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3	IN THE MATTER OF INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION
	UNDER EXECUTIVE LAW 63(8)
4	x
5	
	May 19, 2021
6	1:00 p.m.
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9	VIDEOTAPED ZOOM TESTIMONY of Trooper #1
10	Trooper #1 , in the above-titled action,
11	pursuant to order and stipulations between
12	Counsel, before Anthony Giarro, a
13	Registered Professional Reporter, a
14	Certified Realtime Reporter and a Notary
15	Public of the State of New York.
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2	APPEARANCES:
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4	VLADECK, RASKIN & CLARK, PC
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7	
	BY: ANNE CLARK, ESQ.
8	EMILY MILLER, ESQ.
9	
10	
	GLEASON, DUNN, WALSH & O'SHEA
11	Attorneys for Witness
	40 Beaver Street
12	Albany, New York 12207
13	BY: LISA F. JOSLIN, ESQ.
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15	
16	ALSO PRESENT:
17	GEOFF C. BASSETT, Videographer
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THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good
afternoon, everyone. This is the
videographer speaking, Geoffrey S.
Bassett, Veritext Legal Solutions.
Today's date is May 19th, 2021. And
the time is now 1 p.m. We are here
to take a remote video deposition of
Witness May 19th, 2021 in the matter
of Independent Investigation under
New York State Executive Law Section
63(8).

Would counsel please introduce themselves for the record.

MS. CLARK: I'm Anne Clark.

I'm with the law firm of Vladeck,

Raskin & Clark. I'm here today on

behalf of the Attorney General's

Office.

MS. MILLER: I'm Emily
Miller, also with the law firm of
Vladeck, Raskin & Clark, and here on
behalf of the Attorney General's
Office as well.

MS. JOSLIN: I am Lisa

Joslin from Gleason, Dunn, Walsh O'Shea on behalf of the deponent.

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would the court reporter please swear in the witness.

Trooper #1

after

having first been duly sworn by a Notary
Public of the State of New York, was
examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION BY

MS. CLARK:

Q Thank you for meeting with us again today. I know I've introduced myself a few times. But I'll do it again.

My name is Anne Clark. Feel free to call me Anne. I have been appointed as a special deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General. Emily introduced herself. She's with my firm and also appointed by the Attorney General's Office. Our firm, Vladeck, Raskin & Clark, and the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton have

Trooper #1

been appointed by the New York Attorney
General to conduct an independent
investigation under New York Executive
Law Section 63(8) into allegations of
sexual harassment brought against
Governor Andrew Cuomo, as well as the
surrounding circumstances. And you are
here today pursuant to a subpoena, issued
in connection with this investigation.

As you just heard from the videographer, today's proceeding is being video recorded. And there's also a court reporter taking down what we say. You are under oath, which means you must testify truthfully and fully, just as if you were in a court of law sitting in front of a judge and jury. And your testimony is subject to penalty of perjury.

Under the Executive Law, if at the end there's any statement that you would like to make under oath, you're welcome to do so. And I'll remind you at the end if there's anything you want to

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Trooper #1 Trooper #1

add, that you'll have that opportunity.

Although this is a civil investigation, the Attorney General's Office also has criminal enforcement powers. So you do have the right to refuse to answer a question if to do so would incriminate you; however, failure to answer can be used against you in a court of law in a civil non-criminal proceeding. You're here today with your attorney present. You may consult with your attorney about any privilege matters. But your attorney cannot otherwise make objections or interject.

And as you see, in addition to the videographer, we have a court reporter. And he needs to take down both my questions and your answers. So we'll get a transcript at the end. In order to have a clean record and make his job easier, it's very important that you give a verbal response. So if you gesture or shake your head or say uh-huh, it does not come out very well on the transcript.

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Trooper #1 Trooper #1

I will do my very best to make sure -sometimes there's a little lag with the
video -- that you are finished answering
before I ask my next question. And I
would ask that even if you think you know
where my question is heading that you let
me get the whole question out because if
we speak at the same time, it makes the
court reporter's life very difficult.

If I ask a question and you don't understand it, let me know, and I'll try to rephrase it in a way that makes sense and just answer truthfully to the best of your ability. If you don't know something, just let us know that you don't know. Do you understand all that so far?

A Yes.

Q As we were discussing off the record before we started, you will not be permitted to review a transcript of this proceeding. But if at any time you want to clarify a question, even if it's something we talked about earlier,

just let me know now that we're talking
about something else, it reminds you of
something additional or you want to
clarify something that you said before.
If you need a break at any point, we can
certainly take a break. I would just ask
that you answer any pending questions
before we take a break. And they'll be
times that I might be asking you about
very specific things, like names and
dates. If you remember them, that's
great. If you don't, I might ask you to
approximate. So if you don't remember if
it was May, if you remember that it was
springtime, things along those lines.

And I just want to confirm that other than with your attorney, there's no one else in the room right now; is that correct?

A That's correct.

Q And can you confirm that neither you, nor your counsel are using any technology to create your own recording of this proceeding, including

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through any screen capturing tools?

A That's correct.

Q And I need to confirm that neither you, nor your lawyer are allowing anyone else to listen in, including through any devices; is that correct?

A That's correct.

And we will also direct you and your attorney not to communicate in realtime or during breaks with anyone about the substance of your testimony.

that under the Executive Law

Section 63(8), the provision under which
we're conducting this investigation, it
prohibits you and your attorney from
revealing anything about what we ask you
or what you testified about to anyone.

Obviously, the underlying events, it's up
to you whether you talk about them. But
in terms of saying whether we talked
about it, the law prohibits that. If at
any point anyone asks you what we talked
about -- and that includes anyone within

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2	your chain of command let Ms. Joslin
3	know, and she will let us know because
4	that would not be appropriate.
5	Are you on any medication
6	that would affect your ability to
7	understand my questions and testify
8	truthfully today?
9	A No medication.
10	Q Have you had any alcohol
11	today?
12	A No.
13	Q We usually ask that in the
14	morning depositions.
15	Is there any reason why you
16	wouldn't be able to answer my questions
17	fully and truthfully today?
18	A No reason.
19	Q For the record, could you
20	state your name, date of birth and
21	current home and business address?
22	A My name is Trooper #1
23	Trooper #1 Birthdate, .
24	Residence,
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2	Q And do you have a business
3	address?
4	A STATE OF THE STA
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6	Q Have you ever given
7	testimony before, either at a deposition
8	or any sort of hearing or trial?
9	A Trial.
10	Q And what sort of trial was
11	it?
12	A
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14	
15	Q So you testified in your
16	position with the state police?
17	A Correct.
18	Q And was it just the one time
19	or have you spoken testified on any
2 0	other occasions?
21	A I believe that's the only
22	one that I can remember.
23	Q Now, I don't want you to
2 4	reveal any communications you had with
25	Ms. Joslin, but did you do anything to

	Page 12
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2	prepare for today, other than speak with
3	Ms. Joslin?
4	A Just review some dates that
5	I wrote down.
6	Q And those dates that you
7	wrote down, was that in some sort of
8	calendar that you keep?
9	A Just a piece of paper.
10	Q And how did you come up with
11	the dates? Were you looking at any other
12	documents to try to confirm the dates?
13	A I reviewed the Governor's
14	past schedule to help remember the dates.
15	Q Have you spoken to anyone
16	about your testimony today, other than
17	Ms. Joslin?
18	A No.
19	MS. CLARK: Emily, if you
2 0	could share the subpoena.
21	(The above-referred-to
22	document was marked as Exhibit 1 for
23	identification, as of this date.)
2 4	Q Do you recognize this as the
2 5	subpoens that we served on you before the

		Page 13
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2	first time th	nat we spoke?
3	A	Correct.
4	Q	And you understand that
5	you're here t	today with the continuation
6	of that; cor	rect?
7	A	Correct.
8	Q	And that obligates that it's
9	all under oat	th; correct?
10	A	Correct.
11		MS. CLARK: Emily, you could
12	take that	down.
13	Q	Done with the preliminary
14	formal stuff	
15		Did you attend college?
16	A	I did.
17	Q	What college did you attend?
18	A	
19	Q	And did you get a degree
20	from	
21	A	I did.
22	Q	What was your degree in?
23	A	
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25	Q	What year did you get your

2 bachelor's?

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And could you walk us Q through your employment history between getting your bachelor's degree and joining the state police?

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MS. JOSLIN: Sorry. Hold on, Anne. We're having some

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technical difficulty here.

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MS. CLARK: That's okay.

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Not a problem. The other day, we

started over half an hour late

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2 because of technical difficulties.

Today has been a breeze so far. I don't want to jinx us.

MS. JOSLIN: I'm sorry.

Give me one second.

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Q So what year was it that you started at the state police?

A March 2015.

Q And what was the first position you held with the state police?

A Trooper.

Q And where were you posted?

A When I started, I was in the academy for six months in Albany. And then I went on to FTO where I worked in

in And then after

I completed my FTO, I went to

I then worked

	Page 18
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2	a supervisor, saying, hey, you're
3	basically being involuntarily transferred
4	to one of these two, where do you prefer
5	to go. Basically, how it works is when a
6	class graduates and then transfers go
7	through, you're most junior. So that's
8	basically how they come out,
9	involuntarily transfers. So I chose
10	Troop NYC just because I worked in the
11	city previously.
12	Q And how long were you in
13	Troop NYC?
14	A For a year.
15	Q And what were your duties
16	when you were in Troop NYC?
17	A We patrol the bridges and
18	tunnels and the airports as
19	counterterrorism and traffic enforcement.
20	Q Who did you report to when
21	you were in Troop NYC?
22	A Who did I report to?
23	Q Yes.
24	A Well, I reported to my

station, which was on Randall's Island,

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which there are supervisors that I answered to.

Q Was there more than one supervisor at Randall's Island that you reported up to?

A There was a bunch of them.

It was a very transient station. When new sergeants got promoted, a lot of them got transferred to Troop NYC until they got more seniority or another class went through, and then movement can happen within a division.

Q And what was your next posting after Troop NYC?

A PSU NYC.

Q And how did it come about that you got moved from Troop NYC to the PSU?

A So it was November 4th,

2017. I was working the Henry Hudson

post in Manhattan. And I got a phone

call from a supervisor, saying, hey, the

Governor's coming in, he's doing an event

on the RFK Bridge, they want a bunch of

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troopers to be basically the backdrop of
his press conference, I need you here at
a specific time. That specific time, I
don't remember at this time. And I
reported to the RFK Bridge. They're
replacing people. That's when PSU was
there. It's called an advance person.
So they basically catch the Governor and
bring him where he needs to go at events.

Q

Let me pause you there.

Who was the supervisor who
told you that you needed to go to the RFK
Bridge to be part of the photo backdrop?

A That, I don't recall who the supervisor was.

Q Do you recall who the advanced person was?

A Investigator sand also Senior Investigator #1

was there as well.

Q Continue the story there.

A So while I was there, they were talking about where they're placing the podium, where the Governor was going

to enter and exit. At that time, a PSU member, I believe was senior Investigator #1 , made the call that we need to have a lead car to basically catch the motorcade while they're coming off the bridge. We would circle down on to Randall's Island and drop them on the Manhattan side of the RFK Bridge. So Senior Investigator #1

gets in the vehicle with myself,
the supervisor that was on scene from
Troop NYC, delegated myself to be in the
car with

Senior Investigator #1

because I'm an experienced trooper. I'm
pretty squared away. And I also know the
city pretty well out of the troopers that
were there. So they had confidence in me
to be the lead car. Myself and

Senior Investigator #1

we ran the route
on to Randall's, basically looking for a

on to Randall's, basically looking for a hold spot in case they wanted a pause or prepare before the event.

Senior Investigator #1 , myself, when the time came, we caught the motorcade, the motorcade, which I believe was a charger

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at the time or a suburban. I don't recall. We caught them off the bridge. We led them down to Randall's Island. We held by the baseball field. The Governor exited the vehicle behind me.

Senior Investigator #1

exited my vehicle.

So I thought to myself, I should probably get out of the car. So I got out of the vehicle. I had a conversation with the Governor, small talk, you know, what's your name, how long have you been on the job, where did you work previously. And that was basically it.

Q How long was your conversation with the Governor?

A I would say maybe approximately two to three minutes.

Nothing out of the ordinary, just small talk. I got in the vehicle,

Senior Investigator #1 got in the vehicle and stated to me, What did you say to him? And I was like, What do you mean? He said, Well, the Governor wants you on

the detail tomorrow, would you come? I said, I don't know what you guys do, what PSU entails, but, sure, I'm interested.

And that was basically it.

you know, if you're interested.

We drove up to the Manhattan side of the RFK Bridge. We continued on. The Governor got out. And that was basically it for me. I maybe talked to Jim for a little bit after. We exchanged information. He said, Reach out to me,

So that's what I did. I'm not sure if I -- I'm pretty sure I e-mailed him, saying, Hey, this is me, I'm interested, which I think I gave him my phone number. We spoke on the phone. He basically gave me a little bit more in-depth detail of what PSU entails in dignitary protection for the Governor and other VIPs that visit New York State. He then told me after that I didn't have enough time on. At the time, you needed a three-year minimum to put in for the detail for PSU. I had two and a half

years short. So this happened in November. I would have hit my three years in March. So he said, Hey, you don't have enough time on. I ran it by the detail commander, who was Vincent J. Straface at the time, and he said, you know, Just reach out to me when you hit your three years, and we'll go from there. So I moved on.

A few weeks later, I got a phone call from Senior Investigator #1

, saying, Hey, I need your abstract and your transfer memo, they changed the manual for you. So they put out a File 14 canvass for anyone who's interested in PSU. And the minimum was changed from three years to two years.

So I believe it was the next day. This change to the manual or notification -- excuse me -- announcement was November 17th, I believe, maybe 16th. We have documentation for that. He responded, saying, Ha-ha, they changed the manual just for you, send me your

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2	abstract, basically. So that's basically
3	what I did. I put in my transfer for
4	PSU. I had
5	Q Before we get to the
6	interviews, the conversation you had with
7	Senior Investigator #1 , that was
8	the the next day is when he sent the
9	e-mail saying, ha-ha, they changed it
10	just for you?
11	A Well, whenever the
12	announcement came out, he replied to that
13	e-mail I believe that day, saying they
1 4	changed the manual for you, send me your
15	abstract. Complete is better than
16	perfect.
17	Q And we're going to pause.
18	MS. CLARK: Emily, if you
19	could put that up.
2 0	(The above-referred-to
21	document was marked as Exhibit 2 for
22	identification, as of this date.)
23	Q So the second page, is that
2 4	the announcement that went out to all
2 5	troops?

	Page 26
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2	A Correct.
3	MS. CLARK: Emily, could you
4	go to the first page?
5	Q And that was sent on
6	November 17th, and then it looks like the
7	same day, Senior Investigator #1
8	forwarded it to you, saying, "ha-ha, they
9	changed the minimum from three years to
10	two just for you"?
11	A Correct.
12	Q And did you this change
13	from three years to two, did you ever
14	discuss this with anyone, other than
15	Senior Investigator #1 about how this
16	change was made?
17	A It was well, after the
18	fact, yeah. It was kind of like known in
19	PSU that, oh, they changed this
20	announcement just for this girl to come
21	here. So it's no secret to a lot of
22	people in state police or PSU.
23	MS. CLARK: Emily, you could
2 4	take that down.
25	Q Did you ever have any

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discussion with anyone in any leadership in the state police about how this change came about?

A Not that I recall.

Q Did you ever discuss with the Governor this change to the requirement for years of service for PSU?

A No.

Q And you said it was sort of widely known within the PSU.

Did you tell people after
you got there or were there other
troopers coming up to you and saying,
hey, I heard they changed the rules for
you, or how did that come about?

A Well, people just knew before I got there. So I'm sure

Senior Investigator #1 had mentioned it to some people. I'm sure I've had a conversation. I don't remember any specific conversation with specific people. But, yeah, there are people who knew. And I'm pretty sure there were people in Troop NYC knew as well.

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2	Q So he asked you to send
3	along your materials, and you did so?
4	A Correct.
5	Q And then what happened next
6	in the process for applying for the PSU?
7	A So I submitted my transfer
8	memo, requesting to transfer to PSU NYC.
9	I also submitted an abstract which is
10	sent with a routing split through the
11	chain of command within the state police.
12	So it goes to your sergeant, your station
13	commander, your zone sergeant and up the
1 4	line, all the way up to the major, to the
15	first deputy.
16	Q What's in the abstract?
17	A Just a basic overall
18	composition of your history within work,
19	your evaluation, your training and
2 0	credentials, specific cases that you feel
21	stand out to your work ethic.
22	Q Were there any interviews as
2 3	part of the process?
2 4	A Yes.
2 5	Q Who did you interview with?

A My interview was March 13th, 2017. I interviewed with Sergeant

Station Commander --

Sergeant Station Commander

, and I believe he was a tech lieutenant at the time, the detail

, Zone Sergeant

Q You submitted your material -- the e-mail was dated November 17th.

commander, Vincent J. Straface.

How long after November 17th did you submit your transfer memo in your abstract?

A I believe the transfer memo request was the following day, which was November 18th, and through the process of us sending in the abstract because it goes through a chain of command, it kind of takes a little bit, or they want to tweak some errors, or they have some input that you might have forgotten. So that might have been a few days after.

Q Did anyone tell you why

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there was any lag in time between you sending in these materials and the interview that took place in March?

5 A Can you repeat that? I'm 6 sorry.

Q Sure. Let me ask it a different way.

After you sent in your morales, did anyone get back to you and tell you what the next step was?

A No. It was just -- they acknowledged that they received it. They were sending it to the lieutenant or captain for approval, I believe in the announcement or it was just known that there was an interview process to get selected. My sergeant station commander at the time was . He sent an e-mail, saying your interview is on December 13th, and that was basically it.

Q I thought earlier, you said March 13th.

A Oh, I'm sorry. I meant

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December.

Q And other than the conversation you had with Senior Investigator #1 where he told you a little bit more about what the PSU did, did you talk to anyone about what the PSU was like before agreeing to make the move to the PSU?

A I actually spoke to a sergeant in Troop NYC, it's a traffic sergeant, Sergeant . He used to be on PSU. He actually advised me not to go to PSU. And then I also spoke with First Sergeant . He was also at the time, a senior investigator with PSU. And they told me not to come here.

Q Did Sergeant tell you why you shouldn't go to the PSU?

A Sergeant advised me not to because he said I was ruining my career. And once you leave PSU, you kind of have like a target on your back. And it was better because I didn't have

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that much time on the job to just stay out in the field and get a little bit more experience. And First Sergeant

5 basically said the same thing.

He told me I was never going to get promoted if I came to PSU, and I was -- my classmates get promoted before me, and I was ruining my career.

And at the time when First

Sergeant advised me not to

come, I took it almost because I had a

lot of activity when I worked in Troop

NYC. And sometimes when you had a lot of

high activity, the supervisors don't want

to let you go because you make the troop

look good. So that's kind of like how I

felt at the time. So, yeah, I decided to

go for it.

Q Did either of them tell you about any negative experiences they had at PSU?

A No.

Q Did you speak to anyone who recommended that you go to the PSU, other

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Senior Investigator #1

than -- did Senior investigator #

3 encourage you to go to the PSU?

Was positive about it. I had a few coworkers who bounced the idea of, Hey, what do you think? They said, Go for it. And I also felt like it was an opportunity to try something different as opposed to just working the road for however long. So I just saw it as an opportunity. And it was only a one-year minimum. So if I didn't like it, I would just go back to the road.

Q So your interviews were December 13th.

When did you hear whether you were accepted or not?

A There was a File 14, which is a transfer list, that came out January 8th, 2018. And it was effective January 25th, that myself and two other troopers were transferred to PSU. It was only a PSU transfer.

Q Who else was transferred at

	Page 34
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2	the same time as you?
3	A Trooper . And
4	I don't recall the other name. But we
5	could provide documentation on that.
6	Q And so it was effective on
7	January 25th?
8	A Correct.
9	Q And on January 25th, where
10	were you posted at that point?
11	A I was working in Troop NYC
12	when the 14 File 14 came out.
13	Q So it was effective
14	January 25th at that point.
15	Did you move to the PSU?
16	A Correct.
17	Q And what was your first role
18	within the PSU?
19	A When I went to the PSU, my
20	first post was sitting in the house, the
21	resident's detail. That basically
22	entails perimeter security of the
23	Governor's home which was
2 4	in Mount Kisco. We sat in a Tahoe
25	by ourselves, basically looking for any

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suspicious activity. If there were packages that were delivered, we would scan them to make sure that they were safe and document guests that came in and out of the residence.

Q And on the shift, were you alone or did you work with other troopers?

A Yup. So I was by myself in Tahoe in front of the residence. When we had a heightened security, we would also add an additional post, which was in the church parking lot, which was bordering the Governor's residence.

Q How long were you posted to Mount Kisco?

A I worked the house from January -- well, from when I got there, January 25th, 2018. And then I moved to the travel team sometime in April of 2019.

Q And when you joined the PSU, did you get any training, particular to working on the PSU?

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A When I got to PSU, they held like a little orientation, I guess you would say, of like a PowerPoint. And there's a book of our procedures that we should know of our duties. So they did hold a little orientation. And I also received training with NYPD dignitary protection school at their academy.

Q How long did that training last?

A I believe it was three days.

Q And what were the things that were sort of different about working on the PSU than from other posts that you had with the state police?

It was very different. So

I'm working the road and interacting with
the public and enforcing the law, I guess
you could say. This was more of like
revolving around the individual. It's a
different type of security. It's not -it's police work. But it's not the
typical police work that you would see on

TV or the regular person would know

	Page 37
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2	about.
3	Q Did you receive any training
4	about sexual harassment when you joined
5	the PSU or at any time after joining the
6	PSU?
7	A For New York State, we have
8	to complete the New York State sexual
9	harassment course. I believe that's once
10	every year. And I've done that since
11	I've gotten on the job.
12	Q And have you done that
13	through a video or some other means?
14	A It's online SLMS training.
15	So you log in, and you complete it.
16	Q Did the training cover how
17	one can report sexual harassment?
18	A Yes.
19	Q And for someone who works
20	with state police, what's the procedure
21	for reporting sexual harassment?
22	A I would go to my direct
23	supervisor and notify them.
24	Q And when you joined the PSU

and you were being told about all the

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Commander

responsibilities and requirements, were you told anything about confidentiality?

A Yes. We are to sign a confidentiality agreement, basically not to speak about anything that goes on there with anybody outside the detail, including family members or friends.

Q When you were stationed at Mount Kisco, to whom did you report?

A I reported to Sergeant

and Sergeant/Station

Q Were there other troopers that you interacted with when you were stationed at Mount Kisco, people that worked on other shifts or people that might be stationed in the church parking lot or others that you've sort of dealt with on a day-to-day basis?

A Yes. So it's face-to-face, really. You cannot leave your post until someone relieves you.

Q And so who were the other

troopers that you were dealing with when you were at Mount Kisco?

A Members that were on my platoon would be

transferred out.

. And that's all I could recall at this moment.

Q When you were stationed at Mount Kisco, how often would you interact with the Governor?

A It wasn't that often. He was kind of in transition from being at in Mount Kisco and going back and forth to the executive mansion in Albany. I did have few interactions with him, whether he was pulling in, you know, just coming home, or there were a few times when he wanted to go down to the office early, he would jump in the Tahoe, and you're expected to drive him down to 633 3rd Avenue.

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Q During the time that you were stationed at Mount Kisco, did you ever see any employees from the executive chamber come to the house?

A Yes.

Q And which executive chamber employees visited the Governor in Mount Kisco?

A The only one I could recall at this time would be Annabel Walsh because we have to log who shows up. And I remember asking her, her name. And she had an attitude when I asked her what's her name, like she expected me to just know who she was. But granted, I was new, and I don't interact with the executive chamber at all. And I believe there was a male there. They were shooting a campaign for the upcoming election. So a video or something.

Q Did you ever observe, when you were stationed in Mount Kisco, any executive chamber employees spending the night in Mount Kisco?

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0 Now, I believe you said it was April of 2019 that you left the post in Mount Kisco?

> Α Correct.

And what was the next role Q that you had?

So I was assigned to the travel team. And that entails, you are the motorcade for the Governor. You could either be the driver, the tail driver, advancing events, perimeter security or undercover intel for pop-up protests.

And how did it come about that you moved from Mount Kisco to the travel team?

I would say I put the time Α in and the work. There were times where we would be assigned to assist the travel team. And it's almost like a tryout. you had to prove that you were capable of functioning and performing under high-pressure situations and also the

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type of personality that the Governor has.

Q When you say "the type of personality that the Governor has," what do you mean by that?

A So he's very demanding. And when he expects something to be done, it needs to get done. And there can't be any little hiccups, if you will. So everything needs to go smooth without upsetting him, per se.

Q And why did you want to move from being the house trooper to on the travel team?

A I wanted something different. I wanted to be active. Just sitting at the house doing perimeter security was not really what I thought I was signing up for; you know, I was out on the road interacting with the public, whether it was writing tickets or assisting in accidents.

So I enjoy that high pace. And when I went to the house, it's kind

	Page 43
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2	of like, okay, now what, you know. So
3	the travel team was the next move for me
4	personally, I felt.
5	Q And did you speak to anyone
6	either on the travel team or higher up in
7	the chain of command about your interest
8	in switching to the travel team?
9	A Yup. So I would say I
10	expressed interest to my sergeant,
11	, at the time and Station
12	Commander that I was
13	interested in going to the travel team.
14	I'm sure there were times where the
15	detail commander, Vincent J. Straface,
16	would you know, How's it going, do you
17	want to go on the travel team? try to
18	pick your brain of what your aspirations
19	were for PSU.
20	Q And when you moved to the
21	travel team, to whom did you report to?
22	A Senior Investigator #2
23	•
24	Q Why don't you spell that

last name for the court reporter.

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2 A I don't know how to spell 3 it.

Q And were you based in -were there two travel teams? One in New
York City and one in Albany?

A That's correct. So I would report to Chappaqua which was our station. We also had a city office as well with the motorcade. And for the most part, the travel team would report to Chappaqua.

Q When you switched from Mount Kisco to the travel team, did you receive any additional training of any kind, orientation in terms of what the difference would be in responsibilities?

A Yes. So within that orientation, they go through your role, whether you're at the house and what the travel team requires. Again, when I was on the house assisting the travel team, you kind of get a feel for -- and you would get guidance from members on the travel team of what's expected and, you

	Page 45
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2	know, just little pointers.
3	Q And do you recall any
4	pointers you got from members of the
5	travel team about how to keep the
6	Governor happy?
7	A Yeah. Let me just try to
8	think. It was basically always have
9	an answer, don't tell him no and whatever
10	he wants, make it happen and just in
11	general, expectations for us as things
12	needed to be smooth. So when he arrives
13	at the city office, the elevator needs to
14	be there. If he gets there and the
15	elevator's not there, that's a problem
16	from a security standpoint and also
17	dealing with him, feeling the wrath of
18	that.
19	Q And do you recall who gave
20	you the pointers of how to make things
21	run smoothly or what to do to keep the
22	Governor happy?
23	A I would just say everybody.

So at the time, it was Senior Investigator #2

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and

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Investigator	, Investigator
,	, just sort
of little thin	gs that maybe they messed
up on, said, H	ey, don't do this or try to
do this, you k	now, don't depend on
somebody to ge	t the elevator, open the
gate for you,	make sure you have a card
or a contact n	umber or who to contact at
Port Authority	when you're using
LaGuardia or J	FK for an escort, just
little things	like that

Q And you described some of the various roles that people do on the travel team.

When you joined the travel team, were you assigned any particular role or did you cover all sorts of roles?

A I would say a whole bunch.

But when I first got there, I would say I was probably tailing a good amount of time and maybe advancing 633 which was his office. I've done that before. So that was in April. I would say in June, I made the transition to driver because

Investigator had retired. When it comes to drivers, the Governor is extremely particular about who drives him because there's an expectation when you drive him. He's a car guy. He doesn't want anyone passing him, yeah.

Q We'll come to the driving in a minute.

A Okay.

Q When you're tailing, what do you do when you're tailing?

basically -- the Governor doesn't want passengers, whether it's his staff in the car with him, they'll jump in the car with you. You make communication with the advance person and notifications about, you know, Hey, we're two minutes out, we're a block out, we're coming at you, things like that.

Q And when you are catching the Governor at 633, what does that involve?

A So you're coordinating with

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your team. So there's a person who catches the Governor which means that the Governor is following them. And also when you're advancing, there's perimeter security holding up traffic because you go counterflow on the tunnel exit in Manhattan. And they go counterflow down 40th Street and load it to the loading dock. The elevators, just making sure your keycard works to get him upstairs to the 39th floor where his office is located.

Q And who was it who asked you to switch to being the driver?

A That would be

Senior Investigator #2

Q And before you became the driver for the Governor, did anyone -- you said the Governor's very particular.

Did you get any pointers from people as to what to do or not to do when driving for the Governor?

A Yeah. It's kind of like a known. So when we do the orientation,

they kind of give us a rundown of how you should be driving and also to -- it's also to take evasive action in case there's a threat. You never really want to be stopped at a red light. You're kind of like a sitting duck. So there's different tactics and skills that we learn. We also did like a course of EVOC, just certain things to protect the Governor.

Q A course of what?

A It's called EVOC. It's a course basically where you -- we go up to Oriskany and do like serpentines and different speeds. All emergency personnel basically take it, basically hitting the brakes, swerving, driving skills. But when you drive the Governor, it's kind of like you're bobbing and weaving through cars because you don't want anyone passing you. And he wants to get where he wants to go very quickly.

Q Did the Governor direct people driving him to drive above the

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speed limit?

He never said it. But you Α know what's expected of you. So it's kind of like an unwritten rule. And he will never say that he told you to drive that fast. And I'm sure if something happened, he would say his eyes were closed. So it's no matter what, whether you're driving the Governor or if you're responding to a domestic call, it's always going to be on the driver. Doesn't matter if he told you to. You're driving the vehicle. So if something happens, it's on you.

Q And what was the practice for sort of how fast, whoever was driving the Governor would be driving him within New York City?

A Can you repeat that? I'm sorry.

Q I thought you said it was sort of an unspoken rule.

When people were driving the Governor in New York City, traffic

permitting, how fast were you driving?

I mean if there's an open road, I would say maybe like 70, maybe 80, let's say, on the FDR. But when it came to driving, especially leaving the Mount Kisco house getting to the city, there were times when you would use your lights to push people, you know, to the right lane. So you have a clear path to get to where you want to go.

and I think for a lot of us, especially someone like me when I was tailing, I basically went off of what the person driving was doing because that's the expectation. And as the tail car, you have to keep up with the limo, is what we call it, the suburban, a charger, whatever vehicle the Governor's in. So you're expected to keep up. And if they're taking holes or riding the shoulder, you're right there behind them. So when you become a driver, you're expected to drive like that.

Q And how long were you -- let

2 me back up.

sit?

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When you were a driver for the Governor, you're in the car in the driver's seat. Where does the Governor

So when you're in the driver's seat, the Governor is next to you in the front passenger seat. And the senior investigator is behind the driver.

And during the time that you were driving for the Governor, who was the senior investigator?

Senior Investigator #2

was advancing an

And there were also times where the detail commander, Vincent J. Straface, would also be -- it's called Senior Investigator #2 the body. Let's say

event or if, let's say, Vincent J. Straface was flying with the Governor, he would be the body getting in the car. So there would never really be two supervisors in the car. It was either one or the other or whoever was covering

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2	that day.
3	Q Were there ever any other
4	passengers in the car, other than you,
5	the Governor and a senior person?
6	A Maybe one of his staff
7	members, Melissa DeRosa, Stephanie
8	Benton, has been in the car with him
9	before.
10	Q And the Governor sitting in
11	the front passenger's seat from the
12	training you received about providing
13	effective services, was that the norm?
14	A No. He should be in the
15	backseat. But the Governor wants to sit
16	where he wants to seat. And there's no
17	telling him different.
18	Q How long were you a driver
19	for the Governor?
20	A I would say from end of June
21	2019 to early mid September of 2019.
22	Q And did you do driving for
23	him up in Albany or did you stay in New

York City and different people would

drive for him if he went up to Albany?

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A The first time I actually
ever drove was in Albany. It was from
the executive mansion to Albany Airport.
And, again, being the driver is like a
high-stress situation because he is
particular. And you need to basically
have the routes memorized in the car.
There's no radio on. Your GPS is off.
And there's silence in the car unless he
speaks to you. It's again an unwritten
rule. And PSU is, you only speak when
you're spoken to. So the first time I
drove was in Albany. And then from
there, I've driven out in Long Island,
Lower Hudson Valley and NYC.

17 Q And why did you stop being a driver for the Governor?

A So there was one time that I stopped short, getting off the FDR, which I wasn't a fan of, and I had a conversation with my senior -- there was one day, there was a Farmingdale event in September. And Vinny -- can I use first names? Is that okay?

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position.

Q Sure. That's fine.

3 Α Okay. So Vinny and SI#2 had a conversation with the Governor. 4 So 5 at the Farmingdale event, SI#2 was the 6 driver. And Vinny was the body. 7 had a conversation. The Governor said, 8 Hey, you know I had too many close calls 9 with her driving, you know, I want 10 someone with a little bit more experience 11 because traditionally, the driver is a

senior position but someone with more

experience in the sense of senior

So that was basically it. I had a conversation with SI#2. He said, hey -- he said he had too many close calls, you're still allowed to drive, but you're not going to be the primary driver. So we have a Number One driver and a Number Two. So if it's a two motorcade day, like I was allowed to drive.

Q I'm sorry. There's massive sirens. I just muted myself.

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Who replaced you as the Number One driver?

A Investigator

Q Did ever tell you what he was told as to why he was becoming the Number One driver?

A I never had a conversation of why. But to me, the writing was on the wall. So at the end of August that year, there was a fire a few blocks from the Governor's mansion. There was some transfers that took place. I believe at that time, who was on the Lieutenant Governor detail, had gotten switched over to our detail with the Governor.

So, again, I don't have that much experience. Majority of the people who were on my team were not allowed to drive or just did not want to drive. So they brought over. has been with multiple governors before, has driven them. So he's more qualified and experienced than I am. So I totally

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understand that. So to me without him even saying, I said this is going to be Vinny's plan. I totally understand why they would want to drive.

Q Did anyone ever tell you that Vinny wanted you removed as a driver because of any inappropriate comments the Governor had made to you?

Vinny made that comment to . I never asked about it. I never asked Vinny about it. But there was a time when to me, the Governor made kind of an inappropriate comment, or questions were made when Vinny was in the car. So you could speculate why I think it was experienced. And I also think that Vinny was either trying to protect me or he was most likely trying to protect the Governor.

Q What was the comment that Vinny was present for that the Governor made?

A So there was an event --

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2 this -- I believe the date was
3 August 13th. And it was an event --

Q 2019?

Α 2019, yup. And the event was at Baldwin High School. I was the driver. was the tail. Captain Vincent J. Straface was the body. I believe he flew with the Governor down -- they were wheels down at Nassau Coliseum landing zone. We get in the car. And the Governor asks, Why don't you wear a dress? And I looked at him and said, Where would I put my gun? I wear a gun. And he was like, You know, you wear all black, Why do you wear dark colors? And I heard -- Vinny interjected and said, You know, we wear business attire, we're supposed to wear dark colors. I don't remember much, other than that part of the conversation because when you're driving, you're kind of like in the zone, focusing on your routes and, you know, other vehicles.

And so that happened.

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after he went wheels up to fly to -- I believe it was Camp David, there was an event in Peekskill. So it was a two motorcade day. I remember driving over the Whitestone or the Throgs Neck Bridge. And I get a pin from Vinny, saying "stays in truck."

And I didn't know what that meant at first. I was looking around the vehicle. I'm like, Did they leave something? And then he sent another pin, being like -- I don't remember exactly what it said. But it was basically like keep it between us or stays in truck, don't repeat. And that's when I was like, oh, okay. And I remember thinking, oh, no, I must have messed up because when we got to the Baldwin event, I remember using the restroom, used the restroom, and I was like, Oh, my God, can you believe the Governor asked me why I don't wear a dress? And I remember bits and pieces. Vinny and the Governor were having a conversation about movement

in PSU, about maybe bringing in seniors or promoting someone to senior. So I told that too. And once I got that pin of, you know, stays in truck, don't repeat, I was like, Oh.

you know, silenced me. And it's also kind of like a known thing, whatever conversation takes place in the truck, you don't repeat it because you're supposed to have like a trust and like a bond; you know, sometimes the Governor has personal conversations, or there's things that you just shouldn't repeat. Sorry.

Q And the pins, that's sort of the BlackBerry version text message?

A Yeah. So it's basically encrypted. Each cell phone has a pin number. It's composed of letters and numbers. And it's specific for that phone. And everyone just speculates they don't want a paper trail. That's why they choose pins as opposed to text

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2	messages. And for pins, most
3	communications is for the movement of the
4	Governor, just little things like that.
5	Q And when you say "they," was
6	it just the PSU that used pins or was it
7	used in other parts of the state police?
8	A State policewise, to my
9	knowledge, it's just PSU. I do know that
10	the Governor and us communicate with
11	executive chamber via pin as well.
12	Q And do you recall anyone
13	telling you what the reason was, that it
14	doesn't create a paper trail?
15	A I don't remember anyone
16	specifically. It was kind of just like a
17	known thing.
18	Q And the pins, if you didn't
19	affirmatively delete a pin, did it
20	disappear after a certain period of time?
21	A I'm not a tech guy. But I
22	would assume so.
23	Q Do you still have the
2 4	BlackBerry that you used back in 2019?

No.

They made us turn it in

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when we switched over to the iPhones.

Q And when did you switch over to the iPhone?

Α I would probably say maybe that like October of 2019. The whole thing was we all want to be on the same type of communication. So when some of the executive chamber were transferring over to iPhones, we started too. only supervisors had the BlackBerry. I remember Stephanie Benton being in the car with me, being like, Oh, we almost got him -- referring to the Governor -to switch over to the iPhone. But he doesn't want to give up the BlackBerry. Then they were saying it was kind of becoming obsolete because it's 3G, and technology is changing.

So the Governor at the time -- or I don't know if he still does -- but he, you know, didn't switch over to the iPhone. All of our supervisors still had the BlackBerry. Eventually, they gave the supervisors

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iPhones. But they still had BlackBerry to communicate with whoever else had BlackBerries.

Q Who were the people who kept the BlackBerries after the switch to the iPhone within the state police?

A Senior investigators. I'm not sure if sergeants -- those are supervisors. So I'm pretty sure they were as well, tech lieutenants, the captain. And that's all I could think of.

Q When the switch to the iPhone happened, did you use a text function of the iPhone? What replaced the pins?

A So it was basically just a text group. And I think allegedly, those were supposed to be encrypted. That's why we were allowed to switch over to the iPhone. It's just basically a group chat of everyone for the movements.

Q And do you know if there's any setting that auto deletes the texts

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2	after any period of time?
3	A With the iPh
4	knowledge. I'm pretty su
5	delete the group, the mes
6	there.
7	Q And do you s
8	messages going back to wh
9	switchover happened?
10	A Yeah. I hav
11	group since we got it. I
12	try to scroll up, I think
13	you at one point. But I'
14	technology these days, yo
15	get it off the phone.
16	Q Did you ever
17	Governor complaining abou
18	driving, any other incide
19	A I heard that
20	heard the Governor specif
21	this person's not allowed
22	But it was kind of known
23	
24	wasn't allowed to drive b

th the iPhone, not to my pretty sure if you don't p, the message is still

d do you still have text back to when the ened?

I haven't deleted the got it. I think if you p, I think it does stop t. But I'm sure with e days, you could probably phone.

d you ever hear about the ining about anyone else's her incidents?

heard that -- I haven't nor specifically say, Hey, ot allowed to drive me. of known that

hе to drive because he stopped short on the Bronx River Parkway.

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		7	he wa	sn't al	lowed to
drive	at the	time	becau	se he m	ight have
stopp	ed short	t for	a cyc	list wh	en he was
makin	g a left	t turn	to E	ast 34t	h helipad.
The G	overnor	alleg	edly	complai	ned to
Vinny	. Troop	per			, it was
known	that he	e was	basic	ally le	ft on the
side	of the	road.	I do	n't kno	w what
trans	pired i	n the	car.	He was	n't allowed
to dr	rive. He	e was	left	on the	side of the
road.	Inves	tigato	r		, he had
drive	n the Go	overno	r. A	nd I do	n't think
he co	uld take	e the	high	stress	and just
didn'	t even	want t	o put	himsel	f in the
situa	tion.	So he	said,	I'm no	t driving
him.	And			, she n	ever drove.
She w	as very	good	at ad	vance w	ork. So
they	kind of	just	left	her. T	hat was
like	her nicl	ne.			
	Q	And		,	do you

know where he was left on the side of the road?

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A I don't remember what parkway or highway. I wasn't working. I

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heard about it after the fact.

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- 0 But it was a highway or parkway; it wasn't somewhere in Midtown 4 5 Manhattan?
 - No. It wasn't like a residential, like suburban street. was a busy 55-mile-per-hour highway or parkway.
 - And where did you hear about that incident from?
 - I do know mentioned it to me. Again, I don't remember the details. I think even later that day, I was like the talk of the town, if you will, like, Hey, can you believe it? we've also heard stories. On the other platoon, it was Investigator
 - He stopped short in a crosswalk to let pedestrians walk by. And the Governor got upset because, you know, people could look in the cars. And after that, he wasn't allowed to drive. It was just like little things here and there that upset him, you know, I don't want

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them driving me.

Q Did you ever observe or hear the Governor yell at anyone?

A There was a time when I was driving in Jones Beach, we were heading to an event in Brooklyn. And I don't know who the Governor was on the phone with. But he was upset that we were driving from Jones Beach to the Brooklyn event instead of flying in the helicopter. So he was yelling, It's my life, if I want to fly, I can fly, who made the call to drive and not fly? Vinny was in the car while this conversation was taking place.

Q Any other times that you heard the Governor yell at anyone?

A Not to my recollection at this time, no.

Q Do you recall any incidents where the Governor was sort of going down a line of PSU members and yelling at them but then didn't yell at you?

A No.

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Q Has the Governor ever yelled at you?

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Q When you were removed as driver, what role were you put in?

No.

A I was just put as the tail driver. And I also advanced. For the most part, the tail driver is like the Number Two driver, just in case, let's say there's an accident or he needs to get in your car, you need to be dependable to drive him. So I did advancing and also tail driving.

Q And are those your current responsibilities or has your role changed again?

A So now I'm still a tail driver advance. As someone on the travel team, I will assist with security for his daughters.

Q And you assist with security for his daughters when they're in the city or do you go up to Albany for that or something else?

A A bunch of things. So if
they want to leave their apartment in the
city and want a ride to JFK or Newark,
they want to go from the city to Albany
or vice versa, there had been times where
I've picked them up in Hyannis Port,
Massachusetts, driven them to the
executive mansion or the mansion to

Q Is it typically a female trooper who provides coverage for his daughters?

Hyannis Port, Massachusetts.

A So back in May 2020, there was a little incident where



And after that happened, which was completely unprofessional, I'm pretty sure -- I don't know if it was division's call or the Governor's or Melissa DeRosa's, but it was known that now from this point on, females will be driving the daughters. And let's say

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2	it's a long trip, like to Hyannis Port,
3	I'd be accompanied with a male trooper,
4	investigator, just because it's a long
5	drive. So you kind of like break it up.
6	But it's kind of like, if a male's
7	driving, female needs to be in the car.
8	Q Are you do you still have
9	the title of trooper?
10	A No. I'm currently an
11	investigator.
12	Q Congratulations.
13	When did you become an
14	investigator?
15	A .
16	Q And is there an average
17	period of time that someone is a trooper
18	before they become an investigator?
19	A So for our job, you need to
20	have a minimum of two years and a
21	bachelor's degree. And if you don't have
22	a bachelor's degree, it's a four-year
23	minimum as the rank of trooper.
2 4	Q To get promoted from trooper
25	to investigator, is that something you

apply for, do your supervisors just determine that you're ready or how does that work?

A A little bit of both. I mean if you're interested, you put in. Sometimes like you made a supervisor's blessing, if you will, or they just recommend you. I know when I put in at the time, I was driving the Governor, and there was a canvass that put out for investigators to come to PSU.

Now, normally, you promote with in-house, they call it. So if you've done your time on the detail, you should get promoted. But there was a canvass basically asking outside investigators to put in for PSU. So when that came out, I remember I was at Hudson Yards, Vinny was there, was there. And we were talking about the canvass. A lot of people were upset, including myself. But Vinny was like, Oh, you know, you should put in for an investigator, you know, you've been

driving, you've done a great job, just

make sure you don't tell

Senior Investigator #2

that

you're putting in, like we never had this conversation. So I was like okay. So, of course, I told SI #2.

Q Do you have any idea why Vinny told you not to tell SI #2 about it?

A I don't know. It just didn't sit right with me. He was my direct supervisor. SI #2 would have told me to put it in any way. He was even upset that they put that canvass out.

But also, too, there was another trooper with me,

And I didn't want to put in for something and him like not have the opportunity as well. We were both doing the same job. There's no reason why I should have an opportunity and shouldn't.

So I wanted to make sure I expressed that to $\frac{SI \# 2}{2}$. I expressed it to as well. And $\frac{SI \# 2}{2}$ said, Yeah, I

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was going to tell both of you guys to put in, like it's not fair that they're canvassing investigators outside this detail when you guys have put in the work. So, yeah, after that, I submitted my memo and abstract to become an investigator.

Q And is there an interview process or do you just put in your paperwork and the people above you decide whether you deserve it or not or how does it work?

By the book, you do an Α interview process. You submit your memo and your abstract through the chain of And I did my interview with command. Tech Lieutenant and Senior Investigator did the interview, and then a File 14 -- excuse me. promotion list came out I think a few months after. But within PSU, it's kind of known that the Governor gives the seal of approval who gets promoted and who doesn't within PSU.

Q		Did	any	yone	else	get	pro	moted
to inve	stiga	tor a	t t	the s	same t	ime	as	you
within	the P	SU?						

A Yes. So I got promoted,

And I believe at the

time, Senior Investigator #2

was transferring out to Troop NYC, and

got promoted to senior

investigator I believe on that transfer

list or promotion list.

Q Did you ever have any discussions with the Governor about getting promoted?

A No. I never had a specific conversation. There was a time when I was driving, I remember it was on the FDR, he said something that he thought was funny and goes -- and I didn't respond. And he's like, Ha-ha, isn't that funny, Trooper? Excuse me, Ha-ha, isn't that funny, Investigator? And I corrected him. I said, I'm not an investigator, I'm a trooper.

And that was it. I don't

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2	know if that somehow got back to
3	somebody, being like, Hey, promote her.
4	I don't know what transpired. You'd
5	probably have to ask Vinny about that.
6	Q The time where the Governor
7	called you investigator, was that before
8	the time that Vinny had the conversation
9	with you, saying you should put in for
10	it?
11	A I don't remember the
12	specific timeline.
13	Q Who's your supervisor
14	currently?
15	A Senior Investigator
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17	MS. CLARK: Why don't we
18	take like a ten-minute break. We'll
19	come back at like 2:25.
20	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time
21	is now 2:15 p.m. And we are off the
22	record.
23	(A short recess was taken.).
2 4	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time
25	is now 2:30 p.m. And we are on the

	Page 76
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2	record.
3	Q If you could just describe
4	for us how the Governor acted when he
5	interacted with you.
6	A He was very positive, nice,
7	flirtatious, joking around a lot,
8	playful.
9	Q Did you observe how he
10	interacted with male troopers?
11	A Yes. Not as flirtatious.
12	He would be friendly and not give them
13	the time of day, maybe acknowledge them
14	some days, maybe not others.
15	Q When you say "flirtatious,"
16	can you describe any all the incidents
17	you can recall where you thought the
18	Governor was being flirtatious?
19	A Yeah. He tried to be
20	flirtatious. A lot of times, it came off
21	creepy. So I would say let's go back.
22	So one of the first moments that kind of
23	like made me feel uncomfortable or
24	creeped out where he was trying to be

flirtatious, I was sitting at the house.

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He was walking around his yard. He has a pond there he would clean up. So when the Governor's outside, you get out of the truck. So you're standing out there, he would come over to me, Hey, how's it going? Just small talk. Any plans for this weekend? And I said, Yeah, my sister's wedding. Actually, it's in Albany. And he was like, Oh, have you ever been to the mansion? I said no. And he said, Oh, you know, I could give you a tour, unless it's against any protocols, and like snickered and walked off. And I was like -- so, to me, granted, they do tours at the executive mansion. But you knew exactly what he was saying.

Q What did you understand he was saying?

A That he wanted to personally walk me around to the mansion inside.

And that made me uncomfortable because what are you alluding to or insinuating?

So it was kind of like up to your

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interpretation. But you knew clearly what he was trying to convey in his message.

Q When did this occur?

A So my sister got married in September of 2018. The exact date, I don't recall. But it was prior to that.

she got married.

Q Did you tell anyone else in and around that time period about the Governor's comment about giving you that tour of the mansion?

A Yeah. I confronted a few people at the time, maybe one of my friends that may be worked in the city. She's a trooper. And I wasn't really too close with anyone. So at the time, I didn't tell them that. I think after the fact when I got on the travel team and got like closer with some of my coworkers, I ended up telling them at some point. But in that exact moment, I kind of like kept it to myself and was like woah.

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	Q	Who	was	the	fri	lend	who	was
the	trooper	who	you	told	at	the	time	e ?

A Trooper MYC.

Q Who were the coworkers that you told later?

A I'm pretty sure I told

and Investigator

and Investigator

Q Were there any other times when the Governor offered to give you a tour of the mansion?

It was brought to my attention later on, which I didn't really recall too well because, again, he was always trying to be playful. And I kind of just like brushed it off because to me, like I'm a trooper. I could handle anything that's put in front of me, whether it's a high-stress situation.

So when he made these comments, it was like off-putting, and I kind of rolled them off. But there was a

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time when I was working in Albany that
the Governor invited me upstairs. Again,
I don't recall this. Someone brought it
to my recollection, like you don't
remember that time. I'm like -- again,
because it happened so frequent and it
was like normalized that it wasn't even,
you know, a train of thought or, you
know.

Q When you say he invited you upstairs, upstairs in the mansion?

Q Is upstairs where the Governor's sleeping quarters are?

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Α Well, within the parking lot, there's two different like levels where the station -- excuse me -- the command center is. And there's kind of like an upper level where the Governor's mansion is. So, again, you could say upstairs and just come inside and have lunch or just look around or does that 10 mean come upstairs to my bedroom, which 11 his room is on the second floor. I don't 12 know. Again, up to your interpretation.

> Q And when did

> > remind you of this event?

Α I would say like a few I don't remember the exact months ago. But we were just, you know, date. talking about everything that was going on before obviously I got involved in this. We were just saying how, you know, he has a habit of being creepy or flirtatious, you know. So brought that up. And, again, I didn't recall.

remind you of

Did

any other incidents in that conversation?

A No.

Q Have you ever been inside the mansion?

when I was fairly new to PSU. I became close with Investigator

She encouraged me. They have -- every December, they have like a Christmas party for executive chamber and PSU members, just for comradery and support.

suggested that I go to the holiday party with her, just because it's a good look, you know, you want to get on the travel team. It shows morale. It's politics.

So I went to the PSU holiday party with her where you're basically on the first level of the mansion. There's the kitchen, there's, you know, a little dining area, a living area. They have an area where there's a Christmas tree. I also worked at a few other receptions that the Governor has held there. So

that's the only few times that I've been inside the mansion.

Q Have you ever been in the mansion when it wasn't some event with lots of other people around?

A No. I might have dropped off -- sometimes the staff members will drop off a folder or something for the Governor. So I might have went inside to drop off a folder, where there's like a table, or we go to and give it to him. But I never walked in there.

Q At the holiday party that you went to with did the Governor speak to you guys at the party?

A Yes. So the Governor gives a speech. There's like a little fun video that they play. And the Governor basically works the room, takes a picture with everyone who's there, no one special, literally takes a picture with everyone. There's a picture of me with him, there's one with him, and myself. So just small talk, hey, how are

you, take a picture and keep it moving.

Q Did you have any conversations with the Governor after the holiday party about ?

A Yes. So one day when I was working the house, I was an overnight shift. And I remember the Governor came out of the residence early. So normally, the travel team will work from 6 to 6 in the morning, 6 in the morning until 6 at night or 7 in the morning to 7 at night. They adjust the tours, depending on what his schedule was.

But I remember the Governor came out early, just wanting to go to the city. So the Governor hopped in the Tahoe with me. We drive down to 633 3rd Avenue. He asked me, Who are you close with on the detail? And I knew what he was referring to because he clearly saw me with . I said . I said . And he goes, Yeah, don't repeat our conversations with her, don't tell her anything we talk about, as a

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matter of fact, don't tell anyone about our conversations. And I was like, I won't.

And I know prior to this, when I was going down to the city with him sitting at the house, you know, he was asking about relationships. And he asked me, Why would you want to get married? And I was like, Oh, you know because you love somebody. And he goes, Oh, but it always ends in divorce, and you lose money, and your sex drive goes down.

And to me, it was almost like he wanted me to elaborate on my sex life which I didn't. I started talking about marriage and the reason why you get married. And that was kind of it. So that was an uncomfortable conversation.

And then I felt like once I went to the Christmas party, he realized that I was close with ______, he tried to like backtrack and say, basically, Don't tell her anything that we talk about.

	Page 86
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2	And that kind of like resonated with me.
3	Obviously, once we dropped him off at the
4	city, I called . She's like, Oh,
5	you know, how was it? And I told her. I
6	was like, He asked me who I'm close with
7	and told me not to tell you anything.
8	She said, Why would he say that?
9	Q Are there any other times
10	the Governor told you not to talk about
11	anything he said to you?
12	A No. Just that one time, I
13	would say, stands out to me.
14	Q Were there any other times
15	where he spoke to you about your
16	relationship status or asked about it?
17	A Yeah. He would inquire, try
18	to be like joking or playful. I never
19	took it as anything serious. I just felt
20	like he didn't know what else to like
21	talk about.
22	Q Are there any times that the
23	Governor touched you?
24	A Yes. So there were two

significant incidents that really stand

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out to me. I don't know the exact date. But I know when I was sitting on the house and I was kind of assisting the travel team to try out, let's say, I was advancing 633, I had caught the Governor. So he walked behind me. I went on an elevator with him. And I was like very focused on what I was doing. So I might had been like, Hey, good morning, sir, walked in front of him, brought him to the elevator. He walks into the elevator. Senior Investigator #1 follows him into the elevator. I walk in The elevator door closes. the elevator. When you're in the elevator with the Governor, you stand in front of the door because if the elevator stops, I don't want anyone else to get it.

So we ride the elevator up.

And while we're heading from the first
floor to the 39th floor, he runs his
finger down the center of like my back on
my spine, basically from the top of my
neck, basically midway down with his

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pointer finger and just said, Hey, you. So I turned around and said, Oh, hey, how are you, sir? And that was basically it. I kind of was like freaked out. I got a little bit hot and nervous. We exit the elevator. I opened the door to the 39th floor, walked into his office. And that was basically it. I walked down to the 38th floor where we have someone sitting at the desk. At the time, it was Trooper And he goes, What was that? That was creepy. I said, Yeah, that was creepy. I don't know what that was and kind of played it off. Senior Investigator #1 at some point was near the 38th floor desk. And I said

near the 38th floor desk. And I said something to . I wouldn't say I was reporting it. But I was kind of like, Hey, did you see that? And he goes, Oh, no. I was like, What? He just ran his finger down the center of my spine, like down my back. And he was like, Oh, no, I didn't see it, I was sending a pin.

So like I stated earlier, we

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Now, did he see it out of the corner of his eye? I don't know. At the time, he stated that he didn't see it. And that was kind of where it left off.

Q Other than the conversations you just described, did you talk to anyone else about it around the time that happened?

after. We were both like, that was creepy. I think later on, I might have mentioned it to a few teammates of just like his behavior. But I don't really remember, other than mentioning it to

Q And you said there was another significant incident where the Governor touched you?

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Α Yes. So it was September, I believe it was the 23rd, 2019. This is shortly after that I had been replaced by as a driver. So I was advancing Belmont in Long Island. It was breaking ground for an Islanders event. And the Governor was leaving the event. And like I said, everything with the Governor is a very smooth transition. The doors are already open, the elevator's already there.

So I was holding a door for the Governor to exit back into the building. And as I'm holding the door, the Governor is walking almost through the door. And I think we might have had small words. I might have been like, Hey, have a good one. We acknowledged each other. And while he's walking and we're in motion, while he's walking into the door, he takes his left hand and basically like thumb facing down, I felt the palm of his hand in the center of my stomach on my bellybutton and like pushed

back towards my right hip like where my gun is. So he's walking one way, his hand is running across my stomach in the opposite direction. And

Senior Investigator #2

was

the body guy that day and witnessed it.

Q And so the Governor was coming, and you were facing the Governor when this happened?

A I'm off to one side. And the Governor -- we're not like face-to-face. We're kind of just like passing each other. I don't know if that makes sense.

Q Were you on his left or his right side?

A I'm on his left side.

Q He took his left hand and --

A Yeah, like pushed it this way while he's walking the other direction. So I felt like the palm of his hand on my bellybutton and like pushed back towards my right hip where my

gun is.

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Q When you say on your bellybutton in the

A No. I would say it was probably in like the center of his palm.

And I felt the whole like hand almost on my stomach. And I felt like completely violated because to me, like that's between my chest and my privates, which, you know, if he was a little bit north or a little bit south, it's not good.

center of his palm, below or above?

Q And you said that SI #2 was right behind him?

A Yes. SI #2 was the body that day and witnessed the incident.

Q And did you speak to SI #2 about it?

A Yes. We communicated after he checked on me. We were both like, What was that? I was like, I don't know. He asked me if I'm okay, if I wanted to do anything. I said, No, I'm all good. And that was it. I think we might have had a conversation the next day, again,

kind of both still in shock about what happened. And that was really it. I left it at that. I wasn't saying anything else, other than what it was.

Q Did SI #2 tell you whether you should or shouldn't report this?

A He left it up to me, whatever you want to do. And from my point of view, I'm a trooper, newly assigned to the travel team. Do I want to make waves? No.

And also, in the back of my head, you know, Vinny had already previously witnessed me being asked why I don't wear a dress. So if the detail commander is basically okay with that behavior, you know, Vinny never even checked on me or even said anything to me after that, other than stays in truck, don't repeat. I wasn't even trying to put \$1 \frac{12}{2}\$ in a position where -- you know, I've heard horror stories about people getting kicked off the detail or

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2	transferred over like little things, like
3	I'm not I had no plans to report it.
4	Q Did you discuss it at the
5	time with anyone else?
6	A Yeah. After the incident, I
7	told .
8	Q What was her reaction?
9	A She thought it was
10	disgusting. We were creeped out. But,
11	you know, I think for me, I kind of like
12	compartmentalized, it happened, I felt
13	uncomfortable, I felt completely
14	violated. But, you know, I'm here to do
15	a job.
16	Like I said, I'm a trooper.
17	I've been through high-stress, difficult
18	situations; you know, I wasn't going to
19	let that really, you know I tried to
20	brush it off and not let it affect me.
21	Q So you said you heard horror
22	stories of people being removed from the
23	detail over small things.
2 4	What horror stories had you

heard?

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Α I have heard -- again, I heard that there was a senior -- I don't know what year. But back in the day, there was a senior who again asked the Governor, Hey, do you have any plans later? And the Governor was like, Don't ask me what I plan on doing later. And then the senior tried to ask him another way, Hey, do you have plans later or whatever. And the senior was basically bounced out of the truck to like the tail com which is basically the person who works the radio in the tail car and transferred out. You hear people getting yelled at. It's just not something I was trying to explore.

And also, too, that August, there were troopers that were transferred out of PSU because they didn't report a fire to a sergeant, and the Governor kicked them off. And this is obviously a more serious situation. I just didn't want to put myself or SI #2 in a situation that we could be kicked off; you know,

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that's kind of like the culture that's created within PSU.

Q Where was the fire?

A It was a few blocks from the Governor's mansion. I don't know, the trooper was going to send a notification or if the Governor never found out about it until it was on the news. And he got upset that there was a fire a few blocks away from the mansion. And he didn't respond or do anything about it.

Q Did the Governor ever ask you if you were pregnant?

A No.

Q Any other times that the Giarro touched you?

A There was a time where the Governor asked if he could kiss me. It was in the summer. I believe I was still the driver at the time. We were at the Mount Kisco house.

SI #2 was the senior that day. There was a house trooper there, Trooper . The Governor's walking down the driveway. I

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got out of the car to see if he needed anything. And he just goes, Can I kiss you? And I remember just freezing, being -- in the back of my head, I'm like, Oh, how do I say no politely because in my head if I said no, he's going to take it out on the detail. And

now I'm on the bad list.

So I kind of like froze and just said sure and hesitated. He kissed me on the cheek and just said after, Oh, I'm not supposed to do that or unless that's against the rules or something.

And I was like okay.

So after -- I don't know where SI #2 was. I know witnessed it because after the fact, he like made a joke, trying to play it off, like, you know, I've been here for so many years, and the Governor's never asked to kiss me.

And after the incident, I remember I told . I said, Can you believe that he asked to kiss me? Like I

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didn't know how to say no. And she was like, Just tell him next time that you're sick and you don't feel well. And I was like, Oh, that's smart. I didn't even think of that because it's kind of known the Governor is a germophobe or doesn't want to get sick. So I kind of kept that in like the back of my head.

Q When he kissed you on the cheek, did he put his hands on you anywhere?

Maybe like my hands were on my side.

Maybe he like touched my forearms. I

don't recall. I know it wasn't on my

face or anything like that. It was just

a kiss on the cheek. And he kept walking

in, you know, the other direction.

Q So then gave you this advice for next time.

What happened then?

A So I kept that in the back of my head. There was an event in October. I forgot the exact date. I

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think it was approximately around like the 23rd or somewhere around there. remember I had just gotten back from I was the tail car. There was an event on West 116th. I believe it was Low Memorial Library. If we look up the Governor's schedule, you could find it. I had just gotten back from a trip from Croatia for two The Governor gets out of the suburban, I'm in the tail Tahoe; you know, I gave the Governor like a little wave of acknowledgment. And he comes over to the Tahoe. I'm sitting in the driver's seat. He's at the window; you know, Where had you been? Told him I was in Croatia. How was it? Small talk. And he just goes, like looks at me and says, Can I kiss you? And I said, No, sir, I'm actually not feeling well. he looked at me, almost in disgust that I had denied him. So he looks at me and just like walks off. And I was like, Okay, it is what it is. At least I got

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out of that one. And I actually was sick at the time.

Q Were there any other troopers standing around when that happened?

A I don't think anyone
witnessed or heard the conversation. The
advance guy was definitely outside, like
by the gate waiting for him. But he
wasn't within like an earshot of our
conversation. I don't remember who that
was. It might have actually been
because he had driven the
Governor from HPN Airport down to the
city. So I think it was a few days

Governor from HPN Airport down to the city. So I think it was a few days before. And the Governor was like, Good job driving the other day. So I'm pretty sure was advancing that event and maybe a few other guys.

Q And did you say when that was?

A I believe it was October

23rd in 2019, somewhere around that time.

Q Of 2019?

	Page 101
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2	A Correct.
3	Q Did you tell about
4	that?
5	A I did; you know, we just
6	like played it off. She was like, Oh, it
7	actually worked. She was like, you know,
8	Don't worry about him.
9	Q Did you tell anyone else
10	about it?
11	A That specific incident, I
12	don't recall. I might have mentioned it
13	to a few people. I might have even told
14	, like, hey, yeah, he asked me again.
15	But I don't recall.
16	Q Any other times where the
17	Governor touched you?
18	A I believe he had like hugged
19	me or like kissed me a few times, like in
20	passing, but nothing that was like crazy
21	that made me so uncomfortable. It might
22	have just been like a greet when he was
23	walking past me or something like that.
24	But those were like the two significant

that made me, you know, extremely

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uncomfortable and violated.

Q Other than in Belmont, any other times where he touched you in your midsection or on your stomach?

A No.

Q Any conversations, other than what you've already described, where the Governor said something that you thought was not professional or unappropriate?

Α Yes. So there was one time where I was running errands with him within Mount Kisco. So it was after had transferred over to be the driver because I remember they said, Hey, Trooper #1, he wants to run errands in town, can you drive? Because I worked the Mount Kisco residents. So I knew it better than who had been working with the Lieutenant Governor. So if he wanted to go to a store, I knew where it was. I remember we were leaving the auto parts store, and he said, How old are you? Just looks at me and says, How old

are you? I said, I'm 28, I'll be 29 in
And he was like, Ha-ha, you
know, you're too old for me. Then he
asked, What age difference can I date
before people start saying things?
Meaning like age gap. And I said,
Probably older than your daughters. And
he said something that was kind of like
deflecting towards me. And I brushed it
off. And, you know, I said, I could be
your matchmaker, basically to take the
attention I don't remember what he
said exactly. But I wanted to deflect
the attention from me to something else.
And I said, I could be your matchmaker,
what are the requirements? Good-looking
well-educated? And his response was, Car
handle pain. Then he stated, Oh, did you
see and I broke up? There was
an article I believe in the New York Post
on page 6. And everyone knew they had
basically been done for a very long time
But it was now out there in public. And
he's like, Did you see the article? You

know, and I broke up. I said, Oh, I didn't see it, I didn't know, sometimes change is good, try to play it off, and he's like, What are the guys saying, you know, about he and her breaking up? I'm like, I haven't heard anything. And then we were basically at the Mount Kisco residence, and, like, that was it. But I was like creeped out when he said "can handle pain."

Q And what had you heard about from the guys or the other female troopers about his breakup? Anything other than that they had broken up?

A So basically, even when I got there in 2018, the relationship between and the Governor was basically non-existing.

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2 So it

was really no surprise to any of us. It was just, like I said, out in the public.

Q Did any of the other troopers tell you about anything why they had broken up or anything along those lines?

Α No. It was just, they have a very weird relationship. And I also heard that there were times where -- I believe had an incident where she had to pick up There was an event at One World Trade Center, I think, for the anniversary for 9/11. And was yelling at to bring her to Andrew, bring me to him now. She notified whatever supervisor was working and said, Hey, wants to see the Governor now. The senior relayed that message to the Governor. And he said, No, I don't want her here, like I'll see her there, like purposely staying apart or keeping her at

had told me this.

bay. Again,

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Some of the details might be a little bit different, but that's what I heard.

Q And did you tell anyone about the conversation where the Governor asked you about the age difference and he wanted somebody who could handle pain?

A I had mentioned it to a few people because I was like, I can't believe this just happened. Again,

few other people because, again, I just couldn't -- like if I would tell somebody, no one would believe this just happened.

Q And when you told people, did anyone tell you that they had experienced anything similar or heard of something similar?

A No.

Q Any other times the Governor said something to you that you considered unprofessional, inappropriate that creeped you out, any or all of the above?

I think that's the bulk of

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things that creeped me out. There might be some things that I might be forgetting.

Q Did the Governor ever make any comments to you about tattoos?

A No.

Q And when you were covering an event, did the Governor ever come over to you or seek you out at events?

Yeah. So there was an event -- this was like fairly recently. I think it was this past January. It was the Moynihan opening. It's connected to Penn Station. I was advancing. I did security because it was an active like construction site. So there were still like workers. There wasn't a part that was finished. But I was on the upper level, just, you know, doing securities, making sure there was no pop-up protests or anything like that. was advancing. They were coming up the I was off to the side because stairs.

there were a few workers there.

just want to, you know, keep them at bay and making sure that they had a clear exit. And the Governor like purposely was like, Oh, hey you, Happy New Year, and gave me like an elbow bump because it's COVID time, and he's in front of people. So he gave me like an elbow bump. So that was that. He, again, went out of his way to say hi.

There was also an event in York College. I believe it was either October or November. I can't remember the day. It was this past winter. But they opened up like a COVID vaccination site. And I was outside security, making sure that the motorcade had a clear exit outside the drop. And I was on the pedestrian path, again, making sure no one walks in the way. And there was a photographer there from The New York Post. And as the motorcade's leaving, now he drives himself. So you have the lead car, and then you have the Governor driving himself and then like a tail car.

So the lead car leaves. I'm outside the gate with the photographer. And the Governor just stops. He was like, Hey, you, and I like acknowledged him, Hey, how are you, sir? And turned opposite of him because that's where the photographer was. I want to keep my eyes on a potential threat, and he's still trying to talk to me. And, again, this is the New York Post who's not a fan of the Governor.

So, again, if a photographer can't get a good shot of him, like, you know, we did a good job. And he's just sitting there and just says, again, you know, Is he your own personal photographer? And I was like, No, sir. And he gave like The New York Post photographer a thumbs up and kept on driving.

Q Since COVID, has the Governor hugged or kissed you since the COVID restrictions came into play?

A Yes. Actually, this was

like beginning of COVID. It was sometime in March of 2020 before like the lockdown and they really knew what COVID was. He was landing at Farmingdale Republic Airport. And the senior who basically greeted him when he got off the plane said that -- he went on the radio and said, you know, he needs the restroom.

So the driver, I'm in the tail truck.

So the Governor follows me to go into the bathroom, basically just walk him there so he knows where he's going. And he greets me with like an awkward like half hug and like kiss on the cheek. And I like joked and said, You don't have COVID; right? And he was like, Oh, no, stop. And then like, you know, I walked him to the bathroom and walked away. Again, this is before we even really knew what COVID was. And it's funny because I said something to like

tweeted that day, Oh, I'm a hugger.

And

we're like, Oh, is that in reference to me because like he literally hugged me, and COVID's going on. I forgot what exact date it was. But it was sometime in March. Again, it was an event in Farmingdale or he landed in Farmingdale. I don't know where the event was.

Q Do you recall what his tweet was other than I'm a hugger?

A Yeah. I think it was trying to calm people down about COVID, and everything's okay. And he said something like, Oh, I'm a hugger. It was like in a tweet.

Q Any other incidents that we haven't talked about yet that you can recall?

A No. I know I saw him a few times in like the summer at the mansion during COVID. And, like, he'd be leaving in his Bronco or whatever car it was. I would be in the parking lot, maybe leaving my car, like walking into the command center. And, like, as he was

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leaving, he would like reverse to like come say hi to me, you know, so...

Q Have you seen him do that with any of the male troopers, like at an event, head toward them or reverse course to go chat with them?

A No.

Q Have any other troopers ever commented to you that they noticed the Governor seems to seek you out at events?

really -- well, actually, I remember that event at Moynihan, Lieutenant was like, Oh, as soon as he sees you, like he's in a good mood, or he'd beeline right towards you, like he referenced that he noticed it as well. And it's kind of just like a known thing if he sees a good-looking female, it like puts him in a good mood. And within PSU, like as soon as he gets in the car, how's his mood today, how's his mood? Because, you know, depending on his mood, it's going to dictate how our day operates around

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him.

Q Was there ever any talk,
anyone ever say to you that if he's in a
bad mood, it would be helpful to get him

to see an attractive woman?

A No. I never heard that. No one said that directly to me. I know did make that comment to

before because they used to call her like the fourth daughter because the Governor would give her a lot of attention, like there were times when I heard that she drove in his like GTO from the Hamptons back to Mount Kisco, like just them two, or he would just want to drive in the tail car with her. So it was kind of like, you know, she was on the travel team for a while. Now she's doing . And I was kind of like, you know, the new that he took a liking to or was on PSU and put him in like a good mood or happy.

Q Who's ?

A He's with -- I would say

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he's part of chamber. But he's kind of like -- he does a lot of like personal things for the Governor. I don't know what his exact title is. But he does like, let's say the Governor's having a dinner at a restaurant, would basically be like the catch guy or like walk him to his table, just kind of like personal things for him. So, again,

Q Did you ever observe anything that would lead you to believe that the Governor was having any romantic or sexual relationship with anyone in the executive chamber?

told me that information.

A I never witnessed any sexual relationship or kissing like that. But during COVID, Senior Staffer #1 and

Senior Staffer #2 were basically living at the mansion. They were there from basically March until that article about the trooper dating came out.

So it was kind of like, I think they were worried that people were

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going to start documenting or noticing who's coming in and out. If they're not leaving, you know, they're sleeping there.

Again, could they had had their own bedrooms? Of course. But no one knows what's going on behind closed I know that they would be up at the poolhouse in bikinis and bathing I don't really know anyone who stays at their boss's house like that.

Q Did any other troopers ever tell you they observed anything between the Governor and Senior Staffer #1 Senior Staffer #2 or anyone else in the

chamber?

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had heard.

I had heard from Senior Investigator #1 that he once witnessed the Governor and Senior Staffer #1 like making out on the sidewalk like they were high schoolers. Again, he told me this. I didn't witness this. I wasn't even here at the time. But that's what I

	Page 116
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2	Q Anything else you heard?
3	A I had also heard that I
4	don't remember who it was from. I heard
5	a rumor that before Senior Staffer #1
6	that the Governor and her were in
7	a hotel room by themselves for like an
8	hour. And then one of the two left the
9	room.
10	Q And when you say
11	do you mean like just before
12	
13	A Like the night before. And
14	I think . I'm not really
15	sure. Again, I wasn't working here at
16	the time. But I heard that.
17	Q Anything else you heard
18	along those lines?
19	A I had also heard that
2 0	again, rumor I heard that there was a
21	guy named here. I don't know
22	how to spell his last name. But he was
23	driving once and saw Senior Staffer #1 and
2 4	the Governor like making out. He was in

And

Senior Staffer #1

the front seat.

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was

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like sitting on the console kissing him.

Q Anything else?

A Not -- not much. I think everyone kind of like assumes or thinks that there's something going on between them. Again, I never witnessed anything. I'm sure there's other things out there. But those are like the significant ones that stand out to me that I had heard.

Q And have you had interactions with Melissa DeRosa?

A Yeah. A few.

Q And what have your interactions with her been like?

A For the most part, it was just hi and bye. There was one time that bothered me. I was the tail driver. The Governor was going to an event at the boundary of the Governor. He lives on like

And there's two entrances. There's an entrance on one block and an entrance on another. And at one entrance, there were

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protesters there. The other entrance was secured where we could get to the Governor in and out pretty safely. The Governor was holding a few blocks away, which means like, you know, he's not ready yet. They pull the car over. they told me to go ahead with Melissa DeRosa and Robert Mujica, who was in the They said, Hey, drop them car with me. They said drop them off where the protesters are, basically to not give up our secured location. So if I drop Melissa and Mujica off at the secure locations and a protester sees me, we just gave away our secure entrance.

So I'm in the car with them.

And I think I might have mentioned, Hey,
there's protesters here or something.

We're going to use this entrance which I
probably shouldn't have even told her
that. But I was trying to be nice and
give her a heads up. And she goes, Why
are we using that entrance? Let's go to
the other one, basically trying to tell

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me how to do my job. My advanced guy,
who was _______, told me, like
they're using the protest entrance, the
Governor's using the safe one. And she
was questioning me. And she's like, Who
was advancing over there? Is the Wall
Street Journal or New York Times there?
We didn't know, like we can't have them
getting a picture of, you know, me and
Mujica walking in because he's the budget
guy going into the campaign event. It's
not a good look. It's optics.

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So I'm like, I don't know who's there. She's like, Get on the phone, like bossing me around. And I felt annoyed because Number One, I heard that you can't upset Melissa because if you upset Melissa, the Governor's going to take her side. And, again, you could get shipped out. You don't know where you're going to stand. So I'm like, Okay, let's keep her happy so I stay in the Governor's good graces. She told me, Get the on the phone. So now I'm

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2	Q Any other incidents with
3	Ms. DeRosa where she was behaving
4	similarly or in some way that made you
5	uncomfortable?
6	A No. For the most part, like
7	I said, it was very like short, sweet to
8	the point, not much conversation, other
9	than that one situation.
10	Q Did you ever have any
11	interactions with Stephanie Benton?
12	A Yes.
13	Q And what were your
14	interactions with her like?
15	A She was always polite and
16	kind to me. She's never given me
17	attitude or bullied me in any sense. She
18	was always very kind to me.
19	Q Did you ever hear anyone use
20	the term "mean girls"?
21	A Yes.
22	Q And in what context did you
23	hear that?
24	A I think when I first got to
25	the travel team and I was trying to

the travel team and I was trying to

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figure out who was who with staff, you know, what their job was, it was kind of known that Melissa DeRosa, Stephanie Benton, Annabel Walsh and I believe Jill -- I forgot her last name.

Q DesRosiers?

A Yes, DesRosiers. They were like the four -- they were like a clique referenced as the mean girls. It was known they would kind of like bully and try to get what they want. Even on our side of things, I heard Annabel would always try to push for aviation to fly when they said it wasn't safe.

Q Did you ever hear the Governor refer to them or any of them as mean girls?

A No.

Q Since December of 2020, have any members of the executive chamber staff reached out to you to talk to you about working with the Governor?

A No.

Q Have any lawyers from the

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executive chamber reached out to you at any point?

A No.

Q Other than discussions with Ms. Joslin or me, has anyone talked to you about this investigation?

A No.

Q Has anyone else ever told you that they had unpleasant or inappropriate experiences with the Governor?

So I think that's a little bit inappropriate. Again, is his bedroom up there? Sure. But he didn't have to say it the way that he did. Again, she

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never told that to me. I had heard that through other people. And I know that he took a lot of liking or gave Trooper

a lot of attention, would always stop the car and talk to her. I was never a witness to any of those conversations. But pretty trooper, that's squared away.

10 Q Is still on the 11 PSU?

A No.

Q Had you ever talked to her about leaving the PSU?

A I might have asked her why she wants to leave. From what I had heard, when she put in to come to PSU, I believe Vinny Straface and other commissioned officers promised her the travel team. But she was assigned to the command center in Albany. And I heard that she had a desk job before becoming a trooper.

So, again, she didn't get the travel team like she was promised,

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and, you know, she didn't want to sit behind the desk for her career, wanted to go back out on the road.

Q Had you ever seen the Governor hug or kiss any members of the executive chambers staff?

A Not that I recall.

Q Had you ever seen the Governor hug or kiss members of the public?

A I don't remember any specific incidents. I do know when I was working the Puerto Rican Day Parade, he interacts a lot with the crowd. So he might have kissed a few people on the cheek, taken a few photos, waved the flag.

Q Did you ever see him do it where some of the persons he was hugging or kissing seemed uncomfortable?

A No.

Q Did you ever see anyone sit on the Governor's lap?

A No.

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Q Did you ever hear any stories about any women sitting on the Governor's lap?

A No.

Q Did you ever witness or hear about the Governor requiring staff members to sing to him or memorize song lyrics?

A No. There was a time that the Governor was singing in the car with me a few times. But he's never asked me, or I never witnessed him ask anybody to sing.

Q What was the Governor singing when he was in the car with you?

A We were -- I was driving.

It was an event in Times Square. I don't remember what the event was. There was no supervisor in the car because the Governor was finishing a speech. So it was him and a staff member. And I believe was the body guy that day. He was in the tail car. And he was asking me -- there's a light that's in

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the suburban that's on the console. But you can kind of like rotate it. And he was asking me if I knew how to like dim the lights or change it. And I was like, You could only like manipulate or change the lighting on the dashboard. And he was singing that Meatloaf song, Paradise by the Dashboard Light. And then he was like teasing me that I was young, and I didn't know the song. And, again, I was focused on my task of driving, getting him there quickly.

So I wasn't really paying attention to what he was saying. I think he was trying to be funny. Again, if you actually think about the lyrics, it's kind of like explicit or sexual.

Q Did you ever hear the Governor saying anything to somebody else that was sexually suggestive?

A No.

Q Did anyone ever tell you about him doing that with either other troopers or staff members?

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A I only heard that he really liked and would kiss her on the cheek. But other than that, no.

Q Other than asking why you didn't wear a dress, did you ever hear the Governor making comments about other people's clothing or appearance?

A No. I remember one time -because I was wearing a black suit, he
told me I looked like an Amish person.
This is in the elevator when I was
catching him. Stephanie Benton was
there. And he was like joking that my
suit jacket was too big. And, you know,
Stephanie was like, Oh, her jacket has to
be big, she has her gun and radio and
played it off that way. But, you know,
you could also interpret it, Are you
suggesting I wear tighter clothes?

So those were probably, you know, a few times he commented on clothing. And I remember one time when I was on the 39th floor with him, I was wearing a black suit, I said, Hey, do I

look Amish today? You know. But him commenting on anybody else's clothing, you know...

Q And did you notice that there was any similar -- did the senior women in the executive chamber dress similarly or did they all have their own style or did you make any observations about that?

A I would say for the most

part -- I mean I know Melissa DeRosa wore

a lot of dresses and heels. Stephanie

wore heels. Annabel was always wearing

heels and, you know, like tight pencil

pants. But other than that, it was kind

of like businessy heels.

Q Did you ever have any interactions or know Charlotte Bennett?

A Yes. I do know her. She sat at the desk outside the Governor's office. And she was a very sweet girl. A few interactions, but nothing like too personal. Maybe small talk about his schedule, things like that.

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2	Q Did she ever say anything to
3	you about what she was experiencing with
4	the Governor?
5	A No.
6	Q Did you know or ever
7	interact with Lindsey Boylan?
8	A No. I never met her.
9	Q Did you ever know or
10	interact with Ana Liss?
11	A No.
12	Q Did you know or interact
13	with anyone with the first name of
14	Kaitlin?
15	A No.
16	Q Did you interact with any of
17	the Governor's executive assistants,
18	other than Ms. Bennett?
19	A No, not that I could recall.
20	Q After the stories started
21	coming out in the press about the
22	Governor's interactions with women, did
23	anyone tell you any stories about
24	anything else they had heard about?

I mean when it first

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came out, I immediately, you know, thought of myself. I was like, oh, no. But it kind of brought me back to when the Governor told me, you know, don't tell anything I say. It was almost like, What is he worried about, like a Me Too movement? If I told her, she would have a similar story? Or what the deal But I didn't really think of anybody else or hear of anything else.

After the stories came out in the press, did any of your coworkers reach out to you to say like, hey, Trooper #1, this sounds like some of the things I've heard, are you okay?

Yeah. I know like

, she reached out to me, , because I told him a lot of my situations and like confided in him. Obviously, , $^{ exttt{SI}}$ #2 and like $^{ exttt{SI}}$ #1. were just like, I can't believe this is happening, you know. And I was like

hoping I wouldn't be, you know, put in the situation because I was so worried

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about exposing like myself and like my privacy. But, you know, at the end of the day, if I could help validate these women, I think that's more important than like my own, you know, personal life, I quess.

Q And just so you know -- and I told this to Ms. Joslin beforehand -- what we told you the first time, we still do not intend to use your name unless you reach out to us and tell us you'd like us to or you're going to The New York Times or something else, we still have discretion to try to keep some things confidential.

A Thank you.

Q You mentioned that the Governor now drives himself.

When did that start?

A The beginning of COVID when the lockdown I guess started.

Q Were there any other situations you witnessed or heard about where the Governor declined PSU coverage?

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A Yeah. There were a few times. I remember he left early, the Mount Kisco house, to go to the Hamptons. And I followed him to the Mobil gas station when he first left. So basically, he pulls out of the driveway. He comes to the Tahoe and says, Hey, I'm good, you know, I don't want coverage. So it puts us in a position where we're like, well, we know what our job is. But this guy is telling you not to.

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2	There are a few other
3	situations I heard that, you know, when
4	he was leaving Mount Kisco, decline
5	coverage, people still did it anyway.
6	And there was a bunch of times now here,
7	he'd be walking his dog, Captain, and
8	decline coverage. And now it's kind of
9	like he had a conversation with the
10	superintendent at the time, Vinny
11	Straface, you know, about signing off
12	that I guess liability in a sense.
13	Q Is there a procedure in

place now for when the Governor declines coverage?

Yup. So if he declines coverage, you don't follow him. You notify your supervisor. And I believe they log it somewhere and who was notified about the decline of coverage.

And has he ever declined coverage when he was with anybody else?

Α I believe with his daughters for a few times, just for like privacy purposes. But I've never seen him with

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like a staffer or anything like that where he had declined coverage.

Q And have any of the troopers who had been around for a long time told you whether any other prior governors ever declined coverage?

A Not to my knowledge, no.

Q When the stories first started coming out about the Governor, did anyone in sort of your chain of command reach out to you to ask you about any experiences you've had with the Governor?

A No.

Q Since the stories came out in the press, have you interacted with the Governor?

A No. I don't believe so. I think I've been in the Tahoe car for the most part. And when I see him, I purposely put my head down. I don't know if I'm just like paranoid. But I'd rather just not engage with him while all this stuff's going on. If I could stay

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off his radar, the better.

Q Since all the stories broke, any incidents where he tried to seek you out at any time?

with the New York Post reporter where he was like, Hey, is he your personal photographer, that was the day that Lindsey Boylan's like op-ed, like explaining the details of her sexual harassment about the poker -- the strip poker on the state jet came out. It was that day. So since then, he was seeking me out when the photographer was there. I haven't spoken to him or like interacted with him.

Q And if I told you that

Ms. Boylan's detailed account came out on

February 24th, does that sound about

right when that event was?

A Yes.

Q Is there anything you'd like to clarify or add to from the things we've talked about today?

A No. 1 do know that well	′
there's an Investigator . I	
don't know what her she never confided	d
in me. I don't know what her	
interactions were with the Governor. But	t
I do know when she was a house trooper,	I
think she had like a problem with	
. But she was basically sent from the	e
house residence to the 633 office sitting	g
at the desk. And then she got promoted	
to investigator, went to the dignitary	
squad which is basically visiting	
governors and VIPs. So I don't know.	
There's some whispers that she can't be	
around the Governor, what the situation	
is. I mean you would have to ask her.	
But, again, if something happened to her	,
she doesn't want to get involved. Just	
putting it out there.	

Anything we asked about or not today, is there any statement you want to make on the record, something that we offer everybody, if you want to add anything?

1
_

A Not that I could think of.

Q I want to thank you for your time once again. If you come across any other documents -- we'll touch base with Lisa -- that would be relevant, we will be asking for those. And I hope we don't have to bother you again.

A I'm happy I could help.

Q This is nobody's idea of fun. So we thank you for your time.

And, again, if anyone reaches out to ask you what we talked about, just let Lisa know.

A Yeah. I know before I did
this interview and when Lisa originally,
you know, said, hey, you're going to go
under oath, I did have to notify my
supervisor. And I told him. I said,
Hey, you know, I have to speak with the
AG again. And he was inquiring, Hey,
what's it about, did they tell you? And
I didn't go into detail. I just said, I
don't know, they just want to ask me a
few more questions. And he was like, Oh,

maybe you'll be the one who brings him down.

So I think people kind of have an idea that something happened. I feel like they don't even want to ask because nobody wants to be in the line of fire of the Governor. Everyone knows he's very vindictive. And, you know, he hasn't met a grudge. I don't know. What's the saying?

Q Who was the supervisor who asked what else we wanted to ask you about?

A Senior Investigator

. And I already told Lisa. And
I'm sure you've probably even heard it
before. Everyone's just nervous,
especially like even me. I'm nervous
that the Governor's going to know I spoke
out, and I'm going to be retaliated
against; you know, I don't even trust my
supervisors. And everybody, for the most
part, gets promoted because they're in
the good graces of the Governor.

2 4

So if they stay quiet or give him information, they'll get promoted, or something good will happen to them. That's just like the culture again in PSU. So it's very like backstabbing, politics, so yeah.

Q I think we said this the first time around, whether I did or not, if anything happens to you, that you even wonder if it's retaliation, let Lisa know, and she will let us know because we take that very seriously.

A Thank you.

(Continued on the following page.)

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2	MS. CLARK: Emily, is there
3	anything I missed?
4	MS. MILLER: I don't think
5	so.
6	MS. CLARK: Thank you again
7	so much. And good luck.
8	THE WITNESS: Thanks.
9	MS. CLARK: Bye.
10	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time
11	is now 3:36 p.m. And we are off the
12	record.
13	(Time noted: 3:36 p.m.)
14	
15	
	Trooper #1
16	
17	
18	Subscribed and sworn to
19	before me on thisday
20	of, 2021.
21	
22	NOTARY PUBLIC
23	
24	
25	

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2	CERTIFICATION
3	
4	
5	I, ANTHONY GIARRO, a Shorthand
6	Reporter and a Notary Public, do hereby
7	certify that the foregoing witness,
8	Trooper #10 Trooper #1 was duly sworn on the
9	date indicated, and that the foregoing, to
10	the best of my ability, is a true and
11	accurate transcription of my stenographic
12	notes.
13	I further certify that I am not
14	employed by nor related to any party to
15	this action.
16	
17	an D
18	
19	ANTHONY GIARRO
20	
21	
22	
23	

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