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BAKERSFIELD, CA; THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019 1 2 MORNING SESSION 3 DEPARTMENT 11 HON. DAVID LAMPE, JUDGE 4 --000--THE COURT: We're in session. We're on the 5 6 record in Cleveland versus Taft Union High School District, et al. Counsel are present. I don't see any 7 of the parties or party representatives this morning. 8 Perhaps they'll be in later. 9 10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, Mr. Cleveland is 11 not here. He won't be here today. 12 MR. HERR: And Ms. Angelo is sitting in the 13 back so she can see the opening statements. 14 Okay. So I note Ms. Angelo is THE COURT: 15 present. We're ready to proceed. I just discovered that I have a motion in 16 limine that was filed that perhaps need to be taken up 17 before opening statements. Plaintiff has filed a motion 18 19 in limine. It was addressed yesterday on the record, this issue of standard of predictability or prediction. 20 21 I should probably hear that before we turn to opening 22 statement. 23 MR. TRUJILLO: Yes, Your Honor. Just briefly 24 25 THE COURT: Make sure you're speaking into the 26 microphone. 27 MR. TRUJILLO: I apologize. All right. Just briefly, Your Honor. It's our position based on the 28

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1	case law that this is a matter of as properly taken
2	up by the Court as a matter of law. And the
3	longstanding rulings by the California Supreme Court
4	have said that there is a special duty between school
5	districts and their students. And because of that
6	special duty the I'm sorry, special relationship,
7	Your Honor, thank you. Because of that special
8	relationship
9	THE COURT: You don't have to be that close to
10	the mic. I don't want you to be uncomfortable.
11	MR. TRUJILLO: So because of that special
12	relationship the school district has a responsibility to
13	take the reasonable steps to protect their students from
14	foreseeable harm. And I think the word foreseeable
15	there is the operative word. That's well settled under
16	MW and also CA versus William Hart. And that was a 2012
17	California Supreme Court decision.
18	And here what we're afraid of based on the
19	questions that have been posed in the depositions and
20	even yesterday is that defense counsel is going to try
21	and impose a standard of predictability that we each
22	have to show that the school district was required to
23	prove or was required to predict that Bryan Oliver
24	was going to bring a shotgun on January 10th, go up two
25	flights of stairs and shoot Bowe Cleveland.
26	And I think that is improper based on the
27	longstanding case law in the California Supreme Court
28	decision.

1 THE COURT: Okay. As is my practice in the 2 interest of time, again, not argument for one side or 3 the other, but just to tell you what my state of mind is 4 so that -- and allowing you to create whatever record 5 you wish to create.

6 I agree with you that you are correctly legally stating the standard. But I'm concerned that 7 your motion conflicts duty with the other issues that 8 are here in the Court. I'm not here to parse the 9 10 English language. Foreseeability, predictability, those 11 are interchange words. And predictability is the whole -- from what I know of this case is the whole essence of 12 the case is how predictable was Mr. Oliver's behavior, 13 14 how foreseeable was his behavior. There is an issue 15 that comes into play as the jury as to decide was the 16 district's conduct a substantial factor or was it merely incidental or trivial. That's causation. 17 That's 18 foreseeability. I doubt it will take place, but I 19 haven't heard the evidence, so I suppose there could still be a duty question put to me in the form of a 20 21 motion for a court ruling such as nonsuit or directed 22 verdict on a legal question of duty once I've heard the 23 evidence. I don't expect that necessarily in this case. 24 And also the standard of care is -- I disagreed with what Mr. -- and I've already expressed my 25 disagreement with the defense and I said this isn't a 26

27 malpractice case. Yes, it is. It's an educational
28 malpractice case. It's not a mental, psychological

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1	mental case. But it's all about what standards were
2	required of school administrators given the information
3	they had about Mr. Oliver and what were they supposed to
4	do with that information and how predictable was his
5	behavior. I agree with you.
6	I doubt any expert if they are, I can't
7	imagine any expert is going to say that it was
8	predictable that on that date with that particular
9	mechanism that Mr. Oliver was going to go at a
10	particular hour and engage in shooting another student.
11	No expert is going to say that.
12	MR. TRUJILLO: And we agree with the Court.
13	And that is exactly our fear, that that standard would
14	essentially be imposed on us that we provide expert
15	testimony to show that it was predictable at that time
16	based on the way that the questions have been framed.
17	I think that the California Supreme Court in
18	the Regents of the University of California case
19	specifically addressed this issue. They wrote or in
20	that case the Supreme Court held phrased at the
21	appropriate level of generality the question here is not
22	whether UCLA could predict that Damon Thompson would
23	stab the plaintiff. Instead it is whether a reasonable
24	university would foresee that its negligent failure to
25	control a potentially violent student.
26	So it's again I think I understand the
27	Court's statements in connection that the words could
28	potentially mean the same thing. However, I think it's

1	being used as to impose a different legal duty here.
2	THE COURT: Well, first of all, in Regents
3	that was a duty case. So they're talking about that the
4	foreseeability of conduct in the context of duties.
5	Mr. Herr?
6	MR. HERR: First, I haven't had a chance to
7	respond to the motion, but I have some general comments.
8	THE COURT: Well, I want to deal with it
9	before we have opening statement. Because otherwise I'm
10	going to get we'll have to excuse the jury and we'll
11	have issues.
12	MR. HERR: Two things. One, I got it late
13	yesterday. And as an aside we also filed a motion in
14	limine either early yesterday or the day before.
15	But for purposes of opening statement I do not
16	intend to tell the jury a legal issue which is duty
17	which is what I think the Court is going to determine.
18	I do think it's fair to comment on, you know, what is
19	foreseeable, and I think we are parsing words. You may
20	have what I'll call experts sit there and say an
21	educator, an administrator, cannot be expected to be
22	able to foretell this, that or the other thing. I'm not
23	going to say that the standard in this case is such that
24	you have to be able that standard for a duty is such
25	that you have to be able to predict the date, time and
26	location of the shooting. So I intend to tell them what
27	
	I think the evidence will show, but I do not intend to

Your Honor, again, I just think 1 MR. TRUJILLO: 2 even in the sense that with the expert opinion saying that an administrator couldn't foretell gives the wrong 3 impression of what we, the plaintiff, is required to 4 5 prove. 6 Again, it should be whether or not a school district, a reasonable school district, could foresee 7 this kind of harm happening. I think that's the proper 8 verbiage to be used here. 9 10 THE COURT: Well, I disagree. I think that if 11 Bryan Oliver had walked into the office with a shotgun that morning, displayed it to the principal and said I'm 12 going to go into my science class and I'm going to shoot 13 14 the students in my science class, that is -- has some 15 predictability or foreseeability. And if the principal 16 said, okay, have a nice day, that would probably violate 17 a standard of reasonable care. I use that absurd 18 example to say that there is a range. 19 I'm sure that what's going to happen is that 20 the plaintiff's experts are going to say that the facts known to the school administrators were such that they 21 22 were required to take certain steps that they did not 23 take and their failure to take those steps was a 24 substantial factor leading to Mr. Cleveland's injury. 25 The defense experts are probably going to say based on that information they took all reasonable steps that 26 27 could be expected. They are not insurers. They cannot predict exact behaviors. And so given what they knew at 28

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1	the time, they did what was reasonable. And that's
2	going to be what the jury is going to decide. I don't
3	see any problem in asking for the defense to ask an
4	expert, for instance, you're not saying, are you,
5	plaintiff's expert that they should have predicted this
6	
	behavior on that date. No, I'm not saying that.
7	That's fair questioning just like say in a
8	medical malpractice case a question is posed to an
9	expert you're not saying that the doctor should have
10	known that there was going to be this absolutely bad
11	outcome. It's we're trying to parse you're trying
12	to have me parse out what I think is going to be the
13	exact debate to be held in front of the jury.
14	MR. TRUJILLO: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.
15	THE COURT: I'm satisfied. I'm going to deny
16	that motion.
17	MR. HERR: And, Your Honor, our motion doesn't
18	need to be heard at this time.
19	THE COURT: What is it? I haven't seen it.
20	MR. HERR: We filed it earlier yesterday. I
21	can give the exact time. It's basically based on the
22	Court's in limine rulings with regard to Defense Motions
23	2 and 3. And what I'm asking the Court is that the
24	plaintiff's experts not change the opinions that they
25	have given in the case to date. I believe the Court's
26	rulings on MIL's 2 and 3 were significant.
27	THE COURT: Well, okay. I'll deal I'll
28	read that.

I don't think it needs to be heard 1 MR. HERR: But I wanted to alert the Court that we 2 at this point. did file it. 3 4 THE COURT: All right. Is there anything further? 5 6 MR. HERR: Just during Mr. Rodriguez's opening I assume I can sit at a location where I can better 7 observe. It's hard for me to see what he might be 8 9 projecting behind me. THE COURT: Yes. Let's have the jury in. 10 11 Court is in session. We've been briefly in session and I took roll and now I'll state that the jury 12 13 is in the courtroom properly seated in the jury box. 14 All right. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to 15 explain a few things to you, go into some greater detail 16 regarding my orders with respect to your conduct. You 17 have been sworn as jurors in this case so there are some 18 basic rules. As I've already said, do not allow 19 anything that happens outside the courtroom to affect your decision. During the trial I remind you you must 20 21 not communicate about the case or the people involved in 22 it with anyone. This means people living in your 23 household, family, friends, co-workers, employers. You 24 just can't communicate with anyone. Sometimes -- it's 25 rare but sometimes it happens that we need to advise jurors not to consult any counselors or therapists, 26 27 advisers, spiritual leaders regarding your jury service. 28 We have to ask that you not do that because they are not

jurors and so they can't talk to you about your jury 1 service. 2 They can't be a matter that influences your decision making in the case. 3 4 Remember not to communicate in any form. Don't post any information about the trial or your jury 5 6 service on the Internet in any form. Do not send or accept any messages, including e-mail or text messages, 7 to or from anyone concerning the trial or our services. 8 Obviously you may tell people you're on a jury, how long 9 10 the trial will take as I explained, but that is all. You must not communicate with one another about the case 11 until after I tell you it is time to decide the case. 12 13 And then you may discuss the case only in the jury room 14 during your deliberations and only when all 12 jurors 15 and only the 12 jurors are present in the jury room. 16 During the trial you must not listen to anyone 17 else who might be talking about the case or the people 18 involved in the case, you know, in the hallway or elevate or other locations in the courthouse. 19 Somebody 20 might be saying something that you shouldn't hear. You need to be bold. You need to tell them that you can't 21 22 hear what they're saying because you are a juror. If 23 that person keeps speaking about the case in your 24 presence, take yourself away from hearing that. As soon 25 as you can report the incident to the bailiff. Do not discuss it with any other juror. 26

27 Please avoid contact with any of the parties,
28 the lawyers, people you identify as witnesses and anyone

1 else who you think may have a connection to the case. 2 These people are also instructed to have no contact with 3 It's a little awkward because, again, the hallway you. is close quarters so the lawyers, people involved in the 4 case may be passing by you while you're in the hallway. 5 6 And to follow my instructions they may be averting their Frankly saying good morning or hello, those sorts 7 eves. of things are not really a problem, but typically the 8 lawyers and the people involved will avoid doing that 9 10 with you just so that no question is raised. So if they 11 do that, they're not being rude, they're following my 12 orders. So don't hold that against them or their 13 clients.

14 After the trial is over and I've released you 15 from jury duty you may discuss the case with anyone but you are not required to do so. During the trial do not 16 read, listen to or watch any news reports about this 17 18 case. We've discussed that before. In this particular case there is some public interest in the case. 19 There 20 is a camera in the courtroom. We went over all that 21 during jury selection. You will not be filmed. 22 Everyone is under an order not to communicate with you, 23 not to film you, not to have any contact with you. And that includes members of the media. 24 They're 25 professionals. They know that they can't talk to jurors or involve jurors in anything having to do with the 26 27 media. So -- there could be printed matter. Again, I 28 remind you if you see a blurb on the TV or you see

1	something in writing that be quick to identify that
2	and just ignore it. Don't pay attention to it. Don't
3	read it. Don't listen to it. Don't watch it.
4	After the trial is over as I said you're
5	released from jury duty. But I believe it applies in
6	civil cases as well as criminal cases, I'll make sure of
7	that. Under after the trial is over you may talk to
8	anybody you want about the case. You don't have to talk
9	to anyone if you don't want to. But under California
10	law the law requires you to wait at least 90 days before
11	you may accept any payment for information about the
12	case.
13	You must decide the case based only on the
14	evidence presented in this trial and the instructions
15	and law that I will provide. Again, nothing that you
16	see or hear or learn outside the courtroom is evidence
17	unless I tell you that it is. Nothing that you see or
18	hear when we're not in session for the presentation of
19	evidence is evidence in the case. And you should not
20	base your decision on anything you see or hear when
21	we're not in session, even something done by one of the
22	parties or witnesses.
23	Please do not do any research on your own or
24	as a group. Do not use any dictionaries, the Internet
25	or other reference materials. Do not investigate the
26	case or conduct any experiments. And do not contact
27	anyone to assist you such as a family doctor or lawyer.
28	Do not visit or view the scene of any event you hear

about in the evidence in this case. If you happen to
 find yourself at the scene or you happen to pass by a
 scene, do not stop or investigate. All jurors must see
 or hear the same evidence at the same time.

As I've said before and I'll remind you it's 5 6 important that you keep an open mind throughout the Evidence can only be presented one piece at a 7 trial. time. Do not form or express an opinion about the case 8 while the trying is going on. You must not decide on a 9 10 verdict until after you have heard all the evidence and 11 have it discussed it thoroughly with your fellow jurors 12 in your deliberations.

Do not concern yourself with the reasons for any rulings I may make during the course of the trial. Do not guess what I may think your verdict should be from something I might say or do. I have no such intention, so don't interpret anything I say or do for that purpose. You must not let bias, sympathy, passion, prejudice or public opinion influence your verdict.

At the end of the trial I will explain the law 20 21 that you must follow to reach your verdict and you must 22 follow the law as I explain it to you even if you do not 23 agree with the law. Sworn testimony, documents, 24 anything else may be admitted into evidence. You may not consider as evidence -- well, let me explain it this 25 way. Exhibits are usually given a number or a letter so 26 that they're identified. Sometimes an exhibit is 27 referred to by its number. But the -- for reference to 28

the Court or to the witness, but the exhibit itself is 1 not admitted evidence. 2 So you may hear about some exhibit numbers that themselves are not evidence. 3 It's the testimony that becomes the evidence in the Court. 4 And then if I admit the exhibit, then the exhibit itself 5 6 is also evidence. And you will have all admitted exhibits with you in the jury room during your 7 deliberations. 8

Remember that what the attorneys say during 9 10 the trial is not evidence. In their opening statements 11 and closing arguments the attorneys will talk to you about the law and the evidence. What the lawyers say 12 13 may help you to understand the law and the evidence, but 14 their statements and arguments are not evidence. The 15 attorney's questions are not evidence. Only the 16 witness' answers are evidence. You should not think that something is true just because an attorney's 17 18 questions suggests that it might be true.

19 Each side has the right to object to evidence If I do not agree with the 20 offered by the other side. 21 objection, I will say it is overruled. If it I overrule 22 an objection, the witness will answer and you may 23 consider the evidence. If I agree with the objection, I will say it is sustained. If I sustain an objection, 24 25 you must ignore the question. If the witness did not answer, you must not guess what he or she might have 26 said or why I sustained the objection. If the witness 27 28 has already answered you must ignore the answer.

Now, there will be times when I need to talk 1 2 to the attorneys privately. It's a common complaint of 3 jurors that we ask you to come here and then you sit in the hallway and you wait. We ask you for your time, but 4 there are occasions when we do have to have you wait and 5 6 I have to discuss things outside your presence with the Typically I will say that most of that 7 attornevs. involves decisions that I need to make that probably end 8 up shortening the period of time that you need to hear 9 10 evidence so that you need to sit in the courtroom. So 11 we are doing something productive even if you're in the hallway and not witnessing it. But do not be concerned 12 13 about our discussions or try to guess what is being 14 said. That's one of the reasons that I ask for your 15 patience and ask for your patience during the selection 16 process and now ask for your patience as jurors.

17 An attorney may make a motion to strike 18 testimony or evidence that you have seen or heard. And 19 if I grant the motion, you must totally disregard that 20 evidence. You must treat it as though it did not exist.

21 The case proceeds in the following way. 22 First, each side may make an opening statement. Neither 23 side is required to do so but I expect both attorneys 24 will make an opening statement in this case. An opening 25 statement is not evidence. It is simply an outline to help you understand what that party or lawyer expects 26 the evidence will showed. And also because it's 27 difficult to give you the evidence in the exact order 28

1 that you might prefer the opening statement allows you to keep an overview of the case in mind during the 2 presentation of the evidence. Then you will hear the 3 The plaintiff presents his evidence first. 4 evidence. When the plaintiff is finished, the defendants have an 5 6 opportunity to present their evidence. Each witness will first be questioned by the side that asked the 7 witness to testify. This is called direct examination. 8 Then the other side is permitted to question the 9 10 witness. This is called cross-examination. Again, 11 documents or objects referred to during the trial are 12 called exhibits. There are many rules that govern whether something will be considered evidence in the 13 14 As I said, as one side presents evidence the trial. 15 other side has the right to object and ask me to decide. 16 And, again, I try to do so immediately but sometimes I 17 have to listen to the lawyers outside your presence.

After the evidence has been presented the
attorneys will make closing arguments and I will then
instruct you on the law that applies to the case.

There are a couple of other things I like to 21 22 point out to jurors in this department. First of all, 23 you will note that the clerk of the Court in this department has two work stations. She has a traditional 24 work station in front of the bench and on the other side 25 of what we call the well of the courtroom. 26 That's where 27 the clerk usually sits to assist the lawyers in the 28 Court with the trial of the case, with witnesses, with

The clerk takes minutes. Veronica takes 1 exhibits. 2 minutes of the proceedings. But in this modern age this department manages 850 other cases directly in this 3 department. So the clerk maintains a separate work 4 station and from time to time she may go from one work 5 6 station to the other in order to briefly deal with the other issues that are -- and those other cases that are 7 going to come before the Court. So if she moves one 8 from work station to the other, please understand she's 9 10 not being rude to the attorneys or to the witness, to 11 you, to me, she's just following my instructions and 12 going about the ordinary business of the Court. So don't allow that to be a distraction. 13

We have a telephone in the courtroom. It rarely rings because people know when we're in session and when we're not in session. But sometimes it will ring. Don't allow that to be a distraction.

18 The bailiff has a radio, typical law 19 enforcement radio, on his shoulder. He also has a He may have to communicate from time to 20 telephone. 21 time. There may be reasons why deputies, bailiffs, may 22 need to exchange their work. One deputy may need to 23 leave, another come in. They're just going about the ordinary course of the court security. So don't allow 24 that to be a distraction. If anything does distract 25 you, then -- I think it was mentioned yesterday --26 27 please speak up and say you didn't hear something, 28 didn't see something. If something is being displayed,

we have audio visual equipment and so typically written matter once it's admitted into evidence will be displayed on the screen to my left, the screen that you face. And it's a small courtroom. So if someone is blocking your view, just speak up and say I can't see what's being shown. Let us know and we'll make sure that you hear and see everything.

8 One other thing, I have a computer at my 9 bench. I keep my computer open. I keep my e-mail open. 10 I do that for a couple of reasons. I may receive 11 communication from other judges, in particular 12 Department 1, the department that manages the entire 13 court system. So I may get information that I need to 14 know. And frankly I might get information that you need 15 to know, too, that I can communicate to you regarding 16 traffic or some other issue that is a general matter 17 that we're alerted to. Also, there are two clerks that 18 work on those 850 other cases that are not in the 19 courtroom. They're in another location in the building. And so from time to time they'll send me e-mails and 20 21 they need a brief response from me and brief 22 instructions from me so that they can keep up with their 23 work flow on their cases.

The main reason I have it open is because Virginia's machine is connected through some software that magically translates the key strokes that she's making on her machine into written words on my screen. It's what we call a rough transcript or a realtime Г

1	transcript, and I follow along with that. In fact, as
2	I'm speaking right now, I can read the words that I'm
3	saying to you on my screen. And if I read that, it
4	helps me to make my rulings because not only have I
5	listened or seen what's happening in court, I've been
6	able to read the words and that helps me make a
7	decision.
8	All right. That's all I have for you this
9	morning. I think we're ready to proceed.
9 10	
11	Mr. Rodriguez, your opening statement.
	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Your Honor. Good
12	morning. Before we get into the details of what
13	happened on this case, let me first tell you what we
14	except the evidence is going to show us. And that is
15	that schools are a place where our children go to learn
16	to read and write. But there is a known danger when it
17	comes to schools, and that danger is school shootings.
18	And school districts, they know that school shootings
19	have been around forever. The first recorded school
20	shooting was back in the early 1800s. And school
21	districts, they know that the way to prevent school
22	shootings is by way of doing a threat assessment.
23	And so let me tell you three things about
24	threat assessment. First, a threat assessment is a
25	system. It's a protocol. It's an approach that school
26	districts have in place to use when they receive a
27	report of a threat of violence for one of their
28	students. And threat assessments are nothing new.

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1	School districts have had them in place for decades.
2	Second, this threat assessment is run by a
3	team. And there are at least four people on the team.
4	First one is the school administrator or administrators.
5	And by that it is superintendent, principal, assistant
6	principal, that and they're the ones that quarterback
7	it. They're the ones that call the shots on the team,
8	on the threat assessment team. The second member of the
9	threat assessment team is law enforcement. I'm not
10	talking about outside law enforcement. I'm talking
11	about internal law enforcement. Typically it's an SRO
12	officer, school resource officer, uniform, gun. The
13	only job he has is to work at the school campus. That
14	is the second member of the threat assessment team. The
15	third is the school psychologist. And the fourth is the
16	guidance counselor, the guidance counselor for the
17	student making the threats. And so those are the
18	members of the threat assessment team. You can have
19	more, but you've got to have at least those four.
20	And this third, this threat assessment
21	team, their job is what, is to investigate the threats
22	and investigate the student who made the threats, and
23	then to come up with a plan, to come up with an
24	intervention tactic, and a plan that will prevent the
25	threat from becoming reality.
26	And so let me also tell you something else

27 that school districts know that the evidence is going to
28 show you, and that is that there are at least three

1 things that the school districts have to do in order to 2 have their threat assessment plan work once they come up with it. And school districts, they all know that their 3 4 job isn't done once they do the threat assessment plan. Why? Because they all know through their training that 5 6 if they continue to receive threats, oncoming threats, new threats, new information, that -- threats of 7 violence from the same student what do they do? Their 8 own training tells them that their threat assessment 9 10 plan maybe needs to be modified, needs to be revised, 11 needs to be beefed up.

12 And here's the other thing that school districts all know through their own training, their own 13 14 policies and procedures, that almost 100 percent of all 15 school shooters they leak their plans. They tell about 16 their plans to other students. They give off warning signs. And because school shooters leak their 17 18 intentions, the threat assessment team must continue to 19 monitor the student even after they come up with a 20 threat assessment plan. And then they act on that new 21 information, those new threats, those new reports.

And the second thing that school districts all know, it has to be done in order for the threat assessment plan to work is that they have to communicate among themselves, between and among themselves, the members, especially with the law enforcement member of the team. Because if the law enforcement member doesn't receive information, isn't communicated with, he or she can't do their job if information is kept from them or
 hidden from them.

And the third thing the school districts, they 3 all know, that they have to do in order for the threat 4 assessment plans to work is that they have to involve 5 6 the parents of the student who made the threats. Why? That way they have another set of eyes and another set 7 of ears on that individual, okay. They can receive more 8 information of this person's behavior, this student's 9 10 behavior. So that means that when the school 11 administrators when they involve the parent, they sit 12 down and talk to the parent of the student making the threats. 13 They can't sugarcoat it. They can't minimize 14 the threats, the behavior of the student. They can't 15 keep information from the parent because they need to 16 involve them.

Now, here's what the evidence we expect is 17 18 going to show. That the threat assessment plan in order to work it takes time. It takes work. 19 It takes But most of all it takes administrators to 20 diligence. 21 care. And in this case the evidence will show that the 22 school administrators stopped communicating, they 23 stopped doing their job, the job they were supposed to And we don't know exactly why. But what we do know 24 do. 25 through the evidence that we expect to put on is that they hid information from law enforcement. They hid the 26 threats from law enforcement. They hid the threats from 27 28 the parents, and they hid the threats from the teachers

1 and the staff. And they didn't -- and why didn't they 2 tell law enforcement, parents, teachers, staff? Because 3 they were more concerned about their image than they were the safety of the kids. 4 And the other thing we know for certain 5 6 through the evidence we expect to show is that the school district, the administrators, knew it was 7 dangerous to ignore oncoming and new threats and 8 information, and they did it anyway. 9 10 So now we're finished talking about the 11 general overview. Let's get into details. So let me 12 start off with Taft Union High School District. Taft Union High School District. It's a school district, 13 14 high school district, that consists of two high school, 15 Taft Union High School and Buena Vista High School. 16 Together I think it's about 900 students at Taft High 17 School and 50 more or so at the continuation school. 18 And the school district is run by school administrators, 19 superintendent, principal, there is a principal at each 20 high school, and an assistant principal. In some schools they're called vice principals, and at each high 21 22 school, okay. And the assistant principal is the person 23 who is in charge of dealing with the students, dealing 24 with student discipline and as a practical matter 25 dealing with the threat assessments. And in this case the assistant principal at 26 27 Taft High School was a lady by the name of Rona Angelo, 28 Ms. Angelo. And Ms. Angelo at the time --

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MR. HERR: I'm sorry, Your Honor, I object to
 displaying paragraphs in opening statement that have not
 been admitted into evidence.

THE COURT: I would sustain that.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: 5 Okay. Thank you. Ms. Angelo 6 at the time that this happened was -- had been the assistant principal out at Taft for 12 years. Before 7 then she had been the dean of students, which is about 8 the same kind of job, student discipline, students, that 9 10 kind of thing, at Foothill High School. And before then 11 she had taught at Bakersfield High School and Stockdale 12 High School.

And now let me tell you a little bit about a 13 14 student by the name of Bryan Oliver. At the time he was 15 And he had an older brother and a younger 16 years old. brother. His older brother's name is Tyler. At the 16 time he was 19 years old and about three years older. 17 18 And back then Tyler had already graduated from a high 19 school in Tennessee. He went through the junior ROTC program and he was planning on joining the Marines. And 20 21 he had a younger brother. The younger brother's name 22 was Jared Tyler, about two years younger, 14 years old. 23 At the time Jared was in AP classes and he was in 24 sports, football, and he was involved in Bible -- after 25 school Bible studies. And they were being raised, these three boys, by their mom, Sheryl Oliver. Ms. Oliver had 26 27 grown up here in Bakersfield, gone to West High School, a graduate from West High. And then she got married and 28

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1	she got a job. And the job she had was with a national
2	company and it took her out to the East Coast. She got
3	married, moved out to Florida. At Florida Bryan
4	Oliver was born in Florida. And then the family moved
5	to Tennessee. And the husband, the boy's father, was
6	abusive, verbally and physically abusive with Bryan
7	Oliver. And then he walked out the family in Tennessee.
8	Bryan Oliver started school in Tennessee. The school
9	records will show that he was in special education
10	classes and some general education classes. And the
11	school records will show he was bullied.
12	After his father, after the husband walked out
13	on the family, Ms. Oliver decided to move back to Kern
14	County where she had family and friends and single
15	mom. And through her job she was able to get a position
16	at Rosewood Assistant Living Center right across from
17	West High School where she is a director of food
18	services. She worked 80 to 90 hours a week, lived in
19	Taft, and she would commute to Bakersfield. And so
20	Bryan Oliver finished the last one and a half months of
21	his eighth grade year in Taft when they moved back. So
22	that's Bryan Oliver.
23	Now let me tell you a little hit about a young

Now let me tell you a little bit about a young man, a 16 year old student at the time, Bowe Cleveland. And you'll notice he's not here today as I mentioned earlier. But you got a glimpse of him. So let me tell you at the time he was 16 years old. His dad, Rob Cleveland, was born in Bakersfield, grew up in

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1	Bakersfield. He works as a supervisor, superintendent,
2	for an oil field company contract. Key Energy I think
3	it is. His mom at the time had just retired as a dental
4	assistant working for many years as a dental assistant.
5	Bowe had a younger sister named Aubrey. She was three
6	years younger. And Bowe he was born in Bakersfield.
7	And at the time we talked to Bowe and asked him so what
8	do you want to do. What do you enjoy doing? He'll tell
9	you well, I'm going to be I played football. Or at
10	least he was playing because he got hurt. And I'd like
11	to go to college. And I already know what college I'm
12	going to go to, Washington State University. Okay. And
13	what are you going to do there? Well, I'm going to get
14	a degree, and I'm going to play football. At the time
15	16 years old he was a big kid, about six three or so.
16	Not necessarily muscular but kind of a rollie-pollie
17	kind of kid. And he but when you dig a little bit
18	deeper with him and ask him football, you would talk to
19	him and so forth. And then is that really what you want
20	to do, Bowe. Well, not really. What do you really want
21	to do? I like to write. I like to draw. So if that's
22	what you like to do, why do you say you want to play
23	football? He said I don't want to disappoint my dad.
24	My dad when he graduated from high school he was one of
25	the best ball players in the county and he got a
26	scholarship to Washington State. And, you know, I don't
27	want to disappoint him. So that was Bowe Cleveland.
28	Now, let's talk a little bit about a timeline.

1 What did the administrators at Taft High School know?
2 The date of the shooting was January 10th, 2013, about
3 six and a half years ago. What did they know? What
4 information did they receive up until the date of the
5 shooting?

6 So we're going to start off with March 15th, 2011, about two years before the shooting. 7 And it's 8 March 15th, 2011. Bryan Oliver is a freshman in high school and he's in his P.E. class. And he gets attacked 9 by two boys and he gets T-bagged. T-bagged means it's a 10 11 male who puts his genitals in the face of the other boy. The other boy is held down. Bryan Oliver fights back 12 13 and he's suspended along with the boys that attacked 14 By the way, Bowe Cleveland wasn't in that class, him. 15 didn't have anything to do with it. And T-bagging is 16 sexual assault. And we're going to hear about whether there was a reporting, all right. And Ms. Angelo was 17 18 asked if she knew about the T-bagging because we wanted 19 to know if it was reported. And she said -- the reason we say she said something is there is something called a 20 21 deposition. Some of you might be familiar with it. Α 22 deposition is a proceeding that takes place. There is a 23 court reporter present. The court reporter has the 24 power under the state of law, authority, to put somebody 25 under oath as if they were testifying in court. And you get asked questions and everything is written down. 26 And 27 Ms. Angelo said I didn't know anything about a T-bagging 28 at that time. But you'll see it once we get started in

1 the trial, Bryan Oliver was required to write a little incident report. And in the incident report he wrote 2 3 down I was T-bagged, okay. 4 Now we go to about a year later. It's now February 25th, 2012. Bryan Oliver is now a sophomore in 5 school. 6 And he is on a trip along with other students, a field trip, to Universal Studios, a record for reading 7 books okay. On the way back the staff -- there is three 8 staff people there on the bus. They hear him saying 9 10 things like I'm going to shoot people and making 11 That's on a Saturday, February 25th. Monday threats. 12 reports were asked to be filed by the school of the 13 students. And one staff member on February 25th dates 14 the report says I am very concerned for the safety of 15 the students and staff as well as Bryan. On February 27th, that Monday, there is a report dated from 16 a teacher that says Bryan was telling how he could shoot 17 18 and take out more than 50 students before anyone could 19 stop him. Bryan said don't you just have those days 20 when it gets so bad you just can't take it anymore and 21 you want to start shooting people. February 27th, 22 another report from a student, says on the bus Bryan 23 Oliver was talking about killing everyone at school 24 except the people he liked. He talked about getting 25 guns and bombs and killing people at the school. 28, 29, Wednesday, there is a report dated that time from a 26 27 student who says I went to Mr. Greer's period five, a student was talking about a hit list and I was second on 28

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1	it. Today the same thing happened. The situation got
2	brought up in Mrs. White's class. Another student on
3	that same date, February 29th, says I saw Bryan Oliver's
4	drawing in a blue notebook with many killings in it.
5	Bryan has also told me he will kill so-and-so student
6	because he is black. He has told me he is not scared to
7	kill the people that have been mean to him.
8	February 29th, another written report, Bryan Oliver was
9	drawing big people killing, shooting, little kids, stick
10	figures, on a school playground with red blood splats on
11	their heads and the big people had guns.
12	Now, let's talk a little bit about that last
13	one, about the drawing. It happened on Wednesday. They
14	suspended Bryan Oliver for five days on that Monday,
15	February 27th. And by the way, that year had 29 days in
16	February. So March 2nd, those five days. That student,
17	the one about the drawing, her name is Jasmine Sanchez.
18	Listen to what she said. She said on Monday that Bryan
19	Oliver wasn't suspended right away. He had some classes
20	before he was told he was suspended. She said on that
21	day she was picking up papers and she saw a drawing on
22	his desk and it scared her. It showed all of this
23	killing of little kids. So she got it to give it to the
24	teacher. And Bryan kind of got a little aggressive with
25	her, but a male student protected her. She walked up to
26	the teacher and handed the drawing. She opened it up
27	and she could see on his face a look of shock. She was
28	called to Mrs. Angelo's office. She had two meetings,

1	two conversations at least, with Mrs. Angelo. First and
2	second time Ms. Angelo asked her what had happened. And
3	she by the way she wrote that report and she
4	explained. And she was asked how do you feel about
5	that, what are your feelings. She said it made me
6	scared. It's not normal for people to draw things like
7	that. Ms. Angelo asked Jasmine if she felt threatened
8	for her life. Ms. Jasmine said yeah. Ms. Angelo told
9	her don't worry, Bryan is being seen by the school
10	counselor. We got it covered. You can leave now.
11	Later when we took the deposition of they
12	have no counselor on campus. They have a school
13	psychologist. His name is Mark Shoffner. Later we took
14	his deposition and he asked him under oath did you or
15	anyone from the school counsel Bryan Oliver any of the
16	time up until the date of the shooting. And he said I
17	never counseled him. I never counseled him. No one
18	ever counseled him.
19	So by March the 2nd during that week a threat
20	assessment plan, they come up with one. Threat
21	assessment plan, this is what and remember a threat
22	assessment plan includes intervention tactics, what to
23	do with the violence, the threat of violence. And they
24	said you can come back to school on Monday, five days
25	suspension. No counseling. We want you to just check
26	in with Mr. Shoffner like you see him in the hallway,
27	hey, how are you doing. I'm okay. But no counseling.

28 And they made him sign a contract called a student

behavior contract that if you don't behave yourself
 you'll get expelled.

So now we're up to here. Now it's about ten 3 months up until the date of the shooting. What happens 4 in these ten months? By the way, the threat assessment 5 plan doesn't have a date on it. But everybody says they 6 finished it by Friday, March 2nd. But it does not have 7 Everybody agrees it was finished by that 8 a date on. March 12th, ten days later, a student 9 date. Okay. 10 reports to the administrator that Bryan Oliver is making 11 stabbing gestures with a pencil toward another student. Then in the spring we don't have exact dates but it's 12 still the spring of 2012 a student reports to Ms. Angelo 13 14 that Bryan Oliver talked about bringing a gun to an 15 assembly and shooting randomly. Another report, a 16 student reports to Ms. Angelo that Bryan Oliver has a 17 hit list and that she is worried because of the story he 18 had written and posted on the Internet about violently 19 killing people. Still in the spring Ms. Angelo calls in 20 a student and asks him why are you on Bryan Oliver's hit 21 list. That's in the spring. Then there's a summer. 22 And now we go to the fall. So now we're talking about 23 months before the shooting.

In the fall -- and we say fall because we don't have a precise date but everybody agrees it's in the fall. A student reports to Ms. Angelo that Bryan Oliver is getting worse. In the fall another student reports to the school district that Bryan Oliver made a
1 threatening statement to another female student. Now we November 9th -- I'm sorry, 2 have a precise date. November 8th, Bryan himself self reports he walks in --3 he walks out of his class because he's angry. 4 And he goes over to Ms. Angelo's office and he tells her that 5 6 he wants to punch another student in the face because other students talk too much and speak in other 7 Then on November 9th a librarian 8 languages and whistle. reports -- by the way, the librarian that was on the 9 10 field trip, she reports to the school district that 11 Bryan threatened, quote, something drastic would happen, unquote, with a look on his face that scared her. We're 12 still within that ten months between the time of that 13 14 threat assessment and the date of the shooting.

15 Let's go to December. In December a high 16 school district employee comes up with an escape plan 17 along with her students for what to do if Bryan Oliver 18 decides to attack. December 15th, now we're three and a 19 half weeks before the shooting. It's a Saturday. It's 20 December 15th. And there is a student by the name of Allison Biagioni, and she's Tweeting can everybody 21 22 please start kissing Bryan Oliver's ass, because I'm 23 afraid he might come shoot up the school. I have four 24 classes with him. Another student responds, Tweets 25 back, why are you saying this. You're scaring me. And they go back and forth with Tweets. And then Allison 26 27 Biagioni says why is he still in school. He always talks about murder like he's obsessed with it. She also 28

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five serial killer movies during the weekend and thought of Bowe the whole time. That's on a Saturday the 15th, three and a half weeks before the shooting. On that Monday, December 17th, Mariah Doty, one of the two people in that Tweet, she's pulled out of class and she's taken to Ms. Angelo's office. And before she was interviewed she was asked to fill out an incident report like some of the other students have. And she lists all the things that Bryan Oliver has said and done that scared her. We asked the school district for that report. They said they don't have it. Ms. Angelo asked her why are you Tweeting about this. And she says because I'm scared. What are you scared And then Ms. Doty, the student, tells her the things that she wrote. Well, Bryan Oliver had pulled a knife on my friend. Bryan Oliver told me to punch Bowe. And then about the movie, the serial killer movie. But Ms. Angelo Mariah Doty tells me it's been resolved. You have nothing to worry about. You can go back to class. We wanted to know if Ms. Angelo after she had talked to Ms. Doty, the student -- she never called Bowe, never

says yeah, he told Bowe that he would -- he had watched

23 tells him about what Ms. Doty had told her, never called 24 Bowe's parents to warn them about anything of what 25 Mariah Doty had said to her, never talks to Allison Biagioni, the other student in the Tweet, doesn't ever 26 talk to her about it. And she never talks to Bryan 27 Oliver about the stuff that was being Tweeted. 28

1 So now we get to the date of the shooting. On that day it's January 10th, 2013. It's a Thursday and 2 it's about 8:55, 8:50 A.M. School started late. 3 School usually started at 8:00 in the morning. But that 4 morning the school district had had a staff meeting with 5 6 teachers on what to do with an active shooter and so they started at 8:30. 7

And we see Bryan Oliver doing the following. 8 9 And when we say we see, there is a video. You'll 10 probably see it, okay. And this is what we see. There 11 is a fence, a gate, a fence around the school. And 12 there is a gate. And you can see him with a .12 gauge 13 shotgun holding it. And the gate is open and unlocked. 14 And you can see him and he's walking around the science 15 building because he has a class in the science building 16 on the second floor. He walks over, goes in through the door. He walks in, then we don't see him for a moment 17 18 because there is not a camera on that. By the way, 19 there is 43 cameras. And we'll talk about whether they're being monitored or not later on. 20 He walks in and you can see him in the hallway. He's walking with a 21 22 shotgun. And the hallway is -- if you were to say 23 that's north, that's south, that's east and that's west, 24 the hallway runs east/west generally. Not true 25 direction, just generally. And you can see there is a hallway and there is a door to the classroom. And it's 26 27 locked. He goes to the other door, it's unlocked. 28 Inside -- the classroom is set up like this, that door

and that door. And then there is the front of the 1 classroom and there is the teacher's desk and then there 2 is rows of students, student desks, about six rows, and 3 the back are four circular tables. It's a science lab. 4 And the students are taking a pop quiz. 5 So they're 6 sitting. And we know from the time that we saw -- we see in the video when he walks through that gate to the 7 time that's here this door is unlocked. 8

In the second row Bowe Cleveland is sitting 9 10 there taking his test. Bryan Oliver walks in. Bowe 11 Cleveland steps up to stand up to turn in his test. And Everything goes guiet, 12 when he stands up, psshh, psshh. silent. And he thinks he can see from lint floating 13 14 into the air in slow motion, and he feels a pressure on 15 his chest. Then he falls and he hits the desk and falls to the floor. And then he starts to crawl where the 16 windows are at to the other side of the room. 17

18 In the meantime, Bryan Oliver -- the students 19 all run to the other side of the room and there is This time it misses everything. 20 another shot. It's up 21 into the ceiling and windows. Bowe gets over to the 22 side where the wall is with the windows and he kind of 23 props himself. And he's sitting there and he can feel 24 this pressure, feels like he's got an 18-wheeler parked 25 on him. He's thinking Jesus, just let me die. I want I can't take this pain anymore. And then he 26 to die. 27 can smell and taste a copper in his mouth. And it's And then he looks down and he can see blood 28 blood.

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1	spurting out. And there is a pool of blood that starts
2	to form. And then he says and the pain won't go
3	away. And he says I change my mind, God, please,
4	please, please don't let me die, don't let me die.
5	Bryan Oliver in the meantime there is two
6	campus supervisors. They're security guards, but
7	they're called campus supervisors, in addition to the
8	SRO officers. You can see them in the video. They run
9	and by the way, the reason they got there is a
10	teacher in the other classroom heard the gunshot and
11	called. Within 90 seconds they were there, okay. And
12	this door is locked. You go over here and this security
13	officer looks in and he sees Bryan Oliver. And he says
14	put the gun down, Bryan, put the gun down. Bryan Oliver
15	picks up a couple of shells, throws them in the trash
16	can. He said put the gun gown. He puts the gun and the
17	security officer walks in and says get down. They
18	handcuff him. I take that back. I don't remember if
19	they handcuffed him. But they put him to the side. So
20	we'll talk a little bit about the evidence about the
21	timing of all of this.
22	Here's what happened that day, that morning.
23	And because remember the way the case is set up, we're
24	not going to talk about the damages part in this part
25	just to let you know.
26	So we brought a lawsuit because the school
27	district is refusing to except any responsibility. And,

number two, because they didn't follow their own

training, their own process, their own policies and 1 So before we can bring this case to trial, 2 procedures. there were five things we had to look into, like 3 4 depositions and do all of that. And here's the first thing we had to look 5 6 into. Did the school district keep information about threats away from law enforcement? First thing. So you 7 have to know that during this time frame there were 8 three SRO officers. The first one was Deputy Greg 9 10 Collins. He had been the SRO officer out there for 11 seven years and he retired just after that field trip. 12 When I say just, about a month later or so. 13 So we asked Ms. Angelo first did you tell 14 Officer Collins -- well, first of all, what did Officer 15 Collins do? He said what I did was I got a call from 16 Mark Shoffner back in March or late February of 2012 to go to Bryan Oliver's house and search for a hit list. 17 So I went out -- first I called Ms. Oliver and said I'm 18 19 coming over. I got there. She met me there. Brvan 20 Oliver wasn't there. And I went through the bedroom. Okay, did you do anything else? Yes. What else did you 21 22 do? I looked for weapons. Okay. Were you asked to 23 look for weapons? No. So why did you look for weapons? 24 I was there, I thought it would be a good idea to do it. 25 Okay. We asked Ms. Angelo did you ask him to look for He said no, I didn't even talk to her 26 weapons. Yes. about it, it was Mr. Shoffner that talked to me about 27 28 it. Okay. Did you know about the threats on the field

1 Did you know about that Bryan Oliver had trip? No. threatened to blow up the auditorium? No. 2 Threatened No. Were you in a meeting 3 to shoot students? regarding, you know, like a threat assessment team 4 regarding Bryan Oliver? No. Have you ever had any 5 6 personal contact with Bryan Oliver? No, never have. The only thing I ever knew about him was the hit list, 7 8 you know.

And he retired and then the next two or three 9 10 months he was replaced by Kevin George who is the 11 sergeant with the sheriff's department. And he became the SRO officer for about two or three months. 12 And we asked Ms. Angelo did you tell the new SRO officer about 13 14 any of the threats that Bryan Oliver had made. I can't 15 remember. How about the other SRO officer who replaced 16 him, Officer Hallmark? I don't remember. During her 17 deposition, Ms. Angelo said I can't remember, I don't 18 She said that every know, or I can't recall 201 times. 19 1.6 minutes. We talked to Sergeant George. I was never told about any threats. He didn't know anything about 20 21 it until after the shooting I heard about it, not 22 before. Officer Hallmark who was the third SRO officer, 23 were you ever told about any of these threats? No. The 24 three SRO officers during this relevant time line, Chief 25 Whiting, he's from the Taft Police Department -- or he's retired now. He was with -- you know, because of the 26 27 mandated reporting from the T-bagging. We asked him. 28 He said I've never even heard of Bryan Oliver until

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1	after the shooting. So that's all of the evidence we
2	expect on that issue of whether or not the threats, all
3	that, was given to the SRO officers in law enforcement.
4	Second thing we had to look into was did the
5	school district keep information about threats away from
6	the parents, the teachers and the staff. And here's the
7	evidence that we expect based on their deposition
8	testimony. First, the parents. There is a parent by
9	the name of Mr. Romo. Mr. Romo, his son was at school.
10	And his son told him about being on a hit list, Bryan
11	Oliver. So he took it upon himself to go to the school
12	and ask. And he met with Ms. Angelo. And he said to
13	Ms. Angelo, told him about it, and he said should I
14	report it to the police. And she said no, no, no, we'll
15	take care of it, we've got it covered. He said well, I
16	can talk it's no problem. I can go talk to Bryan
17	Oliver's parents. The younger brother, Jared, I coached
18	him in baseball, little league. I don't have any
19	problem going and talking to them. Oh, no, no, we'll
20	take care of it. The police were never called. So
21	Triston White, he's a student there. He was called in
22	by Rona Angelo. And he was asked why are you on the hit
23	list. And Ms. Angelo told him that the hit list was
24	written by Bryan Oliver. Now, later on they say there
25	is no such hit list. But he will tell me she told me,
26	asked me why am I on the hit list lit. They claim there
27	is no hit list. They didn't find one, that's true. So
28	we asked him did anybody from the school district tell

1	your parents, your parents know about it. Yeah. How
2	did they know about? Because I told them.
3	Another parent, Sheryl Oliver, Bryan Oliver's
4	mom, T-bagging incident. The first time she heard about
5	it was at the criminal trial. She never had heard about
6	T-bagging. In fact, remember I told you the threat
7	assessment was over by the threat assessment plan was
8	over by March 2nd, 2012. On March 7th, five days later,
9	there is a meeting with Ms. Oliver. Because Bryan
10	Oliver is an IEP student you have to do a I can't
11	remember if it's a yearly meeting or not, you know. And
12	here's the relevant part. In that meeting this is
13	after all the threats and so forth. This is the week
14	before. Here's the information. By the way,
15	Mr. Shoffner wrote this along with somebody else. There
16	is a part that talks about social emotional status.
17	Bryan engages in age appropriate social interaction and
17 18	Bryan engages in age appropriate social interaction and gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a
18	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a
18 19	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This
18 19 20	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This is not an area of concern. That's what she was told.
18 19 20 21	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This is not an area of concern. That's what she was told. There is a part about adaptive behavior, self help.
18 19 20 21 22	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This is not an area of concern. That's what she was told. There is a part about adaptive behavior, self help. Bryan appears to have age appropriate self-help skills.
18 19 20 21 22 23	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This is not an area of concern. That's what she was told. There is a part about adaptive behavior, self help. Bryan appears to have age appropriate self-help skills. Bryan is capable of communicating with adults and peers
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This is not an area of concern. That's what she was told. There is a part about adaptive behavior, self help. Bryan appears to have age appropriate self-help skills. Bryan is capable of communicating with adults and peers in an age appropriate manner. He can demonstrate
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	gets along well with peers and adults. This is just a week after. His behavior is appropriate in class. This is not an area of concern. That's what she was told. There is a part about adaptive behavior, self help. Bryan appears to have age appropriate self-help skills. Bryan is capable of communicating with adults and peers in an age appropriate manner. He can demonstrate responsibility and sensitivity to others as well. This

1 information -- were teachers given information up until the date of the shooting? And they will tell you that 2 3 teachers, they have an understanding that it's required that teachers of students who make threats that they 4 should be told about that student and the threats that 5 6 the student is making. That's required. And so there were depositions of four students -- of four teachers of 7 Bryan Oliver. Mr. Hughes. Mr. Hughes, did you know 8 No. Mr. Heber, did you know about 9 about these threats? 10 these threats? No. Mr. Hickman, did you know about 11 Ms. Rasmussen, did you know about these threats? No. 12 any of these threats? No. We asked Ms. Angelo did you 13 notify the teachers as you're required to about these 14 threats. And she said you know how many students I 15 I have 900 students. That's a lot of work to do have. And besides, the teachers, if you put their name 16 that. on a computer screen, if there is an asterisk, they can 17 18 click on the asterisk and the asterisk will take you to 19 the discipline screen and they can then read about it. 20 But that wasn't the guestion. The question is did you 21 tell them. No, there is a screen. Staff. Mary Miller, 22 Dianne Kazycki, Kelly Federoff, Kathy McLaughlin. We 23 asked Mary Miller was a security guard who rushed into 24 the room afterwards in the shooting -- and she's the one 25 that held put pressure on Bowe before the first 26 responders got there. And she's the campus supervisor, 27 so that means like a security guard. She said I didn't know anything about the threats, never heard of them. 28

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1	And then another staff member, the guidance counselor
2	for Bowe Cleveland, who they claim the school
3	district claims was part of the threat assessment team,
4	remember that's one of the four required members.
5	Ms. Durkan was asked did you know about these threats.
6	No. They say you were on involved in the meetings.
7	There were no meetings. That's her sworn testimony. So
8	that was the evidence that we expect to present in that
9	regard.
10	Third thing.
11	THE COURT: Mr. Rodriguez, since you're moving
12	to a different subject matter, we'll take a 15-minute
13	recess. Ladies and gentlemen, we'll be in recess for
14	15 minutes. You are excused to the hallway. Don't
15	discuss the case or form or express any opinions.
16	(A recess was taken.)
17	THE COURT: We're in session. We're on the
18	
-	record in Cleveland versus Taft Union High School
19	District. And appearances are as previously noted. I
20	think we're ready for the jury. We'll have the jury in.
21	Court is in session. I took roll. The jury
22	is now in the courtroom properly seated in the jury box.
23	Mr. Rodriguez, the balance of your opening
24	statement.
25	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Your Honor. Thank
26	you for coming back. Let me clear up something I was
27	told that I said wrong. Jana Durkan, I said she was a
28	guidance counselor for Bowe Cleveland. No, she's the

1 guidance counselor for Bryan Oliver. And she should 2 have been a member of the threat assessment team. So I 3 just wanted to make sure I didn't confuse anybody by 4 that.

Third thing we have to look into was 5 Okay. 6 did Bowe Cleveland bully Bryan Oliver. And here's the evidence we expect will be. First of all, from Bryan 7 Oliver himself. And Bryan Oliver after the shooting 8 within two hours he was interviewed by the sheriff's 9 10 department detectives, and it was recorded, their 11 conversation, the interview. And he was asked about that. And here's what he said. Okay. What was -- what 12 13 were you trying to do when you started pulling the 14 trigger? What was your intent? Do you know what intent 15 means? Answer: Yeah, I know what intent means. 16 It's just trying to get back Question: Okay. Answer: 17 at the people that have just messed up with my high 18 school life. Question: Okay. Answer: Then the one 19 was just -- question: You're just talking -- answer: 20 There. In other words, Bowe Cleveland was just there. He just happened to be there. Question: 21 This, this 22 person that messed up your high school life, who is 23 that? Answer: Jacob Nichols. Question: His name is Question: 24 Jacob Nichols? Yeah. Answer: Is he in the 25 same grade as you? Answer: Yes. How old is Question: I don't know. 26 he. Answer: Question: When you say he 27 messed up your high school life, was he like a bully to Question: Okay. Answer: 28 you? Answer: Yes. Him and

1 his friends would not leave me alone. Question: Okay. 2 What would they do to you? Answer: Trip, insult, steal 3 pictures that I drew. Okay -- question -- I'm sorry. 4 Question: Okay. How long had this been going on? It's basically most of my school life. Answer 5 Answer: 6 -- question: Okay. Who is the other kid you said, the other kid that was just there, what? 7 Answer: Bowe, he's the one that got hurt. Ouestion: His name is 8 9 Bowe? Answer: Yeah. Question: How old is he? 10 Answer: Don't know. Question: Is he the same age or 11 same grade as you? Answer: Yes. Question: Okay. So Jacob and Bowe -- do you know Bowe's last name? Answer: 12 13 Cleveland, I believe. Question: Is he friends with 14 Jacob? Answer: Bowe is friends with everyone. 15 Question: Okay. Is Bowe one of the people that also picked on you with Jacob? Answer: No. He was just --16 the best word I can explain was annoying. Like he made 17 jokes and stuff like that. You know, that phrase that 18 19 everybody keeps saying how they mispronounce America on 20 purpose.

Now, later on at the criminal trial Bryan Oliver came in and said on the witness stand, he said oh, yeah, Bowe Cleveland, he did he called me ginger and he called me fag. But that was different than what he said when he was interviewed, okay.

Okay. What's the other evidence we expect on this issue, on this question? Jared Oliver, the younger brother. He and his mom, Sheryl Oliver, the younger

1 brother and the mom, were interviewed by the sheriff's They were at the sheriff's department in 2 department. And they were being interviewed and 3 the interview room. it was recorded. And then the detective walked out and 4 they didn't know that the recorder was still on. 5 And this is what Ms. Oliver and her son Jared were talking 6 about. And Ms. Oliver is saying this Bowe, what kind of 7 is he, Jared, I mean. And Jared says mom, he's a nice 8 guy. Bowe is the one that got me in Bible study. Bowe 9 10 is the one that's involved in Campus Life and things 11 like that.

12 Another person that we expect to -- Mary 13 Miller. She's the security guard, the one that was 14 holding down pressure. She was asked do you have any 15 dealings with Bowe Cleveland, and if so what kind of an 16 impression do you have. Is he a bully or anything like 17 that? And she said he's just a big teddy bear. He's 18 respectful.

19 All right. Here's what the school records 20 show about bullying of Bryan Oliver. The notes -- the 21 school records show that Jacob Nichols and Billy Wolf 22 bullied Bryan Oliver. How do we know that? Bryan 23 Oliver himself wrote a report on that, his notes. Where 24 Jacob Nichols, remember he's the other kid in the room, 25 and Billy Wolf were they ever disciplined when Bryan Oliver came forward and said they're bullying me. 26 The 27 answer is no.

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And Allison Biagioni, she's the one with the

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1 Tweets, she said -- she appeared on the front page of 2 Seventeen magazine. That's a national teenage magazine. And of course she gave an interview. And she said Bowe 3 Cleveland bullied him. And in the interview she's asked 4 well, can you be more specific. Can you give an 5 6 example? And she said -- or did you ever see him Well, no, not exactly. Did you ever hear? 7 bullied. 8 Well, not exactly. Then what do you mean? She said well, there was a time when Bowe Cleveland comes in and 9 10 he says to Bryan Oliver over the weekend I saw the movie 11 The Notebook and I thought about you, Bryan. And Bryan said oh, yeah, well, I saw five serial killer movies 12 13 this weekend and I thought of you. Was there anything 14 else besides that that forms the basis of you saying you 15 know that he was a bully? No, that was it.

16 And last but not least the defense has hired experts, we have hired experts. And the defense expert 17 18 when he was asked do you have an opinion as to whether 19 or not Bowe Cleveland bullied Bryan Oliver -- this is the expert they paid and brought in. And he said Bowe 20 did not bully Bryan Oliver. Their own expert admits to 21 22 that. So that's all the evidence we expect on that 23 thing that we looked into.

The fourth thing, fourth of the fifth thing, of the five things we had to look into. And here's what we had to look into. Was the gate supposed to be closed, locked and monitored? We asked the school district representatives, and they denied that the gates

1	had to be locked or closed. They said it was an open
2	campus. But we went to their website, and I think it's
3	off there, but there was a page on their website at the
4	time. And their website, Taft High School website, said
5	Taft Union High School is a safe and secure campus. The
6	open campus is surrounded by an exterior fence which is
7	locked at all times except during lunch when students
8	are allowed to leave campus for lunch break. That's
9	what it says.

10 Now, we asked Deputy Collins -- remember 11 Deputy Collins is the SRO officer, those seven years and 12 he retired just like a month after the reports from the 13 field trip. And we asked him about it, whether he had 14 had any input. And he said the school had too many 15 And we said did you mention that or access points. 16 bring that to anybody at the school district's 17 He said yes, my recommendation was that it attention. 18 There is too many access points. be locked. There was 19 even an incident where a homeless person had entered the campus with a knife. And we asked him so what was the 20 21 response. He said never got a response.

Officer Hallmark, he was the SRO officer -remember there was three of them. He was -- Officer
Hallmark, he was asked. He said the gates should have
all been locked so there would only be one access point.
The monitoring. In addition a digital I.P.
video surveillance system consisting of 43 security
cameras have been installed in common areas such as the

1 cafeteria, hallways and at entryways to several structures on the grounds in an effort to monitor campus 2 activity. We asked Deputy Collins when you were there 3 the seven years did you know about this surveillance 4 He said yeah. I think he said they got 5 cameras. 6 installed like a year or two after he became an SRO And did you have access to them? 7 officer. No. Did you ever get to see them? Yeah, but I had to ask somebody 8 to look on the computer screen. And the only time they 9 10 were used was if there was a fight and they'd go back to 11 look and see who started it. Now -- so they didn't monitor the 43 cameras. 12

13 And the reason you're going to hear from the 14 experts and from witnesses saying because if you're 15 monitoring and you can see the gate -- first off, it's 16 supposed to be locked. But even if you see somebody trying to climb over it, six feet tall, you know, if 17 you're monitoring that, loud speaker, lock down. 18 19 Remember, it was three minutes and 12 seconds from the 20 time we see entering through the gate to the time he 21 enters the room. And it took 90 seconds -- now, you 22 wouldn't need 90 seconds for the lock down. The doors 23 have locks. So that was the fourth thing.

The fifth thing you had to look into what did the school district do with all of the information they received, the reports, new threats they received, in the ten months between the time they came up with a threat assessment plan and the shooting, those ten months. So

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1	this is what the evidence that we expect to present to
2	you.
3	First, the school district, do they have
4	policies and procedures on this. They call it process.
5	That's what they call it, policies and procedures. And
6	they have the book and it's called guidelines for
7	responding to student threats of violence. So what does
8	this say about whether you make a threat assessment
9	plan, you just walk away from it and you don't monitor
10	the student who made the threats. So here's what it
11	says. Revise the plan as needed. The team should
12	continue to monitor the situation after the student
13	returns to school and make any changes in the plan that
14	seems reasonable to maintain safety. Safety plans
15	should include a provision for a follow-up review of the
16	student's behavior and attitude toward the intended
17	victim of the threat. Well, here all the students, he
18	threatened to blow up the auditorium, so it wasn't just
19	one student. If there is an indication that the student
20	is still at risk to carry out the threat, the plan
21	should be revised accordingly. So that's what their own
22	policies and procedures say, that you have to continue
23	even after you come up with a threat assessment plan,
24	you continue to monitor it. And if you receive new
25	information, new threats, you make changes. What did
26	they have at their disposal? They're called
27	intervention tactics. One intervention tactic technique
28	was counseling. The threat assessment plan didn't

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1	include counseling. And we heard, and you will hear
2	from Mr. Shoffner, he said no counseling. That was the
3	initial plan. After those reports did they change that.
4	No. That's what the evidence is going to be.
5	We asked Ms. Angelo when you were those
6	people came in to talk to you and Bryan Oliver came in
7	to talk to you, did you consider that to be a cry for
8	help. And she said I don't care for that word.
9	Here's the other evidence you're going to
10	receive in this regard. If the school district had a
11	contract with the Kern County Mental Health Department
12	to make referrals, which they did with other students.
13	Now, Mr. Shoffner didn't do any counseling. But about
14	in June of 2012, which would have about three months
15	after the threat assessment plan they came up with, June
16	of 2012, he recommended to Bryan Oliver to read two
17	books because he knew Bryan Oliver liked to read. And
18	the books he recommended to him was Mind Hunter and
19	Anatomy of Motive. They're both about serial killers
20	and how to plan them and how to avoid detection.
21	So what other information did they receive?
22	December 14th, that's the day before the Saturday of the
23	Tweeting December 14th has two important parts to it.
24	First part is December 14th, 2012 is the date that the
25	Sandy Hook shooting took place. Okay. And the experts
26	say that was a wake-up call for all school districts to
27	take threat assessment seriously. And the other thing

that happened on December 14th, that's a Friday before

the Tweeting of December 15th, Bryan Oliver's backpack 1 and books were stolen. Bowe Cleveland had nothing to do 2 with it, somebody else. Bryan Oliver himself goes in 3 4 and talks to Ms. Angelo. And Ms. Angelo later says, describes to the detective who interviews her that Bryan 5 6 Oliver was super angry. He was pissed. He eventually got his books back the next days. What happened to the 7 students who took his backpack that got him angry? Were 8 they reprimanded, disciplined? The evidence is no. 9

10 So one day before the date of the shooting --11 the shooting is January 10th. On January 9th the day before a student by the name of Rebecca Jackson, Bryan 12 Oliver tells another student before her don't come to 13 14 school tomorrow because I have a bad feeling about 15 tomorrow. Bryan Oliver tells Rebecca Jackson on 16 January 9th the day before the shooting I'm going to 17 shoot Bowe. We asked Rebecca Jackson why didn't you say 18 something, or did you say something? She goes no. She 19 says why not. She said because I went four times before in the ten months and I told Ms. Angelo I'm scared. 20 T'm 21 concerned. I'm worried about Bryan Oliver. He might do 22 something. Different occasions I went in and talked to 23 her. What was her response? He's just blowing smoke. We've got it under control. And she dismissed me. 24 The 25 four previous times I went in and said he was going to do something. 26

In that regard here's the other interventiontactics that you're going to hear about. And that is

1	that it's the culture that you create. They being that
2	you the school district can do. And that is you can
3	either create a culture of silence if people don't speak
4	up because they're more concerned about the image of the
5	school. Or you create an environment of see something,
6	say something. And we're going to see and we're going
7	to hear evidence from the other administrators who after
8	the March field trip sent out an e-mail to the teachers
9	and staff and said we've interviewed everybody and it's
10	blown over proportion, it's no big deal. Try to not
11	talk too much about it. And you'll see the exact
12	wording. I forgot to read it. So that's another
13	intervention tactic that will be described to you to
14	foster an environment that invites people to not be
15	not feel dismissed or brushed off, that if you have a
16	concern about safety that you will be listened to. And
17	that's the evidence in that regard.
18	You've been very patient. That's the evidence
19	we expect to put on in this case. Thank you for
20	listening.
21	THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Rodriguez.
22	Mr. Herr, your defense opening statement.
23	MR. HERR: Thank you, Your Honor. Yes, I'd
24	like to. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for being
25	here and giving me this opportunity to tell you what I
26	think the evidence is going to show. As Judge Lampe has
27	already indicated what Mr. Rodriguez and I tell you we
28	think the evidence is going to show is not evidence.

1 It's important for you to keep that in mind as you 2 listen to our presentations. You only decide the case on what you hear from the witness stand. 3 The reason we do this is because we've lived with this case for seven 4 We've taken statements from people. We have a 5 years. 6 pretty good idea of what people are going to say when they testify. But as Judge Lampe said people don't 7 always say the same thing in the courtroom that they 8 said before they get to the courtroom. And you should 9 10 decide this based on what you hear in the courtroom. 11 But we do this so that you get an overall picture of 12 what is going to happen in this case. And I think it's 13 very important in this case because of the many, many 14 different perspectives and versions of events.

15 And one important thing you're going to hear 16 throughout the presentation of evidence in this case is 17 this concept of hindsight bias. Hindsight bias --18 hindsight bias is also known as Monday morning 19 quarterbacking. In other words, what we know today in 2019 or even what we knew on January the 10th, 2013 or 20 21 2014 is different than what we knew in 2012 or 2011 or 22 that sort of thing. As you listen to the evidence, I 23 would ask that you please keep in mind your oath, the oath that I went over in jury voir dire. And that is 24 25 how you're going to listen to all the evidence and keep an open mind until the case is presented to you. 26 27 We're going to present evidence that shows a

28 lot of different things. We're going -- you're going to

1 here evidence about teenagers and what it's like to run a school, what it's like to raise teenagers, the 2 difficulties of communicating with teenagers. In this 3 4 case you're going to hear the people who ran Taft High School who dealt with 900 teenagers over the course of 5 6 four years dealing with students who were going through puberty, who are going through a breakup of 7 relationships, who are trying to get into college, who 8 are trying to get out of high school, teenage 9 10 pregnancies. This is all that's going on during the 11 course of student's lives at Taft High School. You're 12 going to hear how the teenagers are influenced by a number of different factors as they're going through 13 14 high school. They're influenced by what their friends 15 They're influenced by what they're reading and say. 16 hearing on social media. You're going to hear that the way they act in high school is sometimes different than 17 18 what they -- how they act at home. And even when 19 they're in high school sometimes they act differently with different groups of friends. 20 21 So you're going to hear throughout the course

21 So you're going to hear throughout the course 22 of this case the tremendous influence that a lot of 23 external things have on teenagers and you're going to 24 hear about how schools deal with these different issues. 25 You're going to hear evidence on what schools do, what 26 the school -- what Taft High School, Taft Union High 27 School, considered its primary obligation. And that is 28 to provide a quality education in a safe environment,

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1	not the exclusion of one over the other. But keep in
2	mind that the role of schools, and you'll here ample
3	testimony of this, is to educate or try to educate,
4	because there are some students who are in high school
5	who don't want to get educated. There are some students
6	there who don't know why they want to be there. There
7	are some students who are happy to be there. And the
8	high school is dealing with all of those issues.
9	You're going to hear that the high school and
10	its staff is not there for law enforcement. The high
11	school and its staff is not there as a criminal
12	profiler. And you're going to also just as an aside
13	listen to what the state of knowledge was back in 2012
14	concerning criminal profiling and those types of issues.
15	But the high school is there not to parent,
16	not to police, not to be a peer to the other students.
17	With regard to Taft High School in particular you're
18	going to hear evidence about the history of the high
19	school. And the history of the high school in many ways
20	influenced the action of the high school during the
21	period of time that Bowe Cleveland and Bryan Oliver went
22	there. You'll hear evidence that Taft High School has
23	been around for a long time. It is literally the center
24	of the community for the City of Taft both in terms of
25	location, it's in the middle of the city, but in terms
26	of the community activities. There are a number of
27	businesses around the high school that exist in large
28	part because of the commercial activities of the

students. They go off campus to buy lunch, for example.
 They buy things when they come on to campus. You're
 going to hear how the school worked very hard to
 struggle with its mandates that are imposed on it by
 outside forces. And by that I mean the State of
 California requirements concerning providing an
 education, providing testing, that sort of thing.

You're going to hear evidence about how the 8 people at the school, including Rona Angelo, do not have 9 10 absolute discretion in what it's going to do with 11 For example, you're going to hear evidence students. 12 that the school can't just wake up one day and decide to expel a student. And that even if a student is 13 14 expelled, he or she is only expelled for one year. It's 15 not a lifetime expulsion. These are rules that are 16 imposed upon Taft High School.

17 You're also going to hear that the rules for 18 expelling special needs students or students who are in 19 an IEP -- IEP is an individual education program. The normal rules for expelling a student don't apply to 20 21 students who have an IEP. As Mr. Rodriguez pointed out 22 Bryan Oliver had an IEP. So I point this out just so 23 you know some of the limitations, some of the 24 restraints, with which people like Rona Angelo and Mark 25 Shoffner had to deal every day in their existence at the school. 26

We're also going to present evidence about
what it's like to run a high school, particularly what

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1	it was like to run Taft Union High School District. The
2	school worked very closely with the City of Taft. They
3	interact on what was best for the school, for the campus
4	and for the community. You're going to hear evidence
5	how the Taft Union High School District cared very much
6	about student safety, school safety, so much so that in
7	2012 the city entered into a contract or, excuse me,
8	the school entered a contract with the City of Taft to
9	provide extra police services. In other words, over and
10	above the normal police services that would be provided
11	the school district entered into a contract where they
12	paid the City of Taft about \$100,000 a year to have a
13	uniformed, armed police officer on campus. And
14	Mr. Rodriguez referred generally to that term as an SRO.
15	That's simply stands for a school resource officer.
16	Now, you'll hear before the contract was
17	entered into Deputy Greg Collins provided those services
18	through the Kern County Sheriff's Offices. He was a
19	deputy sheriff. After the contract was entered into
20	those services were provided primarily by Officer Doug
21	Hallmark. Doug Hallmark is a police officer. You're
22	also going to hear how the school relied upon Chief Ed
23	Whiting for his services as the chief of police. Chief
24	Whiting surveyed the campus. Chief Whiting spoke to
25	Rona and Mark Shoffner, and at the time the principal
26	superintendent was Mark Richardson.
27	So the school administrators went to law
28	enforcement and asked them what are we doing here,

should we be doing something else. The chief of police
 thought the campus was safe, and it was safe as an open
 campus according to Chief Whiting. School
 administrators relied upon what Chief Whiting told them
 concerning their campus.

6 And it's going to be important to note the reason why the campus was open is because this issue was 7 very heavily discussed and debated with the school board 8 and the city counsel about the pros and cons of having 9 10 the campus open or closed. And it's important to keep 11 in mind that in 2012 when these decisions were being made there was no history of violence. 12 There was no 13 history of gangsters coming on campus. Mr. Rodriguez is 14 right, at some point in the distant past some homeless 15 person came on to campus and they had a butter knife or 16 some sort of utensil in that regard. But that's the 17 extent of it. So it's within that context that people 18 in 2012 relying on communications with the law 19 enforcement that they made the decisions they made.

20 I also just want to pause and give you an 21 example of how the school dealt with discipline. And it 22 will come up in a lot of different comments that I have 23 Mr. Rodriguez is correct that there was an later on. 24 occasion in November of 2012 when Bryan Oliver got 25 frustrated in geometry class and walked out and walked into Rona Angelo's office. And Rona spoke to him. 26 She 27 commented on the fact that Bryan, you know, I'm proud 28 that you felt frustrated and you came and talked to me

1 that this class, you don't like being in it. I am happy to move you to another class if you would like. 2 I'm 3 happy to do something that, you know, doesn't happen all the time, but I'm very aware of your situation since, 4 you know, we've been working together over the last 5 6 couple of years. Would you like to go to do a different class? But keep in mind if you do to a different class 7 at this point in the semester, you're going to get a 8 different teacher and it might be more difficult for you 9 10 to accomplish what you want to accomplish in the month 11 or so until the end of the semester. After talking to Rona Angelo, Bryan Oliver said no, I want to stay in the 12 13 geometry class that I'm staying in.

And I give you that example because it tells you a couple of things. One, how Rona Angelo interacted with Bryan Oliver in particular. But also it reflects the way all the staff at Taft High School dealt with students.

19 For example, you're going to hear about Kim Kim Fields is the gentleman, the school campus 20 Fields. 21 supervisor, who on January the 10th, 2013 heard the phone call -- took the phone call about a shooting. 22 As 23 Mr. Rodriguez said within 90 seconds, within 90 seconds Kim Fields was at the classroom. Kim Fields opened the 24 25 door, looked at Bryan and basically talked Bryan down. Because of Kim Fields' actions he was able to get Bryan 26 27 to lay on the ground. He disarmed him. Law enforcement 28 was immediately able to gain access to the facility.

1 They were able to care for Bowe who lived. They were able to take Bryan into custody without further ado 2 without anyone else being hurt. This is all because of 3 You're going to hear testimony that Kim Kim Fields. 4 Fields literally knew every one of the 900 students that 5 attended Taft High School. Kim Fields knew these 6 students by name. Kim Fields was the type of person who 7 every day when a student would come onto campus would 8 greet them by name. He would know about who's having 9 10 this problem or that problem. Kim cared very deeply 11 about every one of those students.

12 And this also gives you insight into the 13 resources that Rona Angelo and Mark Shoffner relied upon 14 to do their job. And by that I mean if Rona had a 15 question about a student, she would ask Kim about it. 16 If Mark Shoffner, the school psychologist, had a question about a student, he may ask Rona Angelo or he 17 18 may ask Kim Fields. There was this exchange of 19 information that these people frequently relied upon in 20 providing services to the students.

21 Let me just pause and talk about Mark Shoffner 22 for a moment. Mark Shoffner was the school 23 psychologist. Mark Shoffner was in many ways pretty 24 innovative in 2012. In 2012 Mark Shoffner as the school 25 psychologist had developed a threat assessment plan. Mark Shoffner came up with that threat assessment plan 26 27 after he attended three seminars put on people who he 28 considered to be very knowledgeable about how to do

1 threat assessments.

So here you've got Taft High School that, one, had a school psychologist, and you're going to hear most high schools that size don't have a school psychologist. Two, this school psychologist went out on his own and developed a threat assessment plan for the high school that he put in place to deal with situations where there were problems with the students.

And let me just talk about Taft's focus on 9 10 safety. They had entered into the contract with the 11 City of Taft as I told you about. The school had 12 trainings. In fact, as Mr. Rodriguez noted, on the day 13 of the shooting they had planned a drill for a school 14 shooter. So they had a drill planned that very day to 15 deal with those sorts of issues. The policies and 16 procedures that the school followed to maintain the 17 campus safe were well recognized. They relied heavily 18 on the police department.

19 And that includes the question of what to do 20 with these cameras that they had around campus. And it 21 was determined in conjunction with law enforcement that 22 the best use of those cameras was to use them after 23 something happened. Because it's a better use of the 24 school resource officer's time to have him or her seen 25 on campus as the students come and go. It's better for them to see the police officer and have the police 26 In fact, after the contract was 27 officer see them. 28 entered with the City of Taft the school put a marked

parking spot right in front of the school for Deputy
 Doug Hallmark to park. And just as an aside, Bryan
 Oliver on the day of the shooting walked right by that
 location before he came to the school. So had the
 police car been there, Bryan Oliver would have seen it.
 And I'll get to that in a minute.

You're going to find that the Taft Union High 7 School was very proactive and worked very hard, but 8 there were so many different moving parts. They did not 9 10 know what happened at student's homes unless the parents 11 They didn't know about what student broke up told them. with another student and whether that would cause them 12 You've got to realize in the high school 13 problems. 14 environment there was so much going on. But the high 15 school personnel did everything that they could to deal 16 with the issues they had to deal with.

17 You're also going to hear evidence about the 18 Oliver family. And I think that's an important piece of 19 information because you're going to hear about Bryan 20 Oliver's time in Tennessee. Sheryl Oliver was married 21 to a man who did abuse her, spent time in prison. Bryan 22 Oliver while he was in school, in middle school in 23 Tennessee, did have problems. In fact, he said he was 24 bullied so that when they came to Taft and Bryan spent a short period of time in middle school before he went to 25 high school. But because of the problems he had he was 26 27 in an IEP. So before Bryan Oliver even came to Taft 28 High School, Mark Shoffner, the school psychologist, sat

down with Sheryl Oliver and Bryan Oliver and talked
 about what they could do to help Bryan out. The school
 and the school psychologist from the very first day
 worked on helping Bryan out.

5 Mark spent a lot of time with them. He 6 appreciated that they had had problems and the move and 7 the fact that Sheryl was raising three boys. He 8 understood that Sheryl did work a lot and raising three 9 boys was an issue.

10 But what's important is Mark noted where Bryan 11 was when he started at Taft High School. And that was 12 During that period of time Bryan improved in 2011. 13 dramatically. Bryan was not a problem in the classroom. 14 No teachers reported any problems with Bryan in the 15 Bryan's grades improved. Bryan's grades classroom. 16 improved so much that he was no longer in an IEP. 17 Bryan's academic improvement was so good, he was 18 rewarded for his reading accomplishments with a trip to 19 Southern California. Bryan even told Rona and Mark and 20 others how he was doing well and helping out his mom and 21 others. So throughout this case you're going to hear 22 evidence about Bryan's improvements while he was at Taft 23 Union High School District all the accomplishments he 24 was making and how Taft employees monitored Bryan's 25 improvement.

You're going to hear testimony from one of
Bryan's good friends, Rebecca Jackson. Rebecca Jackson
was a friend of Bryan's. Bryan was in a particular

group of students which was a little guirky. 1 They sort of liked to write scary stories. They liked to dress in 2 dark clothes. Rebecca Jackson, for example, in their 3 group she would say I could hear voices and I could see 4 angels and that sort of thing, which was just sort of 5 6 the way these kids interacted with one another. Rebecca Jackson is someone who they interviewed after the school 7 shooting. And what she said after the school shooting 8 is important because when she was deposed years later 9 10 it's differed significantly.

But the important point to note is Bryan was 11 12 doing well with people. Rona Angelo would see him every 13 day when he would leave campus. In fact, Rona will 14 testify that she saw Bryan interacting with Rebecca. 15 Frequently at the end of the day Bryan would be waiting 16 there until Rebecca's mom picked her up. Rona will testify that this was a very positive sign to me, that 17 18 Bryan is interacting with a young lady and they seem to 19 be getting along and that they're doing a good job.

20 Rona will testify that she discussed with this 21 Mark. And this was consistent with the information that 22 they were getting from Bryan in terms of his classroom 23 performance and his interaction with other students.

Now, I do want to pause and talk a little bit about the day of the shooting. As Mr. Rodriguez pointed out it happened on January the 10th, 2013. And it was the first week of school after the winter break. And on that day the evidence is going to show that a couple of

1 weeks earlier Bryan Oliver's brother, Tyler, brought a shotgun into the home. Prior to December of 2012 there 2 3 were no weapons in their home. There was not a shotgun. There was not a handgun. There were no weapons in the 4 So in December Tyler Oliver brought a shotgun 5 home. 6 into the home. Tyler taught Bryan how to use the shotgun. They went out and shot clay pigeons. Tyler 7 Oliver stockpiled a number of boxes of shotgun shells in 8 They kept the shotgun in the bedroom 9 the garage. unsecured. 10 Bryan's mother knew the shotgun was in the 11 bedroom unsecured because Tyler had told her I have the 12 shotgun in the bedroom on the shelf so that if you ever 13 need it.

14 On the day of the shooting Sheryl Oliver took 15 her young son, Jared, to school. She left early. She 16 talked to Bryan. Bryan said, you know, I'm okay, mom, I'm going to stay home and watch a movie and then I'm 17 18 going to go to school. Bryan watched a movie. And it's 19 kind of an interesting movie. It's called Boondock Saints II. And I'm told Boondock Saints II is sort of a 20 gory, shoot-em-up type of movie. And you're going to 21 22 hear that Bryan liked those types of stories, movies, 23 that sort of thing.

He watched the movie. And in the criminal trial Bryan testified after I watched the movie I blacked out. And the next thing I knew I was in the classroom and I shot Bowe Cleveland. I took Bryan's deposition and I asked him questions. In his deposition 1 he clearly testified as to how he went into the garage. 2 He put shells in his pockets. He took the shotgun. He walked up his street which is about two blocks. 3 He made a right turn on what's known as Wildcat Way. Wildcat 4 Way is the street that goes right in front of Taft Union 5 6 High School District. He walked past where Officer Doug Hallmark's car should have been parked. He walked up. 7 8 He walked into a gate.

And you will see video where he's got -- you 9 10 can't really see if he has a shotgun because he has it 11 He walks up to the second floor, tries to by his side. 12 open the one door of the classroom. It's locked. He 13 walked into the front door and this just is reflecting 14 his thought process. He sees Bowe, but there is a girl 15 sitting next to Bowe. So he has to aim around the girl 16 Bryan then says he took a shot at Jacob to shoot Bowe. 17 Nichols but missed. And then Bryan says Kim Fields came 18 into the room and basically talked him out of it.

19 This is going to be important for you to keep in mind in terms of the school's response to the school 20 The response was immediate, and it was also 21 shooting. 22 very effective. It's also important to note that when 23 Bryan Oliver went into the classroom he didn't go there 24 to shoot a lot of people. It's what they will call a 25 targeted shooting. He intended to shoot Bowe Cleveland. He intended to shoot Jacob Nichols, and he was not able 26 27 to shoot Jacob.

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You're going to hear a lot of testimony about

1 school shooters. And you're going to hear testimony as to why there is no profile for a school shooter. 2 In other words, there aren't these lists of qualifications 3 or characteristics so that you know who a school shooter 4 You're going to hear testimony that after Sandy 5 is. 6 Hook took place there have been hundreds and hundreds of school shootings in our country. You're going to hear 7 that after Sandy Hook more students were killed in 8 school shootings than all of the soldiers who have died 9 in armed conflict after 911. 10

11 And so tell you this because this notion that 12 it's easy to look at a person and see what they're doing 13 and predict what they will do is not something that 14 we've been able to do or any of the experts are going to 15 say they will be able to do.

16 You're going to hear about Bryan Oliver. And you're going to hear a lot of different things about 17 18 And what is important to keep in mind is the many him. 19 different views of Bryan Oliver. And you're going to see that that's not uncommon for a teenager, a teenager 20 21 in high school. You're going to see Taft's view of 22 Bryan Oliver, that he was performing well in school. He 23 had some incidents, for example, the pencil incident. 24 And Mr. Rodriquez is correct, a girl after the bus incident said Bryan Oliver walked by me and made a 25 stabbing motion with a pencil. Bryan went to the 26 27 office. He had to explain it. She filled out an 28 incident report. The school investigated it. Mark
Shoffner, the school psychologist spoke to Bryan.
 Bryan's explanation was I was just twirling a pencil.
 So Mark Shoffner said okay, Bryan, you need to realize
 that you have to be careful and be sensitive to what
 you're saying and doing. Because this pencil incident
 occurred after the bus incident.

And let me just pause and talk to you a little 7 bit about that bus incident and how the school dealt 8 Because it reflects how proactive Taft High 9 with it. 10 School is. There was a trip that down to Universal 11 Studios. And Bryan received that as part of a reward 12 for his performance in reading. As the students were 13 driving back students are trying to come up with 14 something to do for two or three hours on the bus ride. 15 And the discussion started with have you ever had any 16 scary dreams. What are your scary dreams? In that conversation Bryan said when I was in middle school in 17 18 Tennessee I had a scary dream about a student shooting 19 up a high school.

The conversation apparently continued on and 20 somebody said well, would you shoot me, would you shoot 21 22 somebody else. And he would say yes or no or that sort 23 of thing. As part of the conversation two of the adults 24 on the bus heard about it. They reported it Monday when 25 they got back to school. There was an immediate threat Mark Shoffner, Rona Angelo who are 26 assessment. 27 primarily responsible for this, conducted a threat 28 assessment. It included an interview of Bryan Oliver.

1 It included Rona Angelo calling in every one who was on 2 that bus and getting statements from them. And the 3 evidence is going to show no two people heard or reacted 4 the same way. You're going to have some people on the 5 bus who said gosh, I thought that was scary. Other 6 people on the bus would say no, it was kids talking 7 about scary dreams trying to one up each other.

So Rona Angelo had all of these incident 8 9 reports to consider. She discussed them with Mark 10 Shoffner, Mark Shoffner, the school psychologist. Mark 11 spoke to Bryan. And as a result of all of that they've 12 concluded that Bryan was just trying to tell these 13 outrageous stories and he had caused people to be upset 14 about it, that he was not specifically saying he's going 15 to shoot someone in particular. This was a general 16 discussion about a dream that Bryan had when he was in middle school. 17

After they had that discussion Mark 18 19 Richardson, who is the principal superintendent, not Mark Shoffner, received a phone call from another 20 21 school. And they said we're hearing all those stories 22 on the Internet about a hit list, there is a hit list. 23 So Mark Richardson contacted Greg Collins and said go 24 search Bryan Oliver's home to see if there is a hit 25 So Greg Collins went to Bryan Oliver's home with list. Sheryl Oliver, with Bryan's mom. And they searched the 26 house for a hit list. Greg Collins who is a trained 27 28 professional law enforcement officer, deputy sheriff

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1	with years of experience, also looked for weapons. He
2	came back and he concluded there was no hit list.
3	Now, after the school shooting there was all
4	this discussion well, there was a hit list. I was on
5	the hit list. I heard she was on the hit list, all that
6	discussions. After that we had the FBI, Kern County
7	Sheriff's Office all looked for everything to see if
8	there was a hit list. I asked Bryan Oliver if there was
9	a hit list. Bryan Oliver said there was no hit list.
10	There is not a hit list. So you're going to hear some
11	people say I thought I was on the hit list. Some people
12	say I thought she was the on hit list. You're going to
13	have people say well, Bryan told me there was a hit
14	list. But you're not to get one consistent answer as to
15	whether there was a hit list or what effect it had.
16	It's interesting because after the school
17	shooting and, again, keep in mind hindsight bias.
18	After the school shooting people's recollection and
19	perceptions are obviously affected by what occurred
20	during the school shooting. Now, you're also going to
21	hear Sheryl Oliver's view of Bryan, and that's important
22	to keep in mind. Because Sheryl Oliver has testified
23	that Bryan was a sensitive, caring student. He had some
24	issues with his brother, Jared. In fact, you're going
25	to hear that one thing that came up on the bus trip is
26	someone said before they got on the bus and had the
27	discussion that Bryan said he was going to kill his
28	brother, Jared. Well, Jared has testified that Bryan

1 was never a threat to him. But Sheryl was aware of 2 Sheryl was aware of what Bryan read and what he that. Sheryl was aware there was a shotgun in the house. 3 did. But Sheryl did not ever think that Bryan was a danger to 4 himself or others. You're going to hear from Tyler 5 6 Oliver. Tyler is Bryan's older brother. Tyler brought the shotgun into the home. Tyler will say sure, Bryan 7 was weird, he was a quirky. But I never would have 8 thought he was a danger to himself or others. 9 I would 10 not have left the shotgun in the room if I thought Bryan 11 was a danger to himself or others. 12 You're also going to hear from Bryan's 13 friends. And, again, I mentioned Rebecca Jackson. And 14 let me just point out one thing that Rebecca supposedly 15 heard the day before the shooting. And Mr. Rodriguez is 16 correct that she has testified that she thought Bryan 17 Oliver said he was going to shoot Bowe Cleveland and she was concerned. And she told her mother. But neither 18 19 her mother nor Rebecca told law enforcement. Because 20 they -- for whatever reason they didn't tell law 21 enforcement and they didn't report it to the school. 22 Bryan had friends. And there was a close knit group of 23 friends, and they never thought that Bryan was a danger 24 to himself or others.

Now, let me just pause, and I wanted to
comment on a couple of comments that plaintiff's counsel
raised. Because he did talk about this March 11th -March 2011 gym incident. And this is a good example of

1 what the school district was dealing with. You had an 2 incident in the gym. Some of the students reported that Bryan punched another student and then they got in a 3 Bryan was on top of the other student beating 4 fight. him up. And Jake Morton supposedly came over and pulled 5 6 Bryan off the student who was getting beaten up. You're not supposed to fight in high school. You're not 7 8 supposed to fight in gym class. All these students got sent to the office. They were told to fill out an 9 10 incident report because they got in a fight. They all 11 wrote down what the incident was. You know, Bryan hit 12 this person, Jake did this and that. In Bryan's 13 incident report he used the word T-bagging. It has been 14 referred to you here today as a sexual assault. Bryan 15 Oliver did not refer to it as a sexual assault. The 16 boys in the gym did not refer to it as a sexual assault. 17 No one, no one, has ever said anyone put their genitalia 18 on Bryan Oliver. T-bagging according to those boys at 19 that time referred to a gesture in video games when a 20 character who vanquishes another character will gyrate 21 over the vanguished foe.

22 So you have Rona Angelo who is listening to 23 all these students give their explanations as to what 24 No one said it was a sexual assault. happened. And 25 because the boys got in a fight they got disciplined. And it's only after the fact in light of hindsight bias 26 27 that you hear these discussions about some sort of 28 sexual assault.

1 Let me also pause about this comment in the 2 library that counsel made. When Bryan was in the library in November of 2012 he could not get on to a 3 website he wanted to and this library technician 4 supposedly overheard him say, you know, if I don't get 5 6 out of geometry class there are going to be consequences. And she will say he made a scary face. 7 Rona Angelo received an incident report from this 8 She investigated it. She spoke to Mark 9 person. 10 Shoffner. They concluded that Bryan said this. And 11 that's why when Bryan walked out of the geometry class a 12 day or two later Rona was there to help Bryan Oliver and 13 ask him what it is that we can do to help you. Do you 14 want to get out of this class?

15 Finally, ladies and gentlemen, I think the 16 evidence is going to show that there are some critical, 17 important uncontested facts that I think at the end of 18 the case will be important in your deliberations. The 19 first of which is that Bryan Oliver targeted Bowe Cleveland and Jacob Nichols. He did not go into the 20 21 classroom to kill a bunch of persons. So these stories 22 and these worries about Bryan engaging in this mass 23 shooting was not what occurred. The threat assessment occurred in March of 2012. And since March of 2012 24 25 there were incidents with Bryan that resulted in action with the school. But overall he was doing very well. 26 27 That's what the school thinks, that's what Sheryl Oliver thinks, that's what Bryan Oliver's friends thinks. 28

1 The shooting did occur at Taft Union High 2 School District. But the school worked very hard to 3 provide a safe environment to educate students. The 4 school did not act as law enforcement officers, did not 5 act as parents, and certainly did not act as pals for 6 the students.

7 Bryan used his brother, Tyler's, shotgun and 8 shells which were not securely stored in their room. 9 And both Tyler and his mom will say they would not have 10 allowed that to occur if they thought Bryan Oliver was a 11 danger to himself or others.

12 Bryan Oliver in the criminal case pled no 13 contest to attempted murder and is now prison. The City 14 of Taft police officer, SRO Hallmark, did not report for 15 duty on the day of the shooting. And I just want to 16 pause and comment on that. Officer Hallmark who 17 according to the contract that the city had entered into 18 with the school district was supposed to be on campus at 19 the time Bryan walked onto campus. Officer Hallmark was supposed to have his car parked there. He didn't show 20 21 up for work that day.

22 So at the end of the case your going to see --23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Excuse me, let me just mark an 24 objection on that. If the Court pleases, later we can 25 have a discussion on that. But I don't want to waive my 26 right to object to the last few comments.

27THE COURT: I'll note that. I'm not going to28rule on it now based on the context of the remark.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you. Officer Hallmark's absence is 2 MR. HERR: significant with regard to the school because no one 3 told him he was not coming in. Officer Hallmark 4 reported that he was not coming in to the people at the 5 6 police department. However, the people at the police department did not tell anyone at the school district. 7 Chief Whiting will testify that he was in charge of the 8 9 use of the officer and a decision was made that they 10 weren't going to tell the school officials. So they did 11 not know that Officer Hallmark was not there on the day 12 of the shooting. 13 You're going to see that the evidence shows 14 that a lot of people had different bits and pieces of 15 information about Bryan Oliver in 2012 and 2013, seven 16 and a half or six and a half years ago, and that they 17 all were doing the best that they can. You'll find that at the conclusion of this 18 19 case that there are probably two questions that remain The first of which is why did Bryan Oliver unanswered.

20 21 shoot Bowe Cleveland. I asked him that question. He 22 doesn't know. You're also to going to find that what 23 caused him to shoot Bowe Cleveland is unknown. And I 24 will suggest to you that when you listen to all of the 25 evidence you're going to conclude that based on this information, based on the lack of a decision as to why 26 Bryan Oliver shot Bowe Cleveland or what caused him to 27 28 do so, that in hindsight you can sure say the school

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1	should have done things differently, could have done
2	things differently, perhaps Sheryl Oliver could have
3	done things differently, perhaps any number of different
4	people could have done things differently. But at the
5	end of the day no one knows why Bryan Oliver shot Bowe
6	Cleveland. And Bryan Oliver is the only one who could
7	tell us, and he can't tell us.
8	Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, those are my
9	thoughts on opening statement.
10	THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Herr. All right,
11	ladies and gentlemen, that concludes the opening
12	statements. Given the time we'll take our noon recess.
13	We'll be in recess until 1:30. You're excused until
14	then. Don't discuss the case or form or express any
15	opinions. You're ordered back at 1:30. We're in
16	recess.
17	(Whereupon the noon recess was taken.)
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BAKERSFIELD, CA; THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019 1 AFTERNOON SESSION 2 3 DEPARTMENT 11 HON. DAVID LAMPE, JUDGE 4 --000--THE COURT: We're in session. We're on the 5 6 record in Cleveland versus Taft Union High School District. Appearances are as previously noted. I don't 7 see oh -- yes, there she is. Appearances are as 8 9 previously noted. 10 Mr. Rodriguez, you made an objection during 11 the opening statement. Did you want to say anything further about that? 12 I believe there was a 13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. motion in limine and the issue was whether or not 14 15 evidence or argument or comments about whether or not 16 the SRO officer, specifically Officer Doug Hallmark, was 17 at the school on the date of the shooting. And since 18 the immunity applies and the City of Taft is not going 19 to be on the special verdict we presented to the Court saying that it was irrelevant and shouldn't have any 20 21 place. And the Court said well, the defense is entitled 22 to say that these are the provisions they made for it, 23 and that's it. And in the opening statement it went way 24 beyond that. 25 THE COURT: I would overrule the objection. Τ tried to distinguish -- the Taft Police Department is 26

Taft Union High School District is not liable as an 1 entity, only individuals can be liable for negligence 2 under -- as public employees. So what the individuals 3 knew or didn't know -- in other words, if there was a 4 provision for the police officer to be present and he 5 6 wasn't and that wasn't communicated, that's part of the state of knowledge of the school administrators who are 7 subject to potential liability here, among a whole of 8 other factors of what were they aware of, what did they 9 10 know and how did they behave.

11 Now, that's different. There's an entity 12 liability for a dangerous condition of public property such as a unlocked school gate if that's a theory of 13 14 liability. But what I did say is I specifically said 15 where the chief of police was that morning was excluded. 16 And they won't be -- and the police department won't be 17 on the verdict form, and no argument will be made that 18 they bear liability.

19 That said, the whole universe of facts as to 20 what people were aware of and the relationship of what 21 provision that was made with the Taft Police Department 22 to have someone there that they weren't there, that does 23 -- that can come into the evidence for the reasons I 24 just stated. Okay. Let's have the jury in.

25 Court is in session. I took roll. The jury
26 is now in the courtroom properly seated in the jury box.
27 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time we're going
28 to hand out notebooks. I'll give the bailiff an

1 opportunity to do that. 2 MR. HERR: Your Honor, while he's doing that, 3 may we have a quick sidebar? 4 THE COURT: Well, I need to instruct the jury. MR. HERR: I'll wait. 5 THE COURT: We can take a sidebar while Ron is 6 7 getting that ready, and then I'll instruct the jury once 8 they've received it. 9 (A sidebar was held and not reported herein.) 10 THE COURT: You've all been given notebooks 11 they're actually notepads on a clipboard. The clipboard has a number on it on the back. Double check that, make 12 13 sure it corresponds to your seat in the jury box because that is how we keep track of them. Do not take your 14 15 notes, that is the notepads, out of the courtroom. When 16 we have recesses or at the end of the day just leave 17 them on your seat and they'll be picked up and then 18 They'll be waiting for you when you returned to you. 19 return to the courtroom. You will be allowed to take 20 your notes into the jury room with you when you 21 deliberate. But once you take them into the jury room, 22 I ask that you keep them in the jury room. They will 23 remain in the jury room and not be taken out of the jury 24 room. 25 There are a couple of things that I want to bring to your attention about note taking. First of 26 27 all, you should use your notes only to remind yourself of what happened during the trial. You should not let 28

your note taking interfere with your ability or distract 1 you from listening carefully to the witnesses while they 2 testify and to watch the witnesses while they testify. 3 4 And please remember that your notes -- well, and you should also your impression of a witness or any evidence 5 6 to be influenced by whether other jurors are taking notes or not. It is your independent recollection of 7 the evidence that should govern your verdict. 8 And you should not allow yourself to be influenced by the notes 9 10 of other jurors if those notes differ from what you 11 remember.

12 As I said, the court reporter is taking down 13 what is said in court. And if during deliberations you 14 have a question about what a witness said, you should 15 ask that the court reporter's record be read to you. And then everyone must accept the court reporter's 16 record as accurate even if it differs from someone's 17 And at the end of the trial your notes will be 18 notes. 19 collected and destroyed. They're not read by anyone 20 else. Thank you.

All right. Mr. Rodriguez, you may call your
first witness or proffer your first evidence.

23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you. 24 With the Court's permission we'd like to call former 25 Deputy Greg Collins.

THE COURT: Sir, would you please come into the courtroom, walk through that wooden gate in front of you and then to your left all the way around the

1 podiums, walk up here toward the witness stand where 2 you'll be seated. But stop for a minute and take your oath from the clerk of the Court. 3 THE CLERK: 4 Raise your right hand, please. You do solemnly swear that the testimony you 5 6 shall give in this matter now pending before this court shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the 7 truth, so help you God? 8 9 THE WITNESS: I do. 10 THE COURT: Be seated, please. All right. 11 Sit forward and give your testimony toward that 12 microphone. You don't need to be too close to it, there 13 is a happy medium. If you're too close, it will make 14 noises. If you're too far away, we might not be able to 15 hear you. So we may have to adjust that as you give 16 your testimony. 17 And would you state your first and last name. THE WITNESS: First name Gregory, last name 18 19 Collins. 20 THE COURT: C-o-l-l-i-n-s? 21 THE WITNESS: I-n-s. 22 THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead, 23 Mr. Rodriguez. 24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Your Honor. 25 GREGORY COLLINS (for the Plaintiff) 26 called as a witness, being first duly sworn, 27 testified as follows: 28

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1	DIRECT EXAMINATION
2	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
3	Q. Good afternoon, sir.
4	A. Good afternoon.
5	Q. May we start with a few background questions
6	so that our jurors have an idea of who you are, sir?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. Where do you live? We don't need an address,
9	just where do you live?
10	A. I live in Bakersfield, California.
11	Q. And how long have you lived here in Kern
12	County?
13	A. The majority of my life. I spent a few years
14	in Santa Barbara and maybe one or two years in Oakland,
15	but primarily Bakersfield.
16	Q. May I ask your age, sir?
17	A. My age is 67. 66. I'll be 67 next month.
18	Q. And what do you do for a living?
19	A. I'm retired.
20	Q. And you're retired from what kind of work,
21	sir?
22	A. I'm retired from the Kern County Sheriff's
23	Department.
24	Q. Let's talk a little bit about that. From when
25	to when did you work for the Kern County Sheriff's
26	Department, sir?
27	A. I was sworn in August 17, 1986 until I retired
28	March 12th March 29th, 2012.

1	Q. Okay. And that's approximately how many years
2	you worked with the sheriff's department?
3	A. 26 years.
4	Q. Congratulations.
5	A. Thank you.
6	Q. And during the time that you were with the
7	sheriff's department was there ever a time that you
8	worked as a school resource officer, sir?
9	A. Yes, I did.
10	Q. And could you tell us what an SRO or a school
11	resource officer is?
12	A. Basically a school resource officer is
13	assigned to a school district or a school location as
14	their resource officer regarding any law enforcement,
15	truancy, that sort of thing, matters.
16	Q. And as an SRO officer on a school campus does
17	that officer wear plain clothes or wear a uniform?
18	A. We wear a uniform for the most part.
19	Q. And does the officer have a gun, a firearm?
20	A. Yes, we're fully authorized to carry weapons.
21	Q. And in your career you served as an SRO
22	officer, sir?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. And where in your 26-year career did you serve
25	as an SRO officer?
26	A. The last I believe nine years I served in
27	Taft. And of those I believe the last four years I was
28	the Taft High School school resource officer.

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1	Q. Okay. And there at the at Taft Union High
2	School?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. As an SRO officer, did you ever come to hear
5	of a student by the name of Bryan Oliver, sir?
6	A. I did.
7	Q. Okay. And how was it that you came to hear
8	about Bryan Oliver?
9	A. I was asked to visit Bryan's home and look for
10	a hit list.
11	Q. Okay. And who asked you to do that, sir?
12	A. I was asked by the school psychologist, Mark
13	Shoffner.
14	Q. And when you did you go out there, sir?
15	A. Yes, I did.
16	Q. And before you went out there did you make any
17	kind of arrangements for this search?
18	A. I spoke with Bryan's mother and she met me
19	there at the residence and escorted me in.
20	Q. And when you were there, sir, at the house,
21	was Bryan Oliver there?
22	A. No.
23	Q. And did you search the house for a hit list?
24	A. I searched his room.
25	Q. Okay. And was Ms. Oliver present?
26	A. Yes.
27	Q. While you were out there at the house
28	searching for the hit list did it dawn on you to search

1 for anything else on your own? 2 Because I was there and I saw some paint gun Α. balls I looked around for weapons. 3 4 0. Okay. Now, the assignment that you were given to search the house, did that include also a weapons 5 6 search or just limited to the hit list? 7 I was asked to look for a hit list. Α. Now, did you find a hit list? 8 0. Okav. No, I didn't find any hit list of any kind. 9 Α. 10 Okay. And even though you took it upon Q. yourself while you were out there, did you find any kind 11 12 of weapons? 13 Α. Yes. No, I didn't. I'm sorry. I'm sorry, 14 I'm nervous. 15 0. And that's okay. You mentioned something about paintball, but that's --16 Α. Paintball. I didn't find a paintball gun. 17 Ι 18 found paintballs. 19 Thank you, sir. 0. 20 Α. Okay. 21 0. Now, before you went out there to the house, 22 had you ever been given any information about Bryan 23 Oliver? 24 Α. No. 25 Up until the time you went out to the house to ο. search for this hit list, had you ever spoken or had any 26 27 personal contact with Bryan Oliver? 28 I don't believe I had any personal contact Α.

 Q. Now, my next question is going to be a little different. After you went to the house, did you have any personal contact or spoke to or speak to Bryan Oliver, sir? A. I never spoke to Bryan Oliver after I visited the home, I'm sure of that. Q. So you've never had any kind of personal contact with Bryan Oliver up until today's date? A. To my recollection, I didn't have any contact with Bryan Oliver after I visited the home. And before there may have been some conversations that I was prive to, but I did not have any personal contact with Bryan Q. Now, before you went out there to the house, did you participate in any kind of risk evaluation of Bryan Oliver? A. No. Q. Okay. Now, setting aside Bryan Oliver, were there ever any times that you sat down or sat through interview conducted by a school administrator of students or witnesses or anything like that? A. I would participate in threat assessments on 	
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	hool administrator of
23 A. I would participate in threat assessments on	ything like that?
	e in threat assessments on
24 occasion, yes.	
25 Q. Okay. And do you have an approximate number	have an approximate number
26 of how many threat assessments you participated in?	ents you participated in?
27 A. As I can recall now, it would have been three	w, it would have been three,
28 maybe four, but three I can recall.	recall.

1 Okay. And did you participate in any threat 0. assessment that had to do with Bryan Oliver, sir? 2 3 No. Α. 4 0. Let me change the topic a little bit here. Let me ask you some questions about cameras. 5 6 Α. Okay. Did Taft High School while you were out there 7 0. working as an SRO officer, did it have surveillance 8 9 cameras? 10 Α. Yes, they did. We did. 11 About 43 of them? ο. 12 Α. I don't know the number. There were several. Does it sound about right? 13 Q. 14 That sounds about right. Α. 15 0. And those cameras, were you granted direct access to monitoring those cameras? 16 I didn't have access. I didn't have the code 17 Α. 18 access to access those cameras. But if I needed to see the cameras, all I had it do was ask someone. 19 20 Q. So you had indirect access? 21 Α. Indirect. 22 And if you know, while you were there working Q. 23 as an SR officer, was anyone assigned to monitor the 24 surveillance cameras? 25 To my knowledge, there wasn't anyone Α. monitoring them. 26 27 Did you ever suggest to any administrator that 0. you might be available to monitor the surveillance 28

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1 camera system? 2 I don't believe I suggested. I offered my Α. services. 3 4 0. Okay. Did anybody get back to you on your offer? 5 6 Α. I never heard from anyone on it. 7 Let me change the topic now, please. Gates, 0. fences at the campus. Taft High School, when you were 8 there, sir, did it have a perimeter fence around the 9 10 campus? 11 A perimeter fence, yes. Α. 12 Okay. And did the -- this fence had gates? 0. 13 Α. Yes. 14 At certain points? Q. 15 Α. Yes. Now, did you ever -- let me ask you this. Let 16 Q. me back up a little bit, sir, and ask you a few 17 18 questions about your educational background. Would that 19 be okav? 20 Α. Yes. 21 Ο. Can you just tell us a little bit, share with 22 us, your educational background? 23 In the sense of my training? Α. 24 I'll be more specific. High school, college, 0. 25 that kind of thing, major. I attended elementary middle school and high 26 Α. school here in Bakersfield. 27 I attended a few years in 28 Santa Barbara. I did not graduate from UC Santa

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1	Barbara. I was there for five years, and then I went
2	to school three years. And then from there I came
3	well, no, from there I went to Oakland, California,
4	spent a couple of years, came home, became a carpenter,
5	worked for six years as a carpenter, and then became a
6	deputy and worked for 26 years as a deputy.
7	Q. And as part when you were with the
8	sheriff's department did you receive a variety, an
9	assortment, of different training?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Did any of that training involve safe schools?
12	A. I was part of the original safe schools unit
13	that we started at the sheriff's department. And as we
14	developed that unit, because it did not exist at that
15	time, we went through crime prevention training. We
16	went to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department,
17	their crime prevention training, suicide prevention
18	training, threat assessment, whatever was needed that as
19	we learned in doing the job we found there were things
20	that we needed to know more about.
21	Q. As part of your training and part of your
22	experience as a deputy sheriff for 26 years, during that
23	course of time did you come to learn about access points
24	in terms of security access points?
25	A. Yes.
26	Q. And could you explain a little bit to us what
27	that means in that context?
28	MR. HERR: Your Honor, I object on

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1	foundational grounds. He was not designated an expert.
2	THE COURT: Sustained.
3	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Nondesignated expert he was,
4	if I may say that.
5	THE COURT: Let me see counsel.
6	(Outside the presence of the jury.)
7	Maybe I'm over thinking this. The objection
8	was lacks foundation. I always when I hear lacks
9	foundation, I always consider I always consider the
10	issue of relevance as well because what is foundation is
11	a subset or related to relevance foundation to be
12	relevant for what. My concern is we're not here with
13	the standards of a peace officer. We're here for
14	standards of school administrators. If it's if this
15	is leading to background information as to what he may
16	have said to an administrator or did he ever say or
17	advise anything, then that's what I I would probably
18	permit that. But setting him up as a standard for
19	school safety is not would not be relevant.
20	MR. RODRIGUEZ: He testified in his deposition
21	that he did I don't remember the word he used
22	suggested, recommended to the school that there only be
23	one entry point and not several because there were too
24	many access points.
25	THE COURT: I remember that from your opening
26	statement. I'll permit it for that purpose.
27	MR. HERR: And I'm fine with that.
28	(In the presence of the jury.)

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1	THE COURT: Thank you, counsel. I think I've
2	clarified with counsel the scope of these questions. So
3	go ahead, Mr. Rodriguez.
4	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
5	Q. We were talking about access points. And I
6	want to ask you was there ever a suggestion, a
7	recommendation, on your part to the school district
8	about limiting the access to the school campus?
9	A. That was my opinion, yes, that there should
10	only be one entrance.
11	Q. And that was because?
12	MR. HERR: Well, excuse me, Your Honor, I'm
13	going to object. I don't think the answer was
14	responsive to the question.
15	THE COURT: It probably was intended to be
16	responsive but literally it probably was not responsive.
17	I would sustain that.
18	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
19	Q. Let me try again.
20	THE COURT: To explain, the question was was
21	it communicated, and the answer was it was his opinion.
22	But he didn't say whether it had been communicated or
23	not.
24	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
25	Q. Sir, I'm going to back up a couple of
26	questions and did you ever recommend, suggest, to the
27	school district that the access points to the campus be
28	limited?

1 Yes, I did. Α. 2 And did you get a response to your 0. Okay. 3 suggestion or recommendation to the school district, sir? 4 I was told that they were going to start 5 Α. 6 working on that and because of limited funds they weren't able to shut down two of the gates that I was 7 concerned about. 8 9 0. Okay. And which gates were you concerned 10 about? 11 It would have been 7th Street, I think it's Α. 12 called Wildcat Way now, and San Emedio next to the cafeteria football stadium, those two main entrances. 13 14 And -- if I may, Your Honor? 0. 15 THE COURT: You may. 16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. 17 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 18 Sir, during your time at Taft High School as 0. 19 an SRO officer was there ever a time where you monitored 20 a specific student, any specific student? 21 Α. Yes. 22 Q. And what were the circumstances of that? 23 One was there was threat of a fight and one of Α. 24 the students threatened to hit the other one with a golf 25 club. And the other one I don't remember, but that was the one that I remember. But there was at least three 26 or four that I monitored. Because I had not only Taft 27 28 High I had Buena Vista High School which is part of the

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1	Taft Union High School District. And there was one from
2	Buena Vista that I monitored.
3	Q. So whatever number it was in your career where
4	you monitored a specific student, was it generally
5	because of a threat of violence made by that student
6	that was reported to you?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. At any point in time while you were at Taft
9	High School were you ever told that staff members had
10	written a report that they were very concerned for the
11	safety of a student and staff as well as Bryan?
12	A. No.
13	Q. While you were there as an SR officer were you
14	ever given the information that a teacher had filed a
15	report that Bryan was telling how he could shoot and
16	take out more than 50 students before anyone could stop
17	him?
18	A. No.
19	Q. While you there as an SRO officer were you
20	ever made aware of a student reporting that Bryan Oliver
21	was talking about killing everyone at the school except
22	the people he liked and he talked about getting guns and
23	bombs and killing people at the school?
24	A. No.
25	Q. Were you ever given information while you were
26	an SRO officer out there that Bryan Oliver was drawing
27	in a notebook with many killings and Bryan had also told
28	that student that he would kill a student because that

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1	student was black?
2	A. No.
3	Q. Were you ever told while you were there as an
4	SRO officer that a student had reported that Bryan
5	Oliver had also told him that he was not scared to kill
6	the people that had been mean to him?
7	A. No.
8	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Sir, I have no further
9	questions. Thank you, sir.
10	THE COURT: Cross-examination.
11	MR. HERR: Thank you.
12	CROSS-EXAMINATION
13	BY MR. HERR:
14	Q. Good afternoon, Deputy Collins.
15	A. Good afternoon.
16	Q. How are you doing?
17	A. Excellent.
18	Q. May I ask, you gave a deposition in this case,
19	did you not?
20	A. Yes, I did.
21	Q. Have you given depositions in any other cases?
22	A. No.
23	Q. Okay. You've testified in court on occasion,
24	is that correct, as a law enforcement?
25	A. As a law enforcement officer once before, yes.
26	Q. In this case you met with Mr. Rodriguez before
27	you gave your deposition, correct?
28	A. Yes.

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1	Q. And was that because Mr. Rodriguez asked you
2	to come into his office and discuss the case with him
3	before your deposition?
4	A. My recollection is he subpoenaed me to his
5	office to speak to him.
6	Q. Well, you realized you were subpoenaed to give
7	the deposition which was not at his office, correct?
8	A. Correct.
9	Q. Okay. In addition to that occasion you think
10	he subpoenaed you, and you understand a subpoena means
11	you're required to appear. You believe he subpoenaed
12	you to his office to talk to him?
13	A. It was my understanding that's what happened,
14	yes.
15	Q. Sure. Okay. And being an officer of the law
16	you complied with the subpoena and showed up at his
17	office as you understood you were required to do,
18	correct?
19	A. Correct.
20	Q. And then you spent some time talking to him?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. About how much time did you spend talking to
23	him?
24	A. I would have to say no more than an hour and a
25	half.
26	Q. And then after that you gave a deposition; is
27	that correct?
28	A. That is correct.

1 When you spent an hour and a half with Ο. Mr. Rodriguez talking about this matter before your 2 3 deposition, was anyone else present? 4 Α. I can only recall two other people. In addition to you and he? 5 Q. 6 Α. Yes. 7 0. Okay. So there were some other people 8 present? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Q. Do you remember who they were? 11 One was J.R. Rodriguez, whom I knew because he Α. 12 was a deputy before I was a deputy. 13 Q. Okay. 14 And the other person I don't recall. I think Α. 15 it was from Mr. Rodriguez's office. 16 Do you recall if they appeared to be male or Q. 17 female? 18 Α. Female. Okay. Now J.R. Rodriguez who is a former 19 0. 20 deputy sheriff you understood was an investigatory for 21 Mr. Rodriguez, correct? 22 Α. That's correct. 23 And basically did you discuss your time at 0. 24 Taft High School as an SRO? 25 I was questioned about that, yes. Α. 26 0. Okay. And then later you gave a deposition, 27 correct? 28 That is correct. Α.

1 And how much time do you recall spending in 0. 2 the deposition? I want to say four hours. 3 Α. 4 0. Okay. Now, during the period of time that you were at Taft High School did you have occasion to 5 6 interact with Rona Angelo? 7 Yes. Α. 8 And give us an idea as to how frequently you 0. interacted with Rona Angelo? 9 10 Α. Every day I was there and she was there. 11 And what was the nature of your interaction in Q. 12 general? 13 Α. Rona was in charge of me. 14 Okay. Well, she didn't tell you how to 0. 15 perform your duties as a law enforcement officer, did 16 she? 17 Α. No. 18 So when you say she was in charge of Okav. 0. 19 you, did you understand that she was the assistant principal at the high school in charge of discipline? 20 21 Α. Yes. 22 0. So as such there would be occasions when she 23 would ask you to do things? 24 Α. Yes. 25 She didn't tell you, for example, how to Ο. perform your duties as law enforcement, did she? 26 27 Α. No. At all times you acted in conformity with the 28 Q.

1 standards of say POST and other certified trainings that you received as a law enforcement officer? 2 3 Α. Correct. 4 Ο. And in terms of the things she would ask you to do, can you give us an idea of generally what they 5 6 included? My priority focus was truancy. And she would 7 Α. tell me who needed to be either escorted to class or 8 escorted to school or checked on or whose parents needed 9 10 to be contacted regarding their truancy. 11 In terms of your work at Taft and your work 0. 12 with Rona Angelo -- and I'm distinguishing that from 13 Buena Vista. 14 Α. Okay. 15 0. And Buena Vista you understood was the 16 continuation high school? 17 Α. Yes. 18 It was on the same campus as Taft Union High Ο. 19 School District but it was a different school? 20 Α. It's a separate location, yes. 21 Ο. In terms of the work you did at Taft Union 22 High School, how much of it was for truancy type issues? 23 Probably 80 percent. Α. 24 And the remaining 20 percent, can you 0. Okav. 25 give us an idea of what that included? If -- God, I don't know. Rona would ask me 26 Α. 27 about certain things or Rona would ask me to sit in on a 28 student that may be a little agitated or whatever and --

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1	I don't know, just whatever was needed to be done.
2	Q. In addition to working with Rona on the
3	matters you just told us about did you take it upon
4	yourself to just be a presence at the high school at
5	certain times of the day so that students could see you?
6	A. I tried to make myself visible at certain
7	times but not the same time.
8	Q. Okay. And why is it that you thought it was
9	important to make yourself visible to students at the
10	high school at certain times?
11	A. Some students felt safer seeing me around.
12	Some students felt more inclined not to do certain
13	things if I was around.
14	Q. Okay. Now, with regard to other people at the
15	school, did you know Kim Fields?
16	A. True.
17	Q. And how would you describe your relationship
18	with Kim Fields?
19	A. Very close.
20	Q. And when you say very close, what did you
21	understand to be Kim Fields role at Taft High School?
22	A. My understanding was his duties were the
23	security officer. But my belief with Kim was he was the
24	all around ambassador to that school.
25	Q. When you say ambassador, what do you mean?
26	A. The students I don't think there was a
27	student on that campus that didn't know him and love
28	him.

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1	Q. Okay. And did you know Mark Shoffner?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Did you interact with Mark Shoffner in
4	performing your duties?
5	A. On occasion.
6	Q. What were the occasions that you interacted
7	with Mark Shoffner?
8	A. We may have had a conversation or two
9	regarding a student that was applying to return to the
10	school after being suspended.
11	Q. Okay. In terms of your dealing with Rona
12	Angelo, did you find her to be a credible professional
13	source of information?
14	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Excuse me. The objection is
15	improper character evidence.
16	THE COURT: Overruled.
17	BY MR. HERR:
18	Q. Do you want me reask it the question?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. May I either reask it or have the court
21	reporter read it back?
22	THE COURT: You may reask.
23	BY MR. HERR:
24	Q. In terms of your dealing with Rona Angelo did
25	you find your interaction with her to be professional in
26	that she was a credible source of information?
27	A. I found Rona to be the best person there.
28	Q. What do you mean by that?

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1	A. She took care of the students. The students
2	knew if they did something inappropriate that Rona was
3	going to deal with them. And if they didn't do it, then
4	she was going to give them a break and not discipline
5	them. Rona was fair to all.
6	Q. Okay. What about Kim Fields? Did you find
7	him to be a credible source of information?
8	A. Kim was very especially helpful to me, yes.
9	Q. I'd like to ask you a couple of these
10	incidents that Mr. Rodriguez brought up. First of all,
11	you indicated that there was an occasion when you
12	monitored a student who you understood was going to hit
13	another student with a golf club I think you said?
14	A. They had made the threat, yes.
15	Q. And a golf club, you mean
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. Do you know who told you about that incident?
18	A. I can't say I know who told me, but I was
19	there when the discipline was being administered.
20	Q. Can you tell me when you were asked to monitor
21	the student with the golf club incident?
22	A. After the discipline had been decided upon,
23	yes.
24	Q. Okay. Do you know before or after or do you
25	know what year it was?
26	A. Oh, no, I couldn't tell you that.
27	Q. You recall the occasion when you searched
28	Bryan Oliver's home?

I do. 1 Α. 2 Do you know if the golf club incident with 0. this other student was before or after the occasion you 3 4 searched Bryan Oliver's home? It would have been at least three or four 5 Α. 6 years prior. 7 Now, you also told us that there was a 0. Okav. 8 situation where you made a recommendation about closing Do you recall that conversation? 9 qates. 10 Α. Yes. When did you have the conversation about the 11 Q. 12 qates? 13 Α. That was something that on a continual basis 14 that I stressed I didn't like. 15 0. You did not like the number of gates being 16 open? 17 Α. Yes. 18 And with regard to Taft High School when you 0. 19 were there, did they have the maintenance and operations of the school vehicles on campus? 20 21 Α. No. 22 Q. Was it adjacent to the campus? 23 Α. No. 24 Did they have a road that accessed the campus? Q. 25 The maintenance people? Α. 26 Q. Yes. It was public road. 27 The maintenance room is Α. 28 on the south side of San Emedio, the school is on the

north side of San Emedio. 1 2 Okay. And with regard to the campus did you 0. 3 have an understanding as to whether it was open or 4 closed? 5 Α. Open. 6 0. And did you have an understanding as to why it 7 was open? 8 No. Α. The conversation that you had about closing 9 0. 10 the gates, who did you have that with? 11 I can't recall. It would have been several Α. 12 people. 13 0. Okay. Do you recall several people or are you 14 assuming it would have been several people? 15 Α. I'm assuming it would have been several 16 people. 17 Okay. Who are the people you believe it might 0. have been? 18 I'm sure I told Rona. 19 Α. I'm sure I told Kim. 20 I'm sure I told Mary. I'm sure I told the school board. 21 I'm sure I told anybody that would listen to me. 22 Okay. And anybody who you thought was in a Q. 23 position to know what you're talking about? In other 24 words, you didn't tell students that or that sort of 25 thing, correct? I didn't tell students. I told adults, yes. 26 Α. 27 I'm sorry, what? Q. 28 Α. I told adults, yes.
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I did not address the school board. Т addressed the -- I believe it was a safety plan meeting. And I was in attendance at that safety plan meeting. And you were told that there were some economic issues associated with the school taking its I was told the reason the gates had not been secured, that they were planning to card lock those gates, but the reason they had not yet been secured was because the money issue, yes. That's what I meant by that. So I think you used the term funding issues? Funding, yes. And in terms of the size of Taft, how large was the high school, how many students, for example? I don't recall. Would you consider it a large high school, a small high school?

Did you address the school board on this

22 Okay. In terms of its role in the community Q. 23 of Taft, the City of Taft, based on your time there, did 24 you learn anything as to how large a role the high 25 school played with you? 26 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Objection. Relevancy. 27 THE COURT: From this witness I would sustain. 28 MR. HERR: Thank you, Your Honor.

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1	BY MR. HERR:
2	Q. Let me ask you about the surveillance cameras
3	on campus. You mentioned to Mr. Rodriguez that you had
4	at one point in time offered your services to monitor
5	the cameras or monitor the monitor I guess?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. When did you make that offer?
8	A. I'd have to say it was about a year before I
9	retired.
10	Q. And I apologize, when did you leave Taft High
11	School?
12	A. March 29th, 2012.
13	Q. Okay. I'm going to impress you with my
14	deductive reasoning. Would it have been in probably
15	2011?
16	A. Yes, sir.
17	Q. Okay. And to whom did you make that offer?
18	A. I can't recall. I can make a guess.
19	Q. Well, we don't want you to guess. In terms of
20	your offer, can you give me an idea of the gist of it?
21	Did you offer to sit in front of the monitor and monitor
22	the surveillance camera or what was the gist of what
23	your offer was?
24	A. If you ever wanted me to sit and watch the
25	monitors, I'd be glad to for an hour or two.
26	Q. Was there ever an occasion when an incident
27	happened at the high school and people had to look at
28	what was recorded on the monitors?

1 Α. Was there an occasion? 2 Q. Yes. 3 Yes. Α. And what -- were the monitors used for 4 0. Okay. some purpose after these incidents? 5 6 Α. The cameras can be accessed by any computer on campus or as far as I know any computer that has the 7 code to get into the system. 8 Sure. I asked you a bad question. 9 0. T 10 apologize. I'm trying to find out what was it that 11 occurred that resulted in people going back and looking 12 at what was recorded? 13 Α. Okay. There may have been a fight. There may 14 have been some contraband stashed in a locker. Those 15 are the only two I can think of that would cause me to 16 be involved with looking at the monitor or the computer. 17 Okay. Was there ever an occasion when someone ο. suggested to you that they thought your time on campus 18 19 would be better spent out on the campus where students 20 could see you and you could see them? 21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Excuse me. Objection. Calls 22 for hearsay. 23 No, overruled. But not for the THE COURT: 24 truth of the matter stated but for the evidence that the statement was made. You may answer. 25 I'm sure I was told it would be better for me 26 Α. 27 to be out and about than sitting there looking at 28 cameras.

BY MR. HERR: 1 2 And you didn't disagree with that concept, did 0. 3 you? 4 Α. Not verbally. Now I'd like to turn to the search of 5 Q. Okay. 6 Bryan Oliver's home or Sheryl Oliver's home. Do you 7 recall when that occurred? 8 No. Α. Do you recall what year it occurred in? 9 0. I'd have to say in 2011. 10 Α. 11 That's your best answer? Q. Okay. 12 That's my best answer. Α. 13 Q. Okay. Now, you said Bryan -- excuse me --14 Mark Shoffner, the school psychologist, asked you to do 15 that. Do you remember that testimony? 16 Yes. Α. 17 Do you recall if it was in fact Mark 0. 18 Richardson who was the principal superintendent at the 19 time who asked you? 20 Α. No, it was Mark Shoffner. 21 0. When you say Mark Shoffner asked you, did he 22 communicate that to you in person or in writing or some 23 other way? 24 Α. Telephone. 25 Q. I'm sorry? 26 Α. By telephone. 27 Telephone. And by telephone did you have like Q. 28 a special school walkie-talkie phone or was it your --

1	some other phone?
2	A. It was my cell phone. I had an issued cell
3	phone that he could call, anybody could call.
4	Q. So school officials had what I'll call your
5	work cell phone number?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. And he asked you to search Sheryl Oliver's
8	home?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. What do you recall him saying?
11	A. Would you check and see if there is a hit
12	list? We're considering him coming back to school and
13	just need to confirm there is no hit list.
14	Q. Okay. So what and that's the important
15	part of the conversation that you remember?
16	A. That's my recollection.
17	Q. Okay. And did he tell you whose house he
18	wanted you to search?
19	A. Bryan's house.
20	Q. He said Bryan Oliver. Did he give you an
21	address?
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. Okay. And then the day you received the phone
24	call saying we want you to search for a hit list because
25	we're considering allowing Bryan to come back to school,
26	was that the day you did the search?
27	A. Yes.
28	Q. Okay. And you went to the address that you

1	received?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Was Sheryl Oliver there?
4	A. I telephoned her and spoke to her and met her
5	at the house.
6	Q. So I assume when Mark Shoffner called you, he
7	gave you her contact information?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. Did you have access to the contact information
10	of parents of students on your own?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. Okay. So you were there, Sheryl was there.
13	Did you speak to her when you arrived?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. You told her the purpose of your visit?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. You wanted to make sure she was informed that
18	you were there to look for a hit list?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. You wanted to do that in part to make sure she
21	didn't have any objections or complaints to your
22	searching?
23	A. Correct.
24	Q. Because based on your law enforcement
25	background you didn't have a warrant to do the search,
26	correct?
27	A. That's correct.
28	Q. So absent a warrant you need some other

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1	circumstances to allow you to go into someone's home?
2	A. Her permission.
3	Q. Okay. Which is what you got in this case?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. And you wanted to make sure she was fully
6	informed and understood what was going on before she
7	allowed you into the house?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. What do you remember about her response for
10	in telling her that you were looking to see if her son
11	had a hit list, or that there was a hit list that her
12	son had prepared at her home?
13	A. She was very friendly and obliging.
14	Q. I guess I asked you a bad question. Did she
15	appear to you to be surprised, taken aback, a little
16	considered, that a uniformed deputy sheriff is showing
17	up at her house asking to search for a hit list that her
18	son may have prepared?
19	A. She was prepared for me to call her.
20	Q. Why do you think she was prepared for your
21	call?
22	A. Mark told her that I would be calling.
23	Q. So Mark told you that he had told her. And
24	when you arrived there it appeared to you that she had
25	been briefed on the situation?
26	A. Yes. I wanted to confirm that she knew why I
27	was there.
28	Q. So was there nothing about her response that

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1	gauged you to believe that the way unaware of the
1	caused you to believe that she was unaware of the
2	purpose of your search?
3	A. No, there was nothing.
4	Q. Okay. Now, before the search of the Oliver
5	home for a hit list, had you ever searched another
6	student's home?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. I'm sorry?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. How many times?
11	A. I don't know, 20, 30 times. Several times.
12	Q. What were the circumstances that you would
13	search another student's home?
14	A. Looking for them.
15	Q. Looking for what?
16	A. Them.
17	Q. For truants?
18	A. For truants.
19	Q. Absent truancy where a student may have not
20	gone to school on time, had there ever been an occasion
21	when you searched a student's home for contraband or
22	that sort of thing?
23	A. When I monitor the students, I search the
24	students for access to weapons.
25	Q. How often did that occur?
26	A. Twice.
27	Q. Twice at Taft?
28	A. Yes.

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1	Q. How many times after the Bryan Oliver search
2	did you search student's homes for weapons?
3	A. Never.
4	Q. So it was all before?
5	A. It would have been before.
6	Q. Okay. The search of Bryan Oliver's home, how
7	long did it take?
8	A. 30 minutes, 45 minutes.
9	Q. Okay. Did you inquire of Ms. Oliver when you
10	conducted the search or during the search whether she
11	was aware of a hit list?
12	A. We talked about it, yes.
13	Q. Okay. So one way or the other you concluded
14	based on what she said or her response that she was not
15	aware of a hit list?
16	A. Correct.
17	Q. And then you searched and you didn't find a
18	hit list?
19	A. Correct.
20	Q. And as an incident to the search for the hit
21	list you just kind of surveyed the scene for firearms
22	and that sort of thing?
23	A. Sitting on the counter was paintballs.
24	Q. Okay.
25	A. In his room. The dresser in his room there
26	was paintballs sitting on the dresser. I searched the
27	dresser for the hit list and there were paintballs
28	sitting there.

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1	Q. When you were searching for the hit list, did
2	you look in drawers, what was the extent of your search?
3	A. Drawers, under the bed. I think I checked
4	under his mattress and closet.
5	Q. So would it be fair to say that based on your
6	training as a police officer you conducted what you
7	thought was a reasonable search?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. Okay. Now, after the search, at any time
10	after the search, even up to today, have you learned
11	from any source that there was in fact a hit list?
12	A. No.
13	Q. And has anyone or strike that. After you
14	conducted the search of the Oliver home and didn't find
15	a hit list, did you report that back to anyone?
16	A. After I didn't find the hit list?
17	Q. Yes, sir.
18	A. I called Mark and told him I didn't find it,
19	yes.
20	Q. And do you recall what his response was?
21	A. Thank you.
22	Q. Okay. That's about the extent of it?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. And after you did that search, how much longer
25	did you work at Taft?
26	A. I think it would have been six or eight months
27	maybe.
28	Q. Did there come a point in time when you

learned that Taft Union High School District had 1 switched services to have an SRO on its campus? 2 When I notified them I was retiring they made 3 Α. 4 arrangements for someone to replace me. Did you learn that there came a point 5 Q. Okay. 6 in time when they entered into a contract with the City of Taft? 7 Yes. 8 Α. And did you know Doug Hallmark? 9 0. 10 Α. I knew Doug from when he worked for the 11 sheriff's department. 12 Did you understand that Doug Hallmark was the Ο. 13 Taft officer who took over your duties as the SRO? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Did you ever communicate with him as sort of 0. 16 one law enforcement officer handing over the reins to 17 another? 18 We talked for a few minutes. Α. 19 Okay. What was the gist of the conversation, 0. 20 just sort of an overview of your thoughts? 21 Α. Pretty much how I ran things as far as coming 22 to work, what time in the morning I would get to work, 23 where I would usually monitor the students at lunchtime, since it was an open campus, if there were any students 24 at that time that were -- that I was concerned about, I 25 told him about those. And I pretty much told him that I 26 27 spent all of my time either at one or the other high 28 schools, either Taft High or Buena Vista High.

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1	Q. Now, with regard going back to the golf club
2	threat, that was a specific threat by a specific student
3	against another student, correct?
4	A. Correct.
5	Q. At any time did you understand that Bryan
6	Oliver had made a specific threat against a specific
7	student while you were the SRO at Taft High School?
8	A. Never.
9	Q. Okay. Thank you very much. Those are my
10	questions.
11	THE COURT: Redirect.
12	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor, thank you.
13	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
14	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
15	Q. Sir, you're here because you were served with
16	a subpoena?
17	A. That's correct.
18	Q. During the time that you were the SRO officer
19	at Taft High School were you ever told about a T-bagging
20	incident involving Bryan Oliver?
21	MR. HERR: Your Honor, objection. Exceeds the
22	scope.
23	THE COURT: I'll give it I'm not sure that
24	it does exceed. Overruled.
25	A. No.
26	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
27	Q. T-bagging, do you understand that to be a
28	sexual assault, sir?

1 I didn't know what T-bagging was until I heard Α. 2 about it. Now that you've heard about it, is it 3 0. something that would be considered a sexual assault? 4 5 Α. Yes. 6 MR. HERR: Your Honor, excuse me, I object. Foundation. 7 THE COURT: Sustained. And the answer is 8 The jury will disregard. 9 stricken. BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 10 11 As far as you're concerned, sexual assaults 0. 12 are mandated reporting, require mandated reporting, sir? MR. HERR: Objection. Foundation. 13 14 THE COURT: Sustained. 15 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 16 Sir, as part of your training as a law Q. enforcement officer, are you aware of mandated 17 18 reporting? 19 Yes. Α. And is sexual assault one of the things in 20 0. 21 your training as a law enforcement officer that require 22 reporting? 23 MR. HERR: Your Honor, I'm sorry. I object 24 again. Foundation. 25 Sustained. I'll say the reason is THE COURT: 2034, that's why I sustained that it. Lacks foundation. 26 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I would advise the Court he is 27 28 a nondesignated expert.

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1	THE COURT: Right, that's why I sustained the
2	objection.
3	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
4	Q. Okay. Let me change the topic. During the
5	time that you were at Taft High School you told us about
6	some of the incidents that prompted you to monitor, you
7	were asked to monitor students. Do you remember that?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. Okay. While you were there was there ever an
10	incident where a student was arrested there at Taft High
11	School because he had said that he could sit on a hill
12	and shoot down to the campus and pick off people? Were
13	you there when that happened?
14	A. No.
15	Q. Let me change the topic now to a hit list.
16	Were you ever told by anyone that Ms. Angelo asked
17	students, specific particular students, why they were on
18	Bryan Oliver's hit list? Do you want the question back?
19	A. Yeah, would you?
20	Q. Yes. During the time that you were an SRO
21	officer at Taft High School were you ever told by anyone
22	that Ms. Angelo had interviewed specific students and
23	asked them why they were on Bryan Oliver's hit list?
24	A. No.
25	Q. Were you ever told that Ms. Angelo interviewed
26	Triston White and asked him why he was on Bryan Oliver's
27	hit list?

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1	Q. Thank you, sir, I have no further questions.
2	THE COURT: Excused as a witness?
3	MR. HERR: Yes, Your Honor, thank you.
4	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor.
5	THE COURT: You're excused as a witness,
6	released from the jurisdiction of the Court. You may
7	step down and you're free to go.
8	A. Thank you, sir.
9	THE COURT: You're welcome. Next witness.
10	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, we would like to
11	present testimony by way of a video deposition.
12	THE COURT: All right. Counsel have met and
13	conferred on this?
14	MR. HERR: We have some people waiting
15	outside. I'd ask
16	THE COURT: Well, let me it's a little
17	early for a recess. Let me see counsel.
18	(A sidebar was held and not reported herein.)
19	THE COURT: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, this
20	is one of those times where I have to spend some time
21	for counsel. So I'm going to excuse you for our
22	afternoon recess, but the staff will still be in
23	session. So when I finish with counsel, I'll be
24	probably taking a recess for the staff. So it may be a
25	little bit longer recess than we typically have. You're
26	excused to the hallway. You'll be asked back in I would
27	estimate about three o'clock or so. So 20 minutes or
28	so. Keep that in mind. Don't discuss the case or form
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1 or express any opinions. You're excused to the hallway. 2 All right. Well, we have the proposed video deposition of Triston White to be played, which is fine. 3 Apparently that was part of the notice. And apparently 4 the provisions to be excerpted from the depo have been 5 6 exchanged and defense counsel has some objections. 7 MR. HERR: Yes, Your Honor. MR. THOMPSON: Your Honor, in Exhibit 1 to 8 Triston White's deposition, which we assume that counsel 9 10 is going to try to get in front of the jury, it mentions 11 this threat or this comment about DeAnthony Bobbitt. And if you read the deposition of Triston White, Triston 12 White talks about how he heard about this particular 13 issue with DeAnthony Bobbitt. It's a rumor from his 14 friend Jake or from somebody who heard it. I mean, 15 16 there is multiple layers of rumor that Triston testified 17 about. So our objection to that is I don't think they 18 19 should present any issue to the specific issue about 20 DeAnthony Bobbitt. And if they do, they ought to 21 present the fact that it's all rumor upon rumor upon 22 And I can point you to the page and line where rumor. 23 it starts and you can see where it says -- and they're 24 talking about this rumor. And you can see on page 24 25 line 18 it says when you say rumor, do you mean that somebody said something to you. And the answer is like 26 27 it goes like by somebody and I hear it from somebody 28 else, yes, sir. And then if you go down to page 24 line

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1	24 the question is okay, as you sit here today do you
2	know who you heard this rumor from. Answer: I think my
3	friend Jake who is the one that fought Bryan. Okay.
4	What's Jake's last name? Morton. Okay. So you think
5	Jake Morton told you that Bryan Oliver wanted to kill
6	DeAnthony Bobbitt. Yeah, there is like a group of
7	friends, yeah. So he goes on and talks about the group
8	of his friends. And then he goes further on line 17
9	page 25. It says he's talking about the names of his
10	friend. And the question is as you sit here today do
11	you think that Jake Morton was probably the source of
12	the rumor about DeAnthony Bobbitt, correct. Answer: He
13	said he heard it from somebody. Question: Okay. Do
14	you know when Jake Morton told you this rumor? Answer:
15	No. And so
16	THE COURT: What's the objection?
	Ind cooki. Mat b the objection.
17	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks
17 18	
	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks
18	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this
18 19	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor
18 19 20	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor because it lacks foundation it's also highly prejudicial
18 19 20 21	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor because it lacks foundation it's also highly prejudicial to the district and it is also hearsay.
18 19 20 21 22	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor because it lacks foundation it's also highly prejudicial to the district and it is also hearsay. THE COURT: I'll let you be heard briefly.
18 19 20 21 22 23	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor because it lacks foundation it's also highly prejudicial to the district and it is also hearsay. THE COURT: I'll let you be heard briefly. MR. TRUJILLO: First, I've would say and offer
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor because it lacks foundation it's also highly prejudicial to the district and it is also hearsay. THE COURT: I'll let you be heard briefly. MR. TRUJILLO: First, I've would say and offer for the Court's consideration that I think the case West
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	MR. THOMPSON: The objection here is it lacks foundation, Your Honor. And so presenting this potential threat based upon rumor upon rumor upon rumor because it lacks foundation it's also highly prejudicial to the district and it is also hearsay. THE COURT: I'll let you be heard briefly. MR. TRUJILLO: First, I've would say and offer for the Court's consideration that I think the case West versus Johnson & Johnson speaks directly to this issue.

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1 citations.

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2	THE COURT: Okay. Well, I will overrule the
3	objection. But it is subject to a limiting instruction
4	to the extent that the testimony or the evidence
5	submitted from the deposition is for purposes that the
6	statements were made or communicated for purposes of
7	notice, not for the truth of the matter stated as a
8	hearsay objection.
9	MR. TRUJILLO: Your Honor, if I may clarify,
10	the actual pieces of testimony that we're intending to
11	offer have to do with this student Triston White being
12	called in by Ms. Angelo. And I would ask for the Court
13	to consider that those would be party admissions,
14	because Ms. Angelo is a party.
15	THE COURT: Well, what Mr. White says isn't a
16	party admission.
17	MR. TRUJILLO: I understand that. But what
18	I'm saying is Ms. Angelo called Mr. White and asked him
19	why are you on this hit list written by Bryan Oliver.
20	THE COURT: What Triston White says she's
21	said, yeah. Yeah, that's a recorded testimony of a
22	witness testifying in court what a party said. It is
23	not hearsay.
24	MR. TRUJILLO: Agreed.
25	THE COURT: Right. The objection is
26	overruled.
27	MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.
28	THE COURT: I also wanted to make a record to

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1 explain something. I overruled Mr. Rodriguez's 2 objection to a question posed to Deputy Collins where he was asked essentially his opinion of Rona Angelo, 3 whether she was an honest professional. And I overruled 4 And my thinking was that I have heard opening 5 that. 6 statements and there is some challenge to her potential credibility. And rather than -- I usually when I'm 7 anticipating that questions are being asked of witnesses 8 who are in the court that they be allowed to testify 9 10 rather than be called back as rebuttal witnesses. 11 That may have been a presumption I shouldn't Because as I think about it there was no 12 have made. 13 statement that there was going to be evidence of her 14 character for honesty or truthfulness in which case I 15 probably should have sustained the objection. So that 16 was a long-winded way of saying I made a mistake. But counsel can keep it in mind for future witnesses. 17 18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Real quick, Your Honor. I'm a 19 little confused on a separate matter. 20 THE COURT: On the 20234 issue? 21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. 22 THE COURT: You're asking him an opinion from 23 the witness stand, that he can't do as a nonretained 24 He can give opinion testimony but it has to be expert. 25 opinion testimony, there has to be foundation that he formed those opinions during his percipient -- you can't 26 27 pose -- a percipient expert you can't pose a 28 hypothetical to them of would something be a sexual

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1	assault and would that be a reportable incident. It has
2	to relate to their actual percipience.
3	MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's what I understood it to
4	be also, but thank you for the explanation.
5	THE COURT: So I was reading that as he was
6	being asked his opinion from the witness chair not to
7	relate an opinion that he had previously developed.
8	Okay. We're in recess for 15 minutes.
9	(A recess was taken.)
10	THE COURT: We're back on the record. We're
11	in session on Cleveland versus Taft Union High School
12	District as previously noted. We're going to play the
13	proposed videotape deposition excerpts from Triston
14	White. The court reporter will not be reporting the
15	audio from the video. That has already been
16	transcribed. But as I indicated, counsel will have to
17	keep a record of what's played to the jury so you can
18	have it.
19	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor. Usually
20	after we play a videotape deposition excerpts the
21	following day we file with the Court that excerpt that
22	was played.
23	THE COURT: You can do it that way or you can
24	accumulate it and file it. It's up to you.
25	MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's probably the better way
26	to go.
27	MR. HERR: Your Honor, will we be allowed to
28	read portions of the transcript after they play their

1 part? 2 THE COURT: It depends. If you're going to do that, I need to know because I need to know if there is 3 going to be an objection. If you're offering it as you 4 would in cross-examination of the witness, that is in 5 6 the interest of completeness. Or if it's being proffered for your case in chief, then it's your case in 7 chief. It's a different proffer. 8 9 MR. HERR: No, it's in terms of completeness. 10 I'll represent to the Court it's generally where Triston 11 White got the information, hearsay on hearsay on 12 hearsay, that he reported -- supposedly reported to the 13 school. 14 Okay. Well, let's wait and see THE COURT: 15 what's played. Because I'm told they're not even going 16 to play that part. 17 MR. TRUJILLO: Your Honor, for transparency 18 when Mr. Thompson cited I think pages 24 and 25 I had 19 looked at the list and that wasn't on there. But I do note that on page 16 which is included on our list there 20 21 is some discussion on it. So just for transparency to 22 the Court. 23 THE COURT: So are you proffering the exhibit 24 itself? 25 MR. TRUJILLO: No, Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. Well, then the defense will 26 27 be able to propose readings. And then if there is an objection, I'll take it up. But certainly Mr. Herr to 28

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1	answer your question, yes, you can propose readings by
2	page and line. And if you later want to supplemental
3	that with video, I don't have a problem with that.
4	MR. HERR: Thank you, Your Honor.
5	THE COURT: Let's bring the jury in.
6	Court is in session. I took roll. The jury
7	is now in the courtroom properly seated in the jury box.
8	Mr. Rodriguez, your next proffer.
9	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, we're going to
10	offer the video deposition excerpts of Triston White.
11	THE COURT: All right. Noted. You may
12	proceed.
13	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Do we need to do anything
14	about the lights, Your Honor?
15	THE COURT: It's difficult to do that. But as
16	I've told you, members of the jury, if you have any
17	difficulty seeing the screen because of the glare of the
18	lights or otherwise, let me know.
19	(Playing of the videotaped deposition of
20	Triston White.)
21	MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's it, Your Honor.
22	THE COURT: Does the defense wish to proffer
23	any excerpts for reading or in the nature of
24	cross-examination?
25	MR. HERR: Yes, Your Honor. Page 24 lines
26	four of the deposition through line nine.
27	Question:
28	THE COURT: Just a moment.

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1	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hold on. I'm sorry. Page 24?
2	
2 3	THE COURT: Page 24 lines four through nine.
_	MR. HERR: That's correct, Your Honor.
4	THE COURT: Any objection? Do you wish me to
5	rule on the objection made?
6	MR. RODRIGUEZ: And, I'm sorry, page 25 what
7	was the line?
8	MR. HERR: 24 line four through line nine.
9	MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's fine, Your Honor, thank
10	you.
11	THE COURT: The objection is overruled. You
12	may read.
13	MR. HERR: Question: Okay. As you sit here
14	today is it correct to say you have no recollection of
15	speaking to Ms. Angelo about DeAnthony Bobbitt?
16	Answer: Yes.
17	Then, Your Honor, I would like to read from 26
18	line 13 through 27 line four. That's 26, 13 through
19	27-4.
20	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, no objection.
21	THE COURT: Okay. The objections are
22	withdrawn. And no objection to the reading. You may
23	read.
24	MR. HERR: Thank you, Your Honor. 26 line 13.
25	Question: Okay. When you say, uh, Jake told
26	you this rumor, uh, did you think that Bryan Oliver was
27	really going to kill DeAnthony Bobbitt?
28	Answer: No.

1 Question: Uh, did you go report it to a 2 teacher or anyone? 3 Answer: No. 4 Was the reason you didn't report it to anyone because you didn't think he was going to really do it? 5 6 Answer: Yeah. And then, Your Honor, 27 -- or excuse me 7 that's all that I wish to read, Your Honor, thank you. 8 9 THE COURT: All right. You may call your next 10 witness. 11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor. We would 12 like to call Fernando Romo to the stand, please. 13 THE COURT: Sir, would you please step 14 forward, walk through that wooden gate and then walk to 15 your left, walk all the way around those podiums and toward me. Keep walking. Stand right there and take 16 17 your oath from the clerk. 18 THE CLERK: Raise your right hand, please. 19 You do solemnly swear that the testimony you 20 shall give in this matter now pending before this court 21 shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the 22 truth, so help you God? 23 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. 24 Be seated, please, right up here. THE COURT: 25 Would you please sit forward, give your testimony toward 26 the microphone, and would you state your first and last 27 name? 28 THE WITNESS: Fernando Romo.

1	THE COURT: All right. F-e-r-n-a-n-d-o,
2	R-0-m-0?
3	THE WITNESS: Yes.
4	THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead,
5	Mr. Rodriguez.
6	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
7	FERNANDO ROMO (for the Plaintiff)
8	called as a witness, being first duly sworn,
9	testified as follows:
10	DIRECT EXAMINATION
11	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
12	Q. Good afternoon, sir.
13	A. How are you doing?
14	Q. I'm going to start off with asking you a few
15	background questions so our jurors have an idea who you
16	are. So let me start off with where do you live, sir?
17	A. I live at 119 East Woodrow, Taft, California.
18	Q. In Taft, sir?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. And how long have you lived there in Taft?
21	A. Around 30 years.
22	Q. And by the way, how old are you, sir?
23	A. I'm 51.
24	Q. And what do you do for a living, sir?
25	A. Right now I'm a heavy equipment operator.
26	Q. Who do you work for?
27	A. Sturgeon & Sons.
28	Q. Sturgeon & Sons?

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1	A. Yes.
2	Q. What kind of company is that, what kind of
3	work does it do?
4	A. It's oil field construction, demo work. They
5	have different divisions.
6	Q. And are you married, sir?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. Do you have any kids?
9	A. Yes, I do.
10	Q. How many kids do you have?
11	A. Three boys.
12	Q. And your boys, your three boys, how old are
13	they?
14	A. They're 30, 27 and 23.
15	Q. Did your boys attend Taft High School?
16	A. Yes, they did.
17	Q. Was there ever a time when you went to Taft
18	High School to talk to someone about a hit list?
19	A. Yes. I spoke to the principal, Ms. Angelo,
20	when I when my son told me that there was a hit list
21	that his name was on it. And I felt, you know, as a
22	parent I needed to go to talk to Ms. Angelo and see what
23	was going on.
24	Q. And what son was that?
25	A. My youngest, Danny Romo.
26	Q. Danny Romo?
27	A. Yes.
28	Q. And you found out about this hit list from

1 whom? My son told me about it and then -- taking my 2 Α. 3 son to practice and games and all of that stuff. 4 MR. HERR: I'm sorry to interrupt, sir. After my son told me I would object as nonresponsive. 5 6 THE COURT: I'll sustain. It's a narrative. Sir, you're not a professional witness, so you've got to 7 understand that this is not a conversation. 8 It's 9 question and answer, so just listen to the question. 10 Α. Okay. 11 And let the attorney finish the THE COURT: 12 question and then give your answer to the question and 13 then wait for the next question. 14 Α. Okay. 15 THE COURT: Counsel will take it you through 16 it question by question. Go ahead. 17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. 18 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 19 A little nervous? 0. 20 Α. A little bit. 21 0. Calm down and we'll just go slowly, okay? 22 Α. Okay. 23 After your son, Danny Romo, told you about the 0. 24 hit list and that he was on it, did you go to the high 25 school? 26 Α. Yes, I did. 27 Okay. Did you speak to someone at the high Q. 28 school?

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1	A. Ms. Angelo.
2	Q. Ms. Angelo. And where did this conversation
3	between you and her take place, where?
4	A. In her office.
5	Q. And when you were in her office, you talked to
6	her about this hit list?
7	A. Yes, I did.
8	Q. Did you tell her why you were wanting to talk
9	to her about this hit list?
10	A. Yes, I did.
11	Q. And what did you tell her?
12	A. I told her I was concerned for my son, I was
13	scared.
14	Q. And what did she say when you told her I'm
15	scared for my son, I'm concerned?
16	A. She said not to worry, that the cops would
17	handle it, they take care of it.
18	Q. Let me back up. In this conversation that you
19	had with Ms. Angelo, did you ever say to her do you want
20	me to call the cops, I can call the cops?
21	A. Yes. I told her I've got no problem talking
22	to the kids or the kid's parents, you know, and see
23	what's going on, or I can go to the police station. She
24	says not to worry, that she's got it handled and
25	everything is okay.
26	Q. Can we break that in two parts? Let's first
27	talk about the police and then about talking to the
28	kid's parents. Is that okay with you?

1 Α. Sure. The police. When you told her can I -- I have 2 0. no problem going and talking to the police and reporting 3 4 it, what did she tell you when you said that to her? Not to worry about him, they'll take care of 5 Α. 6 it. That she would take care of it? 7 0. 8 Yes. Α. Did she tell you we'll call the police, we'll 9 0. 10 take care of calling the police? 11 She told me that she'll take care of it. Α. 12 MR. HERR: Excuse me for interrupting, Your 13 Honor, Mr. Rodriguez is leading and suggesting the 14 answer to the witness. 15 THE COURT: I'll sustain that question as 16 leading. 17 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 18 Did she ever -- did she tell you that she 0. would take care of it? 19 20 Α. Yes, she did. 21 0. Okay. Now, the other part. Did you have some 22 information as to who had put this hit list together? 23 Α. Not at the time. I just heard about the list, 24 but I mean, I didn't know -- they wouldn't give me no 25 information or whatever. But I told Ms. Angelo that I would talk to the kids, you know, whoever the kids was. 26 27 And talk to the kid's parents or talk 0. Okay. to the kids themselves? 28

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1 Either or or both. Α. 2 Did you have any idea of who the kid was? Q. I had an idea. 3 Α. And what idea did you have? 4 0. The kid by the name last name Oliver. 5 Α. 6 0. And did you know that kid Oliver or any relative of his? 7 I know his hunger brother. Through little 8 Α. I used to call him Little Tank Tank because he 9 league. 10 was a catcher. 11 **Q**. And what did you have to do with little 12 league? I would coach baseball. 13 Α. I coached my son. 14 Okay. And is that how you knew the -- who you 0. 15 believed the person who had written the hit list, his 16 younger brother? 17 Α. Yes. 18 And when you told Ms. Angelo that you had no 0. 19 problem going and talking to the kid's parents or 20 family, what did she say to you? 21 Α. Not to worry, that she'll take care of it. 22 Q. Thank you, sir, I have no further questions. 23 This other lawyer may have questions for you. 24 Α. Okay. 25 THE COURT: Mr. Herr, any questions? 26 MR. HERR: Thank you. 27 28

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CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HERR: Mr. Romo, how are you doing? Q. Α. Good. Excellent. When was it that you had this Q. conversation with Rona Angelo that we've been talking about? I don't remember the specific date. Α. 0. Okay. Do you remember the year? Α. Well, my son graduated -- he's 23, so he graduated when he was 18, so three years back or four years back. Q. Okay. Before he graduated. Α. 0. Give us your best recollection if you can of the year when this conversation took place? Α. 2015. 2015, that's your best estimate? Is that a 0. yes? Α. Yes. 0. And we just do that for the benefit of our court reporter. So you had this conversation with Rona Angelo in 2015; is that correct? Α. That's what I'm -- a rough estimate. That's your best estimate? 0. Α. Yes. Okay. Was it during the school or during the Q. work week?

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1	A. During the school year, yes.
2	Q. During the work week?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. Like Monday through Friday?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Was it during the workday, like 8:00 to 5:00?
7	A. Yes, I believe so. I'm not exactly I don't
8	remember.
9	Q. Sure. Well, you were there?
10	A. Yes, I was.
11	Q. Do you remember, were you working at the time,
12	did you have a job?
13	A. Yes, I did.
14	Q. Did you have to take time off from the job to
15	go talk to her?
16	A. I work four tens so I don't know if maybe that
17	was taken on a Friday, on my day off Friday. I don't
18	remember.
19	Q. Okay. Were you upset when you went in to talk
20	to her?
21	A. I wasn't happy. I was nervous and scared for
22	my son.
23	Q. Okay. I'm sorry, you said you were what?
24	A. Nervous and scared for my son.
25	Q. Okay. And did you learn about this hit list
26	from your son?
27	A. Yes.
28	Q. Did you learn about the hit list from your son

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1	the day you went and saw Rona Angelo?
2	A. I learned from it before.
3	Q. What?
4	A. Before, days before.
5	Q. So there were a number of days
6	A. Before I talked to Ms. Angelo.
7	Q. Okay. So two or three days before?
8	A. Roughly.
9	Q. Okay. Why did you wait two or three days to
10	go see Ms. Angelo?
11	A. Possibly because I was working and I waited
12	for Friday on my day off for whenever I went to go to
13	talk to her.
14	Q. So that's probably your best explanation?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. Can you think of any other reason why you may
17	have waited?
18	A. That's no, I can't.
19	Q. So when you went in there, you went to the
20	high school, correct?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. You went to her office, correct?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. Was anyone else in her office?
25	A. I believe it was her and possibly Kim Fields.
26	Q. Do you know Kim Fields?
27	A. Yeah, I know him from Taft, yeah.
28	Q. Okay. So Kim Fields is someone you knew

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1	before you went to see Rona Angelo?
2	A. He's the one that took us into the office. I
3	don't recall if he was in the office for the meeting,
4	but I remember he greeted us and told us come this way.
5	Q. Sure. I just wanted to find out did you know
6	who Kim Fields was before you went to see Rona Angelo?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. So you knew who he was and you saw him the day
9	you spoke to Rona Angelo. You don't recall if he was at
10	the meeting when you spoke to her, correct?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. And when you're in there, you were scared, you
13	were somewhat upset about your son, correct?
14	A. Yes.
15	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Excuse me, Your Honor,
16	misstates the evidence, the upset part.
17	THE COURT: Overruled.
18	BY MR. HERR:
19	Q. And did the way you expressed yourself, do
20	you believe that you expressed the emotions you were
21	feeling, in other words, that you were scared and upset?
22	A. Well, probably like any other father would.
23	Q. Sure. No, no, I'm just trying to get a feel
24	for what occurred. And part of the conversation was you
25	were willing to go talk to Bryan Oliver about this hit
26	list, correct?
27	A. Yes.
28	Q. And Ms. Angelo said something to the effect

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1	that she would take care of that
2	A. Yes.
3	Q correct? Did you think that perhaps you
4	might have been scary or intimidating if you had
5	confronted a 16 year old about a hit list and that it
6	was probably better that Ms. Angelo dealt with it?
7	A. Not at all.
8	Q. So you thought that you were happy to go find
9	Bryan Oliver or his mother and confront them about this
10	hit list, correct?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. And Ms. Angelo said she would take care of it,
13	correct?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Do you know if you had this conversation with
16	Ms. Angelo before or after Deputy Collins searched Bryan
17	Oliver's home for a hit list?
18	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Objection. Lacks foundation.
19	A. I don't know.
20	THE COURT: Sustained.
21	BY MR. HERR:
22	Q. Did you have an understanding that the school
23	searched for the hit list?
24	A. No.
25	Q. Did you ever learn that?
26	A. No.
27	Q. Did you learn after the school shooting that
28	the FBI and Kern County Sheriff's Office searched for a

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hit list? 1 Well, after the shooting there was a big ol 2 Α. 3 circus in town, you know, FBI and all kinds of people 4 running around. Q. My question is have you ever learned 5 Sure. 6 that anyone at any time ever found a hit list? 7 Α. No. Thank you. Sir, I have no further 8 Okay. 0. 9 questions. 10 THE COURT: Anything further? 11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor. May I 12 approach, Your Honor, the witness? 13 THE COURT: Sure. 14 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 15 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 16 Sir, I'm going to show you a deposition Q. transcript about the timing to see if it refreshes your 17 18 memory as to when you went to go see Ms. Angelo. 19 Okay. Α. And what we do is we show it to you to see if 20 0. 21 that refreshes your memory by reading what you said back 22 then. 23 MR. HERR: Your Honor, could I learn what we're showing the witness? 24 25 THE COURT: You may. 26 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Sure. It's page 11 lines one 27 through three. 28 Α. Okay. Do I need to read that?
BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 1 2 No, just hold on a second. Q. 3 I'm sorry. Α. 4 0. That's okay. Do you need my reading glasses? Just that part, just those lines. 5 6 Α. Yeah. Okay. So does this refresh your memory as to 7 0. when you went to go see Ms. Angelo? 8 9 Α. Yes. 10 Q. And when was that, sir? 11 Α. It was in the spring of 2012. 12 Okay. Thank you. I have no further 0. 13 questions. 14 THE COURT: Excused as a witness? 15 MR. HERR: No, Your Honor. May I ask a 16 question? 17 THE COURT: Sure. 18 **RECROSS-EXAMINATION** 19 BY MR. HERR: 20 0. Sir, you just read a portion of the transcript 21 that you said refreshed your recollection, correct? 22 Α. Yes. 23 The portion that you read is line 11 -- or 0. 24 excuse me, page 11 lines one through three, correct? 25 Α. Yes. 26 MR. HERR: And may I read that portion of the 27 transcript, Your Honor? 28 THE COURT: Yes.

1	BY MR. HERR:
2	Q. Okay. So at that portion of the transcript
3	the question that was asked you by the attorney was
4	okay, that's fine. Would it would it be fair to say
5	that it was in the spring of 2012? And then you said
6	yes. Do you remember that?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. So it was the attorney who suggested to you it
9	was the spring of 2012, correct?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Okay. No further questions.
12	THE COURT: All right. You're released as a
13	witness, excused from the jurisdiction of the Court.
14	You may step down. You're free to go. You're excused
15	as a witness.
16	A. Thank you.
17	THE COURT: Next witness.
18	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, with the Court's
19	permission, jasmine Sanchez.
20	THE COURT: Would you walk through that gate?
21	I think the bailiff has explained it to you but then you
22	have to walk you're ultimately going to be seated up
23	here. But before you get there, would you stand right
24	there and take your oath from the clerk of the Court.
25	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
26	You do solemnly swear that the testimony you
27	shall give in this matter now pending before this court
28	shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the

1 truth, so help you God? 2 THE WITNESS: I do. 3 THE COURT: All right. Now, be seated up 4 here. Would you please sit all the way forward and give your testimony toward that microphone? It doesn't have 5 6 to be right up next to your mouth but just direct your testimony toward the microphone. And state your first 7 and last name. 8 Jasmine Sanchez. 9 THE WITNESS: 10 THE COURT: J-a-s-m-i-n-e, and S-a-n-c-h-e-z; 11 is that correct? 12 THE WITNESS: Correct. Yes. 13 THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead, 14 Mr. Rodriguez. 15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Your Honor. 16 JASMINE SANCHEZ (for the Plaintiff) called as a witness, being first duly sworn, 17 testified as follows: 18 DIRECT EXAMINATION 19 20 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 21 0. Good afternoon. 22 Good afternoon. Α. 23 Ms. Sanchez, I want to start off with a few 0. 24 questions just about your background so that our jurors 25 have an idea of who you are. 26 Α. Okay. 27 First of all, how old are you? Q. 28 Α. I'm 23 years old.

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1	Q.	And where do you live?
2	А.	In Taft, California.
3	Q.	How long have you lived in Taft?
4	А.	Since I was eight.
5	Q.	Since you were?
6	А.	Eight.
7	Q.	Eight years old. And are you married, single?
8	А.	I'm single.
9	Q.	And who do you live in Taft with?
10	А.	My mom and my siblings.
11	Q.	Did you go to school in Taft?
12	А.	Yes, I did.
13	Q.	Did you go to high school in Taft?
14	А.	Yes.
15	Q.	Before I go any further, what do you do for a
16	living?	
17	А.	Right now I work at Snow White.
18	Q.	You work at Snow White?
19	А.	Yes.
20	Q.	And what is Snow White?
21	А.	It's a fast food restaurant.
22	Q.	And where is it?
23	Α.	In Taft.
24	Q.	And besides is that a full-time job for you
25	now?	
26	А.	Yes.
27	Q.	Besides working at fast food place
28	Α.	Snow White.

1	Q do you do anything else?
2	A. Yes. I just graduated from Taft College with
3	my associates in psychology and I'm planning to go to
4	CSUB within the next year.
5	Q. So in the next year or so you're going to go
6	to Cal State Bakersfield?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. And major, what kind of major do you think
9	you're going to have?
10	A. My bachelor's in psychology.
11	Q. What years did you go to school at Taft High
12	School?
13	A. 2010 through 2014.
14	Q. And during that time was there ever a time
15	when you heard or got to know a student by the name of
16	Bryan Oliver?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. Did you have him in any of your classes?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. Was there ever a time in a classroom that you
21	were in with Bryan Oliver that something out of the
22	ordinary happened?
23	A. Yes. My sophomore year.
24	Q. Your sophomore year. And what class was that
25	in?
26	A. History.
27	Q. And the name of the teacher for that history
28	class was who?

1	A. Mr. Greer.
2	Q. G-r-e-e-r?
3	A. I believe so.
4	Q. And what was the thing that happened out of
5	the ordinary in your history class in Mr. Greer's class
6	that had something to do with Bryan Oliver?
7	A. I was passing out papers. When I went to put
8	the paper on his desk, there was a drawing on his desk
9	that I had took away from him.
10	Q. And this drawing, what did it have on it?
11	A. It had like
12	MR. HERR: Your Honor, objection. Hearsay.
13	A. Big
14	THE COURT: Well, I'm going to permit it
15	subject to a potential motion to strike. You may
16	answer.
17	A. Big stick figures with machine guns shooting
18	baby stick figures laying around a playground.
19	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
20	Q. How did you react when you saw that picture?
21	A. I snatched it off his desk.
22	Q. You snatched it off whose desk?
23	A. Bryan Oliver's desk.
24	Q. And did Bryan Oliver react when you snatched
25	that drawing off his desk?
26	A. Yeah. He growled at me and stood up.
27	Q. What did you do next?
28	A. I had stepped away and another student stepped

1	in between us and I had walked to the front of the
2	classroom to give the paper to the teacher.
3	Q. To Mr. Greer?
4	A. Yeah.
5	Q. And did you hand it to Mr. Greer, this
6	drawing?
7	A. Yes, I did.
8	Q. And could you see whether or not Mr. Greer
9	looked at himself?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Could you see the reaction on Mr. Greer's
12	face?
13	A. Yes.
14	Q. What was the reaction on his face that you
15	could see?
16	A. Shock, stunned.
17	Q. And as a result of that drawing were you ever
18	did you ever speak to the assistant principal at Taft
19	High School?
20	A. Yes, I did.
21	Q. And was that Ms. Angelo?
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. How many times did you talk to Ms. Angelo
24	about this drawing?
25	A. Twice.
26	Q. Now, when you spoke to Ms. Angelo, where did
27	the conversation take place?
28	A. In her office.

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1	Q. And was it the same day that you saw the
2	drawing or a couple of days later or when?
3	A. The first time was the same day. And the
4	second time was a few weeks later because of a different
5	incident.
6	Q. Because of a what?
7	A. A different incident.
8	Q. Okay. So the first time you talked to
9	Ms. Angelo about this, did she did you prepare a
10	written report?
11	A. Yes, I did.
12	Q. And you signed that report?
13	A. Yes, I did.
14	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Your Honor, I would move into
15	evidence Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 47-13.
16	(Whereupon Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 47-13 was
17	marked for identification.)
18	MR. HERR: Objection. Hearsay. Foundation.
19	THE COURT: Which one would that be in? No,
20	no, if you can look up here. Is it this set of binders
21	or the white set of binders?
22	MS. GONZALEZ: The white.
23	MR. TRUJILLO: The white, Your Honor. Your
24	Honor, it's set three. I'm sorry, I just wanted to make
25	sure.
26	THE COURT: Why don't I deal with the
27	foundation first.
28	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. That will be fine, Your

1 May I approach? Honor. 2 THE COURT: You may. 3 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: Ms. Sanchez, I'm going to show you a copy of 4 0. what we marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 47-13. Do you see 5 6 that there is a signature down at the bottom of this incident report? 7 8 Α. Yes. 9 0. Do you recognize that signature? 10 Yes, it's mine. Α. I'm sorry, could you say that --11 Q. 12 It's mine. Α. 13 Q. Okay. And did you date this incident report? 14 Yes, I did. Α. 15 And what is the date? 0. 16 February 29th of 2012. Α. And the handwriting, all of the handwriting 17 0. 18 that appears on this incident report, whose handwriting 19 is it? That's also mine. 20 Α. 21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. I would move 22 Plaintiff's Exhibit 47-13 into evidence, Your Honor. 23 MR. HERR: Objection. Hearsay. Foundation. 24 THE COURT: Overruled. But it's admitted for 25 a limited purpose for -- and the limited purpose is this, it's limited for the fact that this incident 26 27 report was written and made, not for the truth of the matter stated in the report. So it's admitted for that 28

purpose with that limiting instruction. And you may 1 2 publish if you wish or just -- that's up to you. (Whereupon People's Exhibit No. 47-13 was 3 received in evidence.) 4 Thank you, Your Honor. 5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: May we 6 put it up? BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 7 So this report -- I'm sorry the other way. 8 Ο. Sorry about that. So this incident report, did you 9 write this report when you went in to see Ms. Angelo? 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 And after you wrote out the -- oh, when you 0. 13 wrote down when I was passing out papers in history, saw 14 his paper and he was drawing big people killing, 15 shooting little kids, stick figures, on the school 16 playground with red blood splats on their -- is that word their? 17 18 Α. Yeah. 19 Head, and the big people had guns. Also one 0. day in class I asked him to sit down so I can walk by 20 and he shoved me. Did I read that correctly? 21 22 Α. Yes. 23 Okay. When you spoke to Ms. Angelo in her 0. 24 office, did she ask you how you felt when you saw this 25 drawing that you turned in to Mr. Greer? 26 Α. Yes. 27 Q. And what did you tell her? Scared, disturbed. 28 Α.

[
1	Q. And what about the drawing made you scared and
2	feel disturbed?
3	A. It was very detailed. And it was even
4	though it was stick figures, it was bigger people
5	shooting little kids on a playground. There was blood,
6	and it just didn't sit right with me.
7	Q. Okay. And did Ms. Angelo ask you if you felt
8	threatened for your life?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. And what did you say to her when she asked you
11	that?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. And did Ms. Angelo tell you anything about
14	what they may have been doing, they being the school,
15	with Bryan Oliver?
16	A. That he was getting help from the counselor at
17	school.
18	Q. And did she say anything about they had it
19	covered?
20	A. Yes. Not to worry about it, it was getting
21	taken care of.
22	Q. Did you ever did you talk or see Ms. Angelo
23	a second time some time?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Was it in connection with this drawing again?
26	A. I would have to assume only because he had got
27	in trouble for a different incident and because of that
28	me and a group of other students got called into the

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1	
1	office to have to speak to her again about Bryan.
2	Q. If it's okay with you, may I just go back to
3	the drawing, I forgot to ask you something?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. Did the drawing have a title to it?
6	A. The Playground.
7	Q. Thank you. Now, let's go back to the time
8	that you and other students were called to Ms. Angelo's
9	office. Did Ms. Angelo ask you questions about a
10	certain incident at that time?
11	A. She had asked how we felt about Bryan being at
12	school because he had been suspended for a threat, that
13	a teacher had overheard him saying about killing other
14	students. So we were informed that police and the
15	school officials were searching his house for weapons
16	and other stuff regarding his threat.
17	Q. Okay. At that time did Ms. Angelo ask you how
18	you were feeling?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. And what did you tell her?
21	A. That I didn't feel safe with him around and
22	that he needed help.
23	Q. That who needed help?
24	A. Bryan.
25	Q. And when you said that he needed help, Bryan
26	needed help, did Ms. Angelo say anything to you?
27	A. Yes, that he was getting help from the
28	counselor.

1	Q. Were you at school the day of the shooting,
2	January 10th, 2013?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. Did you see Ms. Angelo on that date?
5	A. Yes, I did.
6	Q. Before or after the shooting?
7	A. After.
8	Q. And where is it that you saw her?
9	A. In the auditorium.
10	Q. Did you say anything to her at that time?
11	A. Yes, I did.
12	Q. What is it that you said to her?
13	A. I told you something was going to happen.
14	Q. What did you mean by that?
15	A. When we were sitting in the office
16	MR. HERR: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Excuse me,
17	ma'am, for interrupting. Objection her subjective
18	intent is not relevant.
19	THE COURT: Sustained.
20	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
21	Q. When you said to Ms. Angelo and, I'm sorry,
22	what is that you said to her again, I'm sorry?
23	A. I told you something was going to happen.
24	Q. I told you something was going to happen. Did
25	Mr. Angelo say anything in response when you said that
26	to her?
27	A. No, she turned around and walked away from me.
28	Q. Now, when you were in school, in high school,

1	
1	did you get suspended at some time?
2	A. Yes, I did.
3	Q. And why was it that you got suspended?
4	MR. HERR: Objection. Relevancy. 352.
5	MR. RODRIGUEZ: I'll withdraw the question,
6	Your Honor.
7	THE COURT: It may be a timing question.
8	Sustained.
9	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
10	Q. Thank you, Ms. Sanchez, I have no further
11	questions.
12	A. Thank you.
13	MR. HERR: Thank you, Your Honor.
14	CROSS-EXAMINATION
15	BY MR. HERR:
16	Q. Ms. Sanchez, may I ask you some questions?
17	A. Of course.
18	Q. This incident that occurred in the classroom,
19	do you recall when it occurred?
20	A. As far as like day, month and year?
21	Q. Yes.
22	A. Just my sophomore year.
23	Q. Okay. Do you recall could you redisplay
24	Exhibit 47-13 again?
25	THE COURT: Do you mind doing that?
26	BY MR. HERR:
27	Q. Okay. Do you see this document on the screen?
28	A. Yes.

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At the top it says 2-29-12? 1 0. Α. 2 Yes. 3 Was that the date you prepared the document? Q. 4 Α. Yes. And you prepared the document after the 5 Q. 6 classroom incident? 7 Α. The same day, yes. 8 The same day? 0. Okay. 9 Α. Yeah. 10 0. So would it be fair to say that the classroom 11 incident where you grabbed Bryan Oliver's paper was on 12 February the 29th, 2012? 13 Α. Correct. 14 People pay me a lot of money for this. 0. Okay. 15 Okay. So you remember getting called in to the office 16 and filling this out the same day? 17 Α. Yes. 18 And when you filled this out did you Okav. 0. 19 intend it to be an accurate reflection of what happened? 20 Α. Yes. 21 Ο. You wanted to make sure that you wrote down 22 what you thought were the important facts as to what 23 occurred? 24 Α. Yes. 25 Had you ever filled out an incident 0. Okav. report at school before this? 26 27 Yes, I have. Α. 28 Q. Okay. So you were familiar with the process?

1 Α. Yes. And as you look at this now, do you 2 0. Okav. believe it accurately reflects what you thought was 3 4 important on the day the incident happened? Α. 5 Yes. 6 0. Okay. I don't see here where you say he 7 growled at you. Did you leave that out? 8 I must have, yes. Α. 9 0. I'm sorry? 10 Α. Yes. 11 At the bottom of this you say also one Okav. 0. 12 day in class I asked him to sit down so I can walk by 13 and he shoved me. Do you see that? 14 Yes, I do. Α. 15 Did that occur the same day that you took his 0. 16 paper? 17 Α. No. 18 Did that occur after you took his paper? Ο. 19 No, before. Α. 20 0. Okay. Do you know how long before the paper 21 incident was the shoving incident? 22 Α. No. 23 Was it within a week, a month, was it that 0. 24 same school year? 25 That same school year. Α. Do you know what class it was? 26 0. 27 I only had him in Mr. Greer's class. Α. So would it be fair to say it was in 28 Q.

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1	Mr. Greer's class?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Did you report it to anyone at the time?
4	A. No.
5	Q. As far as you know, did anyone witness it?
6	A. Anyone in the classroom.
7	Q. Are you saying everyone in the classroom
8	witnessed it?
9	A. Anyone that would have looked, but no one in
10	particular.
11	Q. When you say he shoved you, did he push you
12	down or how would you describe the shove?
13	A. A shoulder shove.
14	Q. A what?
15	A. A shoulder shove.
16	Q. Shoulder. He walked by and kind of threw his
17	shoulder?
18	A. Yeah, as I walked.
19	Q. You were walking by and he threw his shoulder
20	into you?
21	A. Correct.
22	Q. Now, when you were walking by you were picking
23	up papers at the time?
24	A. I was handing out papers.
25	Q. Okay. Why were you handing out papers?
26	A. I was directed to hand out papers by
27	Mr. Greer.
28	Q. Was it like a test or were you returning

1	papers?
2	A. It was like a worksheet.
3	Q. Okay. And you saw something on Bryan's desk
4	and you picked it up?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. And then you say Bryan kind of growled at you?
7	A. Yeah, as he stood up.
8	Q. He was getting out of his chair and then some
9	other student shoved him?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. And that other student was Danny Romo?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. And did they exchange words?
14	A. As I recall, Danny told him he needed to sit
15	down, and I was walking to the front of the classroom.
16	Q. To Mr. Greer?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. And did you say something to Mr. Greer when
19	you gave him the paper?
20	A. This was on Bryan's deck.
21	Q. This was on Bryan's desk?
22	A. Correct.
23	Q. Did Mr. Greer say anything?
24	A. No.
25	Q. But he looked at it, took the paper?
26	A. Yes.
27	Q. And then what happened? Did you
28	A. I returned to my seat.

[
1	Q.	Where was your seat in relationship to
2	Bryan's?	
3	Α.	A row to the left and a few seats forward.
4	Q.	Okay. So you two weren't in proximity in
5	other wor	rds, your desk wasn't next to his?
6	Α.	No.
7	Q.	And did you have any further problems with
8	Bryan tha	at day?
9	Α.	No.
10	Q.	How much time passed from when the paper
11	grabbing	incident occurred until you went to the office?
12	Α.	A few hours.
13	Q.	Okay. How did you learn to go to the office?
14	Α.	I was called to the office.
15	Q.	Through the
16	Α.	Through my next teacher.
17	Q.	So the next teacher said something like
18	Jasmine,	you have to go to the office?
19	Α.	Correct.
20	Q.	Did you know why?
21	Α.	I would assume, yes.
22	Q.	You assumed so and then you went and spoke to
23	Ms. Ange	10?
24	Α.	Correct.
25	Q.	And told her basically what's on this incident
26	report?	
27	Α.	Exactly.
28	Q.	Do you remember telling her any information

1	beyond what's on the incident report?
2	A. That he needed help, and it wasn't a situation
3	that anyone should have to be in.
4	Q. You told her he needed help on February
5	the 29th, 2012?
6	A. Correct.
7	Q. And that's when she told you what was going on
8	with Bryan?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. Okay. Great. Those are my questions. Thank
11	you, ma'am.
12	A. Thank you.
13	MR. RODRIGUEZ: May I proceed, Your Honor?
14	Thank you.
15	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
16	BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:
17	Q. Ms. Sanchez, are you trying your best to
18	remember all these dates?
19	A. Yeah. It's been quite a few years.
20	Q. Let me represent to you that February 29th of
21	2012 was a Wednesday.
22	A. Okay.
23	Q. Okay. And did you know by that time that
24	Bryan Oliver was suspended and not in school on that
25	Wednesday?
26	A. No.
27	O Ober New you gove Mr. Angele twige wight?
	Q. Okay. Now, you saw Ms. Angelo twice, right?

1	Q. Once when you wrote that report at
2	February 29th?
3	A. Correct.
4	Q. Did you see her on Monday, the Monday before,
5	February 27th?
6	A. I'm not sure.
7	Q. Okay. You're trying your best to remember
8	A. Yes.
9	Q all these details? Okay. Another topic
10	I'd like to ask you about. Did anyone from the school
11	notify your mom or your parents
12	A. No.
13	Q about any of these conversations or
14	discussions that you had with Ms. Angelo about you being
15	scared and feeling threatened for your life by Bryan
16	Oliver?
17	A. No school officials, no.
18	Q. Thank you. I have no further questions.
19	A. No problem.
20	MR. HERR: Nothing further.
21	THE COURT: You're excused as a witness,
22	released from the jurisdiction of the Court. You may
23	step down. You're free to go.
24	A. Thank you.
25	THE COURT: Next witness.
26	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Your Honor. A videotaped
27	deposition testimony of Ms. Jana Durkan, D-u-r-k-a-n.
28	MR. HERR: Your Honor, could we have a

1 sidebar? 2 THE COURT: Sure. 3 (Outside the presence of the jury.) 4 THE COURT: Yes, Mr. Herr. Your Honor, I understand we just 5 MR. HERR: 6 learned that they were going to read these excerpts of Jana Durkan's deposition at lunch when they did the 7 notice in lieu of. We told them of her availability. 8 She's available next week. We told them that she was 9 not available this week. There are two employees who 10 11 are here prepared to testify. And I object to 12 Ms. Durkan's deposition being read at this time. THE COURT: So she's available as a witness? 13 14 MR. HERR: On Monday. 15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: We wanted to -- it's important to our theory of the case and the way we're sequencing 16 the witnesses. And she was under CCP Section 1987 17 18 notice to appear and we were told that she was available 19 initially. We advised counsel as we were instructed by the Court, and it wasn't until lunchtime that we were 20 21 told that she wasn't going to be here. So we decided, 22 okay, we'll put on the videotaped deposition testimony 23 today. MR. TRUJILLO: And that didn't seem to be a 24 25 problem this morning when we got to court and said well I can do the videotape deposition testimony. 26 27 MR. HERR: We notified them of her schedule in 28 an objection to your notice in lieu of. We gave you a

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written notice of her schedule. 1 2 THE COURT: Well, what do you plan to read? 3 Let's just go to the heart of the matter. What are you 4 going to play? MR. RODRIGUEZ: Just generally speaking, I 5 6 mean, we've advised counsel what we're going to play. But the general gist of it is that she's a guidance 7 counselor at Taft High School, she was a guidance 8 counselor for Bryan Oliver. Ms. Angelo had said that 9 10 she was on the threat assessment team. When she was 11 deposed and she was asked, she said no, she was never 12 part of the threat assessment team. 13 THE COURT: Is she currently an employee of 14 Taft? Well, I don't want her deposition read. If she's 15 reasonably available and not otherwise unreasonably 16 thwarting the case, I want her testimony in person. I 17 don't want her deposition read if she's currently an 18 employee. I thought she was a student or something like 19 that, third party. 20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Even though the our view is 21 that the statute is pretty clear she's an employee and 22 we properly noticed her to be here, and she's not. 23 THE COURT: I understand that. But there has to be some reasonable back and forth in terms of witness 24 25 availability. You've made an opening statement. So I think that whole purpose is for the jury to keep that in 26 27 mind. I think you said in opening statement that the 28 guidance counselor was supposed to be a member of the

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1	team and wasn't a member of the team. So I think the
2	jury may have that in mind. You can establish that when
3	she testifies. I don't want her to be unduly delayed.
4	If she's going to be here Monday, then let's do it that
5	way.
6	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Upon further reflection, I
7	agree with the Court. We get carried away and I'm
8	guilty of
9	THE COURT: No, that's fine. She will be here
10	Monday morning and you guys can confer on that.
11	MR. RODRIGUEZ: Now, we've got to confer I
12	mean
13	THE COURT: I'll let you do that.
14	(In the presence of the jury.)
15	THE COURT: Thank you, counsel, for conferring
16	regarding the schedule. I think we're going to call a
17	different witness.
18	MR. TRUJILLO: Yes, Your Honor. The plaintiff
19	would call in Bryan Hickman under Evidence Code 776.
20	THE COURT: All right. Sir, would you please
21	step forward, walk through that wooden gate and then
22	walk to your left, walk toward me, around those podiums,
23	the podiums are for the lawyers, and then stand right
24	there and take your oath from the clerk.
25	THE CLERK: You do solemnly swear that the
26	testimony you shall give in this matter now pending
27	before this court shall be the truth, the whole truth
28	and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

THE WITNESS: I do.
THE COURT: Go ahead and have a seat up here.
Would you sit forward and give your testimony toward the
microphone and state your first and last name?
THE WITNESS: Ryan Hickman.
THE COURT: That's why I'm going to ask you
to spell both names.
THE WITNESS: R-y-a-n, H-i-c-k-m-a-n.
THE COURT: All right. Let me I typically
explain the number 776 was used, ladies and gentlemen.
That's just for me, it's not for you. But essentially I
explained to you the first person calls a witness does
direct examination and then cross-examination by the
other lawyer. Under certain code sections there are
different rules for direct examination and
cross-examination for me to think about and for the
lawyers to think about, and those rules are reversed
under that code section. So just so you're not confused
by the use of the Evidence Code 776.
Go ahead, counsel.
MR. TRUJILLO: Thank you, Your Honor.
RYAN HICKMAN (for the Plaintiff)
called as a witness, being first duly sworn,
testified as follows:
DIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MS. TRUJILLO:
Q. Good afternoon, sir.
A. Good afternoon.

Q. I just want to ask you a few background
questions first, okay?
A. Sure.
Q. You are 41 yeas old?
A. Today, actually.
Q. I noticed that. Happy birthday.
A. Thank you.
Q. Sorry that you're here.
A. That's okay.
Q. Sir, you are a teacher at Taft High?
A. I am.
Q. And you started as a teacher there in about
2003; is that right?
A. Correct, August 2003.
Q. And you teach science; is that correct?
A. I do.
Q. Before you started working at Taft High School
you worked at Foothill for about a year, is that
correct, sir?
A. Correct.
Q. And you also taught science there; is that
right?
A. Yes.
Q. I want to kind of talk to you a little bit
about a particular student. And did you have a student
named Bryan Oliver?
A. I did.
Q. Okay. And was that during the school year of

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1 2011 through 2012? 2 I can't remember the year. Α. 3 Q. Okay. It's been a while. 4 Α. Well, the school shooting happened 5 Q. 6 January 10th, 2013. 7 I believe so, yes. Α. And Bryan Oliver was not a student of yours at 8 0. 9 that time, correct? 10 Α. No, that's correct. 11 And he was a student of yours the year before; 0. 12 is that right? 13 Α. Correct. 14 And Bryan was a sophomore; is that right? Q. 15 I believe so. Α. 16 And you taught him life science; is that Q. 17 right? 18 Biology, yes. Α. 19 Okay. When Bryan was your student, you 0. 20 described him, Bryan, as quiet, correct? 21 Α. Correct. 22 And Bryan appeared to you to be on the Q. 23 reserved side; is that right? 24 Α. Yes. 25 Bryan appeared to you not to be very social, ο. 26 correct? 27 Correct. Α. And other students in your life science class, 28 Q.

1	they would make fun of Bryan; is that right?
2	A. Not that I observed.
3	Q. Okay. Let me ask you when at the time that
4	you were Bryan Oliver's life science teacher, you wrote
5	a report for him in connection to the IEP status; isn't
6	that right?
7	A. I can't recall that, no.
8	Q. And let me if I may approach, Your Honor?
9	THE COURT: You may.
10	MS. TRUJILLO: For purposes Plaintiff's
11	Exhibit 47 excuse me, 37-413.
12	(Whereupon Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 37-413 was
13	marked for identification.)
14	BY MS. TRUJILLO:
15	Q. I don't want you to read this out loud, but if
16	you can just take a look at it. Have you had a chance
17	to look at plaintiff's exhibit?
18	MR. HERR: Your Honor, could I catch up just a
19	second?
20	MR. TRUJILLO: Sure.
21	MR. HERR: Thank you, counsel.
22	MR. TRUJILLO: You're welcome.
23	THE COURT: I'm not sure myself exactly what
24	was shown to the witness. I don't need to know unless
25	it becomes an issue. Go ahead, counsel.
26	MR. TRUJILLO: I apologize.
27	BY MS. TRUJILLO:
28	Q. Mr. Hickman, do you recognize the document I

1	placed in front of you?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Okay. And you wrote this document, isn't that
4	correct?
5	A. I believe so.
6	MS. TRUJILLO: And, Your Honor, at this time I
7	would like to admit Plaintiff's Exhibit 37-413.
8	MR. HERR: Hearsay. Lacks foundation.
9	THE COURT: If what you're talking about is
10	the exhibit to the deposition
11	MS. TRUJILLO: No.
12	THE COURT: Oh. So now I do need to know what
13	was shown to the witness.
14	MR. TRUJILLO: I apologize, Your Honor.
15	THE COURT: It's Exhibit 37-413. I've got it
16	now. Thank you.
17	MR. TRUJILLO: Thank you, Your Honor.
18	THE COURT: Overruled. It's admitted. And,
19	again, for the fact that the report was made, not
20	necessarily for the truth of the matter stated.
21	MR. TRUJILLO: May I publish, Your Honor?
22	THE COURT: You may.
23	(Whereupon Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 37-413 was
24	received in evidence.)
25	BY MS. TRUJILLO:
26	Q. Mr. Hickman, this is titled Special Education
27	Department Teacher Assessment?
28	A. Correct.

1 And this is a report that was written by you; 0. 2 isn't that right? 3 Α. Correct. 4 0. And you were requested to write this report in connection with Bryan Oliver; isn't that right? 5 6 Α. Correct. And this -- the date that this was written was 7 Ο. 8 on March 2nd, 2012; isn't that right? 9 It appears so, yes. Α. 10 0. Okay. Now, if we go down there is an area 11 that reads comments or observations. Do you see that? 12 Α. Yeah. 13 Q. And you filled out this area, correct? 14 Α. Yes. 15 All right. And if we look at the last full 0. line, second sentence in, it reads he will be less 16 susceptible to ridicule from his classmates. Do you see 17 18 that? 19 Α. I do. And that is --- this is written in connection 20 Ο. 21 with Bryan Oliver and a reason why you felt he should 22 move to college prep classes? 23 Α. Correct. So is it fair to say that Bryan Oliver would 24 0. 25 be ridiculed by his classmates in your life science class? 26 27 I'm sorry, I didn't hear the MR. HERR: 28 question.

[
1	THE COURT: We can read it back. So is it
2	fair to say that Bryan Oliver would be ridiculed by his
3	classmates in your life science class?
4	A. Not specifically, nothing that I can remember
5	specific, no specific comments that I can remember.
6	BY MS. TRUJILLO:
7	Q. Okay. Well, but do you have any reason to
8	doubt what you wrote in this report?
9	A. No. I think I was speaking generally. If I
10	was asked to recall specific comments that were made
11	toward him, I wouldn't be able to, no.
12	Q. I'll switch to a different topic now if that's
13	okay with you, Mr. Hickman?
14	A. Sure.
15	Q. Before the school shooting occurred, no one
16	from the Taft High School administration told you that a
17	student reported that Bryan Oliver was drawing pictures
18	of shooting little kids; is that right?
19	A. I had no knowledge of that, no.
20	Q. Again, before the school shooting occurred, no
21	one from the Taft High School administration told you
22	that a student reported that Bryan Oliver wanted to
23	shoot another student because he was black; is that
24	right?
25	A. That's correct, I had no knowledge.
26	Q. And, again, before the school shooting
27	occurred no one from the Taft Union High School
28	administration told you that Bryan Oliver made threats

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1	to blow up the school auditorium; is that right?
2	A. Correct, I had no knowledge of that.
3	Q. And at no point before the school shooting did
4	anyone from the Taft High School administration tell you
5	that Bryan Oliver made stabbing gestures towards another
6	student with his pencil; is that right?
7	A. Correct, I had no knowledge of that, either.
8	Q. I have no further questions. Thank you.
9	THE COURT: Cross-examination.
10	MR. HERR: Thank you, Your Honor.
11	CROSS-EXAMINATION
12	BY MR. HERR:
13	Q. Mr. Hickman, how are you doing?
14	A. I'm good, thanks.
15	Q. I'm going to speak somewhat quickly so we all
16	get out of here at 4:30. How many students were there
17	at Taft High School back in 2012, 2013?
18	A. Between 900 and a thousand probably.
19	Q. Of those 900 to a thousand students, how often
20	did you receive reports on those students if they
21	engaged in conduct which the administration looked into?
22	A. Rarely, if ever.
23	Q. Rarely, if ever. So the fact that let's
24	assume just for pretend purposes that there are all of
25	these things that may have occurred, a pencil gesture to
26	another student that resulted in the office taking
27	discipline against the student, with regard to all of
28	the students at Taft High School, would you hear about

1	each and every one of those occasions when a student had
2	to go in and see Ms. Angelo?
3	A. No.
4	Q. Okay. With regard to may we display
5	Exhibit 37-413 again?
6	THE COURT: As a courtesy, if you would,
7	please.
8	MR. TRUJILLO: Yes, Your Honor. I apologize.
9	BY MR. HERR:
10	Q. Okay. What is the purpose of this form you
11	filled out?
12	A. From time to time we get these documents from
13	education case managers. Basically we would fill this
14	out to let them know since they're not the classroom
15	teacher, per se, how that student is performing based on
16	the criteria listed one through eight. So that's my
17	rating scale based on his performance in the class and
18	how he was doing compared to his peers, and then any
19	comments that might help them better offer services to
20	those services or placements in classes.
21	Q. So this was filled out on the March the 2nd,
22	2012 concerning Bryan Oliver when he was in an IEP, an
23	individual education plan, correct?
24	A. Correct, as it pertained to my biology class.
25	Q. And based on his performance, on a scale of
26	one to five, you were giving him grades of four and
27	five, correct?
28	A. Correct.

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-	O and on a normality of that what meads did he not
1	Q. And as a result of that, what grade did he get
2	in your biology class?
3	A. I can't recall what grade he ended up with.
4	We'd have to check transcripts. But at that point he
5	had an 80 percent in my class.
6	Q. So based on his performance in the class both
7	academically and in terms of his interaction with other
8	students, did you conclude and make a recommendation as
9	to what should happen?
10	A. I did.
11	Q. And what was that?
12	A. It appears that I suggested that he be moved
13	from probably a general level class up to college prep,
14	which is a level higher than a general level class.
15	Q. And the, quote, unquote, ridiculed that's
16	referenced on this form, did you believe it was
17	significant enough to intervene or discipline students
18	for it?
19	A. I did not. No, I just thought in general,
20	generally speaking, as far as I can recall, just the
21	overall environment would be more conducive, on par with
22	his level of intellect and education.
23	Q. Sure. You say more mature students?
24	A. Correct.
25	Q. It's hard for me to remember back to high
26	school. But with regard to the high school students
27	that you dealt with, did you find that there was a fair
28	amount of interaction with the students where they would

1 mess with each other, ridicule each other, that sort of 2 thing? 3 MR. TRUJILLO: Your Honor, objection. 4 Relevance. THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer. 5 6 Α. Yeah. From time to time, generally speaking, yeah, that happens with kids. 7 BY MR. HERR: 8 So there is a certain amount that you 9 0. Okay. 10 tolerate, correct? 11 Α. Sure. 12 And if it goes beyond that amount you 0. 13 intervene? 14 Α. Correct. 15 0. And do you recall ever having to intervene with Bryan? 16 I can't recall a specific time, no. 17 Α. Thank you, Your Honor, those are the questions 18 0. 19 I have. Thank you. 20 MR. TRUJILLO: No further questions, Your 21 Honor, thank you. 22 THE COURT: You're excused a witness, released 23 from the jurisdiction of the Court. You may step down. 24 You're free to go. Thank you. 25 Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached the practical end of our trial day. So we're -- we will be 26 27 in recess. You are excused until Monday morning. We're not in session for this trial tomorrow. Let me check 28

BOWE CLEVELAND vs TAFT UNION HIGH SCHOOL Case No. S-1500-CV-279256

	Case No. 5-1500-01-279250
1	something. Mondays sometimes are busy days here in the
2	morning. I better ask you so I'm not making you
3	wait, I better ask you to come in at 9:30, that will
4	give me time to deal with the busy Monday calendar which
5	starts at 8:30. 9:30, Monday. In the meantime you're
6	excused, ordered back Monday at 9:30. Don't discuss the
7	case or form or express any opinions. Thank you. We're
8	in recess.
9	(Whereupon no further proceedings were heard
10	in this matter on this date.)
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1	STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
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2) SS. COUNTY OF KERN)
3	
4	
5	
6	I, Virginia A. Greene, CSR No. 12270, Official
7	Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California,
8	Kern County Superior Court, do hereby certify that the
9	foregoing transcript in the matter of BOWE CLEVELAND vs.
10	TAFT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL., Case No.
11	S-1500-CV-279256, June 20, 2019, consisting of pages
12	numbered 1 through 181, inclusive, is a complete, true,
13	and correct transcription of the stenographic notes as
14	taken by me in the above-entitled matter.
15	Dated this 23rd day of June, 2019.
16	
17	-
18	$1 \cdot \cdot$
19	Mirginio a. Greene
20	$\lambda = \lambda^{-1}$
21	Virginia A. Greene, CSR
22	Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 12270
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

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