

WITNESS STATEMENT

JB – Jack Bisland      JR – Dep. Joe Ramos

JB      Test, test 1-2-3-4-5. It's good to go. Today's date is December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The time now is approximately 3pm. This will be a recorded interview with Dep. Joe Ramos of the Volusia County Sheriff's Department. The person's present are Dep. Ramos and myself, Jack Bisland an investigator with the State Attorney's Office the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. This interview is taking place at the State Attorney's Office, the Courthouse in Deland. Dep. Ramos for the record I want to establish that I am conducting a criminal investigation. This is not an internal or administrative investigation. Do you understand that?

JR      Yes.

JB      Ok. Additionally you've been identified as a potential witness and are here giving this statement voluntarily is that correct?

JR      Yes.

JB      Ok. Based on a complaint from the Sheriff's Office I'm conducting an investigation into the events surrounding the investigation of a fatality accident that happened on Thanksgiving evening at approximately 6pm in Debarry involving members of the Osowski family. This investigation specifically concerns the actions or inactions of Captain Alan Osowski after having been notified of that accident. So prior to the start of the interview what I'd like to do is swear you in. If you would please just raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the statement you are about to give will be the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?

JR      I do.

JB      Good thank you. If you would spell your name for me please.

JR      Last name R-A-M-O-S.

JB      And how long have you been employed with the Sheriff's Department Dep. Ramos?

JR      Over 10 years.

JB      And a good contact phone number for you?

JR      Yes [REDACTED].

JB      Ok and you're currently assigned what duties and where?

JR District six Debary, motor unit.

JB Were you working Thanksgiving Day the 25<sup>th</sup> of November?

JR Yes.

JB Ok and what was your assignment that day?

JR I was working overtime for another motor unit in Debary.

JB So were you dispatched to the scene of the crash?

JR No.

JB Ok did you hear the crash being dispatched?

JR No.

JB Ok. Was it in, did the crash happen inside the, your district?

JR Yes it did.

JB Ok but another unit was dispatched presumably?

JR That's correct I had already logged off for the day when the crash occurred.

JB Ok so you were not on duty when it occurred?

JR That's correct.

JB Ok my mistake then I thought you were working. You worked that day but you get off at what time?

JR 2:00 that day.

JB Ok that explains it. So you were not on duty when the accident happened?

JR Yes sir.

JB When did you first learn of the accident?

JR The next day.

JB Did you report for work that day?

JR Yes sir.

JB What were your hours?

JR 6am to 6pm.

JB You normally work a 12 hour tour is that what you work?

JR Yes sir.

JB You came to work that day and you learned, what did you learn about this accident?

JR I learned that the Captain's mother had passed away in a traffic homicide and that his son was driving the vehicle.

JB Were you aware, was there a point in time when you were made aware of efforts to locate his son to interview his son? Was there a briefing that morning, was there anything discussed with you?

JR No, no I was advised by Sgt. Turney to bring some statements to the Debary Golf and Country Club, see if I could get statements from the server, possibly the manager that's...

JB Did you do that?

JR The manager was not on duty. I spoke with I believe an accountant and I left statements with her with my card, I believe also with the case number and uh...

JB So essentially you were conducting some follow up?

JR Yes sir.

JB For the traffic homicide investigators?

JR Yes sir.

JB Ok. At the country club. At some point in that morning you received a phone call from Capt. Osowski did you not?

JR No.

JB Ok. Did you call Dep. Allison at some point that day and tell him that you were aware that Michael Osowski, Capt. Osowski's son was available for interview?

JR Probably, I don't really recall. I did, I do recall speaking to Dep. Allison.

JB Ok. Were you made aware by anybody that Michael Osowski was ready to be interviewed?

JR Yes I believe I was advised.

JB Can you tell me how that came about?

JR Somebody advised me on my Nextel and said that his son was available for an interview, I think it was around 9 or 10 that day I really don't recall.

JB Do you remember who it was that called you?

JR No sir.

JB So is it not an accurate statement that you called Dep. Allison and told Dep. Allison that Capt. Osowski called you and told you that his son was available for an interview somewhere after 7am?

JR He may have yes, he may have I don't really recall. I didn't write down any notes...

JB Well lets, ok.

JR ...on this I was just basically the go between with the traffic homicide investigators.

JB And who? Go between, between who?

JR Joel, Sgt. Turney and Dep. Allison and I don't recall talking to the Captain that day I may have, I don't remember.

JB What's your cell phone number?

JR 386-

JB Is that the one you gave me?

JR No that's my personal Nextel number.

JB What's your company cell?

JR My county Nextel is [REDACTED].

JB Do you have direct connect?

JR Yes sir.

JB Ok. No that's ok.

JR Oh.

JB How long have you worked in Debary district?

JR Approximately eight years.

JB And how long have you worked for Capt. Osowski?

JR That time, about eight years.

JB Ok. I have a statement from, and I'm just trying to clear this up because this might just be a miscommunication what it sounds like.

JR Uh huh.

JB That after you called Dep. Allison to tell him that and how you called him or told him Nextel, cell, in person I don't know.

JR Uh huh.

JB After you communicated with Dep. Allison.

JR Uh huh.

JB That you, I've been told that you communicated with him.

JR Uh huh.

JB And told him "look I was contacted by Capt. Osowski"

JR Uh huh.

JB "His son is available to be interviewed"

JR Uh huh.

JB Dep. Allison then contacts Lt. Hughes and this is between 7:30 7:45 the next day Friday November 26<sup>th</sup>.

JR Ok.

JB At that point in time Lt. Hughes then arranges to interview Michael Osowski with Dep. Allison sometime later that afternoon about 1:00. Is that an inaccurate statement or you just don't...

JR I, I just don't know what Dep. Allison did I didn't see him that day, I didn't see.

JB Ok but I'm more, more focused on deputy I mean Capt. Osowski contacting you. Are you saying you don't have any recollection of that?

JR At this time no and I didn't write it down. He may have called me he may not have called me. It could have been Sgt. Turney who may have called me.

JB Ok.

JR I, I don't remember.

JB Is it uncommon for the Captain to call you directly?

JR No, not at all, not at all.

JB Ok a frequent thing he would call you?

JR Absolutely if he needed something he would call me directly.

JB So you worked Debary that whole day then the Friday too, your 6:00 tour?

JR Yes sir, yes.

JB Did you ever talk with Capt. Osowski that day about the accident or his son?

JR I don't recall I don't think so.

JB Do you know his son Michael?

JR I think I met him once.

JB Have you talked to the Captain since this tragedy?

JR Yes I spoke with the Captain at the district for about a minute.

JB And what was the topic?

JR The topic was I asked how he was doing, how the family was doing.

JB Do you remember when that was?

JR I guess the day he resigned?

JB Ok.

JR And he didn't tell me he was going to resign I didn't know.

JB Ok. Are you a traffic homicide investigator?

JR Yes.

JB Ok. Do you remember if Capt. Osowski came to the, the Debary district on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>? I realize you're on the road and you're not there the whole time but during...

JR That's correct.

JB ...the period either when you started your shift, ended your shift or had business there, do you remember seeing him that day...

JR No sir.

JB ...at the precinct or the district office. Beyond interviewing or leaving statement forms at the Debary Country Club did you have any other role ancillary or otherwise in the follow up investigation?

JR No sir.

JB Did you ever interview anybody at the Debary Country Club?

JR No sir.

JB Ok. Did you ever pick the statements up and review them?

JR No sir.

JB Ok you just dropped off the forms essentially?

JR Yes. I believe Dep. Allison picked them up.

JB Ok. Michael Osowski was interviewed Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> at about 1:00. Were you aware that he had interviewed?

JR No.

JB Ok. I'm just making sure there's nothing else that I wanted to ask you about. Now Dep. Allison he's also a traffic homicide investigator this is his case right?

JR I believe so yes, he is a traffic homicide investigator.

JB He works in a different district than you?

JR District four Deltona.

JB Deltona. Do you all communicate frequently?

JR Every once in a while, yes.

JB Ok, ok. So once you, I mean Dep. Allison remembers you calling saying essentially that Michael Osowski was available for interview.

JR Uh huh.

JB Do you believe that, I just want to clarify this because this is important.

JR Uh huh, right.

JB That that is likely to have happened and you don't remember, that never happened or...?

JR It's likely, it could've happened sure.

JB Ok. Ok, is there anything else Dep. Ramos that given the information you have now and being aware of what this investigation is about that you think is relevant or important that I haven't asked?

JR No sir not at this time.

JB Ok do you have any questions of me about anything that, about anything for that matter?

JR No.

JB Ok well I have no more questions; this is going to conclude the interview. The time now is approximately 3:10pm