

*I/V Fredrickson, Joshua Transcript 11-10-09 C23

On November 10, 2009, I interviewed Joshua Fredrickson in the conference room located inside the charging unit of the Yavapai County Attorney's Office. Present were Joshua Fredrickson and counsel Luis Li, and Mike Proctor along with Deputy County Attorney Bill Hughes and Detective Mike Poling. The conversation was recorded and the following is a transcription of the interview. Please refer to the dss.file placed into evidence for complete details.

Bill Hughes: Okay. I just started my voice recording and Mike you want to start with the date and time and who is present in the room with your interview.

Det. Poling: Wow. Thanks. Usually we see all it the opposite way around, the interview. Okay, today's date is November 10th, 2009 and I am currently here with; this is in reference to 09-040205 and I am gonna to be talking to Joshua Fredrickson and here with Josh. Josh, is that okay?

Josh: It will work, yeah.

Det. Poling: I have Mr. Li from Munger, Tolles & Olson and Mr. Mike Proctor from Caldwell & Leslie, is that correct?

Unknown: Yeah.

Det. Poling: Okay. Mr. Bill Hughes. You want to say your name, instead?

Bill Hughes: That's fine. From the county.

Det. Poling: Okay. I just want to start maybe a little personal information from ya.

Josh: Sure

Det. Poling: Your name, spelling please.

Josh: Joshua Fredrickson. J-o-s-h-u-a F-r-e-d-r-i-c-k-s-o-n.

Det. Poling: Do you have middle name, Josh?

Josh: Andrew.

Det. Poling: Is it okay if I call you Josh?

Josh: Yeah it's perfect.

Det. Poling: And Josh your date of birth?

Josh: [REDACTED].

Det. Poling: Okay, do we have a contact phone number for you?

Josh: Not sure, it's [REDACTED]

Det. Poling: And is that a cell phone?

Josh: It's my cell yeah. But if you call me

Det. Poling: I won't be calling him without you present

Unknown: And I got my cell phone on my card and my office

Det. Poling: This is just for my. And are you still the Carlsbad area?

Josh: Yes.

Det. Poling: Okay could I get the address?

Josh: Sure. [REDACTED]

Det. Poling: Okay and are you currently married?

Josh: Yes.

Det. Poling: And that would be safe to say, my gosh I didn't talk to your wife. Okay let me start by asking you where and when did you meet James Ray?

Josh: In 2001, my current wife she wasn't then Megan and I we went to an event for Herbalife which is a nutritional product we were selling nutritional products for Herbalife and James was a keynote speaker there. And so that was our first exposure to him. Way back in the day he did like a two-hour kind of introductory kind of speech deal and we were really into what he was saying. So at the end he was selling people a two day weekend which is kind of like the next step big introduction to all of his events. And so we signed up for that and we were participants, we attended James's events and went through his programs and such for about three years through 2004. And at the same time I was also on my own developing websites and that sort of thing. And I started to promote some of James's products on a website as an affiliate so I would get a kickback if I sold any of his products. And it ended up that I was, my site was sending more traffic to James's site than his own marketing efforts and so James came to me in June of 2004 and asked if I'd do some freelance work for him. And I gladly accepted. I was living in Minnesota at the time, so I was doing freelance work just remotely from home in Minnesota. And then as that progressed throughout 2004 I kept getting more and more responsibility. And by then it wasn't very long before James started talking to me about maybe potentially coming out to California, move out here full time and you know be

the full time web guy. So by the end of 2004 we had made that decision. Move to California, me and Megan and we made that move in January 2005 and that's when we both started as full-time employees of James Ray International.

Det. Poling: Okay. So you were living in Minnesota until 2005 January when you moved to Carlsbad?

Josh: Mmm Hmm

Det. Poling: You said that you were a participant in his programs so you paid the fees like normal people, were you part of the Dream Team?

Josh: I did Dream Team I believe once, I Dream Teamed an event called Quantum Leap. So yeah, I had gone through pretty much all of the programs before I started working with James. The last one I attended before coming on to work with James was Spiritual Warrior in 2004 which was in Angel Valley.

Det. Poling: So you attended Quantum Leap.

Josh: Yeah, I can give you a list in the order that we did.

Det. Poling: Okay.

Josh: I did the Power to Win, which is now called Harmonic Wealth weekend they since changed the name. And then after that we did Quantum Leap and then after that we did Creating Wealth, and after that we did Practical Mysticism which back then was called Legendary Leadership, and then after that we did Spiritual Warrior.

Det. Poling: During those, is that over a three year or --

Josh: Yeah, from 2001 to 2004.

Det. Poling: Okay. Were you ever part of the World Wealth Society?

Josh: I am an honorary member. The World Wealth Society was created I think November of '08 and so I was an employee obviously there so I never paid any dues or any fees to be a member of it but James granted Megan and myself as honorary members so that we could represent James Ray International as part of the World Wealth Society.

Det. Poling: In 2005 January when you became full time, can you tell me what the, and I don't want to say well I am going to say it like that; package deal, you and Megan both are employees, how did Megan get involved in this?

Josh: Well, in August of '04, James had flown me out to Carlsbad just to kind of get a feel for Carlsbad and the office and that was kind of what I guess when he was trying to court me I guess, into coming out. And so we were talking and he said you know what's it

gonna take for you to get out here and at the time Megan was working at Best Buy Corporate in Minneapolis and so she was really making the bucks for us. And so you know I said hey Megan's gonna need to find a job and so he started asking, you know, what does Megan do? And I started telling him you know her skill set and everything. So at that point he became real interested in bringing Megan on because of her experience. And so it ended up being a package deal where he thought that both of us, figured out what we could do financially and it ended up at the time being a pretty large pay cut for us to move out there. But it was something where you know we loved Southern California to be in and to move from Minnesota was quite enticing. So we haven't looked back since. So I mean we had already talked about essentially moving out to San Diego before this came up and so it just kind of seemed like an ultimate place and we were real into the content and you know meeting all the people that we knew through the journey, that sort of thing. So it was a package deal we took a pay cut to be out here and it kind of became you know labor of love kind of thing where we worked a lot of hours just because we're passionate about what we do.

Det. Poling: So is it safe to say he was interested in your web design and bringing the business to the company you were the one he was looking at and Megan came on board as to help out with the financial and then to learn the business to go on. But I mean it's the package you wanted instead so you have two incomes now come to Carlsbad instead of just one?

Josh: Correct. We had two incomes in the Minneapolis when we came in and we each, you know, still have our own salary obviously when we came to JRI but when were looking and talking about salary we were looking at it as a whole.

Det. Poling: What I meant by that is it would be really tough for you to come out to Southern California.

Josh: On my own with just one salary.

Det. Poling: Yeah on one salary so I didn't know if that played a part. I didn't know if he wanted her because of her skills or if it was you. I'm just trying to figure out.

Josh: Originally he just wanted me and just because it was too hard financially that's when he started asking about Megan and then it ended up that he really wanted her.

Det. Poling: Okay. What about the business, where was it located in 2005 when you came?

Josh: When we came in it was 2386 Faraday Avenue which is in Carlsbad. I mean it was like a half a mile maybe from where it is right now.

Det. Poling: Okay. Who was employed at that time? Who did you work with?

Josh: At that time when we came in there were probably and this is off memory like maybe six team members there. And so I came in as a full time web guy which they had always outsourced. And Megan came in as event coordinator with the intention of stepping into director of operations. At the time there was an executive assistant, there was a sales guy, accounting, a bookkeeper, Megan herself and there was an existing director of operations who moved over to director of marketing shortly after we came.

Det. Poling: Do you have names of, who was the event coordinator?

Josh: The event coordinator before Megan, I believe her name was Tara but she had left before we arrived.

Det. Poling: Would it be safe to Teri?

Josh: Teri was the director of operations.

Det. Poling: Okay. And so she was the event coordinator?

Josh: Yea. So Teri took over a lot of the event coordination especially while Megan was learning, so it would be safe to say that Teri was the one that trained Megan and showed her how to do all that stuff or and who took care of things in the interim between Tara and Teri.

Det. Poling: Do your responsibilities at James Ray go beyond the scope of web designer?

Josh: Then or now?

Det. Poling: Now. It started as a web designer what did it trans

Josh: Yeah, it's a long, so JRI is a small business and so it kind of ends up that you do what you can to get the job done. So you end up taking on a whole variety of different things which is really what I liked about it, it was different every day. So I started out as a web guy and then kind of turned in like pseudo marketing guy. I also took over a lot of the IT, the technical planning and that sort of thing. So I kind of picked up where, when I came in I saw kind of these different gaps of what's going on and so I started to pick those up. So my history at JRI has always been kind of this weird split between marketing and like technical and creative. So it was kind of like this conglomeration of all these things mashed together. So after I was the web designer I became the manager of business development which was I was in charge of marketing then and I was still doing all the web designer stuff because we didn't have anybody else to do it. And then I became director of business development and I had a team of eight to help me out with that and that also again included a lot of the creative web stuff as well as the business growth stuff. And then in August, Greg Hartle was made director of business development and I moved to creative director.

Unknown: And that's August of this year? (Inaudible)

Josh: Yep. And so the point of that was to kind of separate the two worlds of marketing and creative so that way Greg could focus full time on growing the business which we really needed and then I could focus full time on getting executing and making all that stuff happen.

Det. Poling: So if I heard this, understand this right though, during 2005 when you first joined, there was probably staff of six people.

Josh: Mmm hmm, and that went up and down. At one point, at one point in 2006 it was just me, Megan, a bookkeeper and Tina.

Det. Poling: Since it was January 2005 I won't focus on anything before that. January 2005 you guys were on board. What medical training did you have prior to coming into JRI?

Josh: I have no medical training.

Det. Poling: CPR certified?

Josh: No, in high school I did you know CPR class.

Det. Poling: Current certification?

Josh: Current I don't have any.

Det. Poling: How about any other medical training?

Josh: I don't have any.

Det. Poling: Okay, wilderness training? You gonna ask me what wilderness training is?

Josh: Yeah I don't have, I don't have any wilderness training.

Det. Poling: None of that?

Josh: No

Det. Poling: While you were employed by JRI, have you ever been CPR certified and when if you were?

Josh: No, I have not

Det. Poling: Does JRI have a CPR certification program?

Josh: Not a program per se but we do have our event coordinators have been CPR trained as well as I believe one or two other people on the team have been CPR trained.

Det. Poling: So who are those event coordinators that are CPR certified?

Josh: Our prior event coordinator Carly Shankman, she was certified before she left and Melinda was then certified.

Det. Poling: Melinda is certified?

Josh: To my knowledge, and this is not my direct area, it wasn't my responsibility to get them certified so I am just telling from my experience and then I know Joanna Rivera is also certified. She's not an event coordinator by any means, she goes to a lot of events and she loves to take care of people so she wanted to do that.

Det. Poling: Any more that might be medically certified or CPR certified, medical training, doctors, nurses, onboard staff?

Josh: That's it to my knowledge.

Det. Poling: So if I'm getting you right, and you know this, how do you know that they were CPR certified?

Josh: Just from hearing them say we went to the class today kind of thing.

Det. Poling: So did someone send these people to the class?

Josh: They went off to do a class.

Det. Poling: And that was, they do this on their own or were they told to do this or they were asked to do this?

Josh: All the above.

Det. Poling: How did it come about? Was there a memo? Was there something, we've got this coming up?

Josh: No, yea that was a conversation that and I know this from Megan being my wife and sharing it with me, you know sharing the day's work with me but she asked them if they wanted to do it and so they did it and so we gave them the time off to go do it and we paid for the class. And when I say we, it's JRI paid for class.

Det. Poling: Okay, and when was this class?

Josh: I don't remember, it was a while ago, probably last year.

Det. Poling: 2008?

Josh: Yes. Hard for me to remember.

Det. Poling: So is it safe to say 3 people or so are CPR certified? Okay.

Josh: Best to my knowledge, yea.

Det. Poling: Okay. In 2005 when you attended Spiritual Warrior, I'm correct with that, you were there?

Josh: Yes, yep. It was uhm, it was 2004. Uhm I believe it was August of 2004 that I was at Spiritual Warrior.

Det. Poling: You weren't employed yet, though?

Josh: I was not. I was doing the freelance stuff from home but I was not a full time James Ray member and I had paid to be there.

Det. Poling: So you went to Spiritual Warrior in 2004 also then and in 2005?

Josh: In 2005 I went as a team member to help out.

Det. Poling: Okay. So 2004 was your first time?

Josh: Yes.

Det. Poling: So you will have some comparison to 2004-2005 is what I am trying to-

Josh: Yeah, yep. I did 2004, '05 and '06 and then this year. Those are the years I (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2009.

Josh: Yep.

Det. Poling: Okay. What do you know about James Ray's training and experience in reference to Sweat Lodges?

Josh: Like specific training or?

Det. Poling: What's your knowledge of his training experience?

Josh: My knowledge is that and this is my knowledge in terms of pretty much all the activities we do is that he's been through them before himself and that he's; it's my understanding that he is taught to and learned from certain facilitators on how to facilitate. And that's the extent of my knowledge in terms of his training.

Det. Poling: So your knowledge of his training comes from someone else?

Unknown: What basically he's saying is do you know what his training or experience is and if so, how do you know that?

Det. Poling: Right, that (Inaudible) come next, sorry

Josh: Yeah. My knowledge is from what he shares from stage or in conversations of I have done this before and here is what we need to do. And I don't know specifics of I certified on this day or I spoke to this person, I have never heard any of those specifics.

Det. Poling: Have you ever seen any certificates or any document that says James Ray is certified in A, B and C? When I say A, B, and C I mean different things like A would be sweat lodges, B might be the Samurai games, you know things like that.

Josh: No, I've never seen anything like a certificate or anything like that. I know that he has worked with different, I mean he has worked with different teachers in the past and so when it comes to different activities he's learned, I assume and I came from a participant so I kind of had that mindset going into and I just assumed that he learned from his different teachers who taught him how to do it.

Det. Poling: Now if I had said the term holotropic breathing, do you know what that is?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: And did you learn that through James Ray?

Josh: I have done it through James Ray.

Det. Poling: Were you trained from anyone else?

Josh: No.

Det. Poling: Okay. So your training of holotropic breathing came from James Ray.

Josh: My understanding of it. I also read Stanislov Grof's book Holotropic Mind. And to be clear I know that holotropic breathing is Stan's trademark and I don't know how that specifically differs if anything from what we do that we call Breathwork.

Unknown: Can I just ask the spelling. So Grof?

Josh: Grof

Unknown: And Holotropic is h-o-l-o

Josh: No h at the end. Holotropic.

Unknown: And for someone who doesn't know what it is can you tell us what holotropic breathing is?

Josh: Sure. And this is my understanding of it and it largely comes from that book and what James tells everybody before going into it.

Det. Poling: Going into what?

Josh: Going into Breathwork so when he's setting up the exercise.

Unknown: You guys call it Breathwork?

Josh: We call it Breathwork. So in the event I don't think there is any time that James calls it holotropic so again I don't know the nuances between.

Det. Poling: So if I'm hearing you right, it's based on what James learned from Grof?

Josh: No, potentially I don't know that.

Det. Poling: I just want to be clear. So he has learned some type of breathing exercises that he teaches in his class.

Josh: Yea, Breathwork

Det. Poling: And how did you come up with the name Grof and how was that recommended to you?

Josh: It was on recommended reading. There's a reading list, a recommend reading list that's posted on the website and we're also told before we go to the event where that's going to be, where that's going to occur to read that book. So I think that's maybe where the assumption comes that it's holotropic and again I don't know whether it is or it isn't, specifically.

Det. Poling: What is the purpose of holotropic breathing? What happens?

Josh: So physically or the whole package, mentally, I mean?

Det. Poling: What's the goal?

Josh: So the goal. So I'll back up and kind of give you, paint the bigger picture and we will go into the goal of it. One of the things that we teach as early as Harmonic Wealth weekend or The Power to Win is that you have a lot of unconscious or subconscious issues or baggage or blocks that kind of hold you back from your results or things that you could achieve. And so really James talks about a lot of that stuff in the earlier events and sets it up to these later events. But really the idea is that the more that you can release these unconscious issues that you have, the more you're kind of stepping into your

own life and you're able to live it more intentionally. And so you start to be able to control what your results more so than if you just let all your reactions run you so you know if you explode in traffic, you know, that's something unconscious coming out because you don't really necessarily really care if someone cuts you off or something, it's something that triggers inside you that you are not aware of that causes that. So you have to kind of work through that kind of thing and live your life in a more controlled or responsible way. So the purpose of a lot of what happens at these events is to uncover those, release those, replace them with new beliefs or thoughts that you choose. So the purpose of Breathwork is it's a physical experience so you breathe in and out rapidly and there is loud music playing and you breathe in and out like about that for about 90 minutes that that music plays. And basically physically my understanding of what you are doing is you are over (Inaudible) the blood cells in your body and it causes your body to tingle and you'll experience different things. But basically by doing that, you're setting the conscious mind aside, you're kind of getting it out of the way. So I would liken it to probably a common experience that we've all had is getting drunk where you know you're there but your conscious mind is kind of away and so you're more open, you're not in a very controlled state in terms of what you're thinking or feeling. So physically you are laying down on a mat and the music's playing loud and you're breathing in and out and your body will tingle or whatever, your throat will get sore just from breathing so rapidly for so long. And then I guess mentally what you're experiencing I would liken it to like a very vivid dream because your eyes are closed while doing it so some people do fall asleep during it and they stop breathing or not actually stop breathing but stop the rapid breathing, they just start breathing normally. And so it's like a very vivid dream and so whatever is kind of in your unconscious awareness it's kind of coming out and you're working through it. And that being said, you still can tell that you are there laying on a mat so it's kind of like this component like it's like a half dream state. And so the purpose of it is to again bring forth that unconscious stuff and after you're done with the 90 minutes you roll over and you draw a picture of your experience on a sheet of paper and that just helps you to kind of get back grounded because you are a little bit faint or whatever from breathing that long. And then you're supposed to go back and journal about it and then kind of figure out what it meant or what came to you and what you experienced.

Det. Poling: Did you say during this that you could hallucinate during this process and if you didn't say that?

Josh: I didn't say hallucinate.

Det. Poling: Can you, or do people hallucinate during this?

Josh: I personally have never experienced hallucination. I would liken it to like a dream. So I mean your eyes are closed and so I would liken it to a very vivid dream.

Det. Poling: Physically while you're doing this, did you say that you are oxygenizing your brain or lack of oxygen by doing this because it sounds like hyperventilation to me a little bit and you're depriving your brain of oxygen? Are you saying that or the opposite?

Josh: I'm not sure about the brain. My understanding is that it over oxygenates a little bit the blood cells; that's my (Inaudible) .

Det. Poling: Okay but you don't know what it's doing to the brain work; are you getting enough oxygen, too much oxygen, is anything happening there?

Josh: I'm not aware. I don't know.

Det. Poling: Okay. So you don't know if it deprives the brain of oxygen. That's what I am trying to figure out. Does it deprive the brain of oxygen.

Josh: Correct, and I, I don't know. I don't recall like even reading that in Grof's book at all to my knowledge.

Det. Poling: Any certifications from Grof that you know of, James Ray certified under him?

Josh: Not that I'm aware of. I mean I don't know.

Det. Poling: Did he mention his teachings of Grof to you?

Josh: He references the book. So the idea is that people would read the book and get an idea of what they'll experience and then he'll reference the book, remember when you read that in the book.

Det. Poling: Sorry I took so long on that one. Now let's get to the training of the sweat lodges.

Josh: Okay.

Det. Poling: What is James Ray's, to your knowledge, what do you know that he's expertise and training are about the sweat lodges?

Josh: To my knowledge, he has done them before and I don't know with who, he just references his past experience in other lodges.

Det. Poling: You say he doesn't mention who but during my investigation I find out that he tailors this after Native Americans. Is there any specific Native Americans that he tailors this out of?

Josh: Not to my knowledge and to my memory I don't think I have heard him mention a Native American teacher.

Det. Poling: He doesn't tell his participants that he learned his art through Native Americans?

Josh: I don't believe he ever does.

Det. Poling: And he's never told you of any Native American?

Josh: Not to my knowledge no, not to my recollection.

Det. Poling: What physical effects on a body does James Ray tell his staff will happen or occur during a sweat lodge?

Unknown: Interrupt it might help to (Inaudible) are you talking about when they're about to do it type of thing or just, I don't know (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Well it involves certain things; it involves heat, an area where you have 60 some people in. What does he tell the participant is gonna to happen to them during this? They're gonna to be exposed to heat, they're gonna be this, what does he tell them?

Josh: Go thorough the day of the lodge so probably about the hour, it's probably about an hour and a half before we actually go down to meet in front of the lodge but he'll start to talk and set up the sweat lodge and that's just our term for, that's when he's gonna to tell participants what to expect.

Det. Poling: What does he tell them to expect?

Josh: He tells them uh, he kind of describes the lodge and what it is.

Det. Poling: What does he say?

Josh: This is a long setup for memory. He sets it up so it's a structure, it's a round structure and it's built low to the ground and it's representative, he talks a lot about it in Native American tradition but he never mentioned being trained by a specific Native American. And he says it's low to the ground and it's an intense heat. He says you'll feel, when the steam hits you'll feel like you're suffocating, he says you may feel claustrophobic, he says you may feel like your skin's melting off. He pulls no punches when it comes to describing how intense it will be.

Det. Poling: But what does he say, not how you feel, what does he say to his participants?

Josh: Do you kind of want me to go through from memory kind of do his whole setup like how he describes the whole thing or just kind of?

Det. Poling: No just, just what; you're gonna be entering a sweat lodge, this is what is gonna happen.

Unknown: You talked about the intense heat, the suffocating and the claustrophobia, skin melting and other things I think is.

Det. Poling: Yea, so uh does he ever tell you, you're going to feel like you are going to be dying?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: And then what's the response after that? He says you're gonna feel like you're dying but what?

Josh: I think it's you could feel like you're dying.

Det. Poling: There has to be a but

Unknown: Period

Det. Poling: If someone tells me I'm gonna feel like I'm dying, I'm gonna say time out here. Am I gonna die?

Josh: Right well in the context of the whole setup, uhm, so he says you'll enter and he talks about the clockwise and the directions and kind of like the technical stuff. And that's when he talks about you'll feel like dying and let me just try and pull this from memory. He talks about you know he did say take care of yourself in the lodge and he talks about the rounds and how you'll have a chance to leave each round and you can leave and cool off and come back if you choose to. And the only thing he says there is that you will be respectful, it's a sacred space kind of like church you know he likened it to church so if you need to leave in between two rounds, just be respectful of that. In terms of, I'm just trying to think if there's anything else. I mean he tells them to take off their jewelry and their glasses and their contacts and wear light clothes. He does tell them to be very cognizant of the stones in the middle because they're burning hot. And he tells them to hydrate; hydrate, hydrate, hydrate I think is what he said and then literally during the setup we have a line of probably 20 people by the water cooler waiting to fill up their water bottles and stuff so.

Det. Poling: Prior to going in?

Josh: Yeah. And that morning as well earlier he reminded them throughout the day but even during that setup he reminded them.

Det. Poling: Okay. What physical effects on a body does James tell the staff that would be you or whoever is in there will happen and what to look for?

Josh: He does not share or he did not share anything with the team outside of what was shared in the group in the meeting room. So the only thing that we heard about it from him was in the meeting room with all the participants at the same time.

Det. Poling: Okay. You were, during 2005, I am still talking about 2005 which is the first time you experienced it, I know it's changed up till now. In 2005 when you were at

the sweat lodge, I'm probably jumping here but who was in the sweat in 2005 and what I mean, I mean employees?

Josh: I believe for employees it was just Megan and myself at that time.

Det. Poling: And there was one other person.

Josh: James was there.

Det. Poling: Two other persons. Who you were holding hands with?

Josh: In 2005, Tere was there.

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: Yep

Det. Poling: Now those were your four staff members?

Josh: Mmm Hmm

Det. Poling: Was there any other staff there besides you guys?

Josh: Not from JRI and there weren't any Dream Team there.

Det. Poling: Okay and that was 2005?

Josh: Oh wait, wait, wait, wait, there might have been in 2005 a couple of Dream Team. And then there were like I know Amayra Hamilton was there to help out, I know they had a stone tender there to help out. But in terms of JRI, it was just us.

Det. Poling: What does James Ray instruct you as staff to look for in the participants during the sweat? Precautions, are you looking for something, are you making sure that the person next to you, what (Inaudible) does he tell the staff?

Josh: The only direction that I received as a staff member or team member other than what the whole group gets is to help people out if needed

Det. Poling: At the lodges?

Josh: yea to help them come out and pull out, help them out of the lodge if they need it because when you are in the lodge for so long you get, I mean it's pretty physically draining and so a lot of people have a hard time exiting.

Det. Poling: Sweat lodges how many have you been in?

Josh: Just those four, one each of those years.

Det. Poling: Have you ever been to a Native American sweat lodge?

Josh: No. I went to a spa in Mexico and they called it TezMexCal but it was like a spa experience it wasn't really a sweat lodge.

Det. Poling: No sweat lodge?

Josh: It was like a clay structure that they built and it was real chill and relaxed like a sauna experience but it was definitely not anything like we've done here.

Det. Poling: Before you go into sweat lodge does he ask participants is there anyone here that has A, B and C issues before going in this sweat lodge, does he ask that question?

Josh: He does not. He does ask if people have questions and (Inaudible) and so typically if someone has a condition that they are concerned about, they'll ask (Inaudible) but he doesn't.

Det. Poling: Does he ever, let's say for instance I say I have multiple sclerosis; does he say then you're not coming in, what does he say?

Josh: Pretty much what he would say for most of them like as a general response and I'm kinda putting words in his mouth but he would say to take care of yourself, to pay good attention to yourself and if you need to leave, you can leave.

Det. Poling: Vision Quest, what is the goal of Vision Quest?

Josh: Traditionally or in the context of the event?

Det. Poling: What you guys were told by James Ray.

Josh: Okay. So any exercise that we do or activity that happens, James sets up the context and where it came from and why it was done and then what we are going to do here. And so he setup the Vision Quest as it's again a Native American tradition where typically people would go out into the wilderness for three days and three nights or as long as it took to find their power and that's the Native American setup and it's kind of like their passageway into adulthood to sum it up very briefly. In terms of the purpose of the Vision Quest at Spiritual Warrior, the whole week is set up, well the event's set up to really dig deep into release all these unconscious issues and we have lot of people dealing with these really deep issues like from childhood with rape or abuse or that kind of thing that's starting to come out at Spiritual Warrior. So that's like the first part of the week is they're just journaling and writing through all these issues and working on it. So there is a very heavy emotional state or psychological state during that week because there's a lot of deep issues that people are working through and so the idea of the Vision Quest in the context of Spiritual Warrior is that you've been working through all this stuff, now you

can go and find, you can finally put all that stuff behind you and now you can choose who you want to be so when you come back from the Vision Quest, you're kind of like a new person. So it's like a renewing. So it's that chance to really spend time with yourself and to be yourself and find out who you really are and let all that crap go and move forward.

Det. Poling: Part of this Vision Quest does it require certain things like are you gonna be fasting?

Josh: So okay, the Vision Quest you eat a light dinner that night and then in between dinner and the Vision Quest, there's a Samurai game which we haven't gotten into yet and then after the Vision Quest or after the Samurai game, everybody gets led out to their Vision Quest blocks.

(Inaudible)

Josh: So they'll get led out into Angel Valley's property and dropped off in different predetermined locations throughout Angel Valley's property and I say they're probably at the most probably like 50 yards apart. But we drop them off at night in there and we put them in and around bushes and that sort of thing so they can't really see each other. And so when we drop them off at night, they've never walked that trail before and so they kind of get the sense that they're isolated and completely alone. So they don't bring any food or water with them for the Vision Quest; they could if they wanted to we don't check their bags or anything, we really have no idea.

Det. Poling: But what is said about that? What is said to the participants before they go on this journey? What they are expected to do or not to do? Are they expected to take food or are they told not to take food?

Josh: They are told not to take food or water. This particular year we had someone ask they had high blood pressure medication that they asked about and James said you know if you think you need it then you can bring it. Again he said take care of yourself kind of thing.

Det. Poling: Does he say anything else? Take it if you need to but, there is always a but there and I know that.

Josh: Well with James it's not say necessarily a "but" but he will say "and" so he'll say you know take it if you need to

Det. Poling: and to get the best experience; I'm not trying to lead you but to get the best experience what do you need to do?

Josh: I would say the best experience but he would say and if you can, you know, don't, don't take it but take care of yourself and that was his final, you know, and take care of yourself. So it's always like a uhm, I would liken it to kind of like a personal trainer so

like if you're sitting there doing the reps, they're like you know, well just do 5 more and they're like no and then well you can do it, I know you can, that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: What is your job during the Vision Quest of the group, while they're out there? Is it 36 hours or 24 hours they're out there?

Josh: They're out there from the night we drop them off, they're there overnight so probably I would say like 11 0'clock depending on how far out they are. They get dropped off, the whole next day and then we pick them up at, I think it was like before 6 the day after.

Det. Poling: On Thursday morning?

Josh: Yeah the day after.

Det. Poling: For breakfast?

Josh: Yep. So I am not sure how many hours that is but.

Det. Poling: That's just fine.

Josh: Two nights.

Det. Poling: Okay. Did you go to any other Vision Quests? 2004 is when you started doing this stuff correct?

Josh: Yeah I did. When I did it, it was 3 days actually.

Det. Poling: Okay so it was three days when you started it. Have you seen any changes in the Vision Quest? Meaning when it took place did something change in how he did his practices, was it always this way? The Samurai game, the dinner, the Samurai game, the Vision Quest, the sweat lodge? Was it always like that with you?

Josh: No. In 2004, the event was setup a lot differently and it was really a lot more intense I would say physically. In 2004 it used to be we actually went out and did hikes in Sedona and we also, we did, in 2004 we did the sweat lodge first, there was no Samurai and we did the sweat lodge first and then we went out on Vision Quest for three nights and then we came back.

Det. Poling: So in 2005 he changed that?

Josh: Yeah in 2005 it was switched up. So it was the Samurai game and it was only the two nights on the Vision Quest and that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: Tell me why he made that change or tell me what you know on the reason that that got changed from, the reverse, the Samurai game and then sweatlodge?

Josh: The addition of the Samurai game in 2005 that's also when The Last Samurai came out with Tom Cruise, the movie. And also at that time is when we started going through and renaming our events so that's when it changed from The Power of Win weekend from Legendary Leadership to Practical Mysticism. So we were kind of going through the whole program and updating it so to speak. So before 2005 The Last Samurai came out and James was inspired to start using clips from that in the event and he had done the Samurai Game at AT&T Corporate when he was there.

Det. Poling: Is that where he learned it?

Josh: Yeah. He had done it with like other managers at AT&T and it ended up that AT&T wanted to roll it out to the whole company but it ended up that it was I guess too intense for corporate environment and so they decided against it to rolling out to the entire company. But he learned it at AT&T and when The Last Samurai came out, he decided he would start using these clips; he remembered the samurai game and so we incorporated this kind of whole samurai theme which is living with integrity, living with intention doing everything to perfection at every moment kind of idea into Spiritual Warrior. And so in order to fit the samurai game and all this stuff in, we had to cut a lot of the extra stuff so we cut the hikes, we cut all the extra days on the Vision Quest and that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: In 2004 did anyone get hurt during the sweat lodge?

Josh: No.

Det. Poling: Okay. In 2005 did someone get hurt during the sweat lodge?

Josh: I wouldn't say hurt because being hurt is like a physical thing. We did have one person, a Daniel Fancook, he came out of the lodge and I would say he was like a violent drunk where he was like yelling and not paying attention kind of belligerent and so we called the paramedics and they gave him oxygen and after the oxygen he came back and he was fine.

Det. Poling: Tell me about James Ray's pre-ceremonial inspection of the sweat lodge. What does he do before the ceremony starts to inspect that lodge?

Josh: I'm not sure that he does, at least not, I don't think he did this year.

Det. Poling: Is he always with you guys throughout this whole process? I mean are you guys together as a group or is he going off on his own doing things?

Josh: Well, you mean throughout the week or just right before the lodge?

Det. Poling: Yes.

Josh: Right before the lodge there is a break where everybody goes and gets changed so that they get into their swim gear or whatever they are going to wear in the lodge and so we all kind of come down the lodge at different times. So like when he got down to the lodge, he looked at it or checked it out but I don't know if there was an internal checklist that he was working off of or anything.

Det. Poling: Tell me if I am correct here. James Ray has a specific, to the minute agenda, of everything he does, he's very precise; is that true?

Josh: It's called the syntax and it's the event as it should be but the running joke is that James is always at least an hour or two hours overtime on the syntax. So the syntax is kind of like the event coordinator's wish for him to stick to but he never does. So that kind of answers your question. There's not a specific syntax for the sweat lodge if that's what you are asking.

Det. Poling: How does James Ray control the heat or the environment inside the sweat lodge?

Josh: To my knowledge the only way you can control it is, I mean the only variables are the amount of stones that are brought in and how much water is poured on it.

Det. Poling: And who controls how many stones come into that lodge?

Josh: James requests them in between each round.

Det. Poling: Based on?

Josh: I don't know if he has a method.

Det. Poling: Does he explain to you the staff the method?

Josh: No.

Det. Poling: Does he express to the staff that I want you looking for this in people? Does he have the staff check in to make sure he's okay?

Josh: Not explicitly, no. I mean Megan sits next to James at the lodge and so she kind of helps him keep track of rounds and that's her job is to make sure that he knows what round number it is but to my knowledge it's the only expectation.

Det. Poling: Who instructs the fire tenders who are involved in the ceremony?

Josh: During the lodge?

Det. Poling: Yes, and before.

Josh: Before they do their thing.

Det. Poling: What do they do?

Josh: So before they're cooking the stones. I mean their, their, their, they've got the stones buried and their heating them up.

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: That's what they do beforehand and that is not something that JRI is a part of other than just making sure that they're down there getting them ready for us.

Det. Poling: And I want to stop you real quick there, 2005 was your first year. Do you remember who the stone people were? The ones that got your grandfather's hot?

Josh: My hesitation is that it could have been to my knowledge Ted and Debbie. Ted and Debbie started it after 2005, I believe it might have been Gary Polish that did it then. And I can't remember who physically passed them the stones but I know at some point Gary used to be more involved in it.

Det. Poling: In 2005-2006 James Ray calls for some stones. I mean he makes the call is what I understood.

Josh: Yep.

Det. Poling: He tells them what he wants and they give him what he wants.

Josh: Yep

Det. Poling: What would happen if he says I need four stones and they give him three, what would happen?

Josh: That's never happened so it's just gonna be my guess as to what would happen, he'd probably ask for one more.

Det. Poling: Let me ask something. Do you ever, does the, If James Ray says something, does anyone ever argue with him?

Josh: I've never experienced that.

Det. Poling: If he asks for five stones does he get five stones?

Josh: Well he does.

Det. Poling: If he asks for 8 stones does he get 8 stones?

Josh: I don't know as if anyone's felt the need to argue. That would be my understanding because I have never heard anyone express any hesitancy in terms of the number of stones.

Det. Poling: What instructions are given to the staff? If someone wants to leave the lodge what's the instruction?

Josh: You're asking what James has instructed the staff.

Det. Poling: The staff and the participants; when you go into this lodge and what is his instruction on leaving the lodge?

Josh: The instruction on leaving the lodge is to; in between rounds, be respectful of the place, to always go clockwise cause not only is that respectful of the place but it's also traffic control so people don't run into each other. So to always enter in clockwise and then in terms of what, I know that the reason that I went in the lodge was to help people physically get out if they needed to, if they needed help.

Unknown: How did you know if they needed help?

Josh: This year I, and it was tough because I hadn't been in '07 or '08 so I just remembered that that's the thing I needed to do. I don't remember back to '06 and '05, if I was instructed specifically to do that but that's what I remembered this year, that I needed to help do that.

Unknown: But to go back to my question, how did you determine if they needed to get out of the lodge?

Josh: Well if they're struggling, I mean if they're struggling coming around or a lot of times what happens is like someone will say, hey this person needs help and so we'll go and help.

Det. Poling: It's dark in there, correct?

Josh: It is, yeah.

Det. Poling: How do you know someone needs help? How would you know?

Josh: Well in between when people can come in and exit the lodge is in between rounds and that's typically when that happens. I don't think I have been in a lodge where people asked to exit during a round, not to my knowledge.

Unknown: Were they told anything about exiting during rounds?

Josh: Just to wait till the end of the round.

Unknown: And who told them that?

Josh: James in the setup, in the group setup prior. But so in between rounds, there's a, there's a, probably about I would guess like two or three minutes before we open the flaps where the round is done and yet we're just kind of sitting in the dark and just letting it kind of cause you know we're doing, setting our intentions and that sort of thing so it's kind of like a silent time to let it sink in or just set I guess. And so during that two to three minutes it's typically when people are like hey I need to get out or this person needs help and that sort of thing and so once the flap opens it's like we'll start moving those people out.

Det. Poling: What happens in between rounds? Do you see it?

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: What policy, or what is your understanding about leaving the sweat lodge in between rounds? You've said that quite a bit that people leave after the round; what is the theory, what is told to the people about leaving in the middle of the circle?

Josh: Leaving during the round?

Det. Poling: Yes.

Josh: Again I will use the church analogy that's I think pretty much the only thing that I recall Jim saying (Inaudible) is to not leave in between rounds because it would be considered disrespectful. It's like church so if you were to leave in the middle that sort of thing. To my knowledge, I don't recall anyone ever trying to get to the door in any of the four years that I have been in the sweat lodge and leave in the middle of a lodge so I don't know what would happen there and I also to my knowledge have never seen anyone physically turned away if they went to the door.

Det. Poling: In 2005, in the middle of a round one of the participants wanted out

Josh: Okay

Det. Poling: and something was said by James Ray. What was said? And I am asking you because you were sitting right next to him, or actually sitting next to Melinda that was sitting next to him.

Josh: In 2005 that would have been probably Tere and (Inaudible) .

Det. Poling: Megan, Megan, I'm sorry; I'm getting Melinda and her, I apologize. Okay. In 2005 James and the three of you were all in the lodge but because you were sitting right next to him and I'm not saying, no one said that but there was someone in that group that needed attention and James had specifically said something cause it was in the middle of the round. What did he say?

Josh: I don't have recollection of that. I don't remember.

Det. Poling: Has he ever told a participant to wait till the end is completed?

Josh: I hesitate because I'm trying to think of specific instances and I don't recall specific and yet that sounds like something that could be said. And it would be again more from the personal trainer, you can make it, you're bigger than that kind of thing.

Det. Poling: Okay, You're more than that.

Josh: You're more than that, you're more than your body, you know; you can make that last mile in the marathon kind of thing.

Det. Poling: Do you ever hear him say you will feel like you're gonna die?

Josh: In the setup? Yea.

Det. Poling: Mmm Hmm. What does he say after that? And that where the butt comes in, you're gonna feel like you're gonna die, but uhm

Josh: I wanna give you

Det. Poling: No, give me what he says

Josh: Right, that's what, that's what I wanna give you, what's accurate. Uhm

Unknown: Well give him your best recollection

Josh: Yea that's what I'm uhm, you're, you feel like you're gonna die but you won't, I mean is the gist of it. You'll make it through. Uhm you know and until, until this year there's no, there, there, there's not any indication on any of our minds this would ever happen.

Det. Poling: Right

Josh: You know

Det. Poling: After the rounds and people are having to be helped out because they're weak.

Josh: Mmm Hmm

Det. Poling: If they're having difficulties, what does James tell them to staff about giving aide to those people in 2005? I'm not talking about 2009, 2005 people that are laying down, you being host what was he instructing you guys to do? If they were in distress?

Josh: And their already exited you 're saying?

Det. Poling: They're exited and they're in distress, what does he tell you to do?

Josh: I don't know as if it was him specifically telling us to do that or if it was Tere who had coordinated it, Tere Gingerella who had coordinated it that year

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: but it was, the instructions were to take care of them. We had towels and, and hoses so, so basically to cool them off, hose them down that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: If they're having an out of body experience, what does he tell the staff to do?

Josh: I've never heard that addressed specifically.

Det. Poling: Is there anyone that you've ever noticed that had been either having difficulties after a sweat outside the lodge, what does he tell you to do? What are you instructed?

Josh: The instance I could remember was in the instance of Daniel Fancoat and with him it was really trying to talk to him to get him I guess back to earth cause he, I mean he was, he was uhm; I would liken it to like a belligerent grump who just wasn't (Inaudible) you know and so it was a matter of like saying hey get back, what are you doing, you know that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: Whose responsibility is that?

Josh: Uhm, that's an interesting question. It's, I mean it's everybody's responsibility to help, to help out a fellow human being but in terms of, that was not something in 2005 (Inaudible) I guess. It's something that, I mean I'd only been in the one before so I was not trained in terms of what to do in that situation, I don't think any of us were prepared for that.

Det. Poling: Okay. Uhm, have you ever been told by James Ray that when you're having an out of body; if someone is having an out of body experience, what are you to do? Are you told anything? Are you told to give them CPR, are you told to let them be, what are you told?

Josh: Uhm, I don't recall James ever addressing out of body experiences.

Det. Poling: Okay, who can bring someone back from an out of body experience, can you?

Josh: I don't have any, out of body I don't know as if to my, my, my first hand knowledge I've never experienced that so I don't, when people are coming out of the lodge I don't know if they're experiencing that, it's their own experience. So I don't, I mean I don't, I've never heard any kind of training or instruction in terms of who can bring someone out of that because I, I, I mean I don't know what the symptoms are of out of body, I mean if there is I mean.

Det. Poling: Who on your staff can or have you been told needs to do that?

Josh: Again, it's more just taking care of them, physically sitting them down and getting them water and cooling them off. You I have never heard about out of body training I mean I don't know if there is such a thing.

Det. Poling: What did Daniel need?

Josh: Ultimately when the, when the ambulance came and they gave him oxygen, he snapped right back to it. They still brought him to the hospital and checked him out and everything but you know in my limited assessment of things it would be that he needed oxygen.

Det. Poling: Okay. Were you given any direction when someone was in distress to notify anyone? I mean if someone's having an out of body experience or freaking out, would you call somebody or would you just let them have their experience? What is your instruction to do, not your commonsense, what are you told to do by your supervisor or James?

Josh: I have not received specific direction in terms of that.

Det. Poling: Are you supposed to call 911? Does James Ray tell you to call 911 if someone is having difficulty?

Josh: Typically that's one of the people who stay (Inaudible) outside the lodge are there for if, if but yeah to call.

Det. Poling: Does he give them instructions to call 911?

Josh: No

Det. Poling: Are they supposed to call 911?

Josh: Yeah I mean

Det. Poling: They are?

Josh: I mean he wouldn't say don't call 911 if someone is in trouble, absolutely not.

Det. Poling: Okay. In 2005 when this was happening, weren't you around when he was yelling at Amayra for calling 911?

Josh: You know I do remember them arguing, I don't remember the argument. I mean I know he was mad that, that, that an ambulance had to come.

Det. Poling: Amayra was mad? Amayra called the ambulance.

Josh: No but I mean she was mad that she had to even call the ambulance.

Det. Poling: Right. How was James Ray?

Josh: I wasn't, I mean I wasn't, they were, to the side arguing and I didn't talk to him afterwards, it wasn't my place to talk to them about (Inaudible) .

Det. Poling: Why would they argue?

Josh: I mean I, I, I remember knowing that, that Amayra was not happy that that whole situation happened and, and understandably.

Det. Poling: Okay. The argument happened and while this person and I'll say Daniel was doing this, what were you doing at that time?

Josh: I was, I was with Daniel and just trying to help calm him down. You know like I said he was, he was you know pretty belligerent, he was swinging, swinging his fist and so I was doing my best to, to, to keep him. I remember he wouldn't sit down or anything so you know I would I just kept him standing and at least got him to stop swinging and that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: Who was around you guys when this was going on? Who was helping him out?

Josh: It's so long ago.

Det. Poling: I know

Josh: I remember his wife was there and I was the only, I was the only (Inaudible) team member other than James but I just remember I was there and his wife was there cause I remember her talking to him but I don't remember the other participants who were helping him.

Det. Poling: Where was James Ray?

Josh: James I believe in 2005 as soon as he got out of the lodge I believe he went, he just went back to his room and showered up. I think he just the first one to exit and then he just went back. And then when the ambulance was called they went and got him from his

room and I think that's when the argument happened that you were talking about with Amayra. So he came and so he was down there before the ambulance came.

Det. Poling: So after this sweat happens and he just takes off and people are needing help then?

Josh: Yeah. I think at that, at that year he just wasn't even aware that people needed help. Like in the part, I believe and to my best knowledge he's been there three times before.

Det. Poling: Prior to leaving though someone had to exit that sweat that day. They were having difficulties but they must wait till the next round, wait till the round is over before you leave. There was someone having distress in there, did he check on that person to see how they were after the sweat?

Josh: Not immediately after, no, but he's, he's the first one, he's the first one to exit and so you know we all leave clockwise in a single file and so it takes awhile for everybody to come out. So what happened in 2005 and this was also when we switched the events so it was the first time that we didn't go straight to Vision Quest. So he's the first one to exit and so he got hosed off and then he just gathered his stuff and went. So I think and that's what we changed for the next year was that you know James's hung out because we realized that that was not the right thing, and it was just an oversight I think.

Det. Poling: Okay. What medical instructions or policies are in place for you to follow if there's an emergency? What are you told to do?

Josh: Again, I mean not much other than, I mean

Det. Poling: What are you told to do?

Josh: Just to get people out of the lodge and then let them, I mean help them, cool them off, water them down.

Det. Poling: Okay. Who's in charge of medical emergencies?

Josh: Typically on site that's the event coordinator is, is kind of in charge of the first aid.

Det. Poling: Who would that be in 2005?

Josh: 2005 that might have been before we, we put that into place.

Det. Poling: That's what I understood you didn't have a

Josh: Right

Det. Poling: CPR or anything in place then anyway.

Josh: Right.

Det. Poling: Okay. So it's kind of, I'm not trying to put words in your mouth but I don't think there's much emergency policy in place. It doesn't seem like you really knew what to do

Josh: Correct

Det. Poling: when that guy was having his issue in 2005 and that's not a bad thing.

Josh: Right, yeah and that's the thing is like we, I don't think any of us really knew, I mean I had never experienced that before.

Det. Poling: Okay. Well since 2005 what has been put into place in case of an emergency, what procedures?

Josh: The, well the, the first aid training.

Det. Poling: CPR?

Josh: Yep uhm, and then what we've also done as preventative here is this year and I wasn't, you know, in charge of this piece of the coordination but this year I left the lodge for the last round, I wasn't in it for the last round. But when I was out there, they had towels and water, they had lemon water and they had electrolytes there and all that stuff was new since, since uhm 2006 was the last time I was in it. So to me it was a much improved experience outside the lodge in terms of being taken care of.

Det. Poling: With, with water to hydrate and water to hose the bodies down but what I'm talking about is medical distress. Say someone's having a heart attack or someone is dehydrated

Josh: Right

Det. Poling: and maybe shocked, what training have you had with, with uh heat stroke or hyperthermia?

Josh: Right. Nothing to my knowledge. To me personally I have not had any.

Det. Poling: You know, has James; okay, after 2005 did you guys have a sit down around the table and say look something happened, how can we prevent this from happening again? Did you have that sit down?

Josh: Uhm, yes.

Det. Poling: Okay. And if so what did you guys change?

Josh: We, I believe that's when we first started talking about CPR first aid training.

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: And then we also, I know that throughout all this is you know, we've gone to, we kind of relied on our insurance company and our uhm legal team to one, shape, shape the waivers for the legal team and then for the insurance company to tell us what, what's required.

Det. Poling: Did any of James Ray's staff or himself go to the hospital and obtain the medical record on this guy to see what happened to see if you could change this from occurring again? Did they know what happened to him?

Josh: No. I mean other than to report back that he was okay. I mean that's the only thing that we received back from Daniel coming back from hospital.

Unknown: They're not allowed to go get someone else's medical records.

Det. Poling: But I didn't know if he asked. If James Ray; I see what you're saying, medical records are private, you can't get them. So did anyone go check on him at the hospital?

Josh: I believe his wife went with him.

Det. Poling: From JRI?

Josh: From JRI nobody's in the hospital because he came back I believe later, later that evening, I don't recall specifically.

Det. Poling: Okay. And did they make efforts to talk to him to see

Josh: Yeah to check

Det. Poling: what happened?

Josh: Yeah and that's, you know, that's how we got word back that he was doing okay.

Det. Poling: How is he today?

Josh: Uhm, I haven't, I haven't talked to him or had contact with him in.

Det. Poling: Has anyone followed up on him and his health that you know of?

Josh: Uhm, Not that I'm aware of.

Det. Poling: Okay. So you had a medical emergency or the medics came out, nothing was changed after that except for the fact that now you have more hydrating, maybe a little food; how about medical staff? Did he incorporate medical staff?

Josh: Uhm, No.

Det. Poling: Does he have doctor on board?

Josh: No. This year, this year we had one of our Dream Team members was a nurse.

Det. Poling: Who was that?

Josh: Lisa Rondan, she's a registered nurse.

Det. Poling: Okay, What was she doing this year in 2009?

Josh: She was outside of the lodge the entire time taking care of people. So she was also, I mean obviously after the lodge she was you know involved in the CPR and everything.

Det. Poling: So she was Dream Team?

Josh: Yeah and then she also went to the hospital and helped. I mean it was tough cause we, we sent her and Melinda out to go connect with people and see how they're doing in the hospital and they had to go to like, you know I guess four different hospitals, to find everybody and they couldn't, they weren't family so they couldn't even check on people. So you know they did the best they could that night.

Det. Poling: Okay. That was 2009. What instructions were given to the Dream Team people during this like for instance Lisa Rondan, did I say the name right?

Josh: I think it's Rondan.

Det. Poling: Rondan?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: What is her instruction to do? Is she CPR certified? You said she is a nurse?

Josh: She is the nurse so I don't know.

Det. Poling: Do you know anything about her nursing?

Josh: No other than she's a registered nurse.

Det. Poling: Okay. So she's an RN?

Det. Poling: To my knowledge yes.

Josh: And she was asked by someone to do this to be a nurse on staff this day or is she just a nurse and she is part of the program?

Josh: She is a nurse whose part of the program.

Det. Poling: Did anyone ask her to be a nurse this night?

Josh: Like to put on scrubs, no.

Det. Poling: No, tonight your job is to make sure everyone is safe; did anyone give her that direction?

Josh: Yeah. So before the sweat lodge in the morning of uhm, Megan and I sat down with the Dream Team and we gave each of them different roles. So we split off a chunk of them to, to be outside the lodge to take care of people.

Det. Poling: Who was outside?

Josh: I'll go from memory it was Lisa, Marta, Barb, Christine, Melinda; I think that's it. I mean if I had a roster I could, I could point them out. So we had people who were outside the lodge and they were instructed to take care of people, cool them down with towels that, that sort of thing. And then we had people in the lodge as well.

Det. Poling: And who was inside the lodge?

Josh: In the lodge was Erin Bennett. He was, he was helping taking the stones from the door and pushing them into the pit. So the person outside would just give us the stone and then Erin would bring the rest of the way. Myself, Megan, Taylor, James, Liz and Mark were inside.

Det. Poling: I'm sorry to go back, I need to go back just a little bit. Prior to the sweat lodge you guys are doing whatever because you're not doing the Vision Quest

Josh: Correct

Det. Poling: the team isn't doing the Vision Quest. So we have people out here doing on the Vision Quest; what is your job here while the Vision Quest is going on to do? What are you instructed to do? What's the purpose of you guys? What do you do?

Josh: While people are on the Vision Quest, the Dream Team splits up into two groups into two shifts and so they're instructed to stay in the dinning hall area with a walkie-talkie just in case someone comes back or they're needed. So they're, they're instructed to

be on-call so to speak so if someone from Angel Valley needs them for a participant or if they see a participant come back so each shift, there is a morning shift and then an evening shift.

Det. Poling: And on that, on the 2009 do you remember who was morning and who was night?

Josh: I believe Mark and Erin were morning and then the ladies were the evening shift so that would be Liz, Christine, Barb, Lisa.

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: What is the response there? What else besides if someone comes back and there's another reason. It's in respect for the people that are out there, what is your job to do?

Josh: Oh you're talking about holding space so to speak.

Det. Poling: Yes

Josh: So we're basically the people who are staying back, that's their, the physical function is to be there in case someone comes back or they need, they need help or Angel Valley needs something in regards to our participants so it's support from that perspective. And then they're also there to hold space or basically hold the intention that they'll have a great experience in the Vision Quest and to also be real reflective so not to

Det. Poling: Sounds meditative.

Josh: Yeah, yeah, meditative and it's not they have to not talk to each other or that sort of thing but it's just to be aware and be respectful that, that you know the participants are experiencing this stuff on property.

Det. Poling: Okay, where were you on the evening of that Vision Question that night, where were you?

Unknown: I'm sorry, what's that called again? Hold a space?

Josh: Hold space, holding space.

Unknown: I just want to (Inaudible) the term

Det. Poling: Isn't that, if I'm getting this right, a meditative type where they subconsciously put people out in the field, right?

Josh: Yea (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) So during that time, where were you that night?

Josh: Megan and myself we went to dinner in town

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: where we were going over you know, the event so far and, and you know what we needed to do for the next day.

Det. Poling: Okay. So Liz, Christine, Barb and Lisa were all together?

Josh: Yeah and then Marta and Linda were with them but they weren't assigned to be there.

Det. Poling: Okay. What were they doing that night that they weren't supposed to be doing?

Josh: Okay, so you, you want (Inaudible) the story?

Det. Poling: Absolutely

Josh: So we uhm, Megan and I we're, we're out and we're going through the, the event and we get a call from James about James was out and had dinner and then came back or some; he had lunch and he came back and he's gonna rest up, take a nap or whatever and I guess the women had come back, they had a great day in town. And then they came back and they were I guess giggly would be the term or excited or, or kind of loud. And so they were loud enough to wake James up from two doors down. And so James came in, was like what are you doing? Shut up basically and then uhm, so then they're kind of like oh what's going on or whatever, they you know, they had a bottle of wine or two to my knowledge.

Det. Poling: How many?

Josh: I don't, a couple, I don't know. I wasn't there so.

Det. Poling: Okay. You didn't see that?

Josh: I didn't see the wine, no. So the girls kind of came back and were in more of a party mood than, you know not like crazy but than, than kind of respecting the space. And so James came back out later and they sat down and talked through and what it meant and what it brought up for each of them. And so I completely forgot Jen Haley, she was on that shift as well and she was also outside the lodge as well.

Unknown: Jen Haley?

Josh: Jen Haley.

Unknown: Yeah.

Josh: So to my knowledge this is what I mean cause I talked with them the next morning about it, kind of their experience. But you know each of them kind of took their own learning from it and you know, man, you know, each one, it was different for each person. But we got a call, Megan and I, Megan got a call from James while we were at dinner. It's like they're partying with wine and playing music, and being loud and in Angel Valley the sound travels you know so who knows if our participants heard them doing that which you know ruins the whole idea of Vision Quest. So Megan and I got that call or Megan got that call and we spent the rest of that night discussing how we would handle it and that sort of thing.

Det. Poling: I don't want to harp on that, I just want to find out what was going on and why they weren't holding the space.

Josh: Yeah. When we talked about it, they all realized it, you know and they're all real responsible people so they took responsibility for it and learned from it.

Det. Poling: Okay. Barb Waters, 2008, a year before, that she had an issue; tell me what happened with Barb Waters.

Josh: I wasn't there so I don't know other than

Det. Poling: Okay, that's right you weren't there sorry.

Josh: It's all right. But I mean I did, like this year I remember Barb saying I want to be outside the lodge because, I don't was, you know, I don't know what she said but she went crazy last year is what, to the effect of what she said. I didn't ask the specifics on that.

Det. Poling: Alright while you said that, let's go a little deeper on that. Barb Waters wanted to go in that lodge, Barb Waters was told she could not go in that lodge, do you know why?

Josh: When we discussed in the group kind of like who wants to go in, who wants to, Barb said you know if, I'd like to go in the lodge however in light of what happened last year whatever it was you know I understand about not going in the lodge.

Det. Poling: Would any of that have to do with her not paying her dues to be in the World Wide Society, you are sure that had no effect?

Josh: Yeah cause Megan and I made those decisions and that had nothing to do with it.

Det. Poling: What was she banned from? Because her debt was not paid, she did not pay her fees so she was

Josh: She was banned from (Inaudible)?

Det. Poling: Yea. Something that all World Wide Society members get to do.

Josh: Oh, are you talking about the hike in Sedona?

Det. Poling: Yea. And I was also talking about not being able to participate because she wasn't current on her dues.

Josh: So not entirely accurate.

Det. Poling: That's fine. So back in February we had World Wealth Congress which was a meeting with just the World Wealth Society members and we gave them an opportunity to renew for the upcoming year there and dues weren't due until April. So we wanted people to sign up in February so we said anybody who signs up now, in February, gets to go on this bonus hike with James before Spiritual Warrior. And so she was one of the ones that didn't, she renewed before then so she just didn't get the bonus hike. She wasn't banned from anything.

Det. Poling: Okay. So it didn't have anything to do with it?

Josh: Yeah, correct.

Det. Poling: Talked a lot about that. Let's go up back.

Voice: Bonus hike and sign up for dues.

Josh: Yeah. The World Wealth Society God bless them, they're like the biggest fans and they, they love to be a part of everything and so they also love to talk, so.

Det. Poling: Well, they get notoriety too.

Josh: Sure, yeah

Det. Poling: you know what I mean? They stand behind that red roped area and you're acknowledged.

Josh: Yea it's a status symbol you know? Their definitely high maintenance and we love them for it.

Det. Poling: Okay, alright. Doctors, participants, lodge. Were you aware of doctors in the lodge?

Josh: To my knowledge, Jeanne Armstrong is a doctor.

Det. Poling: What kind of doctor?

Josh: I, I don't know.

Det. Poling: Who else?

Josh: To my knowledge that's it.

Unknown: I think she might be like a general practitioner or something like that.

Det. Poling: Is a female then?

Josh: Yea, she is

Det. Poling: Not a dentist?

Josh: Not a dentist.

Unknown: That's that other, uhm

Josh: That's Beverly Bunn

Unknown: Beverly Bunn

Josh: She's a dentist

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: Uhm Geanne is G-E-A-N-N-E.

Det. Poling: That's okay.

Josh: Okay. Uhm, yeah I mean we don't ask people's professions when they come in.

Det. Poling: Well do you expect them to give aid? Are you saying (Inaudible) a doctor? Would you be, if something happens, would you help us?

Josh: No, I would liken it to like a plane. So if they say is there a doctor on board, you know.

Det. Poling: Are you aware that there's doctor on board then?

Josh: Uhm, I wasn't aware before that but I you know I wouldn't say no for everybody. I mean conversation comes up and people, you know, other people

Unknown: Just say you personally (Inaudible)

Josh: Personally don't know

Det. Poling: Right. So if, if that doctor in that group in the sweat lodge, do you what position they're in?

Josh: I didn't know where, where she was in, no.

Det. Poling: Okay alright. When this was happening in 2009, stuff was happening prior to, people had left the lodge early that time, you know there's a few sets but mainly.

Unknown: I'm sorry, what year?

Det. Poling: 2009.

Det. Poling: And there was people that had left in kind of the first round, some people left and what is the Dream Team's responsibility to get the people back into the lodge? What are they told, first round, and people come out; what is the Dream Team's responsibility to get them back into the lodge?

Josh: There's no set responsibility of you need to get people back in or you're encouraged to get people back in, that's not part of anything that we discuss so.

Det. Poling: So if a Dream Team member was encouraging them to go back in,

Josh: They were doing that probably on their own.

Det. Poling: Now were you aware of that?

Josh: And I was not aware of that, if they were doing that.

Det. Poling: That still surprises you?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: Because she was told by one of the staff members not to do that; to encourage people. What happened was someone came out in that first round, okay. There was a Dream Team member that says get back inside there, you're not done, you're more than that, you can do it.

Josh: Yeah, I would not condone that.

Det. Poling: Is that something that is condoned not maybe by you but by James?

Josh: No, I mean that's not communicated at all.

Det. Poling: Why would a Dream Team member do something like that?

Josh: May I ask which Dream Team member?

Det. Poling: I believe it was Barb Waters.

Josh: Barb? That was gonna be my guess. Barb is very by the book. So I mean throughout the week we kind of had to keep reminding her to not be so hard core.

Det. Poling: By the book, what do you mean by the book?

Josh: She's, she, yeah, okay, she takes things very literally. Uhm, she, uhm, you know if something, I'm trying to give another example other than this one. I can't think of another example but kind of like little things would pop up through the week or it would be like you know someone was in meditation and this is totally made up right now but this is an example.

Unknown: This didn't happen but this is your example of something?

Josh: This did not happen but this will be the (Inaudible)

Unknown: This is your hypothesis of what might have happened

Josh: This is what I would interpret as by the book. You know like we're supposed to take our shoes off outside the meeting room before coming in the meeting room so we don't track dirt in there. She would be the type of person, and I love Barb if she ever hears this, uhm she's the type of person that if someone, if she noticed someone with shoes on in the middle of meditation, she would want to go, ask that person to take their shoes off in the middle of meditation because they're not supposed to have their shoes on kind of deal. And we know that it's not appropriate to do that, to go interrupt their meditation to have them take their shoes off kind of deal. So it's surprising to me that she would do that because that's never been communicated so that was maybe her interpretation of what needed to happen.

Det. Poling: Aren't they encouraged to go back in and to finish the session? I mean it may not be spoken you have to do something but is it encouraged to finish out the sessions to get the full effect?

Josh: Not to get the full effect, no.

Det. Poling: To get what?

Josh: I mean once you leave, you're free to come in and to leave, and you are free to come in whenever you want. And in between rounds what that looks like is after everybody's exited James would say hey we're gonna start the next round, does anybody want to come in and he will ask and he won't, I mean he never

Det. Poling: He physically goes out?

Josh: No, no. He just kind of yells off up the tarp and then if the message needs to be relayed then but you can, I mean you can hear him there, uhm you know that if anybody wants to come in and it's totally just a standing offer, no pressure to come back in and it's never communicated that if you don't do the whole thing, you won't get the full effect or you won't (Inaudible) .

Det. Poling: Don't get me wrong here, I'm really thinking you're a little bit playing that off just a little bit because and when I say that James Ray, not in my opinion, it's in everyone's opinion, he is very intense.

Josh: Sure

Det. Poling: Very, you know his, his things are better, more intense than anyone else's, everything is to the Nth degree.

Josh: Yea, (Inaudible) Right.

Det. Poling: So someone that wants to leave the first round, it may not be, you need to get back in, but the encouraging aspect; you are more than that, that comes up all the time;

Josh: Yeah

Det. Poling: you are more than that, so that encourages people. Are people encouraged to continue through the rounds, not threatened?

Josh: Right. No I mean like literally sitting outside, whatever is going on in their head is what's going on in their head but when they're sitting outside, literally the only communication with people outside is hey anybody want to come back in. And that's, I mean

Det. Poling: Well that's why I was asking if Barb was doing this to encourage them cause that's what she's trained to do.

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: Trained to get them back in so that they can experience this, whatever is supposed happened here. If you don't experience something, you're going to go back and say that was nothing.

Josh: Right. Yeah. And so you know I think you know in the case Barb encouraging them that was the way she interpreted what she thought was the best thing for that person.

Det. Poling: What's the goal of the sweat lodge? Why do you go in there?

Josh: The goal for the sweat lodge; it's a metaphor work for death and rebirth. Sweat lodge is, is, is likened to a womb in Native American tradition so basically you're going in. I mean before the sweat lodge they burned all the crap if they wanted to; their journals that they wrote, that they wrote in for the week. They had two journals, one that they wrote, they just wrote in and then one that they took notes in. So you know if they wanted to burn the stuff they could and just kind of symbolically release it. So you go into the lodge with that intention of letting that stuff go and becoming a new person and then when you exit the lodge and James says it's like exiting the womb and you're reborn, you're new person. And so

Det. Poling: By why a sweat lodge? You can do that in a,

Josh: Sure

Det. Poling: have a fire pit outside and you can have a nice tent and you can have

Josh: Sure

Det. Poling: a meditative type atmosphere in other areas of that site.

Josh: Right. Part of what we do for events and I say we, I am not employed with JRI anymore, uhm, my last day was Friday.

Unknown: But you're still contractor.

Josh: I'm, I'm an independent contractor.

Unknown: The whole, their laying off in the businesses.

Josh: Can't afford it

Unknown: Can't afford it but

Josh: So pretty much everybody is laid off except for one of the team members. But when I say we, I mean JRI. The JRI events are very, uhm people come because their, their not only James' dynamic and he's got great content to share but they also, their not like a typical corporate seminar where you go in and you're bored to death. So typically each set, each program or event has a component that people, and usually it's a physical component that's usually kind of a mystery, it's not because it says at the top of all the waivers that they sign before they come into the event but it's something that they don't, really wouldn't do really anywhere else or, or in a normal situation so you know like breaking boards or the fire walk, that sort of thing. So it's more of a physical metaphor for what the mental work that you've done that week.

Det. Poling: 2009, stuff's happening, people are falling, people can't get out of the lodge, people have a very difficult time. James is the first one out because last in, first out, the way it goes clockwise.

Josh: Yep.

Det. Poling: When people are outside in distress, what is James doing?

Josh: I was helping Megan because she was one of the first ones out too. So I was helping Megan because she was kind of weak and walking so I got her sat her down and was giving her drinks and that sort of thing because I knew that we would kind of need to spring in action to help people; to the degree of what the help was needed, I had no idea but you know I know that that's our purpose there is to help people, do the best that we can. And so I was helping get Megan back into things, back into action mode I would say and that's when I heard someone yell for a nurse. You know, we need a nurse behind the sweat lodge. And so that's, by the time, when I heard that, I went around the sweat lodge and Megan was there and James had joined us by the time, while we were walking around the back of the sweat lodge and there were James Shore and Kirby Brown laying on the ground and they were already both getting CPR.

Det. Poling: James walked over to that area?

Josh: Mmm hmm

Det. Poling: Was that before or after he took the shower

Josh: That was before

Det. Poling: Took the shower, I mean hosed off?

Josh: Oh he gets hosed off right as he comes out.

Det. Poling: Right. So you're right behind him?

Josh: I, I, I wasn't in there for the last round.

Unknown: Yeah, he wasn't there for the last round.

Det. Poling: So Megan came out early too then if you're helping Megan out or did you go back in to get Megan?

Josh: She came out on her own. So people, people all started coming out on their, on their own so Megan came out.

Det. Poling: So sixth round, we're not even done yet. The sixth round there's people laying around?

Josh: Sure.

Det. Poling: Needing attention?

Josh: Yeah, yeah in between rounds, I mean throughout people could leave and come and go as they pleased and so there were people sitting out there in-between rounds and I wasn't out there so I don't know how many people during those rounds were out there.

Det. Poling: So before the seventh round was over there's people laying out there after maybe the sixth round that needed attention, is that correct?

Josh: I'll tell you what I know. I came out after the seventh round.

Det. Poling: So, is there eight rounds?

Josh: There were eight rounds.

Det. Poling: Okay. That's kind of strange, isn't it?

Josh: Not really.

Unknown: Yeah I'm really trying to understand just so we're clear. I'm sure there are many people you can talk to her were on on the outside. People just sometimes leave and it's not that they're

Det. Poling: always in distress.

Unknown: Yeah I mean when you're saying need attention, I just want to make sure we're not

Det. Poling: Need attention by drinking,

Unknown: You know, they just wanna get wiped off and cool down

Josh: Yeah, cooled down

Det. Poling: I'm not saying medical attention

Unknown: That's cool

Det. Poling: I'm just saying they're laying around, they're being hosed off, they're getting their bodies cooling down.

Josh: Yeah

Det. Poling: is what I'm trying to get at here. And you see this, okay and you know you're out there early

Unknown: You should wear some glasses.

Josh: Oh yeah. So I need my glasses and I took them off before going in and so throughout the whole time until, you know, I helped Megan, I didn't have my glasses. And so if my remembrance of who people are is kind of blurred it's because my vision was blurry but we haven't really got into much of that yet.

Unknown: But I just wanna, you know look you guys keep going with this, do whatever you feel is right but you know there are a lot of people. I mean the year before or something like 20 people left in the first round and it just, it's not always that they're laying on, sometimes it's not for them, I mean they don't want to do this.

Josh: Right, right. No I understand that.

Unknown: Okay, that's good.

Det. Poling: And I don't even know if year's before this there was 20 people lying around either, I don't know that. All's I know is

Unknown: I mean I wasn't there but I had heard that the first round of 2008 or something like that 20 people just walked out.

Det. Poling: It wasn't for them, and they left okay. Is that what you mean, it wasn't for them, the sweat lodge wasn't for them?

Unknown: Yeah. Well they were in there and it's like this is frickin' hot so they don't want to be in there.

Josh: I understand that.

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: At the end of the sweat in 2009, what did you observe?

Josh: Well, everybody came while I was helping Megan in sitting her down and get her water I know everybody came out and people were laying around. And it seemed at that point right off the bat pretty typical or normal because most people just kind of come out and lay down, they get hosed off and that sort of thing. The first indication to me that anything was wrong was somebody yelled for a medic and so that's when I went over behind the lodge and I saw James Shore and Kirby Brown laying there getting CPR and that's the first incidence that I had of well something is horribly wrong here. And first thing I ask is if paramedics' been called and someone had run off to call the paramedics

already. And so then at that point, for me personally, I don't know CPR so what I personally did is started going kind of around to see who needs help and who doesn't and everybody that needed help or that was unconscious or whatever had someone who was conscious with them. And then I also helped, I recommended the people who were good, able and not helping people to go back to their rooms so we could see when the paramedics arrived who needed help and who didn't. So we just started sorting through things because a lot of people were kind of just hanging around and they were fine and they weren't helping somebody so it just adding to the confusion.

Det. Poling: So who told you to do this triage?

Josh: Who told me to do that, nobody. That's just me you know doing the best I can in that situation with what I know.

Det. Poling: So you were with Megan helping her and then you decided to go in and check, you checked on people and got rid of people that were just hanging around and going around. Where were you in relationship to James during this time?

Josh: James, for the most part, was hanging around kind of the backside of the lodge.

Det. Poling: I would say this is the flap right here that's the front.

Josh: So the two of them were like about here

Unknown: The two of them being?

Josh: Kirby and, and James Shore. Uh they are about here and they had probably each about at least three people each doing you know CPR and helping out there.

Det. Poling: Do you know who was working on these people? Did you see them?

Josh: Yeah. I mean I, and they were taking turns and stuff. I know Marta was there, I know, and they were kind of switching between the two as well.

Det. Poling: Marta, and who else?

Josh: Marta, Melinda, Jeanne was there, Barb was there, Jane Healy was there. So James was mostly hanging out like over here.

Det. Poling: Okay. This I would say is where the water is.

Josh: Water was actually like right here.

Det. Poling: Oh more over here?

Josh: Yeah. So that's the water and then over here are the tarps. So were like chairs right here so James was kind of hanging out back here.

Det. Poling: James was here?

Josh: Yeah. So I mean James had I mean

Det. Poling: Did he ever go over here?

Josh: Yeah I mean he did to, to see what's going on, I mean but there

Det. Poling: Did you observe that?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: What did you observe him do? Tell me what he did and then what did he do afterwards?

Josh: When I saw him he went there. I mean he was in, in a state of shock.

Det. Poling: Where were you?

Josh: I was, I was right in this area.

Det. Poling: So you were with him?

Josh: Yeah and but I mean and then he you know he walked over here too.

Det. Poling: Did you walk with him?

Josh: No but

Unknown: You should, you mean like side by side walking right together? Because all these places were pretty close.

Josh: Yeah. I mean this is all within a matter of you know maybe two feet here. So I did walk with him at one point and then I walked back over here. And then at one point he, he came back over. I mean he was in a state shock and rightly so and the people were being taken care of and you know James was right there and all that he could do I think was to hold attention and pray for them.

Det. Poling: Okay. How long was he here before he left?

Josh: Before he left?

Det. Poling: The area.

Josh: This back area? I'm not sure. He was hanging out in this back area for a while I believe almost and even until the, the paramedics came.

Det. Poling: So EMT's came?

Josh: Mmm hmm.

Det. Poling: Okay and then where did he go? Did he hang around?

Josh: After the EMT's came and everybody was getting taken care of that's when the sun started to go down and so I, I told, I told James to go back to his room and shower up and to get into warm, dry clothes. And Megan and I took turns and ran in and turned into, changed into dry clothes cause it was getting cold really fast and we were in these wet clothes. And so at that point, he, he went back to his room once the, once the paramedics were there taking care of things.

Det. Poling: So when EMT's arrived. How long after that was he, did he go five minutes, ten minutes, an hour?

Josh: It was, my sense of time during that was not the best, I mean we were kind of all running around. It was, it was once the paramedics were going through everybody in like the initial like emergency kind of this is what's going on and that initial rush was done uhm that, that I had a chance to go back and talk to him and say hey go back and shower.

Det. Poling: What did you hear James Ray say during this time to the staff members as far as instruction?

Josh: Uhm, I don't recall him instructing or talking to anybody other than you know my, my personal conversation with him which was just holy shit kind of conversation.

Det. Poling: So what was done differently in this 2009 than the previous years that you have observed?

Josh: In terms of what I experienced inside the sweat lodge there was nothing different in terms of how it was facilitated inside the lodge compared to prior years that I have been a part of. And that's, and that's the toughest part for me is because I mean there's got to be, I mean there's got to be a reason, that's what we're trying to find.

Det. Poling: Okay. So 2009, this year, a day, two days whatever I don't know how long it took you guys to regroup. Did you guys regroup and talk about what had happened, had a debriefing?

Josh: This year, no because

Unknown: Well you know what I just want to make sure, I, I'm not, we don't want to pump into a privilege issue and I wasn't the lawyer in the beginning of this case so I don't know whether

Det. Poling: I won't talk about lawyer stuff, I just wonder if they debriefed and talked about the situation.

Unknown: No, I hear you. I'm just trying to draw just to make sure we don't step on something by accident

Det. Poling: Okay, that's cool

Unknown: cause I know and I wasn't the lawyer in the beginning of the case so I know what happened. I believe what happened was at some point a lawyer I guess Steve Meister became involved and I'm just not sure, that night. So I'm not sure which of these conversations that you might be wanting to know about would be considered privileged or not and I just want to draw the line and maybe.

Unknown #2: And we don't want to ask you any questions if you talked to Steve Meister

Unknown: My, my issue is this. I don't know what, I don't know what he's gonna say when you're asking these kinds of questions, so maybe

Unknown #2: Let's make it clear. We're not asking if you talked to Steve Meister or another employee or even James Ray himself said, told you Josh, this is what Steve Meister just told me or what I just told Steve Meister. We don't want you to tell us about that because that's privileged and it sounds like the company's asserting (Inaudible)

Josh: But I can say; what I'll say it as we did not debrief it as a team because by that point Steve Meister was involved and, and out prior PR company was involved and so, I mean we, we've been running on the legal aspect since then and you know even personally until I spoke

Unknown: I think that's enough. I mean basically it seems to me and I don't want to, cause we can go talk to Steve cause I want you to get the information you're looking for, but we can talk to Steve and say hey, you know where did this line get drawn? Because I just don't want to get; I wasn't there so I don't want to

Det. Poling: Uhm, so how, is it safe, can I say, ask

Unknown: (Inaudible) just let me know what the questions are and then I can figure out a way to get you answers through him that would be not, not subject to some privilege or not. I mean however you want to do it. But I, I'm worried cause I wasn't there.

Det. Poling: I hear ya and tell me if I step on something. Uhm, okay let's say before

Unknown: Can I just tell you why? Cause I think that actually (Inaudible) to me uhm if a lawyer talks to employee A and says employee A, gather up certain information. And if employee A then turns around and then talks to employee B and says blah, blah, blah, blah, blah (Inaudible) but that's all sorta started by a lawyer, even employee B may not even be aware that it started with a lawyer. There's some privileges that attach there and uhm frankly I'm not really thinking of those privileges all that (Inaudible). And I wasn't there so that's why I'm getting all (Inaudible) about this cause it's like okay well I don't know what the guy's told everybody to do on day, you know hour zero, zero, zero, one, you know. So I don't know what conversations or debriefs or whatever would be covered by the privilege and what would just be plain, you know, chit chat so that's why I'm sort of; maybe the, the solution is to you know; if you have some specific questions, I will do my damndest to sort all that out and then you know we can make (Inaudible) available by phone or whatever and try to tie that up, we can do that. We can go that route.

Det. Poling: Was there any debriefing before the lawyers were called, is that a safe question?

Unknown: Yea, that's a great question.

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Can you guys talk about what happened before the lawyers got involved? What the hell happened, things like that, just comments that you heard before the lawyers were involved?

Josh: I mean that was the extent of it. It was like what the hell happened. And I mean obviously none of us had any time and it was in while all this was happening and then right away you know the police were there and, and you know I was held down at the, at the lodge area for you know pretty much that whole night and so no, we didn't get a chance to discuss anything (Inaudible).

Unknown: When you say held down, you just mean there were officers there or what?

Josh: The officers weren't let me leave, so whatever that means.

Det. Poling: Okay. The time this happened til the time EMTs came to the time that police came and I don't have the exact time I'm, I'm just guessing and I'm not holding you to this but I'm guessing it took at least 30 minutes for the police to get there because we're usually the last ones there.

Josh: The police well, because we were helping people I mean I was helping people, I helped load people on the choppers. You know and so by the time things looked like they were getting taken care of by the paramedics, police were there. Police were even asking questions before people were being taken into ambulances.

Det. Poling: Before the ambulances, before the attorneys were involved with this, and this is happening, people are in pandemonium, it probably looks like a war zone down there

Josh: Sure

Det. Poling: what are you told by James Ray? Don't talk to the police, talk to the police, tell them the truth, don't them the truth?

Unknown: Before lawyers got involved.

Det. Poling: Before lawyers got involved.

Josh: James did not say anything about that in terms of, he's never once said to not tell the truth or to not speak or that sort of thing. So you know when the police got there, I gave an initial quick statement okay this is what's going on to the officer that was there like hey this is what we were doing and, and, and that sort of thing. And me, I said you know if you have any questions about what's going on, come see me because I was kind of (Inaudible) and knew I could handle and, and, and answer questions. James never instructed any of us to say or not say anything before the lawyers were called.

Det. Poling: Okay. And don't answer to this question cause I want to make sure it's a good question. When I came up to you, I personally came to you, and wanted to talk to you and you told me you could not or that you; you didn't say you couldn't, you said you didn't want to talk to me. Is it because you wanted a lawyer or because you thought James was gonna get you a lawyer? Is that a weird question?

Unknown: Yea it is a little weird. I mean no offense.

Det. Poling: That's okay.

Unknown: I think what happened and I will confirm this for you is James talked to somebody initially, I think it was the Sheriff himself at some point, something I'm not sure.

Det. Poling: Yeah I talked to him.

Unknown: Okay maybe it was you.

Unknown #2: You've just been elevated to Sheriff.

Unknown: Yea, congratulations!

Det. Poling: Definitely I am not the Sheriff. I never claimed to be the Sheriff! I am a low lying Deputy Detective.

Unknown: There was some conversation and then somebody said something about a homicide investigation. That's when I think they contacted the lawyers and then the lawyers gave sort of blanket something like that. And so to the extent that Josh is part of that discussion as an employee and what have you, I think that's probably where this is all coming from.

Det. Poling: Okay. So, another good question is did he tell you anything before the lawyers not to talk to us because of?

Unknown: That's fine.

Det. Poling: Before, did he tell you don't say nothing?

Josh: Not until after he talked to the lawyer.

Det. Poling: Okay, that's fine. I know that was a lame question.

Unknown: No, and these are touchy areas and because I wasn't there and Mike wasn't there and we just want to make sure we're not screwing it up by, by; yeah, yeah, yeah and say whatever you want and then oops.

Det. Poling: At that point when you talked to me, did you know that anyone was deceased? Or a better question is when did you know that they were deceased?

Josh: It was dark out and I don't recall the time but I was down there waiting.

Det. Poling: Before or after I talked to you?

Josh: It was before, before you talked to me. It was I think we went to, I think it might have been the fire chief wanted me to go up and find Megan to find out what type of incense was thrown on the fire. And so I went with Amayra and, and a fire representative up to the dining hall and, and uh Amayra told me at that time that the, that the two had died.

Det. Poling: Were Barb and Christina ever advised of that

Josh: Not to my knowledge.

Det. Poling: or were they near you or did they have any idea, to your knowledge, that they knew that two had died?

Josh: Not to my knowledge. You know

Det. Poling: You were sitting in the same car

Josh: We were sitting in the same car but we weren't talking about what happened.

Det. Poling: You didn't say to them that

Josh: No

Det. Poling: you knew that when you were in the car though

Josh: Yes

Det. Poling: that two had died but you didn't relay that to them?

Josh: I did not.

Det. Poling: Okay

Josh: I didn't have any answers and I had only heard from Amayra so.

Det. Poling: Alright, that's okay.

Unknown: Was that what you relayed to Barb and (Inaudible) Christine Jobe?

Det. Poling: Christine Jobe? Okay 2005, you go back, you debrief. Someone was injured; did you debrief?

Josh: You asked this earlier.

Det. Poling: Yeah. Did I ask if you made,

Josh: and that's when the CPR training and that sort of stuff came on.

Det. Poling: But no one knew what was wrong. Has anyone taken the time in the JRI staff from 2005 through 2007 and 8 when, when things are; I would say things have happened now where they haven't happened before; has anyone taken a look at what has happened to your knowledge and then said we need to improve or we need to change things, any precautions?

Unknown: Again I don't represent these guys in JRI for the last however many years but I don't know. So for instance whether somebody was (Inaudible) there might be a lawsuit and we should take X measures and lawyer A says do this, do that.

Unknown: I think you did hear though that they took the CPR courses and all of that. I can follow up on that and just see if there was like litigation, like (Inaudible) litigation or anything like that.

Unknown: I just want to be careful. I don't think you are asking about liability waivers.

Unknown: What we want to know and again look to your lawyer before you answer the question but what we want to know is did anybody after or even before the 2005 incident do some research or come in and present information to your group that these are the sort of risks that people face in a sweat lodge or these are the sort of things that could happen to a person in a sweat lodge if things go awry?

Unknown: This is a great question and Bill, can I do this, can I make this promise to you that we'll get you the answer but I just want to make sure that there isn't some other law firm that was involved in this that did some. I mean I haven't gone through their files to see if there were memos about this and here is what we recommend you do blah-blah-blah, there's some (Inaudible) litigation, you know all of that stuff. I will get you the answer but I want to make sure I don't put ourselves in some whacky position. So I'll just make a note to myself that I'll follow up on that and also follow up on whatever questions the detective might have. Is that fair?

Det. Poling: Okay. That's fair. There can be a couple of these that are going to be like kind of touchy and so we'll refer to them too first.

Unknown: So hang on, I'm gonna write this (Inaudible) so 2005, okay got it.

Unknown: And really what I'm interested in is before or after anytime to your knowledge did anybody on the staff or did anyone come in to present to the staff or any employees these are the risks that people face inside of a sweat lodge, these are the things that could happen to someone if the sweat lodge goes awry.

Unknown: I'll follow up

Det. Poling: Were you involved in the channeling?

Josh: No.

Det. Poling: You didn't participate at all?

Josh: No. We uhm, we left before, it happened on the day that we left I think or maybe the day after.

Det. Poling: That's good. When did you leave the lodge? Not the sweat lodge, the retreat, sorry.

Josh: We left Angel Valley the day after probably, it was later like probably at 5 or 6 PM.

Det. Poling: Friday? Thursday night?

Josh: Yeah so it was the day after. Yeah, cause we had to pack up and we also took care of, we were intending to leave earlier so we had to move up flights and everything but

you know we had to take care of all the different, find out where people are in the hospital and do our best to contact families and make sure people were okay.

Det. Poling: Did you have instruction on what to do?

Josh: Only from the legal team and from the PR team.

Det. Poling: Is it a good question if I say did James ask you to take care of any business before you left?

Unknown: What are you aiming at? What are you trying to get at?

Det. Poling: I just want to know what his responsibility was and then I am going to ask him what he observed, when did James Ray leave.

Unknown: How about we just go with when did James Ray leave because there is going to be a lot of things basically to collect information, we need to get all this stuff and it's going to be because the lawyers are saying, we need to do x, y and z. But honestly if you just give me like specifics, I will get them. I'll get the answers but I will have to weed it out of all the crap, sorry.

Josh: The question is when did James leave?

Det. Poling: When did you observe him leave out of the retreat for good?

Josh: It was about 2 or 3 in the morning on the advice of .

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Just when did he leave?

Josh: About 2-3 in the morning.

Det. Poling: That's fine. Did he come back?

Josh: No.

Det. Poling: Okay. And then you took off?

Josh: Next day like I said in the evening.

Det. Poling: You missed the channeling then.

Josh: Yeah. I believe it was the day after we left so it maybe two days later, I don't recall.

Det. Poling: Do you know how Barb Waters became a spokesperson?

Josh: Are you talking about the call, conference call or are you talking about?

Det. Poling: I guess there was a conference call and then Barb was on there talking about the channeling.

Unknown: So first, were you part of the call?

Josh: I was on the call.

Unknown: Okay

Josh: Uhm, Barb was there for the channeling and she sent an email, kind of describing her experience of what, what, what was said or what the channeler said I guess. That was, the Channeler or somebody that Angel Valley called in so it was completely separate from anything that JRI had to do. So she happened to be there and she sent an email explaining that and then we forwarded that email to James and he suggested that she share her experience with the people on the call.

Det. Poling: And I don't know if this is even a good question. Can I ask him what he heard her say in a phrase during that experience, and maybe it doesn't even matter.

Unknown: Why don't you ask it and if there is a problem (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: There was a comment that said that she listened to the Channeler and I won't be able to give this word for word but the idea was that she heard that James and Kirby were having an out of body experience and they were enjoying their experience and they decided not to come back. Do you remember that statement?

Josh: I remember that statement on the call, yes.

Det. Poling: Okay, you heard it?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: But you don't know if it's true or not?

Josh: No. I mean that was, yeah I mean to me that's, that's the channel's interpretation and I

Det. Poling: The channel's interpretation or her interpretation?

Josh: Her interpretation of the Channeler in reality but that's not an official position.

Det. Poling: That's fine. I just want to know if you heard that.

Josh: I did it and, and, and you know whether or not you believe it I think it's up to your personal beliefs.

Det. Poling: I go after facts.

Josh: Yeah. Exactly.

Det. Poling: Or I'll talk to the Channeler. How's that?

Josh: Good luck at proving that.

Det. Poling: Okay, uhm, I guess I'm getting pretty down to not having any more questions for you.

Unknown: Detective, I, I really am sincere. You just, whatever questions you want, just give me the bill and then

Det. Poling: For later on?

Unknown: Yea, because I'd, I'd like you, I don't want to, I don't want to not give you your answers. I just, I'm really (Inaudible) about the idea cause I wasn't there.

Det. Poling: That's fine. I've gotten myself, not confused but I've kinda you know jumped around just a little bit and there's probably some other questions that I'll bill later. Is there anything you want me to, you know

Unknown: Now, let me ask you, you were there through most of the sweat lodge. What is your opinion as someone who's done a sweat lodge before and then done this one, what do you think went wrong this time? That's the 64 million dollar question.

Josh: Yeah. It's the million dollar question, yeah. I said earlier like in terms of inside the lodge, the facilitation of it, there were no red flags, there was nothing different compared to prior lodges. And so you know I've heard theories about, and this is speculation, so I've heard theories about it being too short, about arsenic in the water, about people eating something weird for breakfast. What I know is that there has to be a reason that this many people were injured and that this all happened this year because in prior years we haven't experienced even anything close to this. Inside the lodge it drives me nuts just to think about why it's so different this year because I was in it and I experienced it and it's the same experience for me inside the lodge as prior years and I want you guys to find an answer.

Unknown: On the prior years when you were in the lodge have you seen people pass out or lose consciousness either inside the lodge or outside the lodge after they did their lodge experience?

Josh: Uhm, yeah. In terms of blacking out kind of thing or not being able to walk out of the lodge, needing to be carried out of the lodge, yeah it was similar.

Unknown: What do you mean by similar, similar to what?

Josh: Similar to my prior experience. That's why I say like inside the lodge this year it was, it was really, it wasn't unusual. I mean nothing, and I, when I'm in the lodge I know that I'm there to also kind of pay attention to things and you know I didn't, there were no red flags compared to my prior experiences in the lodge and that's all I had to go off of.

Unknown: And here's another question to all the lawyers before you answer. Do you know has anyone from prior experiences in the lodge notified James Ray or his company or any of employees about adverse medical experiences resulting from a lodge experience?

Unknown: Okay. The question is has a third party notify JRI, not how did JRI respond or?

Unknown: Not did how they respond, were they given notice that I went in there, my liver shut down or I went in there and I passed out?

Unknown: Any year besides '09?

Unknown: Any year but '09, has anybody come in and said I was in there and passed out and hit my head or I had any sort of a medical problem related to the sweat lodge experience.

Josh: My only knowledge of that happening is Daniel Fancock in 2005 and I have no knowledge of anybody legally you know contacting us or.

Unknown: (Inaudible) legally maybe maybe it's insurance wise, you work the email and the website, did someone send an email to the company and say anything about adverse medical problems that you're aware of?

Josh: No, not coming to us about it that I'm aware of.

Det. Poling: I want to ask another question that may be a lawyer thing here. In 2009 April,

Josh: April, okay.

Det. Poling: Were you in San Diego at that event? I don't know what the event was, I don't want to say it's Quantum Leap but that's when the woman at the Norton Plaza plunged to her death.

Josh: Oh, it was actually Creating Wealth in July and I was not at that event.

Det. Poling: You were not at the event. Was there discussion about safety measures and that might be another lawyer question.

Unknown: I just don't know the situation is but I mean for whatever it's worth like what safety measures could you have to keep somebody from you know, like seriously

Det. Poling: Well I mean like when I think about this, in business practices you know.

Unknown: But if you were at a church, or I mean I'm sorry, like he was at a football game at church like it would be any, take your pick, birthday party, whatever, somebody does something like this; it was investigated I believe at a coroner's office in San Diego and ruled as a suicide. I think it was. Anyway I could be wrong.

Det. Poling: Well it can look like a suicide if she jumps from a roof, it is a suicide.

Unknown: But I think regardless of what happened, I think and maybe I am putting words in Mike's, it's a question I have and again look to your lawyers for answer. Was there some sit down in the company to say we need to do things differently or look out for things differently in the future?

Unknown: And let me get back to you because I think you are right so July 9, San Diego, Harmonic Wealth?

Josh: Creating Wealth

Unknown: Creating Wealth

Josh: Yea

Det. Poling: And that's what I am trying to figure out is are these instances looked at in a manner to where corrections are being made or are they just being overlooked like it happened, let's go on? What, what could have caused this? It's just like a fire you know. Do they look into it and see what can we do differently next time? That's, you know, I don't know.

Unknown: I mean honestly I will definitely follow up on this but I'm just, you know, I'm just trying to imagine what you would say as a corporate practice to, to you know, prevent that kind of a tragedy. Because you are dealing with people and you don't know who they are and if they're going to jump, I don't want to be callous at all about this. I mean it's just very hard to know what you would do as a policy.

Det. Poling: What I want to go to is, and I didn't get to this with you but when I look at it, I look at the totality.

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Let me just ask this one more question because I didn't touch base on this and let's go to Kona. Let's go to Modern Magick. Was there ever, when you were at any of these events, was there any medical staff present?

Josh: At Kona specifically or?

Det. Poling: Modern Magick, any time.

Josh: At Harmonic Wealth weekend I don't remember which one I wasn't there, but few years ago we did have a paramedic on the standby and what it did is it created more people.

Det. Poling: What was the problem with that?

Josh: More people thought they were injured and the paramedic just kept turning people away. So what it did is it put it in their head that I am going to get hurt as soon as they saw a paramedic on site and so nobody was actually.

Det. Poling: Okay. During your 5 years with James Ray, how many events entailed breaking down the cinder blocks that you had been to personally?

Josh: Two.

Det. Poling: Was there more than that?

Josh: No.

Det. Poling: Just the two. So you've been to both the events and that's all?

Josh: They're not cinder blocks, they are like garden pavers so it's not like you are actually breaking them.

Unknown: Cinder block is being a big sort of a figure eight sort of, right?

Josh: Yeah we are not breaking those, we are just breaking like probably this thick by that big.

Det. Poling: Okay. How many injuries are you aware of?

Josh: First year we did it, there were none. Second year we did it, we had probably a handful of people that broke the bones in their hands and we haven't done it since then.

Det. Poling: You discontinued that practice?

Josh: Yeah.

Det. Poling: And how do you know this? How do you know that it was only the two times because in my research I have found more than a few times, that's why I am asking the question. What am I asking is what is done differently to stop this from happening? You know like if you went from a 1 inch brick to a half inch brick, you can still get through it; did he make any changes because there is injury?

Unknown: I would have to get back to you on that because I got to believe that there is a bunch of lawyers sort of not us but guys looking at this.

Unknown: And it happened in California therefore.

Unknown: Yeah. I mean just people are going to be saying okay you know, it's fair enough I mean but things happen, how does the company deal with it yeah just things happen, how does the company deal with it. So specifically the San Diego suicide, the brick breaking or the block breaking and whatever happened.

Det. Poling: Has the incidence ever changed to prevent this from happening?

Josh: Can I clarify the number of times that you have done brick breaking? I am curious because I have been there for five years and I remember the two times that we did it and I am curious as to you hearing more than that with brick breaking.

Det. Poling: I am hearing it from people even back in 2001 when you weren't even there. I heard it from an elderly lady. I think it's 2001 because it wasn't called Harmonic Wealth yet it was still called Power To Win.

Josh: I know Power To Win has always been board breaking so.

Det. Poling: And I don't have my facts totally right here but there is a lot of people that have come forward and said that they broke wrists and stuff and that might be a lawyer thing, don't go there. And the reason why I am asking this is because they may not report it to you because they feel stupid or whatever their reason may be but there is a lot of injury and my whole thing is you know what is being done. Does he ever, James Ray, does he ever change his practices so that there isn't these injuries or does he just keep being intense? Do we learn from our lessons?

Josh: And I guess in reality all I can really answer is from when I have been there but we have only done it twice since I have been there.

Unknown: And when was the last time?

Josh: The last time was 2008.

Det. Poling: And why did that stop? Did he say we are going discontinue to do this?

Unknown: I will totally give you the answer but I can just imagine just a bunch of lawyers back there who are like hey this is happening, are we gonna have liability.

Det. Poling: I am not trying to tread, don't worry about it.

Unknown: Naw, naw, it's all good. We'll get you the information.

(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: You know what, most of this is going to fall into that realm anyway when I ask these questions because that's what my investigation, not mine, this is Ross's investigation what we are trying to figure out; this is a fine line. Most of it's going to come from

Unknown: Okay. So are we done with the interview because I would like to chit chat with you guys some more?

End of taped interview.

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