.S. Legal Support Job No. 1414889
9	
10	The transcript of the above-referenced proceeding is now
11	available for your review.
12	
13	Please call to schedule an appointment between the hours
14	of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at a
15	U.S. Legal Support office nearest you. Please complete
16	your review within 30 days.
17	·
18	
19	
20	
21	Sincerely,
22	
23	DEBORAH WARREN, Registered Professional Reporter
24	U.S. Legal Support 1364 Turnbull Bay Road New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168
25	(386) 423-1963
	·

1	ATTACH TO THE DEPOSITION OF ROY BEDARD  CASE: State of Florida vs. Michael Jon Morrison
2	CASE NO.: 2012-036059-CFAES
3	ERRATA SHEET
4	I, Roy Bedard, have read the foregoing deposition given by me on May 26, 2006, in Daytona
5	Beach, Volusia County, Florida. If any correction should be made in the transcript:
6	PAGE LINE CORRECTION AND REASON THEREOF
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16	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
17	
18	
19	
20	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that the facts
21	stated in it are true.
22	SIGNED at, Florida,
23	this day of, 20
24	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
25	ROY BEDARD