

1 THE COURT: THE STATE MAY PROCEED AND CALL YOUR  
2 NEXT WITNESS.

3 MR. BENDER: WE WOULD CALL WILLIE STOCKWELL,  
4 YOUR HONOR.

5 THEREUPON,

6 WILLIE STOCKWELL,  
7 WAS CALLED AS A WITNESS BY THE STATE AND, AFTER HAVING  
8 BEEN FIRST DULY SWORN, WAS EXAMINED AND TESTIFIED ON HER  
9 OATH AS FOLLOWS:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. BENDER:

12 Q MA'AM, HOW ARE YOU?

13 A JUST FINE.

14 Q COULD YOU TELL THE JURY YOUR NAME, PLEASE?

15 A I'M WILLIE STOCKWELL.

16 Q AND WHERE DO YOU LIVE RIGHT NOW?

17 A 3020 HARRISON AVENUE, IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA.

18 Q AND YOU LIVE THERE WITH YOUR HUSBAND AND OTHER  
19 FAMILY MEMBERS?

20 A YES, WITH MY HUSBAND AND CATHY, MY DAUGHTER, AND  
21 HER HUSBAND AND MICHELLE AND ANGEL AND A GRANDSON, JASON  
22 STOCKWELL.

23 Q AND YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND SHARE A BEDROOM CLOSE  
24 TO ANGELA AND MICHELLE'S; IS THAT CORRECT?

25 A THAT'S RIGHT.

1 Q I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU, DO YOU KNOW SCOTTY MERSON?

2 A YES.

3 Q AND HOW DID YOU COME TO KNOW MR. MERSON?

4 A WELL, HE WAS DATING TINA, WHO IS MY  
5 STEP-GRANDDAUGHTER.

6 Q AND DID YOU HAVE OCCASION TO MEET HIM? DID HE  
7 EVER COME OVER TO THE HOUSE?

8 A OH, HE WAS OVER TO THE HOUSE ANY NUMBER OF TIMES  
9 FOR DINNERS OR COME OVER TO WATCH THE STOCK CARS, THE N.A.S.  
10 CAR RACES WITH FRED AND CATHY.

11 Q DID HE EVER SOCIALIZE WITH TINA BY TAKING ANGELA  
12 AND MICHELLE OUT WITH THEM TO VARIOUS PLACES?

13 A YES, THEY DID TAKE THEM OUT.

14 Q DID YOU NOTICE HOW THE RELATIONSHIP WAS BETWEEN  
15 SCOTT MERSON AND ANGELA? DID THEY GET ALONG OKAY?

16 A YES.

17 Q DID THEY APPEAR TO BE FRIENDLY TOWARDS ONE ANOTHER?

18 A YES.

19 Q I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE YOU BACK TO MAY 17TH, MAY  
20 18TH OF THIS YEAR. DO YOU RECALL AN INCIDENT IN WHICH ANGELA  
21 AND MICHELLE CAME INTO YOUR BEDROOM EARLY IN THE MORNING?

22 A YES.

23 Q NOW, LET ME ASK YOU JUST A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE  
24 SET-UP OF YOUR BEDROOM, PLEASE. I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE, YOU  
25 AND YOUR HUSBAND HAVE A LIGHT OVER YOUR BED? BOTH OF YOU

1 HAVE A LIGHT; IS THAT RIGHT?

2 A YES, WE HAVE A LIGHT ON BOTH SIDES. AND IT'S  
3 ONE OF THOSE -- NOT A GOOSE NECK, LIKE THIS. BUT IT HAS  
4 THE SPRINGS IN IT, AND YOU CAN ADJUST IT DIFFERENT PLACES.

5 Q NOW, WHEN YOU WENT TO BED THAT NIGHT WERE YOU  
6 WATCHING ANY TELEVISION?

7 A YES, WE WAS WATCHING TELEVISION. OUR TELEVISION  
8 IS JUST RIGHT ON THE WALL, RIGHT ABOVE THE WINDOWS.

9 Q AND, IF YOU CAN RECALL, WHAT TIME DID YOU GO TO  
10 SLEEP THAT NIGHT OR FALL ASLEEP THAT NIGHT?

11 A WELL, WE WERE WATCHING THE NEWS, AND THEN "MASH"  
12 CAME ON AFTERWARDS. AND THE LAST THING I REMEMBERED IT WAS  
13 JUST, IT WAS JUST ABOUT READY TO GO OFF. AND I DON'T  
14 REMEMBER IT EVEN GOING OFF. I DOZED OFF TO SLEEP.

15 Q WHAT'S THE NEXT RECOLLECTION YOU HAVE, AFTER YOU  
16 FELL ASLEEP RIGHT BEFORE "MASH" CAME ON?

17 A WELL, I WOKE UP. AND I HEARD SOMEONE WALKING  
18 DOWN THE HALLWAY, WHO I THOUGHT WAS MY GRANDSON.

19 Q THAT WOULD BE JASON?

20 A JASON, HMM-HMM.

21 Q AND HE HAS A ROOM RIGHT ACROSS FROM YOURS?

22 A HE HAS A ROOM. MY BED -- I COULD LOOK OUT THE  
23 DOORWAY INTO HIS DOORWAY AND --

24 Q DID YOU NOTICE WHETHER HIS DOOR WAS OPENED OR  
25 CLOSED?

1 A IT WAS CRACKED ABOUT A COUPLE INCHES.

2 Q WAS IT IN THE SAME POSITION WHEN YOU WERE FIRST  
3 IN BED EARLIER THAT EVENING?

4 A YES, HMM-HMM. USUALLY, AT NIGHT AFTER EVERYBODY  
5 GOES TO BED MY HUSBAND AND I CHECK THE WHOLE HOUSE. AND  
6 I ALWAYS CHECK THE CHILDREN TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE SLEEPING  
7 AND ALL AND THEY'RE COVERED UP AND WE HAVE AIR-CONDITIONING  
8 AND ALL.

9 Q I'M SORRY. PLEASE CONTINUE.

10 A AND JASON ALWAYS SLEEPS WITH HIS COVER OVER HIS  
11 HEAD AND HIS FEET STICKING OUT. AND I CHECKED HIM NOT LONG  
12 BEFORE I WENT TO BED. AND WHEN I CHECKED HIM AGAIN, AFTER  
13 I WOKE UP, HE WAS STILL LAYING LIKE THAT.

14 MR. EIDE: COULD WE APPROACH AT THIS POINT,  
15 YOUR HONOR?

16 (THEREUPON, COUNSEL APPROACED THE BENCH, AND  
17 THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD OUTSIDE THE HEARING  
18 OF THE JURY, AND ON THE RECORD AS FOLLOWS:)

19 MR. EIDE: ONE OF THE WITNESSES, TINA [REDACTED], JUST  
20 WALKED IN AND SAT. SHE'S IN THE BACK OF THE COURTROOM.  
21 NOW, THE RULE OF SEQUESTRATION HAS BEEN INVOKED.

22 MR. BENDER: WE WILL NOT BE CALLING HER FOR ANY  
23 REASON.

24 THE COURT: WHO IS THAT?

25 MR. BENDER: THAT'S TINA [REDACTED].

1 THE COURT: WHICH ONE IS SHE?

2 MR. BENDER: RED DRESS, BLONDE, ON THE OTHER SIDE.

3 MR. EIDE: I UNDERSTOOD YOU WERE GOING TO CALL HER.

4 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT.

5 (THEREUPON, THE SIDE-BAR CONFERENCE WAS CONCLUDED.)

6 BY MR. BENDER:

7 Q LET ME ASK YOU ABOUT THIS LIGHT YOU HAVE OVER  
8 YOUR BED.

9 A ALL RIGHT.

10 Q DO YOU KEEP THAT ON THE ENTIRE EVENING?

11 A WELL, I USUALLY, EVEN WHEN I'M GETTING READY TO  
12 TURN MY -- I WANTED TO GO TO SLEEP AND ALL. IF THE GIRLS  
13 HAVE JUST GONE TO BED, I LEAVE IT ON.

14 BECAUSE THE GIRLS ARE SCARED TO GO TO SLEEP WITHOUT  
15 ANY LIGHT SHINING IN THEIR ROOM. THEY DON'T WANT A BRIGHT  
16 LIGHT. AND SO THE REFLECTION, I FIXED THE LIGHT REFLECTING  
17 ON MY DOOR. IT SHINES RIGHT INTO THEIR ROOM.

18 Q AND THAT NIGHT WAS YOUR LIGHT ON?

19 A YES, IT WAS ON.

20 Q AND DOES IT PROVIDE ENOUGH LIGHT IN THE GIRL'S  
21 BEDROOM THAT THEY CAN SEE IN THAT BEDROOM?

22 A YES. I CAN WALK, WHERE I CAN WALK AROUND THE  
23 BED WITHOUT STUMBLING OVER TOYS.

24 Q NOW, YOU SAID THAT YOU WOKE UP AND YOU THOUGHT  
25 YOU HEARD A NOISE IN THE HALLWAY?

1           A     YES, I THOUGHT I HEARD. I THOUGHT IT WAS MY  
2 GRANDSON WALKING DOWN THE HALLWAY. I DIDN'T SEE ANYBODY.

3           Q     DO YOU KNOW APPROXIMATELY WHAT TIME THIS MIGHT  
4 HAVE BEEN?

5           A     WELL, I DIDN'T REALLY NOTICE AT THAT TIME. BUT  
6 LATER, WHEN ANGEL CAME IN MY BEDROOM -- I'M GETTING AHEAD  
7 OF MYSELF AGAIN. IT WAS ABOUT, AROUND 15 MINUTES WHEN SHE  
8 CAME IN, AND IT WAS A QUARTER AFTER. I NOTICED THE CLOCK.  
9 IT WAS A QUARTER AFTER WHEN SHE CAME IN.

10          Q     IF I UNDERSTAND YOUR TESTIMONY CORRECTLY, WHAT  
11 TIME WAS IT THAT ANGELA CAME INTO YOUR ROOM?

12          A     AT 2:15.

13          Q     AND YOU HEARD THIS NOISE IN THE HALLWAY ABOUT 15  
14 MINUTES BEFORE THAT?

15          A     APPROXIMATELY.

16          Q     AGAIN, YOU'RE APPROXIMATING THE TIME?

17          A     YES.

18          Q     SO THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMETIME AROUND, BEFORE  
19 TWO O'CLOCK?

20          A     HMM-HMM.

21          Q     DID YOU GET UP AND INVESTIGATE THE NOISE?

22          A     WELL, I DIDN'T AT THAT MINIUTE. WHAT I DID WAS,  
23 AFTER I LOOKED OUT IN THE HALLWAY, I REALIZED MY HUSBAND'S  
24 LIGHT WAS ON AND THE TV WAS ON. SO I REACHED OVER AND  
25 TURNED HIS LIGHT OFF. AND I HAD THE REMOTE CONTROL. WE

1 KEEP IT BETWEEN OUR PILLOWS.

2 Q VERY CONVENIENT.

3 A SO I JUST REACHED OVER AND GOT IT AND TURNED THE  
4 TV OFF.

5 Q DID ANGELA COME IN YOUR ROOM SHORTLY AFTER THAT?

6 A ABOUT 15 MINUTES, OR SO.

7 Q AND WHAT WAS THE REASON SHE CAME INTO YOUR ROOM;  
8 DID SHE SAY?

9 A SHE WAS CRYING AND SAYING SHE WAS HAVING LEG  
10 CRAMPS.

11 Q AND DID YOU OR YOUR HUSBAND DO ANYTHING TO HELP  
12 ALLEVIATE THE LEG CRAMPS?

13 A WELL, SHE CAME IN AND WALKED AROUND THE BED.  
14 SHE ALWAYS WANTS GRANDPA TO RUB HER LEGS. AND I HAVE  
15 ARTHRITIS PRETTY BAD IN MY HANDS AT TIMES, AND I CAN'T DO  
16 ANY RUBBING. SO HE ALWAYS GETS THEM TO COME AROUND.

17 AND SHE WALKED AROUND, AND HE STARTED RUBBING  
18 HER LEGS. AND IT JUST WASN'T TWO OR THREE MINUTES AND ALL  
19 OF A SUDDEN SHE GIVES OUT A LITTLE YELP, AND SHE JERKED  
20 AWAY FROM GRANDPA AND STARTED BACK AROUND THE BED, JUST  
21 A CRYING.

22 AND I ASKED HER, "ANGEL, WHAT'S WRONG?"

23 AND SHE SAID, "MY LEG IS HURTING REAL BAD."

24 AND I SAID, "BAD ENOUGH TO HAVE SOME TYLENOL?"

25 AND SHE SAID, "YES."

1 Q AND DID YOU ESCORT HER TO THE KITCHEN, TAKE HER  
2 TO THE KITCHEN?

3 A SO I TOOK HER INTO THE KITCHEN; GOT HER SOME  
4 WATER AND GOT THE BABY ASPIRINS. WE KEEP THEM UP ON TOP  
5 OF THE ICEBOX.

6 Q LET ME ASK YOU THIS. WHAT WAS HER Demeanor LIKE?  
7 HOW WAS SHE ACTING LIKE DURING THIS TIME?

8 A WELL, SHE WAS ACTING ALMOST HYSTERICAL. IT WAS  
9 SO UNUSUAL. SHE WOULD HAVE LEG CRAMPS, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER  
10 HER REALLY CRYING WITH THEM.

11 Q HOW WAS SHE ACTING WHEN YOU WENT TO THE KITCHEN  
12 TO GET HER THE TYLENOL?

13 A WHEN I GAVE HER THE WATER, I HAD FILLED A GLASS  
14 ABOUT SO BIG AND HAD IT ABOUT HALF FULL. WHEN SHE TOOK IT  
15 SHE WAS SHAKING SO THAT SHE SHOOK SOME OF THE WATER OUT OF  
16 THE GLASS. I HAD TO STEADY THE GLASS FOR HER TO DRINK THE  
17 WATER.

18 Q WAS THAT NORMAL?

19 A NO. I'VE NEVER SEEN HER LIKE THAT BEFORE.

20 Q DID YOU TAKE HER BACK TO HER BEDROOM?

21 A I TOOK HER BACK TO HER BEDROOM AND TUCKED HER IN.

22 Q DID MICHELLE EVER COME INTO YOUR BEDROOM?

23 A ABOUT 15 MINUTES LATER MICHELLE CAME IN. IN THE  
24 MEANTIME, MY HUSBAND WENT BACK TO SLEEP. AND HE WAS SNORING  
25 SO LOUD THAT MICHELLE CAME IN AND ASKED ME TO MAKE HIM QUIT



1 SNORING BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T SLEEP. AND SO I SHOOK HIM AND  
2 HAD HIM TURN OVER.

3 AND SO I SAYS, I TOLD HER, "ARE YOU READY TO GO  
4 BACK TO BED?"

5 AND SHE SAID, "YES."

6 SO I TOOK HER BACK IN AND WENT IN AND PUT HER ON  
7 HER SIDE OF THE BED. AND I ASKED HER IF SHE WANTED ME TO  
8 RUB HER OR ANYTHING, AND SHE SAID, NO.

9 BUT ANGEL SAID SHE DID, AND SO I WENT BACK AROUND  
10 TO ANGEL. AND WHEN I PUT MY HANDS OR HER LEGS AND ALL, I  
11 REALIZED SHE WAS JUST SHAKING ALL OVER. HER WHOLE BODY  
12 WAS JUST SHAKING.

13 Q THIS IS ANGELA?

14 A ANGELA. AND SHE HAD THAT TYLENOL ABOUT 15 MINUTES  
15 OR SO BY THAT TIME.

16 Q DID THAT CONCERN YOU?

17 A YES, IT DID.

18 Q DID YOU ASK HER WHY SHE WAS SHAKING?

19 A I ASKED HER, BUT SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T KNOW. AND I  
20 RUBBED HER AND I RUBBED HER BACK AND JUST STAYED THERE UNTIL  
21 SHE WENT OFF TO SLEEP.

22 Q AND DID THEY EVENTUALLY FALL TO SLEEP?

23 A YES.

24 Q DID YOU GO BACK TO BED AT THAT TIME?

25 A THEN I WENT BACK TO THE BED, AND I TURNED OFF MY

1 LIGHT THEN.

2 Q JUST --

3 A NO -- WAIT A MINUTE. I'M GETTING A LITTLE AHEAD  
4 OF MYSELF.

5 Q THAT'S ALL RIGHT. TAKE YOUR TIME.

6 A BEFORE ANGEL CAME IN THERE, I DECIDED TO GO OUT  
7 IN THE KITCHEN AND LOOK AROUND AND SEE. I REALIZED JASON  
8 HADN'T COME BACK TO BED. BECAUSE USUALLY HE GOES INTO THE  
9 KITCHEN AND JUST STAYS LONG ENOUGH TO GET HIM A DRINK OR  
10 SOMETHING AND COMES BACK.

11 THEN I WENT -- WHEN I WENT IN THERE, I LOOKED ALL  
12 AROUND. OUR KITCHEN IS RIGHT OFF FROM OUR LIVING ROOM, AND  
13 OUR DINING ROOM IS RIGHT OFF OF THE KITCHEN, AND BETWEEN THE  
14 DINING ROOM AND THE LIVING ROOM IS OPEN SPACE.

15 AND SO YOU CAN SEE REAL WELL IN THERE. WE HAVE  
16 FISH TANKS, WITH THE LIGHTS ON. AND THE LIGHTS FROM THE  
17 STREET LAMP OUTSIDE IS QUITE BRIGHT IN OUR HOUSE. AND YOU  
18 CAN LITERALLY WALK ALL OVER THE HOUSE WITHOUT A LIGHT ON,  
19 WITHOUT FALLING OVER SOMETHING.

20 Q DID YOU EVENTUALLY GO BACK TO SLEEP THAT NIGHT?

21 A YES, I WENT ON BACK TO BED THEN, SINCE I SAW  
22 EVERYTHING SEEMED TO BE ALL RIGHT.

23 Q NOW, WOULD YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A LIGHT SLEEPER  
24 OR HEAVY SLEEPER?

25 A LIGHT SLEEPER. SOME NIGHTS I DON'T SLEEP AT ALL.

1 Q SO WHAT WOULD YOU SAY, YOUR AVERAGE AMOUNT OF  
2 HOURS PER NIGHT, HOW MANY HOURS WOULD THAT BE?

3 A WELL, NIGHT BEFORE LAST I DIDN'T SLEEP ANY UNTIL  
4 ABOUT SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING. AND LAST NIGHT IT WAS  
5 ABOUT TWO O'CLOCK BEFORE I GOT, ABOUT TWO OR 2:30, BEFORE  
6 I WENT TO SLEEP. AND I WAS AWAKE AGAIN BY 5:30.

7 Q BUT BACK ON MAY 18TH, FROM APPROXIMATELY MIDNIGHT  
8 TO TWO A.M. YOU WERE ASLEEP AT THAT TIME?

9 A YES.

10 MR. BENDER: THANK YOU, MA'AM. I HAVE NO FURTHER  
11 QUESTIONS. MR. EIDE HAS SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

12 THE COURT: CROSS-EXAM.

13 MR. EIDE: THANK YOU.

14 CROSS-EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. EIDE:

16 Q HELLO, MRS. STOCKWELL. HOW ARE YOU DOING?

17 A HELLO.

18 Q YOU STATED THAT YOU ARE A LIGHT SLEEPER?

19 A YES, I AM.

20 Q BUT YOU HAD SLEPT FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS BETWEEN  
21 TWELVE AND TWO?

22 A YES. I HAD DOZED OFF THAT NIGHT, HMM-HMM.

23 Q DO YOU REMEMBER HEARING ANYTHING FROM THE CHILDREN  
24 BEFORE THEY COME INTO THE ROOM?

25 A NO, NOT A THING.