



Garry E. Lucas
Sheriff

CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

Internal Affairs Investigation: #IC10-047

Investigated by: Sergeant John Horch / Sergeant Dan Schaub

Date received: July 13, 2011

Date completed: September 6, 2011

Complainant(s): Chief Mike Evans

Involved employee(s): Deputy Ed Owens

Allegation(s)/Finding(s):

#1. FIREARMS STORAGE – Deputy Owens did not have a department issued handgun, and the department issued rifle that was issued to him was stored safely as required by policy. Additionally, while the Sheriff's Office encourages employees to secure all personally owned weapons, the policy does not extend itself to mandating storage practices of personally owned weapons. There is no policy violation in this regard. **EXONERATED.**

#2. FIREARMS STORAGE – The Clark County Sheriff's Office provides safe storage devices to all employees who are issued department owned firearms, with the requirement that employees are to maintain such safe storage devices in proper working condition, and that they shall immediately replace any malfunctioning or non-working safe storage device. Deputy Owens violated our Firearms Storage policy by not replacing the department issued safe which he believed to be malfunctioning. **SUSTAINED.**

#3. OFF-DUTY CONDUCT - After the accidental shooting death of his [REDACTED] Deputy Owens did not maintain the highest standards of conduct and discredited himself and the Sheriff's Office by trying to place false blame on his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] death. He also engaged in unethical behavior by the manner in which he obtained a coerced false "confession" from [REDACTED] **SUSTAINED.**

#4. CODE OF ETHICS - Deputy Owens violated our Code of Ethics policy by actively participating and allowing the acts of deception, oppression and intimidation against his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and was dishonest in his thoughts and deeds in his personal life. **SUSTAINED.**

#5. COMPETENCY - This investigation uncovered that Deputy Owens fully believed all the actions he took with his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] were ethical and the tactics of physical abuse and threats were acceptable behavior in an attempt to get the "truth" from [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] insinuated involvement in [REDACTED] death. The fact that he failed to stop himself or his [REDACTED] from the emotional and physical abuse that [REDACTED] was undergoing, while they were trying to get a coerced false confession from [REDACTED] shows a lack of competency on his part and calls into serious question his decision-making and his fitness for duty. **SUSTAINED.**

#6. EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES - During this investigation, Deputy Owens was not forthcoming with all information and knowingly misrepresented material facts related to his actions. During his interview, some of his statements were clearly contradictory from what numerous witnesses reported and the factual evidence of the case. **SUSTAINED.**

Policy Violation(s):

- #1&2 01.14.025 FIREARMS STORAGE
- #3. 01.29.310 OFF-DUTY CONDUCT
- #4. 01.29.035 CODE OF ETHICS
- #5. 01.29.060 COMPETENCY
- #6. 01.32.140 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Summary:

On the evening of September 14, 2010, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (3 years old), [REDACTED] of Clark County Sheriff's Office Deputy Ed Owens, was at home and thought to be in bed, when [REDACTED] obtained a loaded handgun and accidentally shot [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was transported to Emmanuel Hospital where [REDACTED] succumbed to [REDACTED] wound a few hours later. This incident was investigated by the Regional Major Crimes Unit with two detectives from the Vancouver Police Department assigned to be the lead investigators. Other agencies, including the Battle Ground Police and the Clark County Sheriff's Office, served in supplemental roles for this investigation.

Their investigation reported that [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] older [REDACTED] had been lying down with [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] parent's bed, hoping to settle [REDACTED] down and get [REDACTED] to fall asleep. After [REDACTED] fell asleep, [REDACTED] got out of bed, as [REDACTED] had done earlier that evening, and obtained [REDACTED] father's handgun that was suppose to be in locked a gun safe. While handling this gun, [REDACTED] accidentally shot [REDACTED] The evidence obtained through this investigation concluded that this was nothing more than a tragic accident and no foul play or criminal conduct on anyone's part played a factor in this incident.

According to Deputy Owens, the gun [REDACTED] used was allegedly in a locked gun safe, which was kept in the bedroom closet. There are accounts from witnesses and statements from Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] that they were aware the safe was not functioning properly before this accident, however they took no steps to fix or replace it.

This horrific accident was followed by another tragedy when Deputy Owens, without reason, blamed his 11 year old [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] death. After this accident, and to the present day, Deputy Owens has characterized [REDACTED] as a dishonest, manipulative and devilish child who had it out for [REDACTED] and he believed [REDACTED] is the one who somehow entered the locked safe and gave [REDACTED] the gun. Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] went to unscrupulous and deceitful lengths to try and convince family, friends, doctors and the investigating police agencies, that [REDACTED] had always been cruel to [REDACTED] and therefore, [REDACTED] must have had a part in [REDACTED] death. His theories and speculations have been told to numerous people and they are refuted by common sense, logic, facts and evidence obtained from the investigation.

Both of the lead detectives believed the Owens' to be so delusional in their line of thinking in regards to [REDACTED] involvement, that both detectives discussed and placed in their report that Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] would eventually interrogate [REDACTED] in an attempt to obtain a false confession from [REDACTED]

Deputy Owens was so convinced that [REDACTED] had been lying about this incident, that a week after the accident he had [REDACTED] admitted into Emmanuel Hospital under the pretense of just wanting the "best" for [REDACTED]. Some of the information provided by Deputy Owens to the medical staff for admittance was at best, grossly inaccurate, if not fabricated, as later evidence would suggest.

The medical staff at Emmanuel noted in one of their final reports, that after observing [REDACTED] and having interactions with Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] they felt that;

"the likelihood that the family would continue to have distortions or pathological interactions with [REDACTED] even to the point of outright questioning [REDACTED] and attempting to debrief events on the night of September 14, 2010."

[REDACTED] stayed at the hospital for 10 days and upon [REDACTED] release, Child Protective Services, along with the lead detectives from the shooting investigation, felt that it was not a safe environment for [REDACTED] to go home. This was due to the toxic relationship with [REDACTED] parents and arrangements were made for [REDACTED] to stay with [REDACTED] great grandmother.

After this accident, Deputy Owens vowed that [REDACTED] would never set foot in their house again and he and his [REDACTED] signed away their parental rights to [REDACTED] father in Camarillo, California ([REDACTED] [REDACTED]). Deputy Owens refused to have any contact with [REDACTED] for over a month after this accident, even though he said he only wanted the "best" for [REDACTED]. In an unfortunate turn of events, the day [REDACTED] was to go to California, Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] decided to be the ones that would personally drive [REDACTED] to the airport.

On October 27, 2010, Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] picked up [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] great grandmother's home under the false pretense of taking [REDACTED] directly to the Portland International Airport. [REDACTED] was to be escorted down to California by [REDACTED] grandmother, who was coming up from California that day. Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] pre-planned to interrogate [REDACTED] before taking [REDACTED] to the airport by attempting to video record a "confession" from [REDACTED]. The goal was to get [REDACTED] to say that [REDACTED] was involved in [REDACTED] death (or in their minds, for [REDACTED] to the

"truth"). On the way to the airport, Deputy Owens stopped in a parking lot about three miles from the airport. For the next several hours, he and his [REDACTED] conducted an interrogation on [REDACTED] (even though he had been instructed not to do so multiple times by the Vancouver Police Detectives). They used mental torture, physical abuse and the threat of [REDACTED] entering foster care and never going to California to be with [REDACTED] father, as a way to coerce a false confession from [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] actions the night of the shooting.

[REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] was extremely afraid while this interrogation was taking place. After the constant psychological and physical abuse, [REDACTED] gives up on what [REDACTED] knows is the truth and finally decided to say something [REDACTED] thought they wanted to hear in order for them to leave [REDACTED] alone and allow [REDACTED] to fly to California. [REDACTED] then made up a story so [REDACTED] would not be hit anymore and so [REDACTED] would not be put into foster care as they had threatened. After being led down a path of what to say, [REDACTED] came up with a story and while telling them, [REDACTED] watched [REDACTED] mother video record this "confession" with [REDACTED] cellular phone. After this recording, they continued to mentally abuse [REDACTED] by telling [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was the product of a rape and that the man [REDACTED] believed [REDACTED] entire life to be [REDACTED] (biological) father, was actually not.

[REDACTED] also reported that prior to them dropping [REDACTED] off at the airport, they searched through [REDACTED] suitcase and removed and kept personal items of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was crying and pleading with them to stop. Instead of showing any compassion for their [REDACTED] they continued to remove [REDACTED] personal items that included; money, DVD's, contact information of relatives, and Detective Zapata's business card, who was the lead detective in the shooting investigation of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Deputy Owens admitted these actions during his CCSO Internal Affairs interview. He explained his motivation to take these belongings away from [REDACTED] was due to the fact that he was "mad".

After arriving home from the airport, Deputy Owens contacted several people to have them view this recorded "confession". This appears to be an attempt to gain support and or to justify their theory of [REDACTED] involvement in [REDACTED] death. Two days later, Deputy Owens turned in a copy of the video to the Battle Ground Police Department as evidence. Based upon witness accounts, it appears that the video provided to Battle Ground Police was an edited version of the original video.

After [REDACTED] is given to [REDACTED] grandmother at the airport, [REDACTED] immediately tells her what had just happened in the van and how [REDACTED] had to tell a "lie" to get out of the situation. After returning to California, [REDACTED] grandmother contacted the local police and reported this incident, which led to [REDACTED] being interviewed by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.

On December 28, 2010, after receiving information that Deputy Owens might have violated Sheriff's Office policies with his actions and treatment towards [REDACTED] after his [REDACTED] death, Deputy Owens was placed on administrative leave by Chief Mike Evans.

The Clark County Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs Unit conducted an administrative investigation. After reviewing all the evidence that the Regional Major Crime Unit collected, we found there to be no creditable evidence whatsoever to suggest that [REDACTED] had anything to do with [REDACTED] death. [REDACTED] recollection and explanation of the events from that night have never changed. The evidence suggests [REDACTED] was asleep as [REDACTED] reports and was awakened after being startled by the sound of the gunshot. Our investigation also uncovered fabrications made up by Deputy Owens and his [REDACTED] after this accident in an attempt to discredit [REDACTED] and to place the responsibility for [REDACTED] death on [REDACTED] shoulders.

The IA Unit has interviewed numerous witnesses involved in this investigation. Some individuals that, according to Deputy Owens, could verify and attest to his statements and observations regarding ██████ historical behavior in wanting to hurt ██████ refused to be interviewed by the IA Unit. Deputy Owens used these witnesses to help conjure up his theory that ██████ was a liar, mentally unstable and disturbed child in need of professional help.

Deputy Owens made it clear during his IA interview that in his mind, the actions and behavior he took with his ██████-██████ after his ██████ shooting accident were well within all ethical boundaries and saw no problem with how he conducted himself as a father or as a police officer.

Recommended Findings:

After thoroughly analyzing all the documentation, data and witness statements, the IA Unit has come to the conclusion that Deputy Ed Owens did not violate the following General Order and recommends a finding of **EXONERATED** for the following policy violation.

01.14.025 FIREARMS STORAGE (Emphasis Added)

The Clark County Sheriff's Office issues a variety of firearms to its employees, including pistols, rifles, shotguns and other specialty weapons. The Sheriff's Office recognizes that the use of these weapons by unauthorized or untrained individuals constitutes an extreme safety hazard. It is therefore imperative that unauthorized persons not have access to department issued weapons.

The Sheriff's Office recognizes the rights of private citizens to keep and maintain firearms and does not intend to infringe on the rights of its employees by mandating the storage of personally owned firearms in the home. The Sheriff's Office does, however, have a vested interest in the safe storage of department owned and issued weapons. Through this policy, the Sheriff's Office intends to provide for the safe and secure storage of department issued weapons. **In addition to the mandatory safe storage of department issued firearms as outlined in this policy, all employees are encouraged to use safe storage techniques for their personally owned firearms.**

All department issued firearms, including pistols, rifles, and less lethal guns, which are not under the employee's immediate control, shall be safely stored so as to prevent unauthorized persons from handling the firearm.

Safe storage techniques include the appropriate use of gun safes, gun lockers, trigger locks and trigger cables, locked gun cases, vehicle mounted locking devices, and other locked containers. Employees shall use one of these safe storage techniques to safely store department issued firearms.

A firearm is considered to be under the employee's immediate control when it is in the employee's actual physical possession and the employee has the ability to prevent unauthorized persons from handling the firearm.

The Sheriff's Office will issue appropriate safe storage devices to all employees who are issued department owned firearms. Employees who are issued safe storage devices shall maintain them

in proper working condition and shall immediately replace any malfunctioning or non-working safe storage device. No employee will be issued a firearm until the employee has read and signed the Firearms Storage Agreement. Logistics will maintain the original agreement on file.

After thoroughly analyzing all the documentation, data and witness statements, the IA Unit has come to the conclusion that Deputy Ed Owens violated the following General Orders and recommends a finding of **SUSTAINED** for each of these policy violations.

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01.29.310 OFF-DUTY CONDUCT (Emphasis Added)

All employees shall maintain the highest standards of conduct and will avoid any conduct which would discredit the employee or the Sheriff's Office. Off-duty deputies should perform

necessary police service in Clark County whenever public safety is urgently required. While off duty and within the jurisdiction of Clark County, deputies should carry official identification when in public.

01.29.035 CODE OF ETHICS (Emphasis Added)

The adherence to a canon of ethics is essential in maintaining high professional standards of performance. To this end, every employee is expected to adhere to the following tenets:

- A. **As a criminal justice officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect all persons against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all people to liberty, equality, and justice.**
- B. **I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all;** maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; **and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life,** I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity, will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.
- C. I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. Without compromise and with relentlessness, I will uphold and, in the line of duty, enforce laws courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence, and never accepting gratuities.
I recognize my position as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of The Criminal Justice System. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession.

01.29.060 COMPETENCY (Emphasis Added)

Employees will perform their assigned duties in a competent manner. Incompetence may be demonstrated by:

- A. A lack of knowledge of the laws to be enforced;
- B. An unwillingness to perform assigned tasks;
- C. The failure to conform to work standards established for the employees rank or position;
- D. The failure to take appropriate action on the occasion of a crime, instance or disorder, or other incident; or**
- E. Repeated work evaluations showing substandard performance.
Incompetent work performance will be grounds for disciplinary action.

01.32.140 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES (Emphasis Added)

Employees under investigation for non-criminal misconduct shall be required to meet with an internal affairs officer/their supervisor for interviewing when a complaint has been filed against the employee. **Employees will answer fully all questions** which an internal affairs investigator/supervisor may ask regarding an internal affairs investigation and will cooperate with the internal disciplinary process. No employee shall obstruct, hinder, or impede internal investigations, disciplinary review boards or other departmental hearing, **knowingly conceal or misrepresent material facts relating to the subject matter of an inquiry.** Provided that at the

same time, no employee shall be deprived of any rights or freedoms afforded to any ordinary citizen by the United States Constitution, by the laws of the State of Washington, Civil Service Rules and/or Labor Contracts.

Investigation:

On July 13, 2011, the Clark County Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs Unit received instructions to start an administrative investigation in regards to the alleged misconduct that Deputy Owens might have engaged in as related to the accidental shooting death of his [REDACTED] that occurred on September 14, 2010.

This request came to the IA Unit after the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's Office reviewed this case. After weighing all the facts, they related a verbal opinion that while they were not done with the file review, no criminal conduct occurred in relation to the actual shooting death, and as related to the interview and treatment of [REDACTED] in Oregon, not enough elements of criminal conduct occurred within the State of Washington for them to have jurisdiction to file any criminal charges against Deputy Owens or his [REDACTED]. They did mention that if more substantial, or all of the acts involving the "interview" of their [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had occurred within their jurisdiction (assault, threats, intimidating a witness etc.) they would likely have filed criminal charges.

The IA Unit was also informed that the investigation of the "interview" had been sent to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office (since most of this alleged criminal conduct took place in their jurisdiction). They reviewed this investigation as it stood in December of 2010. They declined to file charges against Deputy Owens or [REDACTED] [REDACTED] based on the information they had received.

It is not the intent of the IA Unit to re-investigate the entire shooting and/or "interview" investigations. The IA Unit has reviewed all of the police reports from the Vancouver Police, Battle Ground Police and the Clark County Sheriff's Office and believes a thorough and complete investigation was done. We agree with the finding and conclusion that this was an accidental shooting death and no criminal conduct was involved on anyone's part. The main focus of this administrative report will be the issues of storage of firearms and the conduct and actions of Deputy Owens as it relates to the treatment of his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] after the shooting.

There are some areas of the Regional Major Crimes investigation that are revisited in this administrative report to provide background information. The events in this administrative report will be presented primarily in chronological order.

This internal investigation is broken down into the following sections;

1. Involved parties
2. Background
2. Night of the accident & Major Crimes Unit investigation
4. Treatment of [REDACTED] after the accident & interviews
5. Medical reports
6. Interviews
7. Gun Safe
8. Conclusion with Bullet points

9. Attachments

Involved parties interviewed by IA

Deputy Ed Owens - Deputy with Clark County Sheriff's Office / father to deceased to [REDACTED] and step father to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (last name recently changed from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] to Deputy Owens and lived with him for past five years.

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] mother and Grandmother to [REDACTED] Lives in La Center Washington.

[REDACTED] - Great Grandmother to [REDACTED] Lives in Vancouver Washington.

Deputy Charles Kerr - Work associate and confidant to Owens family after accident.

Deputy Jon Shields - Work associate and consoled family after accident / coordinated funeral logistics.

Deputy Paul Prather – Work associate, good friend and confidant to Deputy Owens.

Detective Lindsay Schultz - Work associate, casual friend to Deputy Owens and his wife, assisted with housing [REDACTED] for 3-4 days after funeral.

Detective Lawrence Zapata / Detective John Ringo - Lead Detectives with Vancouver Police Department for shooting investigation.

Senior Deputy Julie Novak - Child Crimes Detective with Ventura County Sheriff's Office. Conducted interview with [REDACTED] in Camarillo California.

Involved parties declining to be interviewed by IA

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] of Deputy Owens / [REDACTED] to deceased [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] – Friend of Deputy Owens and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] Uncle

[REDACTED] – Neighbor of Owens'

Background

Deputy Owens and his wife were married in 2004 in Vancouver Washington. At that time, Deputy Owens had no children of his own. His wife, [REDACTED] had two children, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from a previous relationship and or marriage. Since 2004, Deputy Owens and his wife had two children of their own, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. At the time of this accident, the ages of the children were; [REDACTED] 12, [REDACTED] 11, [REDACTED] 3, [REDACTED] 2.

Deputy Owens has 21 years of law enforcement experience to include his time in the United States Air Force Military Police. He was sworn in as a Clark County Deputy in October of 2004.

At the time of this accident, [REDACTED] was attending nursing school and Deputy Owens was assigned to the Sheriff's Office Intelligence Unit, which is a part of the Narcotics Task Force. Deputy Owens was also taking three classes at Washington State University Vancouver Campus.

Night of the accident

On September 14, 2010, Deputy Owens arrived home from work around 1800 hours. He went upstairs to work on a paper for a college class. [REDACTED] was in the garage studying for a nursing exam. Their children were doing regular after dinner activities (homework, watching movies, etc.). Around 2000 hours, Deputy Owens went into the garage to help [REDACTED] study for an exam she had the next morning.

The normal routine for the Owens family during a school night was for the children to be in bed at 2100 hours, and the lights were to be out by 2130.

On this evening, Deputy Owens' [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was up and not settling down for bed. [REDACTED] came into the garage and offered to lay down with [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] parent's bed since [REDACTED] was lying down with the youngest brother [REDACTED]. Both Deputy Owens and his wife told investigators that this was a "normal" routine for [REDACTED] to lay down with [REDACTED] and for [REDACTED] to take care of [REDACTED].

Around 2100 hours, Deputy Owens saw the outside porch lights going on and off. He assumed it was [REDACTED] since [REDACTED] was known for flicking the light switch on and off. Deputy Owens opened the garage door going into the house and told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] needed to go back to bed. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] would and walked in the direction of their bedroom.

A short time later Deputy Owens and his wife heard a "pop" sound. At first, he thought it might be fireworks and stepped outside the garage to look around the neighborhood. Not being able to find the cause of the noise, he went inside the house to find [REDACTED] downstairs near the sliding back door. [REDACTED] was complaining that one of [REDACTED] ears was hurting and [REDACTED] thought [REDACTED] had slammed a door. They asked [REDACTED] where [REDACTED] was at but [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] did not know.

Deputy Owens and his wife went upstairs and saw [REDACTED] on the floor near the foot of their bed. They observed what appeared to be a wound to [REDACTED] head and [REDACTED] was bleeding. Deputy Owens then turned on the bedroom lights and noticed his backup handgun (.380 Kel Tek pistol) was lying near his [REDACTED] body. He needed more light to assess the situation so he opened the sliding closet doors and turned on the closet lights. After the closet lights were on, he noticed the gun safe that was kept in the closet was open by a few inches.

Deputy Owens gave medical aid to his [REDACTED] and 911 was called. [REDACTED] was transported to Emmanuel Hospital in Portland where [REDACTED] was pronounced dead a few hours later.

Regional Major Crime's Unit Investigation

The Regional Major Crimes Unit was called to this scene and conducted their investigation into the early morning hours following the shooting, and for the next several months thereafter.

The night of the shooting, detectives executed a search warrant at the Owens' residence to collect evidence and process the scene. This is standard operating procedure when it is unknown how a shooting incident has occurred.

The night of the accident, one of the first arriving officers was Michelle Fox with the Battle Ground Police Department. Michelle indicated that upon arriving, she noticed two young girls inside the Owens home. One was sitting on a sofa and one was standing in the kitchen. Both girls were crying. Officer Fox spoke to the one sitting on the couch which was [REDACTED]. She noticed that [REDACTED] was crying and rocking back and forth. Officer Fox writes in her report, "[REDACTED] kept telling me that it was all [REDACTED] fault. I asked what [REDACTED] meant and [REDACTED] said, 'I was supposed to be watching [REDACTED] and I got tired and fell asleep.'"

Other detectives, who were arriving at this scene, started canvassing the neighborhood for possible witnesses. One neighbor, [REDACTED] lives directly behind the Owens residence and has a clear view into the back of their house.

[REDACTED] reports that after hearing a "pop" sound, he opened his back sliding door and could hear screaming coming from the Owens' house. [REDACTED] stated that he could see [REDACTED] running around downstairs and yelling for "Eddie". [REDACTED] said he then saw Deputy Owens go into the master bedroom and heard him repeat about three times, "The gun safe wasn't locked." "It's been like that for three days." [REDACTED] said that he could clearly see into the Owens' bedroom because all the shades were open. [REDACTED] also reported that he was not sure if he had perfectly understood what the details were regarding the "three days", but was positive he heard something to that effect.

*** NOTE – On August 22, 2011, I called [REDACTED] and asked if he remembered the events from the shooting and he said that he did. I asked him to repeat what he had told the detectives last September. [REDACTED] told me exactly what had been recorded in the police report about the gun safe not being locked and that it was like that for three days. I asked [REDACTED] "Are you positive that you heard those exact words about the safe not being locked for three days?", and he said, "That is correct."**

That evening the detectives also spoke with another neighbor, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said that after she saw the emergency vehicles parked on the street, she came outside to see what was going on. [REDACTED] stated that she walked over to the Owens' residence and spoke with [REDACTED] in the driveway. [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] to go inside the residence to be with the children.

[REDACTED] went inside and found the children seated on a couch in the living room. [REDACTED] sat next to [REDACTED] and she described [REDACTED] to the detectives as "visibly upset, crying and shaking." [REDACTED] said she hugged [REDACTED] for a long time and [REDACTED] then said to her, "I was suppose to be babysitting and fell asleep."

*** NOTE – These observations by [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] demeanor are contradictory as to what the Deputy Owens later reports to others as to [REDACTED] not being "sad" after the shooting.**

At 0035 hours on September 15, approximately 3 hours after the shooting, Detectives Zapata and Holladay went over to the [REDACTED] residence. This was a neighbor's house where the Owens [REDACTED] were now at. After objections from Deputy Owens, they were finally given permission to interview the [REDACTED]

Det. Zapata notes in his report what [REDACTED] appearance and demeanor was like while interviewing [REDACTED]

"I noticed that [REDACTED] has the appearance of someone who was cheerless and had been crying. [REDACTED] sniffled throughout the interview. [REDACTED] also showed signs of distress at appropriate times and worry (sp) over how [REDACTED] was doing. [REDACTED] expressed guilt as well. However, it was evident that the guilt was as a result of comments made by her parents. [REDACTED] mother, [REDACTED] isolated [REDACTED] at some point after [REDACTED] was discovered shot and told [REDACTED] 'stay away from me.' [REDACTED] was also told by both [REDACTED] and her step-dad that 'if anything happened to the boys', they would never feel the same about me ([REDACTED] again."

*** NOTE – Again, these observations by Det. Zapata are contradictory to what Deputy Owens reports to others later about how [REDACTED] reacted after the shooting. He later used this conjured up theory about the lack of sadness displayed by [REDACTED] to help bolster his claim that there is something wrong with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] needs medical help.**

During [REDACTED] interview with Det. Zapata, [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had been trying to get [REDACTED] to bed but [REDACTED] was acting "silly" and would not settle down. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] finally warned [REDACTED] that if [REDACTED] didn't settle down, [REDACTED] would tell on [REDACTED]. At that point, [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] did lie down next to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] fell asleep on [REDACTED] belly facing the closet. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] was awakened by a "big boom". [REDACTED] described [REDACTED] parent's room as being dark with the bedroom door closed and the lights off. [REDACTED] said when [REDACTED] woke up the darkness and the "big boom" made it scary.

[REDACTED] went on to tell Det. Zapata that [REDACTED] had escaped earlier from the bedroom before [REDACTED] had settled down so when [REDACTED] heard this noise, [REDACTED] thought it was [REDACTED] slamming the door shut while escaping from the room again. [REDACTED] told the detectives that this noise hurt [REDACTED] right ear "badly" and that [REDACTED] went straight downstairs. [REDACTED] then told her [REDACTED] that "something went boom" upstairs and thought [REDACTED] might have slammed a door. [REDACTED] parents asked where [REDACTED] was at but [REDACTED] told them [REDACTED] didn't know. At this point, [REDACTED] saw [REDACTED] mother run upstairs and then she started yelling.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] mother then came up to [REDACTED] and told [REDACTED] to "stay away" from her and that [REDACTED] was made to sit on the sofa. [REDACTED] told the detectives that [REDACTED] felt "awful" because [REDACTED] thought it was her fault.

[REDACTED] was asked where [REDACTED] parents kept their guns. [REDACTED] told them that there was a big safe in the garage and a little one in [REDACTED] parent's closet. [REDACTED] also stated that [REDACTED] dad kept a gun in the kitchen "where the boys can't reach".

*** NOTE – While executing the search warrant at the Owens residence, detectives found a loaded unsecured KIMBER handgun located on top of the refrigerator. Also, during his IA interview, Deputy Owens stated that he does not keep loaded firearms unsecured around the house, but later admits that he does keep his KIMBER on a shelf on top of the refrigerator due to certain work hours.**

[REDACTED] was then asked if [REDACTED] knew how to get into the safes and [REDACTED] answered "No." [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] did not know the combinations or codes to either safe. [REDACTED] was asked if [REDACTED] had been in [REDACTED] parent's closet that day, and [REDACTED] said no, but [REDACTED] did shut the closet doors because [REDACTED] thought the "boogeyman" was in there.

That concluded their interview with [REDACTED]. They would eventually do a follow up interview with [REDACTED] on October 22, 2010. That subsequent interview did not reveal any new relevant information.

On the evening of the shooting, Det. Zapata did a "walk through" at the Owens residence to analyze the scene. Det. Zapata noted in his report that the safe in question was kept in the master bedroom closet. He noticed a small black rollaway suitcase that was lying on its back on the closet floor. In this particular position, it created a solid platform for a child to stand on. According to Det Zapata, It appeared that this was the normal location or position for the suitcase as he couldn't see where else it could fit into the closet. Det. Zapata deduced that the position of the suitcase likely contributed to [REDACTED] being able to access the safe, which was on a shelf built into the closet.

On September 15, 2010, at 1747 hours, Detectives Zapata and Ringo interviewed Deputy Owens. Deputy Owens said that while he was helping his wife with her studies in the garage. The girls said that they were going to bed and then [REDACTED] came to them while they were in the garage and said, "We'll I'll go---do you want me to lay with [REDACTED] again?"

Deputy Owens then tells Det. Zapata about his children's bedtime with regards to [REDACTED] taking [REDACTED] to bed.

"Which is pretty normal, I think [REDACTED] lays [REDACTED] in our bed all the time. [REDACTED] sleeps there. So [REDACTED] go lay down with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] fall asleep in our bed, and then when we go to bed, you know, we moved [REDACTED] back into [REDACTED] room and then [REDACTED] goes and sleeps with [REDACTED]"

***NOTE - During his IA interview, Deputy Owens changed this statement about this being a "normal" routine. He made a comment that this was "unusual". When questioned further, he said what he meant was, when [REDACTED] asked if [REDACTED] could lay down with [REDACTED] that was the "unusual" part. When I asked him why this was "unusual", he said that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] didn't get along. He then said, "normally" [REDACTED] would lay down with [REDACTED] and that was "normal."**

Going back to Det. Zapata's interview, Deputy Owens is then asked about what type of firearms he kept at home that were used for work and how he secured them. Deputy Owens said that he owned a KIMBER 45 caliber which was used as his duty weapon but was also qualified to carry two other guns, a GLOCK 9 mm and KEL-TEC 380. He said that he kept all of these guns locked in the safe located in his bedroom closet and that this was the safe issued to him by the Sheriff's Office.

Det. Zapata asked when the last time Deputy Owens could remember using the safe in the closet. After some consideration, he stated Monday morning (Sept 13th). He also said that he had not put his KIMBER in his bedroom gun safe, but instead, put it on top of the kitchen cabinet above the refrigerator since he was doing a surveillance early in the morning. Deputy Owens stated that he remembered locking the gun safe after he got the KIMBER out on Monday morning. He told the detectives that he remembered locking it because the safe had a "glitch" which caused him to "jiggle" the safes door knob. He explained that about halfway into turning the knob on the door to securely shut the door in it's locked position, there was some "resistance" and he therefore had to force the door knob forward so the safe door would properly latch shut. The following is Deputy Owens explaining to Det. Zapata how he would shut the safe in his closet.

OWENS: *"And the last thing I do before I leave the room is punch in the code, open it, put the gun in the holster, close it and then it's got a -- halfway on the thing it's tight, it hits and then you have to force it past, and then you have to double-check it. It's just -- it's got a weird lock on it."*

Going back to Det. Zapata's interview, he asks more about the safe and why Deputy Owens has to "double check" the safe.

ZAPATA: *Now, when you close the safe and you lock it and you double-check, is there a reason why you double-check it?*

OWENS: *Yeah, there's -- for whatever reason that safe has got -- you punch in the code and it's a hard turn to open it, because like halfway and it hits something. You just got to hard crank it past it. And then when you close it, it's the same thing. It's got to go hard past that thing. I mean, we've actually caught ourselves, you know, going, it hits it, but it's not locked. If you don't go back the other way it's unlocked. And so, I mean, my wife's noticed it, I've noticed it --*

ZAPATA: *So that's happened? That's happened to you before? Before this?*

OWENS: *it has.*

ZAPATA: *Okay.*

OWENS: *And it's just one of those things where it's just, you know, you force it all the way to the left and you jiggle it and --*

RINGO: *Is that an every time, or kind of hit-and-miss?*

OWENS: *Almost every time.*

On September 16, 2010, Detectives Zapata and Ringo interviewed [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. They asked what the bedtime routine was like in their home and [REDACTED] stated that for [REDACTED] to lay down with [REDACTED] was a very "normal" routine due to her and her husband's schedule. She said that [REDACTED] did this, "almost all the time."

They then asked if she had ever had any problems in locking the safe. [REDACTED] responded with, "Locking it, I've noticed that when you go to do it you really have to double check. Like, you have to shut it, you've got to hear like a click, and then you've got to pull it back, you know, and try, try opening it, moving it several times. I mean I have noticed that and I've done that in the past with it."

She later then said this said this about the safe.

RINGO: *As well as you can recall, you described the safe and the closing, the trouble with it closing properly. Was that an every time, an on and off type of intermittent, sometimes it would close smooth once and then it would be a pain in the butt the next time or --?*

█ *It seemed like the last couple of months we noticed that the safe was, like the lock was sticky. It was kind of like a -- it's like a half-circle and it's got a little spin dial. I don't really know how to accurately describe it.*

RINGO: *We both have one, so we understand it.*

█ *Okay. And when you go to shut it, you know, like any other safe, you want to go against the way that you're supposed to, to make sure that the actual inside catches. And it would -- it was rougher to, to turn, over time. It didn't seem like it was like that in the beginning. It seemed like, you know, maybe we used it too much, that the safe was wearing out, maybe it needed WD40, but it just seemed harder to turn, overall.*

And I know that the times I've gotten into the safe for myself, I have opened it and then when I go to shut it, you know, I double-check and I yank on it to try to open it, and that's been my routine with the, with the safe, but I'm not in it very often, so --.

The detectives asked █ what type of █ was and she described █ as “rambunctious”, prone to endangering █ when left unattended; e.g., operating the electronic garage door, getting into the minivan and putting the keys in the ignition, and defeating locks and /or barriers to sneak outside.

At the end of their interview, Det. Ringo asks █ if she has anything she would like to add and she says the following.

█ *No. I don't know. It's important for you guys to know. I just, I mean, it's the only thing I keep thinking about is that we are not bad parents. You know. Gun safety is a priority to us. Pocketknives, anything that was a weapon –*

This concluded their interview.

On September 17th, Deputy Owens and his wife called Officer Hendrickson (Battle Ground Police Officer) and requested a meeting with him at their residence.

Officer Hendrickson met with them and Deputy Owens asked if a “gsr test” (Gun Shot Residue) test had been done on █ hand. Officer Hendrickson told him no and that the circumstances did not allow for the test to be done. At that time, they started to question whether or not █ was being truthful with █ story and started to conjure up theories that █ might have gotten in the safe and handed the gun to █ Deputy Owens then told Officer Hendrickson that he and

his wife had been talking and they felt that [REDACTED] was not being honest, and that [REDACTED] might have either given [REDACTED] the gun or had possibly shot [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

For the next several weeks, Detectives Zapata and Ringo conduct a complete investigation and came to the conclusion that [REDACTED] was being truthful when [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was asleep when this happened. They stated that there was no evidence to believe otherwise. They also concluded that [REDACTED] was able to reach up and open the safe door and obtain this gun on [REDACTED] own. They concluded that the most likely scenario was that the last time the safe was used, it had not been latch correctly. Therefore, one only had to pull on the door to open it.

Detectives Zapata and Ringo were able to view [REDACTED] body with the Oregon Medical Examiner. After examining [REDACTED] and in addition to the physical evidence from the residence, it was determined, that this was a self inflicted gunshot wound. Their reports go into greater detail as to how they come to this conclusion to include; the area of the gun powder stippling on [REDACTED] body, angle of the entry wound, bullet trajectory into the ceiling and more. Based on all the evidence, there was absolutely nothing to suggest that someone else had pulled the trigger other than [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

From September 15th to the 27th, Detectives Zapata and Ringo had numerous conversations with Deputy Owens and his wife about the facts and evidence surrounding this incident. Each time they would meet, Deputy Owens and his wife questioned the investigation and advised the detectives that they thought [REDACTED] was lying and that if they could speak to [REDACTED] they could get the "truth". The detectives explicitly told them NOT to interview [REDACTED] and that if a second interview was needed, they would be the ones to conduct it.

As the meetings progressed, the Owens' became more and more indignant and convinced that [REDACTED] was involved. During their final time the detectives spoke with them, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] told the detectives that they had, "fucked up" the investigation. Det. Zapata said that after this comment, he turned and looked at Deputy Owens to see if he would say anything, but Deputy Owens remained silent.

These detectives, along with many other supporting friends and co-workers, tried helping the Owens family in dealing with this accident as best they could. As the days went on, Deputy Owens and his wife became more adamant that [REDACTED] was involved. They declared that she had been mean to [REDACTED] in the past by attempting to hurt [REDACTED] several times and that [REDACTED] must be involved in [REDACTED] death.

Detective Zapata documented in his reports that initially, Deputy Owens did not agree with everything [REDACTED] was saying about [REDACTED]. However, within a few days, Deputy Owens seems too fully agree with his wife and together, they set out on a course of conjectures and misleading information to discredit [REDACTED] and try to incriminate [REDACTED] for this accident.

On September 27, the detectives met with Deputy Owens and his wife for the last time. Detectives Zapata and Ringo both concurred that although they had explained everything to them numerous times, they were convinced that they were very likely to eventually "interview" [REDACTED] in order to obtain a false confession from [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] involvement with [REDACTED] death. This is documented in one of their police reports and the following is a quote from that report;

"Det Ringo and I were able to excuse ourselves from the Owens' after a bit more dialogue. Once we left we discussed the probability that [REDACTED] would have coerced confession for us if

█ returned to Ed and █ care. We were in agreement that this would occur and we then discussed options to prevent █ release back home.”

*** NOTE - As stated at the beginning of this report, this IA investigation is not going re-visit each and every detail about investigation that the Regional Major Crimes Unit has already documented. The IA Unit reviewed every report and transcript from the interviews and suffice to say, there is no evidence to suggest █ had any involvement with the death of █ █ as is believed by Deputy Owens and his wife.**

█ treatment after the accident & interviews

In the days following the accident, according to several witnesses, █ is “ostracized” and no one ever observes Deputy Owens consoling █ and he ultimately refuses to allow █ attend █ funeral. This occurred despite the fact that █ had dressed up that morning in anticipation of attending the funeral, and that it was only at the time that the family was leaving the residence for the funeral that █ was told that █ would not be allowed to attend. Witness accounts indicate that █ was very upset that day, and to the present, that █ was not allowed to attend the funeral.

Deputy Jon Shields had been spending numerous days and hours with the Owens family in their home after this accident. Deputy Shields was asked what he observed with the family in the days after the accident. He said it was clear to see the █ was being "Ostracized" by Deputy Owens and his wife. He said that when █ would walk in to a room, they would all stop talking and it was obviously █ was not being treated very well.

The following quotes are from Deputy Shields' IA interview.

HORCH: Okay. Did you see how they treated █

SHIELDS: Yes.

HORCH: And can you explain in general what occurred in your presence?

SHIELDS: It appeared there was a level of distrust, there was some ostracization, there was -- I mean, they ... they were ... they were distancing themselves from █

HORCH: And I'm going to, you know, emotionally, physically, all these things?

SHIELDS: Correct.

HORCH: And you observed this?

SHIELDS: Yes.

HORCH: Okay. And would they say anything to █ expressing that or was it just a --

SHIELDS: No, mostly they wouldn't say anything to █

These same observations of [REDACTED] treatment were also reported to us by Deputy Chuck Kerr. He too had an intimate working knowledge of the dynamics of the Owens household after the accident. He helped take the children to dinner and to other activities. He was also a sounding board for Deputy Owens and his wife and tried helping by being a consoling friend. When asked if the Owens' had ever described concern over [REDACTED] interaction with [REDACTED] Deputy Kerr said that they had, and added that everything they had described sounded to him more like typical "sibling rivalry" more than anything else.

When Deputy Kerr was asked if he had ever seen Deputy Owens console [REDACTED] at any time, he answered, "No". When asked if he ever saw any compassion towards [REDACTED] he said, "They tolerated [REDACTED] but there was no compassion."

Deputy Kerr said that on the day of [REDACTED] funeral, Deputy Owens reiterated his feelings about [REDACTED] saying in reference to [REDACTED] *persona non grata in our home.*" (Latin for "unwanted" or "not welcomed").

Deputy Kerr also told us several times during his IA interview that [REDACTED] was treated like an "Alien" and [REDACTED] never had an "advocate" helping [REDACTED] through this entire ordeal.

Deputy Kerr – *"I firmly believed that [REDACTED] needed an advocate, I don't know why they're trying to blame [REDACTED] and now they're saying that [REDACTED] unwelcome, never ever is [REDACTED] going to be allowed access to that house again. And [REDACTED] -- as far as I know [REDACTED] never did."*

He later added – *"No one wanted to walk with [REDACTED] through this. They were trying to find a scapegoat for this tragedy, tried to pin it -- put it in a box, bury the box and forget about it. And they chose [REDACTED]*

"And how they treated [REDACTED] was as if [REDACTED] was an alien."

On September 24th, the day of [REDACTED] funeral, Deputy Owens instructed Deputies Kerr and Shields in an "angry voice" to find a place for [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] was not allowed to attend the funeral. The main reason for not having [REDACTED] attend the funeral was that Deputy Owens had allegedly heard from a friend of theirs, [REDACTED]-Fontaine (one of the witnesses that refused to speak with us) that [REDACTED] was reporting that [REDACTED] was glad [REDACTED] was dead and [REDACTED] also drew a picture about death on [REDACTED] "I phone." This picture was interpreted by Deputy Owens that [REDACTED] was depicting [REDACTED] death and that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were next on [REDACTED] list. After getting this information from [REDACTED] Deputy Owens made it abundantly clear to Deputies Kerr and Shields that [REDACTED] was no longer wanted at their residence and requested that they find some place for [REDACTED] to stay. Deputy Shields said that he did not agree with Deputy Owens for wanting this, but did not voice his opposition and tried to be a supporting person.

Deputy Kerr then arranged for [REDACTED] to stay with another co-worker and casual friend of Deputy Owens, Det. Lindsay Schultz.

Det. Schultz is acquainted with Deputy Owens through work assignments and also knew his wife by participating in some of the same social activities (softball etc.) while growing up in the same

area as her. Deputy Kerr then took [REDACTED] to Det. Schultz's house on the night of September 24th.

Deputy Kerr also told Det. Schultz some of the concerns that the Owens' were relaying about [REDACTED] behavior. Det. Schultz was not aware of any of these concerns about [REDACTED] alleged violent tendencies and was somewhat cautious when she first took [REDACTED] in.

Det. Schultz said the first night that she had [REDACTED] they went to dinner and she noticed [REDACTED] was visibly upset about [REDACTED] death and was also upset that [REDACTED] could not go to the funeral.

For the next 3-4 days, Det. Schultz watched over [REDACTED]. Even though she is told by the Owens' that [REDACTED] has evil tendencies and to keep an eye on [REDACTED]. Det. Schultz does not observe any of these things. In fact, sees only a normal [REDACTED] who was confused and sad that [REDACTED] could not attend her [REDACTED] funeral.

Det. Schultz said that a day or so later, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] called her and started painting a picture of [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was not normal and one of her main concerns was that [REDACTED] wasn't upset enough about [REDACTED] death.

Over the next few days, Det. Schultz said she watched [REDACTED] doing normal "girl stuff" and saw nothing even close to what that the Owens' has been reporting to her. She noted that [REDACTED] was, "polite, likable, well-mannered. I had no concerns with [REDACTED] other than the stuff that had been said to me about they -- about [REDACTED] safety in the house".

According to Det. Schultz, all of what she was being told was "superficial stuff, kind of silly stuff." While [REDACTED] was with her, Det. Schultz did not think [REDACTED] behavior was odd. She told us that [REDACTED] was, "a ten year old little [REDACTED] who -- I don't know how to explain it other than there was nothing unusual about [REDACTED] behavior."

Det. Schultz said she informed [REDACTED] that she had not seen any of those tendencies and that [REDACTED] seemed pretty normal and that [REDACTED] was upset that [REDACTED] could not attend [REDACTED] funeral. Det. Schultz said that Deputy Owens never called and asked to speak with [REDACTED] while [REDACTED] was at her house.

After about 2-3 days, Det. Schultz was wondering what the status of [REDACTED] was going to be. She enjoyed having [REDACTED] but had to eventually go back to work and did not know exactly what the plan was for [REDACTED] and where [REDACTED] would stay.

Det. Schultz said she called the Owens' and expressed that at some point she could no longer watch [REDACTED] and was wondering what they had planned. Det. Schultz later told us (while she was crying and emotionally upset) that in retrospect, she would have NEVER told the Owens' this and would have kept custody of [REDACTED] had she known what was about to occur.

On September 27, 2010, Det. Schultz was requested by the Owens' to bring [REDACTED] to Emmanuel Hospital in Portland. At first Det. Schultz did not know the exact reason she was bringing [REDACTED] there, but did so at their request.

Once at the hospital, she realizes they were trying to admit [REDACTED] into the hospital under the guise of a "mental health" hold. Deputy Owens apparently tells hospital staff and others that one of their reasons for getting [REDACTED] out of the home was that they feared for their safety. They report that [REDACTED] stayed the night with a friend of theirs, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

allegedly reports to Deputy Owens that ██████ talked about death in some of ██████ dreams and also drew a picture on her I Phone of an "open" and "closed" sign with three skulls on it.

***Note - Detective Zapata later asked ██████ about this picture and ██████ explained it was a sign for a Mexican restaurant of when they were "open" and "closed". ██████ would also tell me that the skulls that were on it is what "Mexican" people like to put on things, so ██████ decided to draw that. This picture is attached with this report.**

Det. Schultz describes what happened when they arrived at the hospital and how Deputy Owens and his wife "rejected" ██████. She also saw Deputy Owens using his knowledge as a police officer to persuade the staff to accept ██████. Det. Schultz said "Ed knows what you need for like a psych hold, and I think he was trying to meet that criteria."

The following is Det. Schultz explaining this hospital visit.

SCHULTZ:

"So we go in and we walk in and I'm with ██████ and that's when -- so Ed's standing there --"

"And this is the weird part. Ed says to ██████ um, ██████ sees her mom and dad and ██████ hasn't seen them in awhile, so ██████ goes to say, "Mom and Dad," and you can see ██████ kind of excited to see them, and, um, Ed says to ██████ uh -- you know, this is my perception, too, some -- but Ed says ... puts his hand up and ██████ ignores ██████ and walks up to the thing to check ... is talking to the gal to check ██████ in, and Ed puts his hand up and says, just real stern, "Stop. You stay there. You stay." and I don't know if he said, 'You stay away,' or -- but it's very forceful.

And ... and I'm standing there with ██████ just thinking, 'This isn't right, this is just ... this is,' um, just -- I don't know how to explain it. But it's just not right. You don't do that to your kid after they've been away from you and ██████ grieving, too.

Later in the Interview -

SCHULTZ:

So at that point I start to tear up, because I can't believe they're doing this. It's just the most unnatural thing for a parent to reject -- the only way I can describe it is they rejected ██████. They absolutely rejected ██████ standing there. And I was transitioning in my mind of I have this friendship or acquaintance friendship with Ed and ██████ and this professional relationship with Ed and ██████ but here's this little ██████ who's innocent and is being treated like crap.

So ██████ stayed out there and they called ██████ pretty quickly. It wasn't very long we were out in the lobby.

HORCH: Did [REDACTED] have any reaction when Ed put his hand out there and said, "Stop," or "Stay away"? Did --

SCHULTZ: It's almost you could hear [REDACTED] throat swallow. I mean, it was just like [REDACTED] -- I remember [REDACTED] kind of standing back and looking -- I remember [REDACTED] looking at me like, "I don't get it." Um, but [REDACTED] wasn't overly surprised, either. I don't know if that makes sense. It wasn't ... [REDACTED] wasn't ... [REDACTED] didn't cry, which you'd think this little [REDACTED] would cry after not seeing [REDACTED] parents and them being so cold like that.

And [REDACTED] may have, but I don't think [REDACTED] did. I think I'm the one that started to tear up, because I was so shocked by all of this.

HORCH: Did you put your arm around [REDACTED] at that point, then, or anything?

SCHULTZ: Right. Finally, that's where my mind transitioned and I thought, "Oh, we're done here." This is a transition from me being professionally and, you know, helping you out. I know they were grieving, but at the same time this is the hard part of, I have to understand, they are just going through this horrible loss, too. So I don't have a lot to really -- I can only go minute by minute of interacting with them.

But I remember thinking, "This is just ... this is just nuts. This whole situation is not how it should happen."

So then nurse comes out and it's not very long. We go into the back and at that point I realized this little [REDACTED] isn't going to get doctor help or some type of facility or something like that. They're going to do a psych hold [REDACTED] That's where we're at. I know how this works.

Later in the interview -

SCHULTZ: Well, we go back and we go into this room and I knew Ed was mad, just because you can tell when someone's mad. His facial color, his body, things he's saying. Just he's ... he's --

HORCH: Like what?

SCHULTZ: He's tense, he's, um, got a red face, he's trying to talk to the nurse and it was almost like he couldn't get out his words fast enough to this nurse who was trying to listen to him, as the nurse is trying to check them in. And ... and I think Ed was trying to explain that -- you know, I could hear him. For a few minutes [REDACTED] was in the room without me, I think, and I could hear Ed standing out there and I was trying to talk to him, but he really didn't interact with me, either. I just thought about that. Ed didn't really interact with me.

He was talking to the nurse about, "My kid," you know, and, I mean, he didn't do it inappropriately but, you know, "My kid's the one who was, you know, killed here," and the nurse was kind and she was like, "I was here, I'm aware of it," and that he kind of starts to describe [REDACTED] and, [REDACTED] drawing these horrible dark pictures and we're afraid of [REDACTED] and we think that [REDACTED] --" and I don't know if they said [REDACTED] thought [REDACTED] had something to do with it.

I don't remember everything that was being said. I just know that Ed was, I don't know, I guess angry. He was very upset. He was very, very upset.

Det. Schultz then describes that Deputy Owens is talking loud enough for [REDACTED] to hear and is saying very negative things about [REDACTED] to the nurse in an attempt to get [REDACTED] committed.

SCHULTZ: *Yeah. Well, he's outside of the door so he's not -- but he's talking loud enough that he can hear and I know what he's saying. I don't remember exactly what it was, it was unpleasant about [REDACTED]*

HORCH: Mm-hm?

SCHULTZ: *It's directly negative about [REDACTED] I don't want [REDACTED] to hear that. So he's saying that stuff and then I must have gone back out, because I told Ed, "Hey, I got it from here. If you guys," you know, "want to go, I'll --" because I'm trying to protect [REDACTED] from all this crap that he's saying.*

And I'm shocked at how he's acting, too, I guess. I mean, at the same time I know that they've been through horrible things in the last week, but at the same time it doesn't seem like their behaviors matched the best for [REDACTED]

And so I don't remember all the interaction outside of there. I'm just sorry, I can't. But at some point they're going to leave and, um, so they end up leaving and I stay in the room with [REDACTED] I'm like, 'Well, screw them. I'm not going to go talk to them again after all this.'

Later in the interview -

SCHULTZ: *So we're talking, they're asking me a little bit more about how [REDACTED] ... [REDACTED] is. And I don't think [REDACTED] wanted to see [REDACTED] And I had two pictures that [REDACTED] had drawn, and this is the part that was starting to conflict more, because they're describing this dark little*

█ who is being bad and I have this rainbow and happy pictures and, you know, and that's where █ like, "See? █ not upset about," you know, "the death of █

And I'm thinking, 'Well, you can't judge it on that.' And I remember the grandma kind of saying -- me and grandma are talking about, "Well, that's kind of how █ is." I mean, █ just -- █ always kind of the same and grandma likes having █ too, and █ didn't really want anything to do with █ And that was, I don't know, a four or five minute conversation.

And then they were going to leave and I said, "Well, can I stay with █ I mean, I don't know how you leave █ there by █

HORCH: *Mm-hm. This is at a psychiatric ward at Emanuel Hospital?*

SCHULTZ: *It's in the ER, which they have a room that is designated, I think. It's not like the -- like, all the other ones are the ... the peds area. I think it's the peds -- pediatrics -- ER area that we're in, and we're in this -- yeah. And then we're in this hallway that I think, just from my own interaction of bringing people in to, for mental holds, the room represented kind of that.*

HORCH: Okay.

SCHULTZ: *Is the impression that I got, that that was a special room for that. So they leave and I'm there with █ waiting and they're -- then they have to undress █ and then they won't let █ be alone. And it just was horrible, because I'm thinking, 'This little █ not suicidal and they're treating █ like a suicidal.'*

HORCH: *Mm-hm?*

SCHULTZ: *And it's a couple hours and then this lovely woman shows up, she has got like a computer and things for █ to do and play with, but we don't know what's happening, if they're going to send █ home, and if █ does go home who's █ going to go with? It was kind of like, um -- and I don't mean this negative to Ed and █ -- but it was almost like, 'We're done. Here, you guys deal with █ now.' And I'm like, 'I'm not going to leave █ here.'*

Det. Schultz then describes her thoughts on this entire incident with the Owens'.

SCHULTZ: *-- about it. I ... I, um, it disturbs me It makes me sick. It consumes me until finally, you know, kind of knowing that █ okay, uh, I don't know how you leave your kid there like that. I don't know how you treat your kid like that.*

I expect more out of them and it -- I just don't understand how you treat your [REDACTED] like that. I don't understand it and it's ... and it's, uh, it's just crazy. It's absolutely, um, I can't put it into words and you can't make sense of it. That's the only thing I could really kind of sum it up as. It's -- I know they're going through a lot, but you don't reject your [REDACTED] like that, regardless if you think that [REDACTED] involved in something like that or not.

Later in the interview -

SCHULTZ: *It wasn't until later, when I realized -- well, at the time, at the hospital is when I realized this was just unacceptable. The rejection of [REDACTED] I didn't understand it. And, you know, and there may have been things ... I'm sure there's things that they were aware of and knew about [REDACTED] that I didn't, but at the same time the picture they were painting of this little [REDACTED] was the exact opposite of what I was interacting with. And after four days you'd think you would see some of those --*

HORCH: *Did you see anything?*

SCHULTZ: *-- characteristics. No. No. And, you know, I've been around kids enough and, um, even my degree in human development you see certain like cognitive and different behaviors and stuff that you would be concerned about. I never saw [REDACTED] slip or -- I mean, [REDACTED] wanted to do things and [REDACTED] wasn't overly sad about it, but at the same time you could see [REDACTED] I think [REDACTED] just subdued those feelings, is what [REDACTED] was doing. [REDACTED] just ... [REDACTED] in -- I mean, for God's sake, [REDACTED] in some woman's home that [REDACTED] never met really before that [REDACTED] remembers. What do you do?*

After staying with [REDACTED] at the hospital for a few hours, Det. Schultz left and did not have anymore interactions with Deputy Owens, his wife or [REDACTED]

During our interview, Sgt. Schaub and I could tell that this entire incident with [REDACTED] was very upsetting to Det. Schultz and she felt that on some level she had abandoned [REDACTED] and was still feeling some guilt. She was visibly upset when talking about this incident and made it clear that had she known that [REDACTED] was going to be treated that way, she would have maintained custody of [REDACTED] and not taken [REDACTED] to the hospital.

For the next 10 days or so, [REDACTED] stayed at the hospital and is evaluated by staff.

Medical Reports from Emmanuel Hospital Staff

While at the hospital, the medical staff, including the Chief of children's psychiatry (Dr. Crombie), observed and evaluated [REDACTED] during [REDACTED] stay. At one point, Dr. Crombie called the

Owens' in an attempt to get them to speak with █████ so that they might have a better understanding of what they were suppose to be looking for, so they might get █████ to open up a bit. It is reported by the hospital and Deputy Owens during his IA interview, that he and his wife are upset that it is suggested that they call █████ Deputy Owens indicated that this was the hospital's job to get █████ to open up, not theirs.

A phone call was eventually made and █████ spoke with █████ mother. The hospital staff listened to █████ while █████ spoke with █████ mother. They indicated that █████ kept saying to █████ mother; "I did not look in the box," and "I do not know the code to the safe." According to the staff, █████ repeated these statements several times and became more emphatic and upset each time.

****Note – It appears by █████ responses to █████ mother, █████ is being questioning by her about the night of the accident even though she had been instructed not to.***

It is this phone call that █████ changed █████ story about █████ involvement with getting into the safe and admitted to █████ mother that █████ had been in the safe before (this according to Deputy Owens in his IA interview). What is reported by the hospital staff and what Deputy Owens describes about this phone, call are not the same.

When reading through these medical reports, they indicate that █████ is a normal █████ and does not have suicidal or homicidal tendencies.

The following quotes are direct quotes from the medical reports from Emmanuel Hospital. The main source of these reports is from Dr. T. Shaw Crombie. The underlined words were written that way by the medical staff.

█████ also has parent relational problems and ongoing rejection from family that translate into rejection from █████ sibling."

█████ is at risk for a number of mental health disorders because of the separation from family, toxic interactions with family and the recent severe stresses."

█████ will need grief psychotherapy. This is more complicated and advance than typical grief counseling or coaching."

█████ manages to state they're (family) trying to cool off as an explanation to no visits and no calls from mother or family. █████ has not disclosed or redisclose disturbing dream content or intrusive thoughts."

"Multiple questions failed to elicit hallucinations or other deliriums. In fact █████ is repressing or suppressing abandonment by family and to a lesser degree envy of the older █████"

"No psychotropic, family not in a supportive or neutral stance."

"Mother was requested to have a warm & simple or at least neutral conversation with her █████ during a conversation with the author earlier in the day (Sept 29, 2010) in the contact that she had not spoken to her █████ in 7-10 days."

"Staff description of [REDACTED] phone call with the mother on September 29, 2010 beginning at 1345 hours." [REDACTED] stated) "I did not look in the box," and "I do not know the code to the safe." (repeated these statements several times and became more emphatic and upset each time).

Dr. Crombie also noted a meeting he had with the parents. The following are his notes after that meeting describing what the parents thought of [REDACTED] (spelling and punctuation are not corrected)

[REDACTED] has a lying problem"
[REDACTED] knows what happened that night"
(family has) "safety concerns"
"lock box latch unlocked" and the key for the lock box was in the safe which was the location of the gun, so therefore the step father deduced that [REDACTED] must have been in the safe before the incident.

Both parents made a comments about a "Dream" to by [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] on Wednesday Sept. 22, 2010 that included content of "woman looking through windows"(into home)"zombies had a gun chasing people (in eh home)"chasing people like us" (family)
"all form New York"
"yelling and screaming...(zombies "shooting people"
I [REDACTED] was hiding".

(step-father took this theme to validate fears that [REDACTED] was unsafe because [REDACTED] may have indicated to others that this dream happened during an)"awake" (state). THIS LED TO A DECISION NOT TO INVOLVE [REDACTED] IN FUNERAL SERVICE FRIDAY SEPT. 24, 2010.

(mother wants to know if her [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has) "sociopathic tendencies"
(per mother) "gut tells me [REDACTED] hand)him the gun"

One of the last comments Dr. Crombie documents about [REDACTED] is the following;

""There were involvement of the Chief of Pediatrics and the social worker from CARES; eventually that support rendered the opinion that [REDACTED] is not a candidate to be interviewed and the most of the treatment or assessment should focus on [REDACTED] needs and the likelihood the family would continue to have distortions or pathological interactions with [REDACTED] even to the point of outright questioning [REDACTED] and attempting to debrief events on the night of September 14, 2010."

End of medical report notes. ([REDACTED] [REDACTED] signed a medical release form on Oct. 6, 2010 for all of [REDACTED] medical records)

The IA Unit has reviewed all the medical records on [REDACTED] (137 pages), and we concur that there is nothing in the reports that documents [REDACTED] as an uncompassionate, manipulative, sociopathic child as Deputy Owens and his wife have suggested to the hospital and to others.

On October 6, 2010, [REDACTED] was released from the hospital with the help of Child Protective Services. [REDACTED] is then placed with her great grandmother, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] until final arrangements can be made for [REDACTED] to live in California.

On October 22, Det. Zapata had a phone call with Deputy Owens in which he tells him that they are done with interviewing [REDACTED] and they were free to send [REDACTED] to California. Detective Zapata does not mention that the case was closed and does not tell Deputy Owens or his wife that they were free to interview [REDACTED] on their own.

On October 26, 2010, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and told her to have [REDACTED] ready at 0800 hours for a pick up to the airport the following morning. [REDACTED] knew arrangements had been made to send [REDACTED] to live with [REDACTED] father in California.

On October 27, 2010, Deputy Owens and his wife arrived to pick up [REDACTED] (It should be noted there had been no contact with [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] parents while [REDACTED] had been staying at [REDACTED] great grandmother's house for the 3-4 weeks.) Upon arriving, Deputy Owens remained in the van while [REDACTED] [REDACTED] walked into the house briefly. No real words were exchanged between her and [REDACTED]

What is described next in this report is taken from [REDACTED] statements from several interviews with [REDACTED] after [REDACTED] arrived in California. (Ventura County Sheriff's Office and the Clark County Sheriff Office IA Unit)

After being picked up that morning from [REDACTED] great grandmother's house, [REDACTED] was told to sit in the back seat with [REDACTED] mother. [REDACTED] said that they pulled into a parking lot and stopped the car. They began to ask [REDACTED] questions about the night of [REDACTED] accident. [REDACTED] said that both of them were asking questions and at one point [REDACTED] step-dad said, "*Enough of you e'ffin lies*" ([REDACTED] said he said the actual F word)

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] parents kept telling [REDACTED] "*Your fingerprints were on the gun!*", "*Your fingerprints were on the magazine!*" (they were referring to an adult magazine they kept in the safe along with the guns) [REDACTED] was then asked, "*Did you kill [REDACTED]*" [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] kept telling them [REDACTED] was telling the truth that [REDACTED] had been asleep but they would not believe [REDACTED] [REDACTED] stated that they told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] would not be allowed to go to California and be with [REDACTED] father unless [REDACTED] told the truth. [REDACTED] said they then threatened to put [REDACTED] into foster care. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] kept telling them that [REDACTED] was asleep but they were becoming more and more upset. At one point [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] mother slapped [REDACTED] hard across the face for "*lying*". [REDACTED] said this hurt and [REDACTED] was becoming more and more fearful that [REDACTED] was not going to be able to go to California to live with [REDACTED] dad.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] mother did most of the questioning, but [REDACTED] step-dad would say something every now and then. At one point during their questioning, [REDACTED] mother said, "*Ed, give me your belt.*" [REDACTED] said "*Ed*" then took of his belt and [REDACTED] mother wrapped it around [REDACTED] hand as though she was going to hit [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] mother then told [REDACTED] to close [REDACTED] eyes and she said in a nice voice, "*I'm not going to hit you, what did you that night?*" When [REDACTED] opened [REDACTED] eyes [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] mother had her hand back as though she was going to hit [REDACTED] again and [REDACTED] said, "*Hey, I thought you said you weren't going to hit me!*" [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was crying for some of this time and was trying to think of a way out. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had to go to the bathroom and thought about running away and telling someone.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] mother had to use the bathroom too, so they went inside a Jack in the Box to use the restroom. [REDACTED] said that while inside the bathroom, [REDACTED] mother grabbed [REDACTED] around [REDACTED] shoulders, squeezed [REDACTED] tight and said, "*What did you do to my [REDACTED]*" [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] mother continued to question [REDACTED] and continued the threats of [REDACTED] not going to California and

being placed into foster care. [REDACTED] said this went on for a long time and [REDACTED] eventually broke down and told [REDACTED] mother something [REDACTED] thought [REDACTED] would believe.

After telling [REDACTED] mother this made up story, they went back into the van and [REDACTED] mother said to [REDACTED] step-father, "Ok, [REDACTED] admitted it." [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] mother then took her phone out and started to record [REDACTED]. She then started asking [REDACTED] questions about what [REDACTED] had told her inside the bathroom. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] then told a story about getting into the safe that night that [REDACTED] thought they would believe. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] felt terrible about doing this and knew it was a "lie" but wanted to go to California. [REDACTED] said that while [REDACTED] mother was recording this, [REDACTED] step-dad was looking around for people.

That was a summary of what transpired after being picked up from [REDACTED] great grandmother's house according to [REDACTED]

In December of 2010, the Clark County Sheriff's Office administration received word of these events involving [REDACTED] treatment and decided to place Deputy Owens on administrative leave pending an investigation.

Interviews (not necessarily in chronological order)

This report will now skip ahead to the IA investigation which started in July of 2011.

On July 25, 2011, Sgt Schaub and I traveled to Camarillo California for the purpose of interviewing [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The purpose of this trip was to ask some follow up questions and to get an overall impression, as best we could, as to what type of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was.

To ensure that our visit would not upset [REDACTED] we contacted [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Grandmother in Camarillo. We expressed our desire to speak with [REDACTED] and wanted to make sure [REDACTED] would be alright speaking with us regarding some of the details about [REDACTED] accident one more time. [REDACTED] spoke with [REDACTED] and advised us that [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] would not be upset, and invited us to come and meet and talk with [REDACTED]

When we first met the [REDACTED] we had small talk and then went to lunch. We got to know [REDACTED] and her dad, grandmother and grandfather. We had a few hours of getting to know [REDACTED] over lunch and some casual talk. [REDACTED] also showed us around [REDACTED] father's and grandfather's place of business. After a couple hours, we asked [REDACTED] if [REDACTED] would be alright in talking about the events that took place last year when [REDACTED] was living in Washington and [REDACTED] said that she would.

The following excerpts are from [REDACTED] interview by the CCSO IA Unit on July 25, 2011. This interview covered a variety of topics but this section focused mainly on what happened on the way to the airport.

The first part is [REDACTED] talking about what happened after they pulled over in the parking lot.

HORCH: *And then did Ed say anything to you before you guys went inside?
Did he make any comments or did he just --*

██████████ *Before we went inside he was like, "You don't give me these effing like lies. Tell me the truth."*

HORCH: *You can say the exact words, ██████████ Did he say the exact word, though? The F word?*

██████████ *Yeah.*

Later in interview -

HORCH: *Okay. And what were you telling them?*

██████████ *I had to tell them a lie, so -- because they started threatening me to put me in foster care. And they started saying like they would take me outside and take down my pants and then start whipping me with the belt. And ... and the belt is black and it looks like, um, uh, you know, like when you're sitting in the car thing, the strap.*

██████████ *Yeah. She goes, "Ed, take off your belt."*

HORCH: *And what does he do?*

██████████ *He takes it off.*

HORCH: *And what does ... what happened next?*

██████████ *He -- like, he pulls it up and gives it to ██████████ and she goes like this, almost like she was going to whip me, and she --*

Later in the interview -

██████████ *I was telling the truth --*

HORCH: *Okay.*

██████████ *-- about it, but they didn't believe me.*

HORCH: *Were you scared?*

██████████ *Yes, I was very scared, because like when ... when I started saying the truth, like I went like this and I was like, "I'm telling the truth." And like she grabbed, she like smacked my hand down, and I was like, "Ow," and I started crying and then she ... she's like, "Close your eyes. I won't smack you. And tell me the truth."*

[REDACTED] *She was like ... she was like, "Close your eyes and tell me the truth. I won't smack you or do anything, just tell me the truth. Did you kill [REDACTED] And I said, "No."*

HORCH: *Said, "Did you kill [REDACTED]"*

[REDACTED] *Yeah. I was like ... I was like, "No." And she was like, "Did you know the safe was opened? Did you know it was not like, it was broken?" I was like, "No." But then like after the lying part --*

HORCH: *Had you already told the police officers the truth?*

[REDACTED] *(No verbal response)*

HORCH: *Okay. And you'd been saying the same story of what you knew had happened and they were asking ... they were saying that it wasn't, that you were lying?*

[REDACTED] *Yeah.*

HORCH: *Okay. So she says, "Close your eyes and I won't smack you"?*

[REDACTED] *Yeah, she goes, "Close your eyes and I won't smack you." (unintelligible -- loud noises by microphone) closing my eyes and she's like, "Tell me the truth. Did you kill [REDACTED] And I was like, "No, I did not kill [REDACTED] And then she, like when I opened my eyes she was like this, like she --*

HORCH: *She had her hand back like she was going to hit you?*

[REDACTED] *Yeah. And then after that, she slaps me in my face.*

HORCH: *How did she smack you?*

[REDACTED] *She -- like, um --*

HORCH: *Like a slap?*

[REDACTED] *She like ... like that (demonstrates) like that, really hard.*

HORCH: *On ... on your cheek?*

[REDACTED] *Yeah.*

HORCH: *Okay. Did it hurt?*

[REDACTED] *Very much.*

HORCH: *And what was Ed doing during this time?*

[REDACTED] *He's just like looking up for anybody who was coming.*

█ then talks about what happened in the Jack in the Box bathroom.

█ *After I go to the bathroom she grabs me like right on my arms, like really tight, and she looks in my eyes and, "It's time to tell me the truth. Did you kill █ And then she grabs like -- like, she just like stares at me and then I do ... and then I say something ... a lie, and it was like it was terrible, it was a lie.*

HORCH: *And what did you say to her that was a lie?*

█ *I'm not quite sure exactly what I said, because I forget my lies a lot of times, sometimes (unintelligible) really bad, but, um, it was something like, I went into the safe, I saw this magazine and I was looking at it and I saw the gun, so I put it down on the second ... on the bottom shelf and, um, I just looked at the magazine, and then I put the magazine back and I forgot about the gun, closed the safe, and I went back in the bed.*

█ then described what happened after getting back into the van after this 45 minute bathroom session with █ mother.

█ *Yeah. And then when we get back in the van she goes, █ admitted." And Ed was like, "Good."*

█ *She grabs the phone out and presses the record button and she says, █ can you please tell me what all that you said and make it sound sweet on the recorder to show the police." **And I told the lie and I was crying my heart out** and I was like ... I was like, "Oh, God, I lied." And she told me never to lie. And I told her I wouldn't, and I told grandma I wouldn't, so I was kind of like double like lying. But I told grandma why I had to. Anyway, so --.*

█ then describes how they searched through █ suitcase and made █ take █ coat off.

█ *She drove me to the -- well, Ed drove us to the airport. She grabs out my luggage and like -- oh, before we got in the like after we parked before this, I forgot to say this, um, she went through all my luggage with Ed and looked through anything they could and ... and my --*

HORCH: *At the Jack in the Box?*

██████████
No, but like when we first got there, it was like two and a half hours of threatening. But, um, she looked through all my stuff, got ... grabbed my \$36, four movies and some other things out of my stuff.

██████████
Yeah. And they took my money out of my jacket. They just ... they searched my body and my pockets, my jacket and then ██████ saw the little like slip thing in a bag and it's like she's –

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Has anyone ever told you that ██████ death was your fault?*

██████████
Yes.

HORCH: *Who?*

██████████
Ed ... Ed and ██████

During our visit, both Sgt. Schaub and I found ██████ to be articulate, sincere and all in all, a very pleasant young ██████ ██████ was well mannered, but not as to be putting on a show for us. We saw ██████ interact with others and came away with a feeling that ██████ was a typical young ██████ in the adolescent stages of life and ██████ seemed to have a very positive outlook on life.

On July 25, 2011 we also spoke with ██████ ██████ (██████████ grandmother in Camarillo CA.) ██████ told us that when she got to the airport to pick up ██████ on October 27, she knew something was wrong when she first saw ██████ The following is her explaining this.

██████████ ██████
Well, I saw them standing there and so I went up there and ... and gave them both hugs and everything, but I could tell when I first saw ██████ something was very wrong with ██████ ██████ little face was kind of red and, um, it looked like ██████ had been crying or something. Something ... something was wrong.

HORCH: *Mm-hm?*

██████████ ██████
Very wrong.

██████████ ██████
And just the way ██████ looked at me, I knew something was wrong. And the first thing ██████ said is, uh, "She got what she wanted." Um, from ██████ so --. And I says, "Well, what do you mean?" She -- and so then we took off and we went to the back side of the area where you could sit, the food area and everything.

And, um, I sat at the table and [REDACTED] went and sat across and [REDACTED] just looked ... [REDACTED] looked really, um, kind of totally depressed, [REDACTED] did, and everything. And [REDACTED] um, said that, uh, she got [REDACTED] to admit to what she had thought as to what she had said to me in the previous conversations, that, uh, [REDACTED] had gotten the gun and gave it to [REDACTED]

And, um, and I just knew something was wrong --

HORCH: *Could [REDACTED] hear this, that she was saying this?*

[REDACTED] *Yes.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

[REDACTED] *Yes, [REDACTED] was sitting there through the whole thing hearing it.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

[REDACTED] *And, um, I was just holding back, just because I knew she was going to be leaving soon and I was ... I just knew there was something more and so I just kept my mouth shut and didn't say anything.*

[REDACTED] then described what happened after [REDACTED] left and she was alone with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *And there was just general talking and everything, and then, uh, I told [REDACTED] to come over to me, to the chair that I was sitting in, and I told [REDACTED] to sit on my lap and [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] was too old for that, but I had [REDACTED] sit on my lap and [REDACTED] put [REDACTED] head down on my shoulder and [REDACTED] started crying.*

And [REDACTED] said, "Grandma, I had to lie. I know I promised you I wouldn't lie, but I had to tell a lie." And I says, "Well, what did you lie about?" [REDACTED] says, "I had to tell them that I gave [REDACTED] the gun." I says, "What do you mean you had to tell them?"

Then [REDACTED] started crying and [REDACTED] started telling me that they threatened to not let [REDACTED] come and get on the plane with me, that [REDACTED] was never going to see me never going to see [REDACTED] dad, that, um, [REDACTED] um, that whatever we did with [REDACTED] -- and then she apparently told [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was not [REDACTED] dad. She must have told [REDACTED] that right towards the end of the whole thing.

[REDACTED] told me that, um, [REDACTED] asked Ed for his belt or something and he had ... [REDACTED] thinks it was his belt he took off and handed to [REDACTED] They were going to whip [REDACTED] and they were going to do it in front of people, they were going to take [REDACTED] outside of the car and in front of everybody they were going to whip [REDACTED] with the belt.

And [REDACTED] felt that that was totally humiliating, basically. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] didn't want something like that to happen in front of people, because [REDACTED] said they would pull [REDACTED] pants down and whip [REDACTED]

Said they were going to put [REDACTED] into foster care and nobody was ... [REDACTED] was never going to see anybody again.

Also told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was never ever to call. That was another thing that she said before she left, that [REDACTED] was not allowed to ever call her, she didn't ever want to hear from [REDACTED] again and she was never to just talk to any of the other kids, to [REDACTED] -- or not [REDACTED] but [REDACTED] -- and [REDACTED] And, um –

[REDACTED] then told us what [REDACTED] said about how [REDACTED] had been treated by [REDACTED] parents.

[REDACTED] Anyway, the ... [REDACTED] told me that [REDACTED] wanted to file a complaint. Some way, somehow, without Ed knowing and without [REDACTED] knowing, because of what they did to [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] was ... [REDACTED] says, "I thought they loved me. They can't love me if they did what they did to me. They ... they ... they lied."

HORCH: Those are [REDACTED] words?

[REDACTED] Yeah, those are [REDACTED] words. [REDACTED] says, "They didn't love me if they did that to me."

[REDACTED] said that when they returned to California, she was put in touch with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office and they sent out a detective to interview [REDACTED]. That interview is attached with this report. What [REDACTED] described about his incident back in November of 2010, was the same as everything [REDACTED] had told us.

[REDACTED] also told us that a few years ago she had received an anonymous phone call from someone in Vancouver, Washington, advising her that Deputy Owens was leaving loaded guns around his house. [REDACTED] said she called Deputy Owens and reported this to him and he requested that if she received anymore calls, she should record it and send him the tape. [REDACTED] said that it did happen again so she recorded it and sent the tape to Deputy Owens. She said that she never heard another word from him about this and did not receive any further telephone calls.

***Note - When I asked Deputy Owens about this during his IA interview, he said that he had no recollection of ever receiving such a package from [REDACTED]**

During a phone call with [REDACTED] after Deputy Owens' interview, she brought up this subject again and asked me what he had said about mailing him that tape. I told her that he denied ever

getting such a package and she immediately said, "Well put him on a lie detector and I'll take one too and we'll see who's telling the truth!"

After talking with [REDACTED] I called Senior Deputy Julie Nowak (Juvenile Crimes Detective) with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office and asked what she thought about the interview she had with [REDACTED] back in November. Deputy Nowak said she found [REDACTED] to be credible and did not doubt what [REDACTED] was being told. She said that [REDACTED] had a hard time staying focused on some of the topics, but did not believe [REDACTED] was being dishonest. Her impressions were that [REDACTED] was a young [REDACTED] who had gone through a traumatic experience and who was still grieving [REDACTED] death and they way [REDACTED] had been treated by [REDACTED] family.

On July 20, 2011, we interviewed Deputy Paul Prather. Deputy Prather is friends with Deputy Owens and according to him they are "tight". Deputy Prather told us that he tried to be a consoling friend and a listening ear for Deputy Owens for his grieving process. He said that they never really discussed in detail the events of that night.

Deputy Prather said that sometime in October 2010, Deputy Owens called him and wanted him to watch a video of an interview they had conducted with [REDACTED]. Deputy Prather said that he was hesitant at first and he did not think what they might have done was the best idea. Deputy Prather said he went over to Deputy Owens' residence and they went to their office. Deputy Prather said that Deputy Owens played the video, sitting in a chair in front of the computer while the video was being played. Deputy Prather said he stood and looked out the window. Deputy Prather said when he listened, he heard [REDACTED] threaten to slap [REDACTED] on the video and when he heard that it made him "wince". He thought to himself that the video was not sounding very good. Deputy Prather made it clear to us several times during his interview that he heard [REDACTED] make this statement about slapping [REDACTED] and also threaten [REDACTED] with not letting [REDACTED] go to California.

The following is Deputy Prather describing how the video discussion came up.

PRATHER: *But I think that's when he said, "Do you want to see the video?"*

HORCH: *And when he said "the video," did you know what he was talking about?*

PRATHER: *No.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

PRATHER: *(laughs) It, uh -- or you know what? Maybe he told me at lunch or something. Somehow, you know, the video came up.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

PRATHER: *And I said, "Hey, look, Ed," I go, "number one, don't show me if ... I don't want to look at it if there's something in it that, you know, is going to get us in trouble. I don't want to know about it, because I will tell IA. I have to tell IA." And he goes, "No, there's nothing there."*

And he goes, "Paul --" and I can't remember if he said, "IA already has a copy," or, "IA's going to get a copy." He said his lawyer had a copy.

HORCH: *Okay.*

PRATHER: *And I said, "Okay. As long as you understand that, I'll look at it."*

HORCH: *Okay. And so he showed you a video?*

PRATHER: *He showed me the video.*

HORCH: *Can you describe what he showed you?*

PRATHER: *Yeah, it was in the van, he told me, although I couldn't tell from the video, that it was in the parking lot at the airport.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

PRATHER: *And it was [REDACTED] in the backseat, [REDACTED] in the front passenger seat -- and from the angle you could tell he was holding a -- I don't recall Eddie saying a word. Um, he just was videotaping [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] And, uh, [REDACTED] did a good job of interviewing [REDACTED] I mean, she walked [REDACTED] ... he walked [REDACTED] ... she walked [REDACTED] right through everything, um, you know. She threatened to slap [REDACTED] if [REDACTED] lied and said, "You don't --" "We don't have to take you to California if you lie." But there was no physical contact on the video that I saw.*

HORCH: *How do you know that was said? Did you --*

PRATHER: *Because it was on the tape.*

HORCH: *Oh, you heard that? Or --*

PRATHER: *It was on the tape.*

HORCH: *Or was that what Ed told you?*

PRATHER: *No, that was on the tape. Said, "If you're lying to me," or, you know, "If you're lying to me I will slap you in the face. And remember, we don't have to take" "We don't have to put you on that plane to go see your dad."*

HORCH: *You heard these things?*

PRATHER: *It was on the video.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

HORCH: *Okay. So do you remember how long the video was? How did he show it to you? On a laptop?*

PRATHER: *He just showed it to me on his computer.*

I then showed Deputy Prather the video copy we received from the evidence room. Deputy Prather watched the entire video. He recognized the video but indicated that not everything that was on the video is what he heard back in October. I asked Deputy Prather if he was sure that he heard the other things, and confirmed it several times and was confident he had heard statements that were not on the video we played for him.

He later continued with his certainty of what he heard on the video recording that Deputy Owens showed him, and that these statements were not on the video that I had just shown him.

PRATHER: *that statement that [REDACTED] made about, you know, "If you're lying to me, I will slap you in the face, you won't go to California to see your --" "We'll leave --" "We'll leave the airport now and go back home."*

HORCH: *Okay.*

PRATHER: *And --*

HORCH: *And you remember hearing those things?*

PRATHER: *I remember hearing that.*

Later in the interview -

PRATHER: *But I am --*

HORCH: *That conversation --*

PRATHER: *-- here to tell you --*

HORCH: *-- is not --*

PRATHER: *Yeah.*

HORCH: *-- is not on this one.*

PRATHER: *I kept waiting -- and I can't remember, like I said, I know -- I can't tell you if it was in the beginning or the middle or at the end.*

HORCH: *Sure.*

PRATHER: *But it was in there.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Um, let me ask you this. So to your best recollection, as you said a couple times, you think that you heard those things. Those are pretty distinctive things.*

PRATHER: *Yeah. And --*

HORCH: *I mean --*

PRATHER: *I did hear those on the tape.*

HORCH: *Okay. You just --*

PRATHER: *I did hear those.*

HORCH: *They're just not on the video I showed you?*

PRATHER: *Yeah.*

****Note - On our copy of the video, there is no mentioning of "slapping" or not taking ██████ to California. Deputy Prather clearly indicates that he had heard those comments. According to Deputy Owens, during his IA interview on Aug. 17th, these comments about slapping and not going to California were made during the first 20 minutes after stopping the van and talking with ██████ Deputy Owens told us he never edited this video and that there was only one video taken.***

In a subsequent conversation with Deputy Prather on August 24, 2011, he saw me in me in the hallway of the Sheriff's Office and asked how the Owens investigation was going. I believe he was asking as a friend and out of curiosity. I mentioned that I was working on it and thought it would be done soon. He then stated, on his own accord, something to the effect of, "He doctored that video didn't he?" He then said he didn't think Deputy Owens had the knowledge to edit a video, but that he (Owens) knew people that could.

On July 20, 2011, Deputy Kerr was interviewed and he gave the following statements about circumstances in which Deputy Owens and his wife showed him this video. Deputy Kerr believed he was called by Deputy Owens Thursday October 28th or possibly Friday the 29th, and they asked if they could show him something. Deputy Kerr said they drove to a Burgerville and while in the van, they said they wanted his opinion on something. They told him about their interview and he said he did not agree with what they had done.

The following is Deputy Kerr describing all of this.

KERR: *And she started out, and um, I heard about ninety seconds of it and I really didn't want to hear anymore and I said, "Stop." Um, "See?" ██████ said that ... ██████ said to me that, you know, this is her ██████*

I said, "You have a lot of --" um, [REDACTED] motive was not pure. That's just my ... just ... just --

HORCH: *Was Ed in the car at this time?*

KERR: *Yes.*

HORCH: *Is he saying anything when she ... when you --*

KERR: *No.*

HORCH: *He's silent?*

KERR: *Yeah. I ... I said, "You shouldn't, in my opinion, be doing this." And their guise was they wanted to break open a smoking gun or something like that to show the investigators that [REDACTED] had lied to them. I said, [REDACTED] probably did, but," I said, "as much as a parent can get the truth out of their own child because they know them, you're not doing this open-ended, you're doing it with, 'I want to prove that [REDACTED] did something.'" I said, [REDACTED] you can't do that." Um --*

HORCH: *Did you watch -- you only watched ninety seconds?*

KERR: *If that. I ... I ... I --*

HORCH: *Okay.*

KERR: *I ... I didn't want to.*

HORCH: *Did she tell you where the interview took place?*

KERR: *I have no idea where it took place.*

HORCH: *She just said, "I want your opinion on this"?*

KERR: *Yes.*

HORCH: *And she showed you about ninety seconds' worth?*

KERR: *Yes.*

HORCH: *And then you said, "I don't want to see anymore"?*

KERR: *Yeah, I stopped it, I said -- again, my whole thing was, "You're not --" when I do an interview it's I don't care what they tell me, it's up to me assume and lend credibility to the facts. You're ... you're only after one purpose. And I said --*

HORCH: *In your opinion, if you remember, did it sound like an interview or interrogation, because there's ... there could be a different tone. Do you remember?*

KERR: *Yeah, uh, the very beginning of it, and again, what I listened to, she was being very gentle with her voice toward [REDACTED]. But I've done so many interviews. I heard a little thing in her voice -- and again, that's almost indefinable, to be honest with you.*

HORCH: *Well, I'd like you to define it as best you could.*

KERR: *That she's leading [REDACTED] and trying to -- it was leading. And if [REDACTED] didn't answer right it was ... she would say, "Now, [REDACTED] I want you to think." It's like wink, wink, nod, nod, [REDACTED] your uncle, do what I say." And that was -- I didn't like that, so I just said, "Stop, I don't want to see anymore."*

HORCH: *So that's kind of what you had (unintelligible) you could hear that in her voice?*

KERR: *Yeah.*

HORCH: *And that's from your experience --*

KERR: *As a cop for 21 years --*

On July 28, 2011, Sgt Schaub and I spoke with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] Great Grandmother) [REDACTED] is a typical grandmother or great grandmother as is this case, in the fact that she loves all of her great grandchildren and seems to have a very "no nonsense" view of life.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was released to her custody after the hospital. She said that while talking with CPS, they told her that the [REDACTED] parents had a "deviated way" of looking at this event and CPS wanted to be sure that [REDACTED] would be safe with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] assured them that nothing was going to happen to [REDACTED] under her watch.

[REDACTED] said that she knew arrangements were being made to send [REDACTED] to California as she was waiting to hear what to do with [REDACTED]. She wanted to take [REDACTED] herself, but was advised not to so by the Vancouver detectives because of some additional follow up that might need to be done.

[REDACTED] said [REDACTED] stayed with her for several weeks and during that time, her parents never called to check on [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said that while at her house, [REDACTED] was sad about losing [REDACTED] and very sad [REDACTED] was not allowed to go to the funeral.

[REDACTED] said [REDACTED] called on October 26th and she said they would be picking up [REDACTED] the following morning and to have her ready at 0800. [REDACTED] said that she had given [REDACTED] some spending money because she didn't know how long [REDACTED] was going to be traveling. She also bought some DVD's and clothes for [REDACTED] to take to California. [REDACTED] said that she gave [REDACTED] some envelopes with her address information so [REDACTED] could contact her.

[REDACTED] told us that she had always observed that the Owens' had put too much responsibility on the two girls by making them take care of the younger children all the time. [REDACTED] said, "I

don't believe in children watching small children", There was too much of the babysitting type stuff, watching the kids while they were studying."

When asked about how she felt about Deputy Owens' treatment of [REDACTED] (since she was aware of everything that had taken place) [REDACTED] said, *"I don't know why they are pushing blame at other people, I don't know why, they're, you know, I don't know why they didn't leave this as a tragic accident."*

While we were interviewing [REDACTED] Deputy Owens' [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] came over to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] residence. She had decided on her own to come to [REDACTED] house to also speak with us.

[REDACTED] and her husband [REDACTED] were hesitant in talking with us and we made it very clear that they were under no pressure to speak with us and if they did, it was on voluntary basis. [REDACTED] said that she was afraid that if she talked with the police, [REDACTED] would keep the other two grandchildren away from her. [REDACTED] then started talking but did not want it recorded, so Sgt. Schaub and I took notes.

She said that [REDACTED] had called her on July 19th, and warned her in a slow methodical voice that if the police contacted her (in relation to the IA interview) and wanted any information, that it was "Voluntary" (announcing that word very slow according to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also said that [REDACTED] started sending her text messages that if she were talk with the police, there would be "repercussions". She sent a text message to [REDACTED] that she would hold [REDACTED] "accountable" if she talked. [REDACTED] showed me her phone and there were several messages sent by [REDACTED] with negative tone. [REDACTED] talked about how they *"were always two steps ahead of the Sheriff's Office"* and also that they would, *"rise from the ashes and win, we always do."* Most of these text messages were sent just after I had spoken with [REDACTED] on the phone to see if she wanted to come down and give a voluntary statement (which she refused).

[REDACTED] also told us that the day [REDACTED] left for California, she went over to their house and Deputy Owens approached her in the garage and said, "We got it!" (with enthusiasm in his voice). [REDACTED] said that he then handed her a CD and then walked her over to a laptop computer that was sitting on a cooler and started to play the video of [REDACTED] "confessing". I asked [REDACTED] to double check the date of this. She called me back and confirmed that it was on Wednesday, October 27th.

On July 28, 2011, the IA Unit spoke with Det. Zapata. During his interview, Det. Zapata voiced his concerns about Deputy Owens' actions with regards to how he admitted [REDACTED] into the hospital. The following is what he said.

ZAPATA: *You know, the two -- one thing that concerned me right away was what happened, the information that was related to the hospital. To get [REDACTED] admitted into the hospital. None of that information was true. And I know that Ed was there when that information was related.*

ZAPATA: *And it was related to me that Ed and [REDACTED] were together. But not only that, when you review the medical report there are statements that are attributed to Ed that are in the medical record during that admittance process.*

HORCH: *And did you read the medical record?*

ZAPATA: *Yes. Yes.*

HORCH: *And so from your investigation you saw those, you thought that they were false that they provided?*

ZAPATA: *Yes, the information that they provided was false.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

ZAPATA: *Some of that documentation I had already looked at, I had refuted. There was some reference to some drawings that I looked at where I couldn't see how anybody could come to the same conclusions that they came to regarding that ██████ was homicidal and having homicidal thoughts to the family.*

Det. Zapata was asked if he had seen the video of ██████ and he said that he had. When asked his opinion of video he said the following.

ZAPATA: *By the time I saw that video I had interacted with ██████ enough to know when ██████ was feeling somewhat relaxed and when ██████ was stressed, and from the moment of watching that I could tell that ██████ was kind of pushed back in her seat, and I think ██████ might even be rubbing ██████ hands, which were both things that, when I introduced stress into my interviews with ██████ both things that ██████ did. So when I was watching it I could tell that ██████ was stressed. From the look on ██████ face, it appeared to me that ██████ was scared.*

And again, from me interviewing ██████ and spending time with ██████ and introducing stress into my dialogue with ██████ those were expressions when I could tell, because ██████ was ... ██████ was scared, so that's how I can come to that, or that's how I come to that conclusion.

HORCH: *Okay. Do you believe that that was a forced confession out of ██████*

ZAPATA: *Without a doubt.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

ZAPATA: *Without a doubt. And to me, I even looked at it in regards to, me and Ringo both looked at each other like, "Crap," you know, because we knew that that was going to happen, but we didn't foresee. We thought that we were in the clear, ██████ was in the clear, that that wasn't going to happen. And just that little window of opportunity of taking ... picking ██████ up from the grandmother's house and dropping*

█ off at the airport. You know, we didn't imagine that that would occur.

Deputy Ed Owens Internal Affairs interview – August 17, 2011

On August 17, 2011, Deputy Ed Owens was interviewed by the IA unit at the headquarters branch of the Clark County Sheriff's office. Deputy Owens read and signed that he understood his Garrity rights. He agreed to have this interview recorded. Also present were Steve Myers as the guild attorney and Det. Robert Latter as a guild representative.

We advised Deputy Owens that we understood the subject matter we were going to discuss might be emotional and upsetting. We offered to give breaks when necessary and told him that we wanted to be empathic to the loss of his █

After getting some basic background information about Deputy Owens' law enforcement experience and some family background, I asked him what role he thought his █-█ played in the accidental shooting of his █. The following is from that part of his interview.

HORCH: *Okay. Can you please tell us why you believe ... what your █ role was in the accidental shooting death of your █*

OWENS: *Yes. I believe █ was the one that got into the safe that night.*

HORCH: *And do you have anything more?*

OWENS: *Oh. █ was on the one that got into the safe that night and █ the one that removed the handguns. I don't know if █ gave him one of them or not, but █ removed it and placed it where he could access it.*

HORCH: *Why do you believe this?*

OWENS: *There was a bunch of factors. All that had been provided to VPD. The week after █ death █ was making comments to █ uncle that █ had gotten into the safe on two or three other occasions. That was one factor.*

There's a longstanding history of violence between █ and █ up to and including burning him, hitting him, kicking him. █ was happy █ was dead. Earlier in the year █ said █ wished █ would die. There's a lot of different factors. All of it was written up and provided to the Vancouver Police detectives.

SCHAUB: *Who wrote that up?*

OWENS: *My wife and I, and we provided the written document to them, it was within the week. I can't give you the exact date. I'm sure they wrote a supplemental on the date we called them back out to the house.*

HORCH: Do you believe [REDACTED] shot [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

OWENS: I don't believe [REDACTED] shot him. I do believe that she opened the safe and provided access to the weapons that resulted in [REDACTED] death.

Deputy Owens went on to say that they've had numerous problems with [REDACTED] over the years of [REDACTED] being mean to [REDACTED]. He said that at one point [REDACTED] had to go live with [REDACTED] grandmother [REDACTED] [REDACTED] because of the turmoil in their home between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

***Note - [REDACTED] reported to Sgt. Schaub and me that when [REDACTED] came to live with her, she had no problems with [REDACTED]. She explained that Deputy Owens and [REDACTED] did not treat [REDACTED] very well and that they were always impatient with [REDACTED]. She said that after a few weeks she returned [REDACTED] to their home and tried explaining to them how to help [REDACTED] and how to raise a young [REDACTED]. This did not go over so well with either Deputy Owens or [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] never confirmed Deputy Owens' assertion that [REDACTED] was a physical threat to [REDACTED].**

I then asked Deputy Owens if he considered [REDACTED] his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and he said "No." After he answered, I asked him how he thought [REDACTED] got into the safe. The following is his response.

HORCH: So you don't consider [REDACTED] your [REDACTED] anymore because of [REDACTED] because you blame [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] death?

OWENS: In part, yes.

HORCH: In part? If you were to throw a percentage on it, what would you say then, if part?

OWENS: Fifty percent, approximately. I can't give you a percentage. It's not --

HORCH: And where does the other fifty percent go then?

OWENS: With the safe.

HORCH: Okay. But earlier you said you were the one responsible, ultimately responsible, for securing your firearms.

OWENS: Yes, sir. I put the gun in a safe.

HORCH: But you didn't mention yourself as part of this responsibility when I just asked you right here.

OWENS: Sir, am I responsible for putting that weapon inside the safe? Yes, I am, because that's where it belongs. But I'm not responsible if it doesn't work.

SCHAUB: How did [REDACTED] get the gun out of the safe?

OWENS: *I don't know. I really don't know.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Sergeant Schaub just asked you five minutes ago, "How did [REDACTED] get in the safe," and you said you had no idea.*

OWENS: *I don't know how. That's --*

HORCH: *So these are all theories?*

OWENS: *Yeah, I don't know how [REDACTED] got into the safe.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *How did [REDACTED] get into the safe, did [REDACTED] say?*

OWENS: *[REDACTED] ... [REDACTED] told her [REDACTED] [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] been able to get into the safe two or three other times.*

HORCH: *When did [REDACTED] tell him this?*

OWENS: *A few days after [REDACTED] died.*

***Note – We contacted this [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (last name [REDACTED] and he refused to speak with us.**

We then talked about the events of the evening leading up to his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Deputy Owens said that he and his wife were in the garage and he was helping her study for a school exam. [REDACTED] had come into the garage and offered to help get [REDACTED] to bed since [REDACTED] was up and around. They said that would be good so [REDACTED] did so. Deputy Owens then said that this was "unusual" for [REDACTED] to do this. When I asked him why this was "unusual", he said that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] didn't get along. He then said, "And normally [REDACTED] would lay down with [REDACTED] That was normal."

I questioned Deputy Owens further on this matter as to which [REDACTED] would normally take which [REDACTED] to bed, since during his first interview with Det. Zapata, he and his wife both indicated that [REDACTED] taking [REDACTED] to be was "normal", and [REDACTED] taking [REDACTED] to bed was "normal".

The following quote is Deputy Owens explaining to Det. Zapata, during his first interview after the accident, what the bedtime routine was.

The girls said, "We're going to bed." [REDACTED] put -- [REDACTED] put [REDACTED] in bed for us, and then [REDACTED] said, "Well, I'll go -- do you want me to lay down with [REDACTED] again?" Which is pretty normal. I think [REDACTED] lays [REDACTED] in our bed all the time. [REDACTED] sleeps there. So [REDACTED] go lay down with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] fall asleep in our bed, and then when we go to bed, you know, we moved [REDACTED] back into [REDACTED] room and then [REDACTED] goes and sleeps with [REDACTED]

The next quote is taken from Det. Zapata's police report from his interview with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on September 16, 2010.

[REDACTED] stated on the night of the shooting [REDACTED] was lying down with [REDACTED] in the master bedroom. [REDACTED] stated this was very normal, due to her and Ed's schedule."

Deputy Owens then told us said that for [REDACTED] to "ask" to take [REDACTED] to bed was the "unusual" part. We then go back and forth during this part of the interview of what is their "normal" routine for bedtime as it relates to which [REDACTED] watches which [REDACTED] at night while the parents stay up and do their studies. I tried clarifying with him and read him his actual quotes that he told Det. Zapata from his interview on September 15, 2010. The following excerpt is from that part of his IA interview.

OWENS: Sir, I'm telling you what the normal routine is. One of the [REDACTED] would lay down. That would be normal. It wouldn't -- it wasn't always [REDACTED] --

HORCH: I didn't say always.

OWENS: Okay.

HORCH: I said there are exceptions. But that night ... the next day you reported [REDACTED] would take care of [REDACTED] and go to bed with him and [REDACTED] would lay down with [REDACTED] and that was a "pretty normal routine." Was that a fair statement that you said at the time or is it ... is it ... are you thinking about it and it's not quite that?

OWENS: That would not be normal.

HORCH: That would not be normal?

OWENS: No.

After this back and forth exchange, Deputy Owens said that he had not slept in a long time when Det. Zapata was interviewing him, and he could not remember even making those comments to him.

***Note - This is contradictory to what Deputy Owens and his wife reported during their first interviews. I believe this is part of Deputy Owens trying to build his case that [REDACTED] had it in for [REDACTED] that night.**

I then asked Deputy Owens if he remembered saying anything on the night of the accident about the safe being open or broken for "three days". Deputy Owens said that he did not remember ever saying anything about the safe right after he went upstairs. As we were just

starting to ask questions about the safe, he also stated that the safe had always worked correctly and anything said otherwise was a "lie". Both Sgt. Schaub and I were taken back by this comment since it seemed like an unsolicited response to a question we had not specifically asked (but eventually would have asked). The following is from that part of his IA interview.

HORCH: *Do you remember anything when you got into the room, shouting anything about the safe?*

OWENS: *Shouting anything about it?*

HORCH: *Mm-hm.*

OWENS: *I don't remember shouting anything about the safe.*

HORCH: *Do you remember anything about you saying anything to the effect of, "For three days," or, "It's been broken for three days," shouting this?*

OWENS: *No, sir.*

HORCH: *Okay. Do you think you might have or you just ... you're sure that you didn't?*

OWENS: *I don't remember saying that.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

OWENS: *And the fact ... any type of thing about the safe not working would be a lie.*

HORCH: *I don't quite understand.*

OWENS: *The safe has -- I've never known the safe not to work. I would have -- I can't imagine saying anything like that.*

HORCH: *Okay. So at that time -- let's get this straight -- at the time of the accident you are saying you had never had a problem with the safe or the safe had never not worked, is that correct?*

OWENS: *I never had a problem with it not locking. I never even noticed it anyway.*

HORCH: *No malfunctions?*

OWENS: *I've never noticed.*

HORCH: *Okay. Did [REDACTED] ever report anything to you about that?*

OWENS: *No. There was --*

HORCH: *Did you have any knowledge at all that the safe might not be working correctly?*

OWENS: *No, sir.*

HORCH: *Prior to this accident?*

OWENS: *No, sir.*

Deputy Owens later states in the IA interview that the safe did have to be jiggled a bit to get it to shut.

OWENS: *the handle, the little jiggle thing, it would stick, but we knew that was just part of the quiriness of it. We ... we knew that.*

HORCH: *Well, what do you mean it would stick? I don't understand that.*

OWENS: *It has a hard turn. And so when you close it, you close it, you jiggle it and then you walk away.*

HORCH: *Why do you jiggle it?*

OWENS: *Just because you had to get it past that stickiness on the safe. I mean, that was just -- it was a normal thing in using that safe.*

HORCH: *Okay. Did you then try to open it once you ... when you --*

OWENS: *Yes. That's why you jiggle it, just to make sure it was locked.*

HORCH: *Okay. So you couldn't just shut it and leave it?*

OWENS: *No, just we'd shut it, jiggle it, and walk away.*

HORCH: *Okay. Had you ever had it malfunction? Is that -- how did you notice that you had to jiggle it and then double-check it?*

OWENS: *Just the hard turn to get -- sometimes you'd have to get it past so it was, I guess so it was --*

We then asked Deputy Owens what he said about [REDACTED] living in their house after the accident.

HORCH: *Do you remember if you said, "[REDACTED] out of here," or, "Get out of here, [REDACTED] never wanted in this house again"?*

OWENS: *I don't remember saying that, sarge. I'm not denying it, but I don't remember.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Okay. Did you say to either one of them that [REDACTED] no longer welcome at home and [REDACTED] can't come home?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Did you think [REDACTED] was going through anything? Did you think of [REDACTED] at all? Did you think that [REDACTED] might be going through something?*

OWENS: *I don't know what you mean by that question.*

HORCH: *Well, [REDACTED] your [REDACTED] right?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *And now [REDACTED] been removed from the home.*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *I'm asking, did you check on [REDACTED] welfare, did you -- were you concerned [REDACTED] might ... were you setting up counseling for [REDACTED] were you concerned about [REDACTED] is what I'm asking.*

OWENS: ***Oh, yes. Absolutely.***

HORCH: *Okay. And how so? What did you do? Did you talk to [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *I ... I don't recall talking to [REDACTED] I know that there were conversations with Chuck Kerr and Lindsay Schultz on how [REDACTED] doing, what's going on, and I know those things took place, and I also know that --*

HORCH: *Okay. Can you explain to us -- and you can't remember any independent recollection of you talking to [REDACTED] during that time, either on the phone or in person, correct?*

OWENS: *No.*

HORCH: *Okay. Do you know if anybody, if [REDACTED] talked to her at all?*

OWENS: *I don't know.*

HORCH: *Okay. And you said you still were concerned for [REDACTED] correct?*

OWENS: *What do you mean by --*

HORCH: *Concerned for what [REDACTED] might be going through with this traumatic experience?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

Deputy Owens was asked if he was ever told by the investigating detectives not to interview [REDACTED]. He indicated that he was told this several times and for the obvious reason that they did not want any interference. The following is Deputy Owens explaining all of this.

HORCH: *Did Detective Zapata or Detective Ringo ever tell you not to interview*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *How many times?*

OWENS: *They --*

HORCH: *How many times did they mention this to you, do you remember?*

OWENS: *I don't recall how many times they --*

HORCH: *More than once?*

OWENS: *I would say that's fair.*

Later in the interview -

SCHAUB: *Did they tell you why not?*

OWENS: *They didn't want -- well, obviously, they didn't want -- their exact (unintelligible) was, no. Their comments were, "Please don't talk to [REDACTED] about this." "Okay."*

HORCH: *They didn't tell you why?*

OWENS: *Well, obvious don't want to interfere, I mean, those types of things. "Don't --" "Wait till we can interview [REDACTED] I remember something along those lines being said.*

Deputy Owens was then asked why they felt it necessary to place ██████ into the hospital. He explained that based off what was told to him by their friend ██████ (██████ talking about death) and the picture he saw that ██████ drew, he felt that for the safety of his family, it was best to have ██████ checked in. He said he made several phone calls over the weekend trying to get ██████ to be seen by a professional, but nobody wanted to get involved because of the circumstances. He then attempted to have ██████ admitted into Kaiser, since that's who they have insurance through. They referred them to Emmanuel or Sunnyside Hospital. Deputy Owens said that he only wanted the "best" for ██████ and knew that ██████ needed medical help because there was something wrong with ██████

When asked if he had used "police type jargon" to help with the admittance process, he indicated that he might have. When asked how he treated ██████ when ██████ came up to him at the hospital, he said he might have told ██████ to stand back, but it was not in an angry voice

The following is his explaining what he told the hospital staff were the reasons for wanting ██████ admitted.

OWENS: *We explained the same facts of information again to them that we'd explained to Kaiser ER, the circumstances, starting with, you know, there was ██████ death, there was a history between ██████ and ██████ there is the daydream fantasies that ██████ having about the family being shot and killed and ██████ watching it and this makes ██████ happy, there's the picture that ██████ did on the iPhone, which we brought that as well. And –*

Later in the interview -

OWENS: *We are. We were trying to get ██████ medical attention.*

HORCH: *Because you think ██████ needs medical help?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *Because why?*

OWENS: *For these daydream fantasies ██████ having about the rest of the family that --*

HORCH: *That ██████ told you?*

OWENS: *██████ told ██████ --*

HORCH: *Okay.*

OWENS: -- the night before the service. [REDACTED] mental state, you know, was concerning and scary, and we know [REDACTED] needed to get in to see somebody.

HORCH: What do you mean mental state, like how so? What do you mean?

OWENS: It's not normal for a child to want to be watching [REDACTED] whole family to be shot and killed, and making comments that [REDACTED] happy about that. That would make [REDACTED] happy to see that. So it was like we needed to get [REDACTED] professional help. And the Dougy Center said we won't take [REDACTED] --

HORCH: And this is according to [REDACTED] to you? To you and [REDACTED]

OWENS: [REDACTED] had that conversation with [REDACTED]

HORCH: Can you (unintelligible) to [REDACTED]

OWENS: Of course.

HORCH: We haven't talked to [REDACTED] We'll go talk to her.

***Note – [REDACTED] (corrected spelling) has refused to speak with the IA Unit.**

He then explains what happened after Det. Schultz brought [REDACTED] to the hospital and what he said to [REDACTED]

HORCH: Okay. When you were at the hospital checking her in, what happened when Lindsay Schultz and [REDACTED] got there? Do you remember what happened? What the interaction was between you ... with you?

OWENS: I saw them come in and I told [REDACTED] just to stand right there.

HORCH: You said, "Just stand right there"?

OWENS: Yeah.

HORCH: Just like that?

OWENS: Very close to that.

HORCH: Okay. Approximately my conversation.

HORCH: Did [REDACTED] try to come up and hug you?

OWENS: [REDACTED] was coming towards me, yes.

HORCH: *Did you give [REDACTED] a hug?*

OWENS: *I don't know. I don't recall giving [REDACTED] a hug.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *But yet you're so concerned, I'm just making sure, you're still concerned over [REDACTED] welfare that you're checking [REDACTED] in, but [REDACTED] came over to hug you, but you didn't hug [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *Correct.*

HORCH: *Okay. Did you say in a harsh voice to [REDACTED] "Stay away"?*

OWENS: *I don't recall saying that, no.*

When asked if he ever spoke to [REDACTED] while [REDACTED] was at the hospital, he said the following.

HORCH: *And was there a reason why you didn't?*

OWENS: *I didn't want to talk to [REDACTED]*

HORCH: *I'm asking if you know why you didn't want to talk to [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *I don't know I don't want to talk to [REDACTED]*

Later in the interview -

SCHAUB: *And why is ... why is Detective Schultz in the room with [REDACTED] instead of a parent?*

OWENS: *They asked if one of us wanted to be in there and neither of us wanted to be in that room.*

SCHAUB: *Why is that?*

OWENS: *Didn't want to hear the answers to some of [REDACTED] questions.*

Deputy Owens was asked if he had used police language or jargon when speaking with the medical staff when trying to admit [REDACTED]. The following is his response.

HORCH: *Do you remember using any police jargon terms when you were trying to get her admitted with the admitting nurse? Using -- you've done this job, I'll just cut right to the chase -- you've had ... you've done mental holds on people before, I'm assuming, right?*

OWENS: *Yes, sir.*

HORCH: *Okay. There's certain language that we use, "harmful to themselves or others," you know what I'm talking about, the RCW languages?*

OWENS: *Yes, sir.*

HORCH: *Did you use any of that language when you were talking to this admitting nurse to get ██████ admitted in there? Do you remember any of that?*

OWENS: *I probably did. I don't remember, but --.*

Deputy Owens said that he never read any of the medical reports, but somehow he knew that the hospital staff did not think there were any major psychological problems wrong with ██████. Unbeknownst to Deputy Owens, the hospital staff, along with CPS and the lead detectives, arranged for ██████ not to go home and for ██████ to stay at ██████ great grandmother's home for ██████ own personal safety. Deputy Owens is only told that the hospital does not think ██████ should go home.

The hospital staff asked Deputy Owens and his wife to come and visit ██████ after a few days. They made a 20 minute visit and saw ██████ room. That was the last time they saw or spoke to ██████ until they picked ██████ up for the airport three weeks later. When asked what communication he had with ██████ while ██████ was staying at ██████ great grandmother's house, Deputy Owens indicated there was none.

We then asked Deputy Owens what transpired with ██████ going to California. He explained that arrangements were made for ██████ to live with ██████ father and that ██████ grandmother from California would fly up and take ██████ back down. He said that on the morning of October 27, 2010, he and his wife went and picked up ██████ from ██████ great grandmothers house.

After picking ██████ up for the airport, he and his wife had "some questions" they wanted to ask ██████. Even though he had been told not to interview ██████ he decided that since the detectives had said they were done with ██████ and ██████ was free to go to California, he took that to mean he was free to interview ██████.

He said that that they purposely did not want to interview ██████ in the State of Washington because of the "two party" consent law with regards to audio recordings.

He said that after picking ██████ up, they parked off of Airport Way, and started questioning ██████. He said that ██████ kept telling them the same story as ██████ first reported (that ██████ had

been asleep) but they did not believe [REDACTED] so the questioning continued. Deputy Owens said for the next 20 minutes or so, they continually told [REDACTED] to "tell the truth!" When [REDACTED] would not change [REDACTED] story, Deputy Owens said that his wife ended up "slapping" [REDACTED] and told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] would get a "spanking" if [REDACTED] continued to "lie".

At this point Deputy Owens said [REDACTED] asked for his belt, but at first he did not know why, even though she had just been threatening [REDACTED] with a spanking. Deputy Owens said he took of his belt and handed it to [REDACTED] but she just laid it in her lap. He said that [REDACTED] finally admitted to them, during his 20 minutes of questioning, that [REDACTED] had been in the safe before and [REDACTED] knew there was a magazine and candy inside.

Deputy Owens said that [REDACTED] was crying on and off, but it wasn't like [REDACTED] was crying the whole time. After not getting all the answers they were looking for, Deputy Owens said [REDACTED] had to use the bathroom and there was a Jack in the Box just a short distance away. [REDACTED] then took [REDACTED] into the Jack in the Box restaurant and spent 45 minutes inside. Deputy Owens said that when they came out they both looked "tired". After getting back into the van, [REDACTED] told Deputy Owens that [REDACTED] admitted to what really happened that night.

Deputy Owens said [REDACTED] then asked for her purse and she took her phone out. He thought this was to look at the time and said he was unaware that she was going to record this "confession" that [REDACTED] was about to give. Deputy Owens said that [REDACTED] then started asking [REDACTED] questions and [REDACTED] said that she had opened the safe to look at a "magazine" and then she took the small gun out and placed it on a shelf where [REDACTED] must have gotten it.

After getting this "confession", Deputy Owens said that [REDACTED] then told [REDACTED] she was a product of a rape. Deputy Owens said he did not agree that they should tell [REDACTED] this, but did nothing to stop this since [REDACTED] was the biological mother and [REDACTED] had a right to know.

Deputy Owens was asked if they searched [REDACTED] suitcase or person and took personal items from [REDACTED]. He admitted that they had done this, but at first was somewhat hesitate to talk about the details of what they took. In the end, Deputy Owens said they took money, DVD's, paperwork with contact information and Det. Zapata's business card. He told us that he took these because he was "mad." When asked what he was "mad" about, he said that they had told [REDACTED] great grandmother not to spoil [REDACTED] or buy [REDACTED] things while [REDACTED] had been staying with her and that by doing this, she was not being fair to the other children. (It's unclear how address information on paper and a police officers business card are items that would have been bought by great grandmother [REDACTED])

Deputy Owens said that after dropping [REDACTED] off at the airport, they were driving home and entering the I-205 on ramp when he was told by [REDACTED] that she had made a recording of this interview.

*** Note- Deputy Owens stated that [REDACTED] asked him to hand her the purse when she returned to the van after the 45 minute bathroom break with [REDACTED]. He then saw [REDACTED] get her phone out. Although these events occurred, he states that he had no knowledge that she had taken it out her cellular phone in order to record the "confession". He had also said they went to Oregon specifically to conduct the interview to avoid Washington's two party consent law, which as a law enforcement officer, he would know relates to recorded statements. His account of these events does not seem very plausible.**

Deputy Owens said during his interview, he called Sheriff Garry Lucas that night after getting home from the airport, or the following day. Deputy Owens makes a point during his interview to tell us that he had used his work cell phone to call the Sheriff to report this video tape of the confession. I pulled Deputy Owens cell phone records and they show a phone call was made to Sheriff Lucas' personal cellular phone on Friday October 29th at 1227 hours (2 minute call). This is 48 hours after this recording had been made. There is a 48 hours gap between the time [REDACTED] is dropped off at the airport and when Deputy Owens calls the Sheriff to report that he had this "evidence".

***Note - [REDACTED] [REDACTED] indicted that she and her husband, [REDACTED] watched the video on Wednesday, October 27th. This date shows that Deputy Owens had at least two people view the video prior to making the decision to call Sheriff Lucas and turn it in as evidence.**

The following excerpts are from Deputy Owens's interview in which he describes this entire airport pick up.

HORCH: *Okay. Is there a reason why Grandma [REDACTED] just didn't take [REDACTED] to the airport?*

OWENS: *Yeah, we were picking up [REDACTED]*

HORCH: *Okay. And you hadn't talked to her for approximately about a month, is that correct?*

OWENS: *I had not, no.*

HORCH: *Okay. Why didn't you take [REDACTED] directly to the airport?*

OWENS: *We wanted to ask [REDACTED] what happened that night.*

HORCH: *Why?*

OWENS: *Because [REDACTED] had lied to the police that night. This is my opinion. That [REDACTED] had lied to the police that night, the night of the shooting, and her conversation with [REDACTED] at the hospital that Dr. Cromby wanted her to have, [REDACTED] had lied.*

[REDACTED] story had totally changed and all of that was written up during that conversation where Emanuel was on one side of the phone and we were at our house up in Battle Ground, and there was too many inconsistencies in what [REDACTED] was saying. And we wanted the truth about what happened that night to our [REDACTED] in the room.

***Note – This statement about [REDACTED] story totally changing is a complete fabrication by Deputy Owens. The hospital was listening on the other side and they described [REDACTED] as being consistent and telling [REDACTED] mother that [REDACTED] was never in the safe.**

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Did you ever take off your belt?*

OWENS: *Yes, [REDACTED] asked for it.*

HORCH: *Why?*

OWENS: *[REDACTED] only had, well, I can't guess as to why on [REDACTED] part, I can't answer what was in her head why she wanted it, so --.*

HORCH: *So she just asked for a belt and you just gave it to her? You didn't ask -- did you ask --*

OWENS: *She asked -- she had to ask me once or twice for it.*

HORCH: *Did you ask her why she wanted it?*

OWENS: *No.*

HORCH: *Did you take off your belt?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

Later in the interview -

OWENS: *[REDACTED] was telling her, "You're lying to me," and pointing out different areas where [REDACTED] was, and said, [REDACTED] what happens if you lie? You get a spanking. Ed, give me your belt."*

SCHAUB: *What are those areas you felt like [REDACTED] was lying in?*

OWENS: *Uh, some of those areas were hurting [REDACTED] you know, some of the incidents where [REDACTED] had hurt [REDACTED] including pinning [REDACTED] against the wall with the highchair and choking [REDACTED] burning [REDACTED] hitting [REDACTED] just those types of behaviors.*

SCHAUB: *Anything related to this particular incident?*

OWENS: *About her lying about what she told the police?*

SCHAUB: *Mm-hm.*

OWENS: *Yeah, we told her, "You're lying. You lied to the police that night. Why? You said you were asleep. Why?" "I was asleep." "No, [REDACTED] you weren't, because you remember talking to Mommy --" and [REDACTED] did most of the talking because [REDACTED] knows [REDACTED] and can talk to [REDACTED]*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *So getting back, you said at first you didn't know why she wanted the belt?*

OWENS: *Yeah, I was surprised she was asking for the belt.*

HORCH: *So -- but wasn't she making these comments about getting spanked or not?*

OWENS: *Correct. [REDACTED] ... [REDACTED] only had, to my knowledge, one spanking with a belt since I've known [REDACTED] [REDACTED] only had three spankings, and one of them was with a belt. The other two spankings were with open hands on [REDACTED] butt through [REDACTED] jeans.*

HORCH: *Okay. So even though she was talking about spanking [REDACTED] or maybe getting spanked if [REDACTED] lies, she's asking for the belt but you don't know why she's asking for the belt?*

OWENS: *Well, I was surprised that she was asking for it.*

HORCH: *Okay.*

OWENS: *I wouldn't have even thought that --*

HORCH: *Well, that's different than not knowing.*

OWENS: *I mean --*

HORCH: *I just want to clarify.*

OWENS: *Yeah. Do I know what's going through [REDACTED] head? No, I don't. Am I surprised that she's asking me for a belt to spank [REDACTED] I mean, she wasn't even getting a spanking. I mean, do you see what -- yes, you get a spanking for lying, but, you know, she was threatening it. I wasn't expecting it.*

Later in the interview --

OWENS: *[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] they're doing most of the talking, they're going through the whole history of [REDACTED] hurting [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and there's a whole lot of, "I don't remember that," and, "I don't know, I don't remember, I don't remember." And [REDACTED] working through the whole thing.*

And she ... the ... there was one point that was about the burning incident in the bathtub. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] didn't remember burning

her brother in the bathtub and [REDACTED] didn't do that. And [REDACTED] slapped her.

HORCH: *In the van?*

OWENS: *In the van.*

HORCH: *Because [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] didn't remember doing that?*

OWENS: *Yeah.*

HORCH: *With an open fist or a closed fist?*

OWENS: *Open hand.*

HORCH: *Hm.*

OWENS: *So she slapped [REDACTED] and told [REDACTED] to stop lying. "Stop it." And that was the only physical contact with [REDACTED]*

HORCH: *Did she warn [REDACTED] before she was going to hit [REDACTED] "If you lie I'm going to slap you," or do you remember hearing any of that?*

OWENS: *I don't remember hearing that*

Later in the interview -

OWENS: *I remember [REDACTED] being told, "If you don't," you know, "You need to tell us the truth. You don't have to go to California, but we know you want to go to California. You want to go live with your Daddy [REDACTED] but we don't have to put you on a plane."*

HORCH: *So is [REDACTED] -- what is [REDACTED] doing at this time? What is [REDACTED] saying and how is [REDACTED] ... what is [REDACTED] emotional state at this time?*

OWENS: *[REDACTED] was actually acting very calm at certain points. [REDACTED] actually did this little breathing thing, and it's like, "What is that, [REDACTED] She just sat there with her hands on [REDACTED] knees and [REDACTED] would just look up, and [REDACTED] just started taking really big deep breaths. And [REDACTED] got asked about that, "What is that?" "Well, this is what they taught me in the hospital to control my emotions." So [REDACTED] would do that a lot.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *Okay. They went into the bathroom and they came out forty, forty-five minutes later, what was [REDACTED] state or [REDACTED] What did they look*

like? Were they -- how were they when they got back in the van? Did either one seem upset?

OWENS: *Neither one of them was crying, if that's what you mean by upset.*

HORCH: *Anything, any emotion that you saw.*

OWENS: *No. [REDACTED] looked tired. [REDACTED] looked tired. But neither one was crying or upset or anything else. Not like that.*

Later in the interview -

OWENS: *They got into the same seats they were in, so I handed her back her purse. And [REDACTED] got out her phone, may have said something like, you know, "What time is it," or, you know, "How much time before the plane gets here," or something -- it may have been some comment like that. She grabbed her phone and she looked at it, and then the next thing I remember [REDACTED] is, [REDACTED] I want you to tell your Daddy Ed what you told me inside the restaurant."*

And then [REDACTED] started talking. And that's the ten-minute video that you've got over there.

HORCH: *Is that video edited at all?*

OWENS: *No.*

HORCH: *Was there only one video taken, that you know of?*

OWENS: *Only one.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *When [REDACTED] came back or before [REDACTED] went in, was there some point where you mentioned that [REDACTED] wasn't going to go to California or [REDACTED] would be placed in foster care if [REDACTED] didn't tell the truth?*

OWENS: *I think [REDACTED] asked, "If I don't go to California what happens?" I think [REDACTED] asked something along those lines. And she said, "Well, if we have to, and we don't think you're safe to be in the home, then yeah, that's an option."*

HORCH: *Okay. At some point did someone take personal possessions from [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *Yeah, there were some items that were in [REDACTED] suitcase.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *In detail, who goes in the suitcase, what's taken out, and what is said and where? That's what I want to know, in detail.*

OWENS: *Okay. [REDACTED] sitting with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] asked me to go get in the suitcase and find the folder. So -- which is right next to each other and she's seen me right there. I open it up, "This is what's in here." "No, (unintelligible) things. No, I don't want that to go. No, set that down, set that down, set that down, set that down."*

HORCH: *What are you rattling off?*

OWENS: *Clothes, shoes, extra jacket.*

HORCH: *What is she saying she doesn't want to go, what items?*

OWENS: *She said no to the envelopes, no to the cash, no to -- she said yes to the Webkins, but it was no to something like related -- there was another thing.*

HORCH: *DVDs?*

OWENS: *Yeah, there were a couple of DVDs. I forgot about those.*

HORCH: *Was Detective Zapata's card in there?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *Did that go down with her?*

OWENS: *No, it did not.*

HORCH: *So [REDACTED] said to you, "I want that out of there," also?*

OWENS: *We were both going through the stuff.*

HORCH: *Oh.*

OWENS: *No, yes, no, yes, no, yes, no.*

HORCH: *So she's making the decision on what's going or you are?*

OWENS: *Both of us were making decisions.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *So you guys took the items because you were mad?*

OWENS: *Yeah. I would probably say that was a fair assessment.*

HORCH: *And did [REDACTED] have money on her, too?*

OWENS: *[REDACTED] had some, I think, yeah.*

HORCH: *How was that taken from [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *I think it was in [REDACTED] jacket pocket, so [REDACTED] grabbed that.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *And the possessions that were taken from [REDACTED] both you and [REDACTED] took them from her? DVDs, Lawrence Zapata's business card, money and I think there was a few other things, because you were mad?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *Was [REDACTED] crying and saying, "Don't take my stuff from me"?*

OWENS: *I don't remember her saying, "Don't take my stuff from me," sarge.*

HORCH: *Did [REDACTED] say, "Guys, please don't take my stuff," or anything to that effect?*

OWENS: *I think [REDACTED] said something like "Why are you," or ... or, "Why can't I have that," or something along those lines.*

HORCH: *Did you answer [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *I believe [REDACTED] answered her, "We don't want you to have it."*

The following is just after [REDACTED] [REDACTED] tells [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] father in California was not [REDACTED] real father and that [REDACTED] was a child of a rape.

HORCH: *And [REDACTED] saying this to her [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *What are you thinking about when this is being said?*

OWENS: *I don't know if I would have -- I ... I -- [REDACTED] and I agreed a long time ago that we would never tell [REDACTED] that information. That was something that we didn't think any child should have to hear. And I just kept my mouth shut, because --*

HORCH: *You --*

OWENS: *-- it's [REDACTED] information --*

HORCH: *You didn't --*

OWENS: *-- to share.*

HORCH: *You didn't say anything? You didn't say like, "Hey," bump [REDACTED] like, "Hey"?*

OWENS: *Well, I can't ... I can't bump [REDACTED] sarge. I'm in the front seat, but I didn't say -- no, I didn't tell her to stop. That's [REDACTED] -- [REDACTED] that's her information and that's her [REDACTED] and that's her right to tell [REDACTED] what she wants.*

HORCH: *That's your position on that, that it's okay to say anything to [REDACTED] then if it's her [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *That's [REDACTED] [REDACTED] yes.*

HORCH: *Did you think -- you are a police officer, right?*

OWENS: *I know I'm a police officer, sarge.*

HORCH: *Well, I'm saying that, but as police officers don't we look after the welfare of other people? Even when we hear things that are not appropriate, don't we sometimes step in and say things?*

OWENS: *Yes, sir.*

HORCH: *Did you feel it was appropriate that maybe or thought about it now that maybe you should have stepped up and said, "Hey, this isn't something to tell [REDACTED] right now"?*

OWENS: *No, that thought did not go through my head.*

HORCH: *Okay. Did that thought go through your head when you were going through [REDACTED] suitcase?*

OWENS: *No, sir.*

The following is Deputy Owens talking about the video and what they did with it afterwards.

HORCH: *Okay. So that evening or the next morning. Did you show this video to anybody else except the Battle Ground officer, Sergeant Purdue?*

OWENS: *The video has been seen by a few people, yes.*

HORCH: *The question is did you show it to people?*

OWENS: *I believe that I showed it to Paul Prather.*

HORCH: *You believe or do you --*

OWENS: *I'm pretty sure I did.*

HORCH: *Okay. Did you show it to anybody else?*

OWENS: *Family, yes.*

HORCH: *I'm asking who.*

OWENS: *My dad, my stepmother, um, [REDACTED] -- Ed Owens and [REDACTED]*

HORCH: *Did you show it to your mother-in-law?*

OWENS: *I think [REDACTED] showed it to [REDACTED] I think that's who showed it to [REDACTED]*

**** Note – This is not at all what [REDACTED] reported to us. She said that Deputy Owens approached her in the garage (enthusiastically) and gave her a copy and then played it on his computer that he had set up on an ice chest.***

HORCH: *Did you show it to Chuck Kerr?*

OWENS: *I believe [REDACTED] did.*

HORCH: *You were present when it was shown to Chuck?*

OWENS: *I was there, but I was -- this is the third time I've seen this video. I can't be in the room every time it plays. I just don't like to hear it. It reminds me too much of other stuff.*

HORCH: *My -- okay. So my question is about how many people do you think you showed this video to? I think you named about six or seven people, is that correct?*

OWENS: *My dad, [REDACTED] -- so my parents. Paul, I don't believe I was the one that played it for Chucky.*

HORCH: *Well, you may not have played it, but were you there, present, when he was watching it?*

OWENS: *When he started watching it. And I don't believe ... I don't believe I stuck around for the whole thing. That's the same thing with Paul. I put it on and I left. I didn't stick around for the whole thing. I just don't like to hear it.*

HORCH: *And when did you show these people this video? Before you turned it in?*

OWENS: *No, I don't believe it was before I turned it in. I don't believe they were over there in the first 24 hours afterwards, but I'm not sure. I mean, I know I showed it to them, but I don't think it was within the first 24 hours or 48 hours or --. But I don't think that was the case.*

The following is Deputy Owens explaining who he showed the video to and what his actions were while the video was being played.

OWENS: *And told him (DEPUTY PRATHER) about the video and I don't remember if it was I or ██████ asked if he wanted to see it. I don't remember how that part of the conversation exactly went. And I put it on play on the computer, and that was in the library, **and I know I left the room for most of it,** because I just didn't want to be in there. And then Paul talked to us, you know, just normal conversation about what's going on. Paul has known what's been going on with our ... this whole situation since that night.*

HORCH: *Okay. Was he the first person that you showed this video to, do you know?*

OWENS: *I ... I don't recall if he was the first person or not. I know that he was one of the people that have seen it, because there's only a handful of people that have seen it.*

HORCH: *I think we named seven already. So the next person -- well, I can go through them here. Let's go to your mother-in-law.*

OWENS: *My dad and my mother-in-law, yeah.*

HORCH: *Okay. Your -- so those are two separate people. Let's go to your mother-in-law. Do you remember when you showed her?*

OWENS: *I don't remember, because I don't believe I showed it to her. I believe ██████ did.*

HORCH: *Were you there, were you present?*

OWENS: *I was probably in the home, but I don't recall if it was inside the garage or if it was in -- probably it was in the garage on [REDACTED] laptop, because I had to download -- to get it off the phone I had to do it on the main house computer, so it was directly copied and saved. And then I immediately burned ... burned it onto a disk. There's a couple disks. One of them is, you know, put away safely in a safe.*

HORCH: *Do you remember [REDACTED] walking in and you handing her ... showing her a disk, saying, "We got the confession."?*

OWENS: *I don't remember those being my words, but I remember talking with -- [REDACTED] came over that night or it was the next day or two, I don't remember what day it was, and I remember [REDACTED] being told, you know, "Yeah, we have a videotape of [REDACTED] --" I don't know if we used the word confession or statement or one of those words, but yeah.*

HORCH: *Who told her that?*

OWENS: *I don't recall. I would imagine it was [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] interacts with [REDACTED] more than I do.*

HORCH: *Do you have an independent recollection that she did that or are you just guessing?*

OWENS: *I don't have an independent recollection. I mean, it's a fact that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] talk and I don't talk to [REDACTED] very much, so the majority of these conversations with [REDACTED] would be taking place with [REDACTED]*

HORCH: *So you don't remember [REDACTED] coming into the house and you holding up the CD and saying, "We got the confession," and then playing it for her on the computer?*

OWENS: *I don't remember anything like that happening in that way.*

****Note – His last comment about not remembering "anything like that happening in that way" is completely contradictory to what [REDACTED] reported to us. She stated that Deputy Owens had an enthusiastic tone in his voice when he approached her and had a copy of the video on a disc that he handed to her and said something to the effect of "We got it!" "We got the confession!"***

Interview continues -

HORCH: *Could it have happened and you just don't remember or do you think --*

OWENS: I --

HORCH: -- it did not happen.

OWENS: *It's possible, but I don't recall that being the way it happened. I know [REDACTED] came to the house. That much I do know. And I do know [REDACTED] was shown the videotape. I know that. I don't recall whether I hit play or [REDACTED] hit play or any specific details on, you know, any comment like what yourself suggesting. I don't recall that.*

HORCH: *Why was it shown to [REDACTED] do you know?*

OWENS: *She's another one of those family members that has been close, or that was close at that time, in all this.*

HORCH: *When was it shown to Chuck Kerr, do you know?*

OWENS: *Sometime within those first few days. I don't recall the day.*

HORCH: *Do you know where it was shown to Chuck Kerr at?*

OWENS: *I believe at our house, probably in the garage on [REDACTED] laptop but, you know, I can't be a hundred percent sure on that, but that would be where I would ... most likely that was where it was.*

HORCH: *Did Chuck express any objections that he didn't want to see the video?*

OWENS: *I don't remember that. I don't remember him making any objections.*

HORCH: *Did Chuck express any objections when he was watching the video that he didn't want to watch anymore?*

OWENS: *I don't recall that either, sarge.*

HORCH: *Did he watch the whole video, do you know?*

OWENS: *I don't know if he did or didn't. I don't believe I watched the whole -- I'm serious, sarge, this is probably the third time I have watched that video in its entirety.*

Deputy Owens explains what there reasons were for taking [REDACTED] to Oregon for their interview.

SCHAUB: *Why did you do it in Oregon?*

OWENS: *Oh, a couple of reasons. One, we wanted to be closer to the airport anyway. Two, two party consent. You know, we originally had thought we were going to want to record, we didn't bring a recording*

device with us, right? And so we were going to try and record the whole thing initially, but I couldn't find my recording device when I was ... when you guys dropped me off. It wasn't in my gear. So we didn't have it. So we thought, "Well, we're not going to be able to record."

And so that day when we left I didn't have a recording device at all, and so we're like, "Well," that was always our original plan, just go sit in a parking lot right next to -- business is open, there's nobody questioning anything, but we had no intention of doing anything, but we didn't want any potential, you know, questions.

The following is Deputy Owens saying what he thinks about [REDACTED]

HORCH: *It's getting close to the --. I'm assuming you would agree that this was a traumatic experience for all involved, correct?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *Okay. And you were aware, or you said you were concerned, about the possible long-term psychological problems that [REDACTED] might suffer?*

OWENS: *Yes.*

HORCH: *Was that because [REDACTED] -- why? Because [REDACTED] was blamed for [REDACTED] death or why?*

OWENS: *I don't believe [REDACTED] right in the head.*

HORCH: *Okay. You don't believe [REDACTED] right in the head, right?*

OWENS: *I believe [REDACTED] has some medical ... mental ... mental conditions, which would be medical, and [REDACTED] going to need some help.*

HORCH: *And you didn't read the doctors, plural, their opinions on the medical report, right? You haven't read that yet, right?*

OWENS: *No, sir.*

Later in the interview -

HORCH: *So you would have done everything had the sheriff been sitting right there, Sheriff Garry Lucas sitting in the front seat with you, you'd have done everything the same way?*

OWENS: Yes.

HORCH: *Okay. You don't think he would have said anything to you?*

OWENS: *I have no idea what he would or would not have said.*

HORCH: *But in your mind you think, ethically, everything was okay?*

OWENS: Yes.

After having Deputy Owens read his "Oath of Office" and the Sheriff's Office policies for Off Duty Conduct and our Code of Ethics, he felt that he had not violated any of these policies with his interactions with [REDACTED] after this accident.

HORCH: *Okay. So having read your Oath of Office and these two things, do you believe that when you're off duty that you're ... that you're held to a higher standard, that the sheriff's office still monitors our behavior and watches what we do and that we're still held to the off-duty conduct policies and Code of Ethics, do you believe that?*

OWENS: Yes.

HORCH: *Okay. Do you believe that any time during your interactions with [REDACTED] after this accident that you ... that you acted unethically or do you think that everything that you did was maintaining these standards that we read right here?*

OWENS: *I have no problem with how I acted, sarge.*

HORCH: *Okay. If you could go back and do anything different, would you do anything different? Let me -- I apologize. After the accident, okay, let's take you 24 hours after the accident, would you, if you could go back there, would you have done anything different regarding [REDACTED] or would everything be the same?*

OWENS: *(Twelve second pause) No, I believe I would have done everything that I did and I would have continued to try and get [REDACTED] [REDACTED] medical help. I would have acted the same way in regards to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] family that I did up to the day of the service, and then afterwards trying to get [REDACTED] the help. And then after that, ensuring that the rest of my family was kept safe. I would have changed nothing.*

Later in the interview -

SCHAUB: *Okay. With the belt, the statement of not going to California, did you at any time feel that those statements from [REDACTED] were coerced?*

OWENS: *No, I don't feel that. No.*

Later in the interview -

SCHAUB: *Um, prior to this accident, and we kind of covered it a little bit earlier, did you love [REDACTED] as a [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *Yes, I loved [REDACTED]*

SCHAUB: *Do you still love [REDACTED]*

OWENS: *No.*

Deputy Owens stated several times that he just wanted the "best" for [REDACTED] and that's why they admitted [REDACTED] into the hospital. He expressed that he was "concerned" for [REDACTED] well being and all of this was to help [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] needs and also to protect his family from [REDACTED]

After interviewing all witnesses and looking at the evidence, it does not appear Deputy Owens' words match his actions. There seems to be absolutely no compassion or sincere genuine help that is given to [REDACTED] after the accident by Deputy Owens or his wife.

Deputy Owens himself can only give theories as to what occurred. His theories are not based on any evidence or facts. He does not believe that either he or his wife could have failed to properly shut the safe the last time they were in it. During his interview he is asked how he thinks [REDACTED] got into the safe and he answers with "*I don't know.*"

During his IA interview, Deputy Owens showed no remorse for his actions and fully believes everything he did was appropriate and that [REDACTED] is the main reason that his [REDACTED] is dead.

During our interview, we played the video that we had obtained from evidence. After watching the video, Deputy Owens stated that was only the third time he had seen it.

Note - At least three witnesses said that Deputy Owens was present when he played it for them and he did not leave the room after starting the video as he states in his IA interview. Deputy Prather said that Deputy Owens sat in front of the video while it was playing. Also, his step mother reports that he started the video for her and he never walked away while it was playing.

Deputy Owens reports throughout the criminal and administrative investigations that [REDACTED] had made admissions to being in the safe before and showed a certain unremorseful attitude that [REDACTED] had been killed.

*** Note - I have not been able to find one person who is willing to speak with me about this or who can confirm what Deputy Owens has been reporting. I contacted all of the following people asking if they would give a statement, to help this investigation be as complete and thorough as possible.**

[REDACTED] at first agreed to speak with me with her attorney present (which was fine) but a week later declined.

[REDACTED] the neighbor who allegedly reported that [REDACTED] was not sad the night of the accident has refused to speak with the IA Unit to confirm what Deputy Owens has reported.

[REDACTED] a neighbor and the mother of [REDACTED] friend, has refused to speak with the IA unit to discuss what [REDACTED] allegedly told her about being "glad" [REDACTED] was dead and the picture [REDACTED] drew on [REDACTED] phone.

[REDACTED] Uncle ([REDACTED] brother) according to Deputy Owens, allegedly had heard [REDACTED] say to him days after the accident that [REDACTED] had been into the safe before. However when we called [REDACTED] to verify this, he politely refused to speak with us.

All of these people allegedly had information that might corroborate Deputy Owens' theories and lend credibility to his belief that [REDACTED] was out to get [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was lying to the police, and was somehow involved with her [REDACTED] death. However, none of them wished to speak with me.

Gun Safe

One issue that has come up from this accident has been whether or not the "Stack On" gun safe (in which the gun that was accessed during the accident and was reported to be stored in) had been working properly or not. There are reports that Deputy Owens and his wife had knowledge that the safe was not shutting all the way when they closed it and that the lock had to be manipulated in order to ensure the safe was indeed locked. The Owens' spoke about this in their interview after the accident. Both Deputy Owens and his wife [REDACTED] stated that they had to "jiggle" it and had to double check it because it would stick.

A Stack-On Strong Box gun safe was kept in the bedroom closet where [REDACTED] was known to regularly be sleeping. This safe was positioned in the closet at a level accessible to the children. The Owens' had admittedly questioned the reliability of the safe's lock prior to this incident. However they continued to house loaded firearms in it.

The gun safe malfunction seems to be a point of contention with Deputy Owens as he attempted to make it clear while being interviewed that anything about the safe not working was a "lie". This position taken by Deputy Owens gives way for one to reason that, in addition to Sheriff's Office policy that he maintain the safe in proper working order or have it replaced, that he does not want to share any responsibility for his [REDACTED] death. It seems to be effortless for him to cast accusations against his 11 year old [REDACTED] who was getting [REDACTED] to bed, rather than face the possibility that perhaps he or his wife did not ensure that the safe was security

locked. They both admit in their interview immediately after this incident that they had problems with the safe and that it had to be "double checked" to make sure it was locked.

Conclusion (with bullet points)

On September 14, 2011 Deputy Owens and his wife suffered the tragic loss of a child. While no one felt the tragedy such as the Owens', the incident did impact the entire department, and the entire community. Because of the obvious impact of this incident on the very first night, the Owens' were provided immediate intervention and critical care which continued thereafter.

The IA Unit recognizes that such a loss may induce numerous feelings that perhaps are not always factual or logical. However, there is point in time when both Deputy Owens and his wife, made a conscious decision to deflect the responsibility of this accident from themselves and systematically place the burden of this death on ██████ shoulders. The earliest indications of this occur immediately by ██████ ██████ after the accident, when she admonishes ██████ to the sofa and tells ██████ "Stay away from me."

Deputy Owens dismisses all evidence, the advice of friends and fellow law enforcement officers, and professional medical opinion as to the facts of this case as he and his wife set out to vilify and slander ██████. We conclude that this takes place in an attempt to deflect all parental responsibility, and instead place the blame for the death of their ██████ on ██████. Deputy Owens openly admits that ██████ is no longer his ██████ ██████ and that he does not love ██████ because ██████ is the person most responsible for ██████ death.

Deputy Owens was aggressive in trying to get ██████ admitted into the hospital. He used his knowledge from his position as a law enforcement officer to manipulate the staff in order to have ██████ admitted under false pretense.

Numerous friends, family, coworkers and psychiatric professionals who interact with ██████ and spend time with ██████ draw a different conclusion than does Deputy Owens and his wife about ██████ demeanor. All witnesses that I spoke to view ██████ as an innocent victim of abuse and/or psychological trauma as perpetrated by Deputy Owens and his wife ██████. This abuse appears to be driven by the incessant need to blame ██████ and, as a speculative thought, only to alleviate any guilt Deputy Owens or his wife might be feeling, knowing that they were ultimately the ones responsible for ██████ welfare and to make sure the guns in the house were safely locked away and that he was properly supervised.

██████ counselor in California, ██████ ██████ wrote a summary letter about her sessions with ██████. They met for a total of 13 sessions since January of 2011, for "supportive therapy" to deal with issues of grief and trauma.

Mrs. ██████ writes – "*I found ██████ to be pleasant 11 - year old with capacity for empathy and compassion.*" She says that ██████ expressed deep sadness with regards to ██████ ██████ death but the greater source of distress appeared to stem from ██████ estranged relationship with her mother and step-father. Mrs. ██████ says that ██████ described a lack of acknowledgment and support immediately following the accidental shooting of ██████ ██████ and ██████ described being curled up on the couch, feeling scared, alone and ignored - "*nobody talked to me....nobody helped me.*"

██████ also described to Mrs. ██████ an enduring pattern of anger and blame directed towards ██████ in the days and weeks following the accident. During ██████ session, ██████ expressed

feelings of hurt and anger toward [REDACTED] mother and step-father with regards to circumstances leading up to [REDACTED] being sent to Southern California. [REDACTED] described having personal possessions being taken from [REDACTED] shock of being taken to the airport without notice, and feelings of sadness and anger that [REDACTED] was separated from siblings and friends without a chance to say goodbye. [REDACTED] also told Mrs. [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] has not been allowed to communicate with them since the time of separation.

Deputy Owens disavows his relationship with his [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] takes no responsibility for any part that he might have played in this accident with his [REDACTED] and eventually, as predicted by detectives and the medical staff from the hospital, sets out on a mission to obtain a coerced and false confession from [REDACTED]. The ultimate location of such efforts included transporting [REDACTED] across state lines for the expressed and acknowledged purposes of evading two party consent protections afforded [REDACTED] by the Washington State Constitution – as would be known to Deputy Owens as a police officer.

This investigation revealed that Deputy Owens lacks credibility in a large amount of his testimony.

He states that he had only watched the video a total of three times. Deputy Owens stated that the third time was when the IA Unit played it for him during his interview. He also testified that he could never watch the video when it was played as he just didn't like to hear it.

Deputy Prather, Deputy Kerr and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] all reported that he was present when the video was played for them. Deputy Kerr actually had to tell them to stop playing the video as he felt their motives were not pure. [REDACTED] does not support Deputy Owens' statement that he was "upset" as he testified in his interview. In fact, she stated that he was somewhat excited to hand her a copy of the video. She even reported that he told her to keep a copy, in case "they" came and searched his house. Deputy Owens was referring to the police department when he referred to "they".

Deputy Owens declared there is only one original video and that it had not been edited. Deputy Prather, who is Deputy Owens' friend and probably closest confidant, testified that he is certain he heard different statements that were not on the video we played for him. He also mentioned after his initial interview, "*He doctored that video didn't he?*"

Deputy Owens stated that he called Sheriff Garry Lucas the evening of [REDACTED] "interview" or the next day to report they had evidence in the case. This is shown to be false. Over 48 hours elapsed before Sheriff Garry Lucas is called. In the meantime, he had shown **at least** three different people the coerced confession. In all, he admitted to showing this video to at least seven people.

Deputy Owens' loose interpretation of the truth is also shown in regards to the false information given to Deputy Kerr regarding the hospital's assessment of [REDACTED]. Deputy Kerr reported that Deputy Owens advised him that initially the hospital agreed with their assessment of [REDACTED] as being a "problem child" or having deep psychological problems. Deputy Owens does admit during his interview that he might have relayed this information to Deputy Kerr. Deputy Owens attempted to explain this lack of truthfulness by stating that when he said those things, he was referring to when they first admitted [REDACTED] and how the staff agreed with him at that time.

However, the hospital staff did not understand or agree with their assessment of wanting to get [REDACTED] admitted, hence the reason Deputy Owens was upset at the hospital and relied on his

persuasion and police training and experience to help convince the staff to admit her. (Det. Schultz clearly observed this happen, and Deputy Owens does not deny this).

The hospital documented in their medical reports that it is the Owens' who are looked at as having serious psychiatric issues. The hospital, along with others, did not believe ██████ would have been safe going back to their house because of the Owens' actions, not because of ██████ "violent behavior" as Deputy Owens' tried to claim.

So therefore, what is being relayed to Deputy Kerr and to others is actually false information.

Most of Deputy Owens' answers, actions and thought pattern are not plausible or logical for an individual that has been a law enforcement officer for over two decades. Deputy Owens exhibits a skill in skirting the truth in both his IA interview and with his interactions of those individuals we interviewed.

Deputy Owens statements during his IA interview in regards to the above issues are completely contradictory to the testimony of multiple witnesses. Deputy Owens attempted to cover up his actions by either claiming ignorance, memory loss or twisting the facts with "smoke and mirrors" in an effort to persuade others to believe what he wants.

Bullet points -

- The Regional Major Crimes Unit did a complete investigation and concluded, after analyzing all the evidence, that this was an unfortunate accident and ██████ was not involved.
- There is no independent evidence to show Deputy Owens comforted or cared for ██████ after this event, witnesses testify to the opposite, that ██████ was "ostracized" and was "*persona non grata*" at their home.
- Deputy Owens reports false information to others that ██████ was "not sad" after ██████ death. To the contrary, everyone who had contact with ██████ afterwards reports that ██████ was very upset and was equally upset about not being able to attend ██████ funeral and subsequent separation from ██████ home, family and friends.
- Lead detectives, along with hospital staff all foresaw a forced interview being brought upon ██████ by Deputy Owens.
- After weeks of no communication with ██████ Deputy Owens and his wife pick up ██████ with the intent of recording an "interview" which they purposely planned to perform in Oregon because of the two party consent recording laws.
- Deputy Owens stated they "questioned" ██████ for approx 20 minutes and he handed his belt over to his wife after she requested it. However, he claims he did not know what her intent was even though she had just been threatening ██████ with a spanking.
- Deputy Owens admitted they did threaten ██████ with foster care and they ██████ won't go to California if ██████ does not admit to the "truth".

- Deputy Owens admits to searching through and taking several personal belongings from [REDACTED] such as; money, DVD's, family contact information, and Det. Zapata's business card. He stated he did this because he was "mad" at [REDACTED]
- Deputy Owens admitted during interview that his wife slapped [REDACTED] in front of him during these questions when [REDACTED] wouldn't "tell them the truth." He did nothing to stop this, and in fact believes it was within their right to do so. While Deputy Owens would know as a police officer that parental discipline is a legal right, he refuses to acknowledge that the context of [REDACTED] recorded statements were in fact coerced.
- Deputy Owens admits that his wife told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was the product of a rape but since [REDACTED] was the biological mother, and they never wanted [REDACTED] coming back to them for questions, felt that his wife had the right to do this.
- Deputy Owens states that he did not know the "interview" had been taped until later. However, he admitted that the original plan, prior to picking [REDACTED] up from her Great Grandmother's, was to record her "confession."
- Deputy Owens does not turn this video in to police right away and has 48 hours during which he shows family and friends in an attempt to bolster his false claims regarding [REDACTED]. In the case of Deputy Prather and Deputy Kerr, they both expressed concern to Deputy Owens about the content and/or context of the tape. It appears that the tape turned over to police might be an edited version from the original.
- Deputy Owens believes all his actions were ethical and sees no problem with anything he did.

Deputy Owens took an oath as a police officer to protect the innocent and to safeguard lives and property. To the contrary, he did not safeguard [REDACTED] and was an active participant in the deception and intimidation against [REDACTED]. He was not honest in thought or deed or in the manner in which he treated his own [REDACTED] after this accident. Deputy Owens also did not stop his wife from the abusive actions towards [REDACTED] specifically when it came to slapping [REDACTED] threatening [REDACTED] telling [REDACTED] she was the product of a rape and stealing [REDACTED] personal possessions in an effort to cut off [REDACTED] contact with law enforcement and [REDACTED] family just before dropping [REDACTED] off, apparently never to see [REDACTED] or be in contact with [REDACTED] again.

The full reasons may never be known, but whatever they are, Deputy Owens decided to make [REDACTED] a scapegoat (as Deputy Kerr mentioned) for this tragic accident, and there is a high probability that his actions will have a long term effect on [REDACTED] mental health.

In the words of [REDACTED] Great Grandmother [REDACTED] [REDACTED] *"They have actually brought more heartache to more people by what they've done."*

Police Officers are sworn to be the protectors of the innocent; however, Deputy Owens was anything but that in regards to his treatment of his own his [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. His selfish, shameful and cowardly behavior has left an indelible mark on our agency and has raised serious doubts about his credibility, judgment, truthfulness and fitness for duty - in addition to the policy violations that I have recommended to be sustained.

After thoroughly analyzing all the documentation, data, and witness statements, the IA Unit has come to the conclusion that Deputy Ed Owens violated the following policies;

- G.O. 01.14.025 Firearms Storage
- G.O. 01.29.310 Off-Duty Conduct
- G.O. 01.29.035 Code of Ethics
- G.O. 01.29.060 Competency
- G.O. 01.32.140 Employee Responsibilities

and recommends a finding of **SUSTAINED** for each of these policy violations.

01.14.025 FIREARMS STORAGE (Emphasis Added)

The Clark County Sheriff's Office issues a variety of firearms to its employees, including pistols, rifles, shotguns and other specialty weapons. The Sheriff's Office recognizes that the use of these weapons by unauthorized or untrained individuals constitutes an extreme safety hazard. It is therefore imperative that unauthorized persons not have access to department issued weapons.

The Sheriff's Office recognizes the rights of private citizens to keep and maintain firearms and does not intend to infringe on the rights of its employees by mandating the storage of personally owned firearms in the home. The Sheriff's Office does, however, have a vested interest in the safe storage of department owned and issued weapons. Through this policy, the Sheriff's Office intends to provide for the safe and secure storage of department issued weapons. In addition to the mandatory safe storage of department issued firearms as outlined in this policy, all employees are encouraged to use safe storage techniques for their personally owned firearms.

All department issued firearms, including pistols, rifles, and less lethal guns, which are not under the employee's immediate control, shall be safely stored so as to prevent unauthorized persons from handling the firearm.

Safe storage techniques include the appropriate use of gun safes, gun lockers, trigger locks and trigger cables, locked gun cases, vehicle mounted locking devices, and other locked containers. Employees shall use one of these safe storage techniques to safely store department issued firearms.

A firearm is considered to be under the employee's immediate control when it is in the employee's actual physical possession and the employee has the ability to prevent unauthorized persons from handling the firearm.

The Sheriff's Office will issue appropriate safe storage devices to all employees who are issued department owned firearms. **Employees who are issued safe storage devices shall maintain them in proper working condition and shall immediately replace any malfunctioning or non-working safe storage device.** No employee will be issued a firearm until the employee has read and signed the Firearms Storage Agreement. Logistics will maintain the original agreement on file.

01.29.310 OFF-DUTY CONDUCT (Emphasis Added)

All employees shall maintain the highest standards of conduct and will avoid any conduct which would discredit the employee or the Sheriff's Office. Off-duty deputies should perform necessary police service in Clark County whenever public safety is urgently required. While off duty and within the jurisdiction of Clark County, deputies should carry official identification when in public.

01.29.035 CODE OF ETHICS (Emphasis Added)

The adherence to a canon of ethics is essential in maintaining high professional standards of performance. To this end, every employee is expected to adhere to the following tenets:

- D. **As a criminal justice officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect all persons against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation,** and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all people to liberty, equality, and justice.
- E. **I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all;** maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; **and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life,** I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity, will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.
- F. I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. Without compromise and with relentlessness, I will uphold and, in the line of duty, enforce laws courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence, and never accepting gratuities. I recognize my position as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of The Criminal Justice System. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession.

01.29.060 COMPETENCY (Emphasis Added)

Employees will perform their assigned duties in a competent manner. Incompetence may be demonstrated by:

- F. A lack of knowledge of the laws to be enforced;
- G. An unwillingness to perform assigned tasks;
- H. The failure to conform to work standards established for the employees rank or position;
- I. The failure to take appropriate action on the occasion of a crime, instance or disorder, or other incident; or**
- J. Repeated work evaluations showing substandard performance.
Incompetent work performance will be grounds for disciplinary action.

01.32.140 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES (Emphasis Added)

Employees under investigation for non-criminal misconduct shall be required to meet with an internal affairs officer/their supervisor for interviewing when a complaint has been filed against the employee. Employees will answer fully all questions which an internal affairs investigator/supervisor may ask regarding an internal affairs investigation and will cooperate with the internal disciplinary process. No employee shall obstruct, hinder, or impede internal investigations, disciplinary review boards or other departmental hearing, **knowingly conceal or**

misrepresent material facts relating to the subject matter of an inquiry. Provided that at the same time, no employee shall be deprived of any rights or freedoms afforded to any ordinary citizen by the United States Constitution, by the laws of the State of Washington, Civil Service Rules and/or Labor Contracts.

Attached documents

- #1. Regional Major Crimes Unit reports from [REDACTED] shooting investigation
- #2. Ventura County police report ([REDACTED] interview)
- #3. Hospice Grief Support Center letter
- #4. Copy of Deputy Owens' "Oath of Office"
- #5. Copy of text message from [REDACTED] phone
- #6. Copy of Deputy Owens's work cellular phone record
- #7. Regional Major Crimes interview transcript - Deputy Owens
- #8. Regional Major Crimes interview transcript - [REDACTED]
- #9. Regional Major Crimes interview transcript - [REDACTED]
- #10. Regional Major Crimes interview transcript - [REDACTED]
- #11. Regional Major Crimes interview recording - Deputy Owens
- #12. Regional Major Crimes interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #13. Regional Major Crimes interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #14. Regional Major Crimes interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #15. CCSO IA Unit interview - Deputy Owens
- #16. CCSO IA Unit interview - Det. Schultz
- #17. CCSO IA Unit interview notes - [REDACTED]
- #18. CCSO IA Unit interview - [REDACTED]
- #19. CCSO IA Unit interview - [REDACTED]
- #20. CCSO IA Unit interview - Deputy Kerr
- #21. CCSO IA Unit interview - Deputy Prather
- #22. CCSO IA Unit interview - Deputy Shields
- #23. CCSO IA Unit interview - [REDACTED]
- #24. CCSO IA Unit interview - Det. Zapata
- #25. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Deputy Owens
- #26. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Det. Schultz
- #27. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #28. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #29. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #30. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Det. Schultz
- #31. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Deputy Kerr
- #32. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Deputy Prather
- #33. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Deputy Shields
- #34. CCSO IA Unit interview recording - Det. Zapata
- #35. Ventura County SO interview - [REDACTED]
- #36. Ventura County SO interview recording - [REDACTED]
- #37. Medical Reports - Emmanuel Hospital
- #38. [REDACTED] airport interview transcript
- #39. [REDACTED] airport interview video
- #40. Right to silence letter from Deputy Owens' attorney
- #41. "Six part" complaint - Deputy Owens

