

EXHIBIT O



Planet Depos
We Make It Happen™

Transcript of Dean Michael

Date: March 8, 2017

Case: Larrick -v- The Sheriff of Beaver County, Pennsylvania, et al.

Planet Depos

Phone: 888-433-3767

Fax: 888-503-3767

Email: transcripts@planetdepos.com

www.planetdepos.com

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

12

1	shared the same criminal element. So I would	01:45:52
2	contact them for assistance and they would	01:45:54
3	contact me as well.	01:45:55
4	Q. And from that warrant team, who did you	01:45:56
5	work with that you recall?	01:45:59
6	A. Anthony Buccilli and Thomas Shane.	01:46:00
7	Q. Prior to, prior to you becoming Chief,	01:46:08
8	did you have any role in the transition to Tony	01:46:23
9	Guy becoming Sheriff?	01:46:27
10	A. I'm not sure I understand. Are you	01:46:32
11	talking about after he became Sheriff?	01:46:34
12	Q. After he was elected, but before he was	01:46:36
13	sworn in, that kind of transition period.	01:46:39
14	A. Yes, I did.	01:46:41
15	Q. Okay. And what was the role you had	01:46:42
16	during that period?	01:46:44
17	A. I was contacted I think late November	01:46:45
18	2015 and asked by Sheriff Guy if I would assist	01:46:48
19	him in conducting interviews of the employees	01:46:53
20	that were at that time in the Sheriff's Office.	01:46:57
21	Q. And prior to being contacted about	01:47:02
22	asking to help with these interviews, had you	01:47:09
23	discussed at all with Mr. Guy about having a	01:47:11
24	position in his office?	01:47:15
25	A. I sent him a resume sometime after his	01:47:16

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

13

1	election, and other than that we really didn't	01:47:20
2	discuss it. As a matter of fact, when he called	01:47:25
3	me to conduct these interviews, he had not	01:47:28
4	offered me a job at that point.	01:47:31
5	Q. And did you conduct the interviews?	01:47:32
6	A. Yes. The majority of them. There were	01:47:36
7	a few that were conducted prior to me assisting	01:47:39
8	him.	01:47:42
9	Q. And do you have any recollection of who	01:47:42
10	was interviewed prior to you assisting with him?	01:47:46
11	A. Yes, Lieutenant Fratangelli. Let's	01:47:49
12	see, Lieutenant Dave McGeehan, Captain Jay	01:47:59
13	Alstadt. Those were the three that I'm aware of.	01:48:08
14	Oh, I'm not sure of his title, but Thomas Ochs.	01:48:12
15	Now, when I came to help him, I did	01:48:22
16	talk to two of those at a later time. I talked	01:48:25
17	to McGeehan and Alstadt. But I did that	01:48:28
18	one-on-one with them. But the other two I had	01:48:32
19	not spoken to.	01:48:36
20	Q. And did you interview Curtis Larrick?	01:48:38
21	A. Yes.	01:48:52
22	Q. And had you met Larrick at any time	01:48:52
23	prior to the interview?	01:48:58
24	A. I had not.	01:48:59
25	Q. Had you heard of Curtis Larrick in any	01:49:00

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

15

1	Q.	I've handed you what we have marked as	01:50:18
2		Exhibit 1 of the deposition. Are these your	01:50:23
3		notes?	01:50:25
4	A.	They are not.	01:50:25
5	Q.	Okay. Do you recognize the handwriting	01:50:26
6		of these?	01:50:29
7	A.	This appears to be written by Sheriff	01:50:29
8		Guy.	01:50:32
9	Q.	And have you seen Sheriff Guy's	01:50:32
10		handwriting in other contexts?	01:50:35
11	A.	Yes.	01:50:40
12	Q.	With respect to Deputy Larrick's	01:50:40
13		interview, can you tell me what you recall you	01:50:50
14		said in that interview?	01:50:52
15	A.	Well, the interview itself was rather	01:50:53
16		unremarkable. The only thing that stuck out in	01:50:56
17		my mind when we spoke to Mr. Larrick was he	01:51:00
18		commented he was concerned about some interaction	01:51:05
19		that Sergeant Hurst had with his spouse. Other	01:51:08
20		than that, he was pleasant, really nothing else	01:51:13
21		stood out.	01:51:21
22	Q.	Do you recall if Larrick had any	01:51:24
23		documents with him?	01:51:29
24	A.	I believe he did have some documents.	01:51:31
25		He was referencing some phone calls or text	01:51:36

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

16

1	messages that may have been sent to his wife from	01:51:38
2	Sergeant Hurst.	01:51:42
3	Q. And in your notes did you record that	01:51:44
4	at all?	01:51:46
5	A. I did not.	01:51:47
6	Q. Okay. In the interview, do you recall	01:51:48
7	what you said to Larrick?	01:51:53
8	A. The only thing I recall asking him, we	01:51:56
9	had interviewed several people prior to	01:51:59
10	interviewing him and it was a common theme that	01:52:03
11	arose concerning Mr. Larrick. And that theme was	01:52:07
12	his inability to be truthful when questioned. So	01:52:13
13	I asked him about that, and he of course denied	01:52:19
14	that he had a problem with being truthful.	01:52:23
15	Q. Do you recall who had told you that	01:52:28
16	Larrick had a problem being truthful?	01:52:34
17	A. I do not.	01:52:37
18	Q. Is it fair to say based on what you	01:52:41
19	said earlier, you never met with Ochs?	01:52:47
20	A. I did not.	01:52:50
21	Q. Okay.	01:52:51
22	A. I knew him from years back, just from	01:52:52
23	my living my entire life in this county, I was	01:52:56
24	aware that he was in law enforcement. So I knew	01:52:59
25	of him. But I did not interview him in reference	01:53:02

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

17

1	to this matter.	01:53:07
2	Q. And with respect to Fratangelli, did	01:53:09
3	you also not have any contact at all with	01:53:17
4	Fratangelli?	01:53:20
5	A. I did not know who he was. I had no	01:53:22
6	contact.	01:53:25
7	Q. And is it fair to say that you had no	01:53:26
8	idea what Fratangelli's opinion was as to	01:53:29
9	Larrick?	01:53:33
10	A. I have no idea.	01:53:33
11	Q. And the same could be said for Ochs as	01:53:34
12	well?	01:53:36
13	A. That's correct.	01:53:37
14	Q. Okay. Did you discuss at any point in	01:53:37
15	time with Jay Alstadt, Larrick?	01:53:44
16	A. Yes, when I interviewed him,	01:53:49
17	one-on-one, we did discuss personnel in the	01:53:51
18	office. That was one of the questions that the	01:53:58
19	Sheriff and I had devised we wanted to try to	01:54:00
20	identify any problems or any individuals that	01:54:03
21	were problem individuals, and I do remember	01:54:07
22	discussing that with Captain Alstadt.	01:54:10
23	Q. And do you recall what Captain Alstadt	01:54:13
24	said with respect to Larrick?	01:54:16
25	A. Not in specific terms, but as I	01:54:19

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

18

1	mentioned earlier the general theme was that he	01:54:23
2	had difficulty with the truth.	01:54:25
3	Q. And that came from Alstadt?	01:54:30
4	A. Yes.	01:54:36
5	Q. I want to get back to Larrick's	01:54:37
6	interview. Do you remember anything that Tony	01:54:47
7	Guy said during that interview?	01:54:51
8	A. No. We had a list of question	01:54:54
9	objectives and we pretty much went down that	01:55:01
10	list. If you have that list, that's what we	01:55:05
11	would ask them.	01:55:07
12	(THEREUPON, Michael Deposition Exhibit	01:55:11
13	2 was marked for identification.)	01:55:11
14	Q. Is this the list you were referring to?	01:55:21
15	A. Yes.	01:55:55
16	Q. Okay. And were all the interviewees	01:55:55
17	asked these questions at the interviews you were	01:56:00
18	present for?	01:56:02
19	A. Yes.	01:56:03
20	Q. And you mentioned that you did at some	01:56:06
21	point have a follow-up with McGeehan; is that	01:56:13
22	accurate? At some point you met?	01:56:16
23	A. It wasn't a follow-up. It was an	01:56:19
24	initial interview.	01:56:22
25	Q. Because he had already been interviewed	01:56:22

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

19

1	by the Sheriff?	01:56:25
2	A. That's correct.	01:56:25
3	Q. Okay. And do you recall if you had	01:56:26
4	discussed with McGeehan, Larrick?	01:56:28
5	A. Yes.	01:56:31
6	Q. And do you recall what McGeehan said	01:56:31
7	with respect to Larrick?	01:56:35
8	A. Again, not in specific terms, but he	01:56:35
9	related that he had difficulty telling the truth.	01:56:38
10	Q. And in all of these interviews, did	01:56:43
11	anybody give you any example of what Larrick had	01:56:47
12	done where he was not telling the truth?	01:56:52
13	A. I do remember a couple examples, and I	01:56:55
14	don't recall who actually presented them, but one	01:57:00
15	spoke of the fact that Mr. Larrick had called off	01:57:03
16	on a couple different occasions for the death of	01:57:07
17	a family member, and, grandfather possibly or a	01:57:10
18	grandmother, and then he used the same excuse at	01:57:16
19	some point later for the same relative.	01:57:19
20	Q. Any other examples given to you of	01:57:24
21	Mr. Larrick not telling the truth?	01:57:31
22	A. The only other comment I recall from	01:57:33
23	one of the deputies was that he believed that	01:57:36
24	Mr. Larrick would probably tell the truth at	01:57:39
25	least once this year.	01:57:41

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

20

1	Q.	Do you recall what deputy that was?	01:57:45
2	A.	I do not.	01:57:47
3	Q.	Did you discuss Larrick with Hurst?	01:57:48
4	A.	No, not that I recall.	01:58:00
5	Q.	Okay. And did you have any discussions	01:58:06
6		with Assistant Chief Tallon regarding Larrick?	01:58:16
7	A.	No, and as a matter of fact he is	01:58:19
8		another one I did not interview. I think he was	01:58:21
9		off or he was in the process of retirement, so I	01:58:25
10		don't believe we spoke to him at that time.	01:58:30
11	Q.	Other than what you've told me so far,	01:58:32
12		do you remember anything else regarding any other	01:58:36
13		individual talking to you about Larrick not	01:58:40
14		telling the truth?	01:58:42
15	A.	No.	01:58:43
16	Q.	And how many people do you think	01:58:44
17		brought that up with you?	01:58:47
18	A.	I would say that at least 60 to 70	01:58:50
19		percent of the deputies all had the same opinion.	01:58:58
20	Q.	And at any point in time were you made	01:59:03
21		aware that Larrick had been out on a medical	01:59:11
22		leave for a period of time?	01:59:19
23	A.	Yes.	01:59:21
24	Q.	And do you know who made you aware of	01:59:21
25		that?	01:59:24

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

37

1	after he was elected but before he took office,	02:28:49
2	and he asked you to attend or participate in	02:28:53
3	interviews with him, did you discuss or describe	02:28:57
4	with him that experience you had?	02:28:59
5	A. I provided him with a resume and that	02:29:01
6	was on the resume and I may have also discussed	02:29:04
7	with him that I had that experience.	02:29:07
8	Q. Okay. And so can you estimate, or if	02:29:09
9	you know the number, otherwise estimate the	02:29:14
10	number of people that you and Sheriff Guy	02:29:16
11	interviewed between the time he was elected and	02:29:18
12	the time he took office?	02:29:22
13	A. That's difficult without a roster, but	02:29:28
14	with the exception of the three or four that I	02:29:32
15	mentioned, we interviewed all of the current	02:29:34
16	employees, to include the administrative staff.	02:29:36
17	So I would say it was probably --	02:29:40
18	Q. In excess of 40 people?	02:29:43
19	A. No, I'd say between 30 and 40.	02:29:45
20	Q. Okay. And you reviewed in Exhibit 2 --	02:29:48
21	A. Yes.	02:29:59
22	Q. -- a list of seven items that you were	02:29:59
23	utilizing during that interview; is that right?	02:30:05
24	A. Yes.	02:30:08
25	Q. So Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 3 both appear	02:30:08

Transcript of Dean Michael
Conducted on March 8, 2017

38

1	to be an email from you to you dated January 23	02:30:14
2	and then they include a list. Can you identify	02:30:21
3	if they were prepared on that date or some other	02:30:24
4	date?	02:30:26
5	A. No, long before that. I typed them on	02:30:26
6	my note pad on my iphone and then to get them to	02:30:30
7	a point where I could print them I had to email	02:30:35
8	them to myself.	02:30:39
9	Q. Okay. So the date above is the email	02:30:40
10	to yourself to print them, not the date the lists	02:30:43
11	on each of these documents were prepared?	02:30:46
12	A. Yes. These documents were prepared in	02:30:48
13	November and December of 2015.	02:30:51
14	Q. Okay. With respect to then the Exhibit	02:30:52
15	2, the seven item list, was that your guide for	02:30:55
16	the interviews of all of the persons in the	02:31:00
17	department that you met with?	02:31:03
18	A. Yes. As an interviewer it's important	02:31:04
19	to have a guideline that you stick with so that	02:31:08
20	all candidates or all interviewees are asked the	02:31:11
21	same questions.	02:31:15
22	Now, based on their responses, you may	02:31:16
23	have follow-up questions in other areas, but this	02:31:19
24	was the foundation we used to make sure that the	02:31:22
25	interviews were as similar as possible.	02:31:25