

Tape-recorded statement of Bryan O'Shea at 3:42 p.m. on July 22, 2000 to Patrick W. Walsh at 415 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 201, Chicago, 60610

WALSH: Okay, today's date is July 22nd the year 2000. We're at the offices of Patrick Walsh. Present in the office with me is Bryan O'Shea. Bryan had made a call today and said tht he wanted to come forward and discuss what he knew about Matt Sopron's case and that was People versus Sopron concerning the homicides of Helena Martin and Carrie Hovel which took place on December 14, 1995 at approximately 5149 S. Melvina in Chicago, Illinois at approximately 6:30 p.m. that evening. The time is now about four, excuse me, 3:42 p.m. on Saturday afternoon at my offices at 415 N. LaSalle Street in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, Suite 201. Bryan, why did you reach out for me today?

O'SHEA: Um, basically, because just cause I was sick of...sick of living with the fact that I didn't tell the truth in court.

WALSH: Um, when you say you didn't tell the truth in court are you talking about your testimony about Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Bryan, did anybody make any threats or promises to you in order for you to reach out and contact me?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did...did anybody coerce you in any way before you decided to come...

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: to come...

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: to speak with me?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Let's start. We'll go over the background and ah...do I have your consent to tape record our conversation now?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: And the tape recorder is operating in front of you, correct?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Bryan, could you state your full name and spell your last name?

O'SHEA: My name is Bryan O'Shea. O apostrophe S-H-E-A.

WALSH: Bryan, how do you spell your first name?

O'SHEA: B-R-Y-A-N.

WALSH: What is your middle name?

O'SHEA: William.

WALSH: Where do you currently live?

O'SHEA: 6402 S. Lorel.

WALSH: Is that in Chicago, Illinois?

O'SHEA: Yeah.

WALSH: What is your home telephone number?

O'SHEA: 773-582-6220.

WALSH: Bryan, what is your social sec...social security number?

O'SHEA: Uh...335-78-7340.

WALSH: Who do you live with at 6402 S. Lorel?

O'SHEA: I live with my mom, her boyfriemd and his friend.

WALSH: What is your mom's boyfriend's name

O'SHEA: Patrick O'Reilly.

WALSH: What is your mom's full name?

O'SHEA: Sheilia O'Shea.

WALSH: And, what is your mom's boyfriend's friend's name?

O'SHEA: Uh, John Cochran

WALSH: How old are you Bryan?

O'SHEA: 25.

WALSH: Um, are you currently employed?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: What..what do you do?

O'SHEA: I'm a tutor coordinator at West Lawn Public Library.

WALSH: What is your birthday?

O'SHEA: 11/4/74.

WALSH: How long have you been a tutor at the West Lawn Public Library?

O'SHEA: Um, about three to four months now.

WALSH: What are your responsibilities as a tutor for the library?

O'SHEA: Ah, just to basically make sure that there's tutors and set up scheduling and basically run the tutoring program.

WALSH: Ah, what's the extent of your education Bryan? How far did you go in school?

O'SHEA: Um, basically I just...I went to high school for four years. I never graduated, but took a few...couple...of classes of college...other than that...that's about it.

WALSH: What high school did you go to?

O'SHEA: Went...ah...Kennedy High School and Lyons Township.

WALSH: Did you ever get your G.E.D. certificate?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Do you have plans on getting your G.E.D. certificate?

O'SHEA: Um, not really cause they offered me a thing where I could get my diploma if I took some classes at a junior college or something. Night classes.

WALSH: Are you close to finishing off the high school degree?

O'SHEA: Ah, yeah, if I take...I just need to take a few classes at junior college.

WALSH: How do you support yourself now? Is it by the tutoring job?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Um, before you lived at this address...6402 S. Lorel, where did you live?

O'SHEA: Um, I lived...I lived...I lived a few places, um.

WALSH: Where was the place you lived immediately before 6402 S. Lorel?

O'SHEA: Um, I was staying...I was homeless for a little while, but I was staying at one kid's house at ah 47th and Mozart...I lived up north...I...I lived at so.

WALSH: How long were you homeless?

O'SHEA: Um...I was...sorta like a few months....like end of last year.

WALSH: The end of 1999?

O'SHEA: Nah, it was more like...well...actually I, well...kinda on and off the next...stayed in my car for a while, like...I don't know what it was, a year, and-a-half ago or something like that and then...and then again like...kinda like last year...like before the summer like...and then there for a few weeks just like staying at a friend's house and stuff like that.

WALSH: Do you recall where you lived back on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: Um...December 14th...Yeah, I think I was staying at my brother's house...and um...

WALSH: Bryan, do you know Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How do you know Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: Um, he's a friend of mine. We basically grew up in the same neighborhood together.

WALSH: Do you know, um, William Bigeck?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How do you know William Bigeck?

O'SHEA: He's a kid from the neighborhood too.

WALSH: Do you know John Gizowski?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How do you know John Gizowski?

O'SHEA: Um, basically same thing...used to...he's from a different neighborhood, but we used to hang out over there and that's where we first met him and stuff.

WALSH: Do you know John Gizowski's brother, Michael Gizowski?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How do you know Michael Gizowski?

O'SHEA: Um, I know him through John and his brothers.

WALSH: Do you know John Gizowski's other brother, Gene Gizowski?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How do you know him?

O'SHEA: Same thing, just from the brothers, the neighborhood and stuff.

WALSH: Bryan, uh, did you ever have a nickname?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: What nickname or nicknames did you have in the past?

O'SHEA: Uh, O'Dog was the nickname.

WALSH: Were you aware of a nickname for John Gizowski?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: What was his nickname?

O'SHEA: Um, Climber.

WALSH: Did you know anyone by the name of Nick Morfin?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How did you know Nick Morfin?

O'SHEA: Ah, just the same thing with pretty much everyone else...just like...he moved to our neighborhood and got to know him and stuff.

WALSH: Do you know Ed Morfin?

O'SHEA: Through Nick.

WALSH: Is Ed Morfin related to Nick Morfin?

O'SHEA: Yeah, they're cousins, I believe.

WALSH: Now Bryan, you contacted me today because you wanted to talk about testimony you gave before Judge Kazmierski in February of 1998, correct?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Why did you want to come talk to me about that testimony?

O'SHEA: Um, like I said earlier, um, I just basically, I want to come forward and tell the truth.

WALSH: And what, what was it about that testimony, um...did it persuaded you or...or cause you to come forward...was there any part of that testimony that was untruthful?

O'SHEA: Yeah, just basically the stuff I said about Matt.

WALSH: Well, we're going to talk about that a little bit. I want to back up to...well, we're going to talk about it a lot. I want to talk to you about the day of December 14th, 1995. Um, how often did you spend time with Matt Sopron in that time frame of December 14th of 1995? did you see him regularly or sporadically or hardly ever?

O'SHEA: Um, I seen him not really regularly, but three, I'd say often...I seen him.

WALSH: Um, under what circumstances would you see Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: We'd like go fishing...pick me up and we'd go to parties...stuff like that.

WALSH: To your knowledge, was Matt Sopron employed in the month of December of 1995?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Do you know when he worked?

O'SHEA: Yeah, he worked the night shift, I remember.

WALSH: Bryan, your familiar with a street gang that was known as the Popes, correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: What was Matt Sopron's status in the Popes in December of 1995 if you know?

O'SHEA: He never really...like went to meetings or nothing like that. He really didn't have basically really much to do with it...I guess at the time I might have thought about it as him being the leader but he really never participated in anything they did, anything as far as a leader would do.

WALSH: In December of 1995 did Matt Sopron ever give you orders as the leader of the Popes gang?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Do you recall Matt Sopron ever giving you orders as the leader of the Popes?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Prior to December 14, 1995, do you remember a time when Matt Sopron ever attended a meeting for the Popes?

O'SHEA: Um, he might have been in a couple now and then, but that was long..long time ago.

WALSH: If you had to estimate how much time it had been since Matt Sopron had been at a meeting prior to December 14, 1995, could you quantify it in terms of days, or weeks, months or years?

O'SHEA: Probably a year or two.

WALSH: Now, do you remember the day, December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How do you remember that day?

O'SHEA: It was the day that I went to Nick Morfin's house in the morning.

WALSH: Let's strike that. What did you do that morning?

O'SHEA: I don't remember much other than waking up, probably taking a shower and getting on my bike and going over to Nick's.

WALSH: Why did you go to Nick Morfin's house?

O'SHEA: Um, it was like a regular thing I did...just go over there and hang

out...party stuff like that.

WALSH: When you say you partied, what do you mean by that?

O'SHEA: We'd drink beer and smoke pot usually.

WALSH: What time to you think you got Nick Morfin's house on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: If I had to guess I'd say maybe 11:30...some time in the morning.

WALSH: When you arrived at Nick Morfin's house was anyone else there?

O'SHEA: Um...as far as I can remember, Nick was there and either Eric Anderson and Billy Bigeck were there when I got there or they came shortly after. I think that was all that was there when I first got there.

WALSH: Was there anyone else there besides Nick Morfin, Bill Bigeck and Eric Anderson?

O'SHEA: Some other people came by a little bit later.

WALSH: Okay, but when you first arrived, the three you recall, would that be Bill Bigeck, Eric Anderson and Nick Morfin?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I think they were there when I got there.

WALSH: Was there a time...No strike that. What were you guys doing when you were at Nick's house...you, Eric and Billy and Nick?

O'SHEA: Um, I was you know...trying to figure out a way we could get some pot and stuff. Eric and Bigeck said they stole some stuff and I was interested in getting rid of it so we could get some money.

WALSH: So, you wanted to help them sell whatever they had stolen so you get money to buy some marijuana, or drugs or whatever else you were going to party with?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did you or anyone else make any calls that day from the Morfin house?

O'SHEA: That...I made a couple calls at least.

WALSH: Was Matt Sopron one of the people who were called?

O'SHEA: Um, I am not...I am not... I don't think I called him, but I think one of us called him.

WALSH: Do you know why Matt Sopron was called?

O'SHEA: They were going to try to sell him the stuff they stole.

WALSH: Did you know what stuff was actually stolen?

O'SHEA: I didn't know what they had. I thought they might have had VCR's, a T.V. or something, but I didn't really know until a little... until after Matt actually came and (unintelligible.)

WALSH: Who stole the materials?

O'SHEA: Eric Anderson and Bill Bigeck I believe.

WALSH: Did Matt Sopron come by Nick Morfin's house?

O'SHEA: Yeah, he came over there.

WALSH: Who did he come over with?

O'SHEA: He was with Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski and I believe it was this guy they called "Dudbud."

WALSH: And that person's last name is Barnoski, correct?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe so.

WALSH: Tell me what happened when Matt Sopron, Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski and Mr. Barnoski came over to Nick Morfin's house.

O'SHEA: Mmm... Nick, Bigeck, Eric...everyone except for me...that was at the house all went into the other room. They were talking about stuff they stole and if those guys wanted it and the guys didn't want it so they left.

WALSH: How long...do you know what was said in that other room?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Why weren't you in that room?

O'SHEA: I think they didn't trust me or something. They didn't want me to know what they had, stuff like that.

WALSH: Who told you you couldn't go in the room?

O'SHEA: Mmm...it might have been Nick Morfin's idea.

WALSH: To you knowledge, did Matt Sopron, Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski or this Barnoski guy purchase any of the stolen property from Eric Anderson or Bill Bigeck?

O'SHEA: No, they didn't buy it.

WALSH: Did you hear Matt Sopron say anything to anybody else who was there or give any instructions?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did Matt have any conversations with you when he was there?

O'SHEA: We might have said "Hi" to each other and maybe had small talk but other than that nothing, nothing else.

WALSH: Did Matt Sopron ever give any instructions concerning, instructions or orders, any other statements about a group of people known as the Ridgeway Lords?

O'SHEA: No, he never said nothing about them.

WALSH: Did he ever give any orders or instructions to Eric Anderson or Bill Bigeck...

O'SHEA: About...

WALSH: Anybody who was driving a van?

O'SHEA: Not that I know of.

WALSH: Did you ever hear Matt Sopron tell anyone to light up a van, to pull a roll, or to take any type of conduct or action with respect to a van?

O'SHEA: Not that I heard.

WALSH: Now at trial, I believe it was February 4, 1998, you testified about Matt Sopron giving some type of orders, or some type of instructions when he was at Nick Morfin's house on December 14, 1995. Do you recall that?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Why did you say that Matt Sopron gave orders to do something to a van or to harm some people when today you're telling me that he never did that?

O'SHEA: Basically at the time when that happened I felt that Scott Cassidy, state's attorney...I was under the impression that if I didn't say that stuff about Matt that I could be charged for the murders and I could go to jail or worse...go to jail for the rest of my life or worse.

WALSH: So when he testified against Matt Sopron on February 4, 1998, at that trial involving Matt before Judge Kazmierski... that testimony was not true.

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: At any time on December 14, 1995 did you hear Matt Sopron give any orders or any instructions to anyone about the Ridgeway Lords, about a van or doing anything gang related?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did you hear Mike Gizowski or Gene Gizowski or this other person, Mr. Barnoski, discuss gang business or gang activities or doing harm to any other individuals or a van or any girls at that time?

O'SHEA: No, I didn't hear anything.

WALSH: Do you recall Matt Sopron recall having any private meetings with Eddie Morfin or Nick Morfin about any matter. Did they have any private meetings that you remember?

O'SHEA: Other than when they were in the room discussing...talking about buying that stuff...other than that, I...

WALSH: And you weren't in that room whenever those discussions were to take place, right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Was that room adjacent to where you were?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I was sitting in the front room and it is like...yeah, it's just like right across from me.

WALSH: Were your listening in on that conversation?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Could you hear what was being said in that other room?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did anyone who was present for that conversation, and I think you told me that Mike Barnoski, Gene Gizowski, Mike Gizowski, Matt Sopron, Nick Morfin, Bill Bigeck and Eric Anderson were in there, correct?

O'SHEA: I don't know if it is Donny or Mike Barnoski.

WALSH: Okay, one of the Barnoski's was there.

O'SHEA: Yeah.

WALSH: All those other people were in that other room with whatever the stolen merchandise was, right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did anybody who was present for that conversation ever tell you that Matt Sopron gave orders for anyone to shoot at a van, to light up a van, to shoot at anyone or try to harm anyone?

O'SHEA: No, they never told me nothing like that.

WALSH: Did anyone ever tell you what happened during that conversation?

O'SHEA: Well, after they left they wound up showing me what they stole.

WALSH: Who showed you what they stole?

O'SHEA: Eric Anderson.

WALSH: What happened, well...tell me what happened after Matt Sopron, Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski, Barnoski, Nick Morfin, after they came out of that meeting in that room. What happened?

O'SHEA: Mmm...those guys left.

WALSH: Who's those guys?

O'SHEA: Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski, Matt Sopron and B...

WALSH: Barnoski guy?

O'SHEA: Barnoski, yeah.

WALSH: So they leave. What happens then, after those guys leave?

O'SHEA: Then, Eric Anderson wanted to show me what they had and Nick told him that maybe he shouldn't and Eric said that it was alright, that I was alright, so they showed me the guns that they stole.

WALSH: Where was Bill Bigeck?

O'SHEA: He was around the house somewhere. He was walking around.

WALSH: Was he showing some guns?

O'SHEA: Yeah, he showed me some.

WALSH: Who showed you the guns?

O'SHEA: Eric.

WALSH: Was Nick Morfin nearby, or did Eric just show it to you privately?

O'SHEA: They were like maybe...in another room. They could have walked in the room I was in.

WALSH: Oh, by the way, did you ever hear Matt Sopron tell anyone to do anything the serial numbers of any guns?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did Matt Sopron...Did you ever see Matt Sopron handle the guns?

O'SHEA: Not myself, no.

WALSH: Did you ever see Matt Sopron with a file or any other type of tool that could be used to scrape a serial number on a gun that day?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Another day?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did Matt ever tell anybody to scrape down the numbers on the guns?

O'SHEA: Not that I know.

WALSH: Could you testify to that?

O'SHEA: I believe I did.

WALSH: Was that true or false when you testified that Matt Sopron gave someone instructions to file down serial numbers on a gun?

O'SHEA: It was false.

WALSH: Did anyone test fire those guns when you were at the house?

O'SHEA: I believe they did before I...I got...shortly before I got there.

WALSH: Who to your knowledge, test fired the gun?

O'SHEA: I think Nick might have shot it but it ricocheted back and hit him...left a bruise on his chest. I don't know exactly who pulled...whoever was test firing it or whatever.

WALSH: Do you know where they test fired them at?

O'SHEA: Nick's basement.

WALSH: When you looked at the guns after Matt Sopron, the Gizowski brothers - Gene Gizowski, Mike Gizowski - and Mr. Barnoski left Nick Morfin's house were the serial numbers scratched off them?

O'SHEA: They ah...didn't do that till later until after those guys left.

WALSH: Who did the scratching of the serial numbers?

O'SHEA: It was like Nick and Ed and those guys.

WALSH: Was Ed Morfin in the house at any time while Matt Sopron was there?

O'SHEA: I don't remember him being there, I mean as far as I remember I don't remember him being there when Matt was there.

WALSH: Is it your recollection that Nick Morfin, excuse me, Ed Morfin came after Matt Sopron left?

O'SHEA: Mmm...it's hard to remember, but I believe so, I'm not...I'm not positive.

WALSH: But you do...you don't remember him being there when Matt Sopron was there, is that correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: So, Ed Morfin and Matt Sopron were not at that house at the same time.

O'SHEA: I don't believe so.

WALSH: Whose idea was it to grind down the serial number on the gun?

O'SHEA: I think it could have been Ed Morfin's idea.

WALSH: Do you know what time it was when they went to grind down the serial numbers on the gun?

O'SHEA: Mmm... probably in the afternoon.

WALSH: Who was doing the grinding of the serial numbers? Was it Bill Bigeck?

O'SHEA: Yeah...he could have been one of them. I don't remember exactly.

WALSH: So you don't remember who was grinding the serial numbers down on the gun?

O'SHEA: Not specifically.

WALSH: Tell me about when you got to the house. Can you describe the behavior of Bill Bigeck and Eric Anderson?

O'SHEA: Mmm...Bill Bigeck was excited about the guns he stole and he was saying that he is trigger happy already. I think his exact words were, "I'm trigger happy already and I didn't even the... shoot anyone yet" or something like that and Eric was just kind of happy about the guns they stole. He thought they looked cool and he liked

them.

WALSH: Now, Bryan, you've had an addiction issue with drugs and alcohol. Is that correct?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I mean yeah, I have been in treatment and stuff like that but, yeah...I mean...I party a lot.

WALSH: And, have you been around a lot of people who have been intoxicated in your lifetime?

O'SHEA: Yes, you can say that.

WALSH: Would that be because you have partied with a lot of people in your short life so far?

O'SHEA: Yeah.

WALSH: And, have you been around people over your life who have become intoxicated based on consuming alcohol?

O'SHEA: Mmm...mmm

WALSH: Is that yes?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: How many people do you think you have seen in your lifetime who have been drunk?

O'SHEA: Shew...hundreds...I don't know...thousands if you add it all up. I don't know.

WALSH: And, how many times do you think you have been drunk in your life, if you have had to estimate?

O'SHEA: Probably...the same thing almost.

WALSH: Hundreds and thousands?

O'SHEA: I don't know... drunk...yeah... probably hundreds of times, something like that.

WALSH: And, do you think you are qualified to look at somebody and tell when they are intoxicated based on all that experience around people who have been drinking?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: When Billie Bigeck was at Nick Morfin's house did he appear to be under the influence of alcohol to you?

O'SHEA: The only thing he was drunk on was the fact that he had those guns and like I said, the comments he was making, but...he wasn't...as far as drinking alcohol I don't remember him being drunk on alcohol.

WALSH: Did he appear to be under the influence of anything else that you can tell, or don't you know?

O'SHEA: Just the power of having that gun, he was acting all weird, other than that I...

WALSH: Tell me a little bit more, you said he was acting all weird. How was he acting weird?

O'SHEA: Like I said, you know...he said was trigger happy and he never pulled a trigger. He was jumping around. He was acting weird. It's like...he's a goofy guy to begin with, but he was just acting goofy, you know...when he saw those guns...you know.

WALSH: Had you ever seen Bill Bigeck behave like that before?

O'SHEA: I've seen him act weird and stuff like that but I never seen him with guns before then.

WALSH: Now, what I want to figure out, I think that you told me you didn't know that these guys had stolen guns when you got to the house and you didn't find they were guns until after Matt Sopron left, but I think you just told me that he was acting real weird about guns when you first saw him over there. I'm a little confused. Does that mean, was he bouncing around before you learned that there were guns there or was it after?

O'SHEA: I remember not knowing that there were guns until after those guys left. As far as how he was acting before I found out, I mean, I don't know. I knew they stole stuff and he was just excited that he had some stuff of value or whatever. Other than that I don't remember anything else out of the ordinary.

WALSH: Did he make the comment about the guns before Matt Sopron was there or after?

O'SHEA: Umm, like I said, as far as I remember I don't remember knowing about the guns until they showed them to me, so if he made a comment about 'em I didn't know what he was talking about.

WALSH: When you were there at Nick Morfin's house was there a bong in the house or some over device for smoking marijuana?

O'SHEA: Probably, I mean...

WALSH: Do you remember?

O'SHEA: It's hard to remember. From what I remember, I remember a real big bong like...made out of PVC pipe, I think that one might have been around.

WALSH: Do you know whether or not Eric Anderson or Bill Bigeck or Nick Morfin had used that bong to get high before you got there?

O'SHEA: I don't know if they did or not.

WALSH: After Matt Sopron left Nick Morfin's house did you have any other contact with Matt Sopron after that?

O'SHEA: No, not that day.

WALSH: Did you see Matt Sopron at all that day after he left?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: What happened after Matt Sopron and Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski and Mr. Barnoski left Nick Morfin's house?

O'SHEA: Umm, after those guys showed me the guns and then started scraping them down, other than that, other then...you know...Nick making a comment and me trying to call someone one up to go to his house to get some weed...but other than that (unintelligible.)

WALSH: Did Ed Morfin finally come over to the house after Matt left?

O'SHEA: Yeah, he came...he came at some point, I don't remember when.

WALSH: Do you know if he came before Matt Sopron or was it after Matt Sopron left?

O'SHEA: I believe it was after.

WALSH: Who did you try to contact to see if you can get some more...

O'SHEA: I called up this guy Mark DiFerio.

WALSH: And, how do you know Mark DiFerio?

O'SHEA: I didn't know him that long at the time, but I just knew him from neighborhood kids. He smoked bud and stuff like that so...

WALSH: When you talk about bud, that's like slang for marijuana.

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: We might be using slang throughout this. Do you use any other terms for this slang for being marijuana?

O'SHEA: Not really, mostly that.

WALSH: Where did you...did you eventually leave Nick Morfin's house?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: About what time did you leave Nick Morfin's house on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: I'd say early afternoon.

WALSH: Who was at Nick Morfin's house when you left?

O'SHEA: Uh, Billy, Eric, Ed and Nick.

WALSH: Okay, Nick Morfin, Ed Morfin, Billy Bigeck and Eric Anderson. Correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Umm, during the entire time that you were at Nick Morfin's house did you ever hear anyone discuss doing anything to the Ridgeway Lords or shooting in a van or harming the girls or harming Ridgeway Lord gang members?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did you hear anyone give an order about taking action against another gang or shooting at another gang, or harming another gang, or anyone else?

O'SHEA: Umm, I mean...I heard like maybe one thing about that van, they said it got burnt or whatever. I'm not sure if it was that day that I heard it. But, the only other thing like before I was leaving Nick's house, Nick said why don't I ride Eric Anderson on the handle bars and up the Kennedy, and I don't know if he said shoot Two Six or something like that, light up some Two Six. I don't know if he was half joking around but he was probably serious, but I didn't want to do it so I wound up leaving.

WALSH: So, somebody suggested to you that you ride Eric Anderson on your handlebars of your two-wheel bicycle to see if you saw Two Six gang members and shoot at them.

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did you do anything remotely like that that day?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: And did you tell Nick Morfin and Eric Anderson, whoever else was there, that you weren't going to do that?

O'SHEA: I just said...I don't know if I said no, or what my exact words were, but I told them that I was going to go to Mark's house to try to get some weed and I would bring back if I could, but other than that...

WALSH: And, you didn't take anybody along with you to ride on your handlebars of your bike to shoot at people as you rode over to DiFerio's house.

O'SHEA: Yeah.

WALSH: To DiFerio's house, correct?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: And you had no intention of shooting anybody or harming anybody there did you?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Were you the only person who left?

O'SHEA: Yes. At the time I left.

WALSH: Where did you go when you left?

O'SHEA: I went to Mark DiFerio's house.

WALSH: Who had the guns when you left?

O'SHEA: Umm, they were at Nick's house.

WALSH: Where were they. Were people holding them. Were they in a bag, were they in a holster?

O'SHEA: I think they were filing the serial numbers off them.

WALSH: What happened when you went to Nick DiFerio's house?

O'SHEA: Mark DiFerio

WALSH: I'm sorry. Mark DiFerio.

O'SHEA: Umm, I think he smoked some bud with me and other than that I don't remember much.

WALSH: Did you get high with Mr. DiFerio?

O'SHEA: Probably. It's hard to remember, but most likely I did. I believe I did.

WALSH: Did you leave Mark DiFerio's house eventually?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: And, what time did you leave his house?

O'SHEA: I'm not sure, probably late afternoon or early evening by then.

WALSH: And, where did you go after you left Mark DiFerio's house?

O'SHEA: I believe I went home.

WALSH: Where did you live at that time?

O'SHEA: I think the address was 6220 W. 64th. I was living with my brother in an apartment.

WALSH: What happened when you went home. Did you stay home the rest of the evening or did you do anything else?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I did. I stayed home the rest of the evening.

WALSH: Did you talk to anybody else that evening? Any of the people we have mentioned? Nick Morfin, Eric Anderson, Bill Bigeck, Nick Morfin, Ed Morfin, Matt Sopron, John Gizowski, Gene Gizowski, Mike Gizowski or Mr. Barnoski. Did you talk to any of those people after you left Mr. DiFerio's house on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: Not that I remember.

WALSH: Did you call anyone that night?

O'SHEA: Not that I remember.

WALSH: Did you go out to the Hale School or anywhere else with Bill Bigeck, Eric Anderson or anyone else?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did anybody ask you to go out to that school and do anything?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Was there a time that you were told that two girls, Helena Martin and Carrie Hovel were shot to death on the evening of December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: I called my friend Pat the next day...

WALSH: What's Pat's last name?

O'SHEA: White.

WALSH: What time did you call Pat on December 15, 1995.

O'SHEA: I believe it was in the morning. It could have been probably anywhere between 9 and 11:30, whatever...sometime in the morning I believe.

WALSH: What happened when you spoke to Pat?

O'SHEA: He thought I knew about what happened the night before and I was asking him what was going on...I mean... and he just like...and he just didn't believe that I didn't know about it yet, because I guess it was on the news and stuff and I basically...when I heard that from him...I think he might have said something like turn on the T.V. It's all over the news, so I wound up eventually getting off the phone with him and watching on the news and kind of being shocked.

WALSH: Were you ever questioned by the police shortly after the murders about the incident?

O'SHEA: Not until...I don't know if was about eight months later, how ever long it was.

WALSH: You were questioned in the month of September of 1996, correct?

O'SHEA: I believe that's... yeah.

WALSH: That's the first time anybody contacted you in connection with the homicide of those girls?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Correct?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Did anybody ever tell you that they received orders to shoot at any opposing gang members on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: No, not that I remember. On December 14, no one said they received orders or anything.

WALSH: Did you ever hear from...did Eric Anderson, Billy Bigeck or anyone else ever tell you that they were ordered to shoot at any other gang members, at any van or any girls?

O'SHEA: No. They never said they were ordered.

WALSH: Did Eric Anderson or Billy Bigeck every tell you that they were involved in the shooting of the van?

O'SHEA: No I didn't see Billy...I guess they went to jail and I didn't talk to them since.

WALSH: Have you talked to Eric Anderson since you saw him at Nick Morfin's house?

O'SHEA: Other than the one time in court when I was passing one way and he was passing the other, I think he might have said something like what's up. But other than that.

WALSH: He just said hello would you agree?

O'SHEA: I think he did, yeah.

WALSH: Did you ever visit Eric Anderson or Billy Bigeck when he was in the County Jail.

O'SHEA: I visited, no not those two.

WALSH: Did you visit anyone in the while they were in the County Jail on charges related to the murder of Helena Martin and Carrie Hovel?

O'SHEA: I visited Nick Morfin.

WALSH: Do you know how many times you visited Nick Morfin?

O'SHEA: I think it was pretty often, but I don't remember the exact number.

WALSH: Why did you visit Nick Morfin?

O'SHEA: Umm, because I was his friend and I just wanted to see him when he was in jail.

WALSH: I think we are at about the end of this tape. So we will switch sides and put the second side on, okay?

O'SHEA: Alright.

WALSH: Okay, we're on the second side of the tape. I was asking you before we broke and switched the tape about whether or not you visited Nick Morfin in jail and you said that you did. Is that right?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Who did you visit Nick Morfin with? Did you go with anyone else?

O'SHEA: Umm, yeah sometimes I would go with different people. I went with Matt Sopron, Wayne Antusas.

WALSH: And, all of you guys were friends from the neighborhood?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: When you visited Nick Morfin with Matt Sopron did you ever hear that Matt Sopron give any orders or instructions to Nick Morfin concerning his charges or the case?

O'SHEA: No, he never gave any instructions.

WALSH: When you visited Nick Morfin with Matt Sopron on those occasions, whether it was one or more, what types of things were discussed?

O'SHEA: Umm, just basically how people are doing...how Nick's doing in jail...that's basically it.

WALSH: Did you ever hear Matt Sopron ever tell Nick Morfin words to the effect of how to beat his case or how to create a defense to the case or anything of that nature?

O'SHEA: No, he never said anything like that.

WALSH: Did you testify to anything like that in court against Matt Sopron when he testified back in February of 1998?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe I did.

WALSH: Why did you do that?

O'SHEA: Again, it was just stuff that...you know...I felt I was pressured by the state's attorneys that if I didn't do that stuff that they would charge me.

WALSH: Which state's attorney did you feel pressured you?

O'SHEA: Scott Cassidy mostly.

WALSH: When you testified about Matt Sopron talking about beating a case or how to defend a case to Nick Morfin when you and Matt visited Nick Morfin at the Cook County Jail. Was that true?

O'SHEA: No. He never said nothing like that.

WALSH: And, I think you told me that one of the reasons you did that is because you felt that the state's attorneys could charge you with the murder of those two girls.

O'SHEA: Yeah, that was the impression I had.

WALSH: How did you feel when you were testifying falsely before Judge Kazmierski about Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: I didn't feel good about it because at the time I kinda...you know... there was a thing on the street where you don't want to trick out on people...You don't want to be known as a trick...and that was just one thing. Another thing...you know...is it wasn't true. He worked, he went fishing and tried telling them this...you know...but I felt bad. But, at the time...I don't know...I just went through it.

WALSH: Were you more concerned about being charged with the murders of those girls than telling the truth?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I guess I was.

WALSH: What was your biggest fear?

O'SHEA: I guess at the time, that I would go to jail with (unintelligible). I would go to jail. I said that and I wound up not going to jail.

WALSH: Did you have anything to do with the murders of Helena Martin and Carrie Hovel?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: We will talk more about it, but the reason you lied at trial is because you felt that you were going to be charged with murder unless you lied in court. Is that right?

O'SHEA: Right, essentially yeah.

WALSH: Was there any other reason that you lied in court?

O'SHEA: No. It was...that was the main thing that I was scared of at first. Because I tried telling Cassidy I didn't want to lie but he didn't want to hear it.

WALSH: When did you tell Scott Cassidy that you didn't want to lie?

O'SHEA: I believe it was the first time I met with him at 26th and California with my lawyer.

WALSH: We are going to talk about that in a little bit, that first meeting. Umm, let's see. Bryan, did you ever hear Matt Sopron at any time order anyone to shoot or harm Ridgeway Lords?

O'SHEA: No, I never heard him say anything like that.

WALSH: Did you ever hear Matt Sopron tell anyone how to shoot at Ridgeway Lords or shoot at other gang members?

O'SHEA: No, never.

WALSH: Tell me about the Popes gang on December 14, 1995. How many people were involved in it?

O'SHEA: Mmm...From my neighborhood there wasn't many. There was a handful, probably 10 people or something.

WALSH: Did your gang sell drugs to support itself?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did your gang, strike that. Did you gang maintain a collection of guns or any other weapons?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did the Popes ever have any guns before Bill Bigeck and Eric Anderson grabbed them out of some house on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I'm sure some people had stuff but not really that I knew of.

WALSH: Were you aware of the Popes having gang guns that could be used to defend the neighborhood or carry out the Pulp business, I mean, had you ever seen those?

O'SHEA: Umm...I mean...Wayne had it a couple times at his house before but other than that...

WALSH: Was that it?

O'SHEA: Yeah, that's pretty much it.

WALSH: Are you aware of the Popes shooting anyone else prior to this December 14, 1995 incident?

O'SHEA: Not that I know of.

WALSH: Did you ever witness the Popes shoot at somebody?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Were you area of this alleged dispute between Bill Bigeck and the Ridgeway Lords prior to December 14, 1995. Do you know what that was all about?

O'SHEA: Like I said, I might have heard something about that van being burnt but I didn't know much about it other than that.

WALSH: Is that the extent of the dispute with Ridgeway Lords, those two people?

O'SHEA: I mean...that's all I knew about it.

WALSH: And, how often were you in the neighborhood? Walking around the neighborhood every day?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I was there.

WALSH: If there was a big war going on with the Ridgeway Lords do you think you would have been knowledgeable of it?

O'SHEA: Yeah, definitely.

WALSH: And, to your knowledge were there any instructions from anybody in the Popes or affiliated with the Popes about doing anything to the Ridgeway Lords?

O'SHEA: Not...no that I know of.

WALSH: We will wait until the phone stops ringing here. Umm. Bryan, during the time...you knew that Matt Sopron was arrested in September, approximately September 19, 1996. Correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: And, you are also aware that Matt Sopron was on bond for a period of time after his arrest until before the trial started on February, I believe it was February 2nd or 3rd, 1998. Right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: During the time that the case was pending against Matt Sopron, did Matt Sopron ever threaten you in any shape, manner or form about potential testimony you might give against him?

O'SHEA: No, he never talked about anything like that.

WALSH: Did he ever threaten you in any way?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did Matt Sopron ever approach you and say, you know, guy if you testify I am going to hurt you or that you, or otherwise tell you that you would suffer an attack or any bad consequences if you testified against him?

O'SHEA: No, he never said nothing like that.

WALSH: Were you afraid of Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Umm, did you see Matt Sopron while he was driving through the neighborhood while his case was pending?

O'SHEA: Umm, yeah, yeah...I mean...when that happened, yeah, I had seen him.

WALSH: And, he never tried to harm you or anything. Did he?

O'SHEA: To your knowledge, did Matt Sopron give any orders for anyone else to come out and harm you, or scar your or talk to you?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did anyone every approach you and say, don't testify against Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: At trial, at the trial of Matt Sopron it was suggested that you were afraid of Matt Sopron. Did you testify to that?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe so.

WALSH: Was that true?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Why did you say that, if it wasn't true?

O'SHEA: I was trying to go along with the state's attorneys and just try to tell them what I thought they wanted to hear.

WALSH: Who suggested that testimony to you? Did anybody tell you to say that?

O'SHEA: Mmm...Cassidy pressured me into testifying against Matt...you know... and I just said things I thought they wanted to hear and stuff like that.

WALSH: What made you think things like, I'm afraid of Matt Sopron, would be something the state's attorneys wanted to hear?

O'SHEA: Mmm...just because I went along...like...with what they were asking. They would ask me if I am nervous up on the stand. I said yeah and they said why, because you are nervous of Matt Sopron or something like that and I would say yeah.

WALSH: Did you feel that the state's attorneys were putting words in your mouth concerning Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: Yeah, basically.

WALSH: Why?

O'SHEA: I don't know...like...just the fact that...you know...when I was in their office with my lawyer...you know...they just wanted me to testify against Matt. I kept telling them I didn't want to...that I didn't want to lie. They didn't want to hear about it.

WALSH: Let's back up a little bit. You've already talked about the fact that Matt Sopron was arrested on or about September 19, 1996. Do you recall that?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Was there a period in time in September prior to Matt Sopron's arrest when you were approached by the police or investigators looking into this double homicide?

O'SHEA: Wait, I'm sorry. Could you ask that again?

WALSH: Sure. Did anybody ever come looking for you in connection with this case, the double homicide of the two girls?

O'SHEA: Before.

WALSH: Yeah, did they come looking for you before Matt Sopron was arrested?

O'SHEA: No, It was...like...all around at the same time, that's when they started questioning me and stuff.

WALSH: Okay. Tell me how you were first approached by the police or investigators concerning the homicide of the two girls.

O'SHEA: You want to know how I was approached.

WALSH: Yeah, how were you first approached by the police or investigators or states attorneys?

O'SHEA: They came to my house one day.

WALSH: Who did?

O'SHEA: A couple investigators.

WALSH: Were they armed?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe so.

WALSH: Did they have badges on?

O'SHEA: I don't know if they had badges present, but they probably had badges in their wallet or something.

WALSH: Tell me what happened when these investigators approached you. Where were you at?

O'SHEA: I was getting out of a friend's van coming home from work and they told me that they were going to take me down to the station and ask me a couple questions.

WALSH: Where were at in relation to your house?

O'SHEA: I was on the sidewalk next to my gait...like in front of my house.

WALSH: And, what did you do when the investigators said that they wanted to take you in to question you about the homicide.

O'SHEA: I said that I don't want to go. You are either going to have to arrest me if you want me to go with you, otherwise I don't want to go with you.

WALSH: What did the investigators do next?

O'SHEA: They told me to put my hands behind my back and they started to handcuff me and then they stopped, so I walked into my backyard.

WALSH: Well, how did they stop? I mean, did they say something before they stopped or...

O'SHEA: Uhh, I don't really remember. I only remember them doing that and for whatever reason they just stopped. Maybe they thought I was going to get scared and go with them then at that point or something.

WALSH: Did umm, what happened next? What did you do when you went into your yard?

O'SHEA: They tried coming in with me and I just said that if you don't have a warrant you can't come on my property and I closed the gait and then I called my lawyer.

WALSH: Did you go into your house?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I went into the house.

WALSH: And, what lawyer did you call?

O'SHEA: I called (unintelligible).

WALSH: Let me back up just so we are clear. Does Mr. Axelrood represent you right now?

O'SHEA: Mmm...not right now.

WALSH: When you contacted me today, I asked you if you were represented by a lawyer. Is that correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: And, I also asked you about Mr. Axelrood, whether he was still involved with you, didn't I?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did you tell me that you were willing to speak to me without Mr. Axelrood or without any other lawyer being present?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: And, you told me that you did want to speak to me. Is that correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: And, right now as we continue, are you still speaking to me voluntarily?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Okay, we will continue. So, you go into the house and you spoke to Mr. Axelrood. Right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: What happened when you called Mr. Axelrood? What did you tell him?

O'SHEA: I just told him that a couple guys wanted to question me in regards to a double homicide and he acted shocked on the phone. He was in shock.

WALSH: Have you ever spoke to Mr. Axelrood about this case prior to that phone call to him?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: And, what else did Mr. Axelrood say?

O'SHEA: He just...at that point I saw two investigators come walking towards my house so I told Larry and he said that he wanted to talk to them on the phone.

WALSH: Did you give the investigators the phone?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Where were the investigators when you gave them the phone?

O'SHEA: They were standing outside the house.

WALSH: How did you hand them the phone?

O'SHEA: Through the window.

WALSH: You didn't allow them inside your house, correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Why didn't you let them in your house?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I don't know...I just didn't want 'em...I guess at the time I just didn't want them in my house, so...

WALSH: What happened when you gave the investigators the phone?

O'SHEA: Mmm...they talked with Larry and I think Larry asked him who they were working for and stuff and then they left.

WALSH: Did you leave with them?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: You stayed home, correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did you speak with Mr. Axelrood again?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: When did you speak with Mr. Axelrood next?

O'SHEA: When I got back on the phone with him he just said (unintelligible) and then I think maybe my mom went down to his office and talked to him.

WALSH: Did you pay Mr. Axelrood some money?

O'SHEA: I believe my mom did.

WALSH: How much?

O'SHEA: I believe it was \$2500.00.

WALSH: And, did you talk with Mr. Axelrood about the case?

O'SHEA: Yeah, we talked about it.

WALSH: When you talked to him, when you spoke to Mr. Axelrood, did you tell him the truth?

O'SHEA: Umm...yeah.

WALSH: Did you ever tell Mr. Axelrood at that time that Matt Sopron ordered the killings of the two girls?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did you ever tell anyone at that point that Matt Sopron had ordered the killings of those two girls?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did you ever tell anyone or Mr. Axelrood, up to that point, that Matt Sopron told somebody to do harm to the two girls or the Ridgeway Lords or to any two individuals or to a van?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: After you spoke with Mr. Axelrood and your mother what happened then?

O'SHEA: Mmm...Umm...basically we and Larry went down to talk to Cassidy at 26th and California on one day sometime after that.

WALSH: Was that before Matt Sopron was arrested?

O'SHEA: I believe so, yeah.

WALSH: Tell me how this meeting took place with your lawyer and Mr. Cassidy. Was it at 26th and California?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Where did you meet with Dr. Cassidy.

O'SHEA: In his off...like...in like a conference room on the 13th floor at 26th and California.

WALSH: Umm...what happened when you and Mr. Axelrood met with Mr. Cassidy?

O'SHEA: Basically, he just started asking questions about the case and what happened at Nick Morfin's house that day and I started to tell them. And, then they are like...what about Matt Sopron and I was...you know...what about some conversation Matt had about something and I was like...I don't know what you are talking about and...

WALSH: Did you get a proffer letter before you started speaking with Mr. Cassidy?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe so.

WALSH: I think I have a copy of your proffer letter. I am going to show it to you. We looked at it a few minutes ago. I am still looking for it. Well...you had a proffer letter before you started speaking. I will keep looking for it. You had a proffer letter, is that correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Okay. And, that proffer letter originally said that the state's attorney of Cook County had evidence against, incriminating you in a crime. Right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: At the time you went to see Mr. Cassidy with Mr. Axelrood did you believe that the state was looking at you as a suspect in the murders of the two girls?

O'SHEA: Mmm...not first with that. I didn't think they were looking at that.

WALSH: At any time while you were there did you believe you could be charged with the murders of those two girls?

O'SHEA: Yeah, when they started asking about Matt and conversations and stuff and I said I didn't know nothing...that's when I started to get the impression that they were going to do that.

WALSH: Okay. Who gave you the impression that you could be charged with the murder of those two girls?

O'SHEA: Scott Cassidy was basically swearing and yelling at me saying that he wants to hear the truth and that he has not other people who say that there was a conversation...you know...and stuff like that.

WALSH: Was Mr. Cassidy taking any notes when you were there with Mr. Axelrood talking to him?

O'SHEA: I don't really remember.

WALSH: Did he have any other documents or papers with him?

O'SHEA: I think he had some papers. I don't really remember too much.

WALSH: Did Mr. Cassidy call you a liar during that conversation?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe so, like at one point I said those guys went into the room...you know...to talk about the guns and I was in another room he's like...he said something like bullshit, you're part of the gang, or whatever. Why would they leave you out of the room...stuff like that.

WALSH: Did you tell Scott Cassidy in the presence of Mr. Axelrood that Matt Sopron did not order any shootings or any shootings in a van, or any girls, or any other people on December 14, 1995?

O'SHEA: Yeah. I tried to tell him that.

WALSH: How many times did you tell him that?

O'SHEA: From what I remember I just kept telling him over and over...you know...he just didn't want to hear it.

WALSH: Did you ever tell Mr. Cassidy that you did not want to lie?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I told him that.

WALSH: How many times?

O'SHEA: Umm...I now it was a lot...a lot...I guess...I don't know the number.

WALSH: Well, while you were meeting with Mr. Cassidy and with Mr. Axelrood did you have a chance to speak with MR. Axelrood privately?

O'SHEA: Yeah.

WALSH: To take a break?

O'SHEA: Yeah, a couple times.

WALSH: Did you ever tell Mr. Axelrood that that was a lie?

O'SHEA: Yeah, but I told him that I didn't want to lie and he just...I don't know if he just didn't believe me or whatever...but he was like...you know...basically you just got to do this...stuff like that.

WALSH: Why did Mr. Axelrood say that you had to a...

O'SHEA: He...

WALSH: To do something?

O'SHEA: I think he just trying to...he didn't want me to get charged with anything...and probably that was the way...

WALSH: What did Mr. Axelrood tell you you could be charged with?

O'SHEA: I don't know if he used the exact words, but from what I understood he told me that they could charge me, most likely, I don't think he used the words, "charged with the murder of the girls," but that is what I took it as. Obviously, that is what they were talking about.

WALSH: Were they talking about any other crimes besides the murders of those two girls when you were there?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Were you charged with any other cases at the time when you were brought down there by your attorney to speak with Mr. Cassidy?

O'SHEA: No. I wasn't charged with anything.

WALSH: You weren't trying to work off any drug case or anything like that were you?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Is there any other potential case that you could possibly have been charged in connection with that you were aware of?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: But, in your mind, did you feel that Scott Cassidy had the power to charge you with the murders of those two girls when he was yelling at you and swearing at you?

O'SHEA: Well, I thought he would make up something to charge me with.

WALSH: How would you characterize Mr. Cassidy's demeanor with you in your talking about this case and what they wanted you to say?

O'SHEA: Basically, whenever I would say something that he didn't want to hear he would just get angry and threaten to leave the room...you know...then I would get...and then...I thought I would be charged with something after that.

WALSH: How many times did you tell Mr. Axelrood that Matt Sopron had nothing to do with the murder?

O'SHEA: Mmm...we were sitting there going back and forth with that...he was right there with us...and I told everyone a bunch of times.

WALSH: But when you told that information to Mr. Axelrood did he ever tell you that the prosecutors wanted to charge, or that the prosecutors could charge you with murder if you didn't say what they wanted to hear about Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: Did, I'm sorry.

WALSH: (Unintelligible) What I want to find out is if Mr. Axelrood told you that you could be charged with murder if you didn't say what the prosecutors wanted to hear about Matt Sopron.

O'SHEA: Yeah, he said something like that. My parents aren't going to put up money and he won't be able to defend me...you know.

WALSH: What did Mr. Axelrood say...what did he tell you would happen if you were charged with the murders of those two girls?

O'SHEA: That my family wouldn't put up the money for anyone to defend me and that he wouldn't be able to defend me without any money.

WALSH: When he told you that what did you feel?

O'SHEA: I felt kind of...helpless...kind of like...I don't know. I felt kind of bad.

WALSH: Did you have any money to pay a lawyer at that time?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did you have anybody who would pay money for a lawyer for you at that time if you were tried with the murders?

O'SHEA: Not that I know of.

WALSH: Were you working at that time?

O'SHEA: No not really, because I was in treatment at that time so I don't think I was working.

WALSH: When you were brought to the state's attorneys office you had just begun treatment. Is that correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: And that was treatment for drug and alcohol addiction?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Is that the first time you ever had any treatment for drug or alcohol addiction?

O'SHEA: Yeah, pretty much other than one time the court sentenced me to something...I had to take a few classes, two days at (unintelligible) but other than that, yeah, that is like the first time.

WALSH: Did you feel your family would support you if were charged with the murder of those two girls?

O'SHEA: Mmm...at the time, no, I didn't think they would financially support me.

WALSH: Were your drug addiction and alcohol problems known to your family at that time?

O'SHEA: Mmm...yeah, I mean I wasn't really working too much and partying a lot.

WALSH: Did you have any money to pay or a bond if you were charged with those murders?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did you have anybody who would pay a bond for you?

O'SHEA: No, I don't think at the time anyone would have.

WALSH: Where did you think you would stay if you were charged with the murders?

O'SHEA: I don't know if I gave that much thought...I probably would stay in jail at the county, whatever.

WALSH: How did long did this back-and-forth conversation with Scott Cassidy and your attorney, Mr. Axelrod take place? How long was this whole deal where people were swearing at you, telling you to say something?

O'SHEA: Probably about a half hour or so. I'm not sure.

WALSH: Did anyone tell you what other witnesses had said about Matt Sopron?

O'SHEA: Cassidy was saying that he had information from other people and he has already got it from all them about the conversation and stuff.

WALSH: Did he tell you what those conversations were?

O'SHEA: He just kept, he just kept like asking about the conversation. I said, I didn't hear no conversation. I don't think...I don't know if he went into specific detail what they were. I think I kind of told him what he wanted to hear. I think he was asking leading questions too, I believe.

WALSH: When you say leading, was somebody suggesting the answers to you or suggesting...

O'SHEA: Yeah, like he would say like what about the conversation, I think he might have said something like what about Matt gave the order to shoot the girls and stuff like that.

WALSH: Was Mr. Cassidy talking about the Ridgeway Lords?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did he show you the papers in his hands from other alleged witnesses?

O'SHEA: I think he might have held them up there, maybe he just said that he talked to other people and stuff.

WALSH: Why did you finally agree to say what Mr. Cassidy wanted you to say?

O'SHEA: Basically, because I like trusted my lawyer and I was just basically afraid they were going to charge me with some stuff and I was afraid I was going to jail for the rest of my life, so...

WALSH: Was it true when you agreed to say what Mr. Cassidy said?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: When you agreed with those statements, that Matt Sopron had ordered the shootings, or told somebody to shoot at a van, was that true?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: When you finally decided that you would agree to say what they essentially told you to say what happened?

O'SHEA: Then...well that's enough for today and...like scheduled a time to come back and like they said to come back in about a week and get it down on paper or whatever.

WALSH: Did you tell Mr. Axelrood that you were uncomfortable lying?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I told him.

WALSH: What did he say?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I don't know if he...he might have thought that maybe there was some conversation or something. I don't know. I think he was just trying to look out for my interests and just wanted me to get out of it, so that was how to it.

WALSH: Did you feel pressure?

O'SHEA: I felt pressure from Cassidy and then my lawyer just kind off...you know...I was looking at him as a person to trust...and he just like...you know...let's do this. That's why I decided to do it.

WALSH: Did anyone yell at you during this time?

O'SHEA: Yeah. Cassidy was yelling.

WALSH: What was he yelling at you about?

O'SHEA: Just...you know...to try to tell the truth and he just didn't want to hear it.

WALSH: Do you remember anything that he said to you when he was yelling at you?

O'SHEA: Just like, I don't know...he would be just like swearing at me and I don't know if he said something like punk, mother fucker, I don't know, just basically yelling and swearing and wanting me to say what he wanted.

WALSH: After you left this meeting with Scott Cassidy and your lawyer, did Larry Axelrood say anything to you?

O'SHEA: He said like, I almost came off, he used...he said a cunt's hair away from...you know...whatever...being charged. I mean those weren't his words but I was a cunt hair away from...like...you know... the edge. That's what I took it to mean...you know...from being charged and stuff.

WALSH: Did you tell Mr. Cassidy that you weren't even in the room when Nick Morfin, Eric Anderson, Bill Bigeck, Matt Sopron, Mike Gizowski, Gene Gizowski, Mr. Barnoski looked at the guns.

O'SHEA: Yeah, I tried telling him that.

WALSH: You did tell them that, didn't you?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I told him that.

WALSH: How many times did you tell Mr. Cassidy that Matt Sopron had nothing to do with the shooting?

O'SHEA: I told him a few times but he didn't want to hear it.

WALSH: Did you ever tell Mr. Cassidy that you never heard anyone order a shooting that day?

O'SHEA: Right, I mean. I never heard anyone. That is what I was trying to hell him.

WALSH: Did you ask Mr. Axelrood anything else after you left, after he told you that you were a cunt hair away from getting in trouble.

O'SHEA: Mmm...not that I remember.

WALSH: Did you ask Mr. Axelrood what type of life you will have if you have to lie like that?

O'SHEA: I just told him when we were walking out of Cassidy's office...you know...what kind of life am I going to have now and he said something to the effect, what kind of life did you have or something like that.

WALSH: Did Mr. Axelrood give you any type of suggestions as far as your career or what you might do?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I would go to his office and talk to him. Sometimes he would...like...ask me what I thought about the Army and stuff like that.

WALSH: There was a decision made for you to go away to treatment at Little Company of Mary Hospital for drug and alcohol addiction. Is that correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Who made that decision?

O'SHEA: Well, me and brother. My brother just talked with me into how, he suggested it and he said that he wouldn't support me if I didn't try to do it. And, at the time I was thinking like financial support, so I was like...ah I'm not going to get no money from my brother for whatever if I don't...you know... do it. So, that's...then that's...I was like...I will go, whatever. So, just basically my brother suggested it.

WALSH: Who brought you in to register at Little Company of Mary?

O'SHEA: Maybe my mom.

WALSH: What type of drugs did you use before you went into treatment?

O'SHEA: Weed, pot, cocaine, acid.

WALSH: When you say acid, that is LSD right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Did you ever use any combinations of marijuana and any other drugs?

O'SHEA: Yeah, marijuana and coke, mix that up and smoke it.

WALSH: What's that called?

O'SHEA: We used to call them (unintelligible).

WALSH: Did you ever use a combination of marijuana and crack cocaine?

O'SHEA: Prior to going in there, I believe I did that a couple times.

WALSH: Did you ever use PCP or smoke happy sticks?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I smoked that a couple times.

WALSH: Did you continue to use drugs when you were in rehab?

O'SHEA: No. I don't know if I was clean the first day I went in there or not, but I know I stayed clean for a year-and-a-half like from when I first got there until like a year-and-a-half later.

WALSH: Did you have a relapse?

O'SHEA: Yeah, like a year-and-a-half later.

WALSH: How soon was your relapse after Matt Sopron's trial?

O'SHEA: I'm not exactly sure, but it could have been the summer...

WALSH: The summer after?

O'SHEA: After, yeah.

WALSH: What type of alcohol or drugs did you start using?

O'SHEA: Just beer and pot.

WALSH: Did you try any cocaine or use it in limited amounts?

O'SHEA: I don't think I tried cocaine. I'm not exactly sure...maybe a year after that, but I'm not sure.

WALSH: Are you still trying to work on fixing the addiction or curing the addiction?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I mean right now...I don't go to meeting any more but I'm really trying not to treat the smoke at all really. But I do it every once-in-a-while, lately anyways.

WALSH: Like what types, if you do use periodically, what types of alcohol or drugs do you use?

O'SHEA: Like I drink beer and smoke cigars or I will smoke pot sometimes.

WALSH: Okay, anything else?

O'SHEA: Umm...no, not really...I mean...you know...I have done cocaine and stuff but not a lot (unintelligible).

WALSH: We are coming to the end of this tape. We will start another one in a minute once I switch it. Umm, Bryan we left off...we just finished about your information about the relapse of your using some controlled substances after some alcohol, after you had the treatment at Little Company of Mary Hospital. I want to talk a little bit about any instructions that you were given by the state's attorney about the trial. Did you get any instructions from them? About the trial of Matt Sopron or about any other trial?

O'SHEA: Other than just when I would, they would just ask me sometimes if anyone has ever tried to contact me, like the lawyers, or anything like that. They would just ask me that.

WALSH: Did anyone every tell you now to speak to attorneys for any of the defendants?

O'SHEA: I think they were always worried that I was. Sometimes I would like tell my lawyer that I don't like the fact the way it went down like with saying the stuff with Matt, about Matt, and then he'd ask me like if had I talked to any of their lawyers, my saying that, because I'm afraid or something like that. The state's attorney were always concerned if I had talked to the (unintelligible) or something.

WALSH: But the state's attorneys did not instruct you not to speak to any lawyers or investigators.

O'SHEA: Umm

WALSH: Is that true?

O'SHEA: I don't really remember them specifically stating anything. I remember that they probably insinuated it, but I can't recall right now.

WALSH: Were you given any trial transcripts to read before you testified in Matt Sopron's case?

O'SHEA: I don't know if they showed me (unintelligible)_Bigeck or Anderson's ...I mean as far as reading this...I know they had files... but I don't remember specifically reading their files or...

WALSH: Did anyone read a statement to you?

O'SHEA: Oh, like going over yeah, my statement, from...yeah they tried going over that stuff with me.

WALSH: And, how many times did they go over your statement with you before Matt Sopron's case?

O'SHEA: I don't know I really didn't like going over it. I just wanted to go into court because I knew what they wanted me to do and so I didn't like going over it too much. They wanted to go over it, they would ask me questions and so probably a couple times, a few times, something like that.

WALSH: That's the handwritten statement that the female state's attorney wrote out.

O'SHEA: Yeah, I believe so. It was the grand jury transcripts or something like that.

WALSH: When you testified about Matt Sopron in front of the grand jury was that true or was that false?

O'SHEA: That was false.

WALSH: Did you tell anybody that you didn't feel good about lying in front of the grand jury?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I didn't feel good about lying in general and I told my lawyer, my family.

WALSH: Did you tell the state's attorneys or the investigators?

O'SHEA: Mmm... I did at first, but when I was trying to tell Cassidy that I didn't want to lie and then after I did I didn't really tell them too much I felt bad it about every time I would tell my family or tell my lawyer.

WALSH: Why did you continue lying?

O'SHEA: Because I was afraid that I could be charged with perjury or worse.

WALSH: Who told you you could be charged with perjury?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I think my lawyer might have mentioned it and plus it just seemed obvious that if I went back on stuff in court...you know...something...you know.

WALSH: Did you feel that it was your responsibility to help the prosecutors convict Matt Sopron so that you wouldn't be charged with murder?

O'SHEA: Yeah. That is basically it, (unintelligible) right.

WALSH: The handwritten statement that was written out for you, you made incriminating, lets say, you made...strike that, let me withdraw that...see if I can ask a question that could be understood. The statement that you signed, the handwritten statement that you signed that was written out by the female state's attorney about Matt Sopron, was that true when you said that Matt Sopron gave various orders to people to do bad things to the Ridgeway Lords or to shoot a van, or to light up a van or pull a roll on a van?

O'SHEA: No, that wasn't true.

WALSH: Why did you agree to sign that statement that wasn't true?

O'SHEA: Basically the same thing, that I was just afraid.

WALSH: When you testified at the trial of Matt Sopron do you recall leaning back in your chair and staring at the ceiling and moving all around in your chair?

O'SHEA: Yeah, I was real nervous.

WALSH: Why were you nervous?

O'SHEA: Because I didn't like being up there testifying against Wayne and Matt. I grew up with them and they were friends and plus what Scott Cassidy did to me I was pissed off at him and his partner, so when they would ask me questions I would have answer with lies and it just didn't feel good.

WALSH: How did you feel saying those lies in front of the judge?

O'SHEA: I was hoping he wouldn't recognize they were lies and not convince him, but it didn't work out like that.

WALSH: When you had your addiction did you suffer from blackouts and memory loss?

O'SHEA: Sometimes if I drank too much.

WALSH: Do you feel that your drug use and alcohol use caused any long-term damage as far as your mental ability and ability to remember anything?

O'SHEA: It is possible.

WALSH: You just don't know one way or the other?

O'SHEA: I feel pretty good today.

WALSH: Today, you're not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol, correct?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Are you under a doctor's care presently?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Are you receiving or taking any medication?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Physically, how do you feel?

O'SHEA: I feel pretty good actually, mentally, physically.

WALSH: How do you feel now that you have come forward to explain the truth about your involvement in this case and your testimony in this case?

O'SHEA: I kind of feel that I am getting a burden off my shoulders. Basically I feel good.

WALSH: Bryan, what you told me today, is that the truth?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Do you have any reason to lie to me now?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Has anyone asked you to lie to me?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Did anyone pressure you or force you to come to my office today?

O'SHEA: No.

WALSH: Are you making these statements of your own free will?

O'SHEA: Yes.

WALSH: Do you know why it took you so long to come forward?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I don't know I just wasn't aware of what I had done. Now I am becoming more aware of what actually took place.

WALSH: As a result of lying about Matt Sopron have you experienced trouble sleeping?

O'SHEA: Umm... yeah...I mean, lately because I was making a decision to try and do this right. I have been having some dreams about couple of the guys and stuff and trying to (unintelligible)

WALSH: You have you been having dreams about?

O'SHEA: Mmm...I don't know. Like the other day Nick Morfin was in one of my dreams but other than that I just have been kind of stressed out of it, I think.

WALSH: Is there anybody now that you are afraid of in connection with this case?

O'SHEA: Mmm...not really, other than Nick Morfin's brother messed with me a couple times and he is involved (unintelligible) whatever, but not really so much. I mean...I mean...other than that, no really.

WALSH: Are there any Popes left?

O'SHEA: Uhh, I think there are some by (unintelligible) Park. The Insane Popes whatever are still around, I guess, but ah, but in my old neighborhood I don't think there are any.

WALSH: Is there anything else you can think of that is important concerning what transpired in this case from the time of December 14, 1995 until the present time? Is there anything else that the court would like to know?

O'SHEA: Mmm...Nothing that I can really think of.

WALSH: Well, we will conclude the tape. It is shortly after 5 p.m. on July 22nd, the year 2000. Thanks for coming in Bryan and we will be in touch. Okay?

O'SHEA: Alright.

WALSH: Again, I have your permission to make this tape. Right?

O'SHEA: Right.

WALSH: Okay, we will make a copy for you.