

EXHIBIT 3

RENEE S. BEACH vs GREGORY M. PARKER
2019-CP-25-00111 - AUSTIN PRITCHER



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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HAMPTON

RENEE S. BEACH, AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE ESTATE OF MALLORY BEACH,
Plaintiff,

vs. CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2019-CP-25-00111

GREGORY M. PARKER, INC., a/k/a PARKER'S
CORPORATION d/b/a PARKER'S 55, RICHARD
ALEXANDER MURDAUGH, and RICHARD ALEXANDER
MURDAUGH, JR.,
Defendants.

-----/
The deposition of AUSTIN PRITCHER, a
witness in the above-entitled cause, taken
pursuant to Notice and agreement, before Amanda
Bowen, Stenographic Reporter and Notary Public,
at Griffith, Freeman & Liipfert, LLC, 600 Monson
Street, Beaufort, South Carolina, on the 22nd
day of September 2020, commencing at or about
the hour of 10:05 a.m.

**RENEE S. BEACH vs GREGORY M. PARKER
2019-CP-25-00111 - AUSTIN PRITCHER**

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1 AUSTIN PRITCHER,
2 having been produced and first duly sworn as a
3 witness, testified as follows:
4 (Whereupon, Exhibit
5 Number 1 was marked for
6 identification.)
7 DIRECT EXAMINATION
8 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
9 Q Mr. Pritchler, my name is Mitch Griffith
10 and I represent Parker's in a lawsuit that as
11 been brought by the Beach family and against
12 Alex and Buster Murdaugh. I understand that you
13 have some involvement of the investigation of
14 this matter. I'm going to ask you some
15 questions today. If you don't understand, stop
16 me and I'll be happy to go back and repeat them.
17 Okay?
18 A Okay.
19 Q If you need a break, just let me know.
20 I'll be happy to take break. I understand
21 you've never given a deposition before; is that
22 correct?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q You have counsel with you today; is
25 that correct?

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1 Q And did you graduate from there?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q When was that?
4 A 2013.
5 Q And what did you do after you finished
6 the Citadel?
7 A I played professional baseball.
8 Q And who did you sign with?
9 A Detroit Tigers.
10 Q How long were you with them?
11 A I was with them for 2013, '14, and part
12 of '15.
13 Q What was your position?
14 A Pitcher.
15 Q Left-hand or right-hand?
16 A Right-hand.
17 Q How far did you get?
18 A I just got the A ball.
19 Q A ball?
20 A Mm-hmm.
21 Q Is that like the Sally League?
22 A Our league was in -- it's called the
23 New York Pin League, so we were up in the
24 northeast. Connecticut is where I was for two
25 seasons.

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1 A Yes, sir.
2 Q You have talked to Mr. Jones. You feel
3 comfortable going forward?
4 A Yes, sir.
5 Q I'm going a start with some background.
6 Tell me your full name, please?
7 A Austin Keith Pritchler.
8 Q And that's P-r-i-c-h-e-r?
9 A P-r-i-t-c-h-e-r.
10 Q I apologize. And how old are you?
11 A Twenty-nine.
12 Q And our date of birth?
13 A [REDACTED]
14 Q And where were you originally from?
15 A James Island.
16 Q Where did you go to school then?
17 A High school?
18 Q High school.
19 A James Island High School. James Island
20 Charter High School now.
21 Q And when did you graduate?
22 A 2009.
23 Q And then after that did you go to
24 college?
25 A I went to the Citadel.

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1 Q And did you just decide it was time to
2 get out, hurt yourself or something?
3 A It was just time to get out.
4 Q And what did you do after that?
5 A I went back to the Citadel and was
6 assistant baseball coach.
7 Q Who was the coach at the Citadel at the
8 time?
9 A Freddie Jordan.
10 Q How many -- how long did you stay
11 there?
12 A I think -- one year and then the fall
13 season and then got hired on by DNR.
14 Q When did you apply with DNR?
15 A I guess it would be mid-2016, then the
16 hiring process went through and I got hired
17 January of 2017.
18 Q And that's were you've been ever since?
19 A Yes, sir.
20 Q And what is your current rank with the
21 SC DNR?
22 A Private first class.
23 Q Okay. And when I see -- well, let me
24 go through -- what rank did you start with?
25 A Conservation officer.



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1 Q And how long were you a conservation
2 officer?
3 A For your first two years.
4 Q And then you became private first class
5 in January of 2019?
6 A Yes, sir. '19 -- yeah in '20. Yeah.
7 Q In '20?
8 A 2019 would have been my start of my
9 third year, so I would have been private first
10 class. So January of '19 I believe is when I
11 became --
12 Q Because I'm not trying to trick you.
13 This took place in February 2019, right?
14 A Yes, sir.
15 Q And everything I see in here says CO
16 Pritchler?
17 A Okay then.
18 Q I'm assuming that's a conservation
19 officer?
20 A It had to be shortly after --
21 Q Okay.
22 A -- when it comes through. I don't know
23 if there is a grace period, so it is not exactly
24 two years, but I think shortly after I became.
25 Q That's fine. Thank you. So in any

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1 A Yes, sir.
2 Q Okay. What have you done to prepare
3 yourself for today's deposition?
4 A I've talked with Craig and I looked
5 over my supplemental report, the incident
6 report, and that's about it.
7 Q Okay. Have you talked to anybody else
8 other than your lawyer about this?
9 A Well --
10 Q The deposition?
11 A Oh, no, sir.
12 Q Okay. Have you talked to any other
13 lawyers other than Mr. Jones?
14 A And what's her name?
15 Q In-house?
16 MR. JONES: Shannon Bobertz is
17 chief counsel. She did all of that.
18 MR. GRIFFITH: Same thing.
19 THE WITNESS: I can't remember her
20 name.
21 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
22 Q Just like Mr. Jones, I don't want to
23 know about that conversation. Okay?
24 A Yep.
25 Q In reviewing the SC DNR file, there is

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1 event you were a private first class?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q What is the next step?
4 A Lance corporal.
5 Q And just so I can know how the
6 hierarchy works, how does it go after that?
7 A From lance corporal it goes to -- I
8 think it goes first sergeant because we don't do
9 buck sergeants anymore, so first sergeant would
10 be really your first supervisor role.
11 Q Okay. Now, what kind of training do
12 you get when you start with DNR?
13 A I went to the criminal justice academy
14 for 12 weeks and from there we go to, I guess we
15 call it "field training" more the hunting side
16 of stuff for a month and then we do a boating
17 school down in FLETC in Charleston for month.
18 Q Help me out. Is that an acronym?
19 A FLETC, Federal Law Enforcement Training
20 Center.
21 Q And that's a month at boating school?
22 A Yes, sir. And it's not through the
23 feds at all. We just use the facility.
24 Q It's actually taught then by South
25 Carolina officers?

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1 a lot of information in there. Did you make any
2 personal notes, any handwritten notes?
3 A Yes, sir, I did.
4 Q And what happened to those handwritten
5 notes?
6 A Most of it's in -- it was more of just
7 a timeline.
8 Q Right.
9 A A handwritten timeline not actual
10 handwritten notes. I'm not sure if I have those
11 or not, but most of it was to be able to write
12 the incident report correctly.
13 Q So you made notes of what was going on
14 from a timeline or made a timeline?
15 A Right.
16 Q And then would it have been on the
17 sheet of paper as you were going through it?
18 A Yes, sir.
19 Q And when you go back, you fill out your
20 report and supplemental report, et cetera?
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q And you don't know if you keep those
23 handwritten notes?
24 A I don't believe I did.
25 Q Is there any policy that says you would



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1 need to keep those notes?
 2 A I don't -- I don't know.
 3 Q Have you ever been involved in any boat
 4 investigations before the boat investigation of
 5 February 24th, 2019?
 6 A Yes, sir.
 7 Q And how many have you done before that?
 8 A If I had to estimate, I would say
 9 probably somewhere around 40 to 50.
 10 Q Okay. Have you ever had a fatality
 11 before?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q Who was your immediate supervisor on
 14 February 24th, 2019?
 15 A I believe it was Adam -- Adam
 16 Henderson.
 17 Q Okay. And --
 18 A And I guess the reason I say I believe
 19 is if I can get the timeline correct in my head,
 20 we went through a change in first sergeant at
 21 that time.
 22 Q Okay. And I note in the report that
 23 there's a first -- I assume FSGT stands for
 24 first sergeant?
 25 A That was Adam Henderson.

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1 Q Okay.
 2 A 0249.
 3 Q And that is on February 24th, 2019,
 4 correct?
 5 A Yes, sir.
 6 Q All right. In that regard just to get
 7 a few things, First Sergeant Adam Henderson
 8 would have been your immediate supervisor and
 9 Michael Paul Thomas would be his supervisor?
 10 A Yes, sir.
 11 Q And how was it that you came -- were
 12 you the first person that got the call from DNR?
 13 A Yes, sir.
 14 Q Who would have called you?
 15 A Dispatch called me.
 16 Q Okay.
 17 A I was the on-call officer.
 18 Q And so then I'm clear there, there is
 19 an on-call officer 24/7; is that correct?
 20 A Yes, sir.
 21 Q And you just happened to be the one up
 22 at that time?
 23 A Yes, sir.
 24 Q And then so you would have gotten a
 25 call from dispatch?

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1 Q And he's listed in there as the first
 2 sergeant?
 3 A Yes, sir.
 4 Q Okay. I handed you a document that is
 5 Bates-stamped I believe from SCDNR21 and I think
 6 through 25 and I'll give a copy of that to Mr.
 7 Tinsley?
 8 MR. TINSLEY: So this corresponds,
 9 just for the record, the attorney
 10 general 188 through 192.
 11 MR. GRIFFITH: Based on what I'm
 12 seeing over there.
 13 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 14 Q And so in looking at that, and
 15 certainly feel free to refer to that. If you
 16 want to read through it, I'll give you a second.
 17 A You mind if I read through it again?
 18 Q No. Please do.
 19 A Okay.
 20 Q Okay.
 21 A Yes, sir.
 22 Q All right. And according to your
 23 supplemental report, you received a call around,
 24 it looks like, 2:49. That would be a.m.?
 25 A Yes, sir.

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1 A Yes, sir.
 2 Q All right. And at that point then
 3 would you have gone immediately to whatever
 4 call?
 5 A Yes, sir.
 6 Q All right. This being a boating
 7 accident, did you have a boat in tow or any
 8 equipment or just your truck? And I don't know
 9 you might have something other than a truck now.
 10 A I had just the truck.
 11 Q Okay. All right. And where did you
 12 physically live at that time?
 13 A In Seabrook.
 14 Q I didn't ask you. Are you married?
 15 A No, sir.
 16 Q And do you live with anyone out there,
 17 share a house?
 18 A My fiance.
 19 Q And what's her name?
 20 A Tyler Bambridge.
 21 Q Is she from Beaufort or Hampton?
 22 A She's from Charleston, James Island.
 23 Q Bambridge?
 24 A Bambridge.
 25 Q Okay. And so from that, you would have



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1 gone to the scene; is that correct?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q And were you advised that it was at
4 Parris Island bridge at Archers Creek? Feel
5 free to review your report as we talk.
6 A No, sir. I was -- I was -- the
7 first -- I guess the first statement of where it
8 was Battery Creek bridge. I believe is a bridge
9 on Battery Creek.
10 Q Is that also known as the Bell Bridge,
11 Russell Bell?
12 A I'm not sure the name of that bridge.
13 Q Is that the one going from Beaufort
14 over to Port Royal?
15 A Mm-hmm. Yes, sir.
16 Q Port Royal crosses as you were going to
17 Parris Island?
18 A Like Parris Island going over to Port
19 Royal, the big bridge.
20 Q And when did you come to learn that was
21 not the proper bridge?
22 A On the way. The -- I believe they were
23 saying the Battery Creek bridge, but Archers
24 Creek kept getting sent to me.
25 Q Right.

Page 20

1 Q Okay.
2 A But I called First Sergeant Henderson
3 direct and he answered.
4 Q Do you know where Adam lives? I say
5 Adam. First Sergeant Adam Henderson?
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q Is he in Beaufort?
8 A Seabrook.
9 Q Okay. When you called him, did he
10 respond that he would come also?
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q The incident report indicates you
13 arrived around 3:30; is that correct?
14 A Yes, sir.
15 Q All right. And other than telling
16 dispatch to page and telling -- calling First
17 Sergeant Henderson, did you call anybody else?
18 A No, sir.
19 Q Did you speak to any county officers
20 or?
21 A On the way?
22 Q En route?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q Did you know of anybody that was
25 involved in the boat accident prior to your

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1 A And I knew that you can't hit that
2 bridge if you're in Archers Creek.
3 Q And you're --I'm going to guess fairly
4 familiar with the waterways of Beaufort?
5 A Yes, sir.
6 Q So you know you can't go into Archers
7 Creek and go into that bridge?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q And probably know the answer to this,
10 but why would you contact your first sergeant
11 while you're en route?
12 A Because the call came out that there
13 was a missing person with the boating accident
14 and anything close to being a major accident,
15 we're told to notify First Sergeant Henderson
16 and Lieutenant Michael Paul Thomas immediately.
17 Q Yeah. Just standard operating
18 procedure?
19 A Anything that we think could be
20 something major especially at night, we notify
21 them.
22 Q Okay. Did you have -- and so you did
23 notify them and tell them this was a situation?
24 A Yeah. I believe -- I believe told
25 dispatch to page Adam and Michael Paul.

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1 arrival?
2 A No, sir.
3 Q When you arrived on scene about 3:30,
4 was there any other DNR officers on scene?
5 A No, sir.
6 Q So you were the first?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q Did first sergeant arrive shortly after
9 you?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q Your incident report reflects there was
12 some other law enforcement there. Did you know
13 any of the law enforcement personnel that you
14 spoke to?
15 A No, sir.
16 Q And the only way you were able to
17 identify them was by their uniform?
18 A Yes, sir.
19 Q And you indicate there was a sheriff's
20 department, Port Royal Police and marine MPs; is
21 that correct?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q Did you have any conversation to
24 determine what they understood happened?
25 A Not necessarily a conversation. It was



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1 more what's-going-on-type of situation.
 2 **Q All right. And what do you mean by**
 3 **that?**
 4 A There was -- there was multiple EMS's,
 5 multiple officers from different agencies and
 6 like the MPs and all I knew there was a missing
 7 person and a boat was on the edge of the bank.
 8 **Q Okay. And once you got there, did you**
 9 **then start your investigation?**
 10 A Yes, sir.
 11 **Q Okay. And what did that consist of?**
 12 A It was briefly asking the officers on
 13 scene what they knew.
 14 **Q Did you make any notation of the**
 15 **officers' names or you got information from?**
 16 A No, sir.
 17 **Q So it was just general conversation**
 18 **then?**
 19 A Yes, sir.
 20 **Q All right. And once you got through**
 21 **that general conversation, did they indicate to**
 22 **you who was involved in the boating accident?**
 23 A Yes, sir. They -- well, they were
 24 going off of, I believe, first name basis. They
 25 didn't know exactly who the people were, but

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1 **know the names of any officers you talked to**
 2 **that gave you those names, correct?**
 3 A No, sir.
 4 **Q You don't know what agency they were**
 5 **from, the ones that were talking to you? I'm**
 6 **sorry.**
 7 A Yeah. Beaufort County Sheriff's Office
 8 and the MP and Port Royal. I mean, I couldn't
 9 tell you which officer told me which name, but
 10 those were the three agencies that were there
 11 when I showed up with EMS.
 12 **Q Okay. And were you then at least under**
 13 **your -- in your supplemental report you indicate**
 14 **that you asked the officers who was driving and**
 15 **no one could tell you for sure; is that correct?**
 16 A Yes, sir.
 17 **Q And you got the names Connor Cook or**
 18 **Paul Murdaugh. Did you have those last names at**
 19 **that time or was that something that came to you**
 20 **later?**
 21 A I think -- I can't tell you. I can't
 22 remember if Murdaugh or Cook was told to me
 23 before or if once I wrote my report, I just
 24 added the last names in.
 25 **Q Okay. Did you conduct any**

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1 some were saying Paul and some were saying
 2 Connor, and that was basically the names I was
 3 getting.
 4 **Q All right. And when you say you were**
 5 **getting those names, in what context were you**
 6 **getting those names?**
 7 A Officers coming up to me saying Connor
 8 was -- we heard Connor was driving.
 9 **Q Okay.**
 10 A And other officers coming up and say
 11 Paul was driving.
 12 **Q Okay. And was it your first point in**
 13 **your investigation to determine who was driving**
 14 **the boat?**
 15 A Yes, sir.
 16 **Q And so from that you discussed or heard**
 17 **other officers come up to you and just**
 18 **mention --**
 19 A Mention names that they heard.
 20 **Q Did those names mean anything to you at**
 21 **that time?**
 22 A No, sir.
 23 **Q It was just two names; Paul and Connor?**
 24 A Yes, sir.
 25 **Q And I asked this I think, you don't**

Page 25

1 **investigation at the scene at that time?**
 2 A Other than looking at the boat briefly,
 3 no, sir.
 4 **Q Okay.**
 5 A Well, I talked to Anthony Cook. He was
 6 the only left on scene.
 7 **Q And -- all right. And I'll ask you**
 8 **there because your note indicates that you --**
 9 **before that you called back to your first**
 10 **sergeant, correct?**
 11 A Yes, sir.
 12 **Q All right. And by this time you had**
 13 **verified, I believe, there was only one person**
 14 **on the scene, one missing, and the rest at the**
 15 **hospital?**
 16 A Yes, sir.
 17 **Q And what did your first sergeant tell**
 18 **you to do?**
 19 A Go to the hospital and figure out who
 20 the driver was.
 21 **Q And on the way back to your truck, were**
 22 **you parked up on the -- did you pull down toward**
 23 **the boat or did you park up on the causeway?**
 24 A I was right there on the causeway and
 25 the road that goes down toward the boat.



1 Everything was pretty much blocked off.
 2 **Q So you couldn't drive down to the boat**
 3 **in your truck?**
 4 A No, sir.
 5 **Q Did you turn it -- I don't think that's**
 6 **a landing, but an old --**
 7 A I can't remember if I pulled in -- I
 8 know the EMS was right there. I'm pretty sure
 9 the EMS was blocking that, you know -- that
 10 little load down to the water.
 11 **Q And you indicated on the way back, you**
 12 **stopped -- you stopped and asked Anthony who was**
 13 **on the boat or the vessel, correct?**
 14 A Yes, sir.
 15 **Q Did you know Anthony Cook at that time?**
 16 A No, sir.
 17 **Q How did you know to stop and talk to**
 18 **Anthony Cook?**
 19 A One of the officers told me that one of
 20 the boys was sitting in the police car that was
 21 on the boat.
 22 **Q You remember if that was a deputy**
 23 **sheriff or Port Royal?**
 24 A I don't remember.
 25 **Q All right. And did you get Anthony**

1 **Cook's name at that time or is that something**
 2 **you got later on?**
 3 A I don't remember.
 4 **Q Did you know Anthony at that time?**
 5 A No, sir.
 6 **Q And does -- I don't know. Does South**
 7 **Carolina DNR have any body cams that they use?**
 8 A No, sir.
 9 **Q Any radios that I think they were some**
 10 **kind of radio that runs back to your truck that**
 11 **records your conversation?**
 12 A No, sir.
 13 **Q And is there anything on that night**
 14 **that would have recorded the conversations you**
 15 **made with Anthony Cook or any of these other**
 16 **people --**
 17 A No, sir.
 18 **Q -- other than maybe notes that you took**
 19 **at the time contemporaneously?**
 20 A Yes, sir.
 21 **Q What did -- what do you recall**
 22 **Anthony -- I'm going to say Anthony Cook so we**
 23 **keep it straight -- Anthony Cook telling you?**
 24 A I know he asked multiple times where
 25 Mallory was.

1 **Q All right.**
 2 A And I don't remember. It was a brief
 3 conversation.
 4 **Q All right. And it also indicates who**
 5 **was on board. Did he tell you who was on the**
 6 **boat at that time?**
 7 A I believe he did. I don't remember
 8 exactly.
 9 **Q And you also asked him -- I assume that**
 10 **since First Sergeant Henderson wanted to know**
 11 **who was driving the boat, you asked him who was**
 12 **driving the boat?**
 13 A Yes, sir.
 14 **Q Did he give you any information about**
 15 **who was driving the boat?**
 16 A I don't remember.
 17 MR. TINSLEY: Which he are you
 18 asking about?
 19 MR. GRIFFITH: I'm sorry.
 20 MR. TINSLEY: Henderson or talking
 21 about Anthony?
 22 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 23 **Q You asked Anthony if he knew he was --**
 24 **I'm confused now. You asked Anthony who was**
 25 **driving the boat?**

1 A Yes, sir.
 2 **Q Did Anthony tell you who was on the**
 3 **boat?**
 4 A On the boat?
 5 **Q Yes, sir.**
 6 A I don't remember.
 7 **Q Okay. Did Anthony tell you who was**
 8 **driving the boat?**
 9 A I don't remember either.
 10 **Q Okay. If in your report you indicate**
 11 **Anthony said he did not know though; is that**
 12 **correct? Does that refresh your memory?**
 13 A Yeah. Yes, sir. I mean, let me see.
 14 Okay. Yes, sir.
 15 **Q All right. And I just want -- I'm not**
 16 **trying to trick you. I just want to find out if**
 17 **there's other information you remember --**
 18 A Right.
 19 **Q -- that's not recorded in your report**
 20 **and that's why I asked you about written notes.**
 21 A Right.
 22 **Q And that's what I want to point out.**
 23 **I'm not trying to trick you. I just want to**
 24 **know the information.**
 25 A Yes, sir.



1 Q All right. And after that you went to
 2 the hospital?
 3 A Yes, sir.
 4 Q And your report indicates then you got
 5 there about 4:00, so you would have been on
 6 scene 30 minutes --
 7 A Yes, sir.
 8 Q -- or less because you had to get back
 9 to the hospital which is three or four minutes
 10 away?
 11 A Yes, sir.
 12 Q All right. Excuse me. When you got to
 13 the hospital, did you have to check in with
 14 anybody and let them know that you were there on
 15 investigation?
 16 A The security guard has to open the door
 17 to the emergency room.
 18 Q Okay. Do you know who the security
 19 guard was?
 20 A No, sir.
 21 Q And when you got to the hospital, who
 22 is the first person you went to talk to?
 23 A Paul Murdaugh.
 24 Q Okay. And by this time did you know
 25 Paul Murdaugh's last name or is that something

1 you came to learn later?
 2 A I knew the last name from just hearing
 3 it, but I couldn't tell you what the Murdaughs
 4 did or why that last name ends up being
 5 significant.
 6 Q Okay. Did you know the Murdaugh family
 7 before the incident?
 8 A No, sir.
 9 Q Had you ever been involved in a
 10 prosecution up in Hampton County and come across
 11 any of the lawyers up there?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q Ever been on a hunt or anything with
 14 them before?
 15 A I played in their golf tournament one
 16 year. I think it was -- I have to say seven
 17 years ago maybe. I can't remember if I was
 18 playing or coaching baseball at the time. But
 19 it was before I was a game warden.
 20 Q And what golf tournament did they have?
 21 I'm not familiar with it.
 22 A I don't know. I think it is -- I guess
 23 they do like a golf tournament every year once a
 24 year for -- I was invited.
 25 Q Is that in Hampton?

1 A That year it was at Oldfield.
 2 Q And when you say they do it, is it the
 3 Murdaughs or the Murdaugh firm -- the Murdaugh
 4 family or the Murdaugh firm?
 5 A I believe it is the firm.
 6 Q And did they have a lot of law
 7 enforcement show up there?
 8 A No, sir.
 9 Q Were there any DNR officers that you
 10 now know were there?
 11 A Yes, sir.
 12 Q What other DNR officers were at that
 13 golf tournament?
 14 A Michael Paul Thomas and Donnie
 15 Pritcher, my dad.
 16 Q Where does your dad live now?
 17 A James Island.
 18 Q Do you have that address?
 19 A Yes, sir.
 20 Q What's that address?
 21 A [REDACTED]
 22 Q And that's James Island?
 23 A Charleston, South Carolina.
 24 Q [REDACTED] Okay.
 25 A [REDACTED]

1 Q Do you have any family that lives in
 2 Hampton?
 3 A No, sir.
 4 Q Did you get invited to that because you
 5 applied with DNR?
 6 A No, sir.
 7 Q Was your dad instrumental in getting
 8 you invited to that golf tournament?
 9 A Yes, sir.
 10 Q Do you know if he played in it
 11 frequently or annually?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q You a golfer?
 14 A Yes, sir.
 15 Q What's your handicap?
 16 A Shot 39 on the 9 the other day.
 17 Q Pretty good.
 18 A I'm not very good.
 19 Q Now when you got to the hospital -- let
 20 me just go back. You have not been invited to
 21 any other golf tournaments brought on by
 22 Murdaugh firm since that time?
 23 A No, sir.
 24 Q Since your involvement with DNR?
 25 A No, sir.



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1 Q Okay. When you first got there, you
2 spoke to Paul Murdaugh?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q And how did you choose to go speak to
5 him first?
6 A I know his room was the first room on
7 the right when I walked in.
8 Q Okay. And then do you know how you
9 identified him being one of the individuals in
10 the boat?
11 A Yes, sir. I believe it was a nurse was
12 saying that he was -- I'm not quoting her, but
13 out of control and they had a security officer
14 sitting outside of his room.
15 Q All right. Did you go in and speak --
16 I'll say Paul because there are a lot of
17 Murdaughs that are coming up in this
18 conversation.
19 Did you go speak with Paul?
20 A Yes, sir.
21 Q What information did you get from Paul
22 at that time?
23 A None that I didn't already know.
24 Q Okay. What did you already know that
25 he gave you?

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1 Q Yes, sir. At one point I saw him
2 strapped to a gurney.
3 A I don't remember.
4 Q Okay. But he was in the emergency room
5 bed at that time?
6 A Yeah, he was in an emergency room bed.
7 Q You made a note in your report about
8 again he asked you, "Why do you need to know who
9 was driving. That isn't going to help find
10 Mallory. What if it was me driving the boat."
11 Is that correct?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q You asked him again who was driving?
14 A Yes, sir.
15 Q Did he again deny he was driving the
16 boat?
17 A Yes, sir.
18 Q While you were there was anyone present
19 for your conversation?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q During this time did anybody else come
22 into the room?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q And then it says you indicated you left
25 and went to talk to Connor Cook and Miley

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1 A He -- I asked him who was driving the
2 boat and he said he wasn't and kept asking why
3 this was important with Mallory missing.
4 Q Did you find that unusual?
5 MS. BOWER: Object to the form.
6 THE WITNESS: No.
7 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
8 Q Okay. Did he appear to be intoxicated?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q And how so?
11 A Bloodshot eyes, slurred speech. I
12 would say acting pretty out of control.
13 Q And what was he doing that was out of
14 control?
15 A Well, learning that they had to have a
16 security officer sitting there and he's
17 screaming everything that I was asking him, and
18 I mean, it was February. He was in boxers and
19 didn't seem to be affected by the cold at all.
20 Q And boxers were the only clothing he
21 had on?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q Was he still strapped down to the bed
24 at that time or the gurney?
25 A Strapped down?

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1 Altman?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q And were they in the hospital or were
4 they --
5 A They were in the hospital room too.
6 Q Were they in the same room?
7 A If I'm getting my names correct -- hold
8 on. Let me see. Yeah. Yes, sir.
9 Q I want to go back just briefly. While
10 you were in Paul's room, Paul Murdaugh's room,
11 did you ever ask him what happened to his
12 clothes? You said he was in boxers, right?
13 A Right. No, sir.
14 Q Did you ever ask him for any
15 identification?
16 A No, sir.
17 Q Over the course of the time that you
18 were at the hospital and I think you went back,
19 did he ever produce any identification to you?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q Did you ever ask him what happened to
22 his clothes?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q And then when you got to Connor and
25 Miley's room, you asked them about what



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1 happened; is that correct?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q And what was their comment to you?
4 A I don't remember anything but hitting
5 the bridge.
6 Q And did that come from Connor or Miley?
7 A Connor.
8 Q Did you ask him who was driving?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q And what did he say?
11 A I don't remember anything.
12 Q What did Miley say about the driver,
13 Miley Altman? I'm sorry.
14 A I -- I don't recall exactly, but I
15 believe she was saying the same thing. She
16 didn't know or didn't remember.
17 Q And at that time were you focused on
18 Connor Cook and Paul Murdaugh as the drivers?
19 A Yes, sir.
20 Q And how had you ruled out anybody else?
21 A Those were the two names that I was
22 getting from the -- from the police officers
23 that were at the scene.
24 Q Okay. So not part of your
25 investigation that led you to that; it was what

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1 record that then? I mean, record, write it
2 down, or make a notation of it?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q Would that have been part of your
5 investigation to find out what happened that led
6 up to the boat accident or were you focused on
7 who the driver was?
8 A I was focused on who the driver was.
9 Q And I think you said this, but Miley
10 said she did not know who was driving the boat
11 also; is that correct?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q Did you go to anybody else's
14 emergency -- ER room that night?
15 A Yes, sir.
16 Q And who was that?
17 A I believe it was Morgan Doughty.
18 Q And after you left, do you know how
19 long you would have been with Connor and Miley,
20 approximately?
21 A It wasn't very long. He did fill out a
22 statement in the room.
23 Q Okay.
24 A I believe he filled the statement out
25 when I was in his room at that time.

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1 you were told at the scene?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q Did either Paul -- excuse me did Connor
4 or Miley appear to be intoxicated?
5 A Connor -- Connor did.
6 Q Okay. What about Miley?
7 A No, sir.
8 Q Did you know Connor Cook before this?
9 A No, sir.
10 Q Did you know Mile Altman?
11 A No, sir.
12 Q Did you know their families?
13 A No, sir.
14 Q And as I understand Connor Cook told
15 you I don't remember anything but hitting the
16 bridge?
17 A Correct.
18 Q Did you ask him about any other
19 information or ask him -- let me start over.
20 That's if I ever get it out you wouldn't
21 understand what I was saying.
22 Did you ask him about any other
23 incident that took place that night?
24 A I don't remember.
25 Q Okay. And if you did, you didn't

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1 Q Did Miley also fill out a statement at
2 that time?
3 A I don't recall.
4 Q Do you recall getting a statement from
5 Miley Altman?
6 A I don't recall. I would assume that I
7 would have.
8 Q Okay.
9 A But I don't remember.
10 Q I'm going to hand you a copy of what
11 appears to be a statement taken by you of Miley
12 Altman. That was -- I will give you the
13 Bates-stamped number in two ways; AGCDW001301
14 and 1302.
15 A Okay.
16 Q Which is the AG Bates stamp and I also
17 believe it is SCDNR321 and 322 -- or excuse
18 me -- I think it is 321 and 322.
19 Does that refresh your memory if you
20 took a statement from --
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q -- Miley Altman?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q And specifically again, was that done
25 in the hospital, do you recall, or was that -- I



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1 **know you talked to her several times.**
2 A If it's on the 24th, it was at the
3 hospital.
4 **Q Okay.**
5 A Well, no, that's -- that's not correct,
6 but it was the morning of the 24th. I believe
7 this was at the hospital because I did -- I
8 talked to one of the girls or both of the girls
9 the following day, which I believe is still the
10 24th, but the afternoon, if that makes sense
11 because --
12 **Q Right. This is --**
13 A And I remember talking to -- I say the
14 girls, Miley and --
15 **Q Morgan.**
16 A -- Morgan. I talked to them again and
17 I can't remember if it was the 24th or the 25th,
18 but I think it is it 24th, but later.
19 **Q Okay. The statement has no time on it;**
20 **is that correct?**
21 A Correct.
22 **Q All right. And was anybody present**
23 **with you when that statement was taken other**
24 **than Mr. Connor Cook if it was done in the**
25 **morning of?**

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1 MR. TINSLEY: Object to the form.
2 THE WITNESS: I believe she didn't
3 know. I believe that's what she said.
4 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
5 **Q Okay. After -- you said you also got a**
6 **statement from Connor I believe; is that**
7 **correct?**
8 A Yes, sir.
9 **Q And that statement was very brief too;**
10 **is that correct?**
11 A Yes, sir.
12 **Q At that time did you try to give him**
13 **some field sobriety test?**
14 A No, sir.
15 **Q Were you instructed to do that later?**
16 A Yes, sir.
17 **Q But that was not on the initial visit,**
18 **correct?**
19 A Correct.
20 **Q Where did you go after you left that**
21 **room, Connor's room?**
22 A I went back to Paul Murdaugh's room.
23 **Q All right. And why did you go back to**
24 **that room as opposed to the other --**
25 A Because I was still going off of Connor

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1 A Connor would have been in the room.
2 **Q And what -- did Miley write this**
3 **statement for you?**
4 A She wrote it.
5 **Q Okay. And just read to me in the**
6 **record what she told you?**
7 A "We were driving towards Chechessee in
8 the boat. I was in the front under a blanket
9 next to Morgan and" -- or "plus me -- we all of
10 a sudden were right in front of the bridge and
11 it came out of nowhere. It was foggy. We hit
12 impact. Next thing I know, we are all
13 screaming, and I checked on my friends and my
14 best friend is missing. She's gone."
15 **Q Okay. And was this done at your**
16 **request?**
17 A Huh?
18 **Q The statement taken?**
19 A Yes, sir. I asked her if she wanted to
20 give me a statement.
21 **Q And did you specifically ask her who**
22 **was driving the boat?**
23 A Yes, sir.
24 **Q And at that time she didn't know?**
25 A Yes, sir.

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1 or Paul as drivers.
2 **Q And when you returned to Paul**
3 **Murdaugh's room, was anybody else there?**
4 A No, sir.
5 **Q And did you ask Paul to give you a**
6 **statement?**
7 A Yes, sir.
8 **Q And did he give you a statement at that**
9 **time?**
10 A No, sir.
11 **Q Did he tell you he could give you a**
12 **statement?**
13 A Yes, sir.
14 **Q And did you ask him to fill out a**
15 **statement like this or did you ask him verbally**
16 **to tell you what happened?**
17 A I was beginning to fill out one of
18 those forms.
19 **Q Okay. And so you basically got the**
20 **name?**
21 A Yeah. I couldn't tell you what -- what
22 point of the document I was on, but I was in the
23 process of filling it out.
24 **Q Did you fill out any portion of that**
25 **statement as to what happened, not just his name**



1 or the incident report number or anything of
 2 that nature?
 3 A No, nothing ever got put down.
 4 Q But he told you he could give you a
 5 statement?
 6 A Yes, sir.
 7 Q And why didn't you get that statement?
 8 A His dad and granddad came into the
 9 room.
 10 Q All right. And I notice in your report
 11 you indicate that -- indicate Mr. Randolph
 12 Murdaugh and Mr. Alex Murdaugh. Do you know
 13 them? Have you met them before?
 14 A No, sir.
 15 Q Did they identify themselves to you?
 16 A When they first walked in?
 17 Q Yes, sir.
 18 A No, sir.
 19 Q How did you get their names?
 20 A When they came -- after we -- after
 21 they came in, they told me who they were after a
 22 discussion.
 23 Q And what discussion was that?
 24 A I was in the middle of trying to get
 25 this form filled out for Paul and they came in

1 and said Paul's not saying anything else, and I
 2 told them I'm talking to Paul and they said no,
 3 you're talking to us now. I'm his lawyer and
 4 then, I believe, they introduced themselves then
 5 or somehow said Murdaugh. It might have been
 6 the grandfather or it might have been Alex, but
 7 that's kind of when everything clicked in who
 8 the Murdaughs were.
 9 Q That they were lawyers?
 10 A Yes, sir.
 11 Q And what was about that, the Murdaugh
 12 name, that let you know they were lawyers?
 13 A I just heard of the Murdaughs.
 14 Q What have you heard about them?
 15 A That they were just lawyers in the area
 16 and owned a bunch of land.
 17 Q Did they indicate to you that they were
 18 attorneys and they weren't going to let you talk
 19 to their client?
 20 A Yes, sir.
 21 Q And was it your understanding they were
 22 revoking his fifth amendment right to not
 23 self-incriminate?
 24 MS. BOWER: Object to the form.
 25 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

1 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 2 Q At that time then did you get any
 3 further information from Paul Murdaugh?
 4 A No, sir.
 5 Q Your report indicates that Mr. Randolph
 6 Murdaugh was the one that told you I'm his
 7 lawyer. He's not talking. Did his father ever
 8 say that?
 9 A No, sir.
 10 Q Did you ever talk to Paul Murdaugh
 11 again?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q Have you ever talked to Alex Murdaugh
 14 again since that day?
 15 A Not since that date, but I talked to
 16 Alex again that day.
 17 Q Okay. We're going to get to that in a
 18 minute. I'm sorry.
 19 A No, sir.
 20 Q It's not Covid. It's sinuses?
 21 MR. TINSLEY: They said that about
 22 200,000 times.
 23 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 24 Q Did you ever get a call from Adam
 25 Henderson, your first sergeant, again while you

1 were at the hospital?
 2 A I -- I don't remember exactly, but --
 3 in that situation, my phone was back and forth
 4 with multiple people.
 5 Q Okay.
 6 A So I would say yes, if I had to guess.
 7 Q Specifically, I want to know did he
 8 ever indicate to you he was on scene and who may
 9 be driving?
 10 A I don't recall.
 11 Q Okay. And I -- I say that because he
 12 made a statement and I know you hadn't seen his
 13 statement and -- maybe you had -- a DNR report?
 14 A I haven't seen his.
 15 Q He gave a supplemental report like you
 16 did?
 17 A Right.
 18 Q And he called you and he advised you
 19 that Connor Cook may be the operator. Do you
 20 recall that?
 21 A I don't remember.
 22 Q And if he did, you don't remember if he
 23 gave you any information as to why that might
 24 have been said?
 25 A Yeah. I don't remember.



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1 **Q After you left Paul Murdaugh's room for**
 2 **the second time, so we're clear, you never went**
 3 **back to talk to Paul again, correct?**
 4 A No, sir. Sorry.
 5 **Q That's all right. We didn't tell you.**
 6 **This is your first deposition. She's got to**
 7 **write it down --**
 8 A Make sure you verbalize.
 9 **Q Yeah.**
 10 **Where did you go after that?**
 11 A I went to Morgan Doughy's.
 12 **Q And how did you verify where Morgan was**
 13 **or that she was an occupant of the boat?**
 14 A I don't know.
 15 **Q Okay. Was there anybody in Morgan's**
 16 **room other than Morgan when you arrived?**
 17 A I think there was a nurse.
 18 **Q And you don't remember her name?**
 19 A Yeah, I don't know -- I didn't get any
 20 nurse names or doctor names or anything.
 21 **Q What happened when you were in Morgan's**
 22 **room? Tell me what you recall.**
 23 A She was, I say, skittish and -- a
 24 little skittish, freaked out, kind of --
 25 something was bothering her. I introduced who I

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1 **Q All right. And just the way it was**
 2 **written, she didn't want anybody in the room**
 3 **"but her mom and myself." I assume myself is**
 4 **you?**
 5 A I can't 100 percent recall, but I don't
 6 think anyone else was in the room but me and
 7 Morgan.
 8 **Q Okay. Apparently you thought there was**
 9 **a nurse at some point in time?**
 10 A I think she ends up leaving once I
 11 start talking with Morgan.
 12 **Q Okay. And did you have to ask Mr.**
 13 **Murdaugh to leave or did they -- Alex Murdaugh**
 14 **to leave the room or did he leave when you**
 15 **requested him to?**
 16 A I know he left -- I can't remember if
 17 it was me or a nurse that had to tell him, you
 18 know, you can't be in here. I can't remember
 19 exactly how that happened.
 20 **Q All right. And then what did -- what**
 21 **did she tell you after Mr. Murdaugh left?**
 22 A She told me that they were at a party
 23 at Paukie Island with friends. They left the
 24 party and went down to Luther's and Connor and
 25 Paul went inside. They were the only ones that

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1 was and asked her if I could -- ask her some
 2 questions or talk to her, and she said you're
 3 the only one allowed in my room and that people
 4 were trying to come into her room.
 5 **Q Did she indicate who was coming into**
 6 **her room?**
 7 A Yes, sir. She said Alex Murdaugh.
 8 **Q Did she indicate to you why that**
 9 **bothered her?**
 10 A She said she didn't want anybody to
 11 hear what she was going to say.
 12 **Q Did Mr. Murdaugh -- Mr. Alex Murdaugh**
 13 **come in there while you were there?**
 14 A No -- no, sir. I don't recall -- I
 15 don't think he did.
 16 **Q Let's look at your supplemental report**
 17 **then.**
 18 A Okay. Yep. Alex tried to walk into
 19 the room. All right. Then yeah.
 20 **Q All right. Was her mom -- does that**
 21 **refresh your memory as to whether her mom was**
 22 **there?**
 23 A I don't think her mom was there yet.
 24 **Q Okay.**
 25 A I think she was on the way.

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1 they had IDs. And they were heading home
 2 because Connor was driving because Paul was too
 3 drunk to drive. We hit the bridge. Mallory was
 4 nowhere to be found.
 5 **Q All right. And when you got that**
 6 **statement from her, did she put that statement**
 7 **in writing to you?**
 8 A Yes, sir.
 9 **Q I'm handing you a copy of a statement**
 10 **that is a law enforcement statement, and I**
 11 **believe that this is -- for the record, AGCD**
 12 **1001303 through 1303,1304,1305. SC DNR I think**
 13 **it's going to be 232 through 234 their**
 14 **Bates-stamped numbers, but that might not mean a**
 15 **whole lot to you, but we're just trying to**
 16 **identify what we're looking at.**
 17 A Right. I gotcha.
 18 **Q Okay.**
 19 A Yes, sir.
 20 **Q Does that appear to be the statement**
 21 **that Morgan gave you?**
 22 A Yes, sir.
 23 **Q All right. And I understand that she**
 24 **gave another one later, maybe it was to your**
 25 **father, but that you may have been present too?**



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1 A Yeah. It was to me and dad.
2 Q Okay. And this one what I just gave
3 you was February 24th, 2019; is that correct?
4 A Yes, sir.
5 Q And in this statement, you believe --
6 or is it your testimony this was taken at the
7 hospital; is that correct?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q Did she write this statement or did you
10 write it for her?
11 A She wrote it.
12 Q Okay.
13 A Yeah. She wrote it.
14 Q All right. I just want to make -- as I
15 read your supplemental report, and you said a
16 minute ago and I'm going to quote, "they left
17 downtown and was heading home and Connor was
18 driving because Paul was too drunk to drive. We
19 hit the bridge and rode up on the rocks."
20 In the statement, the handwritten
21 statement, did Morgan actually say that Connor
22 was driving the boat at that time?
23 MR. TINSLEY: And for the record
24 1303 through 1304?
25 MR. GRIFFITH: Yeah.

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1 Q And your report indicates he was
2 getting some kind of scan done?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q At that point in time had you talked to
5 everybody that you understood to be in the boat?
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q With the exception of the missing girl?
8 A Yes.
9 Q What did you do after that then?
10 A I left the hospital and went back to
11 the scene.
12 Q Okay. And that was about, at least
13 your report indicates, that was 5:40 a.m. or
14 0540?
15 A Yes, sir.
16 Q What did you do when you got back to
17 scene the second time?
18 A I found First Sergeant Henderson and
19 pretty much asked him what we needed to do from
20 there, and he told me that Brock -- Investigator
21 Brock was on the way and he was going to call
22 me.
23 Q Okay. And apparently he did?
24 A He did call me.
25 Q Okay. And how long were you at the

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1 THE WITNESS: Yeah. It says
2 Connor took over.
3 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
4 Q Okay.
5 A We slammed into the bridge.
6 Q Okay. "We putted around until Connor
7 took over. We slammed into the bridge."
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q So it was your understanding from that
10 statement and from her that --
11 A That he was driving at impact.
12 Q All right. So in reading your
13 statement, she gave you that statement verbally
14 and then you asked her if she can write it out
15 and she did, correct?
16 A Yes, sir.
17 Q All right. And she signed that
18 statement; is that correct?
19 A Yes, sir.
20 Q Okay. After that then did you go back
21 and try to talk to Connor again?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q Were you able to talk to Connor the
24 second time?
25 A No, sir.

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1 scene the second time then?
2 A It wasn't long at all.
3 Q Right. You just noted times everywhere
4 else. I was just wondering if you remember.
5 A It wasn't long because he told me to go
6 straight back to the hospital.
7 Q And you did?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q What did he want at that time?
10 A He wanted me to get the victims to draw
11 the boat picture that you see on the statements.
12 Q Okay. And --
13 A That was his idea.
14 Q Okay. All right.
15 A Do I need to say the stamp thing?
16 Q I was going to say the stamp thing.
17 AGCD 11305, which I think is also DNR 234, and
18 I'm looking at Morgan's right there. And I
19 guess my question was Morgan's and Miley's
20 diagram done at the same time when you gave the
21 statement or did you get it the second time?
22 A The second time.
23 Q And so they were added that at a later
24 time?
25 A Yes, sir. Yep. That's why they are --



1 they're filled out where the affiant and address
 2 is, they're filled out twice. Once on their
 3 written statement and then again on their
 4 diagram.
 5 **Q Okay. As I noticed on the statement**
 6 **where there are two. There is one place, it is**
 7 **filled out as the affiant?**
 8 A Yeah. That's first page.
 9 **Q Okay.**
 10 A Wait. Yeah. This is the first page.
 11 It's -- I -- when I do a statement, I usually
 12 get the to fill it out on the second page so I
 13 know it is the end of the statement.
 14 **Q Right. I think I understood that, but**
 15 **I wanted you to clarify that for me.**
 16 **Were you able to see Connor when you**
 17 **went back?**
 18 A No, sir.
 19 **Q All right.**
 20 A No, no, no. Yes, sir. Yeah, I did.
 21 Yeah. Yes, sir.
 22 **Q Okay. So you did see him the second**
 23 **time again?**
 24 A Yes, sir.
 25 **Q All right. And at this time you wanted**

1 **to get the -- I'm sorry. I know it is a field**
 2 **sobriety test. What does the S stand for?**
 3 A Standard.
 4 **Q Standard. Okay?**
 5 A Or standardized.
 6 **Q Would that have consisted of him doing**
 7 **something or just could would he have done that**
 8 **laying down or stand up doing it?**
 9 A He would have done it seated and
 10 battery, which is what we do.
 11 **Q So it's not like on the roadside --**
 12 A No, sir.
 13 **Q -- DUI; you're doing in a boat like**
 14 **sitting down so the water --**
 15 A Yes, sir.
 16 **Q -- doesn't affect it, I think -- but I**
 17 **shook my head.**
 18 A Right.
 19 **Q Equilibrium for a lack of a better**
 20 **word?**
 21 A Right.
 22 **Q That's how you perform the field**
 23 **sobriety test?**
 24 A Yes, sir.
 25 **Q And he refused to do that?**

1 A Yes, sir.
 2 **Q Did you offer Paul Murdaugh a field**
 3 **sobriety test?**
 4 A No, sir.
 5 **Q Any reason you didn't offer him one?**
 6 A I don't remember.
 7 **Q All right. Were you offering Connor a**
 8 **field sobriety test because you were starting to**
 9 **zero in on him being the driver?**
 10 A Yes, sir.
 11 **Q Can you offer one to someone who is not**
 12 **the driver of the boat requested or request one?**
 13 A I don't think so.
 14 **Q Okay. So at this time, you being the**
 15 **DNR agent that was actually on-call doing the**
 16 **investigation or the initial leg work, was it**
 17 **your belief that Connor Cook was the driver of**
 18 **the boat at that time?**
 19 A Yes, sir.
 20 **Q Did you ask him to draw a diagram of**
 21 **the occupants in the boat?**
 22 A I don't recall.
 23 **Q Did he talk to you about anything else**
 24 **at that time?**
 25 A No, sir.

1 **Q All right. So you just requested the**
 2 **standard field sobriety test, so he refused and**
 3 **you left, correct?**
 4 A Yes, sir. Well -- yes, sir.
 5 **Q Anything else that went on?**
 6 A I filled the sheet out for refusal, but
 7 yeah, I left.
 8 **Q Okay.**
 9 A Yeah.
 10 **Q Then when you left, it looks like you**
 11 **went back to the scene again; is that correct?**
 12 A No, sir. I believe I was just in the
 13 parking lot waiting on Brock to get there.
 14 **Q Okay.**
 15 A Investigator Brock.
 16 **Q And do you know where Investigator**
 17 **Brock is from?**
 18 A Ridgeland.
 19 **Q And would it be consistent with DNR**
 20 **policy that when a boating accident takes place**
 21 **that an investigator is assigned to the**
 22 **incident?**
 23 A If it's a major accident.
 24 **Q And by this time it was considered a**
 25 **major accident?**



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1 A Yeah. Yes, sir.
 2 Q All right. And, I guess, when -- what
 3 was your understanding -- you thought it was a
 4 major accident from the time you got the call,
 5 correct?
 6 A Yes, sir.
 7 Q And would an investigator have been
 8 assigned immediately when you made the call
 9 back?
 10 A That's for people above me.
 11 Q Okay. I guess my question is what took
 12 Brock so long to get to the hospital?
 13 A (Shakes head.)
 14 Q Have you ever worked with Brock in an
 15 investigation?
 16 A Yes, sir -- in an investigation, no,
 17 sir.
 18 Q Okay. Well, you've worked with him
 19 before?
 20 A Yeah. I've been around him plenty of
 21 times. I know him well.
 22 Q Okay. So when Brock arrived you-all go
 23 back to the scene. This is your third trip to
 24 the scene; is that correct?
 25 A Yeah, yeah. After we went back inside

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1 Q You go back to the scene of the
 2 accident. Were you requested to do anything at
 3 that time?
 4 A I was told to meet John Marvin Murdaugh
 5 to get the trailer for the crashed boat.
 6 Q And who is John Marvin Murdaugh?
 7 A Alex's brother.
 8 Q And did you know John Marvin before
 9 this?
 10 A No, sir.
 11 Q And who told you that, to get with John
 12 Marvin to get the boat or get the trailer?
 13 A I don't recall.
 14 Q Do you know if it was Brock?
 15 A I don't know.
 16 Q Okay. You never met John Marvin
 17 before?
 18 A No, sir.
 19 Q All right. And you indicated John
 20 Marvin called me. Do you know how John Marvin
 21 would have gotten your phone number?
 22 A Most likely from Michael Paul Thomas.
 23 Q And how would Michael Paul Thomas have
 24 had it or why -- do you know why Michael Paul
 25 Thomas would have contacted John Marvin

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1 the hospital, then we went back to the scene.
 2 Q Let's go back. I did jump ahead there.
 3 I'm sorry. You and Brock went back in and
 4 you-all spoke to Morgan Doughty at that time?
 5 A Yes, sir.
 6 Q All right. And did you make any note
 7 of that conversation?
 8 A No, sir.
 9 Q Did she change her story -- statement
 10 about what happened in any way?
 11 A No, sir. I don't recall.
 12 Q Do you know if you-all went over what
 13 happened with her in front of Investigator
 14 Brock?
 15 A I don't remember.
 16 Q And then it says you went to the
 17 hospital, but by that time apparently Miley
 18 Altman and Paul Murdaugh had been released and
 19 Connor Cook was being transferred somewhere
 20 else?
 21 A Yes, sir.
 22 Q So you didn't get talk to anyone else
 23 again?
 24 A Once Brock showed up, I didn't talk to
 25 anyone else.

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1 Murdaugh?
 2 A Because he knows the Murdaugh family.
 3 Q So he knows them fairly well. Does he
 4 live up there?
 5 A No, sir. He doesn't live up there, but
 6 he knows them fairly well though.
 7 Q Did Michael Paul Thomas to your
 8 understanding was he involved in any way in this
 9 investigation?
 10 A No, sir -- other than to search and
 11 rescue. He was in charge of telling people
 12 where to search and what boats to be in and what
 13 time to be in the water.
 14 Q Okay. Mr. Pritcher, just a quick
 15 break. I don't know if anyone else needs one.
 16 (Whereupon, a break was taken at
 17 11:28 a.m.)
 18 (Back on the record at 11:46 a.m.)
 19 MR. GRIFFITH: We're back on the
 20 record now.
 21 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 22 Q We talked just briefly, you said that
 23 Michael Paul Thomas was probably the one that
 24 gave John Marvin your number, correct?
 25 A I would assume it was Michael Paul or



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1 Adam.
 2 Q Adam?
 3 A Henderson.
 4 Q Does Adam know the Murdaughs well also,
 5 to your knowledge?
 6 MS. BOWER: Object to the form.
 7 THE WITNESS: He knows who they
 8 are. I wouldn't say they are friends,
 9 but Adam has worked here 12, 13 years.
 10 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 11 Q And I believe you told me Adam lives
 12 out of Seabrook, same area you live?
 13 A Yes, sir.
 14 Q Now, from that, did John Marvin show
 15 up, John Marvin Murdaugh?
 16 A Yes, sir. He met me over at the Parris
 17 Island boat ramp on Battery Creek, so Battery
 18 Creek boat landing.
 19 Q I think I know where you're talking
 20 about, so let's make sure. As you go -- we
 21 talked about the Bell Bridge and that's the
 22 bridge that circles around the Parris Island
 23 boat landing. That's not on Parris Island,
 24 isn't it?
 25 A No. It's on Battery Creek and they

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1 Q At that time?
 2 A Yes, sir.
 3 Q And you took the trailer back to
 4 Archers Creek?
 5 A Yes, sir.
 6 Q All right. And sometimes I see in here
 7 it is Berkeley Bridge, correct, or do you know?
 8 A The bridge -- the Archers Creek bridge?
 9 Q Yeah.
 10 A I have no clue what the name of the
 11 bridge is.
 12 Q We'll just keep calling it Archers
 13 Creek then.
 14 Did you go back to Archers Creek to
 15 load the trailer?
 16 A Yes, sir.
 17 Q Did you load it there?
 18 A No, sir.
 19 Q Why did you pull the trailer over
 20 there?
 21 A I don't know.
 22 Q Okay. Then how did the boat get back
 23 to the Parris Island boat landing?
 24 A They towed. We towed it or DNR did.
 25 Q Okay. And do you know -- is there a

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1 call it Parris -- that's what messed everything
 2 up on the call out.
 3 Q So if you're coming in from the
 4 Beaufort river?
 5 A You hang a left.
 6 Q Archers Creek and you go straight under
 7 the bridge to get to Parris Island?
 8 A Yep. And it's right there on your
 9 left.
 10 Q Okay. That's where John Marvin met
 11 you?
 12 A Yes, sir.
 13 Q Okay. He had -- he showed up with, I
 14 assume, his pickup truck and a trailer?
 15 A Yes, sir.
 16 Q An empty trailer?
 17 A Yes, sir.
 18 Q And did you -- was the boat there at
 19 the time?
 20 A No, sir. The boat was still on the
 21 rocks.
 22 Q Okay. And did he drop the trailer and
 23 leave or did he stay?
 24 A He dropped the trailer and left because
 25 I hooked up to the trailer.

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1 special boat to tow it with?
 2 A No. Any boat.
 3 Q Okay. And do you know who towed it?
 4 A No, sir.
 5 Q All right. Let's just say looking back
 6 at your report, you met First Sergeant Henderson
 7 and Donnie Pritcher with the trailer and we
 8 loaded it on to the trailer?
 9 A Yes, sir.
 10 Q So that would have your father and your
 11 first sergeant?
 12 A Yes, sir.
 13 Q Met at the Parris Island boat landing?
 14 A (Nods head.)
 15 Q All right. And the sentence before
 16 that appears as though First Sergeant Henderson
 17 towed it. Is that the way you remember it?
 18 A Okay. Yes, sir.
 19 Q Okay. And do you know if anyone was
 20 with him in the boat?
 21 A I don't -- I don't remember.
 22 Q And so would you have -- you would have
 23 taken the trailer back to Parris Island boat
 24 landing, correct?
 25 A Yes, sir.



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1 Q And then once you got back to Parris
2 Island boat landing, did you-all load the boat?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q And I understood you inventoried -- DNR
5 inventoried the boat?
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q Did you assist in inventorying the
8 boat?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q Did you take any photographs during
11 your investigation?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q And were those photographs attached to
14 your report?
15 A Yeah. Yeah.
16 Q It's numbered down. See that little
17 number down there?
18 A Okay. I didn't attach it to my report.
19 I e-mailed it to investigations.
20 Q Okay.
21 A Who I assume attached it.
22 Q All right. And read that Bates-stamped
23 number so we know what you're referring to.
24 A Bates stamp 024 and 025.
25 Q Okay. And that's the DNR Bates-stamped

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1 and then --
2 Q Two of them?
3 A Two of them are out of the water at
4 Battery Creek landing.
5 Q And the last one is the --
6 A Is the whole identification number.
7 Q Okay. When you were taking the
8 photographs at Archers Creek, did you ever take
9 any inside the boat of what was in there?
10 A No, sir.
11 Q All right.
12 A I -- like nothing -- I didn't open any
13 compartments or coolers or nothing like that,
14 no.
15 Q Sure. But did you take any pictures of
16 the interior of the boat without opening
17 anything?
18 A I don't believe so.
19 Q Okay.
20 A I don't remember.
21 Q And you wouldn't want to open any
22 compartments without a search warrant; is that
23 correct?
24 A Right.
25 Q And I understand a search warrant was

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1 number as I understand it when it came to me.
2 A Okay.
3 Q I'm just saying that for the record.
4 And did you take any of the pictures
5 other than that?
6 A That morning -- like throughout the
7 entire thing?
8 Q No. That morning.
9 A I took pictures at the hospital of the
10 victims.
11 Q Did you take any pictures -- other
12 pictures of the boat?
13 A Other than these?
14 Q Yes, sir.
15 A No, sir. I -- I don't believe I did.
16 Let's see. No, sir.
17 Q Some of these pictures appear to be at
18 the Parris Island -- excuse me -- at Archers
19 Creek; is that correct?
20 A Yes, sir.
21 Q And then it appears as those five of
22 them, it's a colored copy of what you read into
23 the record?
24 A Yes, this is Archers Creek and this is
25 once the boat -- that one is still at Archers

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1 obtained?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q Did you get that or did Brock get that?
4 A That was Brock from investigations.
5 Q Okay. However, you did help inventory;
6 is that correct?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q All right. And did you take any
9 photographs of the inventory?
10 A I don't remember. I don't think I did
11 since Brock -- I believe Brock, Hammond, Damian
12 and Captain Pritcher were there during the
13 inventory process, so I don't think I took any
14 pictures.
15 Q All right. I'm going to show you a
16 document that came out of the DNR file that is
17 called "the boat inventory," and it's SC DNR
18 Bates number on -- of 386.
19 A Okay.
20 Q When you assisted in the boat
21 inventory, is this what you remember being in
22 the inventory or did you write it up?
23 A No. I didn't write anything up, but I
24 do remember this was what was in the boat.
25 Q All right. And in looking at that, it



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1 says flannel shirt hanging on the throttle.
 2 When I look at the photographs, I don't see a
 3 flannel shirt on the throttle, do you? I don't
 4 think I see a clear picture of the throttle.
 5 A I can see it right there. If you look
 6 through the wheel you can see.
 7 Q You talking about Photograph Number 5?
 8 A Number 5 through the wheel looks like a
 9 greenish flannel.
 10 Q Do you remember it being on there?
 11 A No, sir.
 12 Q Excuse me?
 13 A No, sir, I don't remember nothing
 14 there.
 15 Q And there's also on the inventory
 16 again --
 17 A Mm-hmm.
 18 Q -- 386, it talks about a black tee
 19 shirt. Do you remember where that was found?
 20 A No, sir.
 21 Q Camouflage pullover, correct?
 22 A Yes, sir.
 23 Q Do you remember that was found?
 24 A No, sir.
 25 Q And one fleece jacket?

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1 A I never -- I don't recall seeing any
 2 pants.
 3 Q Ever?
 4 A Ever.
 5 Q Did you ever see a wallet that was
 6 inventoried?
 7 A No, sir.
 8 Q And Mr. Murdaugh, Paul Murdaugh, did
 9 not have on pants; is that correct?
 10 A Correct.
 11 Q And we don't -- there was no inventory
 12 on the wallet or -- wallet or identification?
 13 A I never saw any of that.
 14 Q All right. And then I'm going to drop
 15 down to the next to last thing, miscellaneous
 16 paperwork. Do you know if that would have been
 17 boat paperwork or would that have been any type
 18 of identification paperwork?
 19 A I don't know.
 20 Q You never saw any type of
 21 identification identifying Paul Murdaugh,
 22 correct?
 23 A Yes, yeah. Correct. I never saw it.
 24 Q The paperwork that you got, did it show
 25 Alex Murdaugh was the owner of the boat or was

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1 A I don't remember where that was found.
 2 Q Okay. Do you remember any
 3 conversations you had with any of the other
 4 investigation -- or Brock was there during the
 5 inventory; is that correct?
 6 A Yes, sir.
 7 Q Was Hammond there during the inventory?
 8 A I think Hammond, Damian, and Donnie
 9 Pritcher were there.
 10 Q Okay. Was there any discussion of what
 11 was found on the inventory?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q All right. And when you see flannel
 14 shirt, tee shirt, camo pullover, do you recall
 15 that Paul Murdaugh had only boxer shorts on at
 16 the hospital; is that correct?
 17 A Yes, sir.
 18 Q Did you ever say where are the pants?
 19 A No, sir.
 20 Q Do you see any pants on the inventory?
 21 A No, sir.
 22 Q Do you know -- do you know if anyone
 23 while you were there that looked into the boat,
 24 put their hands in the boat, or got any pants
 25 out of the boat?

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1 that outside of your scope of --
 2 A During the inventory, I say I was
 3 there. I was standing outside the boat and I
 4 think basically all I did was count the beers
 5 that they found or assisted -- once the
 6 investigator was there, I took a step back and
 7 let them do their thing and just assisted.
 8 Q Now, I want to try to run through again
 9 -- you may have said who was present for the
 10 inventory?
 11 A I believe it was myself, Michael Brock,
 12 Damian Yongue, Matt Hammond, and Donnie
 13 Pritcher.
 14 Q Henderson was not present, to your
 15 knowledge?
 16 A I don't remember him being there.
 17 Q When -- when you looked at the boat
 18 other than the damage to the boat, to your
 19 knowledge was the boat seaworthy?
 20 A It could float.
 21 Q Is that the definition of the
 22 seaworthy?
 23 A I wouldn't put that boat back in the
 24 water.
 25 Q One of the things I noted it had a



1 flashlight and maybe not in your report, but
 2 somebody had indicated the flashlight was tied
 3 up for visibility?
 4 A I don't know.
 5 Q Do you know if it had running lights
 6 before the accident?
 7 A I don't remember.
 8 Q Nobody ever told you?
 9 A Yeah. I -- I don't recall. I don't
 10 remember:
 11 Q After the inventory, Investigator
 12 Hammond took the boat to Charleston. Did you go
 13 with him?
 14 A No, sir.
 15 Q And then you said end of statement and
 16 mean -- I'm not trying to put words in your
 17 mouth, that's the way you ended it up?
 18 A Right.
 19 Q Did you participate any further in the
 20 investigation?
 21 A I would say other than search and
 22 rescue efforts, the next -- let's see. I guess
 23 this was the next day when one of the girls
 24 text -- she texted me and said that I want to
 25 talk again or something like that.

1 Q Do you recall if that was Morgan
 2 Doughty?
 3 A I can't remember which one it was. It
 4 would be --
 5 Q Obviously Morgan or Miley?
 6 A Yeah.
 7 Q Obviously.
 8 A But between Morgan to Miley, I can't
 9 put a face to their names right now.
 10 Q Okay. Did you go and take her
 11 statement the second time?
 12 A I -- I stood there with her and Captain
 13 Pritchler, so Donnie -- I would -- I guess you
 14 would say Donnie officially took the statement.
 15 Q Okay.
 16 A But I was with her too because dad
 17 wanted me there to clarify anything because I
 18 was -- I knew more what was going on than he did
 19 at the time.
 20 Q And I did note in your -- oh, did you
 21 know Morgan Doughty before this?
 22 A No, sir.
 23 Q And I asked that because she refers to
 24 you as "Austin." Is there -- that to
 25 differentiate between you and your dad?

1 A I guess so.
 2 MR. TINSLEY: And the cute guy.
 3 THE WITNESS: No. I didn't know
 4 her and I honestly couldn't tell you
 5 how she had my number other than I may
 6 have gave her my number, if you got any
 7 questions or anything comes up, call
 8 me.
 9 MR. GRIFFITH: Sure.
 10 THE WITNESS: That's the only way
 11 I could assume she had my number.
 12 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 13 Q You had a business card, would you
 14 hand --
 15 A We don't have business cards.
 16 Q You don't?
 17 A No, sir.
 18 Q Oh, okay. But you would give her that
 19 number?
 20 A I would give her my state phone number.
 21 Q And that's a cell number?
 22 A Yes, sir.
 23 Q And so you think she texted you the
 24 next day or sometime after you left the
 25 hospital?

1 A I think -- I have to look at the date
 2 of the statement. I can't remember if it was
 3 the 24th or the 25th.
 4 Q Well, I'm going to tell you your father
 5 took a statement on the 25th?
 6 A Then that was it. It's a long
 7 statement.
 8 Q All right. I'm going to show you -- I
 9 only have the DNR Bates of 235 through 245, so
 10 it is about 10 pages.
 11 A Okay.
 12 Q And the first one looks like a waiver
 13 of rights?
 14 A Yes, sir.
 15 Q All right.
 16 A Yeah. It was the 25th.
 17 Q Okay.
 18 A Could have been the following day.
 19 Q So it would have been the Monday?
 20 A I have no clue.
 21 Q Well --
 22 A I don't remember what day of the week
 23 it was.
 24 Q I believe the oyster roast was Saturday
 25 night and the accident was early Sunday morning,



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1 the 24th?
2 A Yeah, that makes sense.
3 Q All right. Did she write that up, that
4 statement up? That's her handwriting, correct,
5 or did you see her -- I mean?
6 A I think she wrote this.
7 Q Okay. And in that regard where -- she
8 texted you. Where did you meet with her?
9 A At the boat landing on Battery Creek.
10 Q Strangely, the Parris Island boat
11 landing on Battery Creek?
12 A Yeah.
13 Q Okay. And about what time of day would
14 you have met with her?
15 A It was sometime in the morning. I
16 guess it was midmorning, afternoon. It says it
17 was 1:05 was the waiver of rights.
18 Q Okay.
19 A My time gets a little messed up because
20 I got sent home to sleep and rest up, and that's
21 how the days start getting mixed up in my head.
22 Q Okay. Do you remember anybody --
23 anybody else being there other than your father,
24 like one of the investigators?
25 A I know -- I can't remember if it was --

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1 that.
2 Q We have to ask him then?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q All right. How long did it take for
5 her to make that statement, approximately?
6 A It took a little bit. I would say 30,
7 45 minutes if not more because she -- they
8 talked about it first.
9 Q Okay.
10 A And then she wrote.
11 Q Do you know if your father, Donnie, has
12 any recording device that he could have recorded
13 that interview or the question-and-answer
14 session?
15 A No, sir. I don't know.
16 Q Okay.
17 A I don't think he recorded it.
18 Q If he had, it would be part of the DNR
19 investigation?
20 A Right.
21 Q Okay. Other than that, after that
22 statement, other than search and rescue, did you
23 have any other involvement during the
24 investigation?
25 A No, sir.

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1 if it was this interview or if it was another
2 one, but dad had myself, Damian, and Hammond
3 come up with questions that we wanted to ask,
4 but once she showed up, it was me and Donnie
5 were the only two I can remember being around.
6 Yeah. I think there was other officers at the
7 scene, but not with her and me and dad doing the
8 interview.
9 Q Okay.
10 A And he did most of the interview
11 talking, interaction. I was just there to
12 clarify, make her feel more comfortable since
13 she knew me, but -- not know me. She knew who I
14 was, not a random officer.
15 MR. TINSLEY: And thought you were
16 cute.
17 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
18 Q And on the last page, it says follow up
19 Q and A. What did that mean? And that does not
20 appear to be in her handwriting.
21 A No. That looks like Donnie's. I don't
22 know if he -- I don't know if he put that down
23 to say this statement was a follow-up questions
24 and answers statement and not her first
25 statement. I can only assume that's why he put

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1 Q Okay.
2 A Other than talking to the supervisors,
3 walking them through what we just talked about.
4 Q Okay. You went up and helped get the
5 book ready or whatever you call it?
6 A No, I didn't do that.
7 Q You weren't part of that?
8 A Huh-uh.
9 Q Did they then ask you to type up your
10 report?
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q And when I looked through it is there
13 any other report that you would have typed up
14 other than the supplemental report that we have
15 been looking at so far?
16 A No, sir.
17 Q And --
18 A Not that I remember, but I'm pretty
19 sure this is all I turned in was the incident
20 report and the photo logs, and the pictures were
21 already sent to Damian or Brock, one of them.
22 Q The reason I ask is because it was the
23 supplemental report; you didn't do an initial
24 report that is just supplemental to the entire
25 investigation?



1 A Mm-hmm.
 2 Q All right. Have you had any follow-up
 3 conversations -- we talked earlier, you said Mr.
 4 Alex Murdaugh talked to you one time or --
 5 again, has he talked to you since?
 6 A No, sir.
 7 Q Left the hospital, has he attempted to
 8 contact you?
 9 A No, sir.
 10 Q What about John Marvin, has he
 11 contacted you?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q Do you know Randy Murdaugh?
 14 A No, sir.
 15 Q Did you -- were you involved in any of
 16 the interview -- any interviews with individuals
 17 that were at the Paukie Island oyster roast?
 18 A No, sir.
 19 Q Were you involved in any way with
 20 interviews with the Luther's employees or
 21 obtaining the video from Luther's?
 22 A No, sir.
 23 Q I understand Morgan may have given
 24 another statement. Were you involved with that
 25 statement?

1 Q And this is the only cell phone you
 2 used in February 2019. Is that fair?
 3 A Yes, sir.
 4 Q If you had handwritten notes, where
 5 would you look for them?
 6 A Some -- probably somewhere in my truck
 7 if -- I got a thing behind my seat with a bunch
 8 of forms and papers and notepads and stuff.
 9 Q And in the ordinary course of whatever
 10 you may do in an investigation, do you typically
 11 make notes, like you took the photograph of the
 12 some officer's notepad. Do you recall
 13 testifying about that?
 14 A Right.
 15 Q Do you typically take notes and you
 16 type up your report later?
 17 A Yeah. I use just handwritten notes to
 18 help me type up my incident supplemental
 19 reports.
 20 Q Okay. And generally, are those notes
 21 very detailed or they sort of notes that
 22 hopefully jog your memory?
 23 A They are mostly timeline.
 24 Q Okay.
 25 A And phone numbers and names.

1 A No, sir.
 2 Q Okay. And were you involved with
 3 officially any other part of this investigation?
 4 A No, sir.
 5 Q Okay. That's all the questions I have
 6 right now. Thank you.
 7 A Thank you.
 8 Q There's going to be some other
 9 questions.
 10 CROSS-EXAMINATION
 11 BY MR. TINSLEY:
 12 Q I got some questions. At any time I
 13 ask you a question it don't make sense, you need
 14 clarification, just stop me and ask me.
 15 A Okay.
 16 Q Just make sure you understand it before
 17 you answer it. Okay?
 18 A Right.
 19 Q I'm going to be sort of out of order.
 20 [REDACTED] what number is that?
 21 A That is my state cell phone number.
 22 Q What is your personal cell phone?
 23 A I don't have one.
 24 Q That is the only cell phone you use?
 25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q And in the report that you typed up in
 2 this -- related to this crash we've talked about
 3 today, did anybody read those, give you any
 4 direction on what should be there or not be in
 5 there before you completed them?
 6 A Yes.
 7 Q Who?
 8 A Say, Captain Pritcher and -- basically
 9 just Captain Pritcher.
 10 Q Do you recall what suggestions he gave
 11 you about your report before you finalized it?
 12 A He just said make sure you have the
 13 timeline and that basically my handwritten note
 14 was basically to help me with the timeline, so
 15 I -- because I knew it was going to be put in a
 16 report and just make sure you have your timeline
 17 straight, you know, with times and where you
 18 were, after you went there and after you went
 19 there, and then he just said make sure you got
 20 names instead of using him, her, she, stuff like
 21 that.
 22 Q And I think you testified this morning
 23 that when you first got to the scene of the
 24 crash that you briefly looked at the boat?
 25 A Right.



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1 Q Or words to that effect?
2 A Mm-hmm.
3 Q Is that correct?
4 A Yes, sir.
5 Q Uh-huh doesn't make sense later.
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q And so when you say that, does that
8 mean in any way that you did any inventory, you
9 look in the boat, you glanced at it to see where
10 you were and went on to -- and did what you
11 needed to do?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q That's how you did it?
14 A That's the way I did. I didn't touch
15 anything inside the boat.
16 Q At the specific time in the morning you
17 were the only person from DNR that was there,
18 correct?
19 A Yes, sir.
20 Q As we sit here today or even from your
21 notes, you don't know when the first DNR person
22 at the scene arrived?
23 A I don't know what time, but it was
24 pretty quick. I'd say once I left, I'm pretty
25 sure Adam was almost there -- First Sergeant

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1 the investigation of the crash?
2 A No, sir.
3 Q Did you make any assumptions in that
4 regard? Did you assume that the sheriff's
5 department had it or DNR was going to get or did
6 you even know?
7 A I mean, I've figured it was ours since
8 it was a boating accident.
9 Q All right.
10 A I mean, I wouldn't say figured -- I
11 knew it was ours because it was a boating
12 accident.
13 Q Okay. And did you know what your role
14 was going to be in the investigations?
15 A I -- after talking with Adam, I know my
16 role was to figure out who the driver was --
17 Q Okay.
18 A -- as quickly as I could.
19 Q And that was to -- or you were directed
20 to do that by talking to the people involved in
21 the crash?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q Is Adam the first person you recall
24 talking to or speaking with about the crash or
25 what you should do other than dispatch? Is he

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1 Henderson, he was almost at the scene.
2 Q But -- so it was Henderson that arrived
3 to your knowledge?
4 A Yes, sir.
5 Q So whatever time he got there is when
6 it was?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q And you would be guessing if you don't
9 know what time it was?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q Because you didn't see it?
12 A I don't think I saw Adam at the scene
13 before I left.
14 Q When you got to the scene, who was --
15 or was the boat secured in any way?
16 A There was officers there, yeah.
17 Q From what agency?
18 A Beaufort County Sheriff's Office and
19 Port Royal Police and the military police on
20 base.
21 Q Okay. Did you know at that time that
22 there would be an investigator assigned to this
23 crash?
24 A I didn't know exactly, no.
25 Q Do you know who was going to conduct

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1 the first person --
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q --that directed you what to do?
4 A Yes, sir.
5 Q And where is Michael Brock in the
6 hierarchy?
7 Mr. Griffith asked you about Henderson
8 and Michael Paul Thomas. Where is Michael
9 Brock?
10 A Michael Brock is investigations.
11 Q Okay.
12 A So they're separate from me, Adam,
13 Michael Paul. They are not field officers like
14 us.
15 Q All right.
16 A So they're -- they're investigations
17 and there are on-call officers. I think they
18 have on-call officers for each region or maybe
19 two for the state, something like that, and --
20 but he was our Region 4 investigator, I guess.
21 I don't know if he was the on-call officer and
22 that's why he came or he was the Region 4
23 investigator.
24 Q And in the chain of command, would
25 Michael Brock have been over you?



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1 A Technically -- I don't know.
2 Q Okay.
3 A I mean --
4 MR. TINSLEY: That clip won't
5 play, Tabor.
6 MR. VAUX: I got them right here
7 with me.
8 Domino?
9 MR. TINSLEY: Domino, the clip of
10 him, if that's him.
11 BY MR. TINSLEY:
12 Q The report indicates that you spoke to
13 Anthony Cook while he was seated in a car, and I
14 believe that was Officer Domino's car. Do you
15 know that?
16 A Yeah. I don't know any of their names
17 or any recording.
18 (Audio recording played.)
19 BY MR. TINSLEY:
20 Q Is that you talking?
21 A Yes, sir.
22 (Audio recording played.)
23 BY MR. TINSLEY:
24 Q Is that what Anthony Cook told you that
25 morning?

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1 on. Hold on. Yeah. I put in my statement that
2 Anthony said he didn't know, but listening to
3 that video if he told me Paul, I would only
4 assume that I put down that he told me Paul.
5 Q Okay. Did Michael Brock ever tell you
6 to conduct a field sobriety test on Paul
7 Murdaugh?
8 A I don't remember.
9 Q If he had directed you to, would you
10 have attempted to do so?
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q Would you have filled out a refusal
13 like you did for Connor Cook?
14 A Yes, sir.
15 Q Do you believe as we sit here today
16 Michael Brock ever told you to do a field
17 sobriety test of Connor -- I mean, of Paul
18 Murdaugh?
19 A I don't know. I don't remember him
20 telling me to or not to.
21 Q And certainly would have made you a
22 report if he directed you to, correct?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q When you -- when you got whatever
25 training you got in investigation -- well, let

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1 A Yes, sir.
2 Q All right. There is no indication that
3 Connor was driving the boat, correct?
4 A Correct.
5 Q And do you -- after hearing that
6 statement again, do you believe in any way that
7 he somehow doubted that Paul was driving the
8 boat?
9 MS. BOWER: Object to the form.
10 THE WITNESS: I would -- from just
11 that video right there, I would say no.
12 He says Paul is driving. I don't know
13 what else he said in the rest of the
14 video though. Is there more to the
15 video?
16 BY MR. TINSLEY:
17 Q With you?
18 A Yeah.
19 Q I don't believe so.
20 A So that was it.
21 Q I believe that's it.
22 A Okay.
23 Q Do you --
24 A I think in my statement, I think he
25 told me that he didn't know or -- hold on. Hold

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1 me ask you this first: Did you receive some
2 investigative training before you became an
3 officer?
4 A Like through the training?
5 Q Yeah.
6 A Yeah.
7 Q Have you ever been involved in the
8 arrest of someone for BUI, boating under the
9 influence?
10 A Before then?
11 Q At any time before today?
12 A Yeah, yeah, I have.
13 Q Where you were the investigating
14 officer or the charging officer or whatever?
15 A Yes, sir.
16 Q And before you did it on your own, did
17 you ever assist anyone making one?
18 A No, sir.
19 Q Okay. When you make a charge or you
20 suspect someone is driving under the influence
21 of a boat, are there any policies that require
22 you to video any part of that arrest?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q And as a matter of course, does the DNR
25 video either the field sobriety or the



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1 administration of the breathalyzer, any part of
2 that sequence of events before an arrest?
3 A At -- the data master is video, but
4 before that we don't have any video.
5 Q Do you have the ability to use those
6 handheld breathalyzers?
7 A No, sir.
8 Q Like on the boat?
9 A No, sir.
10 Q Do you know if South Carolina DNR has
11 every used such a device?
12 A We don't now.
13 Q And how about Georgia DNR? Do you know
14 anything about what they do?
15 A I have no clue.
16 Q I can't remember. Sometimes I take
17 drugs and I can't remember where it comes from,
18 but I remember seeing one. I don't know which
19 agency.
20 But my main point, there is no policy
21 that requires video administration, video for
22 BUI --
23 A Correct.
24 Q -- correct?
25 A Correct.

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1 member of on February 24th?
2 A I think his wife somehow. She's a
3 lawyer or trying to be a lawyer.
4 Q Okay.
5 A And I don't know for sure or exactly
6 her connection is, but I think she has a
7 connection to the Murdaugh law firm.
8 Q Have you had any discussions with
9 Michael Brock that are in any way not documented
10 in the documents that we've looked at today
11 about the crash or the Murdaughs?
12 A No, sir.
13 Q Have you ever heard whether Michael
14 Brock had been involved in or any other
15 investigation of any kind that related to Paul
16 Murdaugh?
17 A No, sir.
18 Q Have you ever heard of any just sort of
19 water cooler conversations from anybody with the
20 DNR about any prior involvement with any charges
21 against Paul Murdaugh before February 24th,
22 2019?
23 A I think -- I think somebody might have
24 dealt with Paul on like a minor in possession on
25 the sand bar, but I'm not 100 percent sure if

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1 Q And the charges that you made for BUI,
2 do you know about how many it's been?
3 A It's been one.
4 Q Was it successfully prosecuted?
5 A No, sir.
6 Q Do you know why not?
7 A He -- he refused all -- he didn't do
8 any of the field sobriety tests, he didn't blow,
9 he barely talked, he barely wrote his name on
10 the paperwork, and --
11 Q Didn't have any evidence?
12 A Yeah, that was it.
13 Q And the purpose of the field sobriety
14 test is really to gain evidence?
15 A Yes, sir.
16 Q Do you know if Michael Paul Thomas had
17 any connection with the Murdaugh law firm on
18 February 24th, 2019?
19 A No, sir.
20 Q Have you heard since whether he did or
21 did not?
22 A No, sir.
23 Q How about Michael Brock? Do you know
24 if he had any connection with either personal or
25 business with the Murdaugh law firm or any

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1 that -- if he received a ticket or what it was
2 case-wise.
3 Q Okay. And do you know who that person
4 that might have dealt with Paul Murdaugh on the
5 sand bar was?
6 A I couldn't -- I couldn't tell you.
7 Q Do you know if Michael Brock was in any
8 way involved in that, not necessarily in the
9 ticket --
10 A I don't think Brock was involved in it
11 at all.
12 Q -- at any point during the
13 investigation or the resolution of that tick?
14 A I don't think so.
15 Q Do you know if that ticket has ever
16 been discharged?
17 A I don't know if there was even a
18 ticket. You asked me have I ever heard of Paul
19 Murdaugh or DNR having any type of communication
20 or run-ins and whatever, and I think somebody
21 has ran into Paul Murdaugh and people on the
22 sand bar for MIP, minor in possession stuff.
23 Q Okay. I want to make sure you didn't
24 write down any of the names of the law
25 enforcement that were present that said they



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1 didn't know, meaning that the passengers, who
2 were -- the driver was, correct?
3 A No, sir.
4 Q And do you recall if you had any
5 conversation with Officer Domino, that would be
6 the person whose car Anthony was in when you
7 spoke to him on the clip I just played?
8 A I don't know.
9 Q Is it fair to say you don't have a
10 recollection of asking that officer
11 specifically?
12 A Yeah. Yes, sir.
13 Q When you got there you saw Anthony at
14 some point?
15 A Yeah.
16 Q He was in the car?
17 A Right.
18 Q And there's an officer with him at
19 least one?
20 A I don't know if there was an officer
21 with him. I just know the door was opened and
22 he was sitting in the police car.
23 Q Okay. Do you know whether they were
24 standard protocols on separating witnesses and
25 someone staying with the witness?

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1 didn't write down what I played for you on that
2 clip of Anthony?
3 A No, sir.
4 Q No one told you not to write that down,
5 did they?
6 A No, sir.
7 Q So he asked you about Paul Murdaugh at
8 the hospital and Paul Murdaugh -- I wrote it
9 down. Your words were "he was acting pretty out
10 of control."
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q When you spoke with Connor, did he
13 respond appropriately to your questions?
14 A Yes, sir.
15 Q Did you ever have an opportunity to see
16 him stand or walk?
17 A No, sir.
18 Q Did he seem to be cooperative with the
19 hospital staff that were attending to him?
20 A Yes, sir.
21 Q Was he cooperative with you?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q Very different than the way Paul was
24 acting to you, agree?
25 A Yes, sir.

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1 A For the county?
2 Q For anybody for law enforcement.
3 A You have to ask that one again.
4 Q You don't have any reason to dispute if
5 there's audio the entire time Anthony is placed
6 in the car and that Domino is with him? You
7 don't have any reason to dispute that Domino
8 stayed with him?
9 A Right.
10 Q And you, likewise, wouldn't have any
11 reason to dispute there was an additional
12 officer from Port Royal Police Department that
13 was also there? You don't have any reason to
14 say they weren't there?
15 A No. I don't remember.
16 Q Is it fair to say that you didn't speak
17 to either of those officers as you recall the
18 day?
19 A Right.
20 Q And so when you say law enforcement
21 didn't identify anybody, you don't know --
22 you're speculating whether people you referred
23 to included those two people?
24 A Right.
25 Q Okay. Do you have any idea why you

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1 Q So when you say Connor appeared to be
2 intoxicated, what was it, other than his eyes,
3 gave you the appearance he was intoxicated?
4 A Slurred speech.
5 Q Okay.
6 A And just aloof.
7 Q You think Connor was aloof?
8 A I think so. Yes, sir.
9 Q And that means what?
10 A Just I guess spacey or just having
11 trouble communicating and recalling stuff,
12 and --
13 Q When you first get to the hospital and
14 the first place you go to is Paul's room,
15 correct?
16 A Yes, sir.
17 Q And how soon after you get there is it
18 that you first see either Paul's father or his
19 grandfather?
20 A It was a little bit.
21 Q Can you tell me?
22 A I can't tell you. I went to Connor and
23 when I came back to Paul's room. I would say 30
24 or 40 minutes.
25 Q When you first go to see Morgan, she



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1 didn't want anybody else in the room?
 2 A Right.
 3 Q And it seemed from your description
 4 that either Alex Murdaugh had been to the room
 5 or attempted to go in the room before you first
 6 saw her the first time?
 7 A That's what I assume.
 8 Q Is she the last person you talked to
 9 about the people that were in the hospital that
 10 were involved in the crash?
 11 A No, because I went back in there and
 12 got them diagrams filled out. The boat
 13 pictures.
 14 Q That's on the second trip back?
 15 A Right.
 16 Q And I'm talking about the first time.
 17 A I believe so. Yes, sir.
 18 Q Did that -- she is the last one?
 19 A I think so.
 20 Q Do you know at what point or whether
 21 Alex Murdaugh spoke to Connor Cook that morning?
 22 A I don't know.
 23 Q Do you know if he spoke to Connor Cook
 24 before you spoke to Connor Cook?
 25 A I have no clue.

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1 meeting with her because she wasn't in the room
 2 when you go back for the diagram, correct?
 3 A The nurse?
 4 Q Morgan. So Morgan --
 5 A Wait.
 6 Q Yep.
 7 A Morgan is -- was in the room with
 8 Connor Cook or Morgan is the finger injury?
 9 Q The finger injury?
 10 A Yeah, yeah, yeah.
 11 Q Okay. So as I read yours and maybe
 12 Brock's statement, she's coming out as you're
 13 coming up and that's when you get her to do the
 14 diagram?
 15 A Yeah.
 16 Q She's not in the room is my point?
 17 A Right. I think so.
 18 Q And your recollection is that there was
 19 probably a nurse in there at least at some point
 20 while you were in there trying to talk to
 21 Morgan?
 22 A The first time, yeah.
 23 Q Right. And do you have any
 24 recollection because the nurse wrote in the
 25 records Morgan, she wanted to change the

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1 Q You don't know one way or the other?
 2 A No, sir.
 3 Q And you can't say he did or did not?
 4 A I can't say.
 5 Q But it was apparent to you when you
 6 first spoke to Morgan he either spoke to her or
 7 tried to speak with her?
 8 A Yes, sir.
 9 Q Did you ever hear Alex Murdaugh say
 10 that he represented all the kids or words to
 11 that effect?
 12 A No, sir.
 13 Q Did he ever give you the impression you
 14 couldn't talk to anyone because they were
 15 representing all the kids?
 16 A No, sir.
 17 Q And when I say "representing," do you
 18 understand that I'm suggesting in a sort of
 19 criminal capacity or for some criminal charges?
 20 A Right, right, right.
 21 Q Okay. The -- you testified today that
 22 you think there was a nurse in Morgan's room at
 23 some point when you were talking to her?
 24 A I think so.
 25 Q And that would have been your first

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1 statement, that she thought she got it wrong.
 2 Do you have any recollection of you --
 3 her telling you that before she texted you or
 4 whatever happened after that morning?
 5 A I think at the hospital she was saying
 6 when her mom got there, she wasn't sure if her
 7 first statement was right or wrong and she was
 8 bouncing back and forth and her mom was like why
 9 don't you sleep on it and if you want to change
 10 it, you can give as many statements as you want.
 11 Q Okay.
 12 A And she left it at that.
 13 Q Okay. So the answer is yes?
 14 A Yes.
 15 Q Okay.
 16 A Yes.
 17 Q And you were fine with that?
 18 A Absolutely.
 19 Q You testified today whether Officer
 20 Brock showed up. You didn't talk to anyone
 21 else. Is that because he took over the
 22 investigation?
 23 A I won't say he took over the
 24 investigation.
 25 Q Why wouldn't you say that?



1 A Because I know they didn't want Brock
2 too close to the investigation because of his
3 wife's involvement or relationship with the
4 Murdaugh law firm.
5 Q At some point that was the case?
6 A Yeah.
7 Q You recall that being an issue at some
8 point?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q Do you know specifically when that was
11 brought to your attention?
12 A No, sir.
13 Q There was some photo -- this is not all
14 the photos of Paul Murdaugh in the hospital bed.
15 Do you know if you took these photos?
16 A Yes, sir, I took those.
17 Q And there is one photo there would be
18 one, but I specifically one of the cut in --
19 A Connor.
20 Q -- Connor's mouth?
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q Did you take that?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q All of the photos in his boxers, when
25 you took those, do you know whether or not

1 later to either Damian or someone in
2 investigations and they might have made a log or
3 something. I don't know why they're not on
4 there.
5 Q Okay. Was it Michael Brock who told
6 you to meet John Marvin to get the boat trailer?
7 A I can't remember who told me.
8 Q Okay.
9 A I don't know if -- let's see -- I don't
10 remember who told me to go meet John Marvin.
11 Q Do you have a recollection of what John
12 Marvin told you when he called you?
13 A He just called me and said, "Hi, this
14 is John Marvin Murdaugh, and I'm bringing the
15 trailer to Battery Creek." He had to go pick it
16 up over at their house over by Chechessee and
17 he'll be there in 20 minutes or however long he
18 said.
19 Q Okay. And help me understand because
20 I'm not familiar with the locations as Mr.
21 Griffith is. Where was it that you met him to
22 get the trailer?
23 A Battery Creek boat landing, which is
24 called Parris Island boat landing on Battery
25 Creek.

1 Paul's father and grandfather were at the
2 hospital?
3 A I don't -- I don't remember if they
4 were there yet or not.
5 Q Okay. You took these with a cell
6 phone?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q All right. You took the photo of the
9 boat with a cell phone?
10 A Yes, sir. I think I did. Yes, sir. I
11 think so.
12 Q Do you have a camera in addition to a
13 cell phone that you use to take photos?
14 A I do have a camera.
15 Q All right. Do you know whether you
16 took them with that and when I say "them," the
17 pictures of the people or the boat?
18 A I don't think I used the camera at all
19 in this investigation.
20 Q Okay. And in terms of the photographic
21 log that Mr. Griffith was talking about, none of
22 the photos of the people are on there. Would
23 there be a log or, do you know why they are not
24 included on that log?
25 A I think I sent the photo of the people

1 Q Okay. So that's where the boat was to
2 be removed?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q Do you know if the boat was there when
5 you met him?
6 A It was not there.
7 Q Okay. It was being towed at that time?
8 A I don't think it was even being towed
9 yet. I think it was still on the rocks.
10 Q Did they wait until the tide came in to
11 get it off the rocks or do you know? If you
12 don't know, I don't want you to guess.
13 A I don't know.
14 Q Okay. Have you ever had any
15 conversations with John Marvin Murdaugh since
16 that morning when he called you?
17 A I have talked to him.
18 Q Okay. How many times?
19 A Once.
20 Q And what was that about?
21 A I ran into him on the sand bar --
22 Q Okay.
23 A -- Beaufort and we talked about
24 hunting, fishing and --
25 Q Nothing about this?



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1 A No, sir.
2 Q Have you ever talked to Paul Murdaugh
3 since that morning of the 24th?
4 A No, sir.
5 Q Have you ever seen him?
6 A I have seen him.
7 Q Where have you seen him?
8 A At Parker's on Highway 21.
9 Q Buying beer then?
10 A No.
11 Q Do you know what he was doing?
12 A I think he was getting ready to go see
13 the judge.
14 Q Okay.
15 A I think that was the day he had one of
16 his things at the courthouse.
17 Q Anybody with him?
18 A Alex.
19 Q Did you speak with him?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q You just recognized him?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q Did they recognize you?
24 A I don't know. I was in uniform and a
25 black truck.

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1 asked about using his phone and Keener is saying
2 you dropped it on the ground, on the floor and
3 another officer was saying I got it. Do you
4 know if anybody from DNR was involved in the
5 collection of the -- Paul Murdaugh's phone that
6 morning?
7 A I don't know.
8 Q You've never seen it?
9 A I've never seen his phone.
10 Q Other than me bringing it up right now,
11 have you ever heard anybody involved in the
12 investigation talk about that, the fact that
13 there was a phone or someone from the sheriff's
14 office was involved in picking up a phone?
15 A No. I never heard any of this before.
16 Q Okay. And if the phone were in the
17 pants that Paul Murdaugh had on before you found
18 him in his boxers, you don't know where those
19 are either, right?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q And you never saw them?
22 A No, sir.
23 Q You're not saying they weren't in the
24 boat?
25 A I never saw any pants.

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1 Q Okay.
2 A So I could.
3 Q As far as acknowledging you?
4 A No, no. No acknowledgment.
5 Q Okay. Give me just a minute. I think
6 I'm done.
7 A Okay.
8 (Whereupon, a break was taken at
9 12:44 p.m.)
10 (Back on the record at 12:46 p.m.)
11 BY MR. TINSLEY:
12 Q Just got a couple more questions.
13 A Okay.
14 Q So there's an audio recording of
15 Officer Keener speaking with Paul Murdaugh.
16 Have you ever heard it?
17 A Officer Keener?
18 Q He's with Beaufort County.
19 A I have heard the name before.
20 Q Have you ever heard the audio recording
21 taken from his -- whatever his recording device
22 was on his person?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q In that he -- Paul Murdaugh asked him
25 -- and I'm happy to play it for you, but he

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1 Q I'm just trying to clarify what your
2 testimony is, so later somebody else is saying
3 you said they were in the boat.
4 A Oh, I don't recall seeing any paint
5 anywhere.
6 Q If you had seen pants that somebody
7 didn't pick up, would you have done something
8 about it, if they are on the side of the road,
9 they are in the boat by the trailer, someone
10 stuffed them in the trash can, you wouldn't, you
11 know, not have allowed them to be collected?
12 A Yeah. Right. Right.
13 Q If you have seen them?
14 A Right.
15 Q You don't have any recollection of
16 seeing any pants?
17 A No, sir.
18 Q And -- and so you get there to the
19 crash scene 2:49 and you get back about
20 8:00 a.m. Is that fair?
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q And let me --
23 A You talking back to the scene?
24 Q Back -- you go back and you get with
25 Michael Brock and you go back to the hospital.



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1 As far as seeing the boat or anything with the
2 boat that didn't happen when you were
3 momentarily back, if I understand you --
4 A What didn't happen?
5 Q That you were involved in looking at
6 the boat -- looking in the boat, any involvement
7 with the boat when you met up with Michael
8 Brock?
9 A Take a couple steps back.
10 Q So as I understand it, you get the call
11 and you go directly to the scene?
12 A Mm-hmm.
13 Q You're there briefly?
14 A Mm-hmm.
15 Q And -- yes?
16 A Yes.
17 Q And then you go to hospital?
18 A Yes.
19 Q And you do some things at the hospital,
20 which we talked about, and at some point someone
21 directs you to get diagrams drawn from the
22 occupants of the boat?
23 A Yes.
24 Q As I understood your testimony, you
25 were back at the scene or almost back to the

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1 Q When was the next time?
2 A The next time?
3 Q Yes, sir.
4 A I don't know. I couldn't tell you.
5 Q So the phone records of John Marvin
6 Murdaugh indicate he calls you at 8:49 and there
7 is a two-minute phone conversation.
8 A Uh-huh.
9 Q Does that sound about right?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q Are you able to with -- when these
12 photos of the boat are taken and you have the
13 conversation with John Marvin Murdaugh, does
14 that refresh your recollection of how long you
15 were at the crash scene after leaving the
16 hospital the second time?
17 A Yeah -- I just kind of hung out right
18 there at the boat and you -- I mean, I just
19 stayed with the boat and that's when -- at that
20 time, we were trying to figure out was it a DNR
21 case or was it about to call to Parris Island or
22 the federal -- you know, whoever, and we weren't
23 touching the boat waiting for warrants, so at
24 that time someone had to be with the boat --
25 Q Okay.

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1 scene when that happened?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q And did you ride with Michael Brock or
4 did he meet you at the hospital?
5 A He met me at the hospital.
6 Q Did you get out of your truck the
7 second time -- this is before you told -- or
8 about the time you were told about the statement
9 at the scene?
10 A I don't recall.
11 Q Okay. Do you have a specific
12 recollection of making it to the scene before
13 you then turn around and go to the hospital?
14 A I don't remember.
15 Q You don't remember one way or the
16 other?
17 A Yeah. I don't remember.
18 Q So the next time about that you see the
19 boat in your photograph log, it says 8:15.
20 There is Photo Number 1 of the boat?
21 A Right.
22 Q And you took that?
23 A That's not the next -- that's the first
24 time I saw the boat -- since the very time I saw
25 it.

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1 A -- the whole time.
2 Q Okay. So -- and I'm trying to be very
3 specific about what we say and what you say.
4 Okay?
5 A Okay.
6 Q And when we first started talking, you
7 said words to the effect of "I know it was going
8 to be ours -- DNR's investigation."
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q What you just said seems to contradict
11 that in that there was a question for some
12 period of time who was going to actually
13 investigate the crash?
14 A Right.
15 Q And at that point you had not assumed
16 control of any evidence; is that fair, when
17 there's question at that point in time, whenever
18 that was?
19 A No evidence.
20 Q You weren't control of anything?
21 A No, sir.
22 Q You had done what you had been tasked
23 to, but as far as the evidence, whatever that
24 was, you-all hadn't done that?
25 A Right. Yes, sir.



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1 Q You didn't know whether you were going
2 to be the agency tasked of getting the search
3 warrant when there's a question of who is going
4 to investigate?
5 A Yes, sir.
6 Q Is it fair to say whoever first got to
7 the boat would have been in charge of custody of
8 the boat until you-all took it over?
9 A I don't know.
10 Q Okay.
11 A I don't know how that works
12 technically.
13 Q Okay. Well, when you were standing
14 there and there was discussion whoever was
15 having the discussion of who was going to handle
16 the investigation, who had custody of the boat
17 then?
18 A I don't know.
19 Q Okay. You, Michael Paul Thomas,
20 Henderson, and Brock, was there anybody else
21 there up until that point? This is 8:00 a.m. in
22 the morning -- for DNR?
23 A Not that I can recall. I don't know if
24 Donnie Pritcher got there yet or not.
25 Q Okay. And as far as the timeline on

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1 A I never heard that.
2 Q And other than the minor in possession
3 you may have heard about at the sand bar, have
4 you heard of any alcohol-related charges or
5 stops that involved Paul Murdaugh? In other
6 words, have you ever heard, yeah, I stopped him
7 for this or that --
8 A No, sir.
9 Q -- related to alcohol or the operation
10 of the boat?
11 A Not that I can remember.
12 Q All right. And when you talked to John
13 Marvin on the sand bar that day talking about
14 hunting or whatever it was, did he invite you to
15 go hunting?
16 A No, sir.
17 Q Fishing?
18 A No, sir.
19 Q Invite you to do anything?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q Thank you. That's all the questions I
22 have for you. Thank you?
23 A Thank you.
24 MS. BOWER: I don't have any.
25 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

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1 when -- I know I've seen some timelines. As far
2 as a timeline, when you got back to the scene,
3 do you know if there is any such timeline for
4 you?
5 A From the hospital back to the scene?
6 Q Yeah. That's not a trick question. I
7 just don't remember.
8 A I'm going to look to see if I have
9 something noted in here. I don't know. I
10 couldn't give you a time exactly.
11 Q That's fine. Have you heard or do you
12 know whether Michael Paul Thomas had ever been
13 involved in any investigation related to any
14 charges or the prosecution of Paul Murdaugh --
15 DNR?
16 A I don't know.
17 Q Had or had not?
18 A I had not.
19 Q Or make a ticket go away?
20 A I have not.
21 Q Have you ever heard Paul Murdaugh has
22 been charged with -- I'll call them crimes
23 because I don't know what else people are
24 charged with -- those tickets were then made to
25 go away by someone at the DNR?

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1 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
2 Q I have one or two follow up. Matthew
3 Hammond, he is what?
4 A Investigator.
5 Q All right. And he's coming down here
6 to give his deposition. He's from Spartanburg?
7 Greenville?
8 A I think so.
9 Q Do you know why he was pulled into this
10 investigation from so far away?
11 A I know he's a newer -- at that time he
12 was a newer investigator, and I just assumed
13 that dad pulled him down to get experience and
14 to help and assist in any way.
15 Q All right. And was your dad the person
16 that -- Donnie Pritcher, was he the person that
17 made the decision who the investigator was going
18 to be?
19 A I don't know.
20 Q Well, when I look at three
21 investigators; it's Hammond, Yongue, and Brock,
22 right?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q All right. And do you know if Hammond
25 was brought in because of the concern of Mr.



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1 **Brock's conflict?**
 2 A I don't know that for certain.
 3 **Q When you talked about meeting John**
 4 **Marvin on the sand bar --**
 5 A Yes, sir.
 6 **Q -- we talking about the Beaufort River?**
 7 A Beaufort sand bar.
 8 **Q Across from the hospital?**
 9 A Yes, sir.
 10 **Q And that's where Paul had -- had his**
 11 **run-in with the minor in possession?**
 12 A I don't know.
 13 **Q But you had heard about a minor in**
 14 **possession?**
 15 A Yes, sir. I've heard Paul's name and
 16 the other kids in this incident.
 17 **Q Yeah. But you don't know what sand bar**
 18 **that was?**
 19 A No, sir. I think it was before I was
 20 even hired.
 21 **Q I think that's all the questions I**
 22 **have. Thank you.**
 23 **REXCROSS-EXAMINATION**
 24 BY MR. TINSLEY:
 25 **Q I'm sorry. I have a few more. Were**

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1 A I -- I think I remember talking to her
 2 about who was driving, but she was just saying
 3 that's where they were sitting. I don't know
 4 who was driving.
 5 **Q Okay.**
 6 A Or something like that.
 7 **Q So is the answer then when she drew it**
 8 **like this, you didn't question her further; you**
 9 **just had her draw where everybody was in the**
 10 **boat?**
 11 A Right.
 12 **Q All right. Okay. That's all I have.**
 13 **REDIRECT EXAMINATION**
 14 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 15 **Q And I hate to beat a dead horse, but**
 16 **the photo you took of the boat at 8:00 in the**
 17 **morning --**
 18 A Yes, sir.
 19 **Q -- were you instructed to take those by**
 20 **anybody or doing this part of your routine**
 21 **investigation?**
 22 A I don't recall.
 23 **Q If you had been instructed, do you know**
 24 **who would have instructed you to do that?**
 25 A It could have been anybody standing out

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1 **you with Michael Brock when he interviewed and**
 2 **wrote a statement for Anthony Cook?**
 3 A No, sir.
 4 **Q Okay. And the diagram that you secured**
 5 **for Miley Altman, which is Bates-stamped**
 6 **001302 --**
 7 A Mm-hmm.
 8 **Q -- you agree that she drew a diagram**
 9 **that indicates Paul Murdaugh is behind the**
 10 **steering wheel of the boat?**
 11 A Yes, sir -- well, on the left side of
 12 the seat behind the searing wheel.
 13 **Q Okay. And do you know that the**
 14 **steering wheel is on the left side of the**
 15 **console; it's not in the center as it's drawn**
 16 **here? You can look at your photo if you want?**
 17 A Yeah. Where are they at? Right. It's
 18 on the left side of the center console.
 19 **Q Okay. So at least in terms of what she**
 20 **told you at least in this diagram, she put Paul**
 21 **Murdaugh behind the steering wheel the morning**
 22 **of the 24th, correct?**
 23 A Correct.
 24 **Q Do you have a recollection of asking**
 25 **her about that when she drew that?**

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1 there. Hey, make sure we get pictures. It's
 2 just standard procedure usually.
 3 **Q All right. All right. I've got no**
 4 **other questions. Thank you. Thank you for**
 5 **coming in. I'm not sure you had much of a**
 6 **choice, but thank you.**
 7 A I was going to make a run for it.
 8 **REXCROSS-EXAMINATION**
 9 BY MR. TINSLEY:
 10 **Q You indicated that if you had notes**
 11 **they would be in your truck. Are you in your**
 12 **truck now?**
 13 A Yes, sir.
 14 **Q Can you look?**
 15 A I can look.
 16 **Q Okay. If you look and just let us know**
 17 **whether you have them or you can go?**
 18 MR. GRIFFITH: If you do, expect
 19 another hour.
 20 THE WITNESS: You want me to look
 21 right now?
 22 MR. GRIFFITH: Yes.
 23 (Whereupon, a break was taken at
 24 1:02 p.m.)
 25 (Back on the record at 1:04 p.m.)



1 MR. TINSLEY: I have some more
2 questions.
3 THE WITNESS: You have more
4 questions?
5 BY MR. TINSLEY:
6 Q Just a couple and we'll mark this as 1?
7 MADAM COURT REPORTER: Well, we
8 have the flash drive as 1, so this
9 would be Exhibit 2.
10 (Whereupon, Exhibit
11 Number 2 was marked for
12 identification.)
13
14 BY MR. TINSLEY:
15 Q This will be Exhibit 2 to your
16 deposition, these two pages. And these are the
17 notes that you had in your truck, correct?
18 A Yes, sir.
19 Q And when you looked, these are the only
20 notes you have --
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q -- related to that day? All right.
23 There's a couple of things that would
24 seem to be -- so the first page, the next to the
25 last paragraph, his girlfriend, Morgan, said she

1 didn't know who was driving. Her statement
2 reflected. That she was sitting in front of the
3 boat with Miley. And then if we compare that to
4 the first paragraph on the second page, I went
5 and talked with Miley, she told me Connor was
6 driving the boat and she was very skittish. She
7 didn't want anyone to hear her. She wrote a
8 statement.
9 Do you believe that you confused the
10 two girls?
11 A I did.
12 Q Where it says Morgan, it should be --
13 A I know I did because like three days
14 into the investigation someone told me I was
15 talking about the wrong, you know, Morgan and
16 Miley. I had them mixed up the whole time.
17 Q Okay. So this gives us a little bit
18 more insight into the timeline at 5:40 is when
19 you go back to the hospital, correct?
20 A Says 0540, I went back to the scene and
21 wanted to see what else we needed to be doing.
22 Q Okay. And then Michael Brock told you
23 to go back to the hospital?
24 A Yes. Right.
25 Q So sometime after that you left and

1 then 7:00 a.m. I was instructed to give field
2 sobriety test by Brock to Connor?
3 A Right.
4 Q Connor refused?
5 A Right. Yes, sir.
6 Q And Brock has paperwork. Is that of
7 the refusal?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q Okay. Okay. That's all I have.
10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
11 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
12 Q I'm confused now. On page 2, I think
13 you read I went and talked to Miley. She told
14 me Connor was driving the boat. Is that where
15 you were confused of who was who?
16 A Yes, sir. That is supposed to be
17 Morgan.
18 Q Okay.
19 A I had Morgan and Miley names completely
20 mixed up on my notes.
21 Q So everywhere you said Morgan, it
22 should be Miley?
23 A I wouldn't say everywhere, but I'm
24 pretty sure that could be true. I mean, let's
25 see. His girlfriend Morgan, so Connor's

1 girlfriend is Miley.
2 Q Correct as I understand.
3 A Yeah. I think that's how it was. So
4 that first Morgan should be Miley and then I
5 think all you got to do page 2 Miley that should
6 be Morgan.
7 Q And is that properly reflected on your
8 supplemental report?
9 A Yeah.
10 Q Okay.
11 A I fixed it by the time I typed that up.
12 Q All right. That's it. Thank you?
13 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION
14 BY MR. TINSLEY:
15 Q One more. I'm sorry. So the second
16 entry, the 3:30.
17 A Yeah, 0330.
18 Q 0330, the last sentence, "A officer
19 told me that it was Connor from overhearing
20 talk."
21 A Right.
22 Q So your notes indicate one officer said
23 Connor, correct?
24 A Right.
25 Q Not multiple officers?



1 A Well, at the scene multiple officers
 2 were telling me they think it's Connor. One
 3 thinks it's Paul, one overheard a conversation.
 4 That there were multiple officers telling me
 5 information.
 6 Q But your notes indicate a single
 7 officer told you it was Connor?
 8 A Right. Yes, sir.
 9 Q And they don't indicate that any other
 10 officer said it was Connor?
 11 A No, sir.
 12 Q And there is no note in there that
 13 indicates that anyone of the officers said it
 14 was Paul?
 15 A Correct.
 16 Q Did you note that in your report
 17 anywhere that an officer told you it was Paul or
 18 that they just didn't know it was between those
 19 two?
 20 A Yeah. I say it right here. I asked
 21 the officers if they knew who was driving, and
 22 no one could tell me who was for sure, but it
 23 was either Connor Cook or Paul Murdaugh.
 24 Q Okay. And again, as we discussed
 25 earlier, you don't know if you asked Domino or

1 the other officer who was standing with Anthony
 2 Cook?
 3 A Correct.
 4 Q Okay. That's all I have. Better go
 5 quick.
 6 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
 7 BY MR. GRIFFITH:
 8 Q At 4:30 he said -- I'm assuming he is
 9 Paul -- said he wasn't going to tell me who was
 10 going to drive the boat?
 11 A Right.
 12 Q Okay. And that just wasn't reflected
 13 in your supplemental report. Is that a quote
 14 from pretty much from Paul that he wasn't going
 15 to tell you?
 16 A I won't put an exact quote, but he was
 17 saying something around there.
 18 Q Okay. Now you better run.
 19 (SIGNATURE WAIVED.)
 20 (Whereupon, the deposition of
 21 Austin Pritchler was concluded at
 22 approximately 1:17 p.m.)
 23
 24
 25

C E R T I F I C A T E

1
 2
 3 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA:
 4 BEAUFORT COUNTY:
 5
 6 I, Amanda Bowen, Court Reporter and Notary
 7 Public in and for the above county and state, do
 8 hereby certify that the foregoing testimony was
 9 taken before me at the time and place
 10 herein-before set forth; that the witness was by
 11 me first duly sworn to testify to the truth, the
 12 whole truth, and nothing but the truth, that
 13 thereupon the foregoing testimony was later
 14 reduced by computer transcription; and I certify
 15 that this is a true and correct transcript of my
 16 stenographic notes so taken.
 17 I further certify that I am not of counsel to
 18 either party, nor interested in the event of
 19 this cause.
 20
 21 *Amanda Bowen*
 22 Amanda Bowen
 23 Court Reporter
 24 Notary Public
 25 Beaufort, South Carolina

