Heather Hannah 8/2/2016

Pages 1 to 4

	rageb r co r		
Page 1	Page 3		
1 BEFORE THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE	1 APPEARANCES		
2 OF THE ALABAMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	2		
3	³ FOR HEATHER HANNAH:		
4	4 MR. THOMAS S. HALE		
5 In re: Impeachment Investigation of	5 HALE & SIDES, LLC		
6 Governor Robert Bentley	6 600 FINANCIAL CENTER		
7	7 505 20TH STREET NORTH		
8	8 BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203		
9 TRANSCRIBED INTERVIEW UNDER OATH	9		
10 OF	10 FOR THE COMMITTEE:		
11 HEATHER HANNAH	11 MR. JACKSON R. SHARMAN		
12 AUGUST 2, 2016	2 MR. WESLEY B. GILCHRIST		
13 2:15 P.M.	13 MR. JEFFREY P. DOSS		
14	14 MR. BENJAMIN S. WILLSON		
15	15 LIGHTFOOT, FRANKLIN & WHITE, LLC		
16	THE CLARK BUILDING		
17	17 400 NORTH 20TH STREET		
18	18 BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203		
19	19		
20 Location: Hale & Sides, 600 Financial	20		
21 Center, 505 20th Street North, Birmingham,	COMMITTEE		
22 Alabama 35203	22 EXHIBIT		
23 Reported by: Nancy Pannell, CCR	23 9-A		
25 Reported by. Namey Familien, CCR	23 J A		
Page 2	Page 4		
1 INDEX			
1 INDEX			
3 EXAMINATION BY: PAGE NO.	 being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows: 		
4 MR. SHARMAN 4	4		
5 MR. DOSS 167	5 EXAMINATION		
6 CERTIFICATE 201	6 BY MR. SHARMAN:		
7			
8	 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Hannah. My name is Jack Sharman. I am Special 		
9 INDEX OF EXHIBITS	9 Counsel to the Alabama House of		
10	10 Representatives Judiciary Committee.		
11 DEFENDANT'S EXHIBITS: PAGE NO.	This transcribed interview under		
12 1 6/3/16 EUO of Heather 7	12 oath is being taken pursuant to House		
13 Hannah	13 Resolution 334, House Rule 79.1, and the		
14 2 Photo 77	Resolution 554, House Rule 79.1, and the 14 Rules of the House Judiciary Committee for		
15 3 Photo 77	the impeachment investigation of Governor		
16 4 Photo of Disc 101	16 Robert Bentley. I appreciate and the		
10 4 Photo of Disc 101	committee appreciates your time here		
18	18 today.		
(, , ,			
20 retained by Mr. Sharman.) 21	 reporter here today who is producing a written record. That record will almost 		
21 22			
	 certainly eventually become public and part of the committee's record. 		
23	part of the committee's record.		
•	I and the second		

Pages 5 to 8

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- 1 Also, as you know, you're under
- 2 oath. I have no expectation that this
- 3 would happen today, but there are
- 4 significant penalties for perjury for
- 5 false statement or for obstructing the
- 6 work of the committee.
- 7 You have your lawyer present. At
- 8 any time we can take a break for you to
- 9 consult with him. As you may know, he's
- primarily here to advise you about the
- privileges and recognize privileges.
- Unlike a state court civil
- proceeding, the committee generally would
- 14 not entertain other bases for an
- 15 objection.
- You're under no legal obligation
- to do so, but we would prefer that until
- 18 the conclusion of our investigation that
- 19 you keep our discussions confidential.
- You will have an opportunity to
- review, if you wish, or your counsel if hewishes, the final transcript at our
- 23 office.

1

- end up with in the Administration?
- 2 A. Chief of staff and also Director
- 3 of Managing Operation and First Lady
- 4 Affairs.
- 5 (Whereupon, a document was marked
- 6 as Exhibit No. 1 and is attached
- 7 to the original transcript.)
- 8 Q. I'm going to show you, Ms. Hannah,
- 9 what's been marked as Exhibit 1 to your
- statement here today, which is a
- multi-page document that is a transcript
- 12 that has, at least on the cover page of
- it, Examination Under Oath of Heather
- Hannah, and it's dated June 3rd, 2016.
- Would you take a look at that please,
- 16 ma'am?

18

- 17 A. Of course.
 - MR. HALE: And that is an
- exact duplicate of what you gave to us,
- and I reproduced for Mr. Sharman.
- 21 A. Okay.
- 22 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Having taken a
- 23 few moments to look at it, does that

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- A. Okay.
- 2 Q. Does all of that make sense?
- 3 A. Yes, it does. Thank you.
- 4 Q. First, would you just tell us who
- 5 you are?
- 6 A. I'm Heather Hannah, and I formerly
- 7 worked for Governor and Mrs. Robert
- 8 Bentley.
- 9 Q. Just to orient the committee, what
- 10 time period did you work for Governor and
- 11 Mrs. Bentley?
- 12 A. I began work with Governor and
- 13 Mrs. Bentley early 2010, but I initially
- met them in 2009 during that football
- 15 season.
- 16 It was my senior year at the
- University of Alabama, and I was asked to
- join the campaign to help with events and
- 19 fundraising efforts, and I stayed on with
- them through 2014.
- 21 Q. About when did you leave in 2014?
- 22 A. In the summer, summer.
- Q. What position did you ultimately

- 1 appear to you to be a transcript of a
- 2 statement you gave on June 3rd of this
- 3 year?
- 4 A. It is.
- 5 Q. In that statement did you tell the
- 6 truth?
- 7 A. I did.
- 8 Q. Is there anything in that
- 9 statement that you would like to change or
- amend in any way?
- 11 A. No, sir.
- MR. DOSS: I guess, just for
- the record, that is Exhibit 1?
 - MR. SHARMAN: That is
- 15 Exhibit 1, yes.

- 16 Q. The first area I want to touch on,
- 17 Ms. Hannah, is documents, and in
- particular where the committee might think
- about looking for documents to aid in its
- investigation. And after we talk about
- 21 that, we'll move to some substantive
- 22 topics.
- First, with regard to Governor

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Page 9

- 1 Bentley's calendar and schedule, including
- 2 meetings, appointments, calls,
- 3 conferences, and travel, in your
- 4 experience where are those materials
- 5 maintained, and who are the most likely
- 6 custodians of that kind of thing?
- 7 A. The governor's office employs a
- 8 scheduler. At the time everything began
- 9 and when I was working with them the
- 10 scheduler's name was Linda Adams.

She has since retired but is still living in the same place she was before

she left Montgomery. She had main access

and control over the calendar as far as

scheduling the events, putting things on,

16 taking things off.

11

12

1

However, she was not the only deciding factor of what did go on the

19 calendar. The governor held many meetings

with his chief of staff, with his

assistant, with his press director, and

other people that may have played factors

in, you know, what was going to go on his

1 A. It is both. It starts out on

2 Outlook because that is what the state has

3 chosen to use, and you obviously can grant

4 access and viewing privileges to any

5 Outlook calendar and that is how the

6 governor's is set up.

7 They do print out paper copies to
8 place in a notebook for him at the start

9 and end of every week just so he has an

idea of what's coming up in his calendar.

They used to print one out for the First Lady as well, but most everyone else

was comfortable using only an electronic

14 copy.

15 Q. Was there a retention policy for

the calendar? In other words, was it

maintained for a certain period of time,

either for administrative or historical

19 reasons?

20 A. My understanding was that every

21 appointment that he had was supposed to be

kept and archived as a part of the

23 governor's administration record. I know

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schedule depending on the time.

2 So sometimes it was economic

3 development people would come in and

discuss different important meetings that
would be coming on the calendar, but

6 ultimately Linda Adams had control of

7 putting things on and taking things off.

8 Cleve Hightower also had direct 9 access to the calendar. He was the IT

person at the state capital, and so he was

11 responsible for granting people access to

the governor's calendar as well as

changing passwords on all the governor's

technology and technological devices while

we were there.

- 16 Q. Who holds the position of
- scheduler today, August of 2016?
- 18 A. I'm not sure what her name is.
- 19 Q. Okay. Is Mr. Hightower still in
- that same position?
- 21 A. As far as I know, yes.
- 22 Q. Is the calendar an electronic
- 23 document or a paper document?

1 from the First Lady's perspective I was

2 responsible for maintaining her calendar.

We were asked to save and submit all of that to Cheryl Fondon at the end of

5 every -- I forget. It was every quarter I

6 believe. Just to be able to keep that on

7 state record.

8 Q. Who is Ms. Fondon?

9 A. Cheryl Fondon she was just an

employee for the state. I'm not sure what

her official title is, but she did things

12 like bookkeeping.

We would submit receipts to her if

14 the state was needing to reimburse

someone. She maintained inventory for the

state, so she wore a couple of different

hats, but it was all very administrative

18 role.

- 19 Q. You said you on behalf of
- 20 Mrs. Bentley, for example --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- would submit quarterly
- 23 calendar. How was that submission done?

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Page 13

- 1 Electronically, or paper, or otherwise?
- 2 A. I usually printed it out for
- 3 Cheryl. I would submit an invitation --
- 4 if something was on Mrs. Bentley's
- 5 calendar, I would submit the invitation as
- 6 well as the printout to her just as a part
- 7 of the First Lady records and then turn
- 8 that into her on a paper.
- 9 Q. With regard to the same submission
- process for Governor Bentley's calendar,
- was it Ms. Adams who was responsible for
- those kind of submissions, or was it
- 13 somebody else?
- 14 A. That was my understanding, that it
- was Ms. Adams.
- 16 Q. Did the calendar system, which was
- an Outlook base system, change in any
- 18 meaningful way over time?
- 19 A. The actual system did not. The
- 20 people who had access to it and the way
- 21 things were categorized and put on the
- 22 calendar did change.
- Q. Okay. Tell us about that, first,

- 1 gleaning insights as to how they were
- 2 getting around and when they were meeting
- 3 based on what his calendar information was
- 4 showing us.
- 5 Q. Did there come a time when your
- 6 access to the governor's calendar was cut
- 7 off?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. About when was that?
- 10 A. It would have been in the spring
- of probably March of 2014, soon after
- 12 Mrs. Bentley and I confronted him.
- Q. Who was the person who was in
- 14 charge of access rights? Was that
- 15 Mr. Hightower?
- 16 A. I believe he and Linda Adams
- worked together because he would go into
- 18 Linda Adams' computer because she held the
- 19 governor's calendar on her computer, and
- 20 he would set who had permission to view
- 21 it.
- And some people would be
- 23 restricted to limited access and some

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- with regard to access and then -- and the
- 2 people who had access and then how that
- 3 changed.
- 4 A. The governor initially wanted more
- 5 people involved in his scheduling process
- 6 because he felt like the more voices he
- 7 had around him, the more well-rounded
- 8 approach he could have and the better
- 9 governor he would be for all the people in
- 10 representing them.

11

I was given calendar access at the

- 12 start to ensure that I was making
- 13 Mrs. Bentley be in places that would be
- the same as the governor and kind of
- coordinating their schedules to not only
- 16 complement each other, but to make sure
- they could also be seen together at a lot
- of the events.
- 19 It changed very quickly once the
- affair started and once the governor knew
- 21 that other staff people were aware of what
- was going on when he and Rebekah Mason
- began their affair because we were

- people had full access and then some not
- 2 at all.

- ³ Q. Was access a password kind of
- 4 thing, or it was simply the calendar
- 5 appeared and you had access to whatever
- 6 you had access to?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. The latter?
- 9 A. Uh-huh (affirmative), it was the
- 10 latter, yes. They would either grant it
- and you could see it on your computer or
- deny it and you couldn't.
- 13 Q. Do you have in your possession
- today any copies, either electronic or
- hardcopies, of either Governor Bentley or
- 16 Mrs. Bentley's calendars?
- 17 A. I do not.
- 18 Q. Were there any events that, at
- least in theory, were not supposed to be
- 20 reflected in the governor's calendar?
- 21 And when I say events, I mean
- 22 meetings, appointment, official,
- unofficial, a haircut, travel? Was

Page 20

Page 17

- 1 everything supposed to be in there, or
- 2 were there ever categories of things that
- 3 were not supposed to be on the calendar?
- 4 Everything was supposed to be in
- 5 there. The way it was labeled was just up
- 6 to the governor's discretion. So if it
- 7 was personal time or dinner with
- 8 Mrs. Bentley, he could choose for it to
- 9 say personal or appointment, or he could
- 10 put, you know, what it was on the 11 calendar.
- 12 I know on a couple of occasions at
- 13 the beginning when it was his and
- 14 Mrs. Bentley's anniversary, he would have
- 15 the evening blocked off for their
- 16 anniversary dinner just so that no one
- 17 would feel comfortable calling him during
- 18 that time so they could have time not to
- 19 be interrupted.
- 20 And did Governor Bentley have
- 21 devices on which he could access his
- 22 calendar electronically, or did he rely on
- 23 paper calendars?

1 Wireless has.

- 2 It was one of Mrs. Bentley's
- 3 initiatives, so we requested that all
- 4 state offices would wipe clean their cell
- phones, and if they were unable to be used
- 6 or salvaged for anything else, to submit
- 7 them to HopeLine so that they could gain
- 8 that money and we could really help
- 9 victims in our state.
- 10 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) On the subject of
- 11 phones.
- 12 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 13 O. Did Governor Bentley have one
- 14 phone or more than one phone?
- 15 A. He had more than one phone.
- 16 O. Was one of those a state-issued
- 17 phone?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And was that the phone that you
- 20 just referred to that as it was upgraded,
- 21 the policy or the desire was to turn it
- 22 back in, so to speak, have it wiped, and
- 23 perhaps have it donated?

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- 1 A. Yes, yes.
- 2 Q. Did he also have a, for lack of a
- 3 better term, a personal phone?
- 4 A. He did.
- 5 Q. Did his calendar show up on his
- 6 personal phone as well as on his state
- 7 phone?
- 8 A. To my knowledge yes, he could
- access it on either device at the very
- 10 beginning, but then they convinced him
- 11 that that was not a secure way of handling
- 12 it, and asked him to go exclusively to
- 13 keep all of that on the state phone.
- 14 Do you know the telephone number
- 15 of the personal phone?
- 16 A. I did when I worked with him.
- 17 Q. But you don't today?
- I don't. 18 A.
- 19 What about the phone number of the O.
- 20 state-issued phone?
- 21 I always had access to all of
- 22 Governor Bentley's cell phone numbers when
- I worked there until the affair started,

- 1 A. He had electronic devices as well.
- 2 Q. Okay. What did he have?
- 3 A. He had an iPad and an iPhone.
- 4 Did he use both of those
- 5 throughout the time that you were in the
- 6 administration?
- 7 Yes, he did. And he had access on
- 8 a laptop as well. I just know his phone
- 9 was usually the preferred method if he was
- 10 going to use electronic just because it's
- 11 so easily accessible.
- 12 MR. GILCHRIST: Did he have 13 the same iPhone, or were there upgrades?
 - THE WITNESS: There were
- 15 upgrades. 16

- MR. GILCHRIST: What would 17 happen to the old phone?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure. 19 I know that they were confiscated. To my
- 20 knowledge all the phones were wiped
- 21 completely clean, and we asked them to
- 22 donate them to HopeLine, which is a
- 23 domestic violence program that Verizon

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Page 21

- and the phones started changing more
- 2 frequently. Then I was not always given
- 3 the updated number.
- 4 Q. Would there be somebody today who
- 5 would have a master list or historical
- 6 list of phone numbers of Governor Bentley
- or people on the governor's staff?
- 8 A. Mrs. Bentley kept up with every
- 9 one of the governor's phone numbers. Zach
- 10 Lee has always had access to all of the
- governor's phone numbers, as well as many
- other people that worked in state office
- as their numbers changed, and that's
- because he's been with the Bentleys since
- the beginning as well.
- 16 Q. Let me move to another document
- 17 area.
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 Q. It would be the use of state
- ²⁰ aircraft. If you were looking for records
- about the use of state aircraft, both
- 22 flight records, timing records, expense
- 23 records, where would you look?

- 1 that was supposed to be a part of the
- 2 archives and public record for anyone who
- 3 wanted to access it.
- 4 Q. With regard to decisions that
- 5 Governor Bentley or the administration
- 6 made about ALEA staff and termination,
- 7 reassignment, those sorts of things, if
- 8 you were looking for records on those
- 9 topics, where would you look or who would
- 10 you ask?
- 11 A. The governor. The governor
- initially worked closely with Spencer
- 13 Collier and Ray Lewis on making those
- 14 decisions.
- And as time evolved he became -- I
- would say he started making more of those
- decisions on his own and what his personal
- preference would be as far as who was in
- 19 his detail.
- 20 Q. Was there anyone within the
- 21 governor's office who, for example, gave
- 22 him advice about those kinds of decisions,
- 23 including even employment advice, staffing

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- 1 A. I would initially contact Becca
- 2 Crawford who works in the same office in
- 3 the Capitol with Cheryl Fondon. They have
- 4 adjoining offices. Becca Crawford did
- 5 keep some of that.
- 6 Some of the records were kept with
- 7 ALEA since the state troopers were the
- 8 ones responsible for flying us wherever we
- 9 may have needed to go, so they would also
- 10 have the flight logs that you requested.
- And then Linda Adams, the
- scheduler, she was the one that was asked
- to submit those flight requests and submit
- the flight logs since she knew when the
- governor would be traveling. So all three
- of those groups should have access and be
- privy to that information.
- 18 Q. In the ordinary course after a
- trip was completed did all those records
- 20 go somewhere, or were they supposed to go
- somewhere, or did they just sort of sit
- 22 where they were created?
- 23 A. My understanding was that all of

- 1 advice, and the like?
- 2 A. There are a lot of opinions in the
- 3 governor's office and at the capital so
- 4 I'm sure multiple people were always in
- 5 his ear giving their recommendations and
- 6 asking for certain things.
- 7 I know Rebekah Mason played a
- 8 heavy -- very strong heavy role in a lot
- 9 of those decisions toward the end of my
- 10 time there.
- 11 Q. And when you say "that she played
- a heavy role towards the end of your time
- there", what do you mean, what do you mean
- 14 by that?
- 15 A. The governor was very easily
- influenced by Rebekah Mason and what she
- 17 requested of him.
- 18 Q. With regard especially to those
- kinds of personnel decisions in general,
- and in particular with regard to ALEA, did

about, you know, particular individuals?

- 21 she take steps or provide advice to him
- 23 A. It was my understanding that she

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1 picked and chose who she felt comfortable

- 2 with and would relay that information to
- 3 the governor.
- 4 I know that he was not confiding
- 5 in Mrs. Bentley with that information
- 6 toward the end no matter if it was
- 7 involving who was being a part of her own
- 8 security detail. I know that Rebekah
- 9 Mason was the one that he was listening
- 10
- 11 Q. How do you have that
- 12 understanding? How do you know that?
- 13 Mrs. Bentley expressed that
- 14 concern to me after speaking to the
- 15 governor about her security detail.
- 16 Zach Lee complained about it on a
- 17 fairly regular basis, and different
- 18 security people that I was able to work
- 19 with during my time there would come and
- 20 sit in my office and vent to me or vent to
- 21 each other about fear of their job based
- 22 on Rebekah Mason's like or dislike for
- 23 them, knowing that the governor listened

- 1 story and was on the outside of the
- 2 security detail in that respect and didn't
- 3 feel like he had any protection against
- 4 what Rebekah Mason and the governor might 5 do.
- 6 And on several occasions he was
- 7 told that he might be moved under certain 8 conditions.
- 9 And I'm not sure what those
- 10 conditions were because it was not a
- 11 conversation with me, but he was extremely
- 12 concerned he might not be able to stay
- 13 with Mrs. Bentley and became very quiet
- 14 with us and very hush-lipped as he was
- 15 asked to do.
- 16 We also had several other men on
- 17 the governor's security detail I guess
- 18 rotated in, and they would ride with us on
- 19 occasion instead of Chris.
- 20 And Mrs. Bentley ultimately had to
- 21 put a stop to that and keep Chris with
- 22 her. Since then, though, Chris Hines has
- 23 been completely removed from the

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- 1 to her very carefully.
- 2 You mentioned Mrs. Bentley and her Q.
- 3 security detail.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Did she have concerns about
- 6 changes in her security detail?
- 7 A. Yes, she did.
- 8 Okay. Tell me about that. What O.
- 9 was that about?
- 10 We started off with one lady,
- 11 Cynthia Hardy, who was wonderful, and she
- 12 retired just because of the pay structure
- 13 changes.
- 14 And Mrs. Bentley was allowed to
- 15 select her own security detail, and she
- 16 selected Christopher Hines.
- 17 And Chris was consistently worried
- 18 about whether or not he was going to
- 19 maintain his job, especially once people
- 20 started discussing the affair a little bit
- 21 more openly because he felt like he knew a
- 22 different side than everyone else because
- 23 he was privy to Mrs. Bentley's side of the

- 1 governor's dignitary protection and placed
- 2 in I believe the Gordon Palmer Building or
- 3 maybe Gordon Persons Building downtown
- 4 Montgomery just as a security position.
- 5 So Mr. Hines was a state trooper? Q.
- 6 A. He was.
- 7 O. Okay.
- 8 And then he was upgraded to
- 9 dignitary protection. When I met him he
- 10 was a state trooper working at the back
- 11 gate of the Alabama governor's mansion.
- 12 That's where he served the
- 13 remaining years of Governor and
- 14 Mrs. Riley. And Chris was extremely
- 15 helpful to us during our transition phase.
- 16 So when Mrs. Bentley needed a new 17 security detail person, Chris was just a
- 18 very easy and obvious choice for her and
- 19 for me because it was somebody we were
- 20 already comfortable with and somebody who 21 knew what our roles were very well.
- 22 Did Mr. Hines ever tell you that
- 23 Ms. Mason or anybody else threatened his

Page 31 Page 29 1 job? 1 may be. 2 2 A. I do not believe that Ms. Mason And that's part of being in 3 3 ever threatened Chris directly because he dignitary protection, you hear a lot of 4 was always taking orders from whoever the 4 things and have to pretend that you don't 5 5 head of ALEA was at that time. So at the hear them. 6 6 time I was there it was Ray Lewis. But Mrs. Bentley had the car as 7 7 her private time and as her time to kind Did Mr. Hines ever tell you that 8 8 anyone threatened his job? of unload, and he and I both heard a lot 9 9 He said that he was chided a of conversations or she would talk us to 10 10 couple of times for being too involved and about different events that she was 11 11 bothered by during her time as First Lady, knowing too much about what was going on. 12 And he was told that he was 12 and Chris heard them just as well as I 13 13 did. supposed to maintain a level of 14 14 professionalism and not be personally O. That leads us into the next 15 15 involved with Mrs. Bentley. document area, which is ALEA generally and 16 16 However, when the First Lady then the dignitary protection unit 17 17 specifically. volunteers information to you, it's hard 18 not to become personally involved. 18 Obviously we can go to ALEA 19 19 MR. HALE: Who chided him? directly for records. Are there other 20 20 THE WITNESS: I believe it places that you would go to or other 21 21 was Ray Lewis. But I know the governor people you would ask for to find 22 22 spoke to him a couple of times as well. documents, including electronic documents, 23 23 reflecting information about ALEA and the (By Mr. Sharman) What had Page 30 Page 32 1 1 Mr. Hines done to incur that displeasure? dignitary protection unit, especially with 2 2 regard to some of the matters that are in I just think he knew too much, had 3 a lot of information that they weren't 3 your earlier sworn statement? 4 4 comfortable with him having. At the time I worked mainly with 5 5 But Chris always maintained the Ray Lewis. He was in charge of the 6 highest form of professionalism any time I 6 security detail and then Spencer Collier 7 7 was around him with Mrs. Bentley. as well. And outside of them, I'm not 8 8 And we had no complaints about sure where, where they would have kept 9 him. And obviously Mrs. Bentley found 9 their documents. 10 10 pleasure in his service because she MR. HALE: What about Wesley 11 insisted that he stay with her. 11 Helton? 12 12 She felt a level of comfort with THE WITNESS: Oh, Wesley 13 13 Helton wouldn't have -- I wouldn't think him that's really hard to find in 14 14 Montgomery, and she felt like he was not he would have access to the ALEA 15 15 only her security detail but also a good documents. He had access to the 16 friend. 16 governor's calendar and all of those. I 17 What information did Mr. Hines 17 O. know that --18 have that you believed caused this 18 MR. HALE: And financial 19 19 discomfort? documents? 20 20 A. He was privy to a lot of THE WITNESS: He and Zach 21 21 Mrs. Bentley's private conversations, Lee have seen the financial documents, but 22 whether it was with her children, her 22 as far as ALEA and hiring and firing, I 23 23 attorney, with the governor, whoever it don't believe he was privy to that.

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Pag	r 👝	3	3
ray		_	J

- 1 MR. HALE: Excuse me, Jack.
- 2 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Is ALEA on the
- 3 same e-mail system as, so to speak,
- 4 everybody else in state government?
- 5 A. Yes. I believe they have a more
- 6 secure version since they're dealing with
- 7 Homeland Security matters.
- 8 Q. If I wanted to ask, for example,
- 9 for an e-mail harvest from the governor's
- office, would Mr. Hightower be the right
- person to ask, or would there be somewhere
- 12 else to go?
- 13 A. To me Cleve Hightower would be the
- best person to ask. He is extremely
- intelligent and knows how to navigate that
- system better than anyone else I knew down
- 17 there.
- 18 Q. What about with an agency such as
- 19 ALEA, would you expect it to have its own
- version of Mr. Hightower?
- 21 A. I'm sure they do. Because if they
- had any problem with their system, I'm
- sure they would have wanted someone there

- 1 Q. Okay. So both any billing and
- 2 also the actual call log for anybody who
- 3 had a state phone, at least in the
- 4 governor's office, would have gone to
- 5 Ms. Fondon?
- 6 A. Yes, it would have been under
- 7 bookkeeping, and they had all of the
- 8 records as well as a list of everyone that
- 9 had a state cell phone.
- 10 Q. Was there any retention or
- destruction policy in the governor's
- office for text messages?
- 13 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 14 Q. Was it just more or less left up
- to the individual user?
- 16 A. Yes. They asked us to minimize
- text messaging from a cost perspective and
- 18 from a security perspective, and asked us
- 19 to kind of keep text messages on just like
- a quick communication standpoint as far as
- 21 hey, we've arrived, hey, this is coming
- 22 up, you know, quick messages, and anything
- else to be e-mail communication just to be

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- 1 in their building to be able to fix it
- 2 immediately, because having an issue with
- 3 Homeland Security e-mail or access in any
- 4 way would be a huge problem.
- ⁵ Q. The state-issued telephones that
- 6 we touched on a moment ago, did those have
- 7 the ability to send and receive texts?
- 8 A. They did.
- 9 Q. Do you know who the carrier was
- 10 for those text messages on those state
- 11 phones?
- 12 A. Verizon Wireless.
- Q. Did you have a state phone?
- 14 A. I did.
- 15 Q. Did you receive Verizon
- 16 statements?
- 17 A. I did not.
- 18 Q. So you --
- 19 A. Those would have gone to Cheryl
- 20 Fondon and Becca Crawford.
- 21 Q. Did you receive any sort of record
- of your own calls?
- 23 A. I did not.

- able to keep it as a part of state record.
- 2 Q. Do you have any printed out
- 3 records of your own texts during the
- 4 administration time?
- 5 A. I personally do not.
- 6 Q. Okay. Let me shift topics on you
- 7 again. The Bentley for Governor, Inc,
- 8 which I believe is the formal name of the
- o which I believe is the formal name of the
- 9 campaign?
- 10 A. It is.
- 11 Q. Sitting here today in August of
- 12 2016, if you wanted to go get records
- about the campaign, where would you go?
- 14 A. Mike Echols.
- 15 Q. Okay. Who is Mr. Echols?
- 16 A. Mike Echols is and has been
- Governor Bentley's accountant for a very
- 18 long time.
- He helped us with the first
- 20 campaign from a financial perspective and
- 21 continues to help Governor Bentley with
- that to this day and Mrs. Bentley now as
- 23 well.

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- 1 So Mike Echols would be the best
- 2 person to ask in my opinion. Paul Bryant,
- 3 Jr., had minimal contact with the
- 4 campaign, but he was involved, as well as
- 5 Paul Bentley, who is the second oldest son
- 6 of the Bentleys.
- 7 Q. What about in addition to an
- 8 accountant, lawyers, or other advisers to
- 9 the campaign, people who might have
- 10 prepared campaign finance submissions,
- 11 that sort of thing?
- 12 Heath Garrett was the campaign
- 13 manager for the second campaign and was
- 14 responsible for helping maintain all of
- 15 those financial documents that are
- 16 required.
- 17 Al Agricola also worked very 18 closely with us on really both campaigns.
- 19 He and his wife have always been close
- 20 with the Bentleys.
- 21 Al Agricola recently stepped down
- 22 and removed himself from working with
- 23 Governor Bentley, and to my knowledge it

- efforts at document destruction; in other
- 2 words, people trying to get rid of
- 3 documents reflecting those matters?
- 4 I know I was told not to keep
- 5 anything, to make sure that I didn't have
- б anything that could be implicating, and if
- 7 I did so, to get rid of it.

And I was told that by multiple people-- Ray Lewis, Stan Stabler, Paul

Bentley, Mike Echols.

Multiple people told me to get rid of things that, you know, could potentially get us in trouble down the road.

And that was something I disregarded at the advice of my father because my father felt that if you're going to hold a public office, you should be held to the highest code of ethics, and

- he didn't see a reason that I should have 21 to hide anything at all.
- 22 Okay. Let me, let me back up O.
- 23 there. First, you said, and I may have

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- 1 was in relation to not wanting to be
- 2 associated with the affair is what I was
- 3 told.
- 4 Angi Smith was the first campaign
- 5 manager. She also worked on the
- 6 governor's administration at the beginning
- 7 and was let go ultimately because of the
- 8 affair.
- 9 But she had some access to
- 10 campaign information because she always
- 11 helped run what we call the war room and
- 12 helped do grassroot efforts and drives for
- 13 the campaign.
- 14 Q. Of all of those people would you
- 15 go first to Mr. Echols?
- 16 I would. A.
- 17 Q. Okay. On the topic of documents
- 18 generally, and in particular pertaining to
- 19 the governor's office, the campaign,
- 20 financial issues relating to the campaign,
- 21 financial issues pertaining to all the
- 22 matters that you talked about in your
- 23 sworn statement, are you aware of any

- misunderstood you, that you were told to
- 2 not create documents or to get rid of
- 3 documents once they were created?
- 4 I was told to get rid of any
- 5 documents that might be implicating. I
- 6 did not create any documents financial or
- 7 thus so.
- 8 But they had a concern that I had
- 9 access to documents, and they wanted me to
- 10 make sure I did not have access to the
- 11 financial documents anymore.
 - Probably the most stern
- 13 conversation that was had with me was in
- 14 reference to the tapes that are now part
- 15 of the exhibit.
- 16 I was told that if I had access to
- 17 them to destroy them, get rid of them, 18
- make sure they weren't on my computer,
- 19 make sure I had no access to them because
- 20 I could ultimately be in trouble and be
- 21 punished for having those.
- 22 Q. Okay. Who told that?
- 23 A. Multiple people. I had that

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1 conversation with Ray Lewis. I had that 2 conversation with Mike Echols.

3 I discussed the tapes with Paul

- Bentley, and he asked me to make sure that
- 5 I had no copies of them. But Paul's
- 6 concern was, you know, about his family
- 7 and his family hearing them at some point,
- 8 not as much about covering anything up.
- 9 With regard to Mr. Lewis and
- 10 Mr. Echols, what was your understanding of
- 11 the reason they were telling you to
- 12 destroy these materials?
- 13 They confronted me on a personal
- 14 safety matter. They felt that I was going
- 15 to be harmed, if I had it.
- 16 However, as the conversation
- 17 progressed, I felt that it was more out of
- 18 protection and loyalty to the governor and
- 19 less out of protection and concern for me.
- 20 About when did those conversations
- 21 with Mr. Lewis and Mr. Echols take place
- 22 concerning the tape recording and possible
- 23 destruction by you?

1 A. It was a phone conversation. Ray

- 2 Lewis spoke to me one time in person about
- 3 it, and it was the night of the primary,
- 4 which would have been June of 2014. And
- it was right outside Bryant-Denny Stadium
- 6 in Tuscaloosa.
- 7 Other than the tape recordings did O.
- 8 anybody in the governor's office, or
- 9 anybody else for that matter, ever attempt
- 10 to get you to destroy any documents?
- 11 Zach Lee was extremely concerned
- 12 about my involvement and how close I was
- 13 with Mrs. Bentley because he knew that I
- 14 knew a lot of their personal information,
- 15 and I knew a lot about personal
- 16 conversations he and Mrs. Bentley had.

17 And he urged me to be careful on

- 18 numerous times and told me, you know, not 19 to hold onto anything that could get me in
- 20 trouble, but aside from that, no.
- 21 Okay. Did you ascribe Mr. Lee's
- 22 statement to be a natural concern for your
- 23 well being, or did you ascribe it to being

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- 1 A. Prior to the primary in 2014. It
- 2 was soon after they found out that I might
- 3 have heard them or had access to them in
- 4 some way.
- 5 Q. So give me a rough month and year.
- 6 Probably April or May. A.
- 7 Q. Of?
- 8 Of 2014. A.
- 9 MR. GILCHRIST: Was that one 10 conversation with two of them or different 11 conversations?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Multiple
- 13 conversations.

14

- MR. GILCHRIST: Were they
- 15 ever together?
 - THE WITNESS: No.
- 17 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Did you ever
- 18 accede to their request?
- 19 I did not. I thanked them for
- 20 their concern, assured them that I would
- 21 take all proper precautions, and hung up
- 22 the phone.
- 23 Q. Was it a phone conversation?

- 1 that he desired that the material be
- 2 destroyed?
- 3 Zach Lee was a friend. He was A.
- 4 genuinely concerned about my well being.
- 5 He was working as the governor's aide for
- 6 a time and was privy to the governor's
- 7 office side of things and was just
- 8 genuinely concerned about me getting in
- 9 trouble or possibly losing my job over
- 10 something.
- 11 Anybody else suggest to you or try
- 12 to get you to destroy any documents about
- 13 any of the matters that were the subject
- 14 of your earlier statement?
- 15 A. Wesley Helton was also a friend at
- 16 the time, but he was more concerned about
- 17 the documents implicating himself or the
- 18 governor.
- 19 He told me on numerous occasions 20 to stay out of it and to not get involved,
- 21 but I didn't feel like it was as much of
- 22 concern for me as I did for protection for
- 23 himself.

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- 1 Q. You mentioned documents
- 2 implicating Mr. Helton and the governor.
- 3 What did you mean by that?
- 4 Yes. He was just very concerned
- 5 like the calendars that we had seen or the
- 6 flight logs that he was a part of or
- 7 anything else he said I shouldn't get too
- 8 involved or look too deep because, because
- 9 I didn't need to get in trouble, I think
- 10 is the way he phrased it to me.
- 11 Outside of any conversations or
- 12 instructions that you personally received
- 13 from anybody, are you aware of anybody
- 14 else in the governor's office, at ALEA,
- 15 anywhere really, being involved in any
- 16 sort of document destruction pertaining to
- 17 any of these matters?
- 18 A. Jennifer Ardis, who worked very
- 19 closely with Rebekah Mason, was extremely
- 20 involved in protecting the affair and
- 21 helping maintain its secrecy.
- 22 I do not know that she would go to
- 23 the point of destroying documents, but I

- 1 ACEGOV, if you were going to look for
- 2 documents about ACEGOV, information about
- 3 ACEGOV, donors to ACEGOV, that sort of
- 4 thing, where would you go look?
- 5 A. Online.

6

- Q. Okay. Anywhere else?
- 7 No, probably not. I guess that's Α.
- 8 a generational thing --
- 9 O. Right, okay.
- 10 A. -- but I would go online.
- 11 Q. Okay. Any people associated with
- 12 ACEGOV that you would go talk to?
- 13 No, I was not close with anyone in
- 14 that division.
- 15 All right. Let's switch gears, if
- 16 we can, away from documents a little bit
- 17 and talk about a couple of areas that
- 18 either were touched on very lightly or
- 19 maybe not touched --
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 O. -- on at all in your earlier
- 22 statement.
- 23 A. Okay.

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- 1 do know she did everything she could to
- 2 protect the secrecy of the affair, along
- 3
- with Zach Lee and Wesley Helton. 4 Stan Stabler at the beginning
- 5 would feed Mrs. Bentley information about
- 6 the affair and the whereabouts and how
- 7 they were communicating and where they
- 8 were going.

- 9 And even if it wasn't listed on a
- 10 flight log, Stan would still tell us what
- 11 was going on. And now he is denying
- 12 everything that he helped us discover in
- 13 the first place, so that's been
- 14 surprising.
- 15 So I feel that he has been swayed
- 16 and would be involved in helping cover it
- 17 up now.
- 18 But just to be clear, you're not
- 19 aware of anybody else actually destroying
- 20 documents?
- 21 A. No. I'm not.
- 22 Q. The Alabama Council for Excellent
- 23 Government, or as is sometimes called

- Q. First, it seems like both based
- 2 upon what you said, and at least what has
- 3 been publically reported, that there came
- 4 a time when Governor Bentley purchased
- 5 disposable phones. Did that happen?
- 6 A. Yes, it did.
- 7 How do you know that that Q.
- 8 happened?
- 9 A. Mrs. Bentley told me it happened,
- 10 and she would find them on bedside tables
- 11 and in her living room and express concern
- 12 to me about those.
- 13 And a lot of people in state
- 14 government, no matter what position they
- 15 held, knew about them and discussed it
- 16 almost in a laughing way.
- 17 But a lot of people were aware of
- 18 it because Rebekah Mason wasn't always the
- 19 only person with access to that phone.
- 20 O. I'm sorry. I didn't understand
- 21 that, Rebekah Mason was not always --
- 22 Was not always the only person
- 23 with access to that phone or its number,

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- 1 the burner phones.
- 2 Q. Okay. About when did that
- 3 activity occur; that is, the purchase and
- 4 use of disposable phones?
- 5 A. I can't be sure on the exact time
- 6 that it started. I know that Mrs. Bentley
- 7 did not start expressing a concern about
- 8 it until probably September of 2014, so
- 9 sometime in the fall.
- So I'm not sure when it officially
- began, but that's when I was first made
- 12 aware of it.
- 13 Q. Did Governor Bentley still use
- those phones when you left the
- 15 administration?
- 16 A. That was post my leaving, but,
- yes, it was my understanding that they
- started using them before, but, again,
- that's just hearsay. I never visibly saw
- a burner phone.
- 21 Q. Oh, okay. I may have
- 22 misunderstood. So --
- 23 A. Uh-huh (affirmative). Uh-huh

- 1 he went about it, but, again, that's just
- 2 secondhand knowledge.
- ³ Q. Do you know for a fact if
- 4 Mr. Helton actually obtained disposable
- 5 phones for the governor?
- 6 A. I do not know for a fact, just
- 7 hearsay.
- 8 MR. GILCHRIST: Who told you
- 9 that Wesley Helton would be the one?
- 10 THE WITNESS: A lot of
- people. I mean, Angi Smith has talked
- 12 about it. Zach Lee was concerned about
- 13 it.
- Collier Tynes, who helped
- 15 fulfill my role once I left, was extremely
- 16 concerned about it. Linda Adams was
- 17 frustrated.
- Wanda -- what was her last
- 19 name? Wanda who was the governor's
- assistant at the time was concerned about
- 21 it.

23

- So numerous people in the
 - office of the governor were aware of the

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- 4.5
- 2 Q. -- so the timeframe would reflect
- 3 that the governor's use of these phones
- 4 postdated your tenure?

(affirmative).

- 5 A. Exactly.
- 6 Q. Okay.

- 7 A. And that's, that's my
- 8 understanding.
- 9 Q. Okay. Who would be most
- 10 knowledgeable in your view about the use
- of those phones, in addition to obviously
- potentially the governor?
- 13 A. Rebekah Mason, Zach Lee, Wesley
- 14 Helton, Jennifer Ardis, and then Dianne
- 15 Bentley herself.
- 16 Q. And how were those phones
- purchased?
- 18 A. What I've been told is that he
- usually gave money to Wesley Helton, and
- Wesley Helton would go out and purchase
- 21 them.
- So usually the governor operated
- with cash. That was my understanding how

- 1 phones and everybody kind of talked about
- 2 it.
- 3 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Do you know
- 4 anything else about those phones,
- 5 including the numbers, the carriers,
- 6 duration, anything like that?
- 7 A. I do not. I know Mrs. Bentley has
- 8 some of those things written down, and
- ⁹ Zach Lee was very aware of everything, as
- 10 he is to this day, but I personally don't
- 11 have any of that information.
- 12 Q. Do you know if any state business
- was conducted on those phones?
- 14 A. I do not know.
- 15 Q. Do you have any knowledge about
- where any of them ended up?
- 17 A. I do not.
- 18 Q. All right. I also understand that
- during the course of Governor and
- 20 Mrs. Bentley's divorce proceedings that
- 21 there were, among other things, a
- deposition taken of Mrs. Bentley; is that
- 23 right?

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- 1 A. The Alabama Ethics Commission
- 2 requested that they have a deposition with
- 3 Mrs. Bentley post-divorce proceedings.
- 4 Q. Okay. Okay.
- 5 A. I'm not sure about a deposition
- 6 surrounding the divorce. She never
- 7 mentioned that to me.
- 8 And so you -- and so were you,
- 9 were you present at the Ethics Commission
- 10 deposition?
- 11 I was not present, no. A.
- 12 Q. Do you have any understanding
- 13 about what happened, who attended?
- 14 I do. Mrs. Bentley and I had a
- 15 conversation following her Ethics
- 16 Commission deposition.
- 17 I went to have lunch with her one
- 18 day because Mrs. Bentley and I do stay in
- 19 contact with one another.
- 20 When you work with someone for so
- 21 long you maintain a friendship, and she
- 22 just talked to me about different things
- 23 that had happened surrounding her

- 1 invest and, you know, move their money as
- 2 need be.
- 3 So now that Mrs. Bentley is on her
- 4 own, he's helping make sure that she's
- 5 okay and financially stable.
- 6 Does he still advise Governor Q.
- 7 Bentley also?
- 8 To my knowledge, yes. A.
- 9 So he still advises both of them? Q.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 So Mr. Echols assisted in O.
- 12 preparing Mrs. Bentley for her Ethics
- 13 Commission deposition?
- 14 Yes. And sat in the room when
- 15 they were there interviewing her.
- 16 Q. Okay. So he was also present?
- 17 A. Yes, he was.
- 18 O. And who else was present based --
- 19 well, let me back up. Who else assisted
- 20 in the preparation of Mrs. Bentley based
- 21 on your understanding?
- 22 THE WITNESS: Her attorney's
- 23 Steve Wright?

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- deposition. 2 And said that not only was her
- 3 attorney present, but Mike Echols also sat
- 4 in on her briefing and helped advise her
- 5 on how to answer, as well as how to handle
- 6 anything that might come her way.
- 7 Q. Was Mr. Echols there at her
- 8 request?

- 9 It was my understanding he just
- 10 told her he would be there, and she did
- 11 not say no.
- 12 Q. And, I'm sorry, you said
- 13 Mr. Echols was there to help prepare her
- 14 and then also --
- 15 A. Advise her.
- 16 Q. -- her lawyer?
- 17 No, Mike Echols is an accountant.
- 18 He was just helping Mrs. Bentley get her
- 19 finances in order now that the divorce is
- 20 over.
- 21 He worked with the Bentleys for as
- 22 long as I know, I think for their married
- 23 life trying to help them organize and

- 1 MR. HALE: Steve Wright.
- 2 A. Steve Wright.
- 3 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Anybody else?
- 4 Not to my knowledge. I know that
- 5 she discussed that she would be deposed
- 6 with her son Paul Bentley, who was
- 7 concerned about it, but purely for the,
- 8 you know, safety and care of his mom and
- 9 nothing more.
- 10 Q. Okay. So was Paul Bentley
- 11 present?
- 12 A. He was not present. I know she
- 13 just spoke with him about it prior to
- 14 going in for her deposition.
- 15 Q. Was your understanding that
- 16 Mrs. Bentley thought that the
- 17 participation of Mr. Echols and the
- 18 preparation for the deposition and also
- 19 his attendance in the deposition was in
- 20 some way improper or out of the ordinary?
- 21 I don't feel that she thought it
- 22 was improper. She was just concerned at
- 23 some of the advice that he gave her.

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1 He asked her not to divulge 2 additional information and to only answer

3 the questions that she was asked. He

4 advised her by saying that it was for her

5 own good, but sometimes she felt that it

6 was also to protect Governor Bentley as

7 well. Because she didn't understand why

8 she couldn't just tell them everything she

9 knew.

10 Q. And did she think or did she relay

11 to you being concerned about that? And

12 the only reason I ask is it's common for

13 lawyers to advise their clients to listen

14 to the question and answer the question

15 that's asked, wait for another question.

So by itself, you know, that's not 16

17 uncommon certainly.

18 She was concerned because it was

19 Mike Echols giving her the advice and not

20 her attorney.

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21 And as we have already discussed,

22 Mike Echols not only represents her

23 financially but the governor financially.

Page 59 And she sat back in her chair and

2 took a deep breath and said, good, I'm

3 glad somebody could.

> And to me that was just her way of being dissatisfied with what she was able to -- the information she was able to

7 provide.

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Q. What was the question that you

9 were able to provide earlier that she felt

10 she could not answer in the Ethics

11 Commission interview?

12 She wanted to make sure that they

13 knew that Stan Stabler had assisted her in

14 knowing about the affair and knowing how

15 the governor and Rebekah had hidden the

16 affair, whether or not it was on state

17 property, or, you know, when it took place

18 because she was very upset and very

19 disheartened really that to this day in

20 public he is now denying that anything

21 ever went on.

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23

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And it has bothered her because we considered him a friend and an ally when

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And Mike Echols has also worked with us all along to help with the

3 governor's image in a political way. And

4 she felt that maybe this was one of those

5 instances when he was trying to protect

6 the governor in that way because they told

7 her not to give any documents and not to

8 share any additional information at all.

And if they alluded to certain things, just to divert back and answer very generally.

And I think if it had come from her attorney, she would have been more comfortable with it, but the fact that

15 Mike Echols was there and that's what he

16 was telling her, she just felt like maybe 17 something was wrong.

18 The reason I feel that way is 19

because when she asked me about mine, she

20 asked me one very specific question, and I 21 said yes, Mrs. Bentley, I went ahead and

22 told them the truth. I told them

23 everything about that I knew. she was still married to the governor and

2 when she was still in Montgomery.

3 Did Mrs. Bentley withhold any Q.

4 information or documents from the Ethics

5 Commission at Mr. Echols' request or

6 instruction?

7 She did. She was told not to give

8 the copy of the tape which she has in her

9 possession. She also kept journals of

10 every, every single day she served as 11

First Lady.

12 She kept records of conversations 13 she had with the governor and concerns 14 that she may have had, as well as phone 15 numbers and records and whatever else she 16

may have gathered. 17 Mrs. Bentley also has pictures and

18 copies of text messages that were sent and 19 received that she saw from the governor

20 and in between the governor and Rebekah

21 Mason.

22 Q. Was she asked to produce those

23 things by the Ethics Commission and did

Page 61 Page 63 1 1 not because she received this advice from MR. SHARMAN: Okay. 2 2 MR. HALE: And it is in Mr. Echols? 3 3 She was not asked directly is what voice form. 4 she told me. She said they alluded to 4 (By Mr. Sharman) Moving topics Q. 5 potential documents, and she just did not 5 again. I understand that a couple of 6 б let them know that she had them, because events occurred in the rough timeframe of 7 7 she said that she wouldn't feel your own Ethics Commission interview that 8 8 caused you concern, particularly with comfortable divulging them after they 9 9 asked her not to and I think as a way to regard to potential efforts at witness 10 10 protect the governor in whatever way she dissuasion or intimidation --11 11 feels like she needs to. A. Uh-huh (affirmative). 12 Q. About when did Mrs. Bentley get 12 Q. -- for lack of a better word. 13 13 interviewed by the Ethics Commission? Tell us about that. 14 14 Shortly before me, so that would The first occurred early June soon 15 15 have been -- maybe in the middle of June, after I had moved into my new home. I was outside watering plants late at night and 16 I believe. 16 17 17 heard a noise come through my bushes and And did they provide her with any 18 18 transcript or summary of her own honestly thought it was a teenager just 19 19 running around down the street. statement? 20 20 I'm sure they did, but we did not I live in a fairly safe 21 21 discuss that so I cannot say. neighborhood, and came around the front of 22 22 my house and noticed there were scribbles Why do you say that you're sure Q. 23 they did? 23 on my windows, but I couldn't quite tell Page 62 Page 64 1 1 I just know that they do their due what it was because I didn't have the A. 2 2 lights on in my carport. diligence, and as soon as the official 3 transcript of everything I've had came 3 And when I walked around the side 4 4 through, they've let me review it if I, if and turned on the lights to get a better 5 5 I wanted to. look, I could see writing on my windows. 6 6 So I'm sure that if Mrs. Bentley And we submitted the pictures to 7 7 would have asked to review her statement, you, and it was just some profanity and 8 they would have been happy to let her, but 8 threats about me dying. 9 9 I don't know. But it did not make a reference or 10 10 I didn't ask her that question, didn't allude to anything that would say 11 11 hey, this is related to Governor Bentley's and she didn't tell me if she had seen it 12 12 case. It just said you will die. or not. 13 13 O. Have you seen a copy of the O. And when you say windows, you're 14 transcript of your statement to the Ethics 14 talking about your car windows? 15 15 Yes, my car windows, the sides and Commission? A. 16 I have not, but I did not request 16 the front window. Nothing was written on 17 17 to see one either. the back, just the two side doors and then 18 18 the front. MR. HALE: By the way, that 19 19 was just tape recorded only. MR. HALE: She was having 20 20 MR. SHARMAN: Okay. trouble printing that one, and she's 21 21 getting that one right now. MR. HALE: There wasn't an 22 official court reporter, but she was 22 Then the second occasion took 23 23 place I believe the night after my sworn.

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deposition with the Ethics Commission.

2 And I was getting ready to kind of 3 shut down everything for the evening, and 4 was back in the back room of my house and

5 I heard glass break. 6

And so I walked around to the kitchen where -- which is where I thought I heard it come from, and I have a large window in the front so it's just the safest place to assume.

And there was a rock laying on my kitchen floor, and the window panel had been broken. So I immediately called the Vestavia Police Department at that time, and they sent several officers out to investigate.

And you have the cards of both officers that were present on the scene. And they walked around my home to make sure I was secure, and they came in the house and checked everything.

22 And the rock came from my own 23 front yard, but they said that for someone scribbles everywhere.

So I took pictures and that's what made it show up. So it looks white in the pictures, but it was really black ink or black paint, whatever it was.

And I called two neighbors from

7 down the street, Katie and Chris 8 Catanzano, and said, hey, someone, you 9 know, window chalked my car. I don't 10 really want to be outside by myself in the 11 dark right now.

12 If you could just come down the 13 street, I'm going clean it off tonight before I go out of town. And so Katie and 14 15 Chris came down the street with their dog 16 and helped me clean off my windows that 17 night.

And her husband was like we should have called the police, but now that you've already cleaned them, we'll just keep pictures, and, you know, I'm sure it's just some silly prank.

And I talked to my dad about it

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1 to be there they would have to be pretty

2 close to my house in order to hit through

3 the single-pane windows that I have.

4 They're fairly small.

> It didn't seem that anyone was trying to rob me or break in, just more scare me because I had just turned the kitchen lights off and walked to the back of the house.

9 10 But, again, it's just an

11 assumption based on what the police and I

12 could figure out that night, but it

13 happened around midnight that evening.

14 Okay. Did you make a police

15 report about the defacement of your

16 vehicle?

17 A. I did not, and honestly, I'm not

18 sure why. I just was more frustrated at

19 the time than anything because I had to 20

wake up early the next morning.

21 So I took pictures of it so that I 22 could tell what it said, because in the

dark outside it just looked like black

and talked to Tom Hale, my attorney, about

2 it as well and kind of made note.

But then when the window happened not too long after, we felt like it was something we needed to report for sure.

6 O. And the incident with the rock 7 through your window was that the night of

8 the day you were interviewed by the Ethics

9 Commission?

10 If it wasn't the exact day, it was 11 soon after. I'm not sure what the exact

12 date was.

13 I know we were having a storm that 14 night, so everything was like really wet

15 and there was -- I mean my kitchen was 16 really wet, but I would have to look back

17 on the dates that I spoke to them.

18 Have you ever had trouble like

19 that before in this neighborhood?

20 I never have. Granted, I've only

21 -- I had only lived there for three weeks,

22 so it's very new.

But I live in a very, very quiet

Page 71 Page 69 1 street with a lot of families, and they 1 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Have they 2 2 said there's relatively no crime there. actually conducted any investigation 3 3 besides providing just additional And they were really shocked that 4 it had happened. And there really aren't 4 protection? 5 5 even any teenagers that live on my street. A. Yes. To my knowledge they've 6 6 Apparently they're all younger looked into several different things, 7 7 children and at midnight. So we looked including pulling my license and kind of 8 8 into several avenues, and it's been very looking into that to see how they may have 9 9 quiet ever since, but the Vestavia police figured out where I lived because it 10 10 definitely has increased their rotation by wasn't on any state records or in any 11 11 my house. I see them on a very regular records. 12 basis, so. 12 It hadn't quite been updated with 13 13 MR. HALE: Heather, didn't the tax, I guess -- it hadn't been filed 14 they talk you through ruling out that it 14 with the tax records at the time that I 15 15 might not have been jilted boyfriend or a was living there. 16 16 another jealous girl? Q. Do you believe sitting here today 17 17 that these two events related to your THE WITNESS: They did. 18 18 MR. HALE: And then you testimony before the Alabama Ethics 19 19 Commission? revealed to them why you were possibly a 20 target? 20 I do. Nothing has happened to me 21 21 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh like that since I've lived in Birmingham, 22 22 (affirmative). Yes, my initial, my and it didn't even happen in Montgomery. 23 23 initial thought was definitely not Bentley And if it was going to happen to Page 70 Page 72 1 related. It was kind of confused and 1 me, I would have thought it would have 2 2 happened then just because we were always scared, and honestly I thought break-in. 3 3 involved in some kind of controversy or I had -- somebody tried to 4 4 break in my house in Montgomery when I people were always upset and they knew 5 lived there, and so I assumed burglary. 5 they couldn't get to the Bentleys and 6 But then when you think 6 would try to get to us instead. 7 7 about it, it wasn't at a door, it was on But it's just interesting that 8 8 this tiny little window that no human none of this had happened and I'd never 9 9 could fit through. felt unsafe in my own home until this 10 10 And so as they continued to became an issue and I became a part of it. 11 11 ask questions they said, well, you know, People, you know, calling on the 12 12 is there any reason else that, you know, phone trying to get in touch with you, 13 somebody might be trying to get to you. 13 whether it's reporters or whoever else it 14 14 And I said well, the only may be. 15 15 thing I can think of is I was just deposed Q. Other than the timing of these 16 on behalf of the governor's investigation. 16 events, is there anything that leads you 17 17 And I don't think they believed me at to believe it's related to your Ethics 18 18 Commission testimony? first. 19 19 And when I told them what I mean, just -- I just don't 20 20 position I held with Mrs. Bentley, they really have anybody else that doesn't like 21 21 took it very seriously and have been me enough to hurt my property or -- and 22 22 extremely helpful and very protective of the fact that they didn't try to hurt me, 23 23 I felt like maybe it was somebody that my house and my safety since.

Page 73 Page 75 1 knew me and just wanted me to be unnerved 1 interview did you get notice that the 2 2 a little, but, again, that's just my own Ethics Commission wanted to talk to you? 3 3 assumption. THE WITNESS: Maybe --4 4 Q. Okay. MR. HALE: It wasn't -- it 5 5 MR. HALE: And you had some was hardly a week. б 6 communication with Wesley Helton around THE WITNESS: Not long. 7 7 this time, too, that caused you to believe MR. GILCHRIST: Did, did the 8 8 that it might possibly have been him? car incident happen before you got notice 9 9 THE WITNESS: I hadn't that the Ethics Commission wanted to talk 10 10 talked to Wesley. I spoke with Zach -to you? 11 MR. HALE: Zach, Zach Lee. 11 THE WITNESS: It did. The 12 THE WITNESS: -- about 12 car incident was more around the time --13 13 everything, but I do not think it would one of my friends got interviewed by the 14 have been Zach Lee. But I'm not sure who 14 FBI, got pulled for that, Collier Tynes 15 15 it could have been. actually. 16 MR. DOSS: When you said 16 And we were all getting 17 that you had only been living there for 17 hounded by reporters at that time as well. 18 about three weeks at the time that it 18 My phone was ringing off the hook for a 19 19 while, and it all happened kind of in happened? 20 20 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh relation to that. 21 21 (affirmative). So when I talked to my 22 22 MR. DOSS: Had you updated friends that live down the street, my 23 23 your address in any system or report or neighbors, and told them oh, I bet it's Page 74 Page 76 1 any kind of record? 1 just some teenager pulling a prank like 2 THE WITNESS: That was what 2 I'm the new girl that lives down the 3 3 street, they want to, you know, I guess was so strange and surprised us so much. 4 4 initiate me in the neighborhood, they were We had obviously filed it with the closing 5 5 attorney, but to our knowledge it hadn't like absolutely not. 6 6 even been posted as part of state record I thought it was maybe 7 7 at the time that this happened. somebody trying to make sure I didn't, you 8 And I don't post my address 8 know, talk to the wrong reporter. I 9 anywhere else, so that's what was so 9 wasn't sure. Like I said, I was more 10 10 confusing and disheartening by it. irritated and inconvenienced than anything 11 We weren't sure how anyone 11 by the car chalk. 12 12 would know where I lived, much less know MR. GILCHRIST: Did you send 13 13 how to find me. out an e-mail to friends when you moved, 14 14 Now, I had talked to several dear, all, my new address is 15 friends that did work in state government 15 such-and-such? 16 and let them know hey, I'm moving and kind 16 THE WITNESS: Not an e-mail, 17 of told them the general area that I was. 17 but I did send a text message to several 18 So I guess if someone was 18 friends that are great about, you know, 19 19 looking, they could have driven down the kind of maintaining your records and 20 20 street and seen my car, because I have several people that I knew that I would 21 21 just a carport, not a garage, so. want to keep in touch with, including a 22 MR. GILCHRIST: How far in 22 couple of people that, you know, have 23 23 advance of your Ethics Commission pretty strong connections to the capital

Page 77 Page 79 1 still but all that I still have great 1 thing happened on the 4th of June. Can we 2 2 relationships with. go off the record? 3 3 So unless they shared my MR. SHARMAN: Yes, let's 4 address, I wouldn't be concerned about any 4 take a break. 5 5 of the people that I communicated that (Off the record.) 6 6 Are there any other events or with. Q. 7 (Whereupon, a document was marked 7 incidents that you believe were efforts to 8 8 as Exhibit No. 2 and is attached intimidate you? 9 9 to the original transcript.) A. Not to my knowledge, no. 10 10 (By Mr. Sharman) I'm going to show Q. Has anybody from Governor 11 you, Ms. Hannah, what I've marked as 11 Bentley's administration other than 12 Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 3 to your 12 Mr. Lewis or Mr. Echols that we discussed 13 deposition. 13 earlier approached you since you left the 14 (Whereupon, a document was marked 14 administration with regard to any of the 15 as Exhibit No. 3 and is attached 15 matters that you gave your June 3rd 16 to the original transcript.) 16 statement about? 17 17 Q. First, are these photographs that Soon after I left I did talk to 18 you took? 18 Stan Stabler on several occasions when he 19 Yes, they are. A. 19 would be expressing concern about the 20 Okay. And these are photographs 20 governor's whereabouts with Rebekah Mason. 21 of your car the night we've just been 21 Sometimes he would share that with 22 talking about? 22 me I guess because he couldn't get in 23 A. Yes, they were. 23 touch with Mrs. Bentley sometimes out of Page 78 Page 80 1 Q. All right. Exhibit 2 what does 1 concern for her and just keeping me aware 2 2 that say that was written on your car? of what was going on. 3 On the driver's side on the side 3 But a couple of months after I 4 4 windows it says "bitch die". left and had been gone, the only person 5 5 And on Exhibit 3 what does that really -- or the only people I really had Q. 6 say there? 6 contact with from the governor's office 7 7 From what we can tell, it looks and maintained contact with would have 8 8 like "you will fucking die". I mean, been Mrs. Bentley herself, Collier Tynes 9 that's --9 because I still helped facilitate and 10 10 MR. HALE: Oh, I do see it, helped her understand the position and 11 11 yes. some of the things Mrs. Bentley wanted to 12 12 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) And, again, to do. 13 13 follow up on Mr. Gilchrist's question, as And then Angi Smith who I think 14 best you can recall, what was the 14 actually was removed from her position 15 15 approximate date of the car incident? prior to my leaving, so. But those were 16 I want to say it was June 6th. I 16 really the only three people I maintained 17 17 close communication with once I left. can get my cell phone out and look and see 18 18 specifically the night and the time. Did any of those folks that you 19 19 MR. HALE: Well, you gave just identified attempt to intimidate you, 20 your statement on June 3rd. 20 get you to change your story, get you to 21 THE WITNESS: June 3rd it 21 be quiet in any way? 22 had already happened. 22 A. Not at all. 23 23 MR. HALE: I think the rock Q. Okay.

20

21

22

23

But I trusted that Zach would show

So I know some of it was campaign related.

the governor and do everything he could.

Some of it was state related. I

Pages 81 to 84 Page 81 Page 83 1 MR. DOSS: Did any of them 1 know some of it was collected from Mike 2 2 ask about any testimony you may have Echols who we've discussed. 3 provided to the Ethics Commission? 3 I also know that Paul Bentley had 4 4 made a similar document. I'm not sure if THE WITNESS: Mrs. Bentley 5 5 did, but more for her own general it was the same one or if he and Zach 6 6 curiosity than for, you know, anything worked on one together. 7 7 But I do know that he mentioned to else. 8 8 myself and to his mom that there were She -- if anything, 9 9 Mrs. Bentley begged myself and Collier financial documents that could get his dad 10 10 in trouble. Tynes that if we were questioned, just to 11 11 And he said that that was one of make sure we took care of ourselves and 12 make sure we had an attorney and make sure 12 the reasons he felt comfortable going to 13 13 his dad and urging him to stop as well we told them everything we knew. 14 14 because he didn't want him to get in (By Mr. Sharman) Ms. Hannah, at a 15 15 couple of points in your June 3rd trouble, and this was prior to Governor 16 statement and also today you've mentioned 16 and Mrs. Bentley's divorce. 17 17 But ultimately the way the financial records --18 18 A. Uh-huh (affirmative). governor was handling his finances that 19 was one of the many reasons that finally 19 Q. -- primarily in other people's 20 20 helped Mrs. Bentley make the decision to possession? 21 get a divorce because her sons were 21 Yes. A. 22 concerned about her financially and how 22 Q. When you say financial records, 23 23 what are you thinking of? she would continue living if she didn't do Page 82 Page 84 1 A. We were sitting at a governor's 1 so. 2 2 office event at the Biscuits, Montgomery Q. Let me back you up. 3 Riverwalk Stadium one night, and we were 3 A. Uh-huh (affirmative). 4 4 bothered by the governor's behavior with O. About when did this conversation 5 Rebekah Mason. 5 with Zach Lee take place? 6 And I was sitting by Zach Lee at 6 A. Probably May of 2014. 7 7 the time, and he told me that he had Q. Where were you? 8 8 collected a lot of financial documents and A. At a baseball game at Montgomery 9 9 facts about the governor, how he was using Riverwalk Stadium where the Biscuits play. 10 10 money to pay Rebekah, how he was moving Q. Were you with other people? 11 money through the state government. 11 The whole governor's office staff A. 12 12 And he said that if the governor was asked to be there. It was an event, 13 13 won't morally stop having this affair, but Zach and I were kind of at the top of 14 14 maybe this will be enough to scare him. the back section of where everybody was 15 And he asked me if I wanted to see 15 seated, and nobody was sitting by us at 16 it, and I declined. I told him that I 16 the time we had the conversation. 17 17 felt like he should definitely present it O. So as far as you know nobody else 18 to the governor and urge him to stop, but 18 heard or participated in that 19 19 I didn't care to see that myself. conversation?

20

21

22

23

Q.

Right. We did not want anyone

And what was the conduct that the

else to hear or participate in our

conversation.

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- 1 governor and Ms. Mason were engaging in
- 2 that Mr. Lee disapproved of?
- 3 Rebekah was sitting on the front
- 4 row of our section, and the governor was
- 5 leaned up against the poles right in front
- 6 of her and just gave her his undivided
- 7 attention the whole night.
- 8 Spent minimal time speaking with
- 9 the rest of the people in his office
- 10 staff, which was very unlike him, and
- 11 wouldn't take his eyes off of her.
- 12 Kept like leaning into her, and
- 13 Mrs. Bentley sat a couple of rows up and
- 14 he hardly addressed her or had anything to
- 15 do with her at all.
- 16 Was it part of Mr. Lee's job to Q.
- 17 collect that kind of financial
- 18 information?
- 19 No. But Zach became more like A.
- 20 another son to Governor and Mrs. Bentley
- 21 than just a state employee.
- 22 And so Zach was given access and
- 23 rights to certain things that other staff

- 1 just financial stuff. And he goes, if
- 2 nothing else will persuade him, maybe this
- 3
- 4 Q. Did he tell you where he kept this
- 5 document or this material?
- 6 He did not. He just told me he A.
- 7 had it.
- 8 Q. Did he actually present it to
- 9 Governor Bentley?
- 10 A. To my knowledge, yes.
- 11 O. Okay. How do you know that?
- 12 A. Zach told me the exact time he
- 13 wanted to do it. He said he was going to
- 14 go talk to him that next week.
- 15 He had a one-on-one meeting with
- 16 the governor and he was going to talk to
- 17 him about it then. And Zach when I worked
 - with him if he said he was going to do
- 19 something like that, he would do it.
- 20 Did Mr. Lee ever speak with you
- 21 again about this financial information
- 22 that he had?

18

23 A. He and I spoke on a fairly regular

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1 members probably wouldn't have.

- 2 And he also was very heavily
- 3 involved on both the campaign side and the
- 4 governor's office staff side, so he was
- 5 just privy to a lot of that financial
- 6 information.
- 7 And I think on his own accord
- 8 decided to collect it in his own way to be
- 9 able to protect the governor and almost
- 10 save him from himself.
- 11 Did he create some sort of record Q.
- 12 or memo?

- 13 My understanding was, yes, he
- 14 compiled it in some kind of memo. I'm not
- 15 sure if it was an Excel spreadsheet or
- 16 what kind of document it was.
 - But it was my understanding Zach
- 18 said he collected all of this financial
- 19 information and he named, you know, from
- 20 the campaign from the way she's getting
- 21 paid and just kind of the highpoints.
- 22 He just kept saying it's just a
- 23 bunch of financial stuff, Heather, it's

- 1 basis while I was there. And he said, he
- 2 said well, the governor didn't take my 3
 - conversation very well.
- 4 But he and I were speaking on a
- 5 cell phone, and at that point I just said
- 6 well, you know, we'll have to talk --
- 7 we'll have to talk about it next time we
- 8 get together, and we never really did.
- 9 I became pretty guarded with the
- 10 information I had that Mrs. Bentley was
- 11 sharing with me and just learned that it
- 12 was better not to say anything to anyone
- 13 else.
- 14 Q. Did he say anything else to you
- about it? 15
- 16 A. No.
- 17 O. Like where --
- 18 A. I did not ask.
- 19 O. -- they met or anything like that?
- 20 He said he was just going to meet A.
- 21 with him in his office, so I assumed that
- 22 they just sat in the governor's office at
- 23 the Capitol and talked about it.

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- 1 But, again, that's just an
- 2 assumption based on Zach saying I have a
- 3 meeting with the governor next week and
- 4 I'm going to talk to him about it, so.
- 5 Q. What is Mr. Lee's position today?
- 6 He works with small governments, A.
- 7 but I'm not sure what his official title
- 8 is.
- 9 But I know he works with like
- 10 mayors and city councils and everything to
- 11 kind of do grassroots efforts across the
- 12 state.
- 13 So anything the state's trying to
- 14 accomplish, he works with those smaller
- 15 offices within the state to try to help
- 16 make sure we're all working collectively
- 17 to benefit the whole.
- 18 Is he housed, so to speak, within
- 19 the office of the governor?
- 20 A. Yes.

1

23

- 21 Q. Who is his boss?
- 22 To my knowledge it's just Robert
- 23 Bentley. He answers to Robert Bentley. I

- 1 he just wanted to know what reporters were
- 2 saying and what was being said. And I
- 3 just -- I don't feel comfortable sharing
- 4 any of that information with him anymore.
- 5 When you say financial records --Q.
- 6 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 7 -- and I asked you about that, and O.
- 8 then you told me about your conversation
- 9 with Mr. Lee.
- 10 Any other events or people that
- 11 you have knowledge of that reflect on the
- 12 financial records that we've been talking
- 13 about or financial records that reflect
- 14 any of the matters in your June 3rd
- 15 statement?
- 16 A. Mike Echols has access to
- 17 everything. He's probably the best person
- 18 I can think of that would know about, you
- 19 know, how the campaign funds were
- 20 allocated and where they went.
- 21 And I know the 501(c)(4) that
- 22 everyone talks about, I know he's very
- 23 well versed in all of that information,

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1

know it was a created position

- 2 specifically for Zach because Zach worked
- 3 as the governor's aide for a while.
- 4 And they weren't sure how to move
- 5 him up with the experience that he had,
- 6 and so that was something he was
- 7 interested in was working with small
- 8 governments.
- 9 He's from a small town himself and
- 10 is very passionate about what the local
- 11 areas are doing, and so they created that
- 12 position for him and allowed him to report
- 13 to the governor.
- 14 Okay. Has Mr. Lee been
- 15 interviewed by anybody-- Ethics
- 16 Commission, FBI, anything?
- 17 I would assume he has, but I do
- 18 not know. I have decided it's best not to
- 19 speak to Zach while any of these
- 20 proceedings are going on.
- 21 So I have not spoken with Zach Lee
- 22 since I was initially contacted because he
 - just wanted me -- any time he would call

- and then as well as Paul Bentley.
- 2 I do not think Paul Bentley will
- 3 speak to anyone, though, unless he is
- 4 subpoenaed and required to be there purely
- 5 because if his relationship with his dad
- 6 is ever restored. I think he would want to
- 7
- be able to say I had to. I had to talk.
- 8 But Paul Bentley does have access
- 9 to all of that financial information as
- 10 well because he acted on behalf of the
- 11 campaign and helped kind of facilitate
- 12 some of those decisions from the campaign 13
- perspective as well.
- 14 Q. And where does Paul Bentley live?
- 15 He lives in Tuscaloosa. A.
- 16 Q. Staying on the subject of finance
- 17 and financial records, do you have any
- 18 understanding of how Ms. Mason was
- 19 compensated? How she was paid?
- 20 Initially by the state. Then when
- 21 it became -- she became a campaign
- 22 employee, I know it was switched to
- 23 campaign funds.

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1 Mrs. Bentley was asked -- asked

- 2 the governor not to bring her back to work
- 3 as a state official once the second
- 4 campaign was over, though, because of the
- 5 affair, and he hired her anyway.
- 6 And Mrs. Bentley expressed the
- 7 concern that she was making more money
- 8 than she was supposed to make, but where
- 9 that money was coming from I don't know.
- I mean, I've heard speculation
- just like everyone else, but I haven't
- seen anything with my own eyes and haven't
- read anything on my own to know.
- 14 Q. And I should probably know this,
- but if you're looking for payroll records
- 16 for staff members at the office of the
- governor, where do you go to look for
- 18 those?
- 19 A. There's some place online that you
- 20 can look it up, but, again, Becca Crawford
- 21 and Cheryl Fondon in the bookkeeping
- office, they have those direct records and
- 23 they can pull them from any year, any

- 1 played the recording for both of them.
- 2 Q. Have you heard that recording?
- 3 A. No, not the whole thing.
- 4 Q. Have you heard some of it?
- 5 A. I heard some of it, but, again,
- 6 through Mrs. Bentley. But Paul said that
- 7 that was something he was going to keep on
- 8 his phone and not give access to anywhere
- 9 else because it was more for his own
- personal safety so that it couldn't be a
- 11 he said, she said thing and to prove to
- 12 his father that, you know, it was a
- manipulation effort is what I was told.
- 14 Q. When did you hear a portion of
- that conversation that was on Paul
- 16 Bentley's phone?
- 17 A. Maybe a week after it took place,
- and that would have been sometime in the
- spring of 2014 as well.
- 20 Maybe March or early April. I
- can't be for sure. I know that we didn't
- tell Paul when we first found out and we
- 23 found out in early February.

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- 1 employee that you want to find.
 - I believe the Department of
- 3 Archives is required to keep a record of
- 4 it, too, just as part of administration
- 5 records.

2

- 6 Q. Also with regard to financial
- 7 matters and financial documents, in your
- 8 June 3rd statement you mentioned what you
- 9 understood to be an interaction between
- 10 Paul Bentley and Ms. Mason where he
- apparently took his phone, turned on the
- 12 recorder, and put it on the dashboard and
- said we're going to have a conversation.
- Where does your knowledge of that come
- 15 from?
- 16 A. Mrs. Bentley, and Paul mentioned
- it to me briefly, but my main knowledge
- 18 comes from Mrs. Bentley.
- 19 Q. And what's your understanding of
- 20 how she knew?
- 21 A. Paul told her. He called her and
- told her. And he came to his father and
- confronted him with it, told him, and

- 1 And Mrs. Bentley felt very
- 2 confident in it in March and eventually
- confronted Paul because she wasn't sure
- 4 what else to do.

- 5 And Paul needed his own assurance
- 6 that it was really taking place which is
- 7 why he felt like he needed to have a
- 8 conversation with Rebekah Mason personally
- 9 and because they had been family friends
- and involved in the same church for a
- 11 number of years together.
- So he was very concerned and felt
- comfortable enough, though, to confront
- her with that kind of question.
- 15 Q. Where were you when you heard that
- 16 recorded conversation?
- 17 A. I believe I had gone to
- 18 Tuscaloosa. We were doing an event, and I
- 19 had gone to Tuscaloosa and was with her at
- 20 her house helping her prep for it.
- 21 She told me kind of what had
- happened and why Paul felt the need to do
- it. And said, you know, you'll never

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- 1 believe she said that they were having an
- 2 affair and she knew it was wrong and cried
- 3 and everything.
- 4 And the only portion I heard was
- just Paul saying now you know this is a
- 6 recording, you know this is, you know,
- 7 here. I don't want you to be able to deny
- 8 it. I just want you to know that I've got
- 9 it and kind of handled it that way.
- But that was, that was all I was
- privy to. And they said that they just
- did that for my protection, which I was
- 13 fine with.
- 14 Q. So let me go back. So you go to
- 15 Tuscaloosa?
- 16 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 17 Q. Where do you go?
- 18 A. I go to Mrs. Bentley's house, 11
- 19 Ridgeland.
- 20 Q. Mrs. Bentley's house?
- 21 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 22 Q. Okay. And so Mrs. Bentley's
- 23 there?

- 1 But when I was there they --
- 2 Mrs. Bentley was relaying that information
- 3 to me. And Paul and Melissa had come over
- 4 to check on Mrs. Bentley, and they knew
- 5 that Mrs. Bentley had told me about it.
 - And Paul was like, yeah, but look
- 7 how I protected myself, and that's why he
- 8 let me hear the beginning of him saying,
- 9 like, you know I'm recording this
- 10 conversation, and he goes yes, and she
- 11 admitted everything.

6

- And I was like, well, I was like
- 13 I'm glad that you know. I'm glad I'm not
- the only one that knew. And I think that
- was his way of alleviating some of the
- burden from me.
- But I had had heard enough
- 18 recordings at that time, I didn't really
- care to hear anything else.
- Q. Have you heard any of that
- recording since the spring of 2014?
- 22 A. I have not.
- 23 Q. Do you know if it's still on
 - 1 Paul's phone or not?
 - 2 A. I know that his wife had requested
- 3 that he take it off of his phone and put
- 4 it in a disc and put it up so that no one
- 5 else -- no one could use it improperly but
- 6 so that they would have it just in case,
- 7 but I'm not sure if that was ever done or
- 8 not.
- 9 Q. How do you know that she made that
- 10 request?
- 11 A. Because I heard her, and because
- 12 Mrs. Bentley told me that, you know, Paul
- 13 needed to do something with it.
- And she and Melissa were worried
- that it was just going to be on a cell
- phone, that anybody could hack it.
- Q. And was that request by Mrs. Paul
- Bentley made at the same time, this same
- meeting that we just talked about, or was
- 20 it a different time?
- 21 A. It was a different time, but I'm
- 22 not sure when because a lot of my
- 23 information came from Mrs. Bentley, and

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And Paul is there?
- 3 A. Paul and Melissa, his wife
- 4 Melissa.
- 5 Q. Anybody else?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Okay. So --
- 8 A. Security would have been sitting
- 9 in the parking lot or the driveway
- outside, but we were the only ones in the
- 11 house.
- 12 Q. And then Paul has his phone;
- 13 right?
- 14 A. Uh-huh (affirmative). Uh-huh
- 15 (affirmative).
- 16 Q. That's a yes?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And he plays for the other three
- of you some portion of the recording?
- 20 A. Mrs. Bentley and Melissa and Paul
- 21 had already had the discussion. They
- heard everything, and he confronted the
- 23 governor with it at the beach.

23

from her phone as soon as I made sure it

Page 103 Page 101 1 she would tell me when we would just have 1 transferred to the CD. 2 2 conversations. I made sure that it was off of her 3 3 Do you know if Paul Bentley, in phone at her request, and made sure it was 4 fact, got the recording off his phone and 4 also not on the computer that was used to 5 5 put it on some other -burn the CD initially. 6 6 And before you removed it from the A. I do not know. 7 -- mechanism? 7 phone did you assure yourself that the O. 8 8 I do not know. recording on the CD was a full and A. 9 9 accurate copy of what had been on the MR. SHARMAN: Let's go off 10 10 the record a second. phone? 11 11 Α. Yes. I listened to them (Off the record.) 12 (Whereupon, a document was marked 12 simultaneously to make sure that 13 13 everything came through in an audible way as Exhibit No. 4 and is attached 14 14 so that she had what she needed to know. to the original transcript.) 15 Okay. Were there any differences, 15 All right. Ms. Hannah, I'm going 16 16 gaps, or inaudible parts when you made to show you what has been marked as 17 17 Exhibit 4 to your statement here today. that comparison? 18 Exhibit 4 I'll represent to you is 18 A. No. 19 Q. You then kept your copy of the CD 19 a DVD that your counsel provided me in 20 20 in your own personal safe deposit box; is response to the committee's request. 21 that right? 21 As I understand it, Mrs. Bentley 22 A. In a lockbox, yes, I did, uh-huh 22 made two recordings on her phone of 23 23 conversations between Governor Bentley and (affirmative). Page 102 Page 104 1 Ms. Mason; is that right? 1 Q. About when were you making these 2 2 Yes, it is. copies for yourself and for Mrs. Bentley? A. 3 Then Mrs. Bentley asked you to 3 The first one I believe was in the Q. 4 4 make a copy of those two recordings in very end of February or very early March 5 5 of 2014 shortly after I confronted full onto a DVD; is that right? 6 Yes. She wanted to make sure the 6 Mrs. Bentley about the affair between 7 recordings were no longer on her cell 7 Robert Bentley and Rebekah Mason. 8 8 phone, but she wanted to maintain record When did Mrs. Bentley ask you to 9 9 of them. make the transfer or the copy from her 10 10 Q. Okay. And did you do as phone to a CD? 11 Mrs. Bentley asked? 11 It would have been in early March. 12 12 I did. After she made the recording they took a A. 13 13 beach trip together where she received the So as I understand it, you made a 14 copy of the recording on a CD and actually 14 first recording, and then he had another 15 15 did that twice. conversation once they returned to 16 You gave one to Mrs. Bentley and 16 Montgomery. 17 17 retained one for yourself; is that right? And she did not want either of 18 18 them on her phone so she asked me to make A. I did. 19 And then once you gave 19 sure they were taken off but records were 20 Mrs. Bentley her copy she removed the 20 still kept of the conversations. 21 21 original recording from the phone? Then later you gave the CD that 22 I actually removed the original 22 was in your lockbox to your counsel?

23

A.

I did.

23

Mrs. Bentley's phone; is that right?

Page 105 Page 107 1 That was not another copy? That 1 A. Yes. Q. 2 2 was actually the copy that you had made O. You satisfied yourself after that 3 3 earlier? effort that there were no gaps or failures 4 MR. HALE: Directly from her 4 to record or distortions as a result of 5 5 phone, yeah. the CD that you made? 6 6 (By Mr. Sharman) Is that right? A. Yes. Q. 7 7 Yes, my attorney Tom Hale has the MR. DOSS: And to be clear, 8 8 only copy that I have and the original I think before we went off the record you 9 9 copy that I made when I made had marked as Exhibit 4 a copy of the CD, 10 10 Mrs. Bentley's copy of the recording. He but now we're marking as Exhibit 4 the 11 11 has it in his possession at his office. original CD that was created by you; is 12 (By Mr. Sharman) And if your 12 that correct? 13 13 counsel's office made a copy of that THE WITNESS: Yes, that's 14 recording, that copy will contain the same 14 correct. 15 15 thing as was on Mrs. Bentley's phone? MR. SHARMAN: Exactly. 16 It should, yes. 16 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure A. 17 17 O. Okay. how particular you're being, but Dianne is 18 MR. HALE: Jack, in the 18 spelled with two Ns, and on that CD it 19 19 event that it does become necessary to just has one, but it is two Ns. 20 sustain the best evidence rule, I believe 20 MR. HALE: That's my fault. 21 there's no question that what I have and I 21 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) And it has on it 22 22 Diane Bentley's recordings of RJB, slash, will make it available to you or whomever 23 23 else requires it with my own affidavit a RM, and that's your counsel's handwriting Page 106 Page 108 1 1 chain of custody as the best evidence of on here? 2 2 that conversation. A. It is. 3 MR. DOSS: How long are both 3 MR. HALE: Do you want to go 4 4 recordings? off the record one second? 5 5 MR. SHARMAN: Sure. MR. HALE: They're 24, 25, 6 26 minutes. 6 (Off the record.) 7 7 (Off the record.) Ms. Hannah, in your statement of 8 8 (By Mr. Sharman) Ms. Hannah, so June 3rd with regard to the disposable 9 9 where we are is that to ensure the phones that we discussed earlier, you 10 10 integrity of the chain of custody, mentioned that the governor started buying 11 11 the disposable phones when he realized Exhibit 4 to your statement is a CD that 12 12 Mrs. Bentley was reading his text you provided to your counsel; is that 13 13 right? messages. How do you know that? 14 14 A. It is. Because he was very angry at both 15 15 of us. He blamed me for us knowing about Q. And as we just discussed, that is 16 the CD that contains the two recordings 16 a lot of his conversations. 17 17 that you made directly from Mrs. Bentley's He claimed that I had bugged his 18 phone at Mrs. Bentley's request; right? 18 office and his recliner in the mansion 19 19 A. upstairs, and had Nance Bishop and his 20 20 Q. And this is also the CD that you team sweep the mansion and the Capitol on 21 21 personally listened to and compared a more regular, more often basis because 22 simultaneously to the recordings on 22 of my so-called bugs.

23

When really Mrs. Bentley and I

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- were not digging into his cell phone. We
- 2 did not have to. We had access to the
- 3 iPad that he had originally gotten to use
- 4 to help him with speeches, but he chose
- 5 not to use it anymore, just to stick with
- 6 the paper copy.
- 7 So he gave her the iPad and it was
- 8 synced to his iCloud on his cell phone,
- 9 which meant every text message he received
- and every e-mail he received connected tothe iPad automatically.
- And so any time there was any kind
- of correspondence with anyone, it would
- come through on the iPad.
- And Mrs. Bentley could see it and
- 16 I could see it as plainly as anyone could
- have, and that was really with his
- permission because he gave it to us.
- 19 O. But how did he know that
- 20 Mrs. Bentley was reading his text
- 21 messages?
- 22 A. Because she confronted him about a
- 23 couple of different things that were said

- 1 gave it?
- 2 A. I'm not sure who she turned it
- 3 into. It could have been Cheryl Fondon
- 4 who kept up with the inventory. It could
- 5 have been Cleve since he was responsible
- 6 for technology.
- 7 MR. DOSS: I think we saw a
- 8 note about the iPad being a gift from
- 9 China.
- THE WITNESS: Oh, yes, he
- was given, he was given an iPad from the
- state and he was given one of those
- 13 Samsung tablet things from China.
- And we -- Mrs. Bentley and I
- had both of them in our possession at one
- time or another out of the governor's
- 17 frustration of not feeling comfortable
- 18 using it.

23

- Which all that was, I mean,
- state property. Any gift given to the
- 21 governor is considered state property.
- 22 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Are you aware of
 - any instances when in your view Governor

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- 1 in the text messages specifically.
- 2 And he slipped up and sent
- 3 Mrs. Bentley several text messages that he
- 4 intended for Rebekah, and the reason we
- 5 know that is because they have Rebekah's
- 6 name in them, even though he sent them to
- 7 Mrs. Bentley.
- 8 Oh, and he always used a red rose
- 9 emoji for Rebekah, but not for
- 10 Mrs. Bentley.
- 11 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) You mentioned the
- 12 iPad.
- 13 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 14 Q. Now, that iPad was turned in when
- 15 Mrs. Bentley left?
- 16 A. My understanding it was state
- property and owned by the state and the
- governor used it. And so when
- 19 Mrs. Bentley was no longer First Lady and
- 20 no longer married to the governor, it was
- 21 my understanding that she had to give it
- 22 -- she gave it back.
- Q. Okay. Do you know to whom she

- 1 Bentley improperly delegated to Ms. Mason
- 2 his decisionmaking authority or power as
- 3 governor?
- 4 A. Can you be more specific? I mean,
- 5 what do you mean by that?
- 6 Q. Well, obviously a governor can
- 7 have influential advisers.
- 8 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 9 Q. In such a situation other advisers
- may be jealous of or resentful of the
- 11 influential adviser.
- 12 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 13 Q. That may or may not be a good
- model of management, but there's nothing
- particularly troubling about it.
- 16 A. Right.
- Q. On the other hand, if a governor
- is not doing his job and in part is not
- doing his job because he is vesting the
- 20 influential adviser with more authority or
- 21 power than the governor should in order to
- carry out his constitutional duties, that
- 23 may be a different matter.

- 1 A. Right.
- 2 Q. I realize that's not much better
- 3 definition, but that's what I'm getting
- 4

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- 5 A. No, no, that's helpful. I did not
- 6 see it firsthand, but I do know that from
- 7 seeing text messages and from things
- 8 Mrs. Bentley had relayed to me, if Rebekah
- 9 wanted someone removed from their
- 10 position, no matter what that position
- 11 might be, that person was generally gone

12 not too much long after.

> Angi Smith was relieved of her position in the governor's office not too long after she discovered the affair. She saw the governor and heard a conversation

17 of the governor with Rebekah. 18 Assumed it was Mrs. Bentley 19 because of the private nature of their

conversation, and when he hung up the 21 phone she saw it was Rebekah Mason.

22 And she immediately confronted the 23 governor with it, and he got very angry

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- 1 to not be in Rebekah Mason's favor because
- 2 they felt like their jobs would be at risk
- 3 if they weren't.

4

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MR. HALE: Heather, was it

also a mandatory condition of Rebekah's

6 hire by the governor that he also employ

7 her husband Jon Mason?

8 THE WITNESS: Yes, that was 9 the initial stipulation put on when they 10 first came at the very, very beginning

11 when he took office.

12 MR. HALE: So he filled a position that was in a little known part

14 of the cabinet?

> THE WITNESS: Yes, he was the office -- Jon Mason became the office

17 of -- Director of the Office of Faith

18 Based Community Initiatives.

19 O. (By Mr. Sharman) Is it your

20 conclusion that Mr. Mason was given that

21 position because of Ms. Mason's influence?

22 Yes. It was my understanding and

23 the understanding of many of us on the

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1 with her and asked her to get out of the

2 car.

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And so she confronted Rebekah the next day, and it was my understanding that she went immediately to the governor and

6 the governor immediately had Angi removed

7 from her position.

> We all know that Spencer Collier was removed from his position, thanks to Twitter, and Rebekah Mason had full control over the governor's social media

12 and all of his communication efforts.

13 So there were a lot of red flags 14 that led us to believe that she was

15 influencing a lot of his decisions,

16 whether it was related to state decisions 17

and economic decisions.

18 We know she definitely had his 19 ear, but definitely on the hiring and

20 firing of individuals usually if she said

21 she wanted it to happen, that person

22 wasn't around much longer, which is why so 23

many state employees were very concerned

campaign that if Rebekah was going to move

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2 to Montgomery, her husband Jon Mason had

3 to have a job so that he could move to

4 Montgomery so that their full family would

5 be able to be provided for in the event of

6 their move.

7 They ended up not moving their 8 children from the school in Tuscaloosa to

9 Montgomery like they had originally

10 discussed.

11 And Rebekah and Jon both chose to

12 commute to and from Tuscaloosa to 13 Montgomery for their positions, but both

14 of them did maintain their state office

15 during that time.

16 Q. Was Mr. Mason unqualified for that

17 position?

18 It would be purely my opinion, but 19 yes. Jon Mason had worked more in the

20 marketing communication role.

21 He had helped like

22 behind-the-scenes newscast and conferences

23 with WVUA, which is the local Tuscaloosa

Page 117 Page 119 1 station, but to my knowledge had no 1 THE WITNESS: He allowed her 2 2 previous experience, definitely not to stay in the guesthouse at the 3 3 running a state agency, but very limited governor's mansion. 4 4 experience with community outreach and And then Stan Stabler 5 5 charitable organizations. reported to us that the governor and 6 6 Are there any other examples other Rebekah Mason spent time together at the 7 7 than Ms. Mason's influence over personnel Wynfield estate which is part of the state 8 8 termination type decisions that you think property. 9 9 would be evidence of the governor MR. HALE: Did the governor 10 10 improperly providing her with power, allow her free access to the pool house at 11 authority, or duties? 11 the beach --12 I know that Rebekah Mason wanted 12 THE WITNESS: Yes. 13 13 me to be gone immediately, and the MR. HALE: The governor's 14 governor hired Collier Tynes to 14 beach cottage? 15 15 quote/unquote keep Mrs. Bentley busy, but THE WITNESS: The pool house 16 also as a distraction for Mrs. Bentley and 16 is considered to be an additional building 17 somebody to become the "me" so that I 17 right behind the governor's mansion, and, 18 could be removed. 18 yes, he did give her access to that when 19 19 she needed to stay at leisure. He tried to get me to move to the 20 campaign because it was understood that he 20 MR. HALE: Did he give her 21 would have to hire you back if you went to 21 access to the property immediately next 22 the campaign, he would have to hire you 22 door which is state-owned? 23 23 THE WITNESS: The Hill back as a state employee. Page 118 Page 120 1 1 And at that time he had personally House? 2 2 threatened me in the governor's mansion MR. HALE: Yes. 3 kitchen prior to a dinner we were having 3 THE WITNESS: Not that I 4 and had spoken to me very sternly in the 4 know of. 5 5 parking lot outside the office of the MR. HALE: Okay. 6 governor's mansion. 6 THE WITNESS: It was just 7 7 And the actual governor's mansion the pool house because it's in the gates 8 8 and in the confines of the governor's he had spoken to me about staying out of 9 9 their personal lives and their personal mansion. 10 10 business very sternly. Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Okay. Let me 11 And Mrs. Bentley, again, had seen 11 back up -- go ahead. 12 12 text messages that brought my name up, and MR. DOSS: Are you aware of 13 13 the governor again had already told Nance any other state employees or people in 14 14 Bishop that I was bugging his office and positions comparable to Ms. Mason's that 15 was extremely suspicious of me. 15 were afforded similar privileges? 16 And Rebekah always seemed to be 16 THE WITNESS: The only other 17 17 fueling that fire and said that I did not person that got to stay in the pool house 18 need to be in that position because I was 18 at the governor's mansion was Clay Ryan, 19 19 going to mess up their image. and he was an attorney at Maynard Cooper 20 20 and now is VP of something at the MR. HALE: Jack, let me ask 21 21 this real quick. Did Governor Bentley University of Alabama. 22 allow Rebekah Mason to stay at the 22 VP of -- I don't know. He's 23 23 Wynfield estate? got a very important role at Alabama. I

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1 don't remember what his official title is.

2 And if you listen to gossip

3 in Montgomery, a lot of people feel that

- 4 it was because he knew a lot of
- 5 information about the governor and Rebekah
- 6 and their affair, because he was brought
- 7 in kind of during that time as a
- 8 consultant and became very heavily
- 9 involved with the second campaign, more so
- 10 than he had been before.

11

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And then all of a sudden he was moved to a position at the University of Alabama and removed from being a

14 consultant for the governor.

15 MR. HALE: Were there also

16 occasions when the governor's staff,

17 including Ms. Mason, would use the state

18 plane to fly to different functions, only

19 to have everybody except the governor and

20 Ms. Mason drive back so he could be alone

21 with her on the state plane?

22 THE WITNESS: That was my

23 understanding that that happened on It all happened in the spring, so

1 2 maybe the end of March, beginning of

3 April.

9

4 It was after Mrs. Bentley had

confronted him about the affair and really

6 I think after Paul Bentley had found out

7 about it. He was very angry with me and

8 blamed everything on me.

For whatever reason he did not

10 consider Mrs. Bentley, who is a

11 bacteriologist by trade, intelligent

12 enough to be able to figure out how to

13 record his conversations and felt like I

14 was the person behind it and who had

15 engineered knowing what was going on with

16 his relationship.

17 Which came first, the parking lot

18 conversation or the kitchen conversation?

19 A. The kitchen conversation actually

20 came first, and that happened at the end

21 of March.

23

1

22 We were getting ready for an

event, and he was very angry that day and

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1 several occasions, yes.

- 2 (By Mr. Sharman) Do you know that Q.
- 3 or -- I mean how do you know that?
- 4 Because Zach Lee would come back
- 5 and get back before the governor would,
- 6 and we wouldn't know why. Because usually
- 7 if you ride in the plane with the
- 8 governor, you're in the governor's caravan
- 9 when you return to the governor's mansion.
- 10 (By Mr. Sharman) All right. Let
- 11 me back up a second. So you described two
- 12 events.
- 13 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 14 Q. Two interactions --
- 15 Α. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- with the governor. One in the
- 17 kitchen of the governor's mansion?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. And then a separate one in the
- 20 parking lot?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. First, the one in the
- parking lot when was that?

- he came in. And I don't remember what I
- 2 did to initiate it.

3 I just remember over the course of

4 our conversation he yelled at me and told

5 me that I needed to get married and stay

6 out of their business because I was too

7 involved with them and he didn't want me

8 there anymore.

9 And then the parking lot

10 conversation was in reference to me -- him

11 thinking that I had bugged his office, and

12 he was just telling me that I better -- he

13 was like you just better watch it, you

14 better watch it. I'm the governor of

15 Alabama and people fall at my throne and

16 you don't know what you're getting

- 17 yourself into.
- 18 Q. What parking lot was this?
- 19 So there's like the governor's
- 20 mansion. When you pull in it has like a
- 21 little parking area in between the
- 22 governor's mansion and the pool house and
- 23 the office building where the governor's

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Page 125 Page 127 mansion staff generally parks. 1 were there any occasions when Governor 2 And the governor all -- his 3 his displeasure with you with regard to security detail always pulls up to the back door of the mansion, which is really

6 And it's, basically, to the side 7

of the Alabama state-shaped swimming pool. 8 And it was just right out there in the

9 parking lot when he came home one day.

10 Okay. Was anybody else present 11 for either of these two conversations?

adjoined to where the staff parks.

12 A. In the kitchen -- I mean people 13 were in the governor's mansion, but we

14 were the only two in the kitchen.

And the chef came in, chef Jim Smith walked in, and the governor kind of walked off at that point. They have a big swinging door, so as soon as he heard that.

2.0 And then outside, no. And the 21 only reason he caught me by myself outside 22 is because I was running a speech up to

Mrs. Bentley on my way out and just ran

Bentley threatened you or even expressed

4 his relationship with Mrs. Bentley or

5 Ms. Mason?

6 A. No. The governor and I once the

7 affair started did our best to minimize

8 our interactions with one another.

9 O. You also mentioned in your

10 June 3rd statement about a proposed

11 confidentiality agreement?

12 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).

13 Q. When did that first come to your

14 attention?

15 A. It was after the affair started 16 and everyone was, everyone was concerned

17 with, you know, who was going to talk to

18 who and if somebody was going to talk to a

19 reporter or if somebody was going to go to

20 the police.

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21 And I was told that the governor's 22

office staff was going to sign a 23 confidentiality agreement just

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1 into him, basically, in the parking lot.

2 And I said hey, Governor, and he I guess

3 had had a bad day that day.

4 Is there anybody that can verify

5 your recitation of the conversations?

6 If anybody could, it would be the

7 guys that worked the gate at the

8 governor's mansion that night because they

9 have cameras all around the governor's

10 mansion complex.

> And there's definitely a camera that faces there and they would be able to see, see.

I'm not sure if there's audio. I believe there is, but they would be able to see those conversations.

16 17 And as far as the kitchen goes, 18 Mrs. Bentley was walking down the stairs 19 and chef Jim Smith was walking in the

20 kitchen, but I talked to Mrs. Bentley

21 about it immediately after it happened, so

she was aware of our conversation. O. Other than those two occasions, guaranteeing that anything we saw or heard

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2 would be kept secret.

> And I told them that I wasn't going to sign anything. That if we hadn't

5 had to sign one when we entered our 6

contract with the state, that I didn't see 7 it was necessary to sign one at that time.

8 And that, you know, they hired me 9 on the goodwill knowing that, you know, I 10 would maintain their privacy and I have 11 thus far and would continue to do so.

12 So I did not sign any documents, 13 but I know several other state employees

14 were asked to and did.

> But me being at the governor's mansion I felt a little bit safe, safer

17 and more protected from what was going on

18 at the Capitol.

19 O. Who proposed that you sign a

20 confidentiality agreement?

21 I know the governor mentioned it

22 to me. I believe Ray Lewis also talked to

23 me about it just because he was the head

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- 1 of the governor's security detail.
- 2 And at the time David Perry was
- 3 Governor Bentley's chief of staff, and I
- 4 believe he was kind of facilitating that
- 5 as well.
- 6 Q. Did Mr. Lewis or anybody else
- 7 actually present you with a proposed
- 8 agreement?
- 9 A. No, they told me that we were
- going to be asked to sign one. And I
- said, you know, I wasn't going to, and so
- 12 I never saw the agreement until they
- presented it to me the other day and saw
- 14 it.
- 15 I knew that a couple of other
- people had and they kind of told me what
- was in it, but that was about all I knew
- about the document.
- 19 Q. When you say "they" presented it,
- are you talking about investigators from
- 21 the Ethics Commission?
- 22 A. Yes, investigators of the Ethics
- 23 Commission showed me the document, the

- agreement was proposed to you?
- 2 A. No. I was still there when they
- 3 told me we were going to have to sign it
- 4 --
- 5 Q. Okay.
- 6 A. -- but when that agreement and the
- date on that agreement, you know, was I
- 8 guess actually printed or published, I'm
- 9 not sure how they got it, I was already
- gone at that time. So I don't know if
- that was when it was first circulated or
- 12 not.

13

23

- MR. DOSS: Were you ever
- told not to speak to law enforcement, forexample, about anything concerning the
- 16 governor?
- THE WITNESS: I was told not to talk to anybody about it by Ray Lewis
- who's head of security detail.
- 20 And I know the chief of
- staff, whoever it was at the time, you
- know, we went through three, so that the
 - three people they were always like, you

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- 1 confidentiality document, and asked if I
- 2 was ever asked to sign it.
- ³ Q. Okay. And there's one that's
- 4 Exhibit 2 to the statement you gave on
- 5 June 3rd. Is that what it was that you
- 6 were shown?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And this one appears to been an
- 9 executed copy by a man named Seth Hammett?
- 10 A. Yes, Seth Hammett became the
- governor's chief of staff prior -- or
- 12 after David Perry left that position.
- 13 Q. This document is dated August 17th
- of 2014. Is that consistent with your
- 15 recollection about when you were asked to
- sign a confidentiality agreement?
- 17 A. No. The confidentiality agreement
- was brought to me the summer of 2014, so
- maybe June, but I had left prior to August
- of 2014. I had chosen to leave already.
- 21 Q. So --
- 22 A. I left after the primary.
- 23 Q. -- you were gone when this

- 1 know, if you ever have a concern about the
- 2 governor or, you know, anything conducted
- 3 in the governor's office, bring it to us,
- 4 it's confidential.
- 5 I mean, you know, pretty
- 6 standard, you know, you have to uphold the
- 7 secrecy of the state and discussions you
- 8 may overhear, especially with me being in
- 9 the car with Mrs. Bentley, but nothing in
- 10 a forceful or concerning manner.
- 11 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) And then I
- believe this is reflected in your June 3rd
- statement, but Exhibit 1 to that statement
- is a timeline; correct?
- 15 A. It is. It's a timeline that was
- created by myself and Collier Tynes.
- Collier Tynes, again, is the girl that
- came in as an intern under me and then
- stayed in an official state position after
- 20 me.
- But we worked together during the
- leadership of Mrs. Dianne Bentley when she
- was serving as the First Lady.

22

23

probably best for our own safety and care

just to go ahead and destroy the notes

Page 133 Page 135 1 But those are things that Collier 1 that we had because they're all in that 2 2 and I either witnessed or experienced timeline. 3 3 during our time at the state, and Collier MR. DOSS: Speaking of 4 continued the testimony past when I left, 4 which, I know in your June 3rd statement 5 I think with her own statements in there 5 at that point you knew that Collier was 6 as well. 6 represented, but you weren't sure what her 7 7 Q. Who drafted this timeline? lawyer's name was. 8 8 THE WITNESS: Joe Hubbard. A. Collier and I sat together, but 9 9 she's the one that physically typed it. MR. DOSS: Joe Hubbard. 10 When was it created? 10 THE WITNESS: You would 11 A. It was created the spring as soon 11 think I would remember that. 12 as Yellowhammer came out with the 12 (By Mr. Sharman) You mentioned 13 recordings because Collier and I knew that 13 Clay Ryan. What was Mr. Ryan's position? 14 once the recordings were out there were 14 He was brought in just as a 15 15 enough people with good hearts and good consultant, and I'm not sure to what 16 intentions that wanted the best for the 16 degree because we worked with several 17 state of Alabama, and we felt like an 17 different attorneys on different matters. 18 investigation would probably come out 18 So Clay was just brought in as a 19 19 because of it. general consultant and would give advice 20 Also, when Spencer Collier gave 20 and direction when asked for it. 21 his statement we knew that some action 21 He did work out of the Capitol 22 would have to be pursued, and we wanted to 22 building some, but I know maintained 23 make sure that even though the years had 23 employment with Maynard Cooper during that Page 134 Page 136 1 1 passed, we still remembered correctly, you time. 2 2 know, what had happened and what our He did have access to the 3 experiences were. 3 governor's mansion guesthouse when he 4 4 And when you say "created", would have to do overnight stays, but we 5 created in the spring of this year, 2016? 5 ultimately decided that that probably 6 Yes, spring of 2016. She and I б wasn't the most ethical decision. And so 7 7 each individually had notes of our own he was asked to get an apartment or a 8 from our experiences, but we put them 8 hotel from that point on. 9 9 together in order to create that document. But Clay was very involved in what 10 10 Do you still retain the underlying went on at the capital as well as what O. 11 11 went on, especially during the second notes? 12 12 campaign cycle. A. I do not. 13 13 What did he consult about? In O. Does --14 A. Collier. 14 other words, was there a particular 15 -- Collier have the underlying 15 expertise or subject matter? 16 16 I'm not sure. I was generally not notes? I'm sorry. 17 17 To my knowledge Collier destroyed in meetings that involved Clay. All I 18 hers as well. We discussed it and decided 18 know is he was just considered to be a 19 19 that once it was put together on an legal consultant to the governor. 20 20 official timeline and both of our And honestly, I'm not sure who 21 21 attorneys had copies of it, it was brought him in or how we got connected

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23

with him to start.

MR. WILLSON: Ms. Hannah,

Page 137 Page 139 1 were there guest registers or visitor logs 1 mansion? 2 2 for the pool house, for the Wynfield THE WITNESS: The Blount 3 estate, or other residential state 3 mansion and Wynfield are the same place. 4 properties? 4 I don't know why they have two names, but 5 they do. The Blount is -- the Blounts are THE WITNESS: Any time 6 6 the ones that gifted Wynfield estate to someone enters or leaves the gates of the 7 7 Alabama governor's mansion their name is the state of Alabama, and I guess they 8 8 recorded. changed it to Wynfield to not -- I don't 9 9 know specifically, bring out any family I So whether it was for 10 10 Mrs. Bentley's Bible study or, you know, guess. 11 11 First Lady's tea or whatever it may be, Q. (By Mr. Sharman) The visitor's 12 everyone's name had to be recorded. 12 logs at the governor's mansion were they 13 13 And they had to present a paper logs? license if the back gate security did not 14 14 A. No. They were all computerized. 15 15 know who they were. Or if they knew who Q. Was there a program or platform 16 16 they were, you know, they still recorded that they were contained in? 17 17 the time they entered and the time they I'm sure, but I'm not sure what 18 left the mansion. 18 that program or platform was. Most of 19 19 them are Montgomery police officers, and So all of those logs have 20 everything in them, including, you know, 20 there were a couple of state troopers that 21 if somebody had an overnight stay or not. 21 manned that position as well. 22 22 As far as the Wynfield But they were all on assignment, 23 23 estate is concerned it's a little bit but it all went into the log and was Page 138 Page 140 1 different. They do have some cameras up 1 recorded and kept so that if anything ever 2 2 there that kind of watch over the gate, came up missing or if anything happened 3 but there's no security that sits out 3 during that time, they would have record 4 4 there on a daily basis because it was a of everybody that came through. 5 minimal use residence. 5 But I'm not sure how long they 6 So it started off as just a 6 keep those records or anything else. 7 7 place where the governor would go fish or, If you were going to try to get 8 8 you know, ride a golf cart just to kind of records who would you ask -- those records 9 9 get outside, and then it kind of evolved who would you ask? 10 10 into a little bit more. At the time I would have asked 11 So Wayne Hoyt is the man 11 Officer James Lewis, but I'm not sure that 12 12 responsible for the Wynfield estate. He's he's there anymore. He is -- he had been 13 13 also a state employee and kind of helps at the back gate longer than almost 14 14 with maintenance and really anything else anyone. 15 that needs to be taken care of at the 15 Chris Hines worked there for a 16 Capitol or any state properties. 16 while until he became Mrs. Bentley's 17 17 But Wayne Hoyt had the main security detail. Chris Hines will be able 18 access to the Wynfield estate and would 18 to tell you a lot about the inner-workings 19 19 give the governor and First Lady the codes of the back gate and how it works and who 20 to access the gate any time, you know, 20 keeps records and everything else. 21 21 they needed to go out there. Mike Jemison, who is now part of 22 22 MR. WILLSON: Did Wayne Hoyt the governor's detail, also worked the 23 also have similar control over the Blount 23 back gate at the governor's mansion and

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- would be able to tell you how it works and
- 2 where it was stored and those things of
- 3 that nature.
- 4 Q. Did you ever see the visitor's
- $5 \log?$
- 6 A. Absolutely.
- 7 Q. What does it look like?
- 8 A. Almost like an Excel spreadsheet a
- 9 little bit. A little bit more official
- 10 than that.

But it just has the name of the
person, the date, what gate they entered,
which we were blessed at the time I was at
the mansion, the front gate didn't even
work, so it was always the back gate.

And then the time they entered and left the property. If it was a new person or somebody we didn't know, sometime it would even give the vehicle

20 identification.

But any time somebody came on or left the property they were required to announce it, so they would say, you know, Page 143

Now, if it was a special guest of

- 2 the First Lady, I usually greeted them in
- 3 the parking lot before they even had a
- 4 chance to walk up because they were
- 5 required to park in the back and walk all
- 6 the way up the driveway, so we could --
- 7 and then some guests were even personally
- 8 escorted by one of the security guys from
- 9 the gate itself.
- 10 Q. Do you know whether or not it's
- possible to alter visitor logs after the
- 12 fact?

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- 13 A. In my experience with computers
- you can alter anything. I would hope that
- it wouldn't be. And the officers that I
- had the privilege of working with had some
- of the highest ethical codes that I had
 - the privilege of meeting.

And I respect them and would trust

- 20 that they wouldn't, but, again, I'm not
- 21 sure where those logs went once they were
- 22 recorded, and anything that is on a
- 23 computer ultimately can be changed.

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- 1 Heather Hannah is on the grounds, Heather
- 2 Hannah is off the grounds, you know, any
- 3 time you came and left.
- 4 O. Announce it how?
- 5 A. Over an intercom system that is in
- 6 the governor's mansion and the Hill house
- 7 and in the offices behind it.
- 8 Q. Inside the governor's mansion are
- 9 there any security portals? For example,
- do people have to badge in and out?
- 11 A. The actual governor's mansion?
- No. Once you enter the confines of the
- mansion complex is what they call it, you
- kind of have access to any of those
- 15 buildings.

Now, we did practice going in

lockdown and locking up the mansion, and,

of course, it had its own alarm system and

19 everything.

But once you were on the

21 governor's mansion property you,

basically, could go wherever you wanted to

23 go.

- 1 Q. Switching topics again.
- 2 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 3 Q. Do you have any personal knowledge
- 4 relating to Spencer Collier's termination?
- 5 A. I do not. I was as surprised as
- 6 anybody when I saw it because I had the
- 7 privilege of knowing Spencer Collier when
- 8 he and the governor were together in the
- 9 House of Representatives when we were on

10 the first campaign.

That was the first time I met him.

12 And when he came on to be a part of the

13 governor's administration, I was really

excited and relieved because not only his

background and experience, but just

because I felt like he knew the governor

so well and I felt like they would work

18 together in a great way.

MR. DOSS: Just backing up a

little bit, you mentioned that in your
 experience any computer record could be

altered or changed?

THE WITNESS: Uh-huh

1 (affirmative), uh-huh (affirmative).

2 MR. DOSS: Broadly speaking,

3 are you aware of any state records

- 4 pertaining to the governor and his
- 5 relationship with Ms. Mason that have been
- 6 doctored, altered, deleted, or impaired in
- 7 any way?
- 8 A. I did not personally alter
- 9 anything in any way, but I do know that
- 10 some of the features and things that we
- 11 would see on the calendar one week after
- 12 they happened would be very different in
- 13 who went or, you know, what took place.

14 Who would do it, I'm not sure.

- 15 Linda Adams was the main one that edited,
- 16 but she wasn't the only one with access,
- 17 so it was always interesting to see how
- 18 his schedule would evolve and what would
- 19 change.
- 20 Q. Do you have an example?
- 21 A. The main ones would be like at the
- 22 National Governors Association meeting.
- 23 That's the main one that sticks out in my

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- 1 back at the calendar, it would reflect
- 2 something different than what actually
- 3 occurred?

4

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THE WITNESS: Uh-huh

(affirmative). Or if they would print out

6 something or would look at it on the phone

7 and we would get there and just, so.

And I know the biggest

9 complaint about them going to the Céline

10 Dion concert was they arrived with one

11 schedule. And once they got there a whole

12 different book was brought out and went on

13 a completely different schedule.

14 But, again, that's what I 15 was told from their security detail, not

16 from what I witnessed my own self because

17 I wasn't -- I was not invited to the

18 Céline Dion concert.

19 MR. DOSS: So just to

20 clarify, were there instances where

21 Ms. Mason was with the governor and

22 originally she would appear on the

23 calendar as a participant, but then after

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1 mind.

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2 Rebekah Mason was on the campaign 3 at that time and was still allowed to come

4 to the National Governors Association

5 meeting with the staff. 6

And there were certain meetings that she was not originally on the list to attend, and once we got there and once we

9 returned she was suddenly on the list.

> And as far as like her travel plans were concerned, the travel plans

12 Mrs. Bentley and I were aware that she had 13 were different.

14 Once we arrived she had, you know,

15 she had flown in a different way, so just

16 small things like that. But again, this

17 was at the beginning when it all first 18

started happening is when I played the 19 biggest role I guess in the

20 administration.

21 MR. HALE: What you're

saying is after the fact, a week or two 23 weeks or whatever, if somebody would look 1 the fact the calendar event was changed so

2 that it seemed as though she had not been 3

present with the governor?

THE WITNESS: Right. Or a

5 lunch would be scheduled and it wouldn't

6 have attendees on there, and then after it 7

had taken place like her name would 8

appear, things like that.

MR. DOSS: So sometimes her name would appear, and other times her

11 name would be removed?

12 THE WITNESS: Right, just

13 depending on what event it was. And part 14 of that we believe is because Mrs. Bentley

15 tried to put a restriction on the amount

16 of time the governor and Rebekah were 17

spending together.

18 And we feel that they used 19

the calendar to make Mrs. Bentley believe 20 that they were spending less time

21 together.

22 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Who is "we" when

23 you say that?

Page 151 Page 149 1 1 A. Mrs. Bentley and I feel that way. THE WITNESS: It's just like 2 2 She always was extremely concerned. When a power company in the state. I'm not 3 3 she first brought up her, I guess her sure. PowerSouth pays for Seth Hammett's 4 concern to the governor about it she told 4 salary and for Julie Lindsey's salary from 5 him she didn't want him having anymore 5 my understanding. 6 6 The governor needed private meetings. 7 And Mrs. Bentley and I sat down 7 additional help and needed additional 8 8 with several office employees, including employees but didn't have the state 9 9 funding for it, and so they brought Linda Adams, and Mrs. Bentley pleaded with 10 10 them not to allow Rebekah and the governor PowerSouth in. 11 in the office alone together. 11 Heather Coleman was their 12 And then after the fact we would 12 lobbyist for a long time, and they helped 13 13 find out that they had spent plenty of finance certain office positions. 14 alone time together, and Mrs. Bentley was 14 MR. DOSS: Directly or 15 15 upset about it and just felt like they through campaign accounts or --16 were manipulating the calendar to make her 16 THE WITNESS: My 17 believe what she needed to see. 17 understanding was directly, but I don't 18 When you say "they" and "them" who 18 know. I wasn't paid by PowerSouth, so I 19 19 can't be certain. do you mean? 20 20 A. Governor's office employees. But it was very general, 21 21 So -open knowledge that both Julie Lindsey and 22 Q. Who? 22 now Seth Hammett were, basically, financed 23 -- for instance, like Mrs. Bentley 23 by PowerSouth. A. Page 150 Page 152 and I are involved. She would talk to 1 1 MR. WILLSON: One cleanup on 2 2 Linda Adams and to Wanda -- and I'm sorry, the calendar point. 3 I don't remember Wanda's last name. She 3 THE WITNESS: Okay. Uh-huh 4 4 (affirmative). worked with the governor. Wanda Kelly. 5 5 She was the governor's assistant MR. WILLSON: When you say 6 and sat right outside his office for a 6 that the calendar was changed, are you 7 7 short time. referring to the -- I'm thinking of 8 Mrs. Bentley relayed her concern 8 Outlook? 9 9 to Zach on numerous occasions. Julie THE WITNESS: Yes. 10 10 MR. WILLSON: Are you Lindsey she was paid for by PowerSouth, 11 but worked as a governor's office 11 referring to invitees on a given calendar 12 12 invitation, or in what ways would the employee. 13 Mrs. Bentley expressed her concern 13 calendar change? 14 to all of those women in the office, as 14 THE WITNESS: No, there's a 15 well as Zach the aide, about the amount of 15 note section on Outlook so you have to put 16 time the governor and Rebekah were 16 like a subject of what the event is, where 17 spending together. 17 it is, the date and time it takes place, 18 And they would initially 18 and then you can color code it. 19 19 sympathize with what Mrs. Bentley was I mean, the governor's 20 20 saying and understand, but then somehow office uses its own color-coding system, 21 the calendar would change. 21 but there's a note section underneath. 22 MR. DOSS: PowerSouth? What 22 And Linda would always put who, what, 23 23 when, where and kind of re-summarize and is that?

- 1 then put additional notes in the note
- 2 section of the calendar would be what
- 3 would be altered.
- 4 (By Mr. Sharman) Again, just so
- 5 I'm clear, can you identify anybody you
- б believed actually changed any of those
- 7 calendar entries?
- 8 I mean it could have been anybody
- 9 with calendar access. I know that's not
- 10 extremely helpful, but that's all I know.
- 11 I hate to accuse any one person if I don't
- 12 know for sure.

13 MR. HALE: Did you say, did 14 you say affirmatively Rebekah had access

15 to the calendar?

16 THE WITNESS: Oh, yes,

17 Rebekah always had access to the

18 calendars.

- 19 (By Mr. Sharman) Are you aware of O.
- 20 any expenditures of money caused or
- 21 authorized by Governor Bentley with regard
- 22 to Ms. Mason that you believe to be
- 23 illegal?

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- 1 So things like that are the ones
- 2 that I would have the most experience for
- 3 because, again, I chose not to review the
- 4 financial documents and I was not privy to
- 5 the financial documents that other people
- 6 in the state such as Zach Lee and outside
- 7 of the state such as Mike Echols and Paul
- 8 Bentley had discussed and who were privy
- 9 to that.
- 10 Q. Do you have any understanding
- 11 about the sources of Ms. Mason's salary?
- 12 My understanding was that there
- 13 was an account created for her, and it was
- 14 funneled -- some of it was the governor's
- 15 personal money, other was donations.

16 But they funneled money through a 17

501(c)(4) I believe through the campaign 18 to her is the way she was paid as well as

19 her husband.

3

20 And I have also been told and

21 people have complained to me about it that

22 Jon Mason was getting paid to do some work

23 for the University of Alabama while he was

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- 1 A. I know that, and I mean, I would
- 2 have to check the receipts, but he would
- 3 turn in that he paid for state employees
- 4 to have lunch or dinner together at the
- 5 National Governors Association meeting and
- 6 Rebekah would be there when she was a
- 7 campaign employee.

8 So unless he specifically took her

9 meal out or just decided he was going to

eat the cost, that would be something the

11 state had reimbursed him for which in my

12 opinion is illegal.

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13

To me him using his state cell

14 phone, state devices, state time to do a

15 lot of campaign work with Rebekah, whether

- 16 that became more personal than political
- 17 I'm not sure, but to me spending time
- 18 while you're supposed to be acting as the
- 19 governor of Alabama and doing campaign
- 20 stuff, and doing that within the confines
- 21 of the governor's office at the Capitol to
- 22 me is not okay and probably is considered
- 23 illegal.

- 1 a state employee and they felt like that
- 2 would be a conflict of interest as well.

But, again, I didn't write a check

4 to Jon Mason. I have not seen any

5 payments from the University of Alabama to

- 6 Jon Mason so I don't know.
- 7 Where did you get your
- 8 understanding about the sources of funds
- 9 for Ms. Mason's compensation?
- 10 Zach Lee has mentioned it to me.
- 11 Angi Smith mentioned to me, and, then, of
- 12 course, just hearsay from Montgomery. I
- 13 mean, there's just a lot of gossip that 14
 - flies around, and I try to stay out of it
- 15 as best as I can.

16 But Collier Tynes had heard about

17 that before she left the governor's

18 office, and before Mrs. Bentley divorced

19 the governor she was extremely concerned

20 about it.

21 So she and I had a couple of phone

22 calls while she was still a state employee

23 with her expressing her concern about that

Page 159 Page 157 1 kind of activity because she wanted to 1 what were those text messages? 2 2 make sure she wasn't, you know, doing THE WITNESS: A lot of them 3 anything and wanted to make sure she 3 would just be, you know, I love you, I 4 wasn't involved to get in trouble herself. 4 miss you. You know, I can't way to be 5 MR. DOSS: Is Angi Smith with you. I love the way you feel, or I 6 still a state employee? 6 love the way you looked in this outfit, or 7 7 THE WITNESS: She's not. the way you wear those pants, you know, 8 8 things of that nature. She started her own consulting firm and 9 9 works out of Prattville, and off the MR. HALE: Tell him about 10 10 record. the boxer short incident. 11 11 THE WITNESS: Oh. I was MR. SHARMAN: Okay. 12 12 sitting at dinner with Rebekah Mason and (Off the record.) 13 Wesley Helton one evening. We were in 13 (By Mr. Sharman) I need to ask you Q. 14 14 Georgetown. It was during the NGA, several inelegant questions, okay --15 15 Okay. **National Governors** A. 16 16 Association meeting. Q. -- but I have to given my job. 17 17 And Rebekah received a phone A. I understand. 18 18 Q. Did Governor Bentley and Ms. Mason call from the governor and jumped up from 19 the table and kind of giggled, and like 19 ever have a physical sexual relationship? 20 20 it's the governor, he's calling me. A. Yes, they did. 21 And when she came back to 21 O. Okay. And what's your basis for 22 the table she sat down and Wesley was like 22 that statement? 23 23 oh, no, did he forget something for A. Conversations that you can hear in Page 158 Page 160 1 the recording and some of the text 1 tomorrow. 2 2 messages that Mrs. Bentley told me were And she said no, he heard 3 3 somebody knock on his door and he called sent. 4 4 But my personal knowledge comes me to tell me that he answered it in his 5 directly from the voice of Governor Robert 5 boxers thinking it was me, and it was just 6 Bentley on the tape recordings that you 6 somebody there to turn down his bed and 7 7 will hear. put down a chocolate and how disappointed 8 Anything besides the tape 8 Q. he was. 9 9 recordings and the text messages that And she had had a couple of 10 Mrs. Bentley related to you? 10 drinks at that point which I think is why 11 No. Thank goodness I never saw 11 she felt so free to relay that to us. I 12 anything. There was some inappropriate 12 was really surprised she said that in 13 13 touching if you ask me, but everybody has front of me. 14 14 their own standard of what is and is not And I said, eww, gross, you 15 15 appropriate. know, why would you want him to say that 16 MR. DOSS: The text 16 to you. And she was like oh, I thought it 17 17 was really cute. messages, I think we've heard a little bit 18 18 about. And at that point I just 19 19 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh kind of changed the subject because 20 (affirmative). 20 honestly I didn't care to hear anymore. 21 21 MR. DOSS: But I'm not sure (By Mr. Sharman) Anything else 22 22 we've actually heard the content of those besides what you've already relayed that 23 23 would lead you to believe that the text messages. As best as you can recall

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- 1 governor and Ms. Mason had a physical
- 2 sexual relationship?
- 3 A. I mean other than the fact that
- 4 they would intentionally find space to be
- 5 alone any chance they got.
- 6 I mean, if there wasn't something
- 7 more than words going on, you don't really
- 8 necessarily need the kind of privacy that
- 9 they would look for.
- Such as there's one instance, and
- 11 Mrs. Bentley I believe still has the text
- messages from Stan Stabler, but the text
- 13 Mrs. Bentley notifying her that the
- 14 governor and Rebekah had requested to be
- left alone at the Wynfield estate or
- 16 Blount mansion.
- And he did not feel comfortable
- with it, but he, you know, had to do as
- demanded by the governor, and Rebekah and
- 20 the governor were alone in that house
- 21 together.
- 22 Q. Do you believe Mrs. Bentley still
- has those text messages?

- 1 Mrs. Bentley was doing. And Rebekah and
- 2 the governor were at the governor's
- 3 mansion and Stan was just calling us to
- 4 let us know.
- 5 He, he had a -- like we all
- 6 did, he had just a lot of respect for the
- 7 governor and the First Lady and their
- 8 marriage, and just how they had worked so
- 9 hard to protect it and their sons for so
- 10 long.
- And so when this started
- happening, there were just a lot of really
- concerned and surprised people. And
- before they realized their jobs would
- become an issue, I guess they wanted
- Mrs. Bentley to know because I guess they
- thought the more people that could give
- her information, the better she could stop
- it, and sadly we were unable to stop it.
- 20 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Did Governor
- 21 Bentley ever inappropriately attempt to
- 22 touch you?
- 23 A. No.

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- I believe she does, but I'm not
- 2 sure because I haven't seen what all she
- 3 kept.

A.

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- 4 MR. DOSS: Along those
- 5 lines, I think in your June 3rd statement,
- 6 correct me if I'm wrong, you said that
- 7 Stan Stabler now denies having that --
 - THE WITNESS: Uh-huh
- 9 (affirmative). And he does the media. I
- mean, he came out once Spencer Collier,
- 11 you know, kind of came out with his
- statement and said it wasn't true, which
- is -- it was surprising. I was really
- 14 surprised.
- MR. WILLSON: You mentioned
- also in your statement that at one point
- 17 Stan Stabler called you on the phone --
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. WILLSON: -- to report
- 20 to you that Rebekah Mason and the governor
- 21 were together?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, we had
- 23 gone to the beach for something

- Q. Did he in your knowledge attempt
- 2 to inappropriately approach any other
- 3 woman?

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- 4 A. Not to my knowledge.
 - MR. HALE: He knows who your
- 6 daddy and your uncles are, don't he?
- 7 Q. (By Mr. Sharman) Are you aware of
- 8 any other abuses of his office or
- 9 authority by Governor Bentley other than
- what we've talked about today or that
- you've talked about in your June 3rd
- 12 statement?
- 13 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 14 Q. Eventually people will read the
- discussion here we're having this
- 16 afternoon.
- 17 It's common in a divorce that work
- colleagues and social friends take one
- 19 side or the other.
- 20 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 21 Q. Commonly people aren't neutral.
- 22 A. Right.
- 23 Q. This afternoon have you been

Page 165 Page 167 1 entirely truthful with everything you've 1 MR. SHARMAN: We've got a 2 2 told us? few more things. First, now that we're 3 3 Yes, I have. A. back on the record just to be clear, I am 4 Given the closeness of your 4 retaining Exhibit 4; that is to say, the O. 5 5 relationship to Mrs. Bentley, what would original exhibit. 6 6 you say to persons who might claim that And there will be a 7 7 your testimony is clouded or influenced by photograph attached to the transcript of 8 8 Exhibit 4 to indicate its proper place that friendship? 9 9 Mrs. Bentley and I do have a with regard to the statement. 10 wonderful relationship, and I stood by her 10 **EXAMINATION** 11 and will continue to. 11 BY MR. DOSS: 12 But Mrs. Bentley maintained that 12 Just a couple of follow-up Q. 13 13 level of secrecy, she and I both did, and questions. 14 we did our best to protect the governor 14 A. Uh-huh (affirmative). 15 15 and his image and his feelings and tried O. On the timeline that was attached 16 to keep it completely within the circle 16 as Exhibit 1 to your June 3rd statement at 17 and just urged him to end what we at the 17 the very end there are, it's a little over 18 time thought was just a moral and, you 18 a page, there are a couple of notes that I 19 19 know, just moral infidelity and just to just wanted to run through. 20 renew strength in their marriage, and he 20 A. Okay. 21 21 Matthew -refused. Q. 22 22 So we did everything we could in MR. HALE: Do you need a 23 23 copy to look at while he's reading them? our power to prevent whatever may come Page 166 Page 168 1 1 from this investigation by confronting him THE WITNESS: No, if he says 2 as soon as we knew something was going on. 2 it, I'll know what they are. Thank you, 3 And a lot of what I know came 3 though. 4 4 directly from Mrs. Bentley, but a lot of Q. (By Mr. Doss) Matthew that 5 5 it came from personal experience and what summer? I heard with my own two ears. 6 6 A. Matthew found out about the affair 7 7 So if they don't believe me, I'm that summer. We did not tell him 8 8 afraid they're just jaded by their own initially. Really because Mrs. Bentley 9 personal preferences and opinions because 9 didn't want any of her sons to find out. 10 10 And when Paul knew Paul decided I couldn't make anything like this up. 11 Based on your experiences, is it 11 that none of the other sons should find 12 12 your view that Governor Bentley should be out. But Matthew did because I believe a 13 13 removed from office? text message came -- a text message came 14 14 Yes, it is. The governor through from the governor to Mrs. Bentley 15 committed to the people of the state of 15 but intended for Rebekah. 16 Alabama that he would be the best governor 16 And Matthew got Mrs. Bentley's 17 he could be and uphold our laws and uphold 17 phone, and, of course, was extremely 18 our ethics and just represent us as the 18 angry. And he made Mrs. Bentley kind of 19 19 people that we are, and I feel that he has tell him everything that had been going 20 20 failed to do so. 21 21 MR. SHARMAN: Can we go off So that was really the first time 22 the record a second? 22 Matthew had heard about and kind of 23 23 (Recess was taken.) confronted his dad on his own.

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- 1 Q. Okay. Wesley taking food to
- 2 lunch?
- 3 A. Oh, any time the governor's
- 4 calendar was marked private we learned
- 5 that that was when he and Rebekah were
- 6 having meetings.
- 7 They wouldn't put Rebekah Mason on
- 8 the calendar. It would just say private.
- 9 And the governor would have Rebekah come
- in through that private elevator that you
- can access from the side of the Capitol
- from the parking lot and ride up into his
- office so that no one would see who was
- 14 coming or going.
- And they would lock the door. And
- then Rebekah -- I mean then Wesley would
- bring in lunch depending on what Rebekah
- and the governor wanted and drop it off so
- that they could have a private lunch
- 20 together.
- 21 Q. And Wesley's last name is?
- 22 A. Helton, H-e-l-t-o-n.
- 23 Q. And I think we've already talked

- 1 flight logs were not altered to show that,
- 2 but that would have been directly from
- 3 Mrs. Bentley and Zach.
- 4 Q. (By Mr. Doss) Second beach house?
- 5 A. Oh, one of the conversations that
- 6 Mrs. Bentley overheard, did not record,
- 7 was the governor telling Rebekah Mason
- 8 that the reason that he was building the
- 9 second beach house was for her, so he
- would never have to be away from her,
- which is why Mrs. Bentley sold it
- immediately when she got it in the
- 13 divorce.
- 14 Q. Sweeping the mansion with Nance.
- 15 I think we've discussed that already?
- 16 A. That was because I bugged the
- 17 office.

1

- 18 O. iPad cloud with Cleve?
- 19 A. Yes, the iPad, cloud, iCloud is
- 20 linked with the governor's iPhone and
- 21 that's how we saw a lot of things.
- 22 Q. Calendar password kept changing.
- 23 I think we've discussed that.

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- about this, but flight logs and attendees
- 2 changing?
- 3 A. Yes, we talked about that with
- 4 like the calendar and everything changing.
- 5 And Zach Lee is the first one that brought
- 6 that to my attention.
- 7 MR. WILLSON: Do you recall
- 8 any specific occasions when as you
- 9 described in your statement the governor
- and Ms. Mason or the governor or Ms. Mason
- 11 would travel under the name of someone
- 12 else?

23

- THE WITNESS: I don't know
- about them changing names. I do know that
- there was one time that they said that
- they were going to fly home.
- Zach Lee and Jennifer Ardis
- were already on the plane with Rebekah and
- 19 the governor. And then Jennifer and Zach
- decided they were going to ride home
- another way, so just Rebekah and the
- 22 governor were on the plane.
 - But to my understanding, the

- A. We did, uh-huh (affirmative).
- 2 Q. Thumb password kept changing?
- 3 A. The governor thought initially
- 4 that Mrs. Bentley was accessing all of his
- 5 text messages by looking at his own phone.
- 6 And she did that once or twice
- 7 because she was trying to see if there
- 8 were any photos in there, like in his
- 9 photo thing that she should be concerned
- 10 about.
- And so he would just start
- 12 changing that four pass code lock on the
- front of his iPhone so she couldn't access
- 14 it anymore.
- 15 Q. Calendar "holds". Does that
- 16 cover --
- 17 A. That covers like the privates or
- 18 the dinners and lunches that they would
- 19 have alone, or occasionally it would be
- 20 like a four-hour meeting in the morning
- and it would just say "hold" on it.
- 22 Q. iPad he was using was a gift from
- 23 China, Copper Dragon?

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- 1 A. Yeah, Copper Dragon was the
- 2 organization that was brought into South
- 3 Alabama. It was -- and I guess because we
- 4 opened up facilities for them in the state
- 5 they gave the governor that iPad or that
- 6 tablet to use.
- 7 Q. And before I go further, these
- 8 notes at the end were these --
- 9 A. Some of them are quotes, I think.
- 10 Q. Okay. And were these things that
- you noted, or were these things that
- 12 Collier noted, or is it a collaboration?
- 13 A. Those are my notes. Those are all
- things that I remember that Collier felt
- like was too long of a story, I guess, and
- so she just shortened them so that it
- would jog our memory.
- 18 Q. Okay. Primary night only talking
- 19 to Rebekah?
- 20 A. Yes, the governor on primary night
- 21 we rented or got him a suite upstairs in
- 22 Bryant-Denny Stadium so the whole family
- could be together, but he wouldn't even go

- 1 Q. Pastor in Georgia therapy for
- 2 FLDB?
- 3 A. FLDB is First Lady Dianne Bentley,
- 4 and when we initially found out about the
- 5 affair Mrs. Bentley chose to drive to
- 6 Georgia to speak with someone in
- 7 confidence, and that was just, again, her
- 8 effort to protect the governor from
- 9 everything.
- 10 Q. And I think that was covered in --
- 11 A. Yes --
- 12 Q. -- your June 3rd statement?
- 13 A. -- it was.
- 14 Q. August 25th FLDB at the beach.
- 15 A. Oh, that was one of the times Stan
- called and found -- and told Mrs. Bentley
- that the governor and Rebekah were
- 18 together and alone and planning to spend
- 19 the night I believe. And Mrs. Bentley
- 20 immediately packed up and left the beach
- 21 to come back to Montgomery.
- 22 Q. August Spencer finds out?
- 23 A. That's when Spencer Collier found

- 1 in there and be with his family. He just
- 2 stood in the hall and talked to Rebekah
- 3 the whole time.
- 4 Q. Ray found out primary night?
- 5 A. Ray Lewis supposedly he did not
- 6 know that the affair was going on. He
- 7 knew that there was some suspicious
- 8 activity, but did not know about the
- 9 affair. And he confronted me in the
- parking lot of Bryant-Denny Stadium that
- 11 evening.
- 12 Q. Stan would call FL any time R and
- 13 G met.
- 14 A. Oh, that's good, Collier. That is
- First Lady, so that would be Dianne
- 16 Bentley. Stan Stabler would call
- Mrs. Bentley any time Governor Robert
- 18 Bentley or Rebekah Mason got together.
- 19 Q. Attempt to Mayo clinic summer
- 20 2014?
- 21 A. That would have been Collier's
- 22 note, and I'm not sure what that was
- 23 about.

- 1 out about the affair.
- 2 Q. And that would -- would that have
- 3 been around August 25th?
- 4 A. Probably. Probably.
- 5 Q. October domestic violence month?
- 6 A. Yeah, October is domestic violence
- 7 awareness month, and the governor just was
- 8 really ugly to Mrs. Bentley about it.
- 9 And I believe one of his quotes,
- which should be on that note page was, oh,
- ironic domestic violence is purple because
- 12 that's how you beat a woman black and
- blue, or something, something really
- 14 terrible like that.
- And Mrs. Bentley told him she felt
- like she was being a victim of, you know,
- domestic violence mentally and verbally.
- And he just laughed her off and said, you
- 19 know, that's just your project.
- 20 Q. Horrible election night?
- 21 A. Election night Mrs. Bentley
- threatened not to come unless he said that
- Rebekah would not be hired on after, and

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- 1 he promised her that she wouldn't, and
- 2 that Rebekah wouldn't be there.
- 3 But, of course, Rebekah was there,
- 4 and he had already offered her a job at
- 5 that time.
- 6 November 10th shatter the violence Q.
- 7 -- shatter the silence?
- 8 That was another domestic violence
- 9 event that they did. That's Collier's
- 10 note. I wasn't there, but I think the
- 11 governor just didn't show up, but I'm not
- 12 sure on that one.
- 13 Christmas parties? O.
- 14 Mrs. Bentley did not come to any
- 15 of the Christmas parties that Christmas
- 16 because the governor and Rebekah were
- 17 having an affair, so Rebekah helped
- 18 co-host with the governor.
- 19 And that would have been Q.
- 20 December of 2014?
- 21 Yes, uh-huh (affirmative).
- 22 Q. SEC championship?
- 23 I'm not sure about that. I know A.

- 1 drove up there to be a part of it to not
- 2 embarrass the state because she still
- 3 believed at that point --

4 MR. HALE: Is that the time

5 where there was the flap on where the

6 children were going to sit?

7 THE WITNESS: No. That was

8 the State of the State Address.

MR. HALE: Okay.

- 10 Q. (By Mr. Doss) Senior adviser
- 11 announcement. I'm assuming that's --
- 12 That's her, uh-huh (affirmative). A.
- 13 O. And we've covered that?
- 14 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 15 O. Or at least you have in your
- 16 statement?

9

- 17 Yes. A.
- 18 Q. I think you've also covered this
- 19 one as well, but First Baptist Tuscaloosa
- 20 confrontation with Bentley and Mason.
- 21 Pastor got deep in gay marriage issue with
- 22 him, afterwards pastor confronted Jon
- 23 Mason?

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- 1 that there was like a discrepancy of who A.
- 2 got to travel on the plane to the SEC
- 3 championship football game.
- 4 Inauguration planning? Q.
- 5 Just Rebekah was just on the board
- б for that and played a huge role in how it
- 7 was going to come together and made all
- 8 those decisions and tried to keep
- 9 Mrs. Bentley out of it as much as she
- 10 could.

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- 11 Q. Was she -- was Rebekah Mason a
- 12 campaign employee at that point?
- 13 At that point she was probably in
- 14 the transition, so she may have been
- 15 rolled over as the inauguration, but I
- 16 think at that time she was just considered
- 17 a communication consultant.
- 18 All right. Q.
- 19 Which is how they got around it. A.
- 20 Okay. And next point Q.
- 21 inauguration?
- 22 Mrs. Bentley just said she wasn't
- 23 going to come, and then the day of she

- Yes, so Pastor McKee at First
- 2 Baptist Tuscaloosa gave a big sermon, and
- 3 it was pretty obvious that it was targeted
- 4 at Rebekah and Jon and Governor Bentley.
- 5 And the governor was really upset 6
 - about it, but Pastor McKee kind of talked
- 7 to Jon Mason about it.
 - But then ultimately he ended up
- 9 calling all four of them into the office,
- 10 or three of them with Mrs. Bentley to sit
- 11 down and just kind of say, okay, is this
- 12 affair happening and made everybody admit
- 13 to the fact that they knew.
 - And then he asked the governor to
- 15 no longer be a member of the church.
- 16 Asked the Masons no longer to attend the
- 17 church, and removed the governor from his
- 18 position as deacon and Sunday school
- 19 teacher.

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14

- 20 O. When you say pastor confronted Jon
- 21 Mason afterwards what does that mean?
- 22 I'm not sure. That was Collier's
- 23 and then Mrs. Bentley told Collier. From

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- 1 my recollection it was just the pastor
- 2 came to Jon and tried to figure out if Jon
- 3 knew about the affair or not.
- 4 Q. NGA and nameplates?
- 5 A. That was just about seating chart
- 6 at the dinner. I went to the very first
- 7 NGA that Rebekah attended, and Collier
- 8 went to the second one.
- 9 And they tried to do a seating
- 10 chart so that the governor and Rebekah
- couldn't sit near each other because we
- tried that the first year and it didn't
- work, and Rebekah ended up sitting by the
- 14 governor anyway.
- 15 Q. I was used as the babysitter?
- 16 A. That's Collier, Collier,
- basically, was told she was hired to keep
- 18 Mrs. Bentley busy.
- 19 Q. PowerSouth paid for our dinner?
- 20 A. That's talking about the second
- 21 NGA because we called the governor into
- question about paying for dinner for all
- 23 the staff and for Rebekah and everyone the

- 1 A. I'm not sure. I never saw them.
- 2 Collier said that they were just of like
- 3 the governor and Rebekah being in really
- 4 close proximity to one another and things
- 5 like that.
- 6 Q. National Day of Prayer round two,
- 7 horrible disconnect?
- 8 A. The governor refused to hold
- 9 Mrs. Bentley's hand as they walked down
- 10 the steps, and Mrs. Bentley tried to grab
- his and he just completely shook her off,
- and, you know, told her he didn't need
- her, and he didn't need a First Lady.
- 14 Q. NGA 50 year anniversary, finding
- photos of their wedding, setting up
- dinner, changing his mind on posting?
- 17 A. He just -- they were at an NGA
- event on their 50th wedding anniversary,
- and he was supposed to like have dinner
- with just Mrs. Bentley privately.
- 21 And Rebekah called all upset that
- he was going to be able to -- or that he
- was going to spend time with Mrs. Bentley,

- 1 first NGA, and so he just got PowerSouth
- 2 to pay for everyone the second time.
- ³ Q. RCM riding around in trooper cars?
- 4 A. That's Rebekah Mason. She would
- 5 ride around with the state troopers and
- 6 the governor just on her own even when she
- 7 was a campaign employee.
- 8 Q. Any other campaign employees
- 9 receive that kind of treatment?
- 10 A. We think that Zach Lee probably
- did, but, I mean, it was definitely
- 12 Rebekah hands down.
- 13 Q. Meredith Jones showing me pics?
- 14 A. Okay, Meredith Jones was an intern
- 15 for the campaign, and she worked under
- 16 Rebekah and kind of helped facilitate
- social media and pictures.
- And she had-- and I do not if she
- still has them, she's in DC now --all
- sorts of pictures of the governor and
- 21 Rebekah on her cell phone that she had
- 22 captured during the time of the campaign.
- 23 Q. What kind of pictures?

- 1 and she wasn't going to get to talk to
- 2 him.
- 3 So he, basically, canceled dinner
- 4 and cut it really short so that he could
- 5 go talk to Rebekah and they texted the
- 6 whole day and sent pictures back and forth
- 7 the whole day.
- the whole day.
- 8 And Mrs. Bentley said he almost
- 9 fell off a cliff because he was trying to
- take a selfie of himself.
- 11 Q. Resigning, answering the phone in
- 12 his office in front of Collier and
- 13 Christian?
- 14 A. Christian was a girl that he
- brought on to help with the events at the
- governor's mansion, but I'm not sure about
- the first part.
- 18 Q. And then it looks like there's a
- 19 series of quotes?
- 20 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 21 Q. First is "no one cares about First
- 22 Lady"?
- 23 A. That's from the governor.

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- 1 Q. And what was the context of that
- 2 statement?
- 3 A. Mrs. Bentley was like what are you
- 4 going to do, you know, if you don't stop
- 5 this affair and I leave, what are you
- 6 going to do? And he was like nobody cares
- 7 about the First Lady. Nobody -- you're
- 8 not important.
- 9 Q. And that's the second quote, "you
- 10 are not important"?
- 11 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 12 Q. Third quote is "purple is the
- color of bruises, therefore domestic
- violence". Is that what you mentioned
- 15 earlier?
- 16 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 17 Q. Next quote, "everyone wants a
- piece of my throne". I think we've heard
- that earlier today?
- 20 A. Yeah. We were sitting at Wings
- 21 right outside the Capitol after the
- 22 National Day of Prayer that was so
- 23 terrible.

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and Katie, the youngest set of kids, it's

- 2 their oldest daughter.
- 3 And Molly had been born since
- 4 Mrs. Bentley was the First Lady and they
- 5 lived in Jackson, Mississippi, so we
- 6 didn't get to see her very often.
- 7 And Mrs. Bentley just said like,
- 8 oh, something about Molly is growing up so
- 9 fast, and the governor just I guess as a
- way to hurt Mrs. Bentley told her she
- doesn't even know who you are.
- 12 Q. And were you there when he said
- 13 that?
- 14 A. I was -- I don't think for that
- specific time. I heard him say stuff like
- that to her, I mean. It wasn't uncommon,
- but I think that she just called me that
- 18 night crying because she was so upset
- 19 about it.
- 20 Q. Okay. Next quote, "being governor
- is the most important thing that has ever
- happened to me"?
- 23 A. Uh-huh (affirmative), yeah, he

- And he wouldn't let anybody come 1 said
- 2 to lunch with us because he said he wanted
- 3 a special lunch with the mansion ladies,
- 4 and so Collier and Mrs. Bentley and I had
- 5 to go to lunch with him.
- 6 And when we were sitting there
- 7 some of Kay Ivey's staffers came up and
- 8 spoke to him, and he's like everybody
- 9 wants a piece of my throne. I'm so
- important, it's like a king, you know, and
- everyone is trying to steal it from me so,
- you know, just being kind of haughty.
- Q. So he said that just to the three
- 14 of y'all?
- 15 A. To us sitting at the table.
- 16 Q. Not to Kay Ivey's staffers?
- 17 A. No, thank goodness. I would have
- crawled under the table.
- 19 Q. Next quote, "Molly doesn't know
- 20 who you are"?
- 21 A. He told that to Mrs. Bentley
- because Mrs. Bentley is just in love with
- her grandchildren. But Molly is Matthew

- said that pretty consistently.
- 2 Q. Next quote, "I loved you since the
- 3 moment I saw you"?
- 4 A. You will hear that in the
- 5 recordings.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. And that was sent in text messages
- 8 as well.
- 9 Q. Next quote, "you don't need to see
- 10 my calendar"?
- 11 A. Oh, that was the governor, and he
- said that to Mrs. Bentley and me on a
- 13 regular basis.
- 14 Q. Okay. So then a couple of more
- 15 notes after that.
- 16 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 17 Q. The first one, RCM would park in
- First Lady's slot and go up George Wallace
- electable to governor's office.
- 20 A. Electable, that should have been
- 21 elevator. I guess I should have read over
- her notes.
- Yes, so Mrs. Bentley had her own

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1 reserved parking spot at the Capitol, and 2 usually we reserved it for the second 3 security vehicle for the governor unless 4 they knew Mrs. Bentley was specifically 5 coming up there.

And Rebekah got to the point where she would park her brown minivan in that spot on the top of the hill because she could just walk straight into the Capitol through that elevator which we already talked about.

And the elevator was put in for Governor Wallace since he was in a wheelchair.

MR. HALE: And it goes straight up to the governor's office?

17 THE WITNESS: It does,

18 uh-huh (affirmative).

- 19 (By Mr. Doss) And the next one,
- 20 Clay Ryan's position because he knew it.
- 21 I think we've talked about that?
- 22 Yes, we did, uh-huh (affirmative). A.
- 23 Q. And if I heard you correctly,

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- 1 O. The next one, personal office to
- 2 be away from Mrs. Bentley downstairs.
- 3 Yes. There was a study that had
- 4 been used by governors prior that had kids
- 5 that they just wanted to give the kids
- 6 their own TV room because the living
- 7 quarters of the mansion is just all
- 8 upstairs, and there's like no personal
- 9 space.

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So he told Mrs. Bentley he wanted her to create him an office so that he could work away from home, and so they used state funds and worked with Wayne Hoyt to create him an office.

And that's where he ultimately would go down and have all of his conversations with Rebekah.

- 17
- 18 Next, redid Wynfield, governor's 19 beach house, and second beach house?
- 20 Yes, so the governor always was
- 21 telling us not to spend money. In fact,
- 22 he even cut the governor's mansion out of
- 23 the budget the first year which was really

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- 1 that's kind of Montgomery gossip, or do
- 2 you have any firsthand knowledge that Clay
- 3 Ryan knew --
- 4 No, we were all just really
- 5 shocked because the governor went from not
- 6 really caring for Clay to giving him --
- 7 it's the vice chancellor position at the
- 8 University of Alabama.
- 9 Q. So beforehand the governor didn't
- 10 really care for Clay Ryan?
- 11 Yeah, he always complained about
- 12 Clay being around, and I don't know if
- 13 that was just because the governor liked
- 14 to complain or if he didn't like him. I'm 15 not sure. Because, I mean, he let him be
- 16 a consultant so he must not have disliked
- 17 him too much.
- 18 Q. Next one, clung to the role of
- 19 First Lady, only thing she had?
- 20 Mrs. Bentley she just got to the
- 21 point where she didn't know what else to
- 22 do, so she would just bury herself,
- 23 basically, into being First Lady.

awful as a mansion employee.

2 But all of a sudden he became very

interested in restoring the Wynfield

4 estate and the governor's mansion beach

5 house, and we couldn't really figure out

- 6 why and we ultimately realized that it was
- 7 because he could use those properties to
- 8 have private meetings when he chose.
- 9 Q. And the last one, Zach would ride
- 10 in other trooper cars and leave them
- 11 alone, quote, on the phone, end quote?
- 12 A. Yes. And that's what we've talked
- 13 about before, and I think Collier
- 14 witnessed that personally.

15 You would have to ask her, but, I 16 mean, it was kind of a thing that the

17 security detail always traveled with two,

18 maybe three vehicles.

19 And a lot of times the governor 20 and Rebekah would be left alone in one and

21 everyone else would follow.

22 And just a couple of additional

23 questions. You provided the June 3rd

23

him there.

Page 193 Page 195 1 1 statement. So Mrs. Bentley told me to go move 2 2 I think I understand you were him, so I moved John Mark to where 3 3 interviewed by the Ethics Commission? Mrs. Bentley wanted him to because she was 4 Yes. 4 my boss. 5 5 Q. Have you provided a statement to And we came back downstairs and 6 6 anyone else before today? Rebekah was just screaming. She screamed 7 A. No. 7 at Mrs. Bentley. She screamed at me 8 8 Q. Or have you been interviewed by because she said we messed up her speech 9 9 anyone else about these matters before and her night, and she called the governor 10 10 today? while -- we would have dessert after the 11 11 State of the State, it's just kind of what A. No. 12 Q. 12 we did the first year. Are there any topics that the 13 13 Ethics Commission covered with you that we The church brought us an apple 14 14 have not covered today or you haven't pie, and so we ate apple pie. So anyway, 15 covered in your June 3rd statement? 15 it was after that John Mark had gone back 16 MR. HALE: I can't remember 16 to be with his parents, and the governor 17 any. Let me think with her just a minute 17 got a phone call from Rebekah. 18 just to see if there's anything else that 18 And she was really upset, and the 19 19 y'all would want to know. governor instead of telling Rebekah like, 20 20 O. (By Mr. Doss) To the best of your hey, it's my wife and my son, if they want 21 21 recollection. to sit on the front row, they can. 22 Yeah, I mean, the only real thing 22 Instead he scolded Mrs. Bentley and said 23 I can think of is just the State of the 23 John Mark would have been fine to sit Page 194 Page 196 State and how the affair all got started 1 behind you, but other than that --2 2 was just that Rebekah was supposed to help MR. HALE: Is John Mark the 3 the governor write a speech for the State 3 special needs child? 4 4 of the State. THE WITNESS: No, that's 5 5 And we just noticed they were Luke. John Mark is the oldest. He and 6 spending more and more time together, and 6 Paul were the two adopted sons. And then 7 7 it was like privately like without Luke and Matthew are the two biological 8 8 children. And all of them but Matthew security being present, without anyone 9 else being there, and it was just kind of 9 live in Tuscaloosa. 10 10 strange. Q. (By Mr. Doss) The CD that you 11 11 And the governor had hernia helped create --12 12 surgery in October 2013 and Rebekah like A. Uh-huh (affirmative). 13 13 -- did you provide a copy of that came over to their personal home when O. 14 14 Mrs. Bentley was away, and we knew she was to anyone else? 15 -- they knew she was away, to like spend 15 Just to my attorney. I'm sorry, I 16 time with the governor. 16 was just making sure. Yes, just to my 17 attorney. And then Rebekah threw a really 17 18 big, I mean, I hate to say temper tantrum, 18 Q. I think we've heard --19 19 but that's the best way to explain it Α. And Mrs. Bentley obviously. 20 20 because Mrs. Bentley wanted her son John Q. Right. I guess we've heard maybe 21 21 Mark to sit beside her during the State of it's Stan Stabler or maybe it was -- I may 22 the State Address and Rebekah didn't want 22 be getting my names mixed up. Spencer

23

Collier had said that he had heard the

Page 197 Page 199 1 recording? 1 THE WITNESS: I think 2 2 Α. Yes. Mrs. Bentley will comply to any subpoena 3 I mean, I guess what I'm getting 3 that she's presented with. She wants to 4 at did the recordings get played for 4 be a good steward of the state and to the 5 5 people within the administration? citizens as best as she can. 6 6 Mrs. Bentley and Paul chose to --She just -- it's a little 7 actually I think it was Melissa because I 7 bit easier when you're subpoenaed I think 8 8 don't think Paul could stomach listening than just having to turn in your family. 9 9 to the recordings. MR. DOSS: Did y'all --10 10 Mrs. Bentley and Paul and Melissa MR. SHARMAN: Let's go off 11 11 decided that in order to get the security the record. 12 detail involved that they had to believe 12 (Off the record.) 13 that an affair was going on and the 13 (By Mr. Doss) Are there any other O. 14 governor was denying it. 14 topics that we haven't covered today or 15 15 So what they chose to do was take that weren't covered in your June 3rd 16 certain excerpts from the tapes that 16 statement that you think we should know 17 17 about for purposes of this investigation? Mrs. Bentley had in her possession and 18 take those excerpts and give them to the 18 Not that I have firsthand 19 security detail so that they would believe 19 knowledge of, no. 20 Mrs. Bentley that the affair was actually 20 MR. SHARMAN: We appreciate 21 taking place, and Mrs. Bentley told me 21 your time, and, again, you're not under a 22 22 that she did that. legal obligation to do so, but if you 23 23 And so she gave Ray Lewis a tape would keep the contents of our discussion Page 198 Page 200 1 and he and Spencer Collier had it in their 1 confidential, at least until the end of 2 2 possession. And Mrs. Bentley feels, our investigation, we would certainly 3 because I asked her the day it came out in 3 appreciate it. 4 4 the Yellowhammer, where did they get the MR. HALE: My respectful 5 tapes. Did you give them the tapes. 5 advice is to tell no one other than those 6 6 And she said no, but she wouldn't that you know will not say anything like 7 7 listen to it. And I said well, everything your parents. 8 8 wasn't there, so what happened. And she THE WITNESS: I think it's 9 9 goes oh, no, well, we gave some excerpts best for my mom not to know. 10 10 to Ray and Spencer. Do you think it was MR. SHARMAN: All right. 11 11 them? Thank you very much. 12 12 And I told her, I was like I don't 13 13 [Proceedings concluded at 5:30 p.m.] know, but at least I know there's another 14 14 tape out there because at that time I was 15 15 not aware that she had made one. 16 16 So the administration if they had 17 17 a copy at all, it would have been these 18 excerpts? 18 19 19 Uh-huh (affirmative). To my 20 20 understanding. 21 21 MR. HALE: Has anything 22 22 changed about Mrs. Bentley's willingness 23 23 to comply with the subpoena?

Page 201 1 CERTIFICATE 2 3 STATE OF ALABAMA) 4 TUSCALOOSA COUNTY) 5 6 I hereby certify that the above and 7 foregoing proceeding was taken down by me 8 in stenotype, and the questions and 9 answers thereto were produced in 10 transcript form by computer-aided 11 transcript under my supervision, and that 12 the foregoing represents a true and 13 correct transcript of the proceedings 14 occurring on said date at said time. 15 I further certify that I am neither of 16 counsel nor of kin to the parties to the 17 action, nor am I in anywise interested in 18 the results of said cause. 19 20 /s/ Nancy W. Pannell 21 NANCY W. PANNELL 22 COURT REPORTER AND COMMISSIONER 23 ACCR#30-EXPIRES 9/30/17

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    IN REGARD TO THE ONGOING MULTIPLE INVESTIGATIONS
3
    INTO THE OFFICE FOR THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF
4
5
          ALABAM, ROBERT J. BENTLEY, et al.
6
7
8
9
                 EXAMINATION UNDER OATH
10
                            OF
11
                     HEATHER HANNAH
12
13
14
              Reported By: Caila Bonds, CCR
15
                       June 3, 2016
16
                         9:00 a.m.
17
                   Birmingham, Alabama
18
19
                                              EXHIBIT
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21
22
23
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1
                  APPEARANCES
 2
 3
    FOR HEATHER HANNAH:
 4
               MR. THOMAS HALE
 5
               MR. TERRY SIDES
 6
               Hale & Sides
 7
               505 20th Street North
 8
               Suite 600
 9
               Birmingham, Alabama 35203
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1	HEATHER HANNAH,
2	Before being duly sworn, was examined and
3	testified as follows:
4	EXAMINATION
5	BY MR. HALE:
6	Q. Heather, I really appreciate you
7	coming forward to do the right thing. And we
8	need to establish just for the record who you
9	are. If you will give me your name and birth
10	date and Social Security.
11	A. Okay. Heather Rebekah Hannah. And
12	my birthday is July 7, 1988 and my social is
13	
14	Q. Where did you grow up?
15	A. I grew up in Albertville, Alabama.
16	Q. All right. Heather, we are here today
17	just to talk to you about your participation and
18	your employment in not only Governor Bentley's
19	campaign to be elected Governor, but then
20	becoming involved in the administration. And you
21	have prepared a timeline.
22	A. Uh-huh.
23	Q. I have gotten it and we have attached

it as an Exhibit. I would like to ask you to

- 2 start from the very beginning. And my
- understanding generally is that you met him
- 4 first in college; was it at church?
- 5 A. I met him through a guy named David
- 6 Ferguson. He was working as the campaign manager
- ⁷ for, at that time, Doctor Robert Bentley. And he
- 8 approached me in a club room at an Alabama
- 9 football game to come on board the campaign and
- 10 kind of help with events and fundraising. And a
- couple of weeks after that I agreed for an
- 12 interview. And so the first time I met the
- 13 Bentley's was right at the end of the fall of my
- senior year.
- Q. What year we talking about?
- A. 2005. It would have been going -- no,
- not 2005, 2009 because I would be going into my
- senior year of college, so 2010. I walked to the
- 19 front door of the Bentley's house, and I will
- never forget it, Ms. Bentley came rushing around
- to the front door, she was brushing off her
- 22 pants because she had just pulled cookies out of
- the oven, and was like, what are you doing,

1 nobody comes to the front door? That was the

- very first time I met the Governor. He was
- 3 sitting at the dining room table reading the
- 4 paper and kind of discussed the plans of their
- 5 campaign and what he wanted to accomplish. And
- 6 at that time really emphasized to me how
- 7 important their faith was and how they didn't
- 8 want to lose that moving forward, which
- 9 immediately endeared me to them, because I felt
- a kindred spirit. So I agreed. And from that
- point on, so starting in January of 2010 I
- joined the campaign and worked -- they called me
- full time, I said part time because I was still
- in school, but on fundraising and event
- coordinating. So I would finish class about
- halfway through the day and then I would go over
- to the Bentley's residence, which is 11
- 18 Ridgeland. It was 11 Ridgeland at the time.
- And I would get with the other campaign
- staffers, there were only four or of us at the
- time, and we would sit around the dining room
- table and handle whatever business we might need
- to do. So whether it was going through e-mail

1 requests or we got an office set up so that we

- 2 didn't have to keep overtaking Ms. Bentley's
- 3 kitchen, you know, kind of every step along the
- 4 way. Then we worked for the rest of my senior
- ⁵ year. And I remember on graduation day we had a
- debate and then, you know, we went into the
- ⁷ primary. We knew that if he won the primary
- 8 election, we had a pretty good chance of being
- 9 elected. So he got in the run-off, as I am sure
- everybody remembers, with Bradley Byrnes. And
- 11 at that time Rebekah Mason wasn't on the
- campaign. It was myself, Angi Smith, at the
- time, Stalnaker now, Zach Lee, Taylor Vice,
- Wesley Helton.
- Q. Was Zach Lee from Birmingham?
- A. He is from Guntersville.
- Q. Did any of those campaign workers,
- other than yourself, go on to be employed by the
- 19 administration?
- A. We all did.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- A. So we won the primary, very exciting,
- 23 knew we had to go into a run-off. That that was

a pretty, you know, intense month. And so we

- 2 did work in our campaign headquarters part of
- 3 the time and then part of the time at the
- 4 Bentley's house, kind of depending on the hours
- 5 and what we were prepping to do. When we won the
- 6 run-off the Governor felt like it was necessary
- 7 to bring in some other people, maybe with a
- 8 little bit more experience, not a bunch of
- 9 college kids that hadn't really done anything.
- 10 And we got him on social media, which they say
- 11 he probably wouldn't have won the race without.
- 12 He wanted somebody that had that exposure to the
- news. So he told us he was going to start
- interviewing somebody to help me with that role,
- because I had kind of taken on the role of the
- press at the time.
- Q. Role of what?
- A. Working with the press. So myself
- and Angi Smith, at the time, we would work with
- the campaign on, like, talking to the press, and
- if they needed to speak with the Governor, I
- 22 would just kind of schedule it and we would let
- him go. But he decided at that point, he was

like, you know, I really need somebody that has

- either been a member of the press before or was
- working with the press at that time to kind of
- 4 help him, you know, formulate things. And too,
- 5 all of our roles were getting bigger. Like
- 6 fundraising for me was about to take off and
- 7 events. So he brought in Rebekah Mason to be
- 8 interviewed. The reason he knew her is because
- 9 she was in his Sunday School class at church.
- 10 And she and her husband --
- 11 Q. Was he the teacher and she the
- 12 student or were they --
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Or were they co members of the class?
- 15 A. No. He was the teacher, Sunday School
- 16 teacher.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- A. And Rebekah and her husband, John,
- were the same age as some of the Bentley sons,
- so they had kind of known each other for a while
- 21 and the Mason children were in class with some
- of the Bentley grandchildren. So he felt very
- 23 comfortable with her, despite the fact that the

```
very first time he confronted her about running
1
2
    for governor, and I will never forget because he
3
    was so angry, they were in the elevator at
4
    church and she told him he didn't have a chance
5
    and that he -- she hoped and wished that he
6
    wouldn't embarrass the City of Tuscaloosa. So
7
    when he --
8
              MR. SIDES: Wait a minute, who said
9
    that?
10
              THE WITNESS:
                           Rebekah Mason.
11
              MR. SIDES: Told the Governor that?
12
              THE WITNESS:
                            Yes, but this was
13
    before she came on with the campaign. So when he
14
    decided to interview her we were all really
```

- surprised because she kind of had a negative
- opinion of him doing it. And honestly were we
- 17 probably a little disappointed also because we
- had believed in him the whole time and here he
- was bringing in somebody that only believed now
- that she knew for sure he would become governor.
- MR. SIDES: And this was in the
- 22 elevator where?
- THE WITNESS: At church, First

- Baptist Tuscaloosa.
- MR. SIDES: Okay.
- A. Uh-huh. So she came on after the run
- 4 off, so very late July of 2010, and started
- 5 helping us with the campaign and worked, you
- 6 know, with all of us. So we worked through the
- ⁷ campaign, everything was pretty normal. He was
- 8 elected to be Governor, obviously. And at that
- ⁹ time the Governor started handing out offers for
- our various positions that we would take. And
- 11 he offered her to be the communication director
- 12 for the Governor's Office and she accepted, but
- with the stipulation that her husband would have
- to have a job also, because their whole family
- would have to be able to move to Montgomery.
- Q. Who made that stipulation, Rebekah?
- 17 A. Rebekah, uh-huh. So the Governor gave
- 18 John Mason the director of Faith Based and
- 19 Community Initiatives Position.
- Q. What was that?
- A. It is a Cabinet position and Faith
- 22 Based and Community Initiative is one of the
- 23 State run organizations that kind of coordinates

with volunteers that come into Alabama and helps

- 2 assign them out to different projects that we
- 3 see a need or churches that do that too.
- 4 Q. Did that cabinet position exist
- 5 before the Bentley administration?
- A. It did. I do not remember who was in
- ⁷ it prior.
- Q. I don't remember hearing about it.
- 9 A. It is not a very large department.
- 10 It could be extremely impactful and great, but,
- you know, peoples friends tend to get in there.
- Q. Where does the money come from that
- 13 funds that?
- A. It is State funded.
- Q. Entirely?
- A. Uh-huh. As far as I know. I know
- that sometimes churches and different groups
- 18 like that will funnel money to it, but the State
- is not supposed to make any profit off of it.
- 20 If they funnel money to it, they are supposed to
- 21 assign it out to a charitable organization in
- the State. So I know Ms. Bentley, when I worked
- with them, we used it to help like the domestic

violence shelters and to get people that were

- 2 coming in for construction to come in and help
- do, like, maintenance on some of the domestic
- 4 violence safe houses and things like that.
- ⁵ Q. Did Doctor Bentley hold any position
- 6 at First Baptist Church like deacon?
- A. He was a deacon and a Sunday School
- 8 teacher.
- 9 Q. Did he have anything to do with the
- 10 church finances?
- A. Not that I am aware of.
- Q. Do you know whether or not he ever
- directed any of the First Baptist Church Money
- into this cabinet position?
- A. Not that I know of.
- Q. Okay. Go ahead.
- A. So he assigned her that and then
- 18 the -- do I need to say what everybody else got?
- 19 They talked to me about coming down and I told
- them I wasn't interested in the politics, which
- is how I ended up getting to work with
- Ms. Bentley. And initially they assigned me to
- be her executive assistant and then my job

eventually grew into more, just once we

- ² understood everything that the role required.
- Q. Did you have -- other than the fact
- 4 of Governor as your boss and Ms. Bentley as your
- 5 responsibility, did anybody else have
- 6 supervisory authority over you?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Did Rebekah Mason?
- 9 A. No, not at any point.
- Q. All right.
- 11 A. I was kind of on -- we said I was on
- my own island, because I worked at the
- 13 Governor's Mansion and everybody else worked at
- the capitol, so Ms. Bentley in my first roles,
- we would work out of the Winfield Estate, which
- is estate property, and during the transition
- 17 period when the Riley's were moving out of the
- 18 Governor's mansion, she and I had been assigned
- a security detail at that point and our security
- detail would pick Ms. Bentley and me up in
- Tuscaloosa and bring us to Montgomery when the
- Governor would be working with his transition
- team in Montgomery also. So we would work out of

1 Winfield. And helped her interview our initial

- 2 staff people and kind of decide what structure
- we wanted the Governor's Mansion to take place.
- 4 I mean, really you walk in the Governor's
- 5 Mansion, it is completely empty when an
- 6 administration takes over and so you really get
- ⁷ to decide every aspect of it. So for the first
- 8 couple of months that is what Ms. Bentley and I
- 9 worked on. Very limited interactions with
- 10 Rebekah Mason and the team at that point, other
- than, you know, when we would get together for
- 12 our staff meetings. And everybody was just
- trying to figure out their role at that point
- and kind of what their expectations would be.
- 15 So it was just planning the inauguration. That
- was the biggest thing on Rebekah's plate because
- trying coordinate the media outlet for that.
- Q. Did you have a specific job duty
- 19 outlined?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. Did you have a job description?
- A. Huh-uh.
- Q. What was --

A. Ms. Bentley and I wrote my job

- description once I started.
- Q. Is that in writing somewhere?
- 4 A. It is.
- 5 Q. Do you have it?
- 6 A. I think I can find it, I kept -- I
- ⁷ think I kept that on a jump drive, but it has to
- 8 be filed with the State archives. I had to turn
- ⁹ it in Cheryl Fonden in the Capitol, who kind of
- helps manage all the records for the Governor's
- 11 Administration.
- Q. What were the terms of your
- compensation in terms of salary, benefits and
- 14 any other?
- A. And I do have those letters.
- Q. Perks?
- A. There weren't really terms. He
- 18 stated what my title was going to be, what my
- salary would be and that I would work at the
- 20 request of the -- he and the First Lady
- 21 basically. So it was very general. He kind of
- told Ms. Bentley, because she was -- she is very
- shy and, you know, never really had the desire

to be First Lady in the first place. She said

- 2 she liked her quiet life of being a grandmother
- 3 in Tuscaloosa, but she did it because she said
- 4 if you feel like God is calling you then I can't
- 5 stand in your way because I said I would be your
- 6 wife and I would work with you. And so when --
- Q. But you were provided a salary, what
- 8 was your salary?
- 9 A. Starting off I think it was 48
- 10 thousand.
- Q. And you had insurance?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Benefits, any State benefits?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Like any other State employee?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Any additional benefits beyond those?
- ¹⁸ A. No.
- 19 Q. Just like a regular employee?
- 20 A. Uh-huh, uh-huh.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- A. And if I received any other kind of
- benefit, I guess, it would just be the privilege

of working at the Governor's Mansion, so any

- time we had events and things like that, we
- would eat there. I mean, that was about the
- 4 extent of it.
- ⁵ Q. Once you are in this role, what is
- 6 your relationship with the Bentley's as far as
- ⁷ any personal communication or interactions?
- A. It was extremely personal the whole
- ⁹ time. I mean, you work around anybodies kitchen
- or dining room table for as long as I did, you
- know, with such a small group of people, you
- 12 know everything about each other. They knew who
- 13 I was dating and the Governor was always really
- interested in everything we had going on, like
- he would ask about your family, ask about your
- boyfriend or girlfriend, or he would tease Zach,
- his assistant at the time, always about how long
- 18 he had dated his girlfriend and that they
- weren't married yet. Because he would always
- tell us, like, being married is the greatest
- thing, y'all need to get married. And then as
- far as Ms. Bentley, I mean, she and I were
- together 24/7. I mean, unless it was time to go

to bed and -- I mean, we were together,

- ² especially the first couple of months.
- Q. She treats you --
- ⁴ A. Like a daughter.
- ⁵ Q. -- as much like a daughter as
- 6 anything?
- A. Uh-huh. And she always told me, she
- 8 is like, you are like the daughter I never had,
- 9 because they have four boys. So I mean, we went
- shopping together and I would go buy her things
- that she didn't want to buy in front of her male
- security team. And, you know, everything about
- her granddaughters, I was a part of, I taught
- 14 how to text message so that she could keep in
- touch, Facetime, that kind of stuff. Very
- 16 intimate personal details.
- Q. Did she confide in you personal
- 18 things?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Along the way?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. We will get to those.
- Tell us when the -- tell us when the first hint

of any friction or trouble arose, that you were

- ² aware of.
- A. So Summer of 2013ish it was like the
- 4 Governor, I remember very vividly the Governor
- 5 walked into the kitchen in the mansion after
- 6 work one day. And it was like he flipped his
- ⁷ switch. He was kind of angry and it was the
- 8 first time we had kind of seen him that way and
- 9 he was very short with Ms. Bentley and kind of
- short with me. And like I said, I am always in
- their house, I am always there, that was my job,
- 12 and we were putting things away and I just
- remember thinking, oh my goodness, like, come on
- Governor, don't let the power go to your head.
- We had been working together a couple of years
- and I was really proud of what he was aiming to
- do. And then he got it in his head that I
- needed to get an intern, because he did not like
- 19 how close Ms. Bentley and I were getting, which
- I thought was strange, but also tried to
- 21 convince myself that maybe partially it was to
- help me and to, like, alleviate some of things
- that I had to do, because I worked a lot. And I

was thinking, well, maybe he is just, you know,

- 2 considering my personal life. So we got a
- 3 recommendation from the Republican crew here in
- 4 Alabama and they recommended Collier Tynes who
- is from Birmingham, she is from Mountain Brook.
- 6 And she was working, kind of helping them with
- fundraising and her dream had always been to be
- 8 the First Lady's assistant, which I think is
- 9 hilarious. She loved politics and so they were
- 10 really pushing Collier hard. The Governor was
- really pushing it on me, and so Ms. Bentley and
- 12 I talked about it and we agreed that we could
- 13 find her a role. So Collier started in September
- ¹⁴ 2013, it is in the outline.
- Q. What did he tell you were the reasons
- he thought you needed an intern?
- A. He just said, you know, y'all need an
- intern, we always take interns at the Capitol,
- it is just like our duty, you know, let people
- have a part of our lives. And, you know, we felt
- like it was a little different at the Governor's
- Mansion because it was very personal.
- Q. Excuse me, just one second.

- A. No, you are fine.
- 2 (Short break.)
- Q. All right. Let's go back. I hate to
- 4 rush you.
- 5 A. You are fine. So, Collier and I kind
- of laughed, because her first introduction and,
- 7 like, view into the Bentley relationship was in
- 8 the kitchen, for whatever reason we always
- 9 congregated in the ugliest kitchen in
- 10 Montgomery, but Collier remembers him walking in
- the back door and just screaming at the top of
- his lungs, baby, I am home. And I remember him
- doing that fairly often. He was always very,
- 14 like, cheesy romantic with Ms. Bentley. Like,
- he would grab her up in the kitchen and, like,
- sing and dance her around. And would always
- tell, you know, the guys, if you ever get as
- 18 lucky as me to marry a woman like her. Like,
- 19 very sweet endearing, but that had kind of
- started to fade, I felt like, and so I was kind
- of excited when I saw it again. I was, like,
- well maybe he has gotten through whatever was
- stressing him out. And he came in and shouted

it, and Collier just thought it was the greatest

- thing. She was like how wonderful the Governor
- 3 and First Lady would feel this way.
- Q. When you said a moment ago that there
- 5 was this point in 2013 where all the sudden he
- 6 was very short and you said I hope the power
- 7 hasn't gone to his head, did you ever find out
- 8 the source of his discontent?
- 9 A. Ms. Bentley and I talked about it and
- 10 at that point there was a lot of economic
- decisions that he was having to make, and I
- remember a lot of people, like, coming in from
- 13 Hyundai and having negotiations and they were
- trying to decide whether or not they were going
- to put plants in Alabama. And when I asked
- 16 Ms. Bentley, because I wanted to kind of check
- on her, because I mean, at the end of day she
- was my responsibility, she was just like, oh, he
- 19 has got so much going on at the Capitol,
- Heather, you know, every morning I wake up for
- him and I pray. And she had a sticky note in her
- devotional book and it was numbered and she
- would say, first I will pray for Robert and, you

1 know, that God would protect his health, that

- 2 God would protect his mind and that God would
- 3 give him the wisdom to know how to handle his
- 4 problems. And she said and sometimes when he has
- 5 special problems I write it in pencil. You could
- 6 see, like, indentions on the paper. So she never
- 7 really specifically said what, but I mean, she
- 8 said just like a bunch of economic decisions
- 9 were going on. And too, at that time, Judge
- 10 Malone, his original Chief of Staff had already
- left and he brought in David Perry to be his
- 12 Chief of Staff. And he and David Perry did not
- see eye to eye on anything. David Perry was
- 14 fairly liberal, he was a democrat, Governor
- 15 Bentley knew that when he hired him, which is
- why he hired him because he thought it could
- bring perspective and really it brought in some
- dissension among the staff and between the two
- of them. So we kind of chalked it up as a
- 20 combination of all those factors just weighing
- on him at the time.
- Q. At that point were you suspicious at
- 23 all of any impropriety of his relationship with

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1 Rebekah Mason?
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- 2 A. No.
- Q. How was she treating you younger
- 4 women?
- 5 A. She was never nice to me. Once she
- 6 got hired, she would tolerate me in staff
- 7 meetings because she knew I had been there since
- 8 the beginning, but she would always request that
- ⁹ the First Lady's representation not be present
- 10 for Governor staff meetings. And I always
- thought it was strange. And I always -- my
- decision always got trumped because I said, you
- 13 know, if I am not here on behalf of the First
- 14 Lady, one, I don't know what your schedule is,
- two, we don't know how to make our decisions
- that can complement what y'all are doing and,
- three, you don't know what we are doing so we
- can all work together. Because I really
- 19 believed that if we could work together as a
- team, and we kind of represented the heart of
- 21 Alabama and they did the business side, that
- that is where we were going to be the most
- successful. So I got to stay in the meetings

- until about 2013, toward the end of 2013,
- because we would go over the Governor schedule,
- where he was going to be and a lot of times,
- 4 like, they would be like, okay, these are all
- 5 the requests that came in, this is what he is
- 6 going to do, this is what he is not going to do,
- ⁷ this is where Ms. Bentley would be helpful, this
- is where, you know, she can stay home and that
- 9 way I could make my decisions as to what cities
- we needed to be in, because we were traveling
- also. But certainly whenever his schedule
- 12 allowed for them to travel together, we wanted
- to make that possible.
- So then the Fall of 2013 is when I
- started getting suspicious because I got asked
- to not come to staff meetings anymore.
- Q. By who?
- 18 A. The Governor requested that I not be
- 19 there, which we thought was strange. And
- Ms. Bentley told me, she was like, Heather, it
- is just because we are doing our own thing and
- we are so established in what we are doing, and
- they know what they are doing and if they need

1 us they will rope us in. Well, I didn't believe

- her, but I --
- Q. Why did you not believe her?
- 4 A. Because Ms. Bentley would do and
- 5 say -- she is very --
- 6 Q. Subordinate?
- 7 A. She is. And she says she is
- 8 submissive like requested in the Bible and I
- 9 always felt like she just -- that was just her
- qeneration, that she was not willing to stand up
- 11 for anything, even if she thought it was wrong,
- she just always kept quiet and kept to herself.
- 13 And I quess my parents raised me to be a little
- too strong and independent. So I didn't really
- believe her and it was fine and we were busy
- enough, so I kind of, you know, took it as -- I
- was, like, maybe it is a blessing that I don't
- have to be at the Governor's office at 7:30
- every week and, you know, go over this. So then
- though Ms. Bentley started expressing concerns
- to me, she was like, Heather, you know, I am so
- mad, I had the worst weekend. And I was, like,
- well, why Ms. Bentley? Because they would

1 always go to Tuscaloosa if Alabama was playing

- at home, because one of their sons, Luke, who
- 3 has some special needs loves going to sporting
- 4 events and Alabama football games was, like, his
- 5 thing to do with his parents. And so the
- 6 Bentley's kept their same seats that they have
- 7 always had in Tide Pride. Security had to figure
- out how to keep them safe, but, so every home
- 9 Alabama football game, the Bentley's were there
- with Luke. And Ms. Bentley started getting angry
- because they would come home and that was like
- their family time when they were going to catch
- up with everybody, she so missed being with her
- 14 family, and Rebekah started texting the Governor
- on the weekends. And it is one thing, like,
- that they would text some during the week,
- because usually it was like, hey, we need to put
- out a statement about, you know, whatever was
- 19 going on. And, you know, do you approve this,
- 20 and it would be like yes or no. But then it
- started to get to be about other stuff.
- Q. Before we get there, let me ask you
- this, were all staff members issued State

- 1 phones?
- 2 A. Yes, uh-huh.
- Q. Did anybody maintain their personal
- 4 phones in addition to those?
- A. Yes, some of us did. I did, because
- 6 I didn't want the State to be able to read all
- 7 my text messages, personal ones.
- 8 Q. When the texts started coming from
- 9 Rebekah to the Governor, was it on a State phone
- or private phone?
- 11 A. The Governor had his State phone. He
- was only allowed to use his State phone at that
- point. And as far on her end, I am not sure. As
- far as I know, she only had a State phone, but I
- don't know -- I mean, I am not confident, but I
- do know it was the Governor's State issued
- phone.
- Q. Are you aware of when he first
- 19 started buying those disposable flip phones?
- A. Yes, it was after Ms. Bentley and I
- 21 confronted him.
- Q. Okay. We will get to that. Go ahead.
- A. So we -- so the whole time Rebekah

and John are working, initially they get an

- 2 apartment to live in Montgomery, then she
- decides that it is just too much to ask that of
- 4 her children, so they decide that they are going
- 5 to commute back and forth from Tuscaloosa. And
- 6 so they are commuting and they are, you know,
- 7 trying to keep all that coordinated, so that
- became her reason to have to talk to the
- ⁹ Governor after hours a little bit. And then she
- 10 got to the point where she didn't like her
- 11 role and thought her role wasn't as defined and
- she wanted to be more of a consultant so she
- didn't have to be in Montgomery every day. And
- so then he, like, made an arrangement that she
- would only have to come a couple days a week and
- still, you know, maintain her salary and she
- 17 could just work from home to be with her kids.
- Q. Do you know how she was being paid?
- 19 A. She was being paid from the State
- originally, uh-huh.
- Q. Do you know when that changed?
- 22 A. When she joined the campaign for the
- second election, which was, I guess, 2014, like

- 1 Spring of 2014.
- Q. Do you know where the money was
- 3 coming from that was paying her then?
- 4 A. From various groups. I mean,
- 5 different groups were giving him money and all,
- 6 which were reported, and then some of it was
- 7 coming from him personally.
- Q. Okay.
- 9 A. So Rebekah was texting him all the
- time. She would, like, create emergencies is
- what stuck out to me. Like, she would all the
- 12 sudden decide that something was this huge deal
- and it would really be nothing. She would be
- like, oh, Senator so in so is going to push a
- law through this time. You know, just really
- 16 create reasons to talk to him. And it just
- started becoming more and more frequent,
- 18 frequent enough to bother Ms. Bentley to say
- something to me.
- O. What was that?
- A. If she wouldn't -- well, if she had
- never, you know, told me about the text messages
- on the weekend I wouldn't have known. But

1 Ms. Bentley would come down to my office on

- 2 Mondays --
- Q. Wait, how did she know about the
- 4 texts?
- 5 A. She would see them, uh-huh. Because I
- 6 mean, they just -- she -- upstairs in their
- 7 living room, it was the sofa here and then his
- 8 chair and the TV, and he always sat right here,
- 9 but would leave his phone on this table.
- 10 Ms. Bentley always sat right here and left her
- phone on the table. So any time one of them
- would buzz, you know, they both would look and
- she always saw her name. At the beginning
- 14 Ms. Bentley would ask him, like, what does she
- want or what does she need, why is she texting
- us on the weekends and he would tell her and it
- just bothered her, I think, that Rebekah was
- infringing on their personal time, which is
- 19 fair. And so Monday morning I would get with
- Ms. Bentley and we would be going over what we
- had to do for the week and kind of going through
- requests, and at that point I kind of knew what
- she wanted to do and not, so I kind of knew how

1 to filter it and she would not take it. I

- ² remember her sitting in my chair in her office
- with my arms crossed and she is like I am so
- 4 mad, I am so mad, I don't know why she keeps
- 5 texting him on the weekend. So that was kind of
- 6 my first notice. And at that time Collier was
- 7 working with us. And Collier was like, what is
- going on? And I told her nothing. I was like,
- 9 nothing, nothing, I was like, you know,
- 10 Ms. Bentley is just having a hard time, you
- 11 know, she misses her grandkids. Because I
- wasn't -- I thought it was suspicious, but, you
- know, nothing more than that. Then October 2013,
- the Governor got hernia surgery, and there are
- news articles about it, we put one of them on
- here. And so Rebekah was tasked to help him
- write that years State of the State address,
- because at that point he decided that she knew
- 19 everything and he was just like, you know, I
- can't write anything without her, she is
- wonderful. So he had hernia surgery and
- Ms. Bentley was like, I am going to go home, I
- am going to, you know, go home with Robert and

1 everything else. So she went home to Tuscaloosa

- 2 and had gone to the grocery store. When she
- pulled back in her driveway, Rebekah's brown
- 4 mini van was there and she was furious. So she
- 5 called me and she is, like, what is going on,
- 6 look at the Governor's schedule, he is not
- ⁷ supposed to have any meetings, why is Rebekah at
- 8 my house? And I was, like, I don't know,
- 9 Ms. Bentley, go on in there. And so she went in
- and they both kind of, like, jumped up. And
- they, like, kind of sat back and Ms. Bentley
- 12 thought it was weird. And what sticks out in my
- mind, she goes, and Robert had on his ugly
- yellow hospital socks, why would he want her
- over there. And that kind of was a punch in my
- gut, because I was, like, okay, Ms. Bentley left
- to go to the grocery store and she came over.
- 18 And to me you just don't do that. You are
- married, they are married. So that is when I
- started really paying attention to anything
- Ms. Bentley said because I couldn't figure out
- why Rebekah was there. And then quickly after
- Ms. Bentley got there, they were like, oh, we

were just working on their speech, but Rebekah

- 2 excused herself and left. So then Ms. Bentley
- 3 said -- you know, she confronts him at their
- 4 house. She didn't understand why Rebekah had to
- 5 be there when she wasn't there, you know, he was
- 6 supposed to be getting better, y'all get plenty
- of time to work on the speech at the Capitol,
- 8 why are you working on it at home, all that kind
- 9 of stuff. He got really mad and decided that
- 10 Ms. Bentley was not busy enough. So he decided
- he was going to offer Collier a full time job
- because I wasn't keeping her busy enough. And so
- he calls Collier Tynes in and is trying to
- 14 figure out a way -- at one of our events, trying
- to figure out a way to bring her on full time,
- trying to figure out what salary she would
- 17 require.
- MR. SIDES: Let me interrupt you
- there just for a second. The event you just
- described, was that in Tuscaloosa or Montgomery?
- THE WITNESS: It was in Tuscaloosa,
- uh-huh.
- MR. SIDES: Is that different from

this event that you are talking about in October

- 2 2013 in your timeline that you walked in on them
- 3 upstairs?
- THE WITNESS: Yes. Rebekah was at
- 5 the mansion and she was helping him with a
- 6 speech and I walked in and they were working on
- ⁷ it and then Ms. Bentley had already walked in on
- 8 them -- and that was post his surgery. And then
- 9 Ms. Bentley walked in on them at their house as
- 10 well.
- MR. SIDES: So two separate events?
- THE WITNESS: It was.
- MR. SIDES: Okay. Thank you.
- A. And I just -- they didn't work at the
- mansion very often, so it was just strange, but
- he was tired, so that is what they chalked it up
- as. Let's see, Collier started asking me a bunch
- of questions -- uh-huh.
- Q. Let me clarify one thing, in this
- incident in October 2013 when you walked in on
- them upstairs and they jumped, what did it
- 22 appear to you was going on and how close were
- they to one another?

1 A. They are, like, kind of leaned in.

- 2 And it looked like they were probably, like,
- discussing something, but to me -- and maybe I
- 4 caught them off -- by surprise, I don't know,
- 5 but they both, like, kind of sat back like this
- 6 really quickly. And to me that is just, I don't
- 7 know, you know, not normal.
- Q. Okay.
- 9 A. Just -- and I probably made that
- 10 assumption more from just knowing the Governor
- and how he had been with Ms. Bentley the whole
- time. Collier started really drilling me with
- 13 questions about their relationship at that
- point, and she had only been there for a couple
- of months and she was really worried. She is
- like, well, why does the Governor not think she
- is busy, why is the Governor saying we are not
- doing enough, you know, and asking me all these
- 19 questions. I would try to put her off because I
- wasn't confident of anything at that point. I
- was mad at him because I thought he was being
- inappropriate, but by no means did I think
- 23 anything was going on. So Collier was offered a

1 job, decided that she was going to work for the

- 2 State parks and get started. And so she kind of
- 3 came in. I talked to the Chief of Staff, because
- 4 Collier wasn't really confident in what she
- 5 wanted to do, she really wanted to, like, more
- 6 impact policy and she didn't, and that is kind
- of all in there. The whole time, though, the
- 8 Governor is coming home and just telling
- 9 Ms. Bentley, like, she is not doing enough, she
- is not being a good First Lady. And, you know,
- I need to get you more involved, I need you to
- 12 really make a difference. And Ms. Bentley is
- just kind of loosing her self esteem and slash
- is mad at him, because she does not want to work
- with the State park, she wanted to really
- promote domestic violence and foster care, which
- is what we have been doing.
- Q. Did you say slash?
- A. State parks and she worked with
- 20 foster care and adoption. During that time the
- Governor starts having all these private
- meetings pop up on his calendar. We couldn't
- figure out what all the private meetings were

about. So Ms. Bentley was upset and I called and

- 2 asked his scheduler, I was like, hey, what are
- 3 these private meetings, is a dignitary coming
- 4 in? Because anytime a dignitary came I had to
- 5 bring State silver and china up for them to
- 6 serve coffee out of. I was like, do I need to
- ⁷ bring anything? And she would tell me, oh, no,
- 8 the Governor is just working on his speech with
- 9 Rebekah. And I would be like, well, why is it
- private, why doesn't it say Rebekah? Then I
- lost my calendar privileges, I could no longer
- see the Governor's calendar.
- Q. Who put that in place?
- 14 A. The Governor, it was a mandate from
- him. But I mean, the security was the one that
- had the to actually pull it, but I mean, it was
- her his request. Because they just didn't want
- me to see how often it was, but at that time I
- 19 still had enough friends at the Capitol that
- would tell me what was going on. They would be
- like, well, the Governor met with Rebekah again
- today or the Governor is, you know, in his
- office with Rebekah.

Q. Are those friend also witnesses you

- 2 know that are going to be approached by these
- yarious agencies?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Can you give me some of those names?
- A. Yes, Zach Lee, Wesley Helton.
- 7 Q. What is his last name?
- 8 A. H-E-L-T-O-N.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. Linda Adams. Wanda Kelley, she was
- his assistant at that time, and then Julie
- 12 Lindsey. They all worked at the Governor's
- office.
- Q. How many of those had been original
- campaign workers back at Tuscaloosa?
- A. Zach and Wesley were original
- campaign workers. And then Angi Smith was not
- working directly in the Governor's office, but
- she was on the Governor staff and she would
- 20 call, you know, with various things that she
- would see also. But she got moved out that
- 22 Spring.
- Q. Were they expressing to you any

suspicion of theirs independent of yours?

- A. Yes.
- Q. And --
- A. Because I wasn't -- at that time
- ⁵ Ms. Bentley was making me promise, like, please
- 6 don't say anything to anybody, so I hadn't said
- 7 a word to a soul and I would just kind of
- 8 listen. And I mean, they would call me in -- I
- 9 remember Linda Adams, the scheduler
- specifically, she called me one day on her way
- 11 home from work, and she was like, are you by
- 12 yourself? She was, like, I am just mad. I
- don't understand why the Governor and Rebekah
- have to go in the office and shut the door, you
- know, and they whisper and we can't hear them.
- Wanda tried to knock -- Wanda sat right outside
- the Governor's office, Wanda tried to knock on
- the door and the Governor yelled at her and told
- her she needed to take lunch and not to bother
- her when he was with Rebekah. And they were just
- 21 mad because they felt like they were being
- disrespected and Rebekah was just disrespecting
- them. So I kind of just put it away in my brain

and left it alone. Wesley, he said that he was

- ² feeling uncomfortable because the Governor
- 3 starting asking him to pick up lunch for them.
- 4 And Zach Lee had commented about it too, like,
- 5 that Wesley would, like, bring in lunch just for
- 6 the Governor and Rebekah and he would kind of
- ⁷ drop it off and leave. So just different little
- 8 things like that started happening in the
- 9 Governor's office.
- 10 Q. In addition to the phone calls that
- you had, was there also texts and e-mails?
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. That contained this particular
- subject of suspicion?
- 15 A. Oh, between me and anybody else?
- Q. Uh-huh.
- 17 A. No.
- Q. Do you know of anybody else -- nobody
- would send you anything, oh my gosh, he is in
- there behind closed doors with RM again?
- A. No, they would send it to me on a
- text, but usually to my personal phone, not, you
- 23 know -- or Linda would call me, because she felt

1 like calling me would be safer than putting it

- ² in writing.
- Q. Because, Heather, as this
- 4 investigation goes forward, if it does not die
- of its own weight and the Governor resign, it is
- 6 very likely that one or more of these agencies
- ⁷ are going to get your past records.
- 8 A. Right.
- 9 Q. And the topic that -- they will get
- the whole list of all your texts and all that
- 11 stuff. And if you can work with us ahead of
- time, go ahead and get those, then we need to be
- 13 forewarned about anything that may be in there.
- Because there are people send a zillion texts
- just around the world at any moment.
- A. Right.
- 17 Q. So that is --
- 18 A. Yeah, the guys probably would text
- me. I don't ever remember getting an e-mail
- about it ever, just because we knew our e-mails
- were so closely monitored.
- Q. Got it. Okay. Are we up into '14
- ²³ yet?

MR. SIDES: Stop here just a second.

- 2 Let's go off.
- Whereupon, an off the record
- discussion is held.)
- 5 Q. Have you talked with Ms. Bentley
- 6 since all of this broke?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And is she supportive of you, is
- 9 she --
- 10 A. She told me that I needed to protect
- myself. She is afraid and upset and embarrassed
- and -- just doesn't want anything to happen to
- me. Part of the reason I left was at her urging,
- because she didn't want to do anything anymore.
- 15 She said that she knew she was going to have to
- leave and that I needed to find something else
- before I wasn't able to anymore.
- Q. You said you believe that the lawyers
- 19 representing Spencer Collier were going to
- 20 contact you?
- 21 A. That's because Angi Smith who worked
- with us at the time, who still works in -- she
- lives in Prattville, works in Montgomery as a

political consultant, she was just called by

- them and I am on their list that they presented.
- 3 They said can you confirm that these people
- 4 have, you know, knowledge about the events, so.
- ⁵ Q. What about on the other side, have
- 6 you heard or do you think that the lawyers for
- 7 the Governor would be contacting you?
- A. The Governor is accusing me of
- 9 recording all of his private conversations, so I
- would not be surprised.
- 11 Q. The Governor -- say that again.
- 12 A. He is accusing me of recording all of
- his private conversations and illegally
- accessing his e-mail, which I didn't do, but --
- Q. How did you learn about that?
- A. I mean, everybody in Montgomery is
- talking about it. Clay Scofield is a Senator, he
- is from Guntersville, and he called me the other
- day just to kind of touch base with me and ask
- me how I was doing, I am like, I am fine, you
- 21 know, working, doing my normal job. I didn't
- even register that he was talking about the
- Governor. He is like the Governor is talking

about you. And then Ms. Bentley called and told

- 2 me that -- she had warned me a couple of times
- 3 like right after I left that the Governor was
- 4 angry with me and the Governor, you know, was,
- you know, blaming me for everything that
- 6 happened and -- but, I mean, I just took it as a
- 7 __
- MR. SIDES: But that has not been
- 9 reported in the news, I don't think, that he has
- said that you recorded his conversations and
- 11 accessed his e-mails?
- THE WITNESS: No.
- Q. Who is he saying this to?
- A. Just various people that he works
- with in Montgomery. And he mentioned it to one
- of the reporters that called, I believe it was
- the New York Times, and I don't know if it was
- the Governor directly, they wouldn't tell me
- 19 specifically who it was, and so I would assume
- it was one of his staff people, but they said we
- were told you were responsible for the
- recordings. And I said I can't confirm or deny
- 23 anything, if you -- you know, I am not making a

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1 comment to your article. I am sorry, you will
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- 2 have to find your information elsewhere and kind
- of got off the phone as guickly as I could.
- 4 MR. SIDES: Now Joe is representing
- 5 the Governor, right?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- 7 MR. SIDES: Who is representing --
- 8 THE WITNESS: I am really
- 9 disappointed he is doing that, too.
- MR. HALE: Joe Espy?
- THE WITNESS: Joe Espy, yes.
- MR. SIDES: Who is representing
- 13 Rebekah?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Somebody Gray.
- MR. SIDES: Oh, yeah, Bill Gray out of
- 16 Tuscaloosa. Well, Tom has probably already told
- you this, but when you get out of here, if you
- 18 continue to get inquiries from New York Times or
- whoever, just have them call --
- THE WITNESS: Right, which is why I
- was like, all right, I finally got -- I do need
- to go sit down so I can say contact my attorney.
- MR. SIDES: Did you prepare this

- timeline?
- THE WITNESS: Collier and I both did.
- 3 We sat down and did it shortly after I left
- 4 because she didn't want to -- she didn't want us
- 5 to forget anything because she was convinced
- 6 that something was going to come of it and so
- ⁷ some of it are her notes that she remembers and
- 8 a lot of it is from me.
- 9 MR. SIDES: And other than her and
- us, anybody else have a copy of this?
- THE WITNESS: No. And there
- 12 aren't -- and her lawyer has her copy, and I was
- intending to leave mine with y'all.
- MR. SIDES: Who is her lawyer?
- THE WITNESS: Oh my goodness, I do
- 16 not remember, but I can find out though.
- MR. SIDES: Where is he or she?
- THE WITNESS: In Birmingham.
- MR. SIDES: Yeah, we probably need to
- 20 find out who that is.
- THE WITNESS: I can find out.
- MR. SIDES: Sounds like, correct me
- if I am wrong, but it sounds like you and

1 Collier are going to be -- what is Collier's

- 2 last name?
- THE WITNESS: T-Y-N-E-S.
- 4 MR. HALE: Is her father Ingram?
- 5 THE WITNESS: He is. Collier and I,
- in Montgomery were, the only two that supported
- 7 Ms. Bentley because we directly worked for her,
- 8 most of the other people we worked with ended up
- ⁹ taking the Governor's side for fear of losing
- their jobs. So any time the attacks have come,
- they have been directed at me first and her
- 12 second.
- MR. SIDES: But you two were sort of
- the same bucket, so to speak?
- THE WITNESS: We are very much so.
- 16 She wasn't privies to as quite as much because
- 17 Ms. Bentley didn't know her as well, but, yeah,
- we are very much in the same situation.
- MR. SIDES: She didn't come in until
- the second administration, right?
- THE WITNESS: She came on halfway
- through the first. Right at the 2014.
- BY MR. HALE:

1 Q. What forms the basis of the

- 2 accusation that you recorded all this private
- 3 conversations and pirated his e-mails?
- 4 A. Because Ms. Bentley, I confronted her
- 5 after inauguration, after all the events that
- 6 happened at inauguration -- not inauguration,
- 7 State of the State in 2014, and I told her I
- 8 needed to talk to her privately. And so I went
- 9 upstairs with her in her private quarters,
- 10 because I didn't want anybody else that was at
- the Governor's mansion to hear. And I told her
- that I had reason to suspect that the Governor
- was having an affair with Rebekah. And she cried
- 14 and told me there was no way. And I told her,
- you know, very specifically things that stuck
- out in my mind, and a lot of them are written
- down here, how she treated Ms. Bentley at the
- 18 State of the State, all the text messages, you
- 19 know, their suspicious behavior, those kind of
- things. And Ms. Bentley pulled out her journal.
- 21 She has got journals of everything. And she
- said, oh my goodness, well, he didn't kiss me
- that night, or he wouldn't hug me that night, or

he wouldn't talk to me before we went to bed.

- Very, you know -- like everything correlated
- with events that we had. And so she told me --
- 4 MR. SIDES: By the way, who is her
- 5 lawyer?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Whoever her divorce
- 7 attorney was.
- MR. HALE: What did I do with those
- 9 things?
- MR. SIDES: Her divorce lawyer is --
- THE WITNESS: I am pretty sure that
- 12 is her lawyer.
- MR. HALE: Lisa Woods represented him
- 14 and Steve Wright over at Najjar represented her.
- MR. SIDES: Steve, that is all he
- does is divorce.
- THE WITNESS: I am not sure who their
- 18 family attorney is. I know she gets a lot of
- 19 advice from Mike Echols, who is their
- 20 accountant.
- MR. HALE: How about Cooper Shattuck?
- THE WITNESS: She feels like he is
- too loyal to the Governor.

MR. HALE: Cooper used to be at Rosen

- 2 Harwood and was going into the seminary until
- 3 the Governor got elected and the Governor
- 4 persuaded him to come work for him down there.
- 5 BY MR. HALE:
- 6 Q. So let's get to the point. You were
- 7 about to say she denied --
- 8 A. She just couldn't believe it. She
- 9 said the only way I could believe that, Heather,
- would be if I heard it with my own ears.
- 11 Q. All right. Take this slow and tell
- everything about how it led up to these phone
- 13 calls being recorded.
- 14 A. Okay. So she decided that the best
- way to do it would be to order a tape recorder
- or some kind of recording device online. I
- begged her not to because I told her that we
- didn't want to draw any suspicion to this until
- 19 she was ready to confront the Governor, because
- 20 I told her that I truly believed that he was a
- good person and that he loved her and that we
- needed, you know, just -- she needed to handle
- this on a personal level. And I said, I am

seeing how his actions are affecting you and I

- feel like I had to say something.
- Q. Were you worried if she purchased it
- 4 online that that might be found out?
- 5 A. Uh-huh, and too and everything got
- 6 shipped to the mansion and if it got shipped to
- 7 the mansion they would have to open it to make
- 8 sure it wasn't a bomb. And then they would
- 9 wonder why she had a recording device and her
- 10 security would talk to his security, I just --
- it is just not smart. And I also didn't want her
- to ship it to my house, she would send some of
- 13 her packages, like personal products to my house
- for me to bring it in so it wouldn't be
- searched. I certainly didn't want that being
- sent to my house. So I said Ms. Bentley, you
- know, there are other ways to do it, like maybe
- you can catch him. She is like, no, I am not
- 19 going to catch him. I said, well, you have
- 20 already seen a lot of his text messages, maybe
- you will. So she couldn't figure out what to do.
- Then a couple weeks after she and I had talked,
- she started noticing things herself. And so she

came to me and she goes, I found out what I can

- ² do and I need your help. And I said, okay,
- 3 Ms. Bentley, what do you need to do? She said,
- 4 there is a voice record on my phone and I can't
- 5 find it, but I know it is there and I want you
- to show me. So I showed her how to use voice
- 7 record on her cell phone.
- MR. SIDES: Now I want to be clear
- 9 about this, did she learn about what was going
- on between the Governor and Rebekah, did she
- learn about all that from you? Are you the one
- who said I think he is having an affair?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I am the one that
- said something. And but at that time she knew
- something was wrong. I just think mentally,
- 16 they had been married for 48 years --
- MR. SIDES: Was -- during all this, I
- 18 am curious, was anybody advising you about what
- to tell her or what to do?
- THE WITNESS: No.
- MR. SIDES: Were you talking to your
- mom or dad about it?
- THE WITNESS: No. I kept it to

- 1 myself, which was why I eventually had to say
- 2 something to her, because I -- it was eating me
- 3 alive.
- 4 MR. SIDES: Were you guarded in
- 5 the -- in the conversations that you had about
- 6 it with folks like Wesley and the others?
- 7 THE WITNESS: I never made any
- 8 comment to Wesley. I don't -- I did not at the
- ⁹ time and I do not to this day trust Zach and
- Wesley, because I felt like every decision they
- made was for their own political gain or
- position. And so if they would comment to me I
- would be, like, oh really, that is weird, well,
- what did you bring them and try to kind of make
- 15 it light and then --
- MR. SIDES: Are they still part of
- the crowd down there?
- THE WITNESS: They are. In fact, Zach
- 19 called me after it came out and I didn't answer.
- 20 And then he sent me a text message talking
- 21 about how he knew I did not trust him and that I
- did not want to speak with him, but he was my
- friend and he was here for me, but there was

nothing he could do and he couldn't leave now.

- 2 So I think he kind of realized that he was just
- in too deep, because at the beginning early on
- ⁴ Zach confronted the Governor about it too. And
- 5 that -- Zach and I had not spoken about it, and
- 6 he confronted the Governor independently with
- 7 some financial documents.
- MR. HALE: About what?
- 9 THE WITNESS: About his behavior and
- 10 actions with Rebekah and things that he was
- concerned on, because Zach became very involved
- in the campaign, but from the State side and
- Rebekah was on the campaign side and he was just
- concerned with the way they were handling some
- of the activities.
- MR. SIDES: And his position was?
- THE WITNESS: He was the Governor's
- assistant for a long time and then did
- 19 appointments for a little while, he has just
- 20 always held some kind of a close position to the
- Governor within the State side and still there.
- Now he works for small government, they created
- ²³ a position for him.

MR. HALE: What were some of the

- 2 concerns that they saw in the financial
- documents, did they tell you?
- THE WITNESS: Zach never spoke to me
- 5 directly about it. The reason I know about those
- is because Paul Bentley, the Governor's second
- 7 son.
- 8 MR. HALE: John Paul?
- 9 THE WITNESS: No, just Paul. There is
- 10 John Mark and Paul.
- MR. HALE: John Mark.
- THE WITNESS: John Mark didn't know
- for a long time, Paul was the first son to find
- out. Paul asked me if I had seen them and I
- said no. He asked me if I, you know, had any
- 16 financial documents myself and I said absolutely
- No. He told me to keep it that way for my own
- 18 safety, because he was going to confront his
- dad. I said, that is fine, I don't want anything
- to do with the money, so.
- MR. SIDES: And it doesn't matter at
- 22 all, but I guess it is just something I am
- curious, you seem to be right there in the thick

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of things.
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- THE WITNESS: I was sadly.
- MR. SIDES: Who started this thing,
- 4 did the Governor start it or did Rebekah start
- 5 it?
- THE WITNESS: My opinion, Rebekah. I
- 7 think that she saw a way to advance herself and
- 8 her family, and the Governor is extremely easy
- ⁹ to be flattered. I think he kind of saw an
- opening. And as far as like who initiated -- I
- think she initiated the first flirtations and
- tried to kind of push it and then I think it
- just morphed into what it is.
- MR. SIDES: Go off a second.
- 15 (Off the record.)
- MR. HALE: Let's go back on.
- Q. All right. You get Ms. Bentley set up
- on voice recorder on her phone, did she have
- 19 like an Apple phone, iPhone?
- A. She does, she had an iPhone.
- O. So take it from there.
- A. So she said, okay, I am going to
- record him. I am like, well, how? She is like,

I don't know, I am going to try to catch him

- when he is talking to her upstairs. Because at
- this point she was angry because he would come
- 4 home and then go downstairs or go to a different
- 5 room and shut the door and talk on the phone.
- 6 She did not like it, because they used to, like,
- ⁷ get home, go on a walk, they would walk a couple
- 8 laps around the circle, and then they would go
- 9 to dinner and they would talk, and they would
- watch Dancing with the Stars or whatever they
- would watch on TV. And she missed it. So she
- tried to do it a couple of times upstairs and
- she would either get nervous or whatever, it
- 14 never worked out, because she would come to me
- the next day when I would get to work and she
- would tell me it didn't work or I did it wrong
- or just be real flustered. I am, like,
- 18 Ms. Bentley, please be careful. Don't you think
- 19 you should just talk to him? No, I am going to
- 20 record him. I am like, okay. So then they decide
- they are going to go to the beach for the
- weekend and that is when that was taken. Then
- she came back and was, like, Heather, I need you

to do something for me. And I was like,

- 2 Ms. Bentley, you know I would do anything for
- you, what is going on? I shouldn't have said
- 4 that. She said, I need you to get this off my
- 5 phone. I was like, what is it? She said, I
- 6 want it on a CD and she goes, and I want it
- 7 today. And I was like, Ms. Bentley, what is it?
- 8 So she hands me the phone and walks out of the
- 9 office crying. So I press play and I start
- 10 listening a little and I have to pause it, I am
- 11 like, I cannot do this on a State computer. And
- 12 I was like, are you sure we need to do this at
- 13 all? She goes, well it can't be on my phone, I
- 14 am afraid I will delete it, I have got to have
- it, I need to talk to Robert and I want him to
- 16 know that I know. So it was --
- Q. Did she tell you how she got it?
- A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. How?
- A. She left it on -- she wasn't very
- nice about him, but she was mad at him and she
- had every right to be, she said he is so dumb --
- MR. SIDES: Sound like she is right.

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THE WITNESS: She is.
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- 2 A. She left her purse sitting on the
- 3 sofa and left her phone on the very top surface
- 4 of her purse on record and she told him she was
- 5 going for a walk on the beach. She goes, I will
- 6 be back. And he was like, okay. And he told
- ⁷ her, you can hear it on the recording, Dianne,
- 8 it is cold out there, get a jacket. And she
- ⁹ just left it playing. And she said I had my
- watch on -- I was like, you never leave your
- phone. She is, like, he wasn't paying attention
- to me. So she had her watch on and she said she
- knew she needed to be gone 20 to 30 minutes and
- she felt like she could catch him and she did.
- Q. What day was this?
- A. I don't remember the day, I just
- 17 remember it was like some time early Spring,
- 18 like maybe March 2014.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- A. It is in here.
- MR. SIDES: Of 2016?
- 22 A. 2014.
- Q. Did her children or any one of them

1 know what she was trying to do?

- ² A. No.
- Q. Were you --
- A. Ms. Bentley and I were the only two
- 5 discussing it, having conversations about it
- 6 from the time I confronted her in January until
- 7 these recordings were made, because until these
- 8 recordings were made she -- part of her still
- 9 was trying to hold on to the fact that he was
- 10 not having an affair.
- 11 Q. She was in continuing denial?
- 12 A. Uh-huh, even though at this point she
- had already seen -- what kind of gave her the
- courage, I think, to do the recording, she had
- seen a couple of text messages between Rebekah
- and the Governor. Like, he would get in the
- shower and she would grab his phone and, like,
- 18 look through his text messages and --
- Q. What did she tell you she found?
- A. Oh, like I love you baby. And they
- used this, like, red rose emoji, they would send
- that back and forth. And it would just be like
- I miss you so much when you are away. Then she

would see phone calls that lasted for like an

- 2 hour and a half, two hours. She screen shotted
- 3 some of them and sent them to herself and then
- would get really paranoid that he would find it
- 5 and things like that. So that became an issue.
- 6 And then, because he is not aware of how
- ⁷ technology works, he started leaving his iPad at
- 8 the Governor's mansion because he said he didn't
- 9 know how to work it and he didn't like it and
- 10 Ms. Bentley could use it, because she had a
- quilting app, she loved to quilt, on it, and he
- 12 goes you can just have it, Dianne. And I was,
- like, oh good, this will be perfect, like, we
- can you use it for some of your speeches, you
- can give a speech from it, which of course she
- did not like either, because they didn't like
- technology. And he forgot that your Apple iPhone
- is also linked to any other Apple device that
- 19 you have and so every text message, phone call,
- e-mail, we could see on the iPad that he gave
- his wife to use.
- Q. And did you see any of those?
- 23 A. Yes.

- O. Were any of them --
- 2 A. She would show me.
- Q. -- what you would call an
- 4 inappropriate or outright sexual nature?
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. Do you have any examples of them?
- A. I never wrote them down or took
- 8 pictures, Ms. Bentley has them all.
- 9 Q. Can you remember generally or any
- 10 specifics with specificity what any of them
- 11 said?
- 12 A. Well, you will hear some of it in the
- tape. He would make comments about her breast
- and, you know, how he would miss them and miss
- the shape of her body and liked the way her, you
- 16 know, different body parts looked in the
- different clothes she was wearing.
- MR. SIDES: The disc that you have
- 19 got that has the recording on it, is that the
- same recording that we have all heard through
- the news the past few months?
- THE WITNESS: Not all of it is on
- there, but, uh-huh.

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MR. SIDES: Not all of it is on the
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- ² disc?
- THE WITNESS: No, not all of it is on
- 4 the news, but, yes, it is the same one.
- 5 MR. SIDES: But this is just the
- 6 recording that she made at the beach?
- 7 THE WITNESS: And there is a second
- one on it too. There is two tracks.
- 9 MR. HALE: Can we go ahead and listen
- 10 to them?
- THE WITNESS: And the reason I have a
- 12 copy is because --
- MR. SIDES: Say it again.
- 14 THE WITNESS: The reason I have a
- copy is just because at that point I was kind of
- 16 afraid that something -- because he started
- 17 getting really suspicious and angry at me and I
- wanted to be able to say, you know what, you are
- 19 having an affair, don't -- you know, you
- didn't -- because he was telling me I needed to
- find a new job and this and that, and I did it
- only as protection for myself and for her,
- because she -- even though she is better at

technology and everything than he is, you know,

- 2 I was afraid that he would take it and destroy
- it or give it to Rebekah for whatever reason and
- 4 then, like, her evidence would be completely
- ⁵ gone.
- 6 (Playing recording.)
- 7 MR. HALE: And what we are about to
- 8 listen to is a copy of the recording that
- 9 Ms. Bentley made of the Governor.
- THE WITNESS: Yeah, at the beach.
- 11 (Playing recording.)
- 12 BY MR. HALE:
- Q. You were starting to say a moment ago
- 14 __
- A. So we knew that the Governor and
- 16 Rebekah were texting and we confirmed it there,
- and Ms. Bentley was convinced it was an
- 18 emotional affair, I was convinced it was
- 19 physical. That obviously confirmed that it was
- 20 physical. The way Ms. Bentley finally ended up
- having to tell her children, which was almost a
- relief to me, because I wasn't the only one that
- knew anymore, Ms. Bentley and Melissa, who is

her daughter-in-law who is married to Paul, were

- ² going shopping for a chandelier, because
- Ms. Bentley's house flooded and so she was home
- 4 dealing with that, and Ms. Bentley was sitting
- in the car and got a text message from Doctor
- 6 Bentley or Governor Bentley and it said, I love
- you, Rebekah, with that red rose emoji that he
- 8 always used. And Ms. Bentley collapsed in front
- 9 of Melissa. And a Melissa immediately took
- 10 Ms. Bentley's pone and looked at it and was
- like, we are going home, called her husband, and
- that was the first time Ms. Bentley talked to
- 13 them about it.
- Q. Did she play this recording?
- A. She did.
- Q. Did she still have it on her phone?
- A. No, it was on the disc, because at
- that point Ms. Bentley had already brought it
- 19 home and locked it in their safety deposit box.
- Q. And it is still there, to your
- 21 knowledge?
- A. To my knowledge. So Paul couldn't
- list to it, because the first time he said

1 "baby" to Rebekah he said his skin crawled. And

- ² Melissa listened to the rest of it with
- 3 Ms. Bentley.
- Q. Were you there?
- 5 A. I was not, huh-uh. Melissa called me
- and asked me to come shortly after, so I drove
- 7 to Tuscaloosa and they sat me down and thanked
- 8 me, first of all, for being a confident and
- 9 support system for Ms. Bentley. Second of all,
- told me I couldn't say anything to anybody else,
- which I already knew, and asked me what else I
- might know. And I mean, Ms. Bentley had
- journals of everything she had the text messages
- 14 and stuff, so she could tell them more than I
- could. And so I more sat there for Ms. Bentley's
- 16 moral support and listened and cried, and I
- don't know, a little bit of everything else. And
- then it just kept progressing from that point,
- honestly. He tried to move me to the campaign
- 20 and he told me --
- Q. Wait, let me stop real quick.
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. After Ms. Bentley met with her

children and daughter-in-law --

- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. -- at what point after that did they
- 4 confront him with it?
- 5 A. Paul immediately drove to Montgomery
- 6 to confront the Governor and he denied it. And
- 7 Ms. Bentley had already confronted him and he
- 8 denied it. And so they decided as a family unit
- ⁹ that they would let the Governor hear the tape
- so he couldn't deny it anymore. So they played
- 11 it for him.
- Q. Do you know when and how that
- 13 happened?
- A. That was like April or May of 2014.
- 15 And how it happened was Paul made his dad sit
- down upstairs in the mansion and listen to it.
- MR. SIDES: Is Paul sort of like the
- 18 leader of the children?
- THE WITNESS: He is definitely the
- leader of the children. At that point, John
- Mark, the oldest son, did not know. Luke did
- not find out until it came out in the news,
- 23 because like I said earlier, he is special

needs. And Matthew was the second son to find

- out. He is their second biological child. He
- is a Doctor in Mississippi. And probably a
- 4 couple months after Paul found out, Matthew
- 5 starting getting suspicious about stuff that was
- 6 going on on Twitter and asked Ms. Bentley about
- ⁷ it and she told him.
- 8 MR. SIDES: Where does Paul live?
- 9 THE WITNESS: He lives in Tuscaloosa.
- MR. SIDES: What does he do?
- THE WITNESS: He owns his own
- 12 company, Warrior Oil.
- MR. SIDES: When he played the tape
- 14 for the Governor, what did he say?
- THE WITNESS: The Governor got quiet
- and said he wasn't going to stop and that he
- finally found somebody that made him happy. And
- then Paul confronted Rebekah and did not play
- her the tapes, because he didn't want to
- implicate his mom, and instead he took his phone
- 21 and his recorder and put it on the dashboard and
- said we are going to have a conversation and it
- is going to be on the record and you are going

to tell me what you are doing with my dad. And

- 2 she admitted that they were having an affair and
- 3 that she was getting money and --
- 4 MR. SIDES: She was getting money?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- 6 MR. SIDES: From him?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh. And that she
- 8 wasn't sorry and -- but that she would stop if
- 9 Paul made her. Like a couple things like that. I
- 10 didn't get to hear the full recording. So I
- 11 heard part of it and Ms. Bentley told me about
- part of it. Then Paul took that to his dad when
- they were at the beach in May and the Governor
- kind of shook his head and said she just lied to
- you, she doesn't mean it, she loves me. And not
- 16 all of that is probably in here. Collier -- some
- things I never have discussed with Collier
- because, one, to keep her safe and, two, because
- 19 I wouldn't betray Ms. Bentley's trust. And she
- didn't want everybody to know.
- 21 BY MR. HALE:
- Q. Heather, I am going to mark as
- 23 Exhibit 1 to this sworn statement a document

that you have provided me titled timeline. And

- 2 I am going to number each page in the lower
- 3 right-hand corner with the numeric number one,
- 4 two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, it is
- ⁵ nine pages. And the copy I am providing you is
- from the original that you provided to me. And
- 7 can you formally identify what this is?
- 8 (Exhibit 1 was marked for
- 9 identification.)
- A. Yes, it is a timeline that was
- compiled by Collier Tynes and myself so that we
- maintained records of what we experienced and
- witnessed so that when and if we were confronted
- with this moving forward we would have, I guess
- our own proof and evidence that we had.
- Q. Does she have an identical copy of
- 17 this?
- A. She does.
- Q. And is it a collaborative product?
- 20 A. It is.
- Q. That combines elements and things and
- facts that each of you, some separately,
- individually and some collectively, that y'all

have combined into one document?

- ² A. Yes.
- Q. And if you wouldn't mind, just
- 4 flipping through and making sure I've numbered
- 5 it correctly and if you would just initial each
- 6 page and on the last page if you would sign it
- ⁷ and date it today.
- 8 A. (Complies.)
- 9 Q. Is Collier aware that you are now
- being represented by counsel?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. And did you tell us
- earlier that she has a lawyer?
- 14 A. She does.
- Q. And you don't remember his name?
- A. Her parents requested that she get an
- 17 attorney soon after she left the Governor's
- office.
- MR. SIDES: And she has already been
- of interviewed by who?
- THE WITNESS: The FBI.
- MR. SIDES: Did she talk to you about
- 23 that interview?

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                            Some, not in full.
              THE WITNESS:
2
              MR. SIDES: What did she tell you
3
    about it?
4
              THE WITNESS: She told me they were
5
    extremely pushy, very short. Asked her some
6
    questions that she admitted that she was not
7
    privied to and she told them that I was the one
8
    that had the personal experience with it. She
9
    said that they asked some about the recordings,
10
    but told her that it was the least of their
11
    worries that Ms. Bentley would record her
12
    husband's conversation, they had bigger fish to
13
    fry. And then she said that they just asked her
14
    specific questions about, you know, where she
15
    saw things, you know, what she saw. Collier saw
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photos of the Governor and Rebekah from one of

a student at Auburn and Collier had graduated

19 from Auburn, so they had previous relationship

20 and the girl showed Collier some pictures that

²¹ Collier described as disturbing, but depicting

the Governor and Rebekah in their interactions

23 together. She said they just kind of went over

16

the timeline of when everything happened and

- 2 specifically asked her if she had ever spoken to
- 3 Spencer Collier about anything and then
- 4 dismissed her.
- 5 MR. HALE: Did she indicate to you
- 6 that any of the pictures that she spoke of
- 5 showing the Governor and Rebekah Mason's
- interactions were of a physical nature?
- 9 THE WITNESS: They were.
- MR. HALE: Were any of them of an
- 11 intimate nature?
- THE WITNESS: Collier said that there
- was just a lot of touching in the pictures is
- all she said to me. I didn't ask her a lot of
- details about it. However, I know if I did she
- would be more than happy to tell me. When we
- 17 talked about it, she just said they were a lot
- of really close proximity, a lot of touching, a
- 19 lot of, like, gazing into each others eyes,
- which had her upset.
- MR. HALE: Did she tell you how the
- pictures were obtained?
- THE WITNESS: They were taken on a

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cell phone by a girl named Meredith, I don't
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- 2 know her last name, who worked on the campaign
- ³ just as intern, the second campaign.
- 4 MR. HALE: Was Collier represented by
- 5 her counsel during the FBI interview?
- THE WITNESS: She has not -- wait,
- 7 was Collier represented?
- MR. HALE: Was her lawyer there?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sorry, yes, he
- ¹⁰ was.
- MR. HALE: Do you know if she signed
- 12 a cooperation agreement and even potentially an
- immunity agreement before discussing anything
- with the FBI or Department of Justice?
- THE WITNESS: Not that I am aware of
- but she didn't tell me.
- MR. SIDES: Go back to the interview,
- 18 I mean, did she tell you, was it accusatorial in
- 19 nature or were they just wanting to find out
- what she knew?
- THE WITNESS: She just felt like they
- 22 are with really pushing her for whatever
- ²³ information.

MR. SIDES: Did she feel like she was

- 2 accused of doing something wrong?
- THE WITNESS: No.
- 4 MR. SIDES: Where did the interview
- 5 take place?
- THE WITNESS: Downtown.
- 7 MR. SIDES: Here in Birmingham?
- 8 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- 9 MR. SIDES: Did she tell you the
- 10 names of the FBI guys that were interviewing
- 11 her?
- THE WITNESS: No, she did not. But I
- mean, I could ask her and she would tell me if
- 14 she remembered.
- MR. HALE: Do you know when that took
- 16 place?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Last week.
- MR. HALE: They would have provided
- her with not only their badges but also a card.
- THE WITNESS: I am sure she --
- MR. SIDES: We need to find out who
- the lawyer is and just talk to the lawyer.
- THE WITNESS: I can certainly do that

- when she responds. They had an event this
- 2 morning at Gateway so I am sure she will text me
- 3 back and I will pass that along to you as soon
- 4 as --
- 5 BY MR. HALE:
- Q. With regard to your continued
- ⁷ employment after all of this broke, did you
- begin to experience any kind of pressure to
- 9 resign, quit your job or --
- 10 A. Yes, the Governor, he said stuff to
- me on a regular basis, whether it was you need
- to leave and find something better to do or if
- you say anything to anyone about this, you will
- 14 never work in the State of Alabama again.
- MR. SIDES: He knew that you knew
- that the gig was up?
- THE WITNESS: Uh-huh. Because he
- 18 didn't -- he told Ms. Bentley that there was no
- way she was smart enough to figure out how to
- 20 make a recording without me, so he was convinced
- that I was the one that did it. And he
- confronted me in the kitchen of course, of the
- mansion, right in front of the wall of

1 refrigerators. He confronted me one night, he

- 2 came in and put his finger in my face and was
- 3 like you will never work in the State of Alabama
- 4 again if you tell anybody about this. I said,
- you know, what you are choosing to do is wrong
- and as long as you know that, you are the one
- ⁷ that has to sleep at night.
- MR. SIDES: When was it that he said
- ⁹ this to?
- THE WITNESS: In the Spring of 2014,
- so after he found out Ms. Bentley knew, so
- 12 probably in May.
- Q. Did thereafter you have conversations
- or a confrontation of any kind with Rebekah
- 15 Mason?
- A. Rebekah, the whole time, would tell
- the Governor she wanted me gone, but never said
- anything to me directly. She did confront a
- 19 couple of other staff members, Wanda Kelley was
- dismissed from the Governor's service, Angi
- 21 Smith, now Stalnaker, was dismissed from the
- Governor's office and asked to find something
- else because of Rebekah. But because

- 1 Ms. Bentley had final say over my position she
- wasn't really able to do anything to me.
- Q. Why did Rebekah oversee their
- 4 terminations or resignations?
- 5 A. Because at that time whatever Rebekah
- 6 said the Governor did, regardless of whether or
- 7 not it was her area.
- Q. Did she have legitimate reasons, to
- ⁹ your knowledge, for terminating one or more or
- 10 all of them?
- 11 A. She felt like they would compromise
- the Governor and her relationship. And at that
- time she was working on the campaign so she
- wasn't even a State employee yet, she had his
- ear for everything. That was the main complaint
- of most of the staffers in Montgomery.
- Q. Besides the -- well, let me stop
- this, with this confrontation you had with the
- 19 Governor in the kitchen of the mansion, down
- there where he stuck his finger in your face,
- ²¹ did he intimidate you?
- A. No, I am not intimidated by the
- ²³ Governor.

Q. But did you -- did you interpret it

- ² as an effort to intimidate you?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Was he angry?
- 5 A. He was.
- Q. Was he speaking in a tone that was
- 5 substantially different from otherwise normal?
- A. Yes, he raised his voice and was
- 9 extremely firm in his speech and his gestures.
- 10 Q. How close did he approach yelling at
- 11 you?
- 12 A. I mean, it was -- he wanted to make
- 13 sure I understood the point without letting
- 14 people that would be -- his security detail that
- were sitting outside the mansion -- he spoke
- loud enough that I would get the point and
- 17 Ms. Bentley heard upstairs but security detail
- outside didn't react, so.
- Q. Were there any other discrete actions
- taken by him or anyone else to attempt to
- separate you from Ms. Bentley?
- A. Yes. He tried to -- he hired Collier
- in hopes that I could be moved to the campaign,

because he knew that if I was moved to the

- 2 campaign that I could be fired without cause.
- 3 State employees, you know, have to have a little
- bit more reason. So he tried to move me to
- 5 campaign and I refused to go.
- 6 Q. Can you elaborate on it, how did he
- 7 do that?
- A. He told me, he is like, you are not
- being beneficial to my wife anymore, y'all have
- too much of a personal relationship, it is
- interfering with, you know, her work that she is
- supposed to be doing as First Lady, you need to
- move to campaign where you can be better served.
- Or I need people on the campaign, you know, that
- have been there before that can lead, guide and
- direct those that are there now. And I said,
- well, you know, how would I be guaranteed that I
- could move back to my job with Ms. Bentley? And
- 19 he was like, well, there would be no guarantee.
- Q. Did he outright order you to take up
- responsibilities in the campaign?
- A. No, he just told me that is where I
- needed to be. And I said, well, what does

1 Ms. Bentley think? That was always my response

- 2 to him, because I knew that if he had really
- 3 talked to Ms. Bentley he wouldn't be having that
- 4 conversation and he would usually kind of back
- ⁵ off at that point.
- 6 Q. Did you report any of those
- 7 conversations with him to her?
- 8 A. I did.
- 9 Q. And what was her response?
- 10 A. She would just shake her head or she
- talked to him about it like once or twice when
- 12 he first started really trying to push me to go
- on the campaign and he -- because he had Zach
- 14 Lee call me and Heath Garrett was the campaign
- manager for the second campaign, and he had
- 16 Heath call me and try to get me to go to lunch
- to work on the campaign. And I told him
- 18 Ms. Bentley about it and she said, Robert,
- 19 Heather is not going anywhere, she is my only
- friend in Montgomery and she is staying with me.
- 21 And that kind of ended it.
- Q. At what point, if at all, do you
- think that we should approach Ms. Bentley's

1 attorney? Do you think -- let me say -- add a

- 2 little bit to it, will she be supportive of you
- 3 even now?
- 4 A. Yes.
- ⁵ Q. Have you had any conversations with
- 6 her privately since you left the office?
- 7 A. Uh-huh, numerous.
- 8 Q. Good. Even post divorce?
- 9 A. Uh-huh, we have had -- we had --
- Q. Have you seen her?
- 11 A. The three of us at Christmas, we did
- a Christmas lunch with all of us and gave
- 13 presents and I took her --
- MR. SIDES: Who is the three of you?
- A. Collier, myself and Ms. Bentley. And
- then since that, when I am in Tuscaloosa
- traveling for work now I will call her and if
- she is home, you know, see her. And she will
- 19 still text me when she needs something, like she
- just gave a speech to the foster children at
- Gateway a couple weeks ago and it was all in the
- paper and AL.com and I wrote her speech, so I
- mean, we still --

Q. Did she ever show you the pen I made

- 2 her?
- A. Yes, yes, she was so tickled.
- 4 Q. I have the sweetest note back there
- in her handwriting that I got shortly after
- 6 that.
- A. She is so precious. She is struggling
- 8 right now to find her purpose, because she had
- 9 so much to do when she was in Montgomery when
- 10 she was First Lady. In one respect she feels
- like she had to give it all up prematurely, and
- then in other respect, she knows it was the only
- decision she could make. So Collier and I are
- both trying to find ways that she can still feel
- 15 like she is serving others but --
- Q. Are her family still supportive of
- your relationship with her?
- A. Extremely.
- Q. So there is no issue with any of
- 20 them?
- A. No, huh-uh.
- MR. SIDES: You know, I read in the
- news that the overall thing that he is being

investigated for is ethics violations. But are

- you aware of anything more specific than that?
- THE WITNESS: Just using State funds
- 4 and allocations and buildings to serve his and
- 5 Rebekah's relationship. I know Ms. Bentley would
- 6 go out of town to their beach house occasionally
- ⁷ and the Governor would have Rebekah over to the
- 8 stay at the mansion.
- 9 MR. HALE: Overnight?
- THE WITNESS: She was asked to leave
- the mansion, she stayed at Winfield Estate
- overnight. And interestingly enough, Stan
- 13 Stabler, who denies it all, is the one that
- called -- he called me and he called Ms. Bentley
- the night Rebekah and the Governor were hanging
- out at Winfield because he thought it was very
- suspicious and inappropriate and he called to
- bring it to our attention. And Ms. Bentley left
- 19 the beach the very next morning and came home
- 20 because of it and now he denies it.
- MR. HALE: Do you have personal
- 22 knowledge of any use of public and State fund or
- otherwise public monies to promote or protect

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their relationship?
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- THE WITNESS: I mean, they would fly
- on the plane and the flight logs will say, you
- 4 know, Jennifer Artiss and Zach Lee were on it
- 5 and I know that they would get off the plane and
- for ride with security home for whatever reason, you
- 7 know, kind of last minute so the Bentley's could
- 8 fly on the airplane -- or so that Governor
- 9 Bentley and Rebekah could fly on the airplane
- 10 together.
- MR. HALE: Alone?
- THE WITNESS: Uh-huh. And I know that
- there were always multiple cars taken for the
- 14 security detail and a lot of times Rebekah and
- the Governor would occupy one car and the other
- staffers would be in another one or provide
- their own transportation.
- MR. HALE: Can the back of those
- 19 Suburbans be made individually private where the
- occupants are separated completely from the
- 21 driver?
- THE WITNESS: No.
- MR. SIDES: You say that -- you say

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that Rebekah confessed to Paul?
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- THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- MR. SIDES: That Bentley was paying
- 4 her money?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- 6 MR. SIDES: Do you have an
- 7 understanding of where that money was coming
- 8 from?
- 9 THE WITNESS: I do not. I was told by
- Paul that it was a combination of his personal
- money and other donations that had come in that
- 12 he was funneling to her.
- MR. SIDES: How does Paul know that?
- THE WITNESS: Because Paul was on the
- campaign side with all the money and Mike Echols
- is the Bentley's accountant, and Mike Echols
- started seeing some areas of concern and
- 18 confronted Paul about it also. So Mike Echols,
- 19 Paul Bryant, Jr. and Paul Bentley collectively
- have also spoken with the Governor about some of
- his financial decisions that he was making.
- MR. SIDES: The --
- MR. HALE: Wait, what do you mean by

- 1 that?
- THE WITNESS: That is all I know.
- 3 That is all Ms. Bentley told me. She just said
- 4 that the reason that they finally convinced
- 5 Ms. Bentley to divorce him is because they were
- 6 watching money dwindle and Paul told his mom
- ⁷ that the Governor was doing some questionable
- 8 things, maybe even some things that were
- 9 considered illegal and that she didn't need to
- be associated with it because they didn't want
- 11 her to lose everything.
- MR. SIDES: What was the money being
- paid for? Was it to -- was Bentley paying
- Rebekah the money to have the affair or was he
- paying her money for some other reasons?
- THE WITNESS: He said it was her
- salary for doing such a good job, but the
- amounts that she was making, I mean, over
- 19 \$100,000 dollars just seems a little exorbitant
- 20 compared to what everybody else was making.
- MR. HALE: All right, let --
- MR. SIDES: One more thing, excuse
- me, do you have an understanding as to how that

- money was paid, in what form?
- THE WITNESS: My understanding that
- it was just by check. But from who, it would
- 4 have to be from the campaign, because
- 5 technically she was a campaign employee at that
- 6 time.
- 7 MR. SIDES: So it wouldn't be checks
- 8 written by the Governor to her?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Initially the first
- campaign he wrote her checks personally, but I
- think the second time, Al Agricola was the
- 12 election attorney and also managed the campaign
- as the attorney and I think he advised that
- everything come through the campaign.
- MR. HALE: Heather, let me finish
- 16 this document.
- THE WITNESS: Sorry, I need to sign
- 18 this one.
- 19 BY MR. HALE:
- Q. If you will just sign it and date it
- 21 today at 11:07 a.m., June 3rd.
- A. (Complies.)
- Q. Okay. Just for purposes of the sworn

1 statement I will offer and attach Exhibit 1.

- ² Specifically do you have any personal knowledge
- 3 that Governor Bentley misused any State funds,
- 4 other than what you have already told us?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Are there any other witnesses you
- believe that know as much or more than you do,
- 8 maybe besides Collier Tynes?
- 9 A. I believe that Zach Lee knows every
- aspect of what happened, maybe less of the
- 11 personal side, but more of the business side,
- because he was the Governor's aide, he road with
- he and Rebekah, he is the one that initially
- 14 confronted the Governor about some of the
- financial, you know, questions that he had, but
- 16 I also know that Zach is also terrified now to
- lose his job and not be able to find another
- one.
- MR. SIDES: What is his position now?
- THE WITNESS: The Governor made him a
- job, he is like the director of small
- governments or something like that, but he sort
- of works with City Mayors and City Council.

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MR. SIDES: Do you know, is he
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- 2 lawyered up?
- THE WITNESS: I am not sure.
- 4 MR. HALE: What personal knowledge do
- 5 you have about the Governor buying into these
- 6 disposable flip phones?
- 7 THE WITNESS: He starting do that
- 8 when he realized Ms. Bentley was reading his
- 9 text messages. Initially he started changing his
- 10 pass codes every so often so that she wouldn't
- 11 know what his code was.
- MR. SIDES: Learned some technology,
- 13 did he?
- THE WITNESS: Really quickly, because
- 15 Ms. Bentley -- I was like why did you tell him
- that that is how you were getting all this
- information, we had it easy. But then it turned
- into him just by buying disposable phones that
- she didn't know about.
- MR. HALE: Did you ever see any of
- the disposable phones?
- THE WITNESS: I saw maybe one or two,
- 23 but that was about it.

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MR. HALE: Do you have personal
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- 2 knowledge of how he paid for them?
- THE WITNESS: No.
- 4 MR. HALE: Have you gotten hearsay
- information about how he paid for them?
- 6 THE WITNESS: I was told that he
- 7 would send staffers to get them for him and he
- 8 would pay them back in cash.
- 9 MR. SIDES: It came out, I think, in
- 10 some news report that -- and maybe he paid it
- 11 back late, but wasn't there a check for like a
- thousand dollars and he said here is the proof
- that I paid for them, but there was some
- 14 distance in time between when they were bought
- and when he said, you know, here is the money.
- MR. HALE: Well, specifically what I
- was curious about is whether or not they were
- paid with State issued debit or charge cards?
- MR. SIDES: At the time of purchase?
- MR. HALE: Yes, sir.
- THE WITNESS: Cheryl Fonden has
- records of everything that is purchases with
- 23 State money, so does Wayne Hoyt. Then Cleve

1 Hightower is the man in charge of IT who was

- 2 tasked with, you know, changing the Governor's
- pass codes and e-mails and stuff on a regular
- 4 basis.
- MR. HALE: Do you know whether or not
- 6 Zach Lee has been interviewed by anyone?
- 7 THE WITNESS: I am not sure. I
- 8 haven't spoken with Zach.
- 9 MR. HALE: You said early, early on
- that the Governor was accusing you of either
- tapping or taping his personal phone calls and
- invading or otherwise improperly accessing his
- e-mail.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- MR. HALE: Did you ever access his
- e-mail improperly?
- THE WITNESS: No. Anytime I saw
- anything in his e-mail was because Ms. Bentley
- would call me upstairs and say, hey, look at
- this and would show me something she had seen on
- his iPad between he and Rebekah.
- MR. HALE: Is there anything else
- that you are aware of that you personally might

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think will become problematic?
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- THE WITNESS: For me or just in
- 3 general?
- 4 MR. HALE: Well, number one, in
- 5 general, but more specifically and more
- 6 importantly, for you?
- 7 THE WITNESS: I don't think so,
- 8 because I really, I mean, as best as I could at
- ⁹ the age that I was when I was going through all
- of this, tried to make decisions that would he
- either keep me uninvolved or out of it, so most
- of my knowledge is personal about the two of
- them and their relationship and how the affair
- developed so.
- MR. HALE: Was there ever a point
- after all of this or very close in time when all
- of this broke that the Governor insisted that
- 18 everybody, including you, sign a confidentiality
- 19 agreement?
- THE WITNESS: I was told by his
- 21 security detail once they started doing sweeps
- of the mansion every couple weeks, which was
- because he thought I was recording all of his

- 1 conversations, that I was to sign a
- ² confidentiality agreement, and I said no.
- MR. HALE: Do you remember who with
- 4 the security detail told you that?
- 5 THE WITNESS: I believe it was Ray
- 6 Lewis, who was working for the Governor's
- ⁷ security at the time, said that the Governor
- 8 requested that everyone sign a confidentiality
- 9 agreement. And I was like, I am not going to. I
- was like I have -- I was like, I don't know
- 11 anything. I am not signing anything.
- 12 BY MR. HALE:
- Q. Let me show you what I just marked as
- 14 Exhibit 2, Heather.
- 15 (Exhibit 2 was marked for
- identification.)
- Q. Take just a minute and look at that
- and tell me if you recognize that document and
- if you can, can you tell me what it is, can you
- 20 identify it?
- A. Yes, I do recognize it. It is the
- 22 confidentiality agreement for the Office of the
- 23 Governor talking about any information you hear,

anything you see, any property that you use that

- belongs to the State, talks about your records
- and when you have to turn them in and things
- 4 like that. This one happens to be signed by Seth
- ⁵ Hammond.
- Q. When the security detail approached
- you, did they actually show you a
- 8 confidentiality agreement that they needed you
- 9 to siqn?
- A. He had a folder in his hand, but I
- didn't look it over because I knew I wasn't
- 12 going to sign it.
- Q. So you don't know if this is --
- A. I don't know.
- Q. Okay. Just for the record, let me
- 16 identify that as a document that has already
- been produced publicly anyway and attach it as
- 18 Exhibit 2.
- MR. SIDES: That was right, though,
- on the verge of you leaving, right?
- THE WITNESS: Uh-huh, I left the
- 22 summer after we confronted him.
- BY MR. HALE:

Q. Do you know what the term

- 2 constructive discharge means?
- 3 A. No.
- Q. Do you feel like you were pressured
- 5 into resigning?
- A. No. Well, maybe in a way, but not
- ⁷ intentionally, because it would be Ms. Bentley.
- 8 She just lost her desire to do anything and was
- ⁹ telling me that she was going to divorce him and
- that I wouldn't have a job. And I felt a little
- 11 trapped and afraid and that -- I thought this
- would come out way before it has and was afraid
- that I would not be able to find another job or
- would be stuck working in the State government,
- which I didn't want to do. But at no time do --
- in fact, if anything, the Governor telling me to
- leave, you know, gave me that renewed strength
- 18 to just stay, because I knew that, you know, we
- were being a light in whatever darkness he was
- ²⁰ bringing.
- Q. He tried pretty darn hard to get rid
- of you?
- A. He did. When he came to my going away

party. He is like, well, maybe I wish you the

- best. And I looked him in the eye and I said, I
- want you to know, Governor, that I have lost all
- 4 respect for you and I never thought that would
- 5 happen. And I said, I am praying for you that
- 6 you will repent and turn away from this, but
- 7 until that day you do not have my respect. Which
- 8 was probably wrong, but --
- ⁹ Q. What did he say?
- A. Because he was like real in my face
- and like had my hands, and he just let me go and
- turned around and walked out. But I figured it
- was my only chance to tell him how I really felt
- without making a seen, because my parents were
- there that day and I knew he wouldn't do
- anything to me in front of me my dad.
- MR. SIDES: What is your relationship
- 18 like -- what was it like when you worked with
- 19 there with Spencer Collier?
- THE WITNESS: Spencer Collier and I
- just had a working relationship, very
- 22 professional. He and I talked on a decently
- 23 regular basis because there were all the time

threats coming in about the Governor and First

- 2 Lady and I was obviously made aware of all the
- ones that related to the residence and
- 4 Ms. Bentley. Spencer -- oh, I met him though for
- 5 the first time when he was still working in
- 6 congress because he and the Bentley's were such
- 7 good friends and they had a working
- 8 relationship. And then when he came on we were
- 9 excited because he was one of the people we
- 10 really liked, so.
- 11 BY MR. HALE:
- Q. He started my list, and at what
- point -- at what point did Spencer become aware
- of these audio tapes that you had helped
- 15 Ms. Bentley facilitate and what was your
- 16 role in that?
- 17 A. I am not sure when Spencer became
- 18 aware of it. It was my understanding that the
- 19 tapes were brought to the attention of Ray Lewis
- who was the head of the Governor's security
- ²¹ detail.
- Q. By who?
- A. By Paul Bentley, uh-huh.

- Q. Okay.
- A. And because Paul thought that if Ray,
- from a security standpoint knew, could prohibit
- 4 the Governor and Rebekah from being alone, which
- 5 would help end the affair was the hope. And
- 6 since Spencer Collier was technically over Ray
- ⁷ as the security advisor and I -- it was my
- 8 understanding that Ray is the one that brought
- ⁹ the tapes to Spencer. But the rumors were
- 10 already flying around at that time.
- Q. Did you have -- ever have anything to
- do with meetings or were you present when any
- meetings took place between the Governor and
- 14 Mike Hubbard?
- ¹⁵ A. No.
- Q. How about the Governor and Dale
- 17 Marsh?
- A. I was never sitting in any of those
- 19 meetings. I would see them on our calendar and
- 20 know they were taking place, but I never sat in
- on any of them.
- Q. Were you ever in any meetings with
- 23 any of the other business people, Will Brooke,

1 Mr. Rain or any of those others that are

- involved in Mike Hubbard?
- A. The only time I was ever in a, quote
- 4 unquote, meeting with Mr. Rain was he came over
- 5 to the Governor's mansion for dinner and any
- 6 time we had a dinner I was required to stay, but
- 7 I didn't sit at the table with them, I just kind
- 8 of helped facilitate.
- 9 Q. Heather, going forward, again, as I
- said, if this does not die of its own weight
- and/or the Governor resign or indicted on what
- has already come out, it may become very
- 13 complicated and involved and I hope you know you
- got mine and Terry's phone lines and you got my
- cell phone that you are going to call us any
- time you get that contact. I have already got
- the notice that you got from the Ethics
- 18 Commission. I will send a letter of
- 19 representation to them.
- ²⁰ A. Okay.
- Q. We will try to find out who the
- 22 agents are, because we know many of the FBI
- ²³ agents.

A. Right. I will try to find out for

- ² you.
- Q. But I also am going to give you a
- 4 handful of cards to carry with you just as a
- 5 don't talk to me.
- 6 A. Right.
- 7 O. Please call here. And I will
- 8 hopefully get a handful of Mr. Sides too so you
- ⁹ are going to be covered on both sides in case
- either one of us is unavailable.
- Is there anything else -- I know
- there is a heck of a lot more detail in this
- 13 outline.
- A. Well, just because we wanted to kind
- of have it all on paper just so, like I said, we
- were covered. And the last page kind of has a
- couple of quotes from him that stuck out that
- both of us had recorded, just that really shows
- 19 his change. But and then my biggest concern now
- is some of the people that are in positions of
- power, Clay Ryan sticks out in my mind, he was
- from Maynard Cooper.
- ²³ Q. Who?

A. Clay Ryan. He now works for the

- ² University of Alabama in some role. He was
- 3 awarded his position because of everything he
- 4 was privied to with the relationship with
- 5 Rebekah and the Governor, so.
- 6 MR. SIDES: One person we haven't
- mentioned here today is Rebekah's husband.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes. John, I would not
- ⁹ consider him to be a strong person and we tried
- to believe that he just didn't know for a long
- time and maybe was just oblivious or maybe even
- that he believed the best of his wife, just like
- 13 Ms. Bentley believed of the Governor. But he
- was confronted along with Rebekah by the pastor
- of First Baptist Church. He brought them in and
- basically asked for a confession and admittance
- by Rebekah of the affair, and the Governor and
- 18 First Lady were there also. And at that time,
- 19 the Governor and Rebekah both admitted the
- ²⁰ affair and the Pastor asked if they would
- repent, make a public confession and they said
- 22 no and they were dismissed from the church. The
- Governor was removed from his position of deacon

and Sunday School teacher. And the pastor said

- if they were going to live in open sin with no
- 3 repentance that he couldn't have them there.
- 4 MR. SIDES: So this was a meeting
- 5 that the pastor had with the two Bentley's and
- 6 Rebekah and John Mason?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- MR. SIDES: Tough crowd, isn't it?
- 9 And your understanding of what happened in that
- meeting, I assume, comes from Ms. Bentley?
- THE WITNESS: A. it does.
- MR. SIDES: And she tells you that in
- the meeting that both Rebekah and the Governor
- 14 admitted to the affair?
- THE WITNESS: Because she said that
- she -- she had spoken with the pastor -- she had
- been getting counseling from another pastor in
- Georgia, but it became kind of difficult for her
- 19 to get there --
- MR. SIDES: Who?
- THE WITNESS: Ms. Bentley. And she
- 22 knew that she probably needed to, you know,
- confide in her own pastor. And too, the Mason's

sat in front of them at church every Sunday and

- Ms. Bentley said she was so distracted she
- 3 couldn't get anything from the message because
- 4 she knew that is all the Governor was thinking
- 5 about, so she finally confronted her pastor and
- 6 the pastor said, well, you know, we have heard
- ⁷ the rumors and we are going to put an end to it
- 8 and he goes, you know -- because he goes, I
- 9 cannot have that in my church if we truly want
- to grow and follow the Lord. And so Ms. Bentley
- told me they were going to go to a meeting at
- the church and called me after.
- MR. SIDES: Who is the pastor?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Same one there now,
- McKinney or --
- MR. SIDES: Well, do you think that
- John Mason learned about it when everybody else
- ¹⁸ did?
- THE WITNESS: No, I think he knew
- before. I think he knew they were being
- financially benefited, because, I mean, he was
- 22 making over \$100,000 dollars in his cabinet
- position, so I think he was content with it. And

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the way he and Rebekah got together in the first
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- 2 place is she was married and they started having
- 3 relations on the side and she got a divorce.
- 4 MR. HALE: They were married to other
- 5 people?
- THE WITNESS: He wasn't, she was.
- 7 MR. HALE: Heather, we have a DVD
- 8 that is in the unit up there, I am going to put
- 9 it out. There is one also --
- THE WITNESS: This is just a band,
- and I don't have any CDs left anymore, but I
- 12 couldn't figure out how to hide a recorded disc
- without putting it in with another one.
- MR. HALE: Let's get that disc out
- and let's mark it too, Terry, if you know how to
- 16 reject it.
- THE WITNESS: I wanted to be able to
- 18 lock that up and nobody to be suspicious of it,
- 19 so I figured if you put it in a band --
- MR. HALE: Can I put a label on the
- 21 front of this?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, you can.
- MR. HALE: And Heather, I have got

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this DVD that you have provided us. It is a
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- 2 Memorex that I have marked as Exhibit 3.
- 3 (Exhibit 3 was marked for
- 4 identification.)
- MR. HALE: Can you identify that just
- for the record; is this what it is?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes, that is a CD that
- 8 was burned from the cell phone recording that
- 9 Dianne Bentley made at their beach house in the
- early Spring of 2014.
- MR. HALE: And how many recordings
- 12 are on here?
- THE WITNESS: There are two separate
- 14 recordings on that.
- MR. HALE: Okay. I will just offer
- those too.
- Number one, I got to applaud you for
- your bravery and for your integrity. And for
- some of us older people, it does give us a
- 20 glimmer of hope that all is not lost when you
- got a younger generation that sticks to values
- like that. And you know I mean that sincerely.?
- THE WITNESS: I do.

MR. HALE: I have known you and your

- family for a long, long time and as I told you
- even before we got in here, that I would protect
- 4 you to the best of my abilities like you are my
- 5 own daughter.
- THE WITNESS: I appreciate that.
- 7 MR. HALE: So it may become
- 8 complicated, but what I would expect might be
- one of several strategies is that we will agree
- to give one comprehensive interview to one
- 11 agency, and my preference certainly be that it
- would be maybe to somebody not associated with
- 13 the State, I thought about -- I know General
- 14 Strange personally, I've met with him a number
- of times, in fact recently in the last six
- months, but it may be better, after Terry and I
- talk through it and analyze it, that we will
- 18 probably agree to give one interview only to the
- 19 Department of Justice.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- MR. HALE: And not through the FBI. I
- have dealt with the FBI way too many times and
- they are very, very pushy, they are very

1 manipulative, they want to get dirt, and in the

- 2 process they will make you feel dirty. It
- doesn't work that way in my shop. So if you got
- 4 anything else, let me know. If you think of
- 5 anything else after you get out of here that we
- 6 would want to know, either let Terry or myself
- 7 know.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 9 MR. HALE: We will quickly get back
- 10 together.
- MR. SIDES: We need the name for
- 12 Collier's lawyer.
- THE WITNESS: I will, as soon as she
- 14 responds to me, I will let y'all know.
- MR. HALE: Terry, you got anything
- 16 else?
- MR. SIDES: No.
- MR. HALE: As of my watch, it is
- 19 11:26 a.m. June 3rd, we are going to conclude
- this sworn statement.
- 21 (The statement concluded at
- 11:26 a.m.)
- 23

```
1
                CERTIFICATE
2
        STATE OF ALABAMA
3
        COUNTY OF JEFFERSON
4
5
             I hereby certify that the above and
6
    foregoing deposition was taken down by me in
7
    stenotype and the questions and answers thereto
8
    were reduced to typewriting under my
9
    supervision; that the foregoing represents a
10
    true and correct transcript of the deposition
11
    given by said witness upon hearing.
12
             I further certify that I am neither of
13
    counsel nor of kin to the parties to the action,
14
    nor am I in anywise interested in the result of
15
    said cause.
16
17
                  /s/Caila M. Bonds
18
                  Caila M. Bonds, CCR
19
                  CCR # 250, Expires 09/30/2016
20
                  Commissioner for the State of
21
                  Alabama at Large
22
                  My Commission Expires: 3/29/2018
23
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TIMELINE



September 2013

- · Collier started her internship at the Alabama Governor's Mansion
- Met Governor Bentley in the Mansion Kitchen. "Dianne, baby, I'm home!"
- Ms. Bentley would complain about RCM texting on the weekends with "emergencies" or about the football games.
- RCM would stay at the guest house because she lived in Tuscaloosa.

October 2013

- Governor had hernia surgery October 15, 2013 http://yellowhammernews.com/statepolitics/gov-bentley-undergoes-outpatient-surgery/
 - o Rebekah was at the Mansion "helping him with a speech"
 - O Heather walked in on them upstairs, and they jumped. First time Heather thought something looked suspicious.
- Collier noticed red flags about Governor and Ms. Bentley's marriage. He would get jealous of Ms. Bentleys' success, but would make comments about how she needs to do more. Nothing was ever enough.
- Governor tells his cabinet that Dianne is not busy enough, and she needs projects. Looking back, this was his attempt to get her out of the house.
- Governor talks to Collier about joining staff at the cabinet/staff cookout at Winfield. At first was asking Collier to join the policy team, but Collier made it clear she only wanted to be with the First Lady.

November 2013

- Governor is insistent that the First Lady work with Gunter Guy promoting State Parks and John Cooper fixing state rest stops.
- Governor now says that Collier will be working out of the Tourism Department as the First Lady's liaison.
 I said no deal. Heather convinces David Perry (Governor's chief of staff at the time) that this will not work.
 I then interview to be the First Lady's Initiative Coordinator, working out of the Mansion and joining the Governor and First Lady's staff.
- Ms. Bentley is very irritated with Governor for making her do projects she is not interested in. Often makes comments about him telling her she's not "important enough" or "not doing enough."
- Ms. Bentley makes comments wondering why he has so much "speech prep time" with RCM.

January 2014

- Collier moves to Montgomery on January 13, 2014, to start her position as First Lady's Initiatives
 Coordinator.
- Governor's State of the State is January 14, 2014.
 - O Chris Hines (Ms. Bentley's state trooper), drives Ms. Bentley, Heather Hannah, and Collier to the Capitol for the State of the State address.
 - O About 15 minutes before the speech, Heather and Collier are outside the old house chamber in the Capitol. Ms. Bentley comes up to them, furning. Collier had never seen the First Lady so upset before.
 - o "Rebekah did not save a seat for John Mark (the Bentley's oldest son). Instead she is making me sit by that man I don't know that's part of his speech. She said she would take note for next year."
 - o Heather and Collier rushed to the seats to rearrange and go against Rebekah's orders.
 - o After the State of the State, Ms. Bentley told the Governor about what Rebekah said and did. He stuck up for Rebekah instead of his wife.
- This episode was the tipping point for Heather, and she confronted the First Lady about her suspicions after the State of the State in January of 2014.
 - O Since October, Heather had been documenting everything she saw that made her believe Governor was cheating on the First Lady.



- He was leaving the Mansion earlier and arriving home later.
- She noticed makeup on his shirt when he got home one day, and he went straight downstairs to the laundry room instead of his usual retreat upstairs.
- Rebekah all of the sudden became the most powerful and influential person on staff... especially after she was listed as Yellowhammer's top 50 people of power and influence in Alabama.
- Heather and Collier would hear used-to-be insider staff (Zach and Angi) complain that they were "on the outside" now.
- o Ms. Bentley admitted to Heather that she was noticing and journaling his unusual behavior. He had not told her "I love you" or been any way intimate with her.
- o Ms. Bentley and Heather kept their suspicions to themselves for the time being.

February 2014

- Heather and Collier design/send/post a Valentines card of Governor and Ms. Bentley with the 1
 Corinthians Bible verse on it as an effort to promote healthy relationships and Christian marriage.
 https://www.facebook.com/216813265006167/photos/pb.216813265006167.-
 2207520000.1462046818./703744749646347/?type=3&theater
 - O Collier designed, printed, posted and hand-addressed the envelopes. When she asked Heather if she should send one to Rebekah (now a campaign staffer), Heather's response was "Please address it to Mr. and Mrs. Jon Mason and Family." The rest of the addresses were not as formal (ex. Zach and Kelley + Home Address)
 - o Ms. Bentley would tell us that the campaign didn't like us posting images of the two of them, but she refused to stop us. She also told us that the Governor complained about us sending a Valentines card, asking "Who did this?!"
 - O Note, Collier is still oblivious at this point that there is an affair, but is noticing the red flags in their marriage.
- Ms. Bentley confronted the Governor in February, but he denied the affair.
- National Governor's Association Winter Meeting, Washington, D.C.
 - o Heather attended with the First Lady, which was highly unusual. Governor also trying to set up Heather and his aide de camp, Wesley Helton.
 - o Rebekah was on the campaign staff, but attended NGA and traveled in state trooper vehicles. She flew up with Jennifer Ardis on a commercial flight.
 - o The first night the Governor, First Lady, Jim Byard, and staff went to dinner at the Old Ebbit.
 - Rebekah wore pleather leggings, stiletto shoes, and a top that would not be appropriate to dine with the Governor and First Lady much less represent the state as a staffer.
 - The group sat at a big table, however Governor and Rebekah sat across from each other.
 - Ms. Bentley saw them texting under the table and red a few of the texts. Things like "I can't take my eyes off of you," and how Rebekah looked that night were what they were talking about.
 - o After dinner, Governor suggested Heather and Wesley go stroll around the White House. In my opinion, it was in the Governor's interest for Wesley to become as close to Heather as possible. The rest of the group went with them (Jennifer Ardis, Rebekah, Jim Byard).
 - Rebekah continued to talk about how she was trying to convince Governor to run for president. All talked about how he would be perfect for the job and discussed their White House aspirations. Rebekah stated "the only thing stopping us is that stingy/annoying Dianne Bentley." Made comments about how Ms. Bentley brings Governor down. The rest of the group joined into the conversation, because Rebekah was who they needed to be "in with" to be successful in the administration. Heather defended the First Lady.
 - The group ends up at a bar in DC. Rebekah becomes intoxicated. Governor calls Rebekah during this time, and she squeals about how "Guvner is calling me!!" and walks out. She comes back and announces that Governor told her "I heard a knock on the door, and I thought it was you. I opened it in my boxers so you could be surprised and it was hotel

staff!"

- Heather reports all of this to Ms. Bentley, and Ms. Bentley realizes he lied to her about who he was talking to on the phone while she was in the shower.
- O Heather confronts Wesley about it, and he instructs her to stay out of it/keep doing her job.
- o Governor and Rebekah send each other selfies before the State Dinner at the White House.
- o First Lady and Heather return, and Collier asks about the trip. Needless to say it was not a positive response. Ms. Bentley looks especially depressed.
- o Collier believes that NGA was what motivated Ms. Bentley to make the recording at the beach.

March 2014

- Collier creates and introduces "Mrs. Bentley's Bucket List" to the First Lady as her state park campaign.

 Ms. Bentley never looks thrilled about it, but knows she "has to do it" because her husband told her to.
- March 29, 2014, Mrs. Bentley kicks off the bucket list at the Bob Baumhower Shrimpfest event at Gulf State Park.
 - Heather and Collier stayed in a nice cabin at Gulf State Park. The Governor and First Lady came by to see it.
 - Governor was in a foul mood when they came by. Ms. Bentley was showing us photos of their newborn granddaughter, Molly. Whenever she talked about her grandchildren, she was always happiest. Governor told her, "Molly doesn't know who you are. She won't remember you next time you see her. You have only seen her once or twice." Mrs. Bentley was deeply hurt by the comment.
 - Collier, Heather and security were very uncomfortable as they watched Governor say such horrible things to a happy grandmother. Governor and Ms. Bentley left with security shortly.
 - Heather told Collier for the first time what was going on between Governor and Rebekah. Collier was in complete shock.
 - O Later that night Collier and Heather went to see the Bentley's second beach house, across the street from their original beach-side house.
 - Governor knew he needed to make up from earlier that afternoon, and he talked politics with Collier and toured both Heather/Collier around the new house that Ms. Bentley worked so hard on.
 - Side Note: Ms. Bentley suspected Rebekah of using the second beach house after keys went missing and she found towels still the drier.
 - o Ms. Bentley was in a horrible mood before the Bob Baumhower event and for some reason needed encouragement from Heather getting out of the car. It made more sense to Collier why she was not cooperating with the state parks initiative, because she knew it was en effort to get Ms. Bentley out of Governor's business at this point.
- Melissa and Paul Bentley learned of the affair in March after Ms. Bentley received a text message from Governor saying "I love you Rebekah" with a red rose emoji. Throughout the rest of this story, Ms. Bentley would receive accidental texts from Governor often.
 - O Side Note: the next year Collier saw a text pop up on Ms. Bentley's phone that said "I love you, baby" with the red rose emoji. Because of the red rose and unusual sign of affection, Collier knew the text was not meant for her.

April 2014

- Mrs. Bentley continued her tour of the state parks, and it was "surprisingly successful." The state was able to see her fun side, and people were constantly talking about how much better her social media/press was than the Governor's. This drove Governor crazy.
- Mrs. Bentley got Governor to take a photo of them on the swing of their beach house. She got
 Collier/Heather to post it. It received so many likes/shares, and it made Rebekah very upset (hence, second
 recording). This was when Mrs. Bentley learned the more she got out, the more upset she would make
 Rebekah.

• Collier posts a cover photo of Governor and Mrs. Bentley hugging from their first primary election night. Governor gets very upset over it and asks who posts it.

May 2014

- Collier is pretty sure the campaign website is launched at this point. The only photo featured of Mrs. Bentley is very unflattering/unedited. Ms. Bentley complained to the campaign, but no one seemed to care.
- Ms. Bentley often complained that the campaign/Governors staff would never invite her to events, even obvious "First Lady" type events. Collier encouraged her that "She is the First Lady and if she wants to show up at an event, she shows up!" Thus Mrs. Bentley takes it upon herself to go to the National Day of Prayer event without being formally asked by Governor.
- National Day of Prayer
 - o Chris Hines takes Ms. Bentley, Heather and Collier to the Governor's office before the event.
 - They all notice the door now has a lock, Wanda's desk has been moved, and Ms. Bentley's photo has been moved from his desk to the outside office.
 - Ms. Bentley looks heartbroken.
 - O Heather stays in his office and Collier follows the Governor and First Lady to the Capitol steps where the event is taking place. Before they opened the door to walk down the steps, Mrs. Bentley grabs his hand. Governor shakes Ms. Bentley's hand off and says, "Don't hold my hand/we don't hold hands!"
 - O Collier notices that the Governor reads his script word for word, never going off the cuff. He used to be extremely difficult for his communications staff to control/stick to script. He read his entire speech word for word, and there was an obvious disconnect between what he was saying about the importance of prayer life and what he actually practiced.
- Zach Lee comes over from the campaign to meet with the First Lady.
 - o Ms. Bentley expresses to him how saddened she is that she's not being used. He says things like "you can come to whatever you want!"
 - O Collier asked Zach if there was a campaign calendar she could keep on her personal phone in order to know what events Ms. Bentley needed to keep on her schedule. Zach lied and said there was not a campaign calendar.
- The Governors Staff goes to the Montgomery Biscuits game on May 22, 2014. The Governor would not sit with Mrs. Bentley and would go talk to Rebekah/stand near her the entire time.
 - o Heather confronts Zach about the situation for the first time. Collier overhears Zach talk about how upsetting it is for him.
 - O Heather drives Collier home afterwards and tells what Zach disclosed. Governor had been calling Rebekah "baby" in meetings and going to lunch with her. Rebekah's intern, Meredith, told Zach's wife that she thought she'd seen something that she didn't want to see (Governor and Rebekah touching each other inappropriately under the table).
- Heather informs Collier that she is resigning (her last day would be the primary election) and Collier will be taking over.
- May 29, Ms. Bentley, Heather and Collier spend the night in a cabin at Joe Wheeler State Park to complete one of the items on "Mrs. Bentley's Bucket List."
 - o Ms. Bentley was anxious the entire trip, while the Governor was spending the night at another event in Huntsville.
 - o Heather was talking to Zach Lee to see if he could make sure Rebekah wouldn't spend the night with Governor.

June 2014

- Primary Election Celebration, June 3, 2014, The Zone, Tuscaloosa, AL
 - o Heather Hannah's last day working for the Bentley Administration.
 - O Collier and Heather planned and set up the event on their personal time due to the campaign's disorganized state. During setup, Ray Lewis confronted Heather about it for the first time in the loading zone of the stadium.

- o Room for family only, and Governor would not spend much time with them.
- o Rebekah would avoid speaking to Collier and Heather, vise versa. The rest of the staff/campaign staff would try to strattle both sides of the fence.
- Mrs. Bentley ends bucket list campaign zip lining at Gulf State Park, June 24, 2014
 - o Front page of AL.com, USA Today. Governor had not made national news since the tornadoes.
 - o The campaign shared the footage of Ms. Bentley zip lining, and it received more likes and shares than any other photo they had posted thus far. This drove Governor and Rebekah crazy.
 - O Collier goes to lunch with Governor and Mrs. Bentley afterwards. He was disengaged in the conversation and unenthused with her news coverage.

July 2014

- Collier finds out about a photo session for the campaign through Rebekah's intern, Meredith Jones. Inquires whether Mrs. Bentley is needed.
 - o Rebekah lies and says "Oh I thought I called Collier about it. I am so sorry!"
 - O Rebekah keeps changing the time when Ms. Bentley should arrive to the photo shoot.
 - O Chris Hines, Ms. Bentley and Collier arrive to the photo shoot, and it is extremely awkward. Governor's new aid de camp, Jake Jacobs, is there and takes a horrible photo of the Bentleys, then posts it on twitter with Rebekah's permission.
 - o Finally it's time for the Governor and Ms. Bentley to take photos together, where the photographer asks them to walk along the sidewalk. Ms. Bentley asks him if it's ok for her to hold his hand, and he replies that "we never hold hands." Ms. Bentley says, "Oh, I didn't know that after being married to you for 49 years." Rebekah is watching the entire time.
 - o Rebekah, other staff and the Governor go to Dream Land to "take more photos" and have lunch. It's clear that Ms. Bentley is not invited. Collier, Chris and Ms. Bentley drive back in silence.
- Collier believes this was July 2014 when Matthew Bentley (youngest Bentley son) found out.
 - O At first Matthew thought it was delusion and tried to set up a physical/mental exam for him at a hospital out of state.
 - o Matthew came to the Mansion to do an intervention with the Governor. He told the guards to not announce his arrival, because he was there to surprise his dad. Collier was warned by Chris beforehand that Matthew was arriving to do this.
- The Governor and Rebekah go to lunch often (Acapulcos was their usual spot).
- The Governor continues to be weird about his calendar and who has access to it.
 - O He keeps asking Ms. Bentley "why do you have my calendar?" and telling her that his day was none of her business.
 - O The administration kept arranging changes to the calendar password, but they didn't know to hide it from his own wife/wife's staff.
 - o Ms. Bentley would ask Collier "what are all these 'holds' on his calendar."

August 2014

- Melissa Bentley convinces Ms. Bentley that she needs to have a getaway to the beach with her best friend
 Jeannine the last week of August.
 - On the evening of August 25, Collier was off the grounds and Rebekah came to the Mansion. The guards notified Ms. Bentley of her arrival. Devastated, Ms. Bentley came straight back to Montgomery the next day.
- Spencer and Stan allegedly find out at the Greenville campaign event.
- Collier believes Blake Hardwich signed on to the Governors staff at this point. Shortly after she initiated non-disclosure agreements for the staff. Collier signed one thinking it was required.

October 2014

- Ms. Bentley kicked off her domestic violence awareness month campaign and Governor would make fun of her work. "Purple's the color of bruises, that's why everything's purple this month."
- October 1, 2014, DV candlelight vigil in front of the Capitol.

- October 9, 2014, DV luncheon.
- Though everyone else told Ms. Bentley how good of a job she was doing, the only person she cared about did not. It was like pulling teeth to get Governor to cooperate and attend events.

November 2014

- The day before election day, Rebekah coordinated a statewide tour. Collier did not attend the tour, but she heard from Chris Hines, Zach Lee, Angi Stalnaker and Ms. Bentley how horrible it was.
 - o Rebekah and Governor flirting on the plane in front of Ms. Bentley.
 - o Rebekah whipping off mustard from the Governor's face at lunch.
- Election Night
 - O Because the day before was such a bad experience, Collier got the ladies on the Governor's staff (not the campaign) to sign a card for Ms. Bentley.
 - O Rumor that "the tapes" had been released to a reporter. Spencer Collier ran around the majority of the night talking to the Governor, troopers, and confronting Linda Adams/Heather Hannah about releasing the tape.
 - O The Governor, First Lady and family were in the president's suite. Collier visited to check on the family, very tense and upset. Rebekah had been walking in and out of the suite.
 - O Rebekah wore a scantily clad suit with stiletto heals.
 - o The Governor and First Family finally came out for his victory speech. Ms. Bentley looked horrible.
- November 10, Shatter the Silence event
 - o Ms. Bentley spoke to college students about dating violence. At first Governor refused to go to the event, and then "he decided" that it would be good press for him to go.
 - o Collier, Chris Hines, Mike Jemison and Daron Blake were the staff/security that attended the event.
 - O Because it was shortly after the election, Governor decided to land the ALEA helicopter in his backyard, "because he could." The troopers and Collier were hesitant to go inside the house with the two of them alone.
 - O At the event Governor would not stand with Mrs. Bentley and made light of domestic violence as an issue.
 - o After the event, Governor, First Lady and Collier rode back to their home (11 Ridgeland) in silence.
 - o The next day Ms. Bentley called and informed Collier she would be moving out of the Mansion and not returning the Turkey Pardoning, any of the Christmas parties, and possibly inauguration.
 - The ground rules were as long as Rebekah stays, Ms. Bentley goes, and vise versa.
 - This was the first time Mrs. Bentley actually talked to Collier directly about the affair.
 - Ms. Bentley instructed Collier to make sure Governor did not make the excuse that she was sick, but to instead simply say, "The First Lady is in Tuscaloosa."
- Turkey Pardon without the First Lady, guests still brought blankets for her initiative, "Blankets for a Blessing."
- Stan Stabler would have to coordinate the First Lady's security with Chris Hines and Collier Tynes now that she was staying in Tuscaloosa.
 - O At first Mansion security was used to guard her 24 hours a day, but it was too many people with too much comp time.
 - o Then they started primarily using Chris Hines and Mike Jemison. Both troopers comp time was through the roof.

December 2014

- Collier hosted or co-hosted the Christmas parties with the Governor.
 - O Guests still brought toys for domestic violence victims' children. Everyone asked about the First Lady and thought it was strange she did not attend.
 - O Governor would see me in the kitchen and look over the Christmas party schedule on the refrigerator. "Is Dianne coming back tomorrow?" I would have to say, "no sir, she's not." "Do you know when she's coming back?" "I don't know when she's coming back." He knew the ground rules, but he thought Collier didn't know anything.

- Stan Stabler began talking to Collier more about the situation.
 - o The first time was outside the Mansion during one of the Christmas Open House tours. Stan complained to Collier that Governor had the audacity to blame security on spreading the affair rumors. Stan was worried for his job, but also flirting with the idea or retirement.
- SEC Championship, December 6, 2014
 - o The Governor and Ms. Bentley were watching the game at their house in Tuscaloosa. Ms. Bentley convinces him to take a selfie with her and sends it to Collier to post on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
 - O Less than one hour later, Rebekah calls him in complete tears. Ms. Bentley described it as "going absolutely crazy," and Governor was trying to calm Rebekah down in front of Ms. Bentley.
 - o After Governor got off the phone, he said, "You did that on purpose didn't you Dianne?" Ms. Bentley nodded and laughed. Governor laughed with her.
 - O Ms. Bentley instructed Collier to post as many photos of them as possible on social media in order to drive Rebekah crazy. She was convinced this would continue making Governor see just how crazy Rebekah was.

Inauguration Planning

- O Rebekah at first claimed she was in charge of inauguration planning, but Governor would tell Ms. Bentley that she had nothing to do with it.
 - Rebekah called Collier one day, but Collier did not answer. Rebekah left a voicemail instructing the First Lady what she should wear to Inauguration. Collier never returned phone calls or texts from Rebekah that point forward.
 - Collier reported this to the First Lady, and Governor was busted. Governor had to tell Rebekah she could not be a part of the planning process so his wife would go to Inauguration.
- o Word got out that the First Lady would possibly be a no show to Inauguration.
 - Clay Ryan called Collier claiming he was "handling the family side of things" and to "keep him in the loop." He made the statement that "we're going to be really good friends by the end of this." Collier reported this to Ms. Bentley, and she instructed me that I was to handle communication with the family.
 - R.B. Walker called Collier to check and see if there was anything the Inauguration Team could do to make the experience good for the First Lady.
 - Julie Lindsey, Governor's confidential assistant paid by PowerSouth, having to go through Collier regarding the family's private lunch after the ceremony. Ms. Bentley instructed Collier to tell her they wanted Chappy's cold sandwiches, because she didn't know if the family would be there. Collier was not to tell Julie that was why she wanted cold sandwiches.
 - Angi Stalnaker was told by Alabama Power that she would be handling relations with the First Lady and her staff. Angi met with Collier to discuss all inauguration details.
 - During Collier's meetings with Angi, they referred to two Inauguration Plans.
 - Plan A: The First Lady and family were attending.
 - o Plan B: The First Lady and family were not attending.
 - Collier instructed Angi and the rest of the Inauguration planning team that the safest plan would be to plan without the First Family attending.
 - Collier instructed the Inauguration Planning staff that the First Lady did not want a single event in her honor.

January 2015

- Seth Hammit and Blake Hardwich continued to tell Collier that there were no plans for Rebekah to be on staff following inauguration. Seth told Ms. Bentley it was in her interest to not say anything to Robert about Rebekah, because he needed to keep his job.
- In one of Stan and Collier's office chats, Stan informed Collier that "Governor is getting himself in serious trouble over Rebekah. He is creating a 501(c)4..." Collier can't remember if this was the same time Stan and Collier discussed the reason why he created it was to pay her.

Ray found out primary night Stan would call fl any time r and g met Attempt to mayo clinic summer 2014 Pastor in Georgia therapy for FLDB August 25 FLDB at the beach August spencer finds out October domestic violence month Horrible election night November 10 shatter the silence Christmas parties SEC championship

Inauguration planning

Inauguration

Senior advisor announcement

First baptist Tuscaloosa confrontation with Bentley and Mason. Pastor got deep in gay marriage issue with him afterwards, pastor confronted Jon mason

NGA and name plates

I was used as the babysitter

Power south paid for our dinner

Rcm riding around in trooper cars then

Meredith jones showing me pics

National Day of Prayer round two, HORRIBLE, disconnect

NGA 50 year anniversary, finding photos of their wedding, setting up dinner, changing his mind on posting Resigning, answering the phone in his office in front of Collier and Christian

"No one cares about First Lady"

"You're not important"

"Purple is the color of bruises therefore domestic violence"

"Everyone wants a piece of my throne"

"Molly doesn't know who you are"

"Being governor is most important thing that has ever happened to me"

"I loved you since the moment I saw you"

"You don't need to see my calendar"

Rcm Would park in First Lady's slot and go up George Wallace electable to Governor's office

Clay Ryan's position because he knew it

Clung to the role of First Lady. Only thing she had.

Personal office to be away from Mrs Bentley downstairs

Redid Winfield, Governor's beach house and second beach house

Zach would ride in other trooper cars and leaven them alone "on the phone"



- The Friday before Inauguration, Ms. Bentley told Collier she and the family would attend.
 - O Collier went to the Capitol for an Inauguration staff meeting, where she informed Jennifer Ardis and Seth Hammit.
 - Jennifer asked what she could do to make it best for the First Lady. Collier said, "Keep her away from her." Jennifer replied, "I don't think I can do that." Collier said, "Trust me, Plan C where the family shows up and leaves in the middle of it is much worse."
 - O Collier informs security and Angi of the First Lady's decision. They coordinate for each family to have their own assigned trooper and vehicle, and the family could attend/leave any event they wanted.
 - O Collier coordinates the family's inauguration passes, schedule, announcement, seating, housing arrangements, etc.

• Inauguration, January 19, 2015

- O Difficulty getting family to cooperate/get out of the car initially. Matthew refused to attend. It was extremely difficult on Collier's conscious to be with the granddaughters, who were clueless about the situation.
- O Ms. Bentley went everywhere that day with a "stand by your man" mentality. She wanted to put the best First Lady face possible, so that Rebekah would know "who is the real First Lady." However, Ms. Bentley still looked empty and exhausted.
- O It was Angi's job to keep Rebekah away from Governor at all times, because Angi was leaving the Governor's office. Everyone else was too fearful to cross Rebekah, because it would mean losing their job. No one was to give Rebekah an all access pass.
- o Rebekah sat front row center with her husband and children during the inauguration ceremony. She wore a white skirt suit.
- O At the ball, Rebekah wore a velvet, fitted dress with a plunge neckline that had bedazzles around her cleavage. The dress was "backless" with the mesh/nude ice skater material so that there could be bedazzles all over her back. It was the talk of the party.
- O Later that night when the Bentleys returned to the Mansion, Governor told Ms. Bentley how thankful he was that she attended Inauguration. He showed remorse for the affair and confirmed to her that Rebekah would not be very involved from this point forward.

Senior Staff Meeting, January 20, 2015

- o The morning after Governor "made up" with Ms. Bentley, he announced Rebekah as senior political advisor.
- O Collier found out about this while eating lunch with Zach Lee and Clay Scofield. Zach informed Collier that Governor said "Rebekah would have her hand in everything and give her advice from a PR/political perspective. We are to listen to everything she says."
- O Collier called Ms. Bentley immediately after the conversation with Zach to inform her of what she heard. Ms. Bentley was devastated and had to make a decision about returning.

Matthew that summer
Wesley taking food to lunch
Flight logs and attendees changing
Second beach house
Sweeping the Mansion with Nance
iPad cloud with Cleve
Calendar password kept changing
Phone password kept changing
Calendar "holds"
iPad he was using was a gift from China, copper dragon
Primary night only talking to Rebekah



2

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

1. Confidential Information

- (a) Exclusive Property of Office of the Governor. You are appointed and serve in your position at the pleasure of the Governor. At all times during and after the date hereof, Appointee shall keep in confidence and trust all non-public information which may have been communicated to, acquired, or learned by Appointee in the course of or as a result of his/her employment with the Office of the Governor. Appointee hereby acknowledges that the Office of the Governor may possess certain Confidential Information. Appointee affirms that any such Confidential Information is the exclusive property of the Office of the Governor.
- (b) Confidential Information. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Confidential Information" shall mean any and all information of any nature and in any form, including but not limited to, the Office of the Governor's existing, future and contemplated: (i) meetings and appointments; (ii) materials submitted to Appointee by the Office of the Governor and/or Governor's staff or persons who conduct business with the Office of the Governor; and (iii) any and all directly and indirectly related records, documents, specifications, data, and/or other information with respect thereto. Appointee acknowledges that such Confidential Information is confidential and proprietary. Appointee further acknowledges by signing this Agreement that the Office of the Governor has expended much time, cost, and difficulty in developing and maintaining the Confidential Information. The Office of the Governor acknowledges that Confidential Information may be a public record(s) subject to the Alabama Open Records Act. Appointee agrees not to disclose Confidential Information, falling under the Open Records Act, except as authorized below.
- (c) Unauthorized Use or Disclosure Prohibited. Appointee agrees: (i) to use the Confidential Information solely for the purpose of performing his/her duties on behalf of the Office of the Governor and for no other purpose whatsoever; (ii) not to, directly or indirectly, at any time during or after his/her employment by the Office of the Governor, disclose Confidential Information to any other Person (except to the Governor's staff in connection with his/her duties on behalf of the Office of the Governor) or use or otherwise exploit the Confidential Information to the benefit of the Appointee or any other Person or to the detriment of the Office of the Governor. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Person" means any individual, corporation, limited or general partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, association, trust or other entity or organization.
- (d) Office of the Governor's Retention of Records. Upon the termination of Appointee's employment relationship with the Office of the Governor, Appointee hereby agrees that the Office of the Governor shall retain possession of all records, documents, computer data, electronically stored information and any other Confidential Information, including but not limited to, the names, addresses and telephone

numbers of staff members and constituents of the Office of the Governor and all copies thereof (collectively, the "Records") relating to the Confidential Information; and if such Records are not on the Office of the Governor's premises, Appointee hereby unconditionally agrees to return such Records, and all copies thereof, including those maintained on Appointee's personal phone, laptop, tablet, computer, and/or any other personal electronic device, to the Office of the Governor as soon as practical, but in any event no later than the date of termination. Additionally, Appointee agrees to return all originals and copies of Records upon demand by the Office of the Governor during the employment relationship.

2. Conflicts of Interest

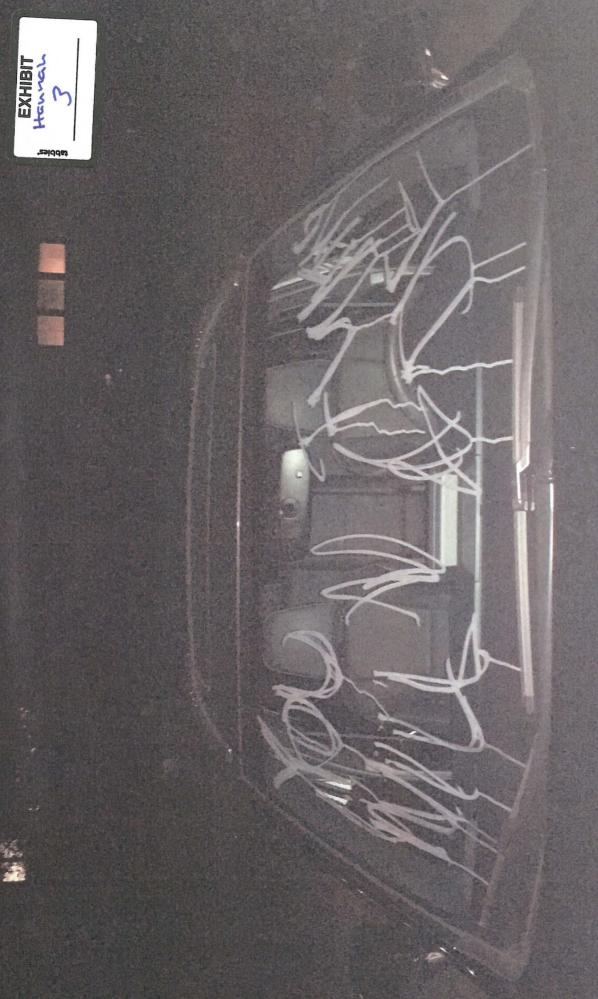
Appointee acknowledges and agrees that he/she shall not use, copy, distribute, install or download any of the Office of the Governor's software or computer files or use any of the Office of the Governor's equipment for personal use, gain or profit or for use, gain or profit by any other Person, without the express written consent of the Office of the Governor (which may be withheld in the Office of the Governor's sole discretion).

Signed:

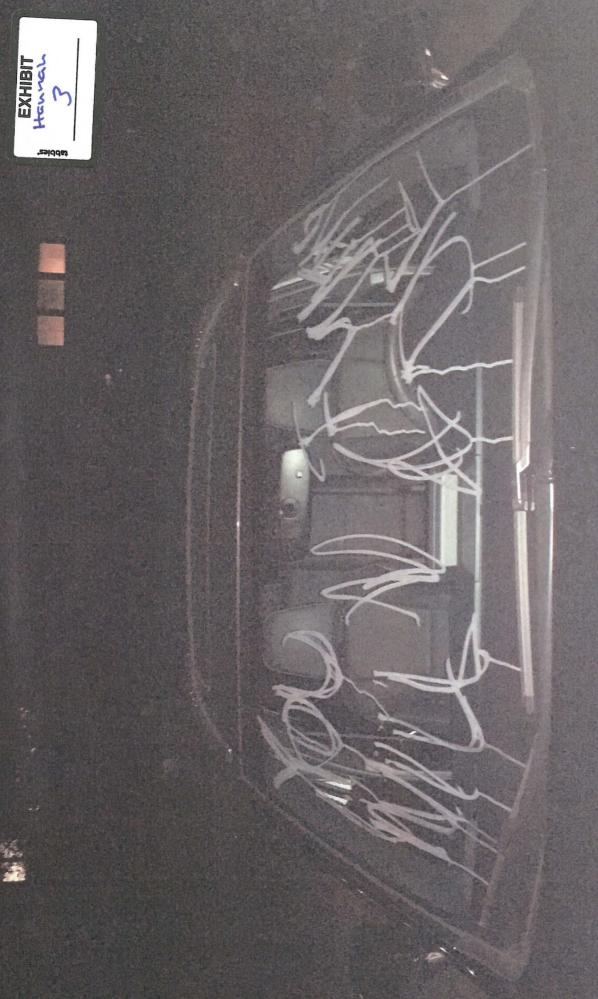
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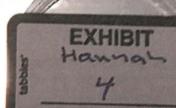






men

Diane Bentle Recordings & RJE/RM



SAT IJENTIAL

	Page 1		Page 3
		Well, I was so afraid I wasn't this	
		just worked out perfect because I was so	
		afraid I wasn't going to have a chance to	
		talk to you before you well, I'm sorry,	
		baby	
		You know, you know, it's	
AUDIO RECORDING		just you know how it is I know We do, we do I do and you do and it's just	
HANNAH 1		we do It is a we really work hard,	
		baby We really do	
		Hey, I love you I know you	
		do Hey, I hey, listen, sweetheart, I	
		want you to have a good time, okay? Okay	
		Well, hey, look, baby, you've been getting	
		up early for me for a long time Bless	
		your heart	
		I I love I'd love for	
		you to come see me You know, I've been	
		thinking about I've been thinking about, you know, I think I'm going to	
TRANSCRIBED BY: Nancy Pannell, CCR		rearrange the office when if Wanda	
	Page 2		Page 4
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	Page 5		Page
do And I you know, I just I worry		right now so I better quit	
about it sometimes, I love you so much, I		Yeah You were thinking	
worry about - I worry about loving you so		about it yeah, I could tell you were	
much I do I do		thinking about I could tell you were	
You know, I feel like all the		thinking about it last night I changed	
time, all the time I'm thinking how can,		I changed the subject, didn't I?	
how can, how can I come back How, how		I know I know,	
can I, how can I call her How can I text		baby It's okay Everything's going to	
her How can I get in contact with her		be fine We're going to be all right I	
How can we, how can we do this		know, I know I know it is, I know I	
And, you know, and knowing		know Hey, I love you I love touching	
that (inaudible) constantly I know		you I do hey, I do, I do love putting	
that I know Well, we do, and, you		my hands (inaudible) I do I do I do	
know, it's just while ago, while ago I		love it	
text you and I said, I'm sorry I have not		But but baby, let me tell	
been able to call		you what we're going to have to do, we're	
I said something along the lines		going to have to start locking the door	
of how much time or something like that		We're going to do if we're going to do	
I'm sorry, that I've had it went to Zach, so well, no, he said he text		if we're going to do what we did the	
me back		other day, we're going to have to start locking the door	
He said did you get the		I you know, it is You	
videos And he said he said you sent		know what, it is kind of scary, if	
	Page 6		Page
	Page 6		Page
	Page 6		Page
it to the wrong person Did you get the	Page 6	somebody opened that door	Page
it to the wrong person Did you get the videos	Page 6	somebody opened that door It is a beautiful day I mean, it	Page
	Page 6		Page
videos	Page 6	It is a beautiful day I mean, it	Page
videos And I text him back and I said, I	Page 6	It is a beautiful day I mean, it is it is It's a, it's a little cool	Page
videos And I text him back and I said, I said, yeah, I did, Zach I said thanks I said I didn't mean to send this to you I had some people I needed to call So,	Page 6	It is a beautiful day I mean, it is it is It's a, it's a little cool down here because the wind's blowing, but it is a beautiful day Hey, hey, listen, let me	Page
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let me kiss that left ear, okay?		not be able to talk tomorrow, but who		
Can I whisper can I		knows, you know Uh, I probably will,		
whisper something in that ear? Hey, I		but, but I'll be thinking about you		
love, I love you Hey, you look great		You could feel my hand It		
Do you want to hey, it is Do you want		what's that song? The magic moment		
to see something that's pretty? It is;		(Inaudible) I know, sweetheart, I know		
isn't it? But you going huh? I know		I know Well, is it is it is it		
I wish I could hold you real		bothering you? Okay Okay Hey,		
tight right now I think you look		sweetheart, (inaudible) I do I do I		
beautiful right now Our phone is breaking up; isn't it? I yeah, I lost		know We have a, we have a good time together, we do		
you Now, I got you back I got you		Well, baby, our conversation		
back I got you back I did, I did, and		is coming to an end Well, I'm talking		
it's good And they came this morning, in		about in the next three or four minutes,		
fact		but before but before it does please		
See, I thought I was going		have a good time and, listen, don't worry		
to stay here this afternoon to wait on		We will be in contact, okay?		
them, but they came this morning Bless		It is And it really is		
his heart, this, this little boy from		right now Listen, this is going		
		Matthew and Katie are going to be here		
Elrod Yeah I know				
He came this morning before		This is going to be a good weekend I		
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He came this morning before I had my clothes on He just got to see	Page 10	This is going to be a good weekend I mean, it's really been good It's been	Page	12
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	recording and transcribed true and correct	
	to the best of my ability	
	I further certify that I am	
	neither of counsel nor of kin to the	
	parties to the action, nor am I in anywise	
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	/s/ Nancy W Pannell	
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		to call you (inaudible) That's what I	
		was fussing about because everybody's	
		around and I have security guards	
		everywhere I go, and, oh, Lord, you just	
		don't know, it will drive you crazy	
		You got folks in there with	
AUDIO FILE RECORDING		you? I'm sorry, baby I'm just telling	
HANNAH 2		you the frustration I've had all day long	
		What's wrong, sugar?	
		No, I'm not mad at you I'm	
		just telling you well, sweetheart, it's	
		not your fault It would be this way It	
		doesn't have anything to do with you and I	
		texting This is just life This is you know, and	
		everybody says I told you about it	
		Wanda text me and says I hope, I hope	
		you're enjoying your time out of the	
		office (Inaudible) Anyway, y'all had a	
		good day? Have you had a good day?	
		Sweetheart, you, you seem	
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TRANSCRIBED BY: Nancy Pannell, CCR TRANSCRIBED DATE: 3/24/17	Page 2	mad Do you miss me? I told you it was not you, okay? Well, I have had a million	Page 4
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Page 7 Page 5 know -- I know I thought we had a lot of with life If we don't, then things are good times after that Look, sweetheart, going to fall apart, okay? No, you can I -- you -- you do the best you can and feel -- you can feel any way you want to, I'm doing the best I can, okay? Okay I baby I understand that Baby, I love really am I really am Look, I have to fight for I love you, and I know -everything we do, okay? I mean, I -baby, we're in a difficult situation, baby, let me tell you, I'm looking right okay? And unless I make things as normal now at a text from Wanda that says -- from as possible here, it's going to be -- it's Pam Chestnutt that Carrie and Franklin going to be hell, okay? will have at least an hour following staff Please don't be mad -- baby, meeting on Monday morning and that would just don't be -- it hurts What can I do be a great time to get bills signed and -- you get through at what time tonight? returned We also need to schedule some Nine? Our time? Okay Can I just text you (inaudible)? Okay, I will time on Tuesday as well just in case thinking, I'm thinking that time isn't tonight, okay? I'm sorry Can I tell you your time, and that's -- that's the time -- can I tell you that I love you and you that I want to spend with Rebekah Okay? believe it? I do I'm telling you I do, You know, baby, so -- I'm sorry But you need to tell me -- you I am -- sweetheart, please need to tell me when you're going and don't -- I'm just doing the best I can, coming back I know what you're saying okay? Okay Okay, sweetheart, all right, Page 6 Page 8 I do -- I do -- baby, I do care I wanted you've got to go, okay? Have a -- all right I'll text you tonight, okay? I promise Baby, I want to Baby, I --See, that's why I didn't text you last night I honestly thought Rebekah, have I ever said I loved you when that you were at the play last night Lhad to? I told you I loved you because That's why I didn't text you, okay? Well, I've loved you forever It's not -- this I appreciate you telling me that now is not something new I've loved you What time are y'all leaving? forever Are you leaving at six o'clock? You got I've loved you for many, to leave - okay, baby, I know you got to many years I've loved you for I know go All right four And I love you more today than I Please -- listen, Rebekah, ever have And I miss you -- and I miss listen to me, okay? I love you I go you, and I wish you were here with me through a lot -- you go through a lot of right now, okay? And I wish I could hold -- we both go through a lot of juggling you, and I wish I could kiss you, and I wish I could -- you know, I wish that I and trying to be together, and sweetheart Listen to me, I know, okay? All right, sweetheart, I'm telling you I do All right? And I you've got to go They're going to wonder love you Do you want me to tell -- you where you are All right You have a can tell Dianne that? Is that picture good time now, all right? Okay, and I'll bothering you? I'm sorry text you after while Nine o'clock our time? But, baby, we have to go on

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Okay. You'll get it when you get	
you'll get it when you get back. Okay. I	
love you. All right, sweetheart, all	
right, you have have a good time tonight.	
Okay. All right, baby, have	
a good time. I'll talk to you later,	
okay? Maybe tomorrow I can talk to you.	
Okay. All right. Bye-bye. (Conversation	
ends.)	
,	
(End of recording.)	
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Page 10	
CERTIFICATE	
STATE OF ALABAMA) TUSCALOOSA COUNTY)	
I hereby certify that the above transcript	
was typed by me from a flash drive	
recording and transcribed true and correct	
to the best of my ability	
I further certify that I am	
neither of counsel nor of kin to the	
parties to the action, nor am I in anywise interested in the results of said cause	
and the control of said cause.	
/s/ Nancy W Pannell	
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COURT REPORTER AND COMMISSIONER	

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City of Vestavia Hills

513 Montgomery Hwy Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35216 (205) 978-0100

RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS AS YOUR RECEIPT

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Customer Name:		Heather r Hannah
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Authorization Code:		115074
	TRANSACTION DETAILS	
registration_type:	Incident_Report	
amount:	5.00	

Heather r Hannah

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ALABAMA UNIFORM INCIDENT/OFFENSE REPORT

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ES	53 Vehic	le Year	54 Veh	icie Make	9	55 V	ehicle Mod	del		56 Number Ve	h Stolen	57 Vehic	e Descripti	ion							
드	58 Vehic	le Style		59 Veh Top	icle Color			Bot	ttom					60 Li	cense		61	LST	62 LIY	63 Tag (Calor
VEHIC	64 Vehic	le VIN N	lumber			1 1	1 1	II		1 1					arrant Si Yes	gned No	Warrant N	umber			
	Motor Ve Required					en in your ju							67 Recov	ered in	V Comment	diction?					
	68 Case	#	1 1	1 1	1 1	6	9 SFX 70	Case#		1 1 1	1 1	p I	71 SFX			1 1			1 1	73 SFX	
O	74 Case					es Closed Li		e			McG	uire, l	_ee								
AT	_	Pending nactive		-	Case Dispos					(Circle One)		orting Office			1			(Officer ID	Number	
ADMINISTRATION		Closed red NCIC	Z/ACJIC	2 0	leared by A	rrest (Juveni rrest (Adult)	BP	Suspect/Offen Prosecution De	eclined/	d	RO Assis	sting Office							Officer In	Number	
N	□ Y	100] No	4 E	Infounded exceptional (edministrativ	Clearance rely Cleared	CE	ther Prosecu Extradition De lictim Refuse	nied	nerate		dwin,							AMOG! ID	Turinger	
M	Date	(MM/DI	D/YY)] 3 %	Minioually	ory Created	E J	uvenile (No C eath of Victin	Custody)		and the second	ervisor App						(Officer ID	Number	
A	NIC/AIN	#: .									82 Wate	h Commar	oder						Officer ID	Number	

Vestavia Hills Police Department Incident/Offense 83 Date of Re	port (MM/DD/YY)	84 Time of Rep	oort AM	85 Agency Case Nun		?	87		Check if	
	16 16	00:2	0 PM	2 0 1 6 -	0 0 0	1 7 4	3 4	Suspect Missing Person	J Multiple	
88 Reported By (Last, First, Middle Name)	Victim Or				_ resident	91 Home Phon	e	92 Work Phone		
OS Noview (Least First Middle Nove	T	□ Non-Resident				93 Other Phone				
94 95 Victim (Last, First, Middle Name) 96 Suffix 97 Address (Street, City, State, Zip) 98 H					98 Home Phor	ie	99 Work Phone			
Hannah, Heather, Rebekah			Vestavia Hills, AL 35216					100 Other Phone Cell		
Z 101 Employer/School 102 Occupation			103 Address (Street, City, State, Zip)				104 Work Phone			
Cooper Vision Laborer								105 Other Phone		
Cooper Vision 108 Sex 107 Race	108 109 HGT 5'06	110 WGT 111	Date of Birth	112 Age 113 Victim	SSN		114 Comp	Lainant SSN		
Multiple 115	117 Injury 11 Yes No	8 Offender known		9 Victim was? (Explair 016-17434, Unkr		Unkr	iown		Relationship Code	
121 Weapons Used	Voice etc	122 Description of Weapons/Firearms/Tools Used in Offense Handgun Rifle						Shotgun Uni	known	
Knife Other Dangerous	escribe:et address here.)	124		125 Sector						
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216			Type NN Injury 8 Bi			M Minor Injury O Other Major	T Loss (of Teeth	111	
126 Circumstances: Homicide & Assault		28 Assault	129 Treatmen		erify for Rape Exa		Treatment for Ra			
127 Location: Rape		Simple Aggravated	☐Yes	□ No □	∐Yes □			□ No		
132 Off # 133 Name (Last, First, Middle)	132 Off# 133 Name (Last, First, Middle) 134 SF)				136 Social Sec	L				
2016-17434, Unknown 141 Address (Street, City, State, Zip)					142 HGT 14		☐ B ☐ I XI □ M □ F			
Ē				Ive - Ive		0.000	Other		Other	
146 Probable Destination				147 Eye 148 Ha	air 149 Complexio		Armed Yes ∐No	Weapon		
151 Clothing			152 Scars	☐ Marks ☐ Tatt	oos 🗆 Amput	153	Arrested Wanted	Dual Arrest (Domestic	Violence)	
141 Address (Street, City, State, Zip) 146 Probable Destination 151 Clothing 154 Off # 155 Name (Last, First, Middle)		156 SF		iviatinS Tatt	158 Social Sec	curity# 159	Race 160 S	Sex 161 Date of Birth	182 Age	
163 Address (Street, City, State, Zip)					164 HGT 16	5 WGT 166		lispanic 167 Language		
168 Probable Destination				169 Eye 170 Ha	air 171 Complexio	on 172	Armed Yes No	Spanish Weapon	Other	
173 Clothing			174			175	Arrested	Dual Arrest (Domestic	Violence)	
Name (Last, First, Middle)	Sex	Race	Date of Birth	Marks Tatt	oos	ations	Wanted Contact	Telephone Numbers		
176	177	178	179	180		181 Home		182 Work		
S H	□ M □ F	□W □A □B □I						183 Other	7.7%	
(n) 104	185	186	187	188		189 Home		198 Work		
		B D I						191 Other		
192	193	□ W □A	195	196		197 Home		198 Work		
200 Witness # 1 SSN				D1 Witness # 2 SSN			ss#3SSN	199 Other		
203 06/16/2016, McGuire 729, Crim		l'a = 4 = 1	al 4 =				albla b			
On 06/16/2016, Offic				sha baawal 4		-		rglary in	-4	
progress. While in re of her house while s										
								ing room and		
S observed a rook had	i been and	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	agii tilo	anning roof	ii wiiiaoi	v parie.				
Once on scene, I spe	oke to the	victim (H	leather l	HANNAH) v	vho state	d that	she was	in her		
bedroom when she										
Once on scene, I specific bedroom when she police. HANNAH the	n stated th	nat on 6/0	06/2016,	in her drive	eway, so	me one	had use	ed a marker to	0	
write several protan										
displayed officers p	hotograph	s of the	writing o	n her car.	Officers	also ob	served t	he broken		
204 Continued on Complement 205 3 and	sting Agency ORI	lone	Assisting Agency	Case Number	207 -	=v 200 Mr==	nt Signad 141	arrant# ann aus o	acae Olassa	
204 Continued on Supplement 205 Assi	sung Agency ORI	1 1 1	Assisting Agency		207 s	Yes			ases Closed	
I hereby affirm that I have read this report and th		girdin by me io	210					211 Local Use	1 1	
correct to the best of my knowledge. I will assure the agency if any stolen property or missing per					Signature			212 State Use		

THIS SIDE OF FORM IS CONFIDENTIAL UNLESS RELEASED AT THE

BACK

NARRATIVE

NARRATIVE

NARRATIVE

ADI	DITIONAL INCIDENT/OFFENSE
	NARRATIVE CONTINUED

06/16/2016, McGuire 729, Criminal Mischief

window pane and the rock that was thrown through the window.

HANNAH stated that she did not know if it was related but she believed the reason for the recent damage was due to her being the previous

HANNAH also stated that she had recently been deposed and believed the events were related to the recent statements she had given.

Continued on Additional Suppleme