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IN THE MATTER OF INDEPENDENT
INVESTIGATION UNDER
EXECUTIVE LAW 63(8)
-----x

REMOTE PROCEEDINGS
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021
9:44 a.m.

Reported by: Michele Moskowitz

A P P E A R A N C E S

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[REDACTED]

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. We are going on the record at 9:44 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Thursday, July 8, 2021. Please silence your cell phone, computer tone, or any other electronic devices you have near you. Audio and video recording will continue to take place unless all parties agree to go off the record.

This is media unit number one of the video-recorded deposition of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in the matter of Independent Investigation under New York State Executive Law Section (63)8.

My name is Marc Friedman I'm the certified video legal specialist, your court reporter today is Michele Moskowitz, and we are both from the firm of Veritext Legal Solutions.

This deposition is being held via remote videoconference. All counsel consent to this remote video arrangement and waive any objections to this manner of reporting. If there are any objections to remote swearing or this remote video arrangement,

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[REDACTED]
please state them now.

(No response.)

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Hearing no objection, would counsel now state on the record their appearances and affiliations, beginning with the noticing attorney.

MS. CLARK: Hi, I'm Anne Clark, I'm with the law firm of Vladek, Raskin & Clark, but I am here today in my capacity as a special deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General of the State of New York. Emily.

MR. MILLER: Hi. Good morning. I'm Emily Miller, I'm also with the law firm Vladek, Raskin & Clark and with Anne in my capacity as we've been appointed by the Attorney General of the State of New York.

MS. POTTER: Good morning. This is Lauren Potter, I'm here with my colleagues, Danielle Quinn and Harry Sandick, of the law firm Patterson, Belknap Webb & Tyler, we're here on behalf of the witness, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED].

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Any other appearances?

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[REDACTED]

(No response.)

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would the court reporter please swear in our witness and we can proceed.

[REDACTED] ,

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

EXAMINATION BY

MS. CLARK:

Q. Please state your name for the record.

A. [REDACTED]

Q. [REDACTED] I just said my name again on the record. As you know, I'm Anne Clark. We've met before, but because this is a little bit more formal, there's a few things I have to just go over before we start with the questions.

I'm just advising you that the New York Attorney General has appointed the law firms of Vladek, Raskin & Clark and Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton to conduct an independent investigation under New York Executive Law

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Section (63)8 into allegations of sexual harassment brought against Governor Andrew Cuomo as well as its surrounding circumstances and you are here today pursuant to a subpoena in connection with this investigation.

As you know, this is being video recorded. You are under oath, which means that you must testify accurately and truthfully to the best of your ability as if you were in a courtroom with a judge and jury. Do you understand that?

A. Yes.

Q. At the end I'll remind you -- if you want to make any brief sworn statements, anything you want to add to anything we haven't gone over, or elaborate on anything, you're free to do so, and I'll remind you when we get to the end.

I want to let you know that although this is a civil investigation, the New York Attorney General's Office does have criminal enforcement authority, so if there's any question that you do not want to answer because to answer would possibly incriminate yourself, you're free to not answer the question. The failure to

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answer a question could be used against you in a civil proceeding, but not in a criminal proceeding.

Do you understand that?

A. Yes.

Q. You have counsel here today, so you are free to consult with them about either that privilege or any other privilege issues. We have a court reporter present virtually and so there's a few ground rules that we have to go over to make sure that she can capture things accurately.

One is, and the one that as the day goes on is harder to follow, is if I ask you a question, you have to give a verbal response. So if you just nod your head or say "mm-hmm," that doesn't create a clean written record.

Another thing that becomes hard, especially as the day goes on, is that it's very hard for her to take down what we're saying if we're speaking at the same time. So I will do my very best to make sure you have finished talking before I ask my next question, and when I'm asking a question, even if you are certain where I'm headed, let me get the whole question out

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before you start answering.

If you don't know the answer, just say so. If you don't understand one of my questions, let me know and I will try to rephrase it in a way that makes sense to you. Do you understand that?

A. Yes.

Q. If at any point while we're talking you recall that you want to add or clarify an earlier question, just let me know, speak up. If you need a break at any point, let me know, you can certainly take a break at any point to consult with counsel about any privilege issue. If you just need a break for any other reason, I might -- I'd want you to just finish answering whatever the question is. And I see you have some water, there's more water, I think because of COVID we don't have quite the usual array that a big firm would have.

I just want to confirm that no one -- neither you, nor your lawyers, are recording today's proceedings other than the official recording; is that correct?

A. Yes.

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MS. CLARK: That's correct.

Q. And we're going to direct you that during breaks not to be communicating with anyone as to what is going on with our proceedings. And unlike the last time where we didn't say this to you, under Executive Law Section (63)8, the provision under which we're conducting the investigation, it prohibits you and your counsel from disclosing what we talk about today to anyone else, either what you told us or what questions we asked. If anyone tries to find out from you what was discussed today, let your counsel know and they will let us know.

Do you understand all that?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you on any medications that would affect your ability to testify accurately and truthfully today?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of any other reason why you can't testify accurately and truthfully today?

A. No.

Q. You've stated your name for the

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[REDACTED]
record. Could you state your date of birth and
current home and business addresses?

A. Sure. Date of birth is [REDACTED], the
home address home is [REDACTED],
[REDACTED]. Business address is
[REDACTED].

Q. Have you ever given testimony before?

A. No.

Q. Other than any conversations with
your attorneys, which I do not want you to
disclose, did you do anything to prepare for
today's deposition testimony?

A. No.

Q. Last time, as I said, when we spoke
more informally, we didn't direct you not to
disclose what we talked about, did you talk with
anyone else about what we discussed last time?

A. Not substantively.

Q. What conversations did you have?

A. I definitely had conversations with
my parents; S #5, my boyfriend who I live with;
my work, they know that I'm here; and mostly
[REDACTED].

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[REDACTED]
Q. And with either S #5 or [REDACTED], did you disclose anything that -- the substance of anything we discussed?

A. No.

Q. Has S #5 told you anything about his testimony yesterday?

A. No.

Q. I'm going to ask you -- there's a book in front of you, if you could take off the rubber band, if you could look at tab 1. Is this the subpoena for testimony that you received from us?

A. Yes.

Q. And it's your understanding that you are testifying here pursuant to that subpoena?

A. Yes.

Q. And while you have the book open, if you could turn to tab 2.

(Subpoena for testimony was marked Exhibit 2 for identification, as of this date.)

MS. CLARK: We're going to mark tab 1 as an exhibit. We'll get the court reporter the exhibits later.

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(Subpoena for documents was marked Exhibit 2 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. Is tab 2 the document subpoena that you received from us?

A. Yes.

Q. And are you the person who looked for responsive documents?

A. Yes.

Q. Let me ask it differently. What did you do to see what documents you had that might be responsive to the subpoena?

A. What did I do personally? Nothing. We gave my phone --

(Audio disruption)

A. I didn't do anything individually. Personally I gave over my phone and Apple ID and password for all my communications to be documented.

Q. This is going to be where you are hearing my voice in two places.

If you could just briefly describe your educational background for us.

A. Sure. I have a bachelor's degree

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from SUNY New Paltz in political science and I have my JD from Albany Law School.

Q. What year did you get your undergraduate degree?

A. 2012.

Q. What year did you get your JD?

A. 2015.

Q. And what was the first job you held after law school?

A. After law school I was employed as an Excelsior Service Fellow with the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General.

Q. What is the Excelsior Service Fellowship?

A. The Excelsior Service Fellowship is a two-year public service fellowship for postgrad students, some lawyers, some just MBA students, that is run by I believe the Executive Chamber and you're placed in different agencies based on your background for a two-year service period.

Q. So your first posting was in the Medicare unit?

A. Yes. I was at Counsel's Office of the Medicaid Inspector General's Office.

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[REDACTED]
Q. And how long were you in that position?

A. I was there from September 2015 to December of 2015.

Q. Who were you reporting to during that period?

A. I reported directly to the general counsel. Her name was [REDACTED] I believe.

Q. And what did you do when you were in that unit?

A. I mostly just assisted other attorneys in Counsel's Office. There was some HR aspect of it for the agency and also did a lot of document drafting. The usual type of first-out-of-law-school type job for working with other attorneys.

Q. What was your next posting within the fellowship?

A. Then I was moved in -- or I was called in December of 2015 to interview for a position in the Executive Chamber.

Q. Who called you from the Executive Chamber?

A. No one called me directly from the

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[REDACTED]
Executive Chamber. The woman [REDACTED], who was in charge of -- or my contact with the Excelsior Service Fellowship, was the one that called me and told me to -- you know, told me about possibly coming to the Executive Chamber and she kind of set up the time for me to go over and interview for a position there.

Q. And had you met anyone in the Executive Chamber prior to getting this phone call?

A. No.

Q. And did she tell you why she wanted to talk to you moving to the Executive Chamber?

A. She didn't really specify. She had said the Executive Chamber were looking for some fellows that were already employed by the State to come over and do some different work in the Executive Chamber.

Q. And did you interview with somebody from Executive Chamber after?

A. Yes. So in late -- mid to late December of 2015 I interviewed with Stephanie Benton and Jill DesRosiers.

Q. And at that point had you ever met

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the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you meet him as part of the interview process?

A. No.

Q. And did Ms. Benton or Ms. DesRosiers tell you what sort of role they were looking for?

A. Not really. At first it was just a very general sort of interview, what my interests were, what my work was like in law school and at the Medicaid Inspector General's Office and that was kind of it. They didn't tell me exactly what the roles were. They just said that they were looking for some people, you know, to help work out on some projects and some other different roles in the Executive Chamber.

Q. After that did they offer you a position in the Executive Chamber?

A. They did. A few weeks later I received a call from Jill DesRosiers offering me a position on the briefing team.

Q. What does the briefing team do?

A. The briefing team in a general description, they put together the physical

1 [REDACTED]
2 briefing book that gets sent to the Governor
3 every day based on his schedule, based on his
4 meetings, events, and other documentation that,
5 you know, the rest of the -- or the Executive
6 Chamber or other agencies need to get to the
7 Governor. It's his way of communication.

8 Q. Did you speak to anyone before
9 accepting the position as a briefer?

10 A. I think I only spoke with [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED], the person that was the one that was my
12 communication between me and the Executive
13 Chamber, and she, you know, said that the
14 Executive Chamber is a great place to work and
15 it's a great opportunity for me and that was it.

16 Q. And the briefing position, was that
17 based in Albany?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you said it was putting together
20 the briefing book, what's involved in doing that?

21 A. The day-to-day life is -- it can --
22 it differs based on whatever the Governor is
23 doing. So it mostly entails gathering documents,
24 putting together things based on his schedule.
25 So it really is a day-to-day basis.

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[REDACTED]

So if he has meetings or events, the briefing team is charged with putting together a complete document or multiple documents really for whatever he's doing. So it can entail talking to people within the Chamber or different agencies based on whatever his schedule was.

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Q. When you joined the -- let me back up.

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When you first started as an Excelsior Fellow, did you receive any training about any state policies?

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A. Yes. As a -- as a fellow in general back in the Medicaid Inspector General's Office, they all -- part of the fellowship was also I think once a month there were different gatherings of all the fellows where you did the trainings, we did some seminar type events, and I also at the agency I was placed at did separate training, the State training.

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Q. What State training did you do?

A. I think we did a series of videos and interactive online trainings for, you know, computer use, IT stuff, HR, you know, the whole HR package that comes. I don't remember

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[REDACTED]
specifically the other topics, but there was a wide variety of topics that we were required to do.

Q. Were you given an employee manual when you started the fellowship?

A. I don't specifically remember a manual. We were given a lot of documents so I can't say if they were in those documents or not, but we were given a lot of materials when I did start with the State.

Q. And was part of the training related to sexual harassment?

A. Yes. There was absolutely some documents that we signed and an interactive video that was required on -- I can't remember the site that it was, like the slips or something like that, that we were required to take.

Q. And did the sexual harassment training include going over what the policy was?

A. I believe so.

Q. And did the training cover definitions or describe examples of things that could constitute sexual harassment?

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Q. And did it cover how you could go about reporting sexual harassment if you experienced it or witnessed it?

A. Yes.

Q. When you joined -- moved over to the Executive Chamber, did you receive any additional training in that transition?

A. I don't believe there was additional training, but the trainings I believe are yearly, so I was required to -- once I moved over to the Chamber to complete the trainings by the end of that year.

Q. And did you complete trainings each year?

A. To the best of my knowledge, yes.

Q. And the sexual harassment training, was that a video or web-based training every year?

A. Yes. Video or web based. It was online.

Q. And did you have to do something, either fill out a form or click a button, to affirm that you had completed it?

A. Yes, I think so.

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Q. Did you receive any training about document retention or deletion?

A. I don't believe so.

Q. Did you know whether your State e-mail address was set up for any sort of auto delete function?

A. I don't know about mine personally. I do know that there -- I believe that some people did have a 30- or 60-day deletion set up on their e-mails. I don't believe I had that. I don't -- I don't actually know how I would go about doing that either. But I don't think that I had that on mine.

Q. No one talked to you about "Here's an option for you" or anything along those lines?

A. Not that I can remember.

Q. What was your practice with regard to retaining or deleting e-mails when you were working for the State?

A. I don't believe I deleted anything. Definitely not on purpose. Because those e-mails were very important. A lot of times I would have to go back and search through my e-mails for either documents or communications that we had

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previously done or that were previously sent to me. So it was really beneficial in the briefing team's role to keep everything just in case they came up again.

Q. And were you issued any -- by the State any phones or other communication devices?

A. Yes. I was issued a Blackberry.

Q. And did you have a Blackberry the whole time you were with the State?

A. Yes.

Q. And did you send e-mails on your Blackberry?

A. Yes.

Q. And did the Blackberries also have a way of communicating referred to as PINs?

A. Yes.

Q. How frequently do you use PINs?

A. Definitely not as frequently as e-mails. Sometimes PIN'ing was just easier. It was like a text message. Because I don't -- I don't believe that we could text on the Blackberry, so the PIN was a text equivalent.

Q. Was there anyone in the senior staff that communicated with you by PIN?

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2 A. Sometimes. I would say that a lot of
3 the senior staff used PIN with the briefing team
4 more so about the location of the book in
5 reference to some -- some communications like
6 that. You couldn't really send documents over.
7 For me personally it wasn't really beneficial
8 besides a quick -- a quick answer back and forth.
9 And then just there was a time maybe a year or
10 year and a half after I started that I was
11 charged with PIN'ing the Governor of -- daily
12 of -- regarding the briefing book.

13 Q. Did you ever communicate with the
14 Governor other than either when you saw him in
15 person or by PIN?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Did anyone explain to you why the
18 Governor and senior staff used PINs as opposed to
19 other communication methods?

20 A. I don't believe so. I mean, I think
21 that it was kind of a known -- you know, a
22 secure -- a secure line of text or, you know,
23 messaging, but I think that was really the only
24 option. It was either e-mail or PIN'ing.

25 Q. When you were a briefer, to whom did

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[REDACTED]
you report?

A. During my time there were many different people. It was -- we liked to call it a ruled by committee type job. There was a lot of different people at the briefing team answered to. The book kind of got -- hopped around as far as what senior staff member was in charge of it.

So when I first started -- when I first started, I believe it was mostly Jill DesRosiers. I don't recall her title at the time. And then about eight or so months in, Kelly Cummings was -- I reported to Kelly Cummings. I've also reported to [REDACTED] at one point, [REDACTED]. I think that's it. Directly those were.

Q. Before we get more into your work as a briefer, how long did you stay in the briefing role?

A. From January of 2016 until I left in March of 2019.

Q. When you left in March of 2019, where was your next job?

A. It was at the New York State Inspector General's Office.

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Q. And how did you come to -- what role did you have in the New York State Inspector General's Office?

A. My title there was investigative counsel.

Q. Where was that based?

A. That was -- I was based in New York City, at 20 Broadway I believe was the address.

Q. How did you come to get that job?

A. I would say in late 2018 I had asked Jill DesRosiers to be either moved to a different position in the Executive Chamber or to a position, you know, in an agency and so in the beginning of 2019 I got a call from Laticia Tagliafierro, who at that point was -- or maybe she was going to be, or if not, that she already had been the appointed the Inspector General and asked if I was interested in coming over to the IG's office to work there for her.

Q. And at that point did you know Ms. Tagliafierro?

A. Yes. I worked with her I think throughout my whole time at the Executive Chamber.

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Q. Before she became Inspector General, what role did she have when you were working with her?

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A. She had a couple of different roles over my tenure there. I think the -- I think right before she left she was working in public safety. I believe. She was either the deputy secretary or she might have been special counsel for public safety I think maybe was one of her titles.

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Q. How long did you stay in the Inspector General's Office?

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A. One year.

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Q. Why did you leave the Inspector General's Office?

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A. There were a couple of different reasons. It was definitely a small agency, which can limit your growth and can limit, you know, what they'll pay you. So it just randomly happened that I, you know, got an opportunity to interview at my current job with the Queens District Attorney's Office.

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Q. What's your current position?

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A. Assistant district attorney.

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2 Q. So getting back to when you were a
3 briefer, were there other briefers based in
4 Albany when you started?

5 A. Yes. When I started there was
6 another briefer in Albany, and her name was
7 [REDACTED], who is also an Excelsior Fellow.

8 Q. And at that time were there any
9 briefers in the New York City office?

10 A. Yes. There was one in New York City.
11 Her name was [REDACTED].

12 Q. And during the next couple of years
13 while you were a briefer, what other people went
14 in or out of the briefing role?

15 A. The first -- the new one after [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] both left, her name
17 was [REDACTED]. Then after [REDACTED] I believe [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED] technically -- he wasn't a briefer,
19 but he was directly hired to deal with the
20 briefing book. So it was him and then there was
21 [REDACTED], I believe was the next one.
22 There was also [REDACTED]. I think that's
23 it. And then there was Charlotte, Charlotte
24 Bennet. I think that's all.

25 Q. And when -- you said you were based

1 [REDACTED]
2 in Albany, did you ever work in the New York City
3 office?

4 A. Very often. When I started in
5 January of 2016, [REDACTED] left, I believe
6 it was May or June of 2016, and there wasn't
7 another New York City briefer until I think
8 October of 2016. So there was a couple-month gap
9 where me and [REDACTED] were both traveling down to
10 work part-time in the New York City office.

11 And then after we had another New
12 York City briefer, you know, there were
13 oftentimes where just because there was only two
14 of us there -- you know, a lot of covering each
15 other for vacations and days off and different
16 events that required, you know, another person to
17 be there. So very often I would go between the
18 two offices.

19 Q. About how often did you go down to
20 New York City? Like how many times per week or
21 month?

22 A. When [REDACTED] wasn't there, it would
23 be once a week for either three or four days at a
24 time. When [REDACTED] started, I would say about one
25 or two times a month. And the same thing with

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], it was about one or two times a month.

Q. When you were a briefer where in the -- your office was in the Capitol?

A. Yes.

Q. Where in the Capitol was your office when you were a briefer?

A. When I first started, I was sitting in 254, I believe was the number, which is across the war room from the Governor's office in the Hall of New York. And then I was located in room 228, which is the Hall of Governors, which is closer to the Governor's office on that side, a couple doors down.

Q. My understanding is that the Hall of Governors is the hallway that the Governor's office is on, but his section is secured and then there is some nonsecured offices, correct?

A. Correct. So how the 2nd floor is set up, there's the Hall of Governors and the Hall of New York, which is parallel to each other. The Hall of Governors can be closed off for security purposes. There are secure doors on other sides of the hallway, but all the offices in the Hall of Governors, they're open, you know, you can get

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[REDACTED]
through all of them besides his direct office.

Q. When you were on the Hall of New York side, who was in your vicinity?

A. There was a lot of different people. There was some press people, some PIOs, some public information officers, there were a lot of policy people, and there were some members of Counsel's Office. Really a different mix on that side.

Q. Do you know why it was that you were moved over to the Hall of Governors side?

A. I can't remember specifically. When I started there wasn't -- you know, there was two of us, so we sat together. And I don't believe that there was room, that just wasn't where we were set up, but as time went on, it was just easier for me to be closer to the Governor's office and to senior staff offices, which are located in the Hall of Governors.

So I think it was really just for convenience. I don't think there was a real reason. But it didn't really make a difference.

Q. Whose offices were you near when you were moved to the Hall of Governors?

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[REDACTED]

A. In the Hall of Governors, in 228, it was [REDACTED]. She sat in the same room.

There was also a -- if -- the Capitol has a very interesting office setup. Every -- it's all interconnected because they're, you know, divider offices basically. So directly behind us, a door through our office, was the director of scheduling and then through another office there was intergovernmental affairs, some legislative affairs people, and some operations people directly near there.

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Q. During the time you were a briefer, other than other briefers, who did you work with most often?

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A. Definitely the scheduling team, the operations team, the policy team, and Counsel's Office. Those were kind of the main chunk of people. So we really dealt with everyone.

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Q. Who was handling scheduling when you were a briefer?

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A. When I first started, I believe the director of scheduling was Jill DesRosiers, then I believe it was Andrew Ball, and then I believe it was Annabel Walsh.

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[REDACTED]

Q. When you were in the New York City office, what office were you based in?

A. So that changed as well. When [REDACTED] was still there, she was -- we were on the 38th floor. It was a cube outside -- it was -- in -- on the 38th floor. Then the cube -- the briefing cube was moved to the 39th floor outside of Andrew Ball's office and then I think we were moved back down to the 38th floor at the bottom of the stairs in a bigger office with other people.

Q. And the Governor was on 39?

A. Yes.

Q. How would you describe the atmosphere working in the Executive Chamber?

A. The atmosphere was definitely intense. It was an intense place to work. It was high energy. Most of the people -- oh, I worked with a lot of young people, so I would say that it was a very young professional environment, but it was definitely a difficult environment to work in.

Q. What was difficult about it?

A. There was a lot of certain types of

1 [REDACTED]
2 personalities. When I say young people, they're
3 young and ambitious people and the work -- the
4 day-to-day work was difficult. It was nonstop.
5 It didn't stop for the weekends, it didn't stop
6 on holidays. So it was definitely a high-
7 pressure environment and the day-to-day life was
8 difficult.

9 Q. Did you have to work evenings?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. How often did you work evenings?

12 A. I would say daily.

13 Q. Until about how late?

14 A. I would say the latest would probably
15 be 11:00.

16 Q. How often were you working that late?

17 A. That late would probably be, you
18 know, maybe once a week. The normal day I would
19 say I definitely wouldn't be done before 8 or
20 9:00.

21 Q. When you were there till 8 or 9:00 or
22 11:00, who else was working that late as well?

23 A. Not very many other people depending
24 on what the next day was like. You know,
25 sometimes the scheduling team would still be

1 [REDACTED]
2 there or some members of the operations team
3 would still be there if they were prepping for an
4 event the next day. But the briefing team I
5 would say was probably the long -- the latest
6 team to be around.

7 Q. How often did you work weekends?

8 A. Every weekend.

9 Q. How much did you work every weekend?

10 A. I would say, you know, Saturday and
11 Sundays. There -- I mean, unless we were -- had
12 days off where I was, you know, physically
13 unavailable, you know, we were a weekend -- you
14 know, we were weekend workers as well.

15 Q. And on the weekend work, was it a
16 couple of hours each day or was it full days or
17 something else?

18 A. It really depends. It depends on
19 what he was doing. So if he -- you know,
20 sometimes he does events on Sundays, which means,
21 you know, you work on Saturdays, or if there was
22 events on Mondays, that means that we were
23 working on Sundays.

24 Q. During your time in the Executive
25 Chamber, did any members of staff ever yell at

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you?

A. Yes.

Q. Who yelled at you?

A. I think that there were times where, you know, almost all senior staff has yelled. Melissa DeRosa, Stephanie Benton, Jill DesRosiers, Andrew Ball. I think that was pretty much it.

Q. How often did Melissa DeRosa yell at you?

A. Me directly, not so often. In a group setting, I would say, you know, it was fairly often.

Q. How often did you -- if at all did you hear Ms. DeRosa yell at other people?

A. I don't -- I don't know about me hearing directly her yell at people. You know, it would mostly be on a call. You know, so if I was on that call, I would hear it, but I didn't necessarily, you know, ever hear it in person.

Q. And when you talked about her yelling in a group, would she sometimes yell at one person in front of other people?

A. I never witnessed that necessarily.

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2 I think it was more of -- you know, we have these
3 huge conference calls which includes all of the
4 teams and if there was something that went wrong
5 or something that was -- you know, this is after
6 an event or beforehand, it would kind of just be
7 a general, you know, that was awful, we need to
8 do better. You know, it was kind of a group
9 setting disappointment I would say. So I don't
10 know if anyone was singled out.

11 Q. Did Ms. DeRosa ever make any
12 disparaging or belittling comments to you?

13 A. Not to me.

14 Q. Did you ever hear her make them to
15 anyone else?

16 A. Not directly.

17 Q. What do you mean not -- did you hear
18 about it?

19 A. I don't specifically recall a certain
20 occasion, but you know, she definitely had a
21 reputation of, you know, being a very blunt
22 person and, you know, you wouldn't want to be on
23 her bad side.

24 Q. Who gave you the impression you
25 wouldn't want to be on Ms. DeRosa's bad side?

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2 A. I would say it was just a general
3 knowledge in the entire Chamber. You know, she
4 had a -- she was I would say one of the longest
5 term members of the senior staff and, you know,
6 she was in control and was involved in almost
7 every aspect of the ongoings of the Chamber.

8 Q. How often did Stephanie Benton yell
9 at you?

10 A. Not very often. Again, maybe there
11 were a couple of times when something
12 specifically happened with the book, but it
13 wasn't often at all.

14 Q. Were there any occasions where you
15 witnessed Stephanie Benton yell in the sort of
16 group settling you described for Ms. DeRosa?

17 A. In a different way. Stephanie Benton
18 doesn't really yell. You know, not in a
19 traditional sense. She was definitely another
20 person that -- you know, she was the Governor's
21 top assistant and had worked with him for a
22 number of years and so if she -- you know, you
23 just didn't want to -- I would say disappoint
24 Stephanie either, but I -- she recently didn't --
25 she was involved as much on the day-to-day as

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[REDACTED]
much as Melissa was.

Q. When you say -- you said she did yell sometimes, but then you said she didn't yell in the traditional sense, what do you mean by that?

A. I mean she would yell at me specifically. I think, you know, it was in again, in a specific something happened with the book, but in a group setting it was more of like a reprimanding.

Q. What do you mean by it was more of a reprimanding?

A. You know, guys, we can't have this happen, this is unacceptable, you know, this is not how we do things. Those types of language.

Q. How often did Jill DesRosiers yell at you?

A. Jill DesRosiers I would say not so often. There was a couple of times I would say that I can think of that she kind of raised her voice, but that was -- so I would say not so often.

Q. And did Ms. DesRosiers yell in sort of the group setting you described for others?

A. She definitely, again, participated

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2 in a group reprimand and would probably raise her
3 voice, as far as, you know, again, this is
4 unacceptable, how can -- how can this be -- you
5 know, those kind of talks to the entire group,
6 but I don't really recall anything -- any
7 specific group settings.

8 Q. How often did Andrew Ball yell at
9 you?

10 A. Me specifically, only a few times
11 directly. He was definitely a person who was
12 vocal on those -- on those types of conference
13 calls in a group setting.

14 Q. So when you said he was vocal on
15 those conference calls, you mean he would yell
16 frequently in those?

17 A. Yes. I would say frequently is
18 correct.

19 Q. Did the Governor ever yell at you?

20 A. Me directly, no.

21 Q. Did you ever hear the Governor yell
22 at a group or yell at somebody else in your
23 presence?

24 A. I don't believe he ever yelled in my
25 presence. I can definitely recall times where,

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[REDACTED]
you know, you could hear him yelling,
specifically on the 39th floor, but again, not in
my presence.

Q. On the 39th floor how far away from
the Governor's office were you when you could
hear him yelling?

A. On the 39th floor he was in a corner
office and you could be at the -- you know, a
couple of doors down from him maybe.

Q. Did any interactions you had with
senior staff of the Executive Chamber ever make
you cry?

A. Yes.

Q. How often did you cry as a result of
how someone treated you in the Executive Chamber?

A. I would say there was probably
definitely a handful of times that I can
specifically remember.

Q. Who were the people who made you cry
on those instances?

A. I believe it was Jill DesRosiers,
Stephanie Benton, and Andrew Ball.

Q. And you said about a handful of
times, how many times for each of them?

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A. Usually they were all in the same -- the same occasions. So it would be, you know, the group of them, you know, either there was a problem with the book or, you know, it would be in the same meeting or same occasion that they would be -- you know, that would collectively make me cry I would say.

Q. Were you aware of anyone else who was -- who cried as a result of how they were treated in the Executive Chamber?

A. Yes. Most people I would say.

Q. How often were you aware that somebody was crying because of how they were treated in the Executive Chamber?

A. Not that often that I would directly be -- have knowledge of them crying. I mean, I -- I assume, you know, tensions were high, especially during some seasons of working there, but I would again say a handful of times that I would know direct -- you know, have direct knowledge of someone else crying.

Q. When you left the Chamber, what was your reason for going to Ms. DesRosiers and saying you wanted to move to a different role or

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2 to a different agency?

3 A. At that time I believe Jill's title
4 was chief of staff, I think that she was, and so
5 she kind of was in charge of -- well, one, me as
6 a briefer; and two, she kind of was in control of
7 people moving around throughout the agencies and
8 the Chamber itself. So she was kind of the
9 person to make those moves happen and connect you
10 with the right person.

11 Q. Why were you looking to leave at that
12 point?

13 A. At the time -- so it was about
14 three -- three years that I went to her the first
15 time, you know, looking to leave. I was just --
16 I was just ready to leave. It was a lot. It was
17 nonstop. It was 24/7. So I would say I was
18 pretty burnt out as far as that exact job.

19 Q. Had there been any issue with
20 compensation?

21 A. There was definitely some issues with
22 compensation. You know, I had asked -- I think a
23 couple months prior maybe to the conversation
24 about me leaving, I had asked for a raise and
25 Jill had said that she -- you know, she would

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give me a raise and then at the time I still hadn't received the raise, so then I was kind of just, you know, done. If I couldn't get a raise in the Chamber, I was ready to leave.

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Q. When was the first time you spoke to Ms. DesRosiers about leaving the role as the briefer?

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A. I want to say mid -- mid 2018.

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Q. And what did she say the first time you said you wanted to leave?

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A. The first time I think she had said that, you know, I had -- you know, I'd been there for almost -- or well, three -- almost three years and that, you know, she would help me whenever I can if there was something that I was specifically interested in and then there was definitely the conversation about training someone that would be my replacement.

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Q. What did she say about training someone who would be your replacement?

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A. She said that -- I mean -- that I would need to be around, stick around for a certain amount of time until another person was up to speed so that I didn't leave the briefing

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team with just one person.

Q. When was the next time you had a conversation with Ms. DesRosiers about leaving?

A. I believe it was maybe October or November of 2018.

Q. And what did you say and what did she say in that conversation?

A. During that time, you know, we had -- there were two people that had come in, I don't know if they were fellows or not, that were -- they kind of tried to have them come to the briefing team. I had worked with them for some time. The first one, she didn't like it after two weeks and so she kind of -- she went back to her -- I think she was a fellow because she went back to her original agency.

And so at that point when I went to her, I said, like, you know, I want out, you know, who else can we find to replace me. And so she said okay, we're looking. You know, we're looking for someone else because the prior replacement didn't work out and that she would, you know, see if -- what kind of positions were available where I could move and at that time

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[REDACTED]
soon after I interviewed at the Department of
Labor.

Q. When you had that conversation with
Ms. DesRosiers, who was the person who came and
lasted two weeks?

A. Her name was [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] I
believe is her name.

Q. Who was the other new person who had
started helping out?

A. So at that time I don't know if the
second person had started or not or she had said,
Oh, we have another person. Her name was [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and she was there when I left I
believe.

Q. Was the gist of what Ms. DesRosiers
was saying to you that you could not leave until
there was somebody in place who could assume your
role?

A. Yes.

Q. And the interview you had with the
Department of Labor, is that something you
arranged on your own or something that Ms.
DesRosiers helped you with?

A. Ms. DesRosiers helped me with that.

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Q. And who did you interview with at the Department of Labor?

A. I interviewed with the commissioner, ██████████, and her -- I believe her chief of staff at the time, ██████████ was also there.

Q. What role were you interviewing for?

A. I was interviewing to come on as part of Counsel's Office down in their New York City office.

Q. Were you offered a role in the Department of Labor?

A. I don't know if I was specifically offered a role. It was more of a, you know, if I wanted to come on board, you know, it would be -- you know, that would happen, but again, at that point there wasn't -- there wasn't a person to replace me so everything was kind of on hold.

Q. Your understanding of it being on hold was from Ms. DesRosiers?

A. Yes.

Q. That was, you said, October, November?

A. I believe so.

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Q. When's the next time you had a conversation with Ms. DesRosiers about leaving your role as a briefer?

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A. I believe that was the beginning of 2019, after I had spoken with Laticia.

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Q. And had you reached out to Laticia or had she reached out to you?

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A. She reached out to me.

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Q. And what did she say when she reached out to you?

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A. The conversation was -- we were pretty friendly so it was uncommon for us to chat. She had said look, you know -- I think that she was already appointed at that time, so -- or she was about to be. So she said, you know, I'm going over to this new office, you know, I know that you are trying to leave, would you be interested in coming over to work at this agency.

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Q. Did she say whether or not she had spoken to Ms. DesRosiers about you moving over?

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A. I don't specifically recall if she had at that point. I think that they did speak about it at some point.

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[REDACTED]
Q. What conversation did you have with Ms. DesRosiers about it?

A. At that point I believe that I went to her and said that I had talked to Laticia and she was going over and she asked if I wanted to go over and she had said that that was -- you know, that was fine and at this -- at that point I believe the second person, [REDACTED], had already started. So it was a fine conversation. She was saying okay, that's a great -- you know, great opportunity.

Q. When you left, [REDACTED] had started, who else was doing briefing at that point?

A. At the time I believe -- I believe it was [REDACTED], Charlotte Bennett, and [REDACTED].

Q. Did you ever hear of anyone else having difficulty leaving a position in the Chamber?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you hear about that?

A. I knew it was relatively difficult to leave a position in the Executive Chamber without

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having a replacement.

Q. And where did you get that understanding from?

A. I don't specifically remember who or which position that was, but especially if you wanted to move to a different part of the state, it was kind of a known conversation that, you know, you really can't leave without having a replacement.

Q. Did you hear of anyone having issues leaving to take a position not with the State?

A. I definitely heard rumors of people that had tried to leave the State and, you know, the Chamber finding out about them and kind of making some calls to whoever it was. If they were, you know, a -- not necessarily an agency, but a different place that, you know, has dealings with the Chamber.

Q. Do you recall any specific examples where that happened?

A. I don't specifically recall any one, no. But I do know it was a thing where if people said you were leaving and you said oh, you know, I'm leaving, if you asked them, you know, most

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2 people wouldn't say. That was a common...

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Q. I think when we spoke before you said that the office joke was the only way to leave the Governor's Office was to die, get pregnant, or go to school, is that something that was said around the office?

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A. Yes. Yes.

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Q. How often did you hear that comment?

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A. That was a common -- you know, it was a common joke. You know, a lot of times if you wanted to -- you know, people -- there was another joke about, you know, hitting your two-year mark. You know, once you hit a job at two years and you kind of reevaluate what you wanted to do or if you wanted to go somewhere else, you know, it's not as easy as just moving. Number one, there had to be an opening; and two, the Chamber had to kind of give you their blessing.

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Q. Did you ever hear of anyone having issues even going back to school?

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A. I don't think so. Or no one that I knew personally I don't think.

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Q. When you were a briefer, how often

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2 did you interact with the Governor?

3 A. It depends. There were different
4 time periods. When I first started, you know,
5 the briefers were in most of his -- his
6 scheduling meetings. Those scheduling meetings,
7 they kind of ceased to exist at some point. Just
8 for -- you know, getting everyone involved it was
9 just a little bit too chaotic and then it was
10 daily when I was PIN'ing him. But in person it
11 really depended. I would say maybe once a month
12 depending on where he was and where I was.

13 Q. And those once a month or so in
14 person, was that in meetings or one on one or
15 something else?

16 A. It could be a mixture of both.

17 Q. How often were you -- did you meet
18 one on one with the Governor?

19 A. Meeting one on one I would say it
20 wasn't that often. As far as directly, you know,
21 with the book, sometimes it was, you know, he had
22 questions about something or questions about the
23 book, other times other one-on-one interactions
24 that I had was mainly when I staffed him either
25 on the weekends or holidays or, you know, or in

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2 the morning, those were more common one-on-one
3 interactions.

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Q. When you say when you staffed him,
5 what does it mean to staff the Governor?

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A. The Governor -- when the Governor is
7 at the office, on -- I would say at an off hour
8 or, you know, the weekends or holiday where, you
9 know, his regular staff aren't there, either one
10 or two people depending on availability is there
11 with him. So you kind of do whatever it is that
12 he's at the office doing. It could entail phone
13 calls, dictation. Generally just whatever it is
14 that he was doing at the office.

15

Q. And what sort of roles were people in
16 that would be called upon to staff the Governor?

17

A. Definitely the briefing team mostly
18 because he -- people that he would see on a
19 normal basis. So it was the briefing team, some
20 of the other assistants in both the New York City
21 and Albany office based on where -- what the
22 staffing required, sometimes the press office.
23 Those are the main roles.

24

Q. Who were the executive assistants for
25 the Governor during -- over the time that you

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2 were a briefer?

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A. In New York City when I first started -- I'm trying to think who was there. I don't know if -- besides Stephanie Benton, I don't know who was in the New -- I'm trying to recall who was at the New York City office at the time. I know that it kind of switched on and off.

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There was [REDACTED], Kaitlin [REDACTED], Staffer #5 [REDACTED], other people that kind of filled in. Those were -- you know, during those years, if there wasn't a person in that role, there was definitely [REDACTED] in New York -- that was -- those were all in New York City. In Albany there was Executive Assistant #3 [REDACTED], I believe her name is EA #2 [REDACTED], there's another one named EA #2 [REDACTED].

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Q. Executive Assistant #2?

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A. Yes, Executive Assistant #2. She was also in the Capitol. And then I believe -- I think that was it mostly during my time there I think.

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Q. How often did you staff the Governor on the weekends or off hours?

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A. Maybe a dozen or so times.

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2 Q. How would it come about? Did you
3 volunteer? Did somebody ask you?

4 A. It -- there was a couple of different
5 ways. If it was last minute, it would kind of be
6 an e-mail or a call from usually Stephanie or
7 Annabel to see if, you know, I was around.
8 Sometimes if, you know, there was a big -- he was
9 working on something that it was kind of assumed
10 that he would be in the office on the weekends
11 or, you know, an off day, it would kind of been a
12 arrangement like hey, who's around this weekend
13 in case he comes in.

14 Yeah, that was -- or you know,
15 some -- on some off days, you know, the briefing
16 team usually is there so it was more of a are you
17 guys in the office, you know, he's coming in. It
18 wasn't always a planned thing.

19 Q. Did you ever do any work in the
20 Governor's mansion?

21 A. So the Governor's -- while I was in
22 Albany I was at the Governor's mansion a lot. I
23 did some work in the office there. Not a whole
24 lot of work, but some -- on some occasions, you
25 know, I worked in the office there for last-

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[REDACTED]
minute things or things like that.

Q. And where within the mansion is the office that you worked in?

A. The office that I worked in, it was -- it's on the main floor. It's technically not the office. It's where his staff's office is. There's a -- two computers and, you know, a couple printers there. You know, they have their own little setup there.

Q. When you say his staff, you mean the mansion staff?

A. Yes.

Q. How often did you do that where you worked out of that office?

A. Not very often. A dozen times or so. You know, it would be a last minute -- either a last-minute change or a last-minute, you know, update or something that someone needed there, but it wasn't very often.

Q. Did you work in any other parts of the mansion?

A. No. That was mainly it. When I was there, you know, besides events that were held at the Executive Chamber, I would be there dropping

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2 off the book and I would usually just go right
3 into the kitchen and that's where the book would
4 be placed every night.

5 Q. Did you ever go to the 2nd floor?

6 A. I've been to the 2nd floor a few
7 times. Not necessarily with him. For other,
8 again, events that are held at the Executive
9 Chamber, but never to work.10 Q. What sort of events did you attend in
11 the Executive Chamber?12 A. The Chamber holds a wide variety of,
13 you know, what -- they're called Executive
14 Chamber mansion receptions. They could be either
15 just for staff or they could be receptions after
16 a different event. So there were -- you know,
17 people were invited there. A lot of times during
18 lobby days at the Capitol were big groups,
19 Planned Parenthood, legislative dinners. There's
20 a lot of different smaller events that are held
21 there so as an Albany staffer I would be there a
22 lot.23 Q. When you went to events, was it to
24 work or as a guest or something else?

25 A. I would be a guest if they were -- if

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it was a staff event. Like only staff. But I would go there to work for most other events.

MS. CLARK: Why don't we take five minutes. Let's go off the record.

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 10:43 a.m. We are going off the record and this will end media unit number one.

(A brief recess was taken.)

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Time is 10:59 a.m. We are back on the record and this will be the start of media unit number two. Counsel.

MS. CLARK: Thank you.

Q. Did the Governor ever do or say anything that made you uncomfortable?

A. No.

Q. Did the Governor ever ask you any questions about your personal life?

A. Yes.

Q. What sort of questions about your personal life did the Governor ask?

A. I believe he asked me where I lived at the time. This was in Albany. I think he asked me, you know, if I was married or, you

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[REDACTED]
know, where I had gone to school, kind of general
life questions.

Q. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A. [REDACTED]

Q. Oh, okay.

A. At the time [REDACTED] and I
had -- and I lived just up the block from the
Capitol.

Q. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Q. Did the Governor ask you about that
or talk to you about that?

A. No.

Q. Did the Governor ever touch you?

A. No.

Q. Did he ever hug you?

A. Not in the office. I specifically
recall, you know, we -- the Second Avenue subway
event, which was on New Year's Eve of 2016 going
into 2017, that New Year's, the opening of the
Second Avenue subway, there was a huge party that

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[REDACTED]
was thrown and I believe at that point, you know,
there was a New Year's hug gesture at New Year's.

Q. Did he hug you on any occasions other
than the New Year's Eve event?

A. Not that I can specifically recall.

Q. There could be a range of hugs, what
sort of hug did the Governor give you?

A. I think it was a hug on -- and with a
kiss on the cheek, you know, happy new year.

Q. And where was the Governor's hands
when he hugged you?

A. I -- I don't remember.

Q. Did you see the Governor interacting
with anyone else at that -- that New Year's Eve
event?

A. Yes.

Q. Who did you see him interacting with?

A. Pretty much everyone. His family was
there, other members of the senior staff were
there, other staff members were there, and as
well as guests.

Q. Did you see him hug or kiss anyone
else at the event?

A. Not that can specifically remember,

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but I assume that it did happen.

Q. Did he ever hug or kiss you at any other -- on any other occasions?

A. Not that I can specifically remember.

Q. Did he ever, you know, pat you on the arm or shoulders or anything like that?

A. It may have happened, but again, not that I can specifically remember.

Q. Did he ever touch you on your rear end or anything like that?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever see in the office the Governor hug or kiss anyone?

A. I don't think so. Not that I can specifically remember.

Q. And either in the office or at events, did you ever see the Governor kiss anyone on the lips?

A. No.

Q. Did the Governor ever use any terms of endearment for you, calling you honey or dear or anything like that?

A. No.

Q. Did you hear the Governor use any

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terms like that for anyone else in the office?

A. No.

Q. Did the Governor have any nicknames for you?

A. For me? No.

Q. Did the Governor have nicknames for other people?

A. A lot of the senior staff had nicknames. Melissa, you know, she -- it was a common nickname, Missy. Annabel, I think she was Anna May Bell. Jill was Jilly. I don't remember if I -- if he specifically used them. I kind of -- I would say yes, but it was definitely there were common nicknames for those.

Q. Did the Governor ever curse in your presence?

A. Not that I specifically remember.

Q. Did the Governor ever throw anything at you?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever see the Governor throw anything at anyone else?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear about the Governor

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[REDACTED]
throwing something at anyone?

A. I don't know if I've heard of him throwing anything. I've heard maybe of him, you know, slamming the phone or, you know, other things like that, but I don't think -- never throwing anything at anyone.

Q. Did you ever hear the Governor threaten anyone in any fashion?

A. No.

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

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear secondhand about anyone who saw someone sit on the Governor's lap?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Did you hear any rumors about someone sitting on the Governor's lap?

A. Specifically about sitting on the -- on his lap? I mean, I don't specifically recall. Maybe there was -- maybe there was a rumor about [REDACTED] SS #3 maybe for some reason that comes to mind, but I don't -- not that I can specifically remember.

Q. Did you ever hear anything about the

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Governor putting his head on somebody else's lap?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever see the Governor engage in any conduct that you would categorize as flirting?

A. I don't think so. Not in my presence.

Q. Did you ever hear from anyone else about the Governor engaging in flirtatious behavior?

A. I definitely heard of the Governor being, you know, pretty friendly with some members of the senior staff.

Q. And what did you hear about that?

A. You know, I've heard that, you know, he was very comfortable, you know, with his senior staff members who have been with him for a long time. Just comfortability. You know, a lot of times those were the only people that were really in his meetings and things like that, you know, at the mansion.

Q. Who were the people that you understood him to have that sort of relationship with?

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[REDACTED]
A. Melissa, Stephanie, Annabel, I guess
Jill as well.

Q. When you said that he was sort of
friendly with them, what sort of conduct are you
talking about?

A. Just that they were always around
him. They -- you know, a lot of his meetings
were, you know, pretty small, you know. Internal
meetings were -- a lot of times were just that
kind of group. A lot of, times, you know, they
were at the mansion, you know, after an event or,
you know, during a weekday for again like a small
internal meeting. So I think it was pretty well
known that they were, you know, a close-knit
group.

Q. Did you ever see any physical contact
between the Governor and [REDACTED] SS #1 ?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Did you ever see any physical contact
between the Governor and [REDACTED] SS #2 ?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Did you ever see any physical contact
between the Governor and [REDACTED] SS #3 ?

A. I don't think so.

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2 Q. Did you ever see any physical contact
3 between the Governor and [REDACTED]?

4

A. I don't think so.

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6 Q. By the way, did you ever see or hear
7 of any of the senior staff crying because of the
8 way they were treated by the Governor or somebody
9 else on senior staff?

9

A. I don't think so. Not specifically.

10

11 Q. Do you recall generally either seeing
12 or hearing about that?

12

13 A. I mean, I think, like, I kind of
14 mentioned, like, that. At those internal
15 meetings would definitely be the ones I think
16 that he would be, you know, upset or yelling
17 about. Those were the -- you know, so they were
18 with him a lot so if there was yelling going on,
19 it was usually at or directed towards that group.

19

20 Q. Did the Governor ever comment on your
21 appearance or clothing?

21

22 A. I don't specifically recall of a
23 time, but I -- I kind of -- I mean, I remember,
24 you know, he's definitely said, Oh, you look nice
25 today or things like that, but no specific
occasion.

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Q. Have you heard him making such comment to anyone else about their appearance or their clothing?

A. I think so. And again, nothing that I can -- that specifically comes to mind, but you know, there definitely -- oh, you know, you look nice today, you know, things like that for sure.

Q. Did you ever witness the Governor ask a woman wearing a dress to spin around in her dress?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Did you ever hear anything about anything like that?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Did the Governor ever make any jokes that had sexual connotations in your presence?

A. Not to me, no.

Q. Did you ever hear about the Governor making comments or jokes that had sexual connotations?

A. Again, if those jokes were made, I -- it wasn't in my presence or, you know, people that I would, you know, be talking to.

Q. Did you ever hear about the Governor

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2 asking somebody to sing for him?

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A. I have heard, yes, of him doing that.

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Q. What did you hear about that?

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A. I think I heard that through the news. I believe that was, like, in one of the articles that had come out.

8

Q. Other than from articles, did you hear anything about the Governor asking somebody to sing or to memorize song lyrics?

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A. I don't think so.

12

Q. Did you ever hear the Governor sing in the office?

13

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A. Yes.

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Q. How often did he sing?

16

A. I don't even think I could put a number to it. I think it was a general, you know, he was in a good mood, he -- you know, and singing to himself. If you were near the office, that would be another thing that you would -- you know, you would or could hear.

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Q. Any particular songs you recall the Governor singing?

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A. No, nothing specific.

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Q. Did you ever hear the Governor make

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any comments or ask any questions about anyone's sex drive?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear the Governor ever make any comments about the size of his hands?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear the Governor ever comment about anyone's tattoos or hear about that?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear anyone in the office refer to any group of employees as the mean girls?

A. Yes.

Q. Who was -- in your understanding, who was part of the mean girls?

A. The mean girls. Definitely Melissa, Stephanie, Jill, Annabel.

Q. Who did you hear making comments about the mean girls?

A. I would say it was a common -- common phrase used among, you know, the junior staffers.

Q. In what context would it be used?

A. Like I said, those -- that group

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2 was -- they were pretty much in charge of, you
3 know, everyone else's -- of every -- everyone
4 else and everyone's individual team, so a lot of
5 people, you know, interacted with them and I
6 think, you know, it would be used as like oh,
7 have -- has this been around through the mean
8 girls, you know, in a casual sense or joking
9 sense as well.

10 Q. Did anyone ever tell you what the
11 origin of that nickname was?

12 A. I don't think anyone told me that
13 specifically. I kind of assumed it was, you
14 know, from the movie.

15 Q. Did you ever hear the Governor make
16 any reference to the mean girls?

17 A. Not in front of me, no.

18 Q. Did you ever hear any of the women
19 who were within the mean girls refer to the mean
20 girls?

21 A. I don't know if I heard directly them
22 call themselves the mean girls, but I'm pretty
23 sure that they knew that other people called them
24 the mean girls.

25 Q. And what makes you pretty sure about

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that?

A. Again, it was pretty widely used. It wasn't necessarily a secret -- a secret term that was used so I kind of assumed that it had gotten back to them at some point.

Q. Did you ever hear whether they were upset about being referred to as mean girls?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear that they liked being called the mean girls?

A. Not -- I -- I don't think so.

Q. Did you ever hear Melissa DeRosa introduce herself as Regina George, the head mean girl?

A. I had not heard that.

Q. It looks like you could picture it from your reaction.

A. I have not heard that. No, I haven't -- I hadn't heard that before today.

Q. Does it surprise you?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear the Governor speaking Italian to anyone?

A. I don't think -- not in front of me.

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[REDACTED]

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Q. Did you ever hear about -- other than from any press reports hear about the Governor speaking Italian to anyone?

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A. I don't think so.

6

Q. Did you ever know of the Governor hiring or expressing an interest in hiring a woman after meeting her at an event?

9

A. Yes, I had -- I have heard of that.

10

Q. What have you heard about that?

11

A. I've heard specifically about two people. One of -- the first one I believe her name -- I think her -- I'm not sure what her married name is, but at the time her name was [REDACTED]. I think that she had kind of gone up to him at an event, I'm not sure where she had worked, maybe a different agency or something like that, and had asked, you know, to come work for him and, you know, then she did come work for the Chamber.

21

Q. What position did she hold?

22

A. She worked in legislative affairs I believe.

24

Q. Who was the other person?

25

A. Kaitlin [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED]

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Q. What did you hear about that?

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A. I had heard that at some fundraiser or campaign event that she was there working at whatever job she had before coming to the Chamber and that she was there ready with her resume and kind of caught the Governor as he was leaving an event and asked to come work for him.

9

Q. Who did you hear that from?

10

A. I don't specifically remember who it was -- who it came from. I want to say maybe it was one of the members of the detail, but I don't know.

14

Q. When you say the detail, that's the PSU?

16

A. Yes, the PSU.

17

Q. And I forget dates, so were you there before [REDACTED] Kaitlin or was she there before you?

19

A. I was there before her. She started in early 2017.

21

Q. Did you ever hear about anybody else -- did you ever hear of any men getting hired after the Governor met them at an event?

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A. Not that I specifically can remember.

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Q. Did you ever hear of any instances

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[REDACTED]
where the Governor met someone at an event and was trying to track them down to reach out to them about hiring them?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Do you recall which member of the PSU might have told you about [REDACTED] Kaitlin [REDACTED] ?

A. No.

Q. Do you recall how it came up that a member of the detail was telling you about [REDACTED] Kaitlin [REDACTED] 's hiring?

A. I don't.

Q. Did anyone ever tell you that the Governor had any sexual or romantic relationships with anyone on staff?

A. I don't know about someone in -- specifically. And there are definitely rumors that, you know, some of the junior level staff talked about.

Q. What were the rumors the junior level staff talked about?

A. May have been that there had been a relationship with [REDACTED] SS #2 [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] SS #1 [REDACTED] .

Q. And did anyone ever tell you what the basis of those rumors were?

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[REDACTED]

A. No.

Q. Did you ever see any interactions between the Governor and either [REDACTED SS #2] or [REDACTED SS #1] that suggested to you that there was or had been a relationship?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear about -- let me back up.

Did anyone ever complain to you about how the Governor treated them?

A. I think I had heard, you know, directly or indirectly through some people that, you know -- that he was hard to work for, but nothing -- I can't remember anything specifically.

Q. Did you ever hear -- even if someone didn't come speak directly to you, but did you hear about that somebody had any particular issues working with the Governor?

A. I don't know about particular issues. I think that, you know, it was kind of a general, you know, he can be difficult to work for, it was a very demanding job to work directly with him.

Q. When people said he could be

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difficult to work for, what was your

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understanding about what made him difficult to

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work for?

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A. The hours could be very long,

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sometimes, you know, very early to very late.

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And it was a high pressure job, so you know, if

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the Governor wanted some kind of information or

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someone on the phone or things like that, and you

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know, it's not as easy as that sounds, so I think

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it could be, you know, pretty demanding and he

12

was -- you know, could be difficult to work with

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when, you know, you couldn't necessarily

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accomplish those tasks.

15

Q. And when you couldn't necessarily

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accomplish those tasks, in what ways would the

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Governor be difficult?

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A. Again, not -- not from personal

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knowledge, but I think, you know, he could, you

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know, maybe yell or, you know, be stern or, you

21

know, be unhappy or disappointed that, you know,

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you didn't do what he asked.

23

Q. And did you either experience or hear

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of occasions where the Governor was -- you sort

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of hinted at it just now -- blaming people for

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2 things that were beyond their control?

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A. Yes.

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Q. How often did that happen?

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A. I would say pretty often. I would
6 say that, you know, even for an example of, you
7 know, I want this person on the phone. Okay, you
8 know, if you couldn't get that person on the
9 phone, that's not necessarily your fault, you've
10 left messages, called their numbers, and you
11 know, but he would still probably be upset with
12 the person that was trying to get them on the
13 phone.

14

Q. Can you recall any other
15 circumstances where the Governor would be angry
16 for -- at somebody for not -- for doing something
17 or not doing something that was beyond their
18 control?

19

A. Not specifically. Maybe if it
20 related to the book, you know, you know, where is
21 the book, where is this, where is that. And it
22 would probably be directed at his senior staff,
23 which would then be directed at me, you know,
24 where is this speech. I don't write the
25 speeches, I just kind of coordinate the speeches.

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So maybe indirectly like that.

Q. And did you get the sense that the Governor would express his anger to the senior staff and then the senior staff would direct it down to the junior staff? Was that how it worked?

A. I think so.

Q. And as a junior staff receiving this, did you sometimes then yell at other people because of what was coming down the line to you?

A. I don't know if I -- I ever yelled at people. I would definitely be, you know, anxious for someone to give me what I needed so I could do my job, you know, if -- at the demand of others.

Q. Did the Governor ever give you flowers?

A. Yes.

Q. How many times?

A. Once on Valentine's Day.

Q. What year was that?

A. I believe it was 2017.

Q. And tell me what you recall about that.

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2 A. I remember that day, it was -- we
3 were in the Capitol. It was during session so
4 most of the New York City staffers were also
5 there because it was a session day and I
6 remember -- I think I -- I believe I came back to
7 my desk -- I never saw anyone give it to me, but
8 I came back to my desk and there was a rose with
9 a note attached that said "Happy Valentine's
10 Day."

11 Q. And how was it signed?

12 A. I think it was just -- I think it was
13 just "Andrew Cuomo," you know, his usual
14 signature.

15 Q. What was your reaction when you saw a
16 rose from the Governor on Valentine's Day?

17 A. I think at first I thought it was
18 humorous. I had seen at that point when I had
19 gotten mine that other people had gotten them. I
20 thought it was just a -- part of a swag gesture,
21 you know, which we do get as members of the
22 Chamber.

23 Q. Who else did you see who had gotten
24 roses?

25 A. At that point I believe definitely

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██████████ and definitely other women -- most all women that I had, you know, been in contact with in the Capitol that I had seen.

3

4

5

Q. Did any of the men get any gifts from the Governor on Valentine's Day?

6

7

A. No.

8

9

Q. Did any of the women find it odd that their boss was giving them a flower on Valentine's Day?

10

11

A. No one that I had spoken to.

12

13

Q. Did you get gifts -- you mentioned swag. Did you get gifts on other occasion?

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A. Yes. There was Christmas gifts that were given out to members of the Chamber. At most of his events or receptions there's some sort of tchotchke that -- you know, giveaway. But I think the gifts are really at the end of the year, the Christmas or holiday gifts that they would give out.

21

22

Q. Were those gifts from the Governor or from the Chamber or what was your recollection?

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A. I think it was from the Chamber in general. I'm sure at his direction, but from -- I think they came from the Chamber.

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Q. And what holiday gifts did you get?

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A. I believe there was a duffel bag, there was a pullover, there was a blanket. I think that's it. I think those three.

6

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Q. And those three things, were those sort of swag things with a seal on them --

8

A. Yes.

9

Q. -- or were they just --

10

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A. Yes. Yes. The blanket was the seal.

It was a huge seal blanket. The duffel bag had the seal on it and as well as the pullover.

13

14

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Q. For those gifts, the pullover, the duffel bag, and the blanket, were those given to men and women alike in the Chamber?

16

A. Yes.

17

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19

Q. Did you know of anyone who got different gifts than the sort of swag gifts at the holidays?

20

21

A. The senior staff during the holidays got different gifts than the other staffers.

22

23

Q. What sort of gifts did you hear about them getting?

24

25

A. The one I know specifically of, I think the year that we got the pullovers, I

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2 believe they got, like, jackets I think that were
3 only for the senior staff. I think that's all
4 that I can specifically remember.

5

Q. Did you ever hear about or see any
6 senior staff members getting more personal gifts
7 like, you know, jewelry or perfume or things like
8 that?

9

A. No.

10

Q. After you left your position as a
11 briefer, did you keep in touch with anyone you
12 had worked with in the Chamber?

13

A. Yes.

14

Q. Who have you kept in touch with?

15

A. I want to say everyone. Most people
16 that I, you know, regularly had contact with
17 while I was working there. Definitely [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED], she was my roommate; members of the
19 operations team; [REDACTED]; members of the
20 legislative affairs team; [REDACTED]; some of
21 the regional representatives who -- throughout
22 the state, mostly in New York City because I had
23 moved to New York City at the time, so [REDACTED]
24 [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Staffer #4, loosely
25 other people, as well as some -- you know,

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[REDACTED]
definitely Stephanie Benton and Annabel Walsh.

Q. And while you were in the Chamber, did you ever socialize with any of the members of the senior staff?

A. There were occasions maybe after an event or at one of those executive mansion receptions that the senior staff would also be present.

Q. After you left the Chamber, how often were you in touch with Ms. Benton?

A. Not often. I did see her at a few events. I also -- I saw her I think twice maybe through my job at the IG's office. That's pretty much it.

Q. What sort of events did you see Ms. Benton at after you left the Chamber?

A. One that I can specifically recall was Alphonso David's going-away party. I believe I saw her there. Most former staff, most of the people that I just listed, they were also there. I think I saw her on one or two other occasions maybe when I had gone to see other friends that were still working in the Chamber at the time.

Q. And other than running into her when

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the Chamber or just social media?

A. Both I would say.

Q. What sort of events did you see her at?

A. I think I also saw her at Alphonso's going-away party. I think maybe it was -- I -- a parade I think I saw her. I think those are the only few ones that I can specifically remember.

Q. And what sort of purely social interactions have you had with her?

A. I saw her at ██████████'s going-away party, I've seen her at maybe a couple other happy hours since I left.

Q. And who attends those happy hours?

A. Mostly other former Cuomo people, people that still stay in touch. Depends on where it is. You know, if it was after an event and I would go, things like that.

Q. Did you ever socialize with Ms. Walsh while you were in the Chamber?

A. There were definitely times that, you know, if they were in Albany -- and Albany is a small place, you know, there's only so many restaurants and bars that are -- you know, you

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[REDACTED]
can go to so, you know, I would definitely see her out if she was in Albany.

Q. Have you spoken to -- when's the last time you spoke to Ms. Walsh?

A. Maybe December of 2020.

Q. And was that at all related to anything going on with Lindsey Boylan or was it unrelated?

A. Yes. That was related.

Q. What conversations did you have in December of 2020 with Ms. Walsh?

A. Some of those conversations were with myself, Annabel, and Stephanie Benton regarding the list of people who had -- that they had come up with, you know, to reach out to.

Q. And we'll come back to that.

Did you have any other conversations just with Ms. Walsh in that time period?

A. The only other thing I can specifically remember is, you know, again, when [REDACTED]'s going-away party happened, which I think was in October of 2020, I kind of -- I talked to Annabel about, you know, the party, things like that.

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[REDACTED]

Q. Why don't we -- we're going to start looking at some documents. I see you have the binder in front of you. If you could turn to tab 3.

(Test messages were marked Exhibit 3 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. It looks to me like these are some text messages between you and [REDACTED], is that your understanding?

A. Yes.

Q. And this is dated February 28, 2021, do you recall what prompted this exchange?

A. February of -- February 28th. I don't specifically know what we were talking about. I assume it was after one of the allegations.

Q. If you turn -- if you notice that the bottom right-hand corner has numbers stamped, if you could turn to the one that's stamped 26964. And let's start at the first page. The first page is you writing to [REDACTED] saying, "But is that harassment or are we just looking into every little thing now?"

Why were you asking that question?

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██████████
A. I believe that we were talking about one of the -- one of the allegations that had been made public at the time and I think we -- and we were discussing whether or not, you know, those actions that we had read in those articles constituted harassment.

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Q. You don't recall as you sit here today which of those allegations it was?

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A. No.

Q. And the page I started to direct you to, page 2964, ██████████ wrote to you, "Like is creepy harassment." Do you know what she was talking about there?

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A. I don't. I don't specifically remember.

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Q. Was there any behavior the Governor ever engaged in that you were aware of that you would characterize as creepy?

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A. I don't believe so. I do understand that, you know, interactions could have happened, you know, with other people but not with me specifically.

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Q. Did ██████████ ever describe to you any interactions she had with the Governor that

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[REDACTED]
she considered creepy?

A. I don't think so.

Q. And if you look at page 2968, you wrote, "Or that's his way of talking to people." What were you referring to there?

A. Again, I'd have to look at the actual allegation we're talking about, but I believe that, you know, we are going back and forth about, you know, whatever the article had said and were kind of speculating as to whether or not those actions constituted harassment or was that his way of speaking to people. You know, that was just a back and forth between me and her.

Q. If you continue on, you then wrote on the next page, "Not even just women."

[REDACTED] said, "Right. She wrote "AWKAF."

Is it your understanding she was -- that meant awkward as fuck?

A. Yes.

Q. And then on the next page you said, "That makes me feel a little better."

And then on page 29 -- 6973 you wrote, "If I thought he did that to only women, I

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2 would be more freaked." What were you referring
3 to there?

4 A. I think this specifically refers to,
5 you know, the Governor has a way of commanding a
6 room let's say. You know, when he talks to
7 people, he knows that he's the most powerful guy
8 in New York, that can be pretty intimidating, and
9 I think that's what I was referring to, you know,
10 he speaks to people in an authoritative and
11 intimidating manner, you know, to both men and
12 women in this scenario, I think that's what I'm
13 referring to.

14 Q. Were you aware of him asking staff
15 members questions about things like their dating
16 life or their sex life?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. What knowledge did you have about
19 that?

20 A. One that specifically comes to mind,
21 I do remember hearing that he asked [REDACTED]
22 and [REDACTED] whether they were dating at
23 the time and both of them -- I think he asked
24 both of them because he had closely worked with
25 both of them at the time when they were still

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[REDACTED]
there.

Q. Did you hear him talk to any other staffers about their romantic or sex lives?

A. Not that I can specifically remember.

Q. You can put that aside for a moment. Did you ever work with Lindsey Boylan?

A. Yes.

Q. And what was -- is that when you were a briefer?

A. Yes.

Q. And what was her role at the time?

A. When I started she was still working at ESD. I believe she was the chief of staff at ESD. And then at some point, you know, while I was working there she came over to the Chamber and I believe was either policy advisor or deputy secretary for Economic Development.

Q. When she was still at ESD, did you work with her at all?

A. Yes.

Q. How frequently did you work with her when she was at ESD?

A. I would say pretty frequently during

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those times there were a lot of Economic

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Development projects and things that were going

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on at the time so a lot of the events and

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meetings were about Economic Development projects

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so she would be the one that would be my contact

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for any information that was included in the

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Governor briefing book.

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Q. When she moved to ESD -- out of ESD

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to the Chamber, how frequently did you work with

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her?

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A. Again, I would say it stayed the

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same. Pretty frequently.

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Q. And what were your interactions with

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her like?

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A. They were mostly fine. You know, I

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would say the same as other members of our team

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or agency team that we would work with regularly.

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I did find that sometimes she was a little bit

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difficult to work with just because of, again I

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was demanding something and, you know, sometimes

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it was like pulling teeth to get information that

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I needed for the briefing book.

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Q. And was it typical of other people

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you dealt with?

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A. At that time, yeah.

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Q. Did she ever engage in any conduct that you thought was inappropriate or crossed any lines with you?

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A. I don't think so. I mean, I think there were times where she was short with me.

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Again, not super uncommon.

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Q. Did you ever see Ms. Boylan interact with the Governor?

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A. Yes.

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Q. How often did you see Ms. Boylan interact with the Governor?

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A. There were definitely times when -- especially when she came over to the Chamber, you know, she kind of was in a lot of these meetings and she would be -- she was at a lot of events I would see her at and just generally around the office.

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Q. And was there anything you noticed about her interactions with the Governor that -- that was out of the ordinary?

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A. No.

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Q. Prior to December of 2020, had you heard other people in the Chamber talking about

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[REDACTED]
Ms. Boylan?

A. Yes.

Q. What sort of things has you heard about Ms. Boylan prior December 2020?

A. I would say that Lindsey Boylan had a general -- there was a general knowing that she was difficult to work for and work with. I think that was kind of a common knowledge, you know, with most people that worked in the Chamber. I'd also heard rumors, you know, about how she left. I think that she left after I did or right around the same time, so I kind of heard rumors about how she left and things of that nature.

Q. When you said you heard about her being difficult to work with, did people say in what way she was difficult to work with?

A. I had heard that she was mean to some of her assistants at ESD [REDACTED]. Those kinds of things.

Q. Do you recall who told you about those things?

A. I don't specifically remember who.

Q. Did you ever see her throw something

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at anyone?

A. No.

Q. Prior to December of 2020, did anyone describe to you or tell you about any interactions between Ms. Boylan and the Governor that anyone thought was out of the ordinary?

A. No.

Q. You said you heard rumors about how she left, what did you hear?

A. I had heard that there were a couple of complaints against her and that there was some sort of counseling session between her and Alphonso David and that she was forced to resign.

Q. Do you recall who told you that?

A. No.

Q. And was that around the time she left or at some later point?

A. I think that was around the time that she actually had left.

Q. Did you ever see Ms. Boylan upset in the office?

A. No.

Q. And where -- was her office based in New York City?

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A. Yes.

Q. So did you ever see her up in Albany or did you only see her when you were in the city?

A. Both.

Q. When did you first learn that Ms. Boylan was making any allegations about her interactions with the Governor?

A. Oh, I think the first was when she had tweeted in December of 2020.

Q. And how did you become aware of her tweet?

A. I saw -- either I saw the tweet or the tweet was sent to me in one of my group chats.

Q. And what's the first tweet that you recall seeing?

A. I think it was a very general, you know, the Governor sexually harassed me and I think that was -- it was a very general tweet.

Q. If you turn to tab 4, we have some --

MS. CLARK: We'll be marking this and tab 3 as exhibits.

(Tweets were marked Exhibit 4 for

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identification, as of this date.)

Q. There's some of Ms. Boylan's tweets. So it starts on December 5th talking about "most toxic team environment working for @NY.gov Cuomo." Is that the first one you saw or did you see a later one?

A. This isn't the one that I was referring to, but I think I probably did -- I probably did see this tweet.

Q. If you turn a couple of pages to the page in the lower right-hand corner that says 5, this is some tweets from December 13th where she first uses the phrase "sexual harassment." Are these the tweets that you were thinking of at first?

A. Yes.

Q. At that point did you know what she was referring to?

A. No.

Q. At a later point did you see the post that she posted to Medium?

A. Yes.

Q. If you could turn to tab 5.

MS. CLARK: And we'll mark that as an

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[REDACTED]

exhibit.

(Medium post was marked Exhibit 5 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. Is that the Medium post that you saw?

A. Yes.

Q. How did this come to your attention?

A. Again, I think it was either I saw it on Twitter or someone had sent it to me in one of my group chats.

Q. And did you have any knowledge about any of the specific allegations that she made in the post on Medium?

A. Not -- I mean, not necessarily directly. I mean, I did have some knowledge about the rose part of it as well as the picture allegation that she says later on towards the end I believe. But I had not seen any of that until this Medium article came out.

Q. When the tweets first came out, you said it might have been part of a group chat, who did you have group chats with about this?

A. Definitely me, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. There was definitely another of me, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. I think there was

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[REDACTED]
another one me, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]
Staffer. Those I think are the main ones.

Q. Let's start with tab 6, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 6 for identification, as of this date.)

A. Oh. And this, yeah.

Q. It looks like this one is you, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. I think you said [REDACTED] had been a briefer as well?

A. Yes.

Q. And [REDACTED] had been a briefer?

A. Yes.

Q. And [REDACTED] started, "I used to have a girl crush on Lindsey when she worked at ESD. She's totally lost her marbles."

Did you know what interactions [REDACTED] had had with Ms. Boylan?

A. I believe it was probably the same as I had, you know, she -- while she was working in the New York City office as a briefer.

Q. And did she ever tell you what she meant by saying she had a girl crush on Lindsey?

A. I don't believe so.

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Q. And did you know what she was referring to when she said, "She's totally lost her marbles"?

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A. I think this was post Lindsey tweeting.

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Q. It was your understanding she was referring to the tweets?

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A. Yes.

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Q. A couple of pages in you write, "Yeah, I think she's really lost it." And that's in reference to her tweets?

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A. Yes.

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Q. And why did you think she'd lost it by tweeting that?

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A. And I know I said before that she -- that in December was the only time that I knew that she was coming forward. She had previously tweeted about other members of the Cuomo administration, not necessarily about the Gov I don't think, but about other people. So she kind of was very active on Twitter calling people out and, you know, saying things like that so I think, you know, when we were looking -- it was a common send her tweets around type thing.

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[REDACTED]
Q. Do you recall who else she had
tweeted about or called out on Twitter prior to
this point?

A. Prior? I don't specifically
remember. I know post she also tweeted about a
lot of members, but I don't remember. She was
just very active on Twitter.

Q. Did you follow her on Twitter?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you start following her?

A. I don't remember before this.

Q. On the page stamped 1839, you write,
"I also think I heard some weird stuff about [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] What were you referring to there?

A. I think I was saying -- I mistexted
and that was supposed to be about [REDACTED],

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Q. What did you hear about [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] while she was there?

A. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

Q. Do you recall who told you that?

A. I don't remember specifically. It

1 [REDACTED]
2 might have been [REDACTED]. It might have
3 been -- you know, I'm not sure who exactly told
4 me.

5 Q. The next text is from [REDACTED]
6 saying in part, "According to [REDACTED], she [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED], so it pisses me off
8 that she's crying feminism now." Who is [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]?

10 A. [REDACTED] was the -- I don't
11 remember his -- specifically his title. He
12 was -- the Jewish community liaison in the
13 Governor's Office while we worked there.

14 Q. And did [REDACTED] tell you --
15 strike that.

16 Did you think it was relevant to her
17 tweets [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]?

19 A. At this point I think it was
20 definitely, you know, a follow-up with -- when we
21 were discussing those tweets that she had had
22 [REDACTED]. Some of the things, you know, that
23 she had written about, you know, we kind of were
24 commenting on other things that we knew about
25 while we worked in the Chamber.

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[REDACTED]
Q. What other things did you know about while you worked in the Chamber relating to Ms. Boylan?

A. Just is her reputation in general and kind of the knowledge that we had while she -- while Lindsey Boylan had worked there as well.

Q. And other than what you've already testified to in terms of her being supposedly difficult or [REDACTED], what other things were discussed?

A. I don't think anything more than that or nothing that I can remember.

Q. And did you have any knowledge other than rumors about [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

A. No.

Q. And based on the training you had received while you worked for the Chamber, was it your understanding that -- did you have any understanding as to whether [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was relevant to any allegations of harassment [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

A. I don't specifically remember the

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training, but I -- I assume that there was something in there regarding that.

Q. Do you have any -- what's your understanding as to whether that information is relevant?

A. I mean, I don't think it is. I think this is -- you know, these were former Cuomo people that were just talking about what they know.

Q. If you could turn to tab 7, which we'll also mark as an exhibit.

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 7 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is dated February 24, 2021, and as we saw on tab 5 that is the date that Ms. Boylan posted her story in Medium.

A. Mm-hmm.

Q. And it starts -- this is a very long one, we're not going to go through every single one, but it starts with ██████████ saying, "I mean I believe every word." Is it your understanding that she was referring to Ms. Boylan's post?

A. Yes, that's my understanding.

Q. And what had ██████████'s position

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[REDACTED]
been within the Chamber?

A. She worked on the scheduling team.

Q. How long did she work on the scheduling team?

A. I believe it was October of 2015 until October of 2020.

Q. You mentioned [REDACTED] being your roommate, for what period of time was she your roommate?

A. From February of 2019 until February of 2021.

Q. And when these texts were happening, was she still your roommate?

A. I think maybe I had moved out at this point, but it was right around the time that we had left our apartment.

Q. Did [REDACTED] ever tell you why she believed every word?

A. No.

Q. If you look at the next page, she continues, "But like Lindsey, you're not credible." Did she ever tell you what she meant by that?

A. No.

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Q. When you read Ms. Boylan's account, did you believe what she had written?

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A. I -- what stuck out to me in her account were the things that I felt I knew specific information about that weren't necessarily true. I wasn't there or didn't know exactly what she was talking about for the other parts, but I did know, you know, or had personal and direct information about, like I said, the rose part and the picture part.

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Q. And what about the rose part that she wrote that -- did you -- that you thought was not true?

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A. In my opinion she had made it seem like she was singled out and that, you know, a rose was personally delivered to her, you know, by the Governor. And I knew that not to be true because I had gotten a rose in Albany as well as other women I worked with in Albany and other women I worked with in New York City.

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Q. And the picture, what are you referring to with regard to the picture?

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A. The picture was the part where she had talked about the signed picture that was left

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2 on her desk from some event.

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Q. And what knowledge did you have that
4 made you think that what she wrote wasn't true?

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A. The picture process in the Chamber is
6 very complicated. It's -- there's a huge process
7 that goes into it as far as events that are --
8 during events when pictures are taken of the
9 Governor, of the setup, and as well as the
10 Governor interacting with other people. There
11 are -- there's a whole process where regional
12 workers and scheduling team go through all of the
13 pictures and they pull out pictures of people
14 that they know of.

15

So let's say there's an elected
16 official, they pull it out and then most of those
17 pictures come with a letter that's drafted by
18 writers in the correspondence office and then
19 they are most of the time auto penned and sent
20 out. So you know, when she gets a signed picture
21 of, you know, the Governor, I mean, I have many,
22 many pictures of the Governor and they're
23 definitely not hand delivered. You know, it's
24 usually [REDACTED] or myself or other members of
25 the team that were matching photos and kind of a

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few coordinating the sending of them, a lot of which he didn't even sign himself.

Q. You talked about an elected official lecture or someone like that, when you or ██████████ ██████████ were going through photos, were you pulling photos of the Governor with staff members?

A. Sometimes. Depending on -- depending on the event.

Q. On what events would you pull pictures of staff members?

A. If they were part of the event or crucial to -- let's say it was an announcement, people that had worked on the project, people that were, you know, part of whatever the announcement or event was.

Q. On page 26047, which is the next page, you wrote, "I believe it in an exaggerated way." What did you mean by that?

A. Again, I think it was referring to some of the things that she had pointed to in her Medium article. You know, again, I was not there, nor was ██████████ for, you know, those -- for most of those allegations, but you know, you know, did she get a photo -- a signed photo of

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2 the Governor? I'm sure. But I think in an
3 exaggerated way as maybe, you know, how it came
4 to be at her desk or how -- you know, what the
5 insinuation was.

6 Q. Couple of pages later on 26049, you
7 wrote, "Like, did he make comments?" and on the
8 next page you wrote, "Sure." What were you
9 referring to?

10 A. I think my insinuation there was, you
11 know -- and some of the Medium article -- you
12 know, there was some of the allegations, you
13 know, of inappropriate comments on the part of
14 the Governor and I kind of was saying did those
15 comments happen? Sure, they might have. You
16 know, we -- only the people that were there would
17 know.

18 Q. Did any of the comments,
19 inappropriate comments, that she wrote about in
20 her Medium article sound familiar or like sort of
21 things you had heard about?

22 A. I mean, I think that that -- this --
23 the comment that I think that I was referring to
24 was like the strip poker comment that she had
25 made and I had never heard anything, you know,

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2 like that and definitely nothing like that was
3 said -- said to me.

4

Q. She also talked about being told that
5 she resembled his -- one of his exes and being
6 called by his name, did you ever hear of anything
7 like that happening?

8

A. Again, nothing that I -- that was
9 said to me or, you know, in my presence, nothing
10 that I can specifically remember.

11

Q. On page 26056 -- I'm sorry. Wrong
12 page. On page 26061 you wrote, "Yeah, I don't
13 like any of it." What did you mean by that?

14

A. I think it was definitely a difficult
15 time for, you know, people that had worked in the
16 administration. You know, no one likes to see
17 either anyone being accused of sexual harassment
18 or someone, you know, being a victim of sexual
19 harassment either. Especially people that, you
20 know, you're familiar with.

21

Q. On page 26071 you write, "She is just
22 annoyed that she didn't get one." What -- and
23 you can look at the ones before to see if it
24 helps you figure out what that's in the reference
25 to.

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[REDACTED]

A. I believe this was -- this was maybe we were talking on a side -- side chat to a different group chat. I don't believe -- I believe what happened was that [REDACTED] was saying that she did not receive a rose on that day, on that Valentine's Day, and she had most likely said that it was weird and that she thought the rose thing was weird.

Q. On page 26086 you wrote, "Did he walk the line?" and on the next page you wrote, "Yes." What did you mean about that?

A. I think this was kind of, again, in reference to the Medium article. I think my point was that, you know, some of those things, maybe they happened and maybe those comments were made. You know, me and [REDACTED] weren't privy to that. But I think we were going back and forth about whether or not, you know, he had actually sexually harassed her. I think that's our conversation.

Q. Did you have any impression as to whether the Governor liked Ms. Boylan because she was attractive?

A. I mean, nothing that -- not

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specifically, no.

Q. Did you have any knowledge about the Governor giving any preferential treatment to women he considered attractive?

A. Nothing specific.

Q. Anything general?

A. I mean, I think it was, you know, like I said before, that group of people that were mostly his senior staff, they were all women and, you know, I think there were definitely talk, you know, both in the news and internally of, you know, why that was, why, you know, he surrounded himself with women.

Q. Did you ever hear other people comment about the Governor surrounding himself with attractive women?

A. Not specifically I don't think.

Q. Generally?

A. I think it was -- it's definitely been commented in the news. I'm sure --

Q. Putting aside things you just read about.

A. I'm sure it's been talked about internally in our groups as well.

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Q. On 26157 ██████████ says, "Notice how ██████████ has barely talked to us in our group." That's referring to a group chat?

A. One second.

Q. 26157.

A. Yes.

Q. And the next page ██████████ says, "Because we're not all on the same side as this I'd say." Is that a reference to ██████████ having a different view of the Medium article?

A. I think so.

Q. And then on page 26161 you write, "She's the turncoat." Is that a reference to ██████████?

A. I believe so.

Q. And is that because she was siding with Ms. Boylan?

A. I don't know if it was just about her being on Lindsey's side. It was also she had now worked -- she was now working for a different politician.

Q. Who was she working for at that point?

A. Scott Stringer.

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Q. On page 26163 ██████████ wrote, "I bet she thinks she was harassed by him though too, right?" And you -- on 26165 it looks like you respond, "Oh, absolutely." What was that about?

A. I think me and ██████████ were just discussing, you know, where ██████████ maybe falls with, you know, her interactions with the Governor.

Q. Has she ever told you about any interactions she had with the Governor that made her uncomfortable in any fashion?

A. No.

Q. At any later point, as more stories came out, did she ever share anything with you?

A. No.

Q. Do you recall why you then brought up that she might have thought she was probably harassed by the Governor as well or thought she was harassed by the Governor?

A. Not that I can specifically recall. I mean, I think it was just me and ██████████, you know, casually talking about different, you know, people and what their thoughts were on the situation.

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[REDACTED]

Q. And then a few pages later, 26168, you write, "She is prob pissed because she wasn't harassed." Is that also a reference to [REDACTED]?

A. I believe so.

Q. What did you mean by that?

A. I think, you know, those were -- it was a poorly phrased text. I believe she was -- I was referring to, you know, that maybe she -- during her time there she would have liked to have more of the Governor's attention than maybe she had gotten.

Q. When she still worked there did she ever suggest to you directly or indirectly that she wanted any sort of romantic attention from the Governor?

A. No.

Q. If you turn to tab 8, which we'll also make an exhibit.

(Group chat was marked Exhibit 8 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. We're not going through every text in this long group chat. And this is amongst you, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], just the three of you. Who is [REDACTED]?

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[REDACTED]
A. [REDACTED] worked with myself and [REDACTED] at the Chamber. He worked in legislative affairs at the time.

Q. On February 24th when this group chat was going on, did he still work in the Chambers?

A. No. He worked at the Department of Tax.

Q. So still working for the State, but it an agency?

A. Yes.

Q. On page 4738 you write, "Yeah, I don't want to victim shame." And then on page 4740 you continued, "But I think fuck Lindsey too." Did you consider Ms. Boylan a potential sexual harassment victim at this time?

A. I mean, I think at this time, you know, me and all of the other people in these group chats, you know, we were kind of trying to -- to figure out, you know, what it is that we had either seen or, you know, heard of and, you know, how we felt on the matter so I think I -- my point was that, you know, I don't want to victim shame, you know, if someone is sexually harassed it's -- you know, nothing -- it's a very

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serious matter, but at the same time based on her Medium essay, I had some doubts as to her story.

Q. And is that why you were upset?

A. I think it was definitely -- it was a definitely upsetting time for everyone that had worked there for, you know, both reasons.

Q. On page 4753 [REDACTED] writes, "This strikes me as not him." Did he explain to you what he meant by that?

A. He didn't explain specifically, but I think he was, you know, again talking about the Medium article and, you know, what Lindsey was alleging that the Governor, you know, had said and done.

Q. And did he ever say anything to you to make you understand in what way he thought this was not consistent?

A. I don't remember. He might have, you know, then said that doesn't seem like things that he would say or do, but I don't specifically remember this exact chat.

Q. On page 4773 [REDACTED] wrote, "Who are your two?" Did you know what she was referring to?

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2 A. I don't know -- I don't know what she
3 was -- I don't know where she got that from or
4 what she was referring to before that.

5 Q. Did you understand that she was
6 asking who you thought might else -- who else
7 might come forward?

8 A. Yes. I think that's my
9 understanding. I just don't know where -- where
10 she got the "who are your two." But yes, I
11 believe she was talking in reference to other
12 people that might come forward.

13 Q. On page 4781 looks like [REDACTED]
14 wrote, "Kaitlin and someone else." Is that a
15 reference to Kaitlin [REDACTED]?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And did you know why he was putting
18 forward [REDACTED] Kaitlin 's name as someone who was going
19 to come forward?

20 A. At this time I -- I believe that, you
21 know, Kaitlin [REDACTED] was also vocal on Twitter and
22 had, you know, kind of insinuated that, you know,
23 she had either experienced something similar to
24 Lindsey or, you know, in just a general sense,
25 you know, and she had previously, you know, been

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2 [REDACTED]
vocal about her dislike of the administration.

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Q. And when had you become aware that she was vocal about her dislike of the administration?

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A. This was after that she had left. I think there was definitely some tweets, definitely things like that maybe on Instagram. I can't specifically remember those tweets, but there were definitely things that she had tweeted.

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Q. While she was still in Chamber, did you ever see any interactions between her and the Governor?

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A. While she was there, she sat at that outside desk outside of Stephanie Benton's office and so she was -- I was definitely there for, you know, some interactions with her and him. You know, if he would come out of the office, you know, that's where her desk was, but I think that's it.

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Q. Did you ever hear the Governor refer to her as "sponge"?

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A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear anyone else call

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[REDACTED]
her sponge?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever see the Governor be harsh or yell at her?

A. I definitely knew that, again, that that job was very difficult and demanding, as we previously talked about, and I definitely had heard that, you know, he had yelled at her and things like that, but nothing that I was specifically there for.

Q. Did you ever hear or see the Governor say or do anything inappropriate toward Kaitlin ?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear about the Governor doing or saying anything inappropriate to Kaitlin prior to any later stories coming out?

A. No.

Q. So at the time that Mr. [REDACTED] was saying, "Kaitlin and someone else," that was -- to your knowledge, that was based solely on her tweets?

A. Yeah. She was, you know, definitely one of the people that we were kind of, you know,

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[REDACTED]
throwing around as people that could, you know,
come forward based on that.

Q. Did you ever see [REDACTED] Kaitlin upset in
the office?

A. Not that I can specifically remember.

Q. And did you ever hear about her being
upset in the office?

A. Again, not on specific occasions. I
think, you know, I had known that, you know, he
had yelled at her, you know, she had been upset,
but I -- you know, nothing that I can, you
know -- no specific occasion that I can think of.

Q. Based on her tweets did you
understand she had allegations relating to sexual
harassment?

A. No.

Q. On page 4789 -- first 4788 you wrote,
"Who could the other person be?"

And then on 4789 [REDACTED] said, "I
bet the other person is a witness."

And she continues on the next page to
something and the page after that "Not direct."

Did you know what he was talking
about?

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[REDACTED]

A. I think this conversation we were just kind of speculating as to if other people would come forward and if they would be making allegations or that they were just -- had seen something maybe about Lindsey or, you know, at that time.

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Q. On page 4792 [REDACTED] wrote, "Could be anyone: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], someone who was there for five minutes." Did you understand who he was referring to when he mentioned [REDACTED]?

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A. I knew who [REDACTED] was just by -- just by name. I never worked with her. I think that she was maybe one of the other EAs before my time there, but -- but I -- but I didn't work with her directly.

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Q. Did [REDACTED] ever tell you why he thought she's somebody that might come forward?

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A. He didn't. I believe he was probably just talking about other people that had direct interaction with him.

Q. And who is [REDACTED]? I think I'm mispronouncing that?

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A. I actually don't know. I assume it's

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memory serves, it was Joe who harassed ██████████."

Who is Joe?

A. I believe he's referring to Joe Percoco.

Q. And did ██████████ ever tell you anything about what he knew about any harassment of ██████████ by Joe Percoco?

A. No.

Q. On 4805 you wrote, "I mean Lindsey."
Next page, "Was she ever actually alone with him?"

And a couple of pages later ██████████ said, "I don't think so. I remember that not being something they wanted."

Do you know what he was referring to there?

A. Oh, I think so. This -- I think I was talking about Lindsey in the previous text. I think it was, you know, more of a precaution that, you know -- that most people don't meet with the Governor alone just so there's always, you know, two accounts. I think that was kind of a -- just kind of a protocol.

Q. On 4809 ██████████ wrote, "Because

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2 she chased the Governor." Do you know what he
3 was referring to?

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A. I think that there were rumors
5 regarding Lindsey and her wanting to move from
6 ESD over to the Chamber and kind of wanted more
7 responsibility and face time with the Governor.

8

Q. And did you hear any rumors that she
9 wanted something more than a professional
10 interaction with the Governor?

11

A. No.

12

Q. So do you know what [REDACTED] was
13 referring to when he said he chased her?

14

A. I think he was saying that she chased
15 him, meaning that she wanted to go, you know, and
16 be in front of him and, you know, have more face
17 time with him.

18

Q. On 4813 [REDACTED] wrote, "And the
19 mean girls knew better." Do you know what she's
20 referring to there?

21

A. I think -- I think [REDACTED] was saying,
22 you know, that she begged for the Gov's attention
23 and that the mean girls knew better meaning --
24 you know, I don't know exactly what she means,
25 but I assume it means, you know, that the senior

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staff knew better than to --

Q. At 4816 you wrote, "Yeah, like, that's my recollection." Is that referring to the mean girls keeping Ms. Boylan away from the Governor or to something else?

A. I don't -- I don't know. It very well could be that because we were still talking about, you know, Lindsey coming over to the Chamber and wanting to be in the senior staff and part of the mean girls and so that most of the time Lindsey wasn't alone with him.

Q. Did you observe any hostility from the women who were referred to as the mean girls toward Ms. Boylan?

A. Nothing that specifically comes to mind. I assume, you know, mean girls have that title for a reason, I assume that it was there, but nothing that's from personal knowledge.

Q. Did you observe or hear about the group referred to as the mean girls trying to keep other women away from the Governor?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you hear or observe about that?

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[REDACTED]

A. You know, I think there was a common understanding that they liked to keep the group tight, you know, that, you know, that those four people that we've talked about before, that they were kind of, like I said, in all the meetings, they made all the decisions, and so it was difficult for other people and other women to, you know, pierce that group.

Q. On page 4814, turning back, [REDACTED] wrote, "[REDACTED]?" Was that -- did you understand that he was putting forward the name of somebody else that might come forward?

A. I think that that's -- that he was, you know, throwing out possibilities, yes.

Q. And do you know what the basis was for [REDACTED] throwing out the name of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

A. No.

Q. On page 4865 [REDACTED] writes, "What about [REDACTED]?" Did you understand that was another name he was throwing out as somebody that might come forward?

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Q. And did you have any understanding as to why he was suggesting ██████████ might be someone who would come forward?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever -- did ██████████ ever tell you about anything uncomfortable that occurred between her and the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear about anyone talking about ██████████ having any uncomfortable experiences with the Governor?

A. No.

Q. On the next page you wrote, "Nah. She wouldn't say anything I don't think."

And ██████████ then said, "She's good."

What did you mean by that?

A. I think I was -- just meant she wouldn't have anything to say. You know, we -- me, ██████████, and ██████████ are also friends and, you know, she never said anything like that even post her leaving the Chamber.

Q. If you could turn to tab 9, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

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[REDACTED]

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 9 for identification, as of this date.)

MS. CLARK: Why don't we take a break now.

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 12:20 p.m. We are going off the record and this will end media unit number 2.

(A lunch recess was taken.)

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 1:20 p.m. We are back on the record and this will be the start of media unit No. 3. Counsel.

MS. CLARK: Okay.

Q. Why don't we turn to tab 9, which we'll make an exhibit. And looks like these are text messages between you and [REDACTED].

A. Yup.

Q. And what was [REDACTED]' position?

A. While we worked together, she was on the communications team. I think she was a deputy director of communications while we worked together.

Q. And at the time of this text message exchange, which ranged from February 27 to March

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7, 2021, was she still working in the government?

A. No.

Q. What was her role at this point?

A. I think at this point she -- I'm not sure if she had started her new job with the Biden administration. I'm trying to think of where she was before the -- not in an agency. I think she was at some environmental firm that I -- that I can't remember right now, but she -- she may have already left that job as well. I can't remember.

Q. And on the first page of tab 9, 1482, she wrote to you about, "She reached out to my friend out of nowhere asking if she would, 'share her experience.' This friend only worked at ESD and not in the Chamber so we both thought it was odd." Is that a reference to Ms. Boylan reaching out to her friend?

A. I believe so.

Q. Do you know the name of the friend that Ms. Boylan reached out to?

A. I don't.

Q. If you could turn to page 1504, leading up to that there's some comments about

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him asking about relationships, is that the Governor?

A. Yes.

Q. And you said on 1504, "Right, like he asks those questions." What were you referring to?

A. I was referring to okay, asking -- I think [REDACTED] had mentioned that he had asked -- the Governor had asked her and [REDACTED] about their relationship.

Q. And then on 1505 she wrote, "I heard that another briefer/scheduler is potentially coming out" and there's some back and forth.

And then on 1511 you write, "You know who comes to my mind."

And on 1512 you write "[REDACTED]."

And what was [REDACTED]'s position?

A. She was a briefer. She was a briefer with me I believe in 2017.

Q. Why did she come to mind as somebody who might come forward?

A. When [REDACTED] was there she had a very difficult time with the job. She -- she left on good terms, but she wasn't a good fit for the

1 [REDACTED]
2 job. It was -- she had a Ph.D., so it definitely
3 wasn't in her wheelhouse and she found the job to
4 be too demanding and so I think when [REDACTED] had
5 said another briefer/scheduler, you know, that
6 was a person that came to mind for me as someone
7 that could come out.

8 Q. Did you have any reason to believe
9 she had experienced any sort of inappropriate
10 conduct?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Did you think she was going to come
13 forward with false allegations because she wasn't
14 happy at the Chamber?

15 A. No. I think we were more referring
16 to coming out with allegations maybe about the
17 toxic work environment.

18 Q. And do you know if [REDACTED] had any
19 issues or ever conveyed to you that she thought
20 any aspect of the work environment was toxic?

21 A. Like I mentioned before, she
22 definitely thought the job was very demanding.
23 We worked together very closely so I -- you know,
24 I was aware that he was unhappy just with the job
25 itself and, you know, with the -- the people were

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[REDACTED]
hard to work with and that the schedule was too demanding and things of that nature.

Q. And on 1518 you write, "[REDACTED] is definitely a threat." What did you mean by that?

A. I think again a threat of, you know, she's a threat of someone that could come forward and speak about the work environment.

Q. Did you view anyone who came forward to speak out about any aspect of working in the Chambers as a threat?

A. Not a threat. I -- I know I did use that language, but you know, I think my -- I was trying to convey that she could definitely be someone that, you know, might be vocal about her unhappiness in the job.

Q. You mentioned, I believe, that you did overlap with Charlotte Bennett, correct?

A. Correct.

Q. And did you ever work with her?

A. Yes.

Q. How often did you work with Ms. Bennett?

A. While we were working on the briefing team together, I would say daily.

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Q. What was your impression of Ms. Bennett?

A. She was a young, eager person, you know, excited to work in the administration.

Q. Did you ever see her interact with the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did she talk to you about interacting with the Governor?

A. While I was there, no. I think that we had spoken a couple of times after I left regarding, you know, her sitting at that desk on the 39th floor and, you know, how it was difficult to do that job in addition to the briefing job.

Q. Did she say anything to you in particular about what was difficult about that?

A. At the time she was still doing both jobs and that person prior to Charlotte only did the -- like, the EA job. They weren't on the briefing team. So when they moved her up to the 39th floor, she was technically still on the briefing team and sitting at that desk.

Q. Was her predecessor on the 39th floor

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2 S #5 ?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Did she ever -- at any point prior to
5 February of 2021 did she ever share with you any
6 interactions with the Governor that made her
7 uncomfortable?

8 A. No, not that I can remember.

9 Q. Did S #5 ever tell you whether
10 Ms. Bennett ever shared with him any interactions
11 with the Governor that made her uncomfortable?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did you ever see Ms. Bennett upset in
14 the office?

15 A. No.

16 Q. When is the first time you learned
17 about any allegations by Ms. Bennett?

18 A. I think when her -- when that article
19 came out, The New York Times article came out.

20 Q. That's the -- and just so we're
21 certain, tab 10, which we can mark as an exhibit.

22 (New York Times article was marked
23 Exhibit 10 for identification, as of this
24 date.)

25 Q. Is that The New York Times article

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you're talking about?

A. Yes.

Q. I ask you to look at tab 11, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Group chat was marked Exhibit 11 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. Correct me if I'm wrong, but this looks like a group chat amongst you, ██████████, and ██████████ dated February 19, 2021; is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. And it looks like you shared a screenshot of Ms. Bennett's Instagram story, which has an article about Assemblyman Ron Kim receiving threatening calls from the Governor. Is that something that you shared?

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you share that?

A. I think it was something that, you know, I came across on Instagram and thought was, you know, interesting and, you know, relevant to our -- you know, the conversations that I was having with ██████████ and ██████████.

Q. Relevant to what conversations you

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[REDACTED]
were having with them?

A. I think just overall general conversations regarding Lindsey.

Q. And in fact on page 16470 you wrote, "Maybe Lindsey got to her LOL." And did you think that there was some connection at this point between Ms. Bennett and Ms. Boylan?

A. I think my intention there was relaying that, you know, on -- you know, these were the type of things that Lindsey had been talking about on Twitter and maybe sharing and so, you know, Charlotte sharing those types of things showed that she was maybe on -- you know, she had talked to Lindsey regarding her experience at the Governor's Office as well.

Q. Did you have any knowledge about whether she had or not?

A. No.

Q. Then it continues with [REDACTED] saying, "I thought she loved the Gov."

To which on 16476 [REDACTED] said, "She did not love him."

Do you know what either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] were talking about in terms of whether

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[REDACTED]

Ms. Bennett loved or didn't love the Governor?

A. No. I think at this point in February we had no -- you know, me nor [REDACTED] had any knowledge of, you know, her being unhappy with the Chamber when she left.

Q. Prior to February of 2021, did you have any conversations with Ms. Bennett about why she left?

A. No.

Q. By the way, when's the last time you communicated with Ms. Bennett?

A. I don't specifically remember. I think it was -- I think maybe she had sent me a happy birthday text in May of 2020 and that we had talked about the job maybe sometime in 2019 after I had left, but that was pretty much it.

Q. Did S #5 ever tell you whether he had any conversations with Ms. Bennett about why she left?

A. No.

Q. On the next page [REDACTED] says, "She's a security leak," which she then clarifies -- or you said, "I would agree with security leak." Do you know what that's a

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reference to?

A. I think what me and ██████████ were saying was that, you know, she was definitely aware of the inner workings of the Chamber and, you know, she would definitely have the information if she wanted to regarding the workplace, not necessarily the sexual harassment, that we didn't know about at the time.

Q. When you say she had information about the inner workings, what are you referring to?

A. I would say more of the toxic work environment. You know, she was right there in the mix. That desk is -- being a briefer plus having experience at that desk, you know, you see a lot of things, you, you know, hear a lot of the yelling, you are involved with those types of things and so she would have that information.

Q. If you could turn back to Exhibit 7, these again are text messages between you and ██████████ on February 24, if you turn to 26121, ██████████ wrote, "OMG. The other person" -- it says "I," I assume she meant is -- "Charlotte." And do you know why she was bringing up

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Ms. Bennett? Because I believe at the beginning of this you're talking about Ms. Boylan.

A. I think that she was saying that she just put something up on Instagram and so that was her clue that it would be -- maybe she was the other person that was coming forward based on that Instagram.

Q. On 26130 to 31 she wrote, "It's Charlotte and Kaitlin."

Next one is, "It has to be."

And you responded, "A thousand P."

Do you mean a thousand percent?

A. Yes.

Q. So at that point the two of you were surmising that Ms. Bennett and Kaitlin were going to be people to come forward with allegations?

A. Yes.

Q. And it's your testimony that you had no knowledge that they had experienced any sort of inappropriate conduct at that point?

A. Correct.

(Text messages was marked Exhibit 12 for identification, as of this date.)

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Q. If you could turn to tab 12, the first page is [REDACTED] saying, "I just reread TU." Is that a reference to the Times Union?

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A. I believe so.

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Q. And do you know what story in the Times Union you're discussing in this group text?

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A. I don't.

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Q. On 71 -- I have to put my glasses on. 7185 [REDACTED] says, "But a lot of the tactics described feel super Joe heavy." Do you know what that's a reference to?

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A. I think the article and who we're referencing is an article that came out about the hostile work environment and she's speaking about Joe Percoco.

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Q. And it says -- after the one saying, "But a lot of the tactics described feel super Joe heavy," you said, "Yes, a thousand percent" and [REDACTED] said, "It got slightly better???"

Do you know what that's a reference to?

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A. I think we're talking about some of the allegations or, you know, stories in that TU article were referencing, you know, a time where

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2 Joe Percoco was still in the Executive Chamber
3 and that those tactics weren't necessarily, you
4 know, there anymore, that the environment had
5 gotten slightly better since Joe Percoco had
6 left.

7 Q. What tactics did Mr. Percoco engage
8 in that you say got slightly better after he
9 left?

10 A. I mean Joe Percoco was known for
11 being very vocal. He was definitely a yeller.
12 He was -- I think that story talked about, you
13 know, ripping a TV off the wall. He was
14 definitely a lot more -- more vocal than, you
15 know, anyone that we were currently working with
16 or we were -- had worked with while me and [REDACTED]
17 were there together.

18 Q. Then on 7190 it says, "Some of the
19 threats Joe," continuing on the next one, "liked
20 new hires," do you know what that's a reference
21 to?

22 A. I don't specifically know what she's
23 talking to.

24 Q. At 17195 -- or actually it starts on
25 17194, Ms. Streb says, "I guess my larger point

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2 is," continuing on the next one, "that's not the
3 same environment Char was in." Do you know what
4 that's a reference to?

5 A. I think at this point we're still
6 talking about the work environment that, you
7 know, maybe Charlotte had talked about in her New
8 York Times article and The TU article, which all
9 these article were coming out at the same time
10 and we felt that, you know, some of the stories
11 are tactics that were used in the past, you know,
12 it was way before Charlotte had worked there for
13 instance Joe Percoco.

14 Q. But in terms of at least some of
15 Mr. Percoco's conduct, like the yelling, that
16 continued but with other people, correct?

17 A. Not in the same manner. Again, Joe
18 was known for being very vocal. I mean,
19 screaming, cursing, those types of things. The
20 yelling that kind of happened with the other --
21 the members of the senior staff that we've
22 previously spoken about, they were less. So you
23 know, they would express their disappointment and
24 definitely yelling, but it was not the same as
25 Joe Percoco. I think that's the point that we

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were trying to make.

Q. Was Mr. Percoco's conduct with the yelling and the cursing and stuff something that he did openly?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he very loud when he did it?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it conduct that based on those characteristics the Governor must have known about?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you aware of the Governor doing anything to stop Mr. Percoco from engaging in such conduct?

A. I only worked with Joe for maybe a month and a half when I first started so I really wasn't around for the Joe Percoco era of the Chamber. I have heard about it but...

Q. Who did you hear about it from?

A. At the time I started, again, Joe was still there, so I did hear, you know, some on conference calls and whatnot and then, you know, I was there during the trial and -- and all of that, so I mean, it was -- it was kind of a

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[REDACTED]
well-known fact at that point while that was going on.

Q. On page 17200 you write, "It's two different things."

And then on 17201 you say, "That are being conflated."

What were you talking about?

A. I think that we were saying that, you know, there were articles coming out at the same time about sexual harassment and also a toxic work environment.

Q. And did you think there was any relationship between the things that constituted the toxic work environment and the sexual harassment allegations?

A. I think what we were specifically talking to in reference to that TU article, that was about specific instances of, you know, it being a terrible place to work and whatnot and the Charlotte article that had recently come out was, you know, mainly focused on the sexual harassment aspect of it. So I think there was two different lines of articles that were going on that we were kind of talking about at the same

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[REDACTED]
time.

Q. In your mind those types of -- the toxic environment versus the sexual harassment were separate issues?

A. I think they're -- in my mind they were two different allegations.

Q. Turn to tab 13, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 13 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is between you and [REDACTED] on -- starts on February 28, 2021, and she says, "I'm okay with [REDACTED] BM." Do you know what that's a reference to?

A. I think she -- she was referencing [REDACTED] and I think right now, she was saying RN.

Q. Oh, RN.

A. Yes.

Q. Even with my glasses I can't read. She was saying she was with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] right now?

A. Yes.

Q. And do you know what she was

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[REDACTED]
discussing with [REDACTED] ?

A. I don't. I don't specifically remember what she was talking to her about.

Q. You respond, "OMG please report back."

She says, "Nothing crazy. She's on the exact same page as us LOL like to a T."

And then she continues, "He said the shit to her blah, blah, he's a weirdo, blah, blah LOL."

Do you know what she was talking about?

A. I -- you know, [REDACTED] -- we had both with [REDACTED] and she still works there and works in that front office up in Albany and I think that we were just speaking about, you know, how she was feeling after the Charlotte article and, you know, where she was at and, you know, what her feelings were and, you know, if she was -- what the vibe was at the Chamber. It couldn't have been anything pleasant and so I think she was saying she's on the exact same page, meaning that we had -- we've had those conversations and he has said, you know, some of

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those comments to her.

Q. He said some of those comments to her, he the Governor had said some of those comments to ██████████?

A. To her, ██████████. Sorry. Yes.

Q. And what comments did ██████████ say that the Governor had made to her?

A. I think the questions regarding the relationship. ██████████ I think has been there for over a decade, you know, I think, a very long time, so definitely, you know, personal information I think. I think that's what we're referring to.

Q. Do you know if ██████████ ever said that anything that occurred between her and the Governor made her uncomfortable at all?

A. No.

Q. When it says, "He's a weirdo blah, blah LOL" do you know what that's in reference to?

A. I mean, I think it was just in regards to, you know, some -- you know, how he was with other people and, you know, how it was working with him because she would -- she was

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working with him directly for a lot of -- most of
her time there.

Q. On page 2704 ██████████ says, "Esp,"
which I assume means especially, "when we know a
lot." Do you know what she was referring to?

A. I think she's referring to that we
know a lot of people. As I say, you know, it
sounds like we have, you know, more people that
have the same opinion as us and she's saying yes
and agreed, especially when we know a lot I
think.

Q. On page 27058 you ask, "Did you guys
talk about ██████████ at all?"

She responds, "Yes, a little" and
then says, "She's like he deff said weird shit to
██████████."

Did she tell you what that was about?

A. No.

Q. And she wrote, "But she pivoted, not
engaged" and you wrote, "Oh nooooo." What did
you understand her to mean?

A. I think that my text was in response
to ██████████ text of, you know, she's like he def
said weird stuff to with ██████████ and I'm saying

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[REDACTED]
oh, no.

Q. Did you ever hear that the Governor had said anything weird or inappropriate or anything like that to [REDACTED]?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever have any conversations with [REDACTED] about her interactions with the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you have any conversations where [REDACTED] gave you any more information about what [REDACTED] had said to her about [REDACTED]?

A. I mean, I think that we might have spoken about it, about [REDACTED]. I think [REDACTED] was still there at the time. And she had worked with [REDACTED] on the scheduling team. So I think that she had definitely been staffing the Governor at that point, but I never worked with [REDACTED] so I think that's all -- the extent of what me and [REDACTED] were aware of at that point.

Q. Did [REDACTED] ever share with you any more information about what the weird stuff was that the Governor supposedly said to her?

A. Not that I can recall.

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2 Q. On 27075 you wrote, "Why would anyone
3 think it's a good idea to put all these babies
4 with him?" Is the "him" a reference to the
5 Governor?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. When you said "babies," you meant
8 young women?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Why did you think it was a bad idea
11 to allow to Governor to have access to young
12 women?

13 A. I don't necessarily think it was a
14 bad idea, I just think that it was, you know, a
15 lot of different people in front of him and a lot
16 of different people that were there sitting at
17 either that desk or the briefing team, they all
18 happened to be usually young women right outside
19 of -- right out of college, probably like 22
20 years old, maybe not a lot of work experience or
21 things like that and I just didn't think that
22 that was a particularly good idea.

23 Q. Why did you not think it was a good
24 idea for these young women to have a lot of
25 contact with the Governor?

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2 A. In general I think -- I don't know if
3 I think it's a good idea to put inexperienced --
4 you know, and when I say inexperienced, I mean on
5 a professional level -- to work either in that
6 position with the Governor or other senior staff.

7 Q. And why is that?

8 A. I think that there's a lot to learn
9 about workplace dynamics that maybe they wouldn't
10 have known as far as dealing with senior staff or
11 the Governor himself.

12 Q. What aspects of the workplace
13 dynamics do you think someone inexperienced
14 wouldn't be familiar with?

15 A. I think mostly work dynamics and
16 personalities, especially in the Chamber where
17 most people have a very, you know, strong
18 personality -- A type personality. They could be
19 a lot to deal with. So I just never thought that
20 it was that good of an idea.

21 Q. Did you have -- did you at all mean
22 that you thought it was not a good idea for the
23 Governor to be in contact with these young women,
24 that he might make comments that crossed any
25 lines?

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2 A. I don't think I necessarily thought
3 that it was a bad idea because I was aware that
4 he was making these comments. I just think that,
5 you know, for appearance sake and also, you know,
6 why even put people in those types of situations
7 was more of my thinking.

8 Q. When you say why put people in those
9 types of situations, what type of situations?

10 A. Young females with older males.

11 Q. When you were in the Chamber, did you
12 ever hear anyone discussing whether it was a good
13 idea for the Governor to be alone with young
14 women?

15 A. No. I think that was -- that comment
16 was my personal opinion.

17 Q. Did you ever hear anyone talk about
18 how -- for the Governor's own protection he
19 shouldn't be alone with young women?

20 A. I don't know if I can specifically
21 recall a conversation -- you know, a direct
22 conversation. I mean, I think in any political
23 office it would probably be something that's
24 considered.

25 Q. But you never heard any discussion

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2 about it?

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A. I can't recall anything specific. It
4 might have been. I mean, there might have been
5 some conversation, but not with me.

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Q. And [REDACTED] continues, "She has
8 some extra thoughts on [REDACTED] SS #3" and then the next
9 page, "OFV," as in obviously. What was that a
reference to?

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A. I think she was saying she has some
11 extra thoughts on [REDACTED] SS #3 obviously. She meaning
12 [REDACTED].

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Q. What did you understand to be the
14 extra thoughts on [REDACTED] SS #3 ?

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A. I think [REDACTED] SS #3 and [REDACTED]
16 have worked together for much longer than [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED] has with any of the other people that we
18 were talking about and we were -- I think our
19 conversation was maybe that she had more intimate
20 knowledge of, you know, [REDACTED] SS #3 's time there
21 because of her closeness.

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Q. Did you ever hear either from
23 [REDACTED] herself or through [REDACTED] anything
24 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had to say about [REDACTED] SS #3 's
25 relationship with the Governor?

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[REDACTED]
A. I don't know if I can specifically remember anything but I do --

Q. Do you remember generally?

A. I think that it was -- [REDACTED] SS #3 was [REDACTED] of the mean girls and I think that there was definitely some -- I don't know if there had been rumors that they had been involved, but there was definitely some -- you know, the Governor and [REDACTED] SS #3 were definitely close and she -- that was -- you know, it was definitely a talked about conversation.

Q. Did you ever see the Governor and [REDACTED] SS #3 engaging in any flirtatious behavior with each other?

A. I don't think so. They were definitely friendly. I don't necessarily know if I would consider it flirting, but they definitely were friendly with each other.

Q. Did you ever hear from anyone else that they had engaged in any sort of flirtatious behavior with each other?

A. I think -- again, I don't know from anyone directly, I can't recall, but I mean, I think there were definitely rumors that there was

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[REDACTED]
flirting going on and that they were, again,
close and that SS #3 had, you know, been to the
mansion and things like that with the other
senior staff, but...

Q. We'll come back to that in a second.
On 7078 you wrote, "Charlotte,
[REDACTED]" -- is that [REDACTED]?

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you write that?

A. I believe those are the babies that
I'm -- that I'm referring to.

Q. Who is [REDACTED]?

A. [REDACTED] is another briefer that
was hired after I left.

Q. On 27083 [REDACTED] wrote, "Some
questionable mansion swimming?!" What's that a
reference to?

A. I think that's what she's referencing
to maybe that [REDACTED] had spoken to her
about.

Q. And was that in regard to
questionable mansion swimming by SS #3?

A. I believe so.

Q. Did you ever hear anything more about

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2 that?

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A. Not that I can recall.

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Q. Did you ever hear anything about

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SS #3 being at the mansion not fully clothed?

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A. Not until this conversation, no, I don't believe so.

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Q. When you say "not until this conversation," during or after this conversation, did you hear anything more about what the questionable swimming was?

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A. I don't think so. I don't know if [REDACTED] went into details of what she knew with [REDACTED].

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Q. At any point during or after this conversation, did you hear from anyone anything about SS #3 being at the mansion not fully clothed?

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A. I don't think so.

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Q. Did you ever hear anything about anyone else being at the mansion not fully clothed?

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A. I mean, I know that there's a pool there and I do know that there are some -- there were in the past some barbecues and some sort of

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[REDACTED]
events that have been there that other members of
the administration had gone to, but nothing
specifically.

Q. If we could look at tab 14, and we'll
mark this as an exhibit.

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 14
for identification, as of this date.)

Q. And this is more texts between you
and [REDACTED]. This is dated March 1, 2021. She
says, "But yeah, people are really freaked out."
Do you know what that's a reference to?

A. I think we were discussing people are
really freaked out meaning that people in the
Chamber.

Q. And she wrote, "That may explain
[REDACTED]." Did she know that [REDACTED] was upset?

A. Yes.

Q. What did she tell you about that?

A. I believe that the only thing that
was part of what [REDACTED] may have told her
is that [REDACTED] was upset on the day that the
Charlotte article had come out.

Q. And when [REDACTED] wrote, "She's
younger than Char," that was a reference to

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██████████ ?

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A. Yes.

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Q. And you responded, "Like, it could have happened to her, et cetera, et cetera." What did you mean by that?

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A. I think we were just speculating as far as, you know, a person in ██████████'s position might be, you know, really freaked out and confused because she had been put in the same situations as Charlotte.

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Q. And ██████████ then wrote, "Right." And continued, "Very close to have I'm sure." And continuing, "Or maybe it did and she let it go."

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And you wrote, "Like a too close to home."

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Did ██████████ ever share with you any information she had as to whether or not she knew that ██████████ had experienced or had come close to experiencing what Ms. Bennett experienced?

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A. I don't remember specifically. I think the assumption between me and ██████████ was just that maybe that some similar comments had been made to ██████████, but I don't -- I never knew

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[REDACTED]
any specific occasions.

Q. Did you ever speak to [REDACTED] about why she ultimately left the Chamber?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear from anyone else as to why she left the Chamber?

A. No. I think there was a bunch of people that left at the same time after these allegations had come out and she was one of them.

Q. Did you hear from any of them as to whether any of them left because of these allegations?

A. Not directly.

Q. Did you hear anything indirectly?

A. I think indirectly it was kind of the assumption where it was you know the ship is going down, I'm going to leave type thing.

Q. Who did you understand was of that view of the ship is going down, I'm going to leave?

A. I think it was just a bunch of young people that had -- that was at the time working in the Chamber, that they were going to move on to other things and this was a, you know, good

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2 time to leave.

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Q. If you could turn to tab 25, which
4 we'll mark as an exhibit.

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(Group chat was marked Exhibit 15 for
6 identification, as of this date.)

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Q. This is a group chat between you,

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[REDACTED], and [REDACTED] on March 1,

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2021, and starts with you saying, "I feel pretty
10 strongly that he's not a predator." Is that a

11

reference to the Governor?

12

A. Yes.

13

Q. Why did you feel strongly that he was
14 not a predator?

15

A. I think based on personal experience
16 as a young professional woman, I've definitely
17 been in situations that are uncomfortable and
18 that maybe -- you know, I've been in a room with,
19 you know, an older man that just strikes you as
20 someone that is -- you know, is not making me
21 uncomfortable and is probably, you know, out, you
22 know, for not ill-intentioned things and I kind
23 of felt that I didn't get that vibe from the
24 Governor.

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Q. When you worked with the Governor, he

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understood that you were married, correct?

A. I believe so.

Q. On the next text you write, "But then again I am questioning everything so." Were you starting to have doubts at that point?

A. I think at this point most people who had worked there were pretty confused about how and what to feel, as far as, you know, my experience in the administration and, you know, also, you know, reading, about the allegations of sexual harassment.

Q. The next text from you says, "The lawyer this is bad but necessary." What does that mean? On page 17353?

A. I don't specifically know. It might be after it was made obvious that Charlotte had retained a lawyer, but I don't know for sure.

Q. On the next page you wrote, "I want to delete my LinkedIn." Why did you want to delete your LinkedIn?

A. After a lot of these articles had come out, there was a lot of reporters that were reaching out to me and I thought that it was because I had "briefer" in my LinkedIn.

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[REDACTED]
Q. On 17366 [REDACTED] writes "I mean, I feel like Kaitlin has to have something, right?"

And you respond, "Right. Kaitlin. I feel like definitely."

At that point did you think that Kaitlin had specific allegations regarding the Governor?

A. Again, I think that we were just speculating as far as, you know, people that had been in that position and we didn't know what anyone had.

Q. On 17372 [REDACTED] wrote, "What about... [REDACTED]?" Who was she referring to there?

A. [REDACTED].

Q. And remind me, what had her position been?

A. She had worked on -- in the communications office. I think she was a deputy press secretary and she would often sit at that desk at the outside desk.

Q. And do you know why [REDACTED] thought [REDACTED] was somebody who might come

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[REDACTED]
forward?

A. I think at this point we were just speculating of anyone that had sat at that desk or anyone that had been alone with him.

Q. On 17373, following up throwing out [REDACTED]'s name, [REDACTED] writes, "Anything there?"

And you respond, "I had thought that too."

What did you mean by that?

A. Again, that maybe because of her proximity to him at that desk and, you know, at the press job that she might have experienced something.

Q. I think you continue, "But do we think he said anything to [REDACTED]?" and then you continued, "Or was he just mean to her? IDK" -- I don't know -- "the answer to that," you were trying to think of possible people?

A. Yes.

Q. On 17383 you wrote, "Because I think he definitely asked weird questions."

And then the next one says, "Whether those weird questions were of a sexual nature,

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that's TBD," to be determined.

What were the weird questions you were aware that the Governor asked?

A. I think those were the questions about, you know, everyone's personal lives. You know, their relationship status, where they lived, things like that.

Q. Did people -- were you aware of anyone who was uncomfortable by the Governor's questions about personal matters?

A. At that time, you know, the people that I was friends with, no.

Q. What made you refer to those comments as weird questions?

A. I think that those are the types of questions that, you know, can be perceived by everyone individually. I didn't particularly find that they were of a sexual nature or inappropriate, but you know, other people that worked there might have felt -- might have felt that they crossed the line or that they were inappropriate.

Q. So when the Governor asked you questions, you didn't think any of them were

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2 weird?

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A. At the time I really thought that it was, you know, a boss trying to get to know someone that, you know, we worked with individually. I didn't find that it was of a sexual nature or -- and didn't make me feel uncomfortable.

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Q. And on 17388 you threw out the name again of [REDACTED], and why was that?

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A. She was another -- the briefer that had left. I know she also staffed him and had also, you know, worked on the 39th floor.

14

Q. And then a few pages on you say, "And at least she was 31 years old" and then you write, "Not that that's better, but you know what I mean." Why were you bringing up her age?

18

A. I think based on our -- my earlier conversations about, you know, the very young, out-of-college women, you know, [REDACTED] was a pretty accomplished -- she was -- she had her Ph.D., she had been in the working world, it was a different scenario I think.

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Q. On 17397 [REDACTED] wrote, "Also remember that weird woman, [REDACTED]." You didn't,

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[REDACTED]
Q. So when you refer to the reporting structure, what are you talking about?

A. I was aware that there were definitely people that you would report the sexual harassment to. I wasn't one of them and I didn't -- wasn't fully aware of what those people had to do after someone reported it to them.

Q. So when you read the articles, was it your understanding that there was at least an allegation that Ms. DesRosiers hadn't followed whatever those proper channels were?

A. Correct.

Q. On page 17423 [REDACTED] writes, "I'm like afraid to take to" -- I think she means to talk to -- "Annabel." Do you know why that was?

A. I think she was referring to, you know, speaking to Annabel post these allegations coming out. You know, I don't know specifically why though.

Q. On the prior page, 17431, you write, "Right. Like, I'm worried for Steph and Jill." That's Ms. Benton and Ms. DesRosiers?

A. Yes.

Q. Why were you worried for them?

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[REDACTED]

A. That article had a lot of severe allegations that directly implicated them.

Q. And on 17434 you write, "Of course they feel guilty because tech they are who put them in that situation ugh." What were you referring to there?

A. I think what I was saying was that if -- based on the allegations that Charlotte was making, you know, they were the ones that hired her and allowed her to be in that situation with the Governor.

Q. You mentioned before that you overlapped with [REDACTED] Kaitlin, how often did you interact with her?

A. When she first started, I would say on a daily basis. The briefing team and that desk had a lot of coordination and a lot of -- they work pretty -- they work pretty closely together.

Q. What was your impression of [REDACTED] Kaitlin when you worked with her?

A. At first, you know, I think -- again, that job is very difficult and it can be very demanding, but I -- I didn't feel that, you know,

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2 [REDACTED]
3 Kaitlin was a good fit for that job or a good fit
4 for the Chamber.

5 Q. Why is that?

6 A. She wasn't -- I would say that she
7 wasn't necessarily a team player. She -- there
8 was a lot of times where she was rude to either
9 myself or other people that I worked closely with
10 that needed her at that -- her meaning that desk,
11 they needed information from her on that desk.

12 There were also times where, you
13 know, she would be gone and you needed, you know,
14 some kind of communication with that desk, she
15 wouldn't tell people she was going on vacation.
16 There was a lot of -- when one piece of the --
17 the team doesn't operate at its fullest, you
18 know, the other people have to kind of pick up
19 the slack. So it was a difficult time to work
20 with her.

21 Q. In what way was she rude? What do
22 you mean by that?

23 A. I think there was definitely a sense
24 of entitlement and superiority in that -- went
25 with her, that she was kind of in control of
everyone else, which came off, you know, not

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great I would say with myself and other members of the administration.

Q. Did she ever raise her voice to you?

A. I don't think she ever raised her voice to me, no.

Q. Did she ever say anything that you thought was inappropriate?

A. To me?

Q. Yes.

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear of her saying anything inappropriate to anyone else?

A. I think there were definitely a couple of e-mail chains where she kind of tried to exert her authority over, you know, other people that didn't necessarily go over well. You know, I was on the e-mail. But that's pretty much it.

Q. At some point did she move from being on that desk?

A. Yes.

Q. What position did she move to at that point?

A. I don't remember what her title was

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[REDACTED]
or really what she was doing, but she was working
for [REDACTED], who at the time was the chief
of staff I believe.

Q. Did anyone tell you why [REDACTED] Kaitlin
moved from sitting near Ms. Benton's desk to
working with [REDACTED]?

A. I believe directly from her she had
said that the Governor told her that she was too
good for that job and she was too smart to be
sitting at that desk so that they had arranged
for her to go work on a -- you know, a better job
with [REDACTED].

Q. And after she moved, did you have any
work interactions with her?

A. I definitely had some. Again, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] had some interactions with the book, but
definitely fewer than when she was sitting at
that desk.

Q. And what were your interactions like
when she was working with [REDACTED]?

A. Again, I think that she -- when she
moved off that desk, she was the same -- you
know, as -- she was of the opinion that that was
a promotion, that she -- like the Governor had

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[REDACTED]
told her, that she had told us, me and the other people of -- of our team, that, you know, she was too smart for that job and so I think she made it known, which, you know, I think in my mind I didn't necessarily agree with.

Q. Didn't agree with what part of it or --

A. That it was a promotion.

Q. Was she ever rude to you when she was working with [REDACTED]?

A. I would say we didn't really get along in general. I don't remember specific indications where she was rude to me, but I would say that was -- we didn't necessarily have a great working relationship.

Q. And in what ways wasn't it a good working relationship?

A. I think it was just tense. You know, at that point -- I want to say I'd been working there for maybe a year and a half at this point, you know, very few people get promoted in the Chamber and so I think it was just very tense, and maybe it was mostly on my end, that she was going around saying that she was too smart, that

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2 because she's so smart she had gotten promoted,
3 which I think rubbed me and other people the
4 wrong way.

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Q. Did you -- at some point did she
6 leave the Chamber entirely?

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A. Yes.

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Q. And did you hear from her or anyone
9 else why she left?

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A. No. I don't specifically remember
11 anything like that.

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Q. If you could turn to tab 16, which
13 we'll mark as an exhibit.

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(Group chat was marked Exhibit 16 for
15 identification, as of this date.)

16

Q. And this is a group chat with you,
17 [REDACTED], and S #5. Now we're going back to
18 December 16, 2020. And S #5 starts by saying,
19 "I'm going through old texts with her" and on 589
20 it says, "So Jill did move her to [REDACTED]." Is
21 that in reference to Kaitlin?

22

A. I believe so.

23

Q. And what did you learn in December
24 2020 about Kaitlin being moved to [REDACTED]?

25

A. I think what we were talking about is

1 [REDACTED]
2 when Kaitlin left to go to [REDACTED], most people
3 assumed, you know, what we call a fail up, that
4 it was -- that Jill had made the moves for her to
5 go to a policy position at an agency and [S #5] was
6 confirming that it was Jill that made that
7 happen.

8 Q. When [S #5] said he was going through
9 his old texts with her, do you know if he was
10 going through old texts with Jill or with old
11 texts with Kaitlin or something else?

12 A. I don't know. I assume it was with
13 Kaitlin though. I think.

14 Q. Do you remember what prompted the
15 three of you to be talking about Kaitlin [REDACTED]
16 and her departure to [REDACTED] at that point?

17 A. I don't specifically remember what
18 the prompt was and why we were talking about it.
19 I think it -- it could have been from a tweet,
20 but I don't know for sure.

21 Q. On 596 [S #5] asks, "You guys
22 remember" -- [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]?"

23 A. [REDACTED], yeah.

24 Q. And he said, "And the way [REDACTED] said
25 her name LMAO." Do you know why he was raising

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2 her?

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A. I don't know why he was raising her.
4 It could have just been because she works with
5 [REDACTED].

6

Q. Where did he work with [REDACTED]?

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A. At the Department of Labor.

8

Q. That's the Federal Department of
9 Labor?

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A. No. The State.

11

Q. The State?

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A. Sorry. State. Yup.

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Q. If you turn to tab 9, if you look at
14 page 1527.

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Actually, go back to 1525. This is a
16 text exchange between you and [REDACTED].

17

She writes, "[REDACTED] just heard it's Kaitlin [REDACTED]"
18 and then she followed, up, "Ugh."

19

And you said, "Okay, Kaitlin, makes
20 me feel better in that I assumed she would say
21 something." Is that what you were referring to
22 earlier in terms of that you assumed [REDACTED] Kaitlin
23 would come forward?

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A. Yes.

25

Q. You continue, "But honestly IDK" -- I

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2 don't know -- "what she has to say and I don't
3 think it will be good at all." Why did you --
4 why were you sure it wouldn't be good?

5 A. You know, I think that I assumed that
6 she would come forward and say things about the
7 hostile work environment. Again, she had sat at
8 that desk and that desk is involved with -- they
9 hear everything, they kind of know what's going
10 on. Kind of the same thing I assumed about
11 Charlotte before I knew her specific allegations.

12 Q. You wrote on 1533, "But I wonder if
13 she ever had the convo like 'he made me
14 uncomfortable' like what Charlotte did with
15 Jill." What were you referring to there?

16 A. I think that was me saying that, you
17 know, I was aware that she didn't like to sit at
18 that desk, but I didn't know if she had ever made
19 any complaints about him making her feel
20 uncomfortable.

21 Q. On 1534 [REDACTED] writes, "I know
22 he yelled at her," in part, and then you respond,
23 "Right. Like, he def was mean to her." That's
24 reference to the Governor?

25 A. Yes.

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[REDACTED]

Q. What were you aware of in terms of the Governor being mean to [REDACTED] Kaitlin ?

A. I mean, I think it was the same kind of thing like I said about [REDACTED], that he was definitely mean to her. You're in the line of fire when you sit at that desk. You know, I think it was just I kind of assumed anyone that sat at that desk was kind of -- had gotten yelled at and things like that.

Q. If you turn to tab 17, which we'll make an exhibit.

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 17 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is you and [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Who is [REDACTED] ?

A. She had worked in legislative affairs and [REDACTED] worked on the scheduling team.

Q. And in February of 2021 this is dated February 27, 2021, were they still in the Chamber?

A. No.

Q. On page 2141 [REDACTED] wrote, "I wish I" -- it says was T, I think it's supposed to be wasn't drunk -- "every time she confided in

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[REDACTED]
me because she does have her asterisk own
asterisk with him. I can't remember all details
and I know it's more Steph pushing her than
anything that pushed her." Do you know what
[REDACTED] is talking about?

A. I think that at one point Jill
DesRosiers and Kaitlin [REDACTED] were -- they were
friendly and I think that maybe she had a little
more intel of, you know, certain times she was
mean to her and that I think that what she was
saying is that it was Steph more being mean to
her than anything.

Q. Did [REDACTED] ever tell you anything
more about the conversation she had with
[REDACTED] Kaitlin about [REDACTED] Kaitlin 's experience?

A. No, I don't think so.

Q. If you could look at tab 18, which
we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Group chat was marked Exhibit 18 for
identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is a group chat among you,
[REDACTED], and [REDACTED] on March 1, 2021, and
he started, "The more I think about [REDACTED] Kaitlin the
sicker I get." Do you know why that was?

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[REDACTED]

A. I think that it was kind of in reference to what I was saying before is that at that desk you kind of see and hear a lot. You know, we didn't know what Kaitlin was, you know -- or, you know, was to allege, so I think we were just speculating at that point.

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Q. On the next text he wrote, "[REDACTED] too." Who is she?

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A. [REDACTED] worked -- we didn't work together. I think she left in maybe 2015. I think she was maybe on the press team. I can't recall what she did, but she was another person that had staffed the Governor.

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Q. And did [REDACTED] ever tell you about whether he had any particular concerns about what might have happened to [REDACTED]?

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A. No.

Q. On 5075 [REDACTED] wrote, "Kaitlin sucks." Do you know why she wrote that?

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A. I think she kind of had the same opinion of Kaitlin while she worked here. It wasn't a -- it wasn't a working relationship I would say.

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Q. On 5076 [REDACTED] wrote, "Kaitlin

1 [REDACTED]
2 opens up the door to the aggressive behavior of
3 the senior staff (fucking [REDACTED])." Do you know
4 what he's referring to there?

5 A. I think that he was saying that, you
6 know, Kaitlin would definitely have, you know, some
7 insight of, you know, senior staff because of
8 where she sat. In terms of [REDACTED], there were
9 rumors that she was -- she had a relationship --
10 she had some sort of romantic relationship with
11 [REDACTED].

12 Q. What was [REDACTED]'s position at the
13 time?

14 A. He was the [REDACTED].

15 Q. Did you have any reason to believe
16 that it was not a consensual relationship if
17 there was one?

18 A. No. I think the -- it was more of a
19 long -- not long term, but ongoing relationship.

20 Q. And did you understand why
21 [REDACTED] thought any relationship between
22 Kaitlin and [REDACTED] was relevant?

23 A. I don't.

24 Q. Did [REDACTED] ever engage in
25 aggressive behavior?

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[REDACTED]
A. With me or in general?

Q. In general.

A. No.

Q. With you?

A. No.

Q. [REDACTED] wrote, "That allows [REDACTED] to come in and validate it" and then he continues, "With her own stories about [REDACTED]."
Do you know what that was a reference to?

A. I think he corrects himself and says "or [REDACTED]" asterisk. And I think she was referring to other rumors of [REDACTED], who at the time was another senior staffer before myself that was rumored to have a relationship with [REDACTED].

Q. And from what you had heard, was it a consensual relationship or potentially harassing relationship or something else?

A. Consensual.

Q. Did [REDACTED] ever tell you what information he thought Ms. Lawsuit might come forward with at any other point after these texts or before these texts?

A. I don't believe so.

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[REDACTED]

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Q. You said you didn't overlap with her?

3

A. [REDACTED]? I don't believe so. If I did, it might have been for a short period of time, but I didn't work with her directly.

6

Q. At some point did you learn about an allegation that the Governor had groped an employee?

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A. Yes.

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Q. How did you learn about that?

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A. From what -- I think it was a TU article that came out. I think that was the first time I've heard of it.

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Q. Were you involved in any discussions about that when that allegation came out?

16

A. I don't specifically recall them, but I'm sure that they happened.

18

Q. Did anyone ever tell you who the woman was who was making that allegation?

20

A. I don't know if anyone specifically told me. I think it was kind of an assumed answer between, you know, people that were familiar with who had been working with him up in the Capitol.

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Q. What was the assumed answer?

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[REDACTED]

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A. That it was Brittany Commisso.

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Q. And do you know why that was the assumed answer?

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A. I think that during COVID while -- and while everyone was up in the Capitol, you know, she was the other person that had been working in staffing with the Governor.

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Q. When you say the other person?

A. The other person that maybe we

wouldn't have been aware of.

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Q. Who was staffing the Governor in that time period?

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A. I don't know. My assumption is just what I kind of gleaned from other people that it was Charlotte, [REDACTED], Alyssa McGrath, Brittany Commisso. Those are the ones that I -- that I knew about.

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Q. And were [REDACTED] EA #2 and [REDACTED] EA #3

still staffing the Governor?

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A. Yes. Sorry that -- their job -- you know, they were his EAs. Those were the other -- the other people.

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Q. Did anyone tell you why they assumed it was Ms. Commisso rather than [REDACTED] EA #2 or

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2 [REDACTED] EA #3 or Ms. McGrath or anyone else?

3 A. I don't think so. I -- you know,
4 I -- EA #2 and EA #3 were kind of long -- you
5 know, long -- they had been there for years. I
6 think it was the assumption or how the story made
7 it seem that it was a relatively newer
8 relationship or, you know, that working -- you
9 know, that someone had just come to that job, you
10 know, within the past few years.

11 Q. And do you know why the assumption
12 was that it wasn't [REDACTED], for example?

13 A. I don't actually know. I think -- I
14 don't know why we didn't assume that it was
15 [REDACTED]. I think we kind of assumed that, you
16 know, we would know if it was [REDACTED].

17 Q. Did you through any of your
18 connections ever hear anything about what
19 happened between the Governor and whoever this
20 woman was other than what you read in the press?

21 A. Again, there were a lot of -- a lot
22 of rumors, a lot of speculation about, you know,
23 if there was a consensual relationship, if there
24 was like a secret affair, if it was, you know,
25 entirely unconsensual, you know, people -- we

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[REDACTED]
really didn't know.

Q. When you say there was rumors and speculation, did you hear from anyone who said they had any real knowledge as opposed to speculation or --

A. I don't think so. I think it was -- it was really just, you know, people trying to put pieces together.

Q. I'm going to ask you to turn to tab 19 that we will mark as an exhibit.

(Group chat was marked Exhibit 19 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is a chat amongst you, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] S #5 -- I always butcher his last name.

A. [REDACTED] Staffer #5 .

Q. [REDACTED] Staffer #5 ?

A. It takes a while.

Q. I'm sorry. This is dated March 10, 2021. Is it your understanding that this is after the allegation of the groping came out?

A. I don't know for sure. It seems like it was probably after that allegation had come out or maybe it was -- I think that -- I think

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[REDACTED]
that what had happened is there was a short allegation and then there was a larger story regarding that.

MS. POTTER: If I may interject briefly, do you happen to have -- I see there's a Twitter link here on the first page.

MS. CLARK: I don't have it handy.

MS. POTTER: No problem. Thank you.

Q. Emily helpfully pulled up the Twitter link that is a link to a Times Union story with the headline "Female Aide Said Cuomo Aggressively Groped Her at Executive Mansion." So this was regarding the allegation of groping.

Did anyone who worked in the Executive Chamber ever tell you whether they had any information about whether this actually happened or not or --

A. I don't think it was anyone -- I don't think anyone that currently worked there. Again, I think I had just spoken to former people, you know, people that I -- you know, I had previously worked with.

Q. Did you ever work with Ms. Commisso?

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[REDACTED]

A. I think that Brittany maybe had worked there, not for him at the time, but never -- never with her.

Q. Did anyone whoever did work with her ever share with you any information about her behavior in the workplace or anything like that?

A. Not that I can specifically recall. I don't even remember where she worked prior to working in that front office.

Q. You talked about who was in the Chamber at that point. I think you mentioned Alyssa McGrath. Did you ever work with her?

A. Alyssa McGrath I believe I worked with once. We staffed the Governor together one day. I know that she previously had worked as an EA for I think [REDACTED], who was the deputy secretary for Economic Development at the time, so you know, I knew of her, but I didn't deal with her directly and then one time I -- before I left I worked with her with the Governor one time.

Q. The day that the two of you were both staffing the Governor, did you see any interactions between her and the Governor?

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[REDACTED]

A. Not that I can specifically remember.

Q. Did she ever share with you anything that happened between her and the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear about it when you were still in the Chambers, about any conduct between her and the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever see her upset in the workplace?

A. No.

Q. I'm going to turn to tab 20, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Group chat was marked Exhibit 20 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is another group chat amongst you, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] and it's on March 25, 2021, and [REDACTED] wrote, "So I finally found out why Alyssa's attorney sent out that statement last night."

And [REDACTED] says, "Please tell."

And he wrote, "I guess the Governor's Office is planning on releasing her personnel record."

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[REDACTED]
And [REDACTED] has an "LOLLL" and then "Enter assistant hopping."

Remind me again, where was [REDACTED] working at this time?

A. He was still at the Department of Tax and Finance.

Q. And did he tell you how he heard about -- what he shared about the Governor's Office planning on releasing her personnel record?

A. I don't think he ever said how he found that out.

Q. Did he ever tell you any understanding as to why he understood they were planning on releasing her record?

A. No. Not that I can remember.

Q. When [REDACTED] referred to her and her assistant hopping, do you know what that was a reference to?

A. I think that was about her moving -- I'm not sure if she was somewhere else before [REDACTED], but maybe moving -- assistant hopping meaning that she had been an assistant for multiple different people. I think that's

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what she's referring to.

Q. Did you know anything about the circumstances as to why she moved from any one person to another?

A. No.

Q. And in your experience in the Chamber, was anyone who was viewed as a -- an assistant who could not perform well assigned to work with the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear about any other circumstances in which the Chamber talked about or actually released an employee's personnel file?

A. Yes. I believe Lindsey Boylan.

Q. Do you know anything about that other than what you've read in the press?

A. I don't believe so. I think maybe things in her -- maybe there was mention in that letter, but I don't think it was directly in reference to her personnel record.

Q. Were you part of any conversations about whether to release Ms. Boylan's personnel record or anything from her personnel file?

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A. With the Governor's Office?

Q. Yes.

A. No.

Q. In some of your group texts we've gone through various names people have thrown out, you and your friends, as to who might come forward, as you sit here today is there anyone else you think of that you think could possibly have now or in the future come forward with any allegations about the Governor?

A. I don't think so. I mean, I think we speculated about pretty much everyone that we may have thought that would or could.

Q. Other than the names in the texts, have any of your friends suggested anyone else that they thought might have an issue with their time in the Chamber?

A. I don't think so.

MS. CLARK: Why don't we take a five-minute break. This is a good spot.

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 2:14 p.m. We are going off the record and this will end media unit No. 3.

(A brief recess was taken.)

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[REDACTED]

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 2:55 p.m. We are back on the record and this will be the start of media unit No. 4. Counsel.

MS. CLARK: Thank you.

Q. I want to go back to -- put your tweets -- your texts aside for a moment. Go back to December of 2020 when Lindsey Boylan started tweeting.

Did anyone who still worked in the Executive Chamber reach out to you at that point?

A. Yes.

Q. Who?

A. Proactively the first person that still works there was Stephanie Benton.

Q. And when you say proactively the first person who reached out to you, did anyone else reach out to you not proactively or --

A. There were other -- I think I had sent something to the Chamber before I had talked to Stephanie. So it started with the conversation between myself, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] I think.

Q. And what did you send to the Chamber?

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[REDACTED]
A. It was a screenshot of -- I think it was on Facebook Messenger of a reporter reaching out to [REDACTED].

Q. And do you remember where that reporter was from?

A. I think it might have been from the TU.

Q. And did [REDACTED] ask you to reach out to the Chamber on her behalf?

A. No.

Q. Why were -- who did you send it to in the Chamber?

A. I asked [REDACTED] if it was okay for me to send to the Chamber and then I sent it to [REDACTED] Staffer #4.

Q. Why did you send it to him?

A. At the time he still worked in the Chamber and he was probably one of the closest people that -- you know, the people I wasn't closest to that worked -- still worked there.

Q. What was his position at the time?

A. I think that his title was deputy secretary for executive operations or something like that.

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2 Q. When you forwarded him the Facebook
3 message that [REDACTED] had received, what, if
4 anything, did you say to him?

5 A. I think I sent -- I think I sent it
6 to him in a separate chat, but I had already been
7 talking to him in a group chat regarding the
8 conversation that I had had with [REDACTED] and
9 [REDACTED] and so he had said -- you know, I had
10 said to him, "Here, I'm sending you the
11 screenshot" and then I spoke with him and Rich
12 Azzopardi later on that day just saying flagging,
13 you know, reporters are reaching out to former
14 staffers.

15 Q. And was this after Ms. Boylan had
16 tweeted using the phrase "sexual harassment"?

17 A. I believe so, yes.

18 Q. When you spoke to [REDACTED] Staffer #4 and
19 Mr. Azzopardi, tell me what you recall the three
20 of you spoke about.

21 A. I think -- it was a very short
22 conversation. It was just like, Hey, Rich, you
23 know, I don't know, I haven't gotten one, but you
24 know, [REDACTED] -- someone reached out to [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED], who was a former briefer, about her time

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[REDACTED]
working in the Chamber. I don't remember if it specifically said Lindsey Boylan, it could have. And that was kind of it.

Q. Did either Staffer #4 or Mr. Azzopardi say anything in response to you?

A. No. They said "okay" and that was the end.

Q. And then after that you received a call from Ms. Benton or did you speak to anyone else in between?

A. I think a few days later was when Stephanie called me. So that conversation happened and then a few days later Stephanie called me.

Q. And how long was your call with Ms. Benton?

A. I couldn't say. Maybe a few minutes.

Q. What did she say to you, what did you say to her?

A. I believe the -- I don't know if I have the order correctly, but one of the -- the first conversations was about me, if I was interested in signing on to this letter that was being written to kind of go against any

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[REDACTED]
assertions that, you know, Lindsey Boylan had made on Twitter.

Q. And did Ms. Benton tell you what the purpose of -- you know, where the letter would be sent or published or anything along those lines?

A. She didn't say. She did say though that, you know, okay, we'll let you know, if we -- if it was going -- ever going to be, you know, published or sent out or put in some sort of press release. She didn't say specifically.

Q. Did she provide you with a copy of the letter?

A. No. I asked to -- you know, I needed to see something before I signed on to it and she said okay and that Alphonso David would call me and talk me through the letter.

Q. And at that point was Mr. David still working for the Chamber?

A. No.

Q. Did you ask why Mr. David was involved?

A. I did not ask.

Q. Did Mr. David then reach out to you?

A. Yes.

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Q. Before we get to him, anything else said between you and Ms. Benton other than there's a letter that you might sign on to?

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A. At that point I don't think so.

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Q. And before you saw the letter, what was -- did you say anything to Ms. Benton about what your general attitude was towards signing on to a letter?

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A. I think I said, you know, I'm happy to, you know, sign on to something that, you know, was in effect, you know, saying that I was never sexually harassed, nor did I ever witness anything like that, but again, that I would have to see or -- you know, see what the letter said before I would sign on to it.

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Q. How long after you spoke to Ms. Benton did Mr. David call you?

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A. I don't specifically remember. You know, it was within a few hours.

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Q. And what did he say to you and what did you say to him?

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A. We just exchanged, you know, pleasantries. You know, he was the counsel when I was working there and then he kind of just

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2 read -- read me the letter of what it -- in its
3 current draft.

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Q. The draft that he read to you, what
5 things do you remember were in that letter?

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A. The letter -- it went through a
7 couple of things. You know, it went through a,
8 you know, we, whoever was signing on this letter,
9 had never witnessed any sexual harassment on the
10 Governor's part, nor had, you know, we, you know,
11 seen anything that, you know -- anything of the
12 sort and it kind of then went to a Lindsey --
13 then it kind of turned to a Lindsey Boylan aspect
14 saying, you know, Lindsey Boylan worked in the
15 administration for so odd many years and then it
16 kind of went through some pieces where it said,
17 you know, on this date, you know, post her
18 leaving she was praising the Governor in all of
19 these tweets on Governor -- on Twitter and that
20 she had a very positive experience, you know, on
21 social media until very recently.

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Q. Did it say anything about her conduct
23 toward other employees?

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A. I think that it also said that there
25 was something about, you know, how she left, that

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[REDACTED]
it was, you know -- unfortunately, you know, she departed from the administration. I don't remember if it got into specifics, but it very well may could have.

Q. Did it say anything about Ms. Boylan's interactions with men?

A. I don't believe so.

Q. Did it say whether she had ever made any comments about the Governor's appearance?

A. Not that I remember.

Q. Did it suggest that Ms. Boylan's tweets were politically motivated?

A. Yes.

Q. Did it say anything about Jumaane Williams?

A. Not that I can remember.

Q. Did it say anything about Trump lawyers or financial supporters being involved with Ms. Boylan?

A. I don't remember that either.

Q. Did it say anything about any of her campaign staff leaving as a result of her tweets?

A. I don't remember that being part of it. That sounds -- that sounds -- that's the

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2 only thing that sounds familiar to me, but I
3 don't remember if that was from the letter or it
4 was from just other tweets in general.

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Q. Did Mr. David say anything more to
6 you about what might be done with the letter?

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A. No. He said that someone would be in
8 touch if -- you know, if I had -- or I could be
9 in touch with him if I had any further questions
10 and that if anything were to be done with the
11 letter, you know, someone would let me know.

12

Q. Did Mr. David tell you whether he was
13 signing on to the letter?

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A. No. My understanding was that it was
15 all women.

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Q. Did Mr. David tell you anything about
17 whether anyone else had agreed to sign on to it?

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A. He did not.

19

Q. Did you tell Mr. David whether or not
20 you were willing to sign on to it?

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A. I said that -- well, first of all, I
22 said that I would -- because of my line of work,
23 I would have -- before I signed on to anything I
24 would have to clear it with my current job
25 because I still work in, you know, politics and

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2 then I also said, you know, I would need to, you
3 know, see or read, you know, whatever the final
4 draft of the letter was before it went out, but
5 yes, that I was willing to sign on.

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Q. And why were you willing to sign on?

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8 A. You know, at that time -- at that
9 time everything I felt like in the letter was,
10 you know -- I understood it as a strategy that
11 they were trying to combat any sort of, you know,
12 other negative press, that, you know -- and it
13 was -- I had never heard of any claims by Lindsey
14 Boylan besides the tweets prior to that she even
15 had a negative experience necessarily working
16 there besides, you know, her maybe treatment of
17 staff which forced her to resign, but before
18 that, you know, I had never heard anything and I
19 did know that she was running at -- I think at
20 the time for Manhattan Borough president I think
21 was -- or -- no, maybe it was congressional --
22 she was in a congressional race. So I did, you
23 know, think that maybe there was some sort of
24 political motive to her tweets.

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Q. The part that Mr. David read to you
25 about the circumstances of Ms. Boylan's

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[REDACTED]
departure, did you have any firsthand knowledge about any of that?

A. I don't think so. Again, I think I had heard at the time that she did leave that, you know, there was some issue with her resign -- you know, that was there a conversation that she had had with Alphonso which had kind of forced her to resign.

Q. At the time you had heard all that, was -- did you hear that from anyone that had firsthand knowledge or was this a rumor or something else?

A. I think this is probably a rumor, you know, or, you know, kind of just knowledge from people that had still worked at the Chamber at the time.

Q. When you spoke to Mr. David about the letter, did he tell you anything about his knowledge of the circumstances of Ms. Boylan's departure?

A. No.

Q. Anything else said by you or Mr. David in that conversation?

A. No. That was -- that was pretty much

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it.

Q. When you first spoke with Stephanie Benton, did -- before asking if you could sign on to the letter, did she ask you whether you had had any experiences with the Governor you considered to be inappropriate?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Did she ask you whether you knew whether anyone else had any experiences with the Governor that made them uncomfortable?

A. No.

Q. When you spoke to Mr. David, did he ask you if you had ever had any experiences with the Governor that made you uncomfortable?

A. No.

Q. Did he ask you whether you knew whether any other young women in the office had experienced anything that made them uncomfortable with the Governor?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever speak to Melissa DeRosa about the letter?

A. No.

Q. And you mentioned some conversations

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[REDACTED]
with Ms. Benton and Ms. Walsh, did any of those
involve this letter that Mr. David read to you?

A. No. I don't think -- I don't think
about the letter.

Q. Did you have any other conversations
with anyone else about this letter that not only
said you hadn't experienced harassment but also
said things about Ms. Boylan?

A. I -- the only people I spoke to about
the letter afterwards was, you know, to S #5 or
[REDACTED] or people like that.

Q. Did you speak to anyone else who had
been asked to sign the letter?

A. The only person that I affirmatively
had known that was asked to sign the letter was
[REDACTED].

Q. And what was your conversation with
[REDACTED]?

A. Our conversation was really just
about, you know, did -- I guess whoever -- I
think it was Dani Lever had called [REDACTED] similar
to how Steph had called me regarding signing on
to the letter and I believe they were the ones
that told [REDACTED] that they had talked to me and so

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[REDACTED] I think reached out to me to speak about the letter and, you know, we kind of were at that time -- we were kind of like okay, you know, we kind of felt the same way, that the letter kind of entailed, you know, what we thought at the time and that we -- I think we were both willing to sign on to the letter.

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Q. And did she describe any of the contents of the letter that was read to her?

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A. I don't specifically remember. She might have had more information regarding her leaving just because she had close friends I know that worked at ESD, but I can't specifically remember our conversation about that.

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Q. When you spoke to S #5 about the possibility of signing the letter, what did the two of you discuss?

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A. I think we, you know, had a pretty general discussion, you know, if I was willing to sign on, if that letter, you know, were to be made public, what does that mean for, you know, having my name out there, you know, things like that.

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Q. What did you discuss about the

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2 possibility of having your name out there in
3 connection with the letter?

4 A. You know, it was definitely a
5 concern. I mean, I think we both felt that it
6 was opening -- you know, your name is on it. I
7 would assume that people then wanted to talk to
8 you, you know, to you meaning myself and, you
9 know, anyone else who had signed on to that
10 letter.

11 Q. Anything else you recall that you and
12 S #5 discussed about the letter?

13 A. I don't think so. Not that I can
14 specifically remember at that time.

15 Q. At the time you and [REDACTED] were still
16 roommates, right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. What did you and [REDACTED] discuss?

19 A. I think some of the same -- some of
20 the same things I talked about with S #5 and
21 [REDACTED], you know, just about, you know, what -- my
22 willingness to sign on, that, you know, I think I
23 didn't necessarily disagree with any of the
24 letter, but there was definitely a concern of,
25 you know, putting your name -- you know, my name

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██████████
on something like that.

Q. Had anyone reached out to ██████ to sign some version of this letter?

A. No.

Q. Did the two of you have any discussion as to why you thought that they'd reach out to you and not ██████?

A. I think based on what the letter had said, there was a portion of it that said, you know, us collectively, you know, were people that would always have been either in the office, you know, and have seen, you know, interactions with the Governor and someone else, you know, kind of -- ██████ had never staffed him, so I think we thought that that was part of the reason that she wasn't asked, and that she still was a part of the administration.

Q. After the call where Mr. David read you the letter, did you have any further discussions with him or any other current or former senior Chambers employees about signing the letter?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever have any discussions

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2 about signing any other letters or statements?

3 A. After -- yes. After that
4 conversation, Steph -- it was a separate
5 conversation that I had with Steph, separate
6 phone call, that she kind of described to me a
7 more general statement as a -- you know, a
8 more -- that would -- to me was a more wide-
9 casting statement. It didn't necessarily have
10 anything to do with Lindsey or anyone in
11 particular, it was just a, you know, we are
12 former female Cuomo staffers, you know, we did
13 not experience nor have -- did we witness, you
14 know, any kind of sexual harassment. It was
15 that -- it was a shorter statement.

16 Q. Did you ever get a copy of it or was
17 it just read to you?

18 A. It wasn't even read to me by word.
19 It was just a, you know, we're thinking about,
20 you know, putting this together, you know,
21 something like this and that was it.

22 Q. And what was your response to
23 Ms. Benton?

24 A. I said, you know, kind of something
25 similar that I said to Alphonso, you know, that

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[REDACTED]
I'd have to obviously see a copy of it or, you know, read anything -- read it before I signed and I would have to clear it through work if it were ever to, you know, be used.

Q. If you could turn to tab 21, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Text exchange was marked Exhibit 21 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. And this is an exchange between you and [REDACTED] on December 18, 2020, and she starts by saying, "Talked to Dani. Sounds like it's four of us on it." Is that in reference to the longer letter?

A. Yes, I believe so.

Q. And if I represent to you -- we saw earlier that Ms. Boylan's tweet where she first referenced sexual harassment was December 13th, as of December 18th, had you already -- you had already spoken to Ms. Benton?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you place where between the 13th and the 18th it was that you spoke to Ms. Benton?

A. It might have been the 16th or the 17th.

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[REDACTED]

Q. And you responded, "Wait. Just 4?!?!" Why was that your reaction?

A. I think at the time I didn't realize that it was such a small group that had been asked to sign on to the letter.

Q. At that point did you know who the four were?

A. I didn't. The only person I knew for sure was [REDACTED]. You know, I think we kind of speculated and I speculated with [REDACTED], like, who else would be on it and that's why I kind of speculated that it would be more than four people, but I didn't know for sure.

Q. When you speculated with [REDACTED] as to who would be on it, who did you think would be signing this?

A. We thought that it was, you know, Dani Lever; Annabel, who had left; myself; [REDACTED]; maybe some other former senior staff members that hadn't left already, but we weren't sure.

Q. When -- in your communications with [REDACTED] when she said Ms. Lever called her, did Ms. Lever tell her whether Ms. Lever was signing on to it?

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[REDACTED]

A. I think -- and I can't remember if this was a text or we had some phone conversations. I think that Dani, who now works at Facebook -- I don't think that she -- you know, she couldn't get it cleared through her work so I don't think -- it turned out that Dani wasn't signing on to it.

Q. So Dani was calling to get people to sign on, but she was not signing on herself, is that you understanding?

A. At the time she called [REDACTED], I don't know if she had gotten a no, but I know that eventually it was that Dani would -- couldn't sign on.

Q. You then wrote, "I tried to called Annabel and didn't get her." Why were you trying to reach Ms. Walsh?

A. I think I assumed that Annabel had been asked or was part of this letter and so I was trying to call her to get more information from her.

Q. And did you ever speak to Ms. Walsh about this longer version of the letter?

A. No, I don't believe I did.

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Q. [REDACTED] explains who the four is, she says, "Me, you, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]." Who are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]?

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A. [REDACTED], her -- I think her married name is [REDACTED], she was a former briefer, and then [REDACTED], I'm trying to -- [REDACTED] I think is her last name. I don't think I ever worked with [REDACTED], but she -- but she was -- she had worked for the administration prior to me and [REDACTED] was a former briefer who then went to Counsel's Office.

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Q. On page 1341 you write to [REDACTED], "I thought they were going to try and get like 100 people." Who had told you that?

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A. I don't think anyone specifically told me that. I think that that was the insinuation that I got, that it was a wide-cast net for -- to sign on.

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Q. On page 1345 you wrote, "Well, when I talked to Annabel at first I think it was because of her job." What discussion did you have with Ms. Walsh about that?

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A. I don't remember. I must have -- I must have talked to her after, you know, the

1 [REDACTED]
2 letter. I don't remember that conversation, but
3 I think -- I think that she also -- I mean, I --
4 I don't know if it was from Annabel or from
5 someone else that she wasn't signing on to the
6 letter either because of her new job.

7 Q. At 1349 you write, "Did she say
8 whether they were asking [REDACTED]? LOL." Why did
9 you write LOL about asking [REDACTED]?

10 A. I think that was more of just a
11 LOL -- casual -- you know, it was not a -- I
12 don't think I meant anything by it. But [REDACTED]
13 was one of the other people that we thought
14 because she was a former, you know, no longer
15 worked for the administration.

16 Q. A few pages on at 1353 you say, "Okay
17 Steph just called me" and in the next text you
18 write, "And read the other statement to me."

19 And [REDACTED] asked, "Which
20 statement?"

21 You wrote, "The shorter one."

22 Was that the broader statement or was
23 that something else?

24 A. I guess that she did read the shorter
25 statement to me, but I think that was the shorter

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[REDACTED]
one, that -- that she kind of insinuated that that would be the large -- it was like from everyone, current and former staffers, I think was my understanding for that shorter one.

Q. And a few pages on on 1361 in describing the shorter one you said, "It sounded just like a general positive statement of the Gov." So this was just the positive statements and nothing negative about Ms. Boylan?

A. Correct.

Q. And at 1365 [REDACTED] asked, "But the letter is still happening or...?"

And you said, "She said yes, still happening."

So at that point your understanding was that the longer letter was still going to be pulled together in some fashion?

A. Right. I think at that point, you know, I hadn't heard one way or the other and that I would be told if and when it was going to be used.

Q. If you could look at tab 22, which we'll mark.

(Text exchange was marked Exhibit 22

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[REDACTED]
for identification, as of this date.)

Q. This is the day before. It's between you and [REDACTED]. It starts by asking, "Did Alphonso call yet?" Had you told [REDACTED] about your conversation with Ms. Benton before Mr. David called?

A. Yeah. I think I -- I think I immediately told [REDACTED].

Q. And then [REDACTED] writes on page 22539, "Call Annabel" and on the next page, "She's signing it." Did [REDACTED] tell you anything about her communications with Ms. Walsh about that?

A. I don't remember specifically. I mean, I know [REDACTED] and Annabel were closer than me and Annabel so it doesn't surprise me.

Q. On page 22548 you wrote, "As we all know, we'll sign our life away LOL." What did you mean by that?

A. I think what I was trying to say is that, you know, if they asked us to sign something, you know, there was an inherent pressure and understanding that, you know, we would sign it.

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Q. Did you feel pressure to sign the letter?

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A. I definitely felt that there -- I definitely felt a certain pressure there. You know, especially with Steph calling me. Not necessarily a bad pressure, but there was a pressure there, you know, because of our relationship and our former professional -- you know, when I worked at the Chamber.

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Q. Did you have any concerns that if you said you didn't want to sign on to the letter that there might be any negative repercussions for your career, especially if you stayed in government or politics?

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A. I don't think I would say a fear. I think it was definitely, you know, I wanted to maintain a positive relationship with the Chamber for my current job and, you know, my future, career, so that was definitely a consideration I had so...

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Q. And did you have a concern that there might be a negative impact if you didn't agree to sign on the letter?

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A. I don't necessarily think there would

1 [REDACTED]
2 have been a negative impact. I think it would
3 just have -- it would have cooled off any
4 relationship that I had with Stephanie going
5 forward. And for purposes of my current job, you
6 know, I thought that it was, you know, necessary
7 to, you know, keep a good working relationship
8 with her.

9 Q. On page 22556 you wrote, "My heart
10 SANK" -- and sank is in all caps -- "when I saw
11 her calling." Is that a reference to Ms. Benton
12 calling?

13 A. Yes, I believe so.

14 Q. And why did your heart sink when you
15 saw her calling?

16 A. I think that was a little bit of a
17 former anxiety. You know, Stephanie didn't
18 usually call unless it was a negative, you know,
19 from our former time in the Chamber together.

20 Q. On page 22562 [REDACTED] wrote, "Plus
21 always not good when she calls LMAO." Had there
22 ever been any other occasions that you left that
23 Ms. Benton had reached out for something that
24 wasn't good?

25 A. No. I think this was generally just

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referring to when we -- when we used to work together in the Chamber.

Q. And what sort of things did she call about when you were still there?

A. I think it was more of where's the book, how much longer, where is it, when are you going to be done, things -- things like that.

Q. On page 22573 you wrote, "Yeah, I feel trapped." What was that a reference to?

A. I think that was me referring to signing the letter and kind of the pressure that I -- you know, we just talked about, that it was -- there was a lot of confusing things necessarily signing on to something that would go public because my name would be out there, you know, plus talking, you know -- you know, and keeping a good relationship with Steph and the Chamber.

Q. On page 22590 you wrote, "Like, she said something about Lindsey texting Dani and Robert." What's that a reference to?

A. I think that during our conversation there was something about, you know, how Lindsey had, you know, quote/unquote threatened Dani and

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Robert via text about, you know, coming for them and coming for the Chamber prior to her tweets.

Q. If you look at page 22619, it says, "Spoke to Alphonso." Did you send that just after speaking to Mr. David?

A. Sorry, 226 --

Q. 619 sorry.

A. 619. Yes.

Q. And on the next page, 22620, you wrote, "Spoke to LT." Was that to Laticia?

A. Yes. I think --

Q. What conversation did you have with her?

A. I believe after -- almost immediately after I spoke to Alphonso, I called LT just to discuss, you know, what was going on and, you know, if she was aware of, you know, this letter.

Q. And what did she say to you?

A. I believe she wasn't aware of the letter and I kind of told her what had gone on, you know, Steph calling me, Alphonso calling me and said like, what the heck is going on over there, do you know, and you know, like, what should I do type of counsel moment.

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[REDACTED]

Q. What advice, if any, did she give you?

A. I think she said -- I'm pretty sure she said to me that, you know, it was good that I had a version of the letter or, you know, I had been read a version of the letter and, you know, that I would need to clear it through my current boss if it were to ever -- to come -- to be used and that, you know, I think -- I can't remember exactly. I just think she said, you know, we have to see what happens and, you know, go with your gut and if they're going to use it, you know, then you can have that -- you know, more of an internal thought about it.

Q. On page 22652 [REDACTED] says, "A thought re [REDACTED]" and then her next text is, "They should ask [REDACTED] to sign this letter" and then her next one is, "And then if they did" and then her next text is, "[REDACTED] would know."

What did you understand that [REDACTED] was talking about there?

A. I think she was referring to [REDACTED], who is a former Cuomo staffer who had since left, and that if [REDACTED] had been

1 [REDACTED]
2 asked to sign the letter, that [REDACTED] most
3 likely would have it shared with [REDACTED] and then
4 [REDACTED] would know about the letter.

5 Q. And why -- I mean, you responded by
6 saying, "Oohh interesting." What was interesting
7 about that?

8 A. I think that was just an interesting,
9 you know, connection that she had there. We
10 were -- in our conversation we were, you know,
11 wondering if we could or should address the --
12 the existence of the letter with [REDACTED].

13 Q. Why were you wondering about whether
14 you should or shouldn't address it with [REDACTED]?

15 A. I think it was an awkward thing to
16 say. You know, if she hadn't been asked to sign
17 it and then -- then it would have been, you know,
18 why wasn't I asked to sign it type -- we didn't
19 want to, you know, either hurt her feelings or,
20 you know, or broach the subject if we weren't
21 supposed to be talking about it with her if she
22 wasn't asked.

23 Q. Did you have any sense as to whether
24 [REDACTED] would or wouldn't sign such a letter?

25 A. We didn't really know I don't think.

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██████████
She might have signed it if, you know, Dani had asked her, but you know, I don't -- but we didn't know. And we didn't really want to bring it up to her if we didn't know for sure that she was aware of it.

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Q. When you spoke to Ms. Benton or Mr. David, did either of them tell you whether you should not talk to anybody else about this?

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A. No. It was more of just a friendship, personal friendship type thing, like if we should be talking about it with ██████████ if -- you know, we didn't want to make her feel bad if she hadn't been asked.

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Q. At any point did your view about signing -- after -- let me back up.

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After Ms. Benton shared with you the short positive version, either it read to you or described it to you, did you have further conversations with Ms. Benton or anyone else about signing on to that letter?

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A. No. I think -- not with -- not with anyone senior. You know, I think it was a lot of conversations between me and ██████████ and I think me and ██████████, you know, discussed it later on, but

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[REDACTED]
no one ever I don't believe brought the subject
back up to me.

Q. Did you ever speak to your boss in
the DA's office about it?

A. No, I didn't.

Q. Did your view about being willing to
sign on to a letter ever change?

A. Absolutely. As time went on and, you
know, actual allegations had come out, you know,
detailed allegations, you know, there was
definitely a concern that -- that I believe I
expressed, you know, with [REDACTED] that, you know,
it would have been a -- definitely a different
story if the letter were to come out after those
allegations had come out.

Q. If you could turn back to tab 7 that
we looked at earlier, on page 26103 -- this
exchange is between you and [REDACTED] on February
24, 2021. [REDACTED] wrote, "The Alphonso letter"
and then her next text was. "Will it come back?"

And you responded "OMG" and then
IDK" -- I don't know and -- then you said, "That
would be bad. Like WTF." I assume that's what
the fuck?

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A. Yes.

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Q. And then you said, "If that letter comes back, I will panic." Why did you write that?

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A. I think if I have my timing correctly, this was post Lindsey's Medium article. So I think that we were rehashing -- you know, at this point we were saying oh, my goodness that letter, what if that comes back.

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And that would have -- that would be -- definitely be a very difficult thing to sign on to once those specific detailed allegations had come out, had become public.

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Q. Did you at that point have any conversations with anyone in the -- any current or former senior staffers in the Executive Chamber about whether there was still any discussion about having a letter?

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A. No.

Q. Did you make any decision about what you would do if anyone reached out to you at that point and asked you to sign on to such a letter?

A. No. I didn't make a decision, but I definitely had, you know, real doubts and hopes

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that it would never come back.

Q. After Ms. -- at any point after Ms. Boylan's tweets came out, did you have any discussions with anyone from the current or former members of the Executive Chamber about you reaching out to other former staffers?

A. Yes.

Q. When was that?

A. It was in the same couple day time frame as the conversations about the letter. I think they were -- it was one or two days after the letter conversation happened. Maybe the 6th -- it may have been the 18th or 19th of December.

Q. And who did you have such discussions?

A. I had them with mostly Stephanie, but I think that there were some with Annabel as well.

Q. And can you separate out those conversations or --

A. I don't know. I think we may have talked together. I think it started off with Stephanie and then I think at one point, you

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2 know, Annabel was kind of added on into the
3 conversation regarding people that -- you know,
4 if I would be willing to reach out to certain
5 people to see if the press had reached out to
6 them at that point.

7 Q. Did Ms. Benton reach out and make a
8 phone call to you to discuss this?

9 A. Yeah. I think it was -- I think it
10 was via -- I'm pretty sure it was via phone call.

11 Q. And she told you that the purpose in
12 reaching out to people was to see if press had
13 reached out to them?

14 A. Yeah. The purpose was to see -- you
15 know, to reach out to people, you know, that I
16 was still, you know, in contact with to see if,
17 you know, they had been reached out to the
18 press -- by the press because at that point, you
19 know, they were definitely aware that the press
20 had been reaching out to former staffers.

21 Q. Did Ms. Benton talk to you about
22 asking anyone to sign on to either version, the
23 longer letter or the short statement?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Did Ms. Benton give you names to call

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2 or did she ask who you thought you should call or
3 how did this come about?

4 A. I don't specifically remember how it
5 came about. I can't remember if she sent me the
6 list -- a list or I talked to her and then she
7 sent me the list. But as I remember it, I think
8 that they were just going through people, you
9 know, that had, you know, either sat at that
10 desk, the outside-of-her-office desk, or people
11 that we knew that had previously staffed him.

12 Q. And did she ask for your help in sort
13 of remembering people who had been in those
14 roles?

15 A. Yes. There was a couple of times,
16 like, you know, can you think of anyone else, not
17 necessarily for me just to reach out to, but
18 anyone else that belonged on the list.

19 Q. And in speaking to Ms. Benton, did
20 you provide any of the names that you and your
21 friends had been batting around about people you
22 thought might come forward?

23 A. Yes. I think we -- I mostly
24 discussed it at the time with [REDACTED] because

25 [REDACTED] -- Stephanie knew that I lived with [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
and [REDACTED] knew that I was talking to Stephanie and we kind of went through the list of, you know, people that we could remember that had sat at that desk and had staffed him. So it was similar names.

Q. Do you recall in the conversation with Ms. Benton having any discussion about whether someone should reach out to Kaitlin [REDACTED] ?

A. I don't specifically remember. I definitely know that Kaitlin was talked about. I don't remember if we had talked about who or if she belonged on the list or, you know, if there was anyone that would reach out to her or could reach out to her.

Q. Do you recall anything that was said about Kaitlin [REDACTED] in the call with Ms. Benton?

A. Not particularly.

Q. Did you have any discussion about [REDACTED] ?

A. Yes.

Q. What discussion was there about [REDACTED] ?

A. I think she was just an easy -- you

1 [REDACTED]
2 know, she was a former briefer, she had
3 definitely staffed the Governor, and she was on
4 the list and, you know, Steph had asked if I had
5 still been in contact with her, which I had been,
6 and if I would reach out to her and see if anyone
7 had reached out to her.

8 Q. Was there any discussion about

9 [REDACTED] ?

10 A. I don't remember. She might have
11 came up between me and [REDACTED] as far as someone
12 that had staffed the Governor, but it was -- it
13 was a conversation about me reaching out so, you
14 know --

15 Q. With Ms. Benton did you have any
16 discussion about [REDACTED] ?

17 A. I don't think so.

18 Q. With Ms. Benton did you have any
19 discussion about [REDACTED] ?

20 A. I don't know if [REDACTED] maybe
21 was already on the list or it was already a --
22 you know, someone that was -- already had
23 mentioned. I don't remember. I mean, she was
24 definitely on that list. I don't remember if we
25 had a conversation about her.

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[REDACTED]

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Q. And did Ms. Benton tell you anything to ask other than whether they had had the press reach out to them?

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A. No.

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Q. Did she ask you to talk about any of them about whether they had experienced any harassment?

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A. No.

10

Q. Did she tell you what to do if anyone said they had heard from the press?

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A. No.

13

Q. Did she tell you when she called these people to report back to her or anything along those lines?

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A. Yes. After I spoke with them, I went back and told Stephanie.

17

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Q. And what were the names that you were given?

19

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A. I believe the names were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], which I had said to her that I had previously spoken to before she had asked in that group chat and that [REDACTED] had said that she had been reached out to and [REDACTED] had said that she hadn't so I didn't contact them again. And then

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[REDACTED]
there was [REDACTED], who was a briefer that left in -- after me in 2020, but I worked with her probably for a year. And then [REDACTED], again a former briefer.

Q. Let's turn to tab 23, which we'll make an exhibit.

(12/21/20 e-mail was marked Exhibit 23 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. Have you ever seen this list before?

A. Yes.

Q. This looks like it is an e-mail from Stephanie Benton to Ms. Walsh and you on December 21, 2020. Did you speak -- is this something you got after you spoke to Ms. Benton and Ms. Walsh together?

A. I think so. I believe so, yes.

Q. And on the list, the first one is [REDACTED], is that [REDACTED]?

A. Yes.

Q. And after [REDACTED] it says [REDACTED], do you know who that is?

A. I believe that's [REDACTED], a former staffer.

Q. And was it your understanding that

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] was going to reach out to [REDACTED]?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know why [REDACTED] was the one selected to reach out to [REDACTED]?

A. I only worked with [REDACTED] for a short while. I think that him and [REDACTED] were close, that's...

Q. It then says [REDACTED], is that [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

A. Yes.

Q. And then it says Robert, who's Robert?

A. Robert Mojica.

Q. Do you know -- was there any discussion about why Mr. Mojica would be the one to reach out to [REDACTED]?

A. I believe at the time either it was ongoing or former that they had some sort of relationship.

Q. It then says [REDACTED], what's her last name?

A. I don't know what [REDACTED]'s last name is. She worked before me, but I don't know her last name.

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[REDACTED]

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Q. What was her position?

3

A. I think she worked either in legislative affairs or scheduling.

5

Q. And that says that Dani Lever was going to call her?

7

A. Yes.

8

Q. After that it says, "[REDACTED] talked about [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] nothing," do you know what that's a reference to?

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A. I don't. I don't know for sure. I don't know.

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Q. Then it says [REDACTED], who is that?

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A. I think [REDACTED], again, is a name that's familiar to me, but I never worked with her. She was prior to me.

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Q. Do you know what her position was?

19

A. Same thing. She might have worked in legislative affairs or scheduling.

20

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Q. And then it says Ball, so Andrew Ball was going to call her?

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A. Yes. That's my assumption.

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Q. The next four names have your name,

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[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], then there's [REDACTED], who's that?

A. [REDACTED], she was the one that worked in legislative affairs.

Q. It says [REDACTED], do you know if [REDACTED] -- do you know if Stephanie Benton reached out to [REDACTED]?

A. I don't believe she reached out to her directly. I think a couple of times we spoke to her on speakerphone when she had called me and then we -- after this had come about me and [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] together.

Q. To make sure I get all the pronouns right --

A. Sorry.

Q. -- you said we might have spoken on speakerphone with her, do you mean that you --

A. Me and [REDACTED] spoke to Stephanie together on the phone.

Q. You and [REDACTED] were together?

A. Yes.

Q. And had Stephanie on speaker?

A. Yes. Sorry.

Q. Okay. And so you and [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] together?

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[REDACTED]

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A. Yes.

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Q. What was [REDACTED]'s position?

4

A. [REDACTED] worked in legislative affairs.

5

Q. Then it says [REDACTED], is that [REDACTED]

6

[REDACTED]?

7

A. Yes.

8

Q. And Dani Lever was going to call her?

9

A. Yes.

10

Q. Then it has S #5, that Stephanie

11

was going to call him?

12

A. Yes.

13

Q. Was there any discussion about you

14

speaking to S #5?

15

A. No. At the time they didn't know

16

that we were dating.

17

Q. Okay. Then it says [REDACTED]/[REDACTED]

18

[REDACTED], who are they?

19

A. I don't know. I don't know either

20

[REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. I mean, the name [REDACTED]

21

[REDACTED] is familiar to me, but I don't know who

22

they are.

23

Q. And it says [REDACTED], is that [REDACTED]

24

[REDACTED]?

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A. Yes.

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Q. And then it says [REDACTED], who's that?

A. That, I don't know either.

Q. And [REDACTED] is going to call [REDACTED],
who's [REDACTED]?

A. I don't know that one either.

Q. And then for [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
was going to reach out to her?

A. Correct.

Q. So you said you didn't reach out to
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] again because you'd already
spoken to them?

A. Correct.

Q. Did you speak to [REDACTED]?

A. Yes.

Q. How did that come about?

A. I think I just texted her. Me and
her were very friendly. We were very close while
we worked together so it wasn't an uncommon --
you know, for me to check in with her. She
was -- it was in her first year of law school, so
we -- we had been talking on and off, you know,
since we had both left so I just texted her
asking her if she had heard anything or if anyone
had reached out to her.

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[REDACTED]

Q. And what did she respond?

A. And she said no.

Q. And there's -- for [REDACTED], did you reach out to her?

A. I did. I spoke to her on the phone.

Q. What did you say and what did she say?

A. It was a similar conversation, you know, I -- we exchanged pleasantries. We had been meaning to get together, you know, for a while so we talked a little bit about, you know, where she was at, where I was working and then I kind of asked her, you know, have you seen the stuff about Lindsey. You know, we talked a little bit about that. And then I said, you know, I've heard that, you know, there was reporters reaching out to people, has anyone reached out to you and she said that they had. And I said oh, like, you know, who. I didn't know if it was the same person that reached out to Amanda. And she said that she couldn't remember and, you know, didn't -- and they reached out to her I think on her work e-mail, which she thought was odd and that was it.

1

2 Q. And then you said you and [REDACTED]
3 called [REDACTED] together?

4

A. Correct.

5

Q. What was said during that call?

6

A. A more similar conversation to either
7 of us who just had said has anyone reached out to
8 you. Me and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and I think we had
9 texts from [REDACTED], we're pretty close, so it
10 was more of just a, Have you gotten reached out
11 to? No. That was kind of it.

12

Q. And the people on this list are not
13 just briefers, correct?

14

A. Correct.

15

Q. Did you ask Stephanie about any
16 briefers who were missing from the list?

17

A. I did. I think I did flag that --
18 briefers -- maybe not. Maybe not briefers. I
19 think I definitely said that Kaitlin [REDACTED] wasn't
20 on here and I think I also mentioned that
21 Charlotte wasn't on here.

22

Q. And what, if anything, did Ms. Benton
23 say in response?

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A. I don't think there was necessarily a
25 response. It was just, you know, anyone that's

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[REDACTED]
not on this list and I kind of named them and they said okay.

Q. Did Ms. Walsh say whether she was going to reach out and call anybody?

A. Not that I can remember. Yeah, not that I can remember.

Q. After you had your calls with [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], did you speak again to Ms. Benton?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you speak to her?

A. I think it was right after I had talked -- I think this all happened in the same day. I reached out to both -- we reached out to both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] one after the other. I think I texted [REDACTED], it was a longer conversation that we had. But I think we -- me and [REDACTED] called Stephanie right away and just said we spoke to [REDACTED] and we spoke to [REDACTED] and told them what they had said.

Q. And what, if anything, did Ms. Benton say in response?

A. She said okay and that was pretty much it.

1

2 Q. After that call, when's the next time
3 you spoke to Ms. Benton?

4 A. I think the next time was when I
5 texted her that I had spoken with [REDACTED] and that
6 she hadn't been reached out to.

7 Q. And after that what was the next
8 communication you had with Ms. Benton?

9 A. I think that was the last
10 communication that I had directly with her where,
11 you know, I had reached out to her, she had
12 reached out to me until the Lindsey Boylan call
13 with S #5.

14 Q. Why don't you tell me how the Lindsey
15 Boylan call with S #5 came about?

16 A. This was later on, a few months after
17 this. I think it was in February, after the
18 Medium article had come out, and S #5 had gotten
19 an e-mail from Lindsey asking him if he wanted to
20 have a confidential call with her. So then at
21 that point I believe S #5 reached out to
22 Stephanie, who -- and he told her what -- you
23 know, the e-mail that he received from Lindsey
24 and, you know, then I think there was some back
25 and forth again that -- I wasn't on those calls,

1 [REDACTED]
2 but there was some back and forth between the two
3 of them if -- and kind of conversation about
4 whether S #5 would respond and see what Lindsey
5 had to say.

6 At the same time S #5 was also
7 telling me this, you know, their conversations,
8 and I said, you know, do you want me to be on the
9 call as well or be present while the call is
10 happening and he said, you know, I'll have to
11 check with the Chamber. And I think then he went
12 back to Stephanie and they, you know, said okay,
13 you know, [REDACTED] could be there. [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] and then
15 that was that.

16 Q. And then were you part of any
17 discussions about not just being on the call but
18 recording the call?

19 A. Yes. So after -- I don't remember
20 the order of it back and forth, but there was
21 some talk either one, that I would just be there
22 just as a witness in case, you know, she -- you
23 know, S #5 was nervous about it and then there
24 was a conversation about whether or not, you
25 know, I could record the call.

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[REDACTED]

And I think then Stephanie went back to -- I -- I don't know exactly who she talked to but, she went back to speak to other members of the senior staff regarding whether or not it was okay for me to record the call and it came back that it was okay, that they thought that was okay, and that's how that came to be.

Q. Did you speak directly -- were you on any calls with Ms. Benton or were you just hearing things through S #5 ?

A. I was just hearing things through S #5 until after the call.

Q. And did you ask whether anyone had checked into the legality of recording the call?

A. I did not. I know that S #5 had said that Stephanie -- you know, in his conversation with Stephanie that Stephanie was checking with the lawyers, so I assumed that that's what that was.

Q. Was there any discussion about whether anyone knew where Lindsey would be, like what state she would be in during the call?

A. No.

Q. Did you have any discussion either

1 [REDACTED]
2 directly with anyone or through S #5 about any
3 concerns about as a lawyer secretly recording a
4 phone call?

5 A. I mean, I think I definitely had an
6 initial, you know, concern. My also -- I also
7 thought that Lindsey was most likely recording
8 the call as well. And so again, if the Chambers
9 lawyer said it was okay, I kind of trusted
10 their -- their legal expertise over mine.

11 Q. And just to make sure I understand,
12 who first raised the idea of recording the call?

13 A. That, I don't know. It might have
14 been me. I don't remember if it was either S #5
15 had said to me and I said okay, I can be there.
16 I don't remember the order of things. It could
17 have been me. It could have been them. I don't
18 know. I don't remember exactly.

19 Q. If you could turn to tab 24.

20 (Group text exchange was marked
21 Exhibit 24 for identification, as of this
22 date.)

23 Q. There's a text group exchange amongst
24 you, [REDACTED], and S #5 on February 26, 2021. It
25 starts with S #5 saying, "I fucking hate my

1

2 [REDACTED]
3 life." Do you know what that was -- what
4 triggered that?

5

6 A. I think that this was the same day
7 that, you know, Lindsey had reached out and it
8 was regarding the call that was -- that he had --
9 that, you know, that was planned for later on in
10 the day.

11

12 Q. So this was after the call was set
13 up, before it took place?

14

15 A. I think so.

16

17 Q. On page 670 S #5 wrote, "It did feel
18 a little good to show the Chamber that there are
19 still some friends out there." Do you know what
20 he was referring to there?

21

22 A. I don't know specifically. I think
23 that we were talking about, you know, people that
24 were still -- that were still in connection and
25 in conversation with the Chamber and that we were
willing to help them.

26

27 Q. On page 674 [REDACTED] wrote, "That's huge
28 for you and them." Do you have any understanding
29 as to why she thought it would be huge for S #5 ?

30

31 A. I don't know.

32

33 Q. S #5 then wrote, "I hope I didn't get

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[REDACTED]
Rich in trouble LOL." Is that a reference to Rich Azzopardi?

A. I assume so.

Q. Do you know what he did or didn't do that he thought might get Mr. Azzopardi in trouble?

A. I don't specifically remember, but it might have been in his conversations with Stephanie and that him acknowledging that I had spoken to Rich.

Q. On page 700 S #5 writes, "What if she asks me about how I hated working there?" Did S #5 tell you that he hated working in the Chamber?

A. I definitely think that he found the place very difficult and towards the end, you know, he really did not enjoy sitting at that desk.

Q. Did you have any discussions with S #5 about why he was so upset about the phone call?

A. I don't remember specifically. I'm sure that we talked about it a lot, just that, you know, about -- about doing it, about you

1

2 know, -- that, you know, I would be there in
3 case, you know, she started to say something that
4 was not true or, you know, anything like that.

5

Q. If you look at page 760, it says,
6 "They want me to record the call." "They" is
7 Chamber?

8

A. Yes, I assume so.

9

Q. And the next page you write, "Steph
10 called and talked him off the ledge a bit."

11 That's a reference to Ms. Benton calming down

12 S #5 ?

13

A. Yes.

14

Q. Do you know what she said to him to
15 calm him down?

16

A. I don't remember specifically. I
17 think it was more of just a it's going to be
18 fine, you know, you have -- if you don't have
19 anything to say, just, you know, answer her
20 questions.

18

Q. And what time of day was it that the
21 call with Ms. Boylan took place?

20

21

A. I think it was after work. I think
22 it was like 5:30 or 6:00.

23

Q. And where were you and S #5 when the
24

25

Q. And where were you and S #5 when the

1

2 call took place?

3

A. In our apartment.

4

Q. Why don't you just walk me through
5 everything you recall about that phone call.

6

A. Sure. After I got home from work and
7 it was after, you know, S #5 was off of work as
8 well, I think Lindsey called S #5's phone and the
9 conversation I think lasted maybe two minutes and
10 she kind of asked him, you know, if -- where he
11 was working at that point. It was really kind of
12 an open-ended conversation as far as, you know,
13 do you have anything -- you know, do you have
14 anything to say, I have people that are, you
15 know, willing -- that would be -- that would love
16 to talk to you and hear about your experience.

17

There was also some conversation
18 about the rose, that Lindsey acknowledged that
19 S #5 was the one that in the New York City office
20 had gone around and handed out the roses on
21 that -- that Valentine's Day that we previously
22 talked about and that was kind of it.

23

Q. What did S #5 say when Ms. Boylan

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said, "Do you have anything you want to share?"

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A. I think he said, you know, I don't

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[REDACTED]
have anything -- I don't have and nor did I
experience anything like that.

Q. What was Ms. Boylan's response?

A. You know, she said something along
those lines of, you know, okay, and, you know, if
this is the time for, you know, you know, to
make -- to make it a better place for people that
come after me or, you know, something like that
and that was it.

Q. Did she try to argue with S #5 or
convince him to get involved?

A. No.

Q. Did you or S #5 tell Ms. Boylan that
you were on the call?

A. No.

Q. Did you or S #5 tell Ms. Boylan that
you were recording the call?

A. No.

Q. And how was it that -- you said
Ms. Boylan called S #5 's phone. How were you
listening to the call?

A. He had it on speaker.

Q. And how were you recording?

A. And I recorded it from my cell phone.

1

2 Q. So you were holding your cell phone
3 up --

4 A. Yeah. I think we just had it right
5 next to each other.

6 Q. After the call with Ms. Boylan ended,
7 what did you do?

8 A. We called Stephanie. As soon as the
9 call ended, she patched in I think it was Judy
10 Mogul, Linda Lacewell, and Melissa. And so it
11 was me, S #5, Stephanie, Melissa, Linda, and Judy
12 and we kind of talked -- same thing, we kind of
13 talked through -- gave them the gist of what had
14 happened on the call.

15 And there was kind of some questions.
16 You know, some people didn't remember the rose
17 thing and we were kind of like yeah, you know,
18 S #5 was the one that did it in the city and, you
19 know, there was kind of a few conversations like
20 oh, okay, you know, and that was it. And then
21 Stephanie asked me to send her the recording,
22 which I did via text.

23 Q. How long was that group conversation?

24 A. Not long. Maybe a few minutes.

25 Q. And did you play the recording during

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the group call?

A. No.

Q. Did Ms. Benton, Ms. Mogul, Ms. Lacewell, or Ms. DeRosa have any response to what you said happened in the call?

A. Not really. They said, you know, okay. That was kind of it. It was -- it wasn't a long conversation.

Q. Did you then text the recording from your phone to Ms. Benton?

A. Correct.

Q. Did you hear back from Ms. Benton or anyone else from Chambers after you sent her that?

A. No.

Q. Did you keep it on your phone or some other location?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you shared it with anyone else?

A. No.

Q. Is that the last time you've spoken to Ms. Benton?

A. It was -- that wasn't the last time. I believe she texted me on my birthday "happy

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[REDACTED]
birthday."

Q. Is that the last time you spoke to Ms. DeRosa?

A. Yes.

Q. Had ever spoken to Judy Mogul before?

A. Yes.

Q. In what context?

A. I spoke with her when I worked at the Chamber and I also spoke with her while I worked at the Inspector General's Office.

Q. Was it just work-related matters?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you spoken to her since this group call?

A. No.

Q. Had you ever spoken to Linda Lacewell before?

A. Yes.

Q. In what context?

A. We worked together I want to say for maybe two years of my time at the Chamber.

Q. What was her role when you were in the Chamber and overlapped with her?

A. I believe she was special counsel or

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chief risk officer or, you know, a combination of those two things.

Q. Did anyone explain to you why -- at the time of this group call what was Ms. Lacewell's role?

A. She was the superintendent of the Department of Financial Services.

Q. Did anyone explain to you why she was part of this phone call?

A. No.

Q. Did you have any understanding as to why she was part of this phone call?

A. I think that she -- you know, she had remained a good -- a good connection, a good relationship with, you know, the senior staff, as did Alphonso. That's why I assumed that they were involved. As far as these types of things or -- you know, I didn't think it was -- nothing stood out to me at the time. You know, I knew that they were friendly.

Q. When you say "these types of things" what sort of things?

A. Big projects. In this scenario I guess, you know, like a negative -- a negative

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[REDACTED]
story, you know, of some sort. But it wasn't uncommon for them to pull in, you know, former people, especially former senior staff people like this.

Q. How often did they pull in senior staff people that you are aware of?

A. That I -- yeah, that I know about, maybe a handful of times. That's, you know, to my knowledge.

Q. Now, you mentioned [REDACTED] getting an inquiry from the press, did you ever receive any inquiries from the press?

A. Yes.

Q. How many inquiries from the press did you receive?

A. Maybe half a dozen or so.

Q. And when was it? Was it in December, February, both? Since then?

A. They weren't all at the same -- I think they were mostly in early of 2021 I would say. January and February I believe.

Q. And do you recall any of the particular inquiries you received?

A. I do remember getting -- I think the

1 [REDACTED]
2 first one I got was The New York Times LinkedIn
3 message. And then there was another one. The
4 one I remember specifically is I got a phone
5 call, you know, on my personal cell phone from
6 The Wall Street Journal, I think someone reached
7 out to me on Twitter, and then another one on
8 LinkedIn.

9 Q. When you got the phone call from The
10 Wall Street Journal, did they reach you or did it
11 go through to your voicemail or --

12 A. They reached me. I picked up and
13 then I immediately hung up.

14 Q. Did you say anything before hanging
15 up?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Did you respond to any of the
18 inquiries through LinkedIn or any other avenue?

19 A. I only responded to one, and that was
20 the first one I got, that was The New York Times,
21 and that was via LinkedIn and I did respond.

22 Q. And when you got these press
23 inquiries, did you let anyone in Chambers know
24 they were getting them?

25 A. The first time that it happened I

1 [REDACTED]
2 did. I reached out to -- I think prior to me
3 getting reached out to, [REDACTED] had said
4 that she had been reached out to and that she had
5 told Rich Azzopardi, so when The New York Times
6 reached out to me, you know, I had kind of -- we
7 had a conversation like should I flag this for --
8 for Rich and she said, yeah, you can, and she
9 sent me his phone number and then I spoke to Rich
10 about that press inquiry.

11 Q. What did you say to him and what did
12 he say to you?

13 A. So I texted him after [REDACTED] sent me
14 his phone number and I just said hey -- you know,
15 I didn't have his number, so I said hi, you know,
16 this is [REDACTED] you know, do you have time to
17 chat, and he called me I think the next morning
18 and just said, you know, who reached out to you
19 and I said, you know, it's -- I can't remember
20 the guy's name, it was Luis from The New York
21 Times and I -- I think I -- I read it and maybe I
22 just said well, this is what they're asking, and
23 then I sent him screenshots of -- of the inquiry
24 from -- on LinkedIn.

25 Q. What did Mr. Azzopardi say to you?

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A. At first -- so the first conversation I had, he just said, okay, you know, this is, you know, this has been happening, you know, you're not the first person to tell me this. He said, Thanks for letting me know and that was it. And then a couple of hours later he called and said, Look, I don't want to tell you that you can or cannot, you know, respond, you can do whatever you want.

Because I had kind of asked him, like, you know, are people responding to these? Like also, how can I make it stop. And he was just like, you know, if you don't want to answer, just let it go and they probably won't reach out to you again. If you want to answer, you know, you can always, you know, give your honest answer and let me know if they say something back. So that was kind of it. And then I reached out to -- I think ██████████ and S #5 were in that myriad of conversations I had with them about whether or not I should respond.

Q. And what did you decide to do?

A. I decided to respond and me -- I -- I think I talked with ██████████, just ██████████, about, you

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[REDACTED]
know, what I should say back. We kind of went
back and forth about, you know, just say general
off the record I didn't really have anything to
say, hard place to work, I enjoyed my time here,
and I never saw anything and that was it.

Q. Did you -- before reaching back to
The New York Times, did you run past
Mr. Azzopardi anything you were thinking of
saying?

A. No.

Q. Did he offer you any suggestions of
things that you might want to say?

A. I don't specifically remember him
offering me any -- any comments. He might have
said, you know, if you want to throw something
positive, you can, but it's up to you if you
wanted to respond.

Q. Turn to tab 25.

(Text messages were marked Exhibit 25
for identification, as of this date.)

Q. And the first page, on 507, is that
your text to Mr. Azzopardi asking to speak to
him?

A. Yes.

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Q. This is February 25th, so this is the day after Lindsey Boylan's Medium story, correct?

A. Correct.

Q. And then am I correct that you sent him a screenshot of this message from Luis Ferre-Sadurni?

A. Correct.

(Text message with Ferre-Sadurni was marked Exhibit 26 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. If you look at tab 26, is this the response you sent to Mr. Ferre-Sadurni?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever hear back from him?

A. I think he just sent thanks for getting back to me, you know, if you want to talk more, you know, reach back out.

Q. Did you send Mr. Azzopardi your response to Mr. Ferre-Sadurni?

A. I don't specifically remember. I very well might have. I just -- I don't remember if I did or not.

Q. Do you remember having any further conversations with Mr. Azzopardi about it?

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[REDACTED]

A. I think I might have had another conversation. I can't remember if I sent him another screenshot of another inquiry that -- that someone had reached out to me about, but I don't remember -- I don't remember.

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Q. After it was announced that the Attorney General's Office was going to be overseeing an investigation, did you talk about anyone in Chambers about the investigation?

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A. Current Chamber employees?

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Q. Current Chamber employees.

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A. I think there was some -- there was definitely some conversations had. I don't remember specifically. There's probably a few -- at that point there was only a few people that I was still, you know, in connection with or, you know, that I would still have a relationship with, that I would talk to, that I think we probably spoke about it.

21

22

Q. Do you recall anyone still in the Chambers that you spoke to?

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A. I don't specifically remember. I think there were -- you know, there was loose conversations with [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED], who I'm still close with; maybe [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED]. I can't -- you know, those are --
4 maybe [REDACTED]. But you know, there was --
5 those are more of like the initial things. Those
6 are all the ones I can think of off the top of my
7 head.

8 Q. Do you recall what was said in any of
9 those conversations?

10 A. No. I think it was a lot of like
11 what's going on, you know, what's happening at
12 the -- you know, what was, you know, what was the
13 current day-to-day like at the Chamber. I think
14 there was a lot of general conversations that
15 went on. I don't remember any of the specifics.

16 Q. What, if anything, do you recall
17 about what people told you about what the
18 day-to-day was like in the Chamber?

19 A. I mean, I think it -- they had said
20 it was very tense. You know, it was a very weird
21 time to be there. You know, they weren't really
22 doing any events, they weren't doing any press
23 conferences, there was -- it was a very dead
24 time, which was, you know, uncommon for the
25 Chamber.

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[REDACTED]

Q. I'm going to ask you to turn to tab 27, which we'll mark as an exhibit.

(Text exchange was marked Exhibit 27 for identification, as of this date.)

Q. And this is a text exchange between you and [REDACTED] and it starts with you saying, "Also, [REDACTED] is a silly lawyer if he doesn't think people need lawyers." Who is [REDACTED]?

A. I believe that's [REDACTED].

Q. And what was his position at the time?

A. He was actually -- he worked -- first worked as Jill DesRosiers' assistant and then he also worked at that desk once [REDACTED] S #5 left on and off.

Q. Was he also a lawyer?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he already a lawyer when he worked at the desk?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did he work at the desk?

A. I don't know. I don't know if -- I'm not even actually sure if he was ever permanently at that desk. You know, I know that he was just

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[REDACTED]
a person that was -- Jill's office was right next door, so I think he started off just filling in. But he had worked in the Chamber for a few years I would say.

Q. And had you spoken to him? Does this refresh your recollection about any conversation you had with him?

A. I don't know if I had a conversation with him or if S #5 had had a conversation with him. I don't remember.

Q. And did you hear either directly or indirectly that he was saying he didn't need a lawyer or somebody else didn't need a lawyer or what was that about?

A. I believe what the case was that he was going -- he had been asked and that he was going in without a lawyer.

Q. And you say "was going in," was that --

A. To an interview.

Q. -- going in to see somebody from our team?

A. Yes.

Q. And on the next page it says, "And

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he's going to record the convo????"

And then you wrote, "WTF."

Did you hear directly or indirectly that he was going to record the conversation with the investigators?

A. I -- I don't think he had told me that directly. I think that was something that was said to S #5.

Q. Did you ever hear whether he had in fact recorded the conversation with the investigators?

A. I don't recall.

Q. On page 38302 -- I think you have to actually start at 28291. It says, "Well, I just spoke with ██████." Is that S #5?

A. Yes.

Q. And then you said, "And his interview is TMRW" -- I assume tomorrow -- "at 9." Was that a reference to his meeting us?

A. I believe so.

Q. And then it goes back and forth between you and ██████████ and on 302 you say, "He is legit panicking." What did S #5 say to you?

A. I think he was just very nervous

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2 to -- you know, to go through this process and I
3 was, you know, letting [REDACTED] know that, you know,
4 we were speaking about it.

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Q. And did he tell you what about it was
6 making him panicky?

7

A. No. I think it was just, you know,
8 nerves, nerves to begin with. It was just the
9 process of it.

10

Q. And after he met with investigators,
11 did he say anything to you about his interview?

12

A. Not really. We -- we didn't really
13 talk about it as -- as we weren't really supposed
14 to from -- you know, our counsel and from you
15 guys and we definitely talked about it, you know,
16 how did it go, are you okay, is that it. You
17 know, at that point we hadn't spoken so it was
18 kind of more of a, you know, are you okay, you
19 know, how long was it type conversation.

20

Q. Did you have any conversations with
21 [REDACTED] after she spoke with investigators?

22

A. Yes. Similar conversations. She had
23 called me before the interview, immediately
24 before -- or not immediately before, immediately
25 when she got the call to go in and she was kind

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2 of -- she was also nervous about what she should
3 do, who she should contact, and those things.

4 And then I also talked to her after -- after her
5 interview, similar, you know, are you okay, how
6 did it go, is that -- is it over, you know, like
7 we're over, kind of those conversations, how long
8 did it go. So we definitely had those
9 conversations.

10 Q. Did anyone else talk to you after
11 they had spoken to us and share anything about
12 what had happened in their interview or how it
13 went or anything along those lines?

14 A. I think [REDACTED] was really the only --
15 oh, I think I talked to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED] called me when he -- before and he said,
17 you know, I'm going in a few weeks and I said
18 it's fine, you know, just do it, you know, get it
19 over with and, you know -- and we had similar
20 conversations, you know, how did it go, fine, and
21 that was kind of it. I think those are the only
22 two people that I specifically remember talking
23 to about it.

24 Q. I want to go back to something from
25 the very beginning of today, we were talking

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[REDACTED]
about how you moved from the Medicaid or Medicare office to the Chamber, had you had any meetings with anyone or that anyone from the Executive Chamber was a part of prior to the time you got the phone call asking you to interview with anyone?

A. No.

Q. Had you ever met Ms. Benton before you interviewed with her?

A. No.

Q. Had you ever been in meetings with her?

A. No.

Q. Had you been at any meetings or met Mr. DesRosiers before you interviewed with her?

A. No.

Q. Had you ever met or been in any meetings with Melissa DeRosa before the interview?

A. No.

Q. We covered a lot today, is there anything that we talked about that you want to add to or clarify?

A. I don't think so.

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Q. And I told you at the beginning I'd remind you at the end, is there any statement you want to make on the record while you have this opportunity?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Okay. So we're going to conclude. I want to thank you for speaking to us. I want to remind you you have continuing obligations under the subpoena. I know you turned over your devices to your lawyers, but if you come across anything else responsive, let them know and they'll get that to us. And a reminder that you're not to discuss -- it sounds like you haven't discussed your prior one, but you're not to discuss with anyone what we discussed today. And I hope we're done with you entirely. If something else comes up, we might reach out to you with some other questions but --

A. Okay.

Q. -- I want to thank you for your time.

A. Thank you.

MS. CLARK: Okay. We can go off the record.

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This concludes

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[REDACTED]
today's deposition given by [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. The number of media units used
is four, they'll be retained by Veritext
Legal Solutions. We are off the record at
4:18 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Stay safe
everybody.

MS. CLARK: Thank you.

(Time noted: 4:18 p.m.)

[REDACTED]

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this ___ day of _____, 2021.

Notary public

