

*I/V of Megan Fredrickson Transcript Det. Diskin and Det. Poling

On 01/14/10 Det. Poling and I interviewed Megan Fredrickson in the conference room of the West Inn and Suites in Carlsbad, CA. This was a "free talk" with a stipulation of use immunity. Megan was represented by her lawyer, Mike Proctor.

The following is a transcript of that interview:

Det. Diskin: This is a free talk with Megan Fredrickson, I'm Det. Diskin. Det. Poling's here and Megan's counsel, Mike Proctor, is present. It's already been stipulated by the County Attorney's office that this is a free talk, meaning that anything that Megan says cannot be used against her criminally unless she testifies differently than what she tells us, then her testimony today can be used as impeachment. I'm gonna try and go through this pretty quick so we're not here all day. You already did a pretty extensive interview so I don't want to have to go over everything that you've already said. Starting off, I kinda want to go in somewhat chronological; so I'm gonna start with 2005. First let me ask, have you attended any other sweat lodge other than a James Ray sweat lodge?

Megan: I've been to something that's similar to a sweat lodge called a Temexcal in Mexico when I was on vacation once. It's a similar experience but a different name.

Det. Diskin: Is that like similar to a Native American ritual?

Megan: Mmm hmm, but I imagine it's not Native American there

Det. Diskin: Right, right

Megan: but it's similar. You know there's a dome shaped structure and in this case it was a permanent structure that was at a resort I was at and you go inside and heat stones and there's a shaman inside who leads the ceremony.

Det. Diskin: Okay, have you done any independent research on how a sweat lodge is supposed to be run?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Do you have any knowledge of how to run a sweat lodge other than what you learned from James Ray?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Or what takes place in a sweat lodge?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay. And the reason I ask that is cause I don't know if you're describing stuff you may not know what the Native Americans do. And there's been a lot of; a lot of people are calling this a sweat lodge. But there's a lot of, I mean it's kind of different than what the Native Americans do, I'm sure you've seen that. The Native Americans are upset that anybody's even calling this a sweat lodge. Kind of the purpose for James Ray doing it is somewhat different than what the Native Americans do so that's why I asked that. In 2005, there was an issue, can you tell me about that? There was a problem.

Megan: After the sweat lodge as people were exiting there was; what my experience was because I was still in the lodge, there was kind of chaos around getting out. James is the first to leave the lodge and in 2005 he didn't remind participants to you know exit calmly, exit clockwise. He had told them earlier in the day when we were in the meeting room but he didn't before he got out and so a lot of the participants started kind of vocalizing you know, let me out, get me out of here, and kind of pushing each other. And my understanding is that one of the participants, once he got out, was, he kind of acted out. He was physical and somewhat belligerent. And that's just my understanding because I was inside the lodge helping to direct traffic and get people organized.

Det. Diskin: Okay. And that participant was Daniel, is that correct?

Megan: Daniel Pfankuch, yeah.

Det. Diskin: Okay, and during the sweat lodge in 2005, did James Ray; what did he say to encourage people to stay inside the lodge if anything?

Megan: I don't remember specifically what, are you saying when he was inside?

Det. Diskin: In other words, in 2009, he was telling people you can do it, hang in there, you're better than that,

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: in 2005 was he doing that?

Megan: I remember the same atmosphere like very much a coach would do, you know, encouraging? As far as specific language I'm not sure, I would guess it's very similar.

Det. Diskin: Okay. And then afterwards, there was, when you come out of the sweat lodge you realize that Daniel was acting out as you said? He was having some problems, did that go on for awhile?

Megan: I don't remember, I'm not sure and it was dark there. So I was like attending to the other participants as they were getting out and I was aware that something was happening but Josh, who was also there as a Team member, was, he was

in that area so I wasn't concerned with it, I was taking care of the participants who were like physically getting out of the lodge and getting hosed down and getting towels and things like that so I don't, I don't know. I mean my understanding of that incident was primarily from Josh afterwards, so.

Det. Diskin: Okay, and while that was going on when Daniel was having problems, several other witnesses have told us that, you know, people were saying we should call 911 and there was a discussion of whether or not 911 should be called. Do you remember that?

Megan: No, not at the time. I recall afterward hearing from both Amayra Hamilton and James. No I don't think, no, they didn't have a discussion about it.

Det. Diskin: Okay and Amayra ended up calling 911, correct?

Megan: Right as far as I know. I mean I know Angel Valley called.

Det. Diskin: How did James Ray respond to that? Several people have told us that James Ray had a reaction to Amayra calling 911.

Megan: No, I'm not aware of that. I was asked this question last time as well and I heard from both James and Amayra that they, that James and Amayra had a conversation about James coming down to help and that was the conversation. I don't, I'm not aware

Det. Diskin: Where did you hear that?

Megan: of them having a conversation about 911 being called.

Det. Poling: Could I ask where you were when this was happening? Where did you go cause you were in the lodge, so where did you go to after this was happening?

Megan: Just right outside the lodge

Det. Poling: So you stayed outside the lodge?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Poling: Okay and where was James?

Megan: James as far as I know went up to his room to shower cause he was the first one out of the lodge and as far as I know he just went straight up to his room.

Det. Poling: So when you were down there and he was gone, what was being mentioned about 911?

Megan: Nothing that I was a part of. I mean I, I don't have any knowledge of, of the conversation around 911.

Det. Poling: But you were down there with the instant that he was doing this. Why didn't someone call 911?

Megan: I believe that Amayra went and called, or someone at Angel Valley went and called 911.

Det. Diskin: But you think that someone should call 911?

Megan: No I wasn't, I was attending to the participants who were getting out of the lodge and they weren't in a condition that I had any concern about. I was just helping them stay organized and get water and things like that.

Det. Diskin: And about this confrontation that you say wasn't about 911 being called, it was about James Ray coming back down to the lodge?

Megan: That's my understanding from both Amayra and James.

Det. Diskin: Did you hear that? I know other employees had heard that confrontation, did you hear that confrontation?

Megan: No, no

Det. Diskin: So you weren't there?

Megan: As far as I know it was up at his, his room

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: Which is quite far from where the lodge is

Det. Diskin: Okay. When paramedics got there in 2005, where you there? Were you around?

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: And did James Ray at all try to prevent Daniel from being transported to the hospital?

Megan: Not that I

Det. Diskin: Were you present for his conversations with paramedics? I'm talking about James Ray.

Megan: No, uh uh, (Inaudible) aware of

Det. Diskin: Okay, so were you around James Ray when he was talking to the paramedics?

Megan: No, not that I recall anyway

Det. Diskin: Okay. After

Det. Poling: Where were you when this was happening? And the reason that I'm gonna ask that is because you know, Josh might have been there. Where were you and where was Josh?

Mr. Proctor: At the time the EMT got there?

Det. Poling: Right.

Megan: I was just out in front of the sweat lodge where the participants were. You know like right where they come out.

Det. Poling: And where was Pfankuch? Pfankuch and, where were they in relation to that, to you?

Megan: Again it was dark so I'm not sure. I know that the ambulance was, I don't really have a good sense of distance but you know like maybe 50 yards away or something. They did pull up somewhat near the lodge but not right up to it.

Det. Poling: Were you with anyone at this time? Were you with another participant that you can name that while this was going on?

Megan: I wouldn't, I don't remember. There was a lot of participants there and I, my function was just to help people get water, get towels, check in with everyone, and so on. And it was, it was dark where the Daniel Pfankuch stuff was happening so I don't, like I said I felt like Josh was taking care of that so I was helping everybody else.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Were you around when Daniel returned from the hospital?

Megan: I don't recall

Det. Diskin: Okay. Do you recall after Daniel was transported to the hospital, a confrontation between anybody and James Ray about what happened to Daniel?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Did anybody confront James Ray and say anything about this incident?

Megan: Not that I'm aware of, no.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Do you think you would remember that if you were present and like, a confrontation took place?

Megan: I, I would think I would, yeah.

Det. Diskin: And I don't know that you would have heard that, that conversation. That's why I, I asked.

Megan: Yeah, no, I don't have any recollection of that happening.

Det. Diskin: Okay, after this happened I would assume that there were discussions about this with you and James Ray and other staff members, is that correct?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: What, what did you guys talk about?

Megan: Uhm we talked about what we could do outside of the lodge to help, well also inside the lodge in terms of giving people better direction, better guidance about how to exit and then outside the lodge. What sort of things we need to make sure people are able to get cooled down quickly and we talked about making sure that we were doing the lodge at a time where it was light out so we could see and tend to people better cause like I said it was dark when the Danny Pfankuch incident happened. So we made a lot of changes between, you know, 2005 and 2009 in terms of having chairs available for people, having electrolyte water, having towels, having well since we started to do it outside uhm, or since we started to do it in the daylight we, you know, put tents out because it would be sunny. So when people got out there's a tent. We also decided to have Dream Team for the event, which are like the volunteers who can help so that way there was always someone outside the lodge ready to care for people.

Det. Diskin: Okay and I want to direct you to a conversation if you remember it. After this event, it's my understanding that you, Tere Gingerella and James Ray drove to the airport in the same vehicle.

Megan: And Josh

Det. Diskin: And Josh. And is that when this conversation took place that you're?

Megan: I don't recall specifically, it's quite probable, or I guess quite possible that it did. Just a natural conversation. I do remember James was really worn out, like really tired after that event though. So it's possible that it didn't happen at that time, just if he was too tired, I don't know.

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Det. Poling: Who was driving?

Megan: Tere

Det. Poling: Okay

Det. Diskin: I want to look up something real quick here. I'm sure you know we received a letter from, or Bill Hughes received a letter from James Ray's attorney's kind of defending James Ray. One of the things in the letter was that, you know, there was a problem in 2005 in which Daniel was transported to the hospital and it says that James Ray Int'l took extensive precautions to prevent any additional problems. Those extensive precautions, tell me what those were. I know you said that it was done in the daylight and there were electrolytes and things like that, but in 2005 there's a problem. James Ray's attorneys say that extensive precautions were taken, I'm assuming before 2006 to prevent the problem from occurring the following year. What specific precautions were taken between 2005 and 2006 to prevent this from happening?

Megan: Uhm you know I don't remember specifics from year to year cause I was there every single year so a lot of the year to year stuff blends in for me so I don't necessarily wanna say anything was specific other than I know he moved the event to be in the daylight and we had two Dream Team members in 2006 who were outside of the lodge during the entire sweat lodge so that if people came out they could tend to them. James in 2006 he instructed the participants much better as he was closing the ceremony about how they were gonna exit and that they were gonna stay calm.

Det. Diskin: How does that prevent somebody from getting heat stroke?

Megan: I don't, I don't know

Det. Diskin: Okay well Daniel in 2005 was transported to the hospital with heat stroke and then James Ray Int'l took extensive precautions to make sure that doesn't happen again. And it sounds like telling them to come out clockwise and be more orderly wouldn't, wouldn't address the problem.

Megan: Yeah I wasn't, at least right now, I don't have any awareness that Daniel had heat stroke, I just know that he was acting out, I didn't know that

Det. Diskin: So you didn't know that Daniel was diagnosed with heat stroke?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay, do you think that would be important for you to know before you make all these extensive changes? To know what the problem was, or what caused the problem?

Megan: I think it could have been important to know if the time that wasn't really my role so you know

Det. Poling: Did anyone research what happened to Daniel to prevent something from happening later on?

Megan: (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: To change what happened, you gotta know what happened to make that change. So if you're adding electrolytes and you're adding things to this to prevent something from happening again, you should know what happened to make those corrections. So what research was done in Daniel's case to make these changes?

Megan: I don't, I don't know what research was done. I don't know if Tere did research or James or anyone, I was just part of executing things differently in 2006.

Det. Poling: You know what I'm saying though

Megan: Yeah I do, I understand

Det. Poling: I guess sometimes I'm not clear in what I say sometimes

Mr. Proctor: I think it was really clear and I think what's she's saying is she doesn't know

Megan: Yeah, I don't know

Det. Poling: Okay

Megan: I didn't personally do any research with (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Who would do that with the company? Whose responsibility is it?

Megan: At that time it would have been Tere's responsibility cause she, I mean at that time she was the Director of Operations

Det. Poling: So the Director of Operations has that responsibility

Megan: Yeah at the time she did or James would have

Det. Poling: Okay

Megan: And just to clarify on that it would be to say you know something didn't go right at this event, how do we change it next time to make sure that there's precautions in place

Det. Poling: Okay

Det. Diskin: Were there other problems other than Daniel's? Were there other issues other than the problems that Daniel had?

Megan: In 2005?

Det. Diskin: In 2005

Megan: The only other thing that I recall is one of the participants threw up a lot. Like he got out and he drank like a liter or two of water; like a lot of water and he threw it all up and it was loud. I mean that's not very settling for anyone to hear but I don't think it was a medical issue.

Det. Diskin: So that would be the only problems to correct is the problems that happened with Daniel and the gentleman that was throwing up?

Megan: Well to me the, like I explained the chaos inside because people; as soon as James got out and what it felt like was all the participants were like get me out that door too, I'm done. And there was no, there was no order which in my understanding to me if, I mean that's how I understood Daniel Pfankuch, was he was in the space of get me out of here, get me out of here that when he exited he came out swinging because it was a very like intense dynamic inside. With nobody having set up this is, we're gonna exit clockwise and we're gonna be orderly and we're gonna maintain you know that sense of peace and calmness and when you exit it's gonna be sacred. That, I mean that was a huge change that every other year came out much better from 2005.

Det. Poling: Did you wonder why people threw up? Did that ever cross your mind? Why someone would come out of that sweat lodge throwing up? Was that researched?

Megan: I don't know if it was researched

Det. Poling: (Inaudible)

Megan: My understanding was, James always talked about the sweat lodge being an opportunity for physical purging of toxins in the body and

Det. Diskin: Do you purge toxins by vomiting?

Megan: Do I? Yeah I mean I have

Det. Diskin: I mean is that

Megan: yes like in an instance back in college when I drank too much, yeah, I mean that would make sense to me so in the case that I explained that one participant who had, I mean he came out and drank like an entire liter or two, whatever; a lot of

water, I mean to me my, you know, my dog does that. So if you drank too much water, your body may not accept it.

Det. Poling: Are these guys purging after they drink water or on their way out of the sweat lodge? Their not drinking in the lodge. What I'm saying is, (Inaudible) people in the sweat lodge and you haven't had water before you entered the sweat lodge yes. But after the ends of the rounds, you're done, you're throwing up, are you saying cause their over hydrating themselves inside the lodge and that's why their throwing up? Is that your understanding?

Megan: No, there's no hydration inside the lodge at all. I mean people will come out of the lodge to get a drink or to cool down, to get hosed off or whatever. I'm only, I was talking about the one instance, you asked if there was any other issues and I said, I mean I recall that specific

Det. Poling: The reason I ask is because later on there's gonna be more people throwing up and this is pre-2009. That's why I'm asking you this now. Was that a concern at the time? The throwing up, did you say why is this person throwing up or did anyone research that?

Megan: No, not that I'm aware of, I didn't research it. I just thought man he drank a lot of water and it came right back out.

Det. Diskin: Later, participants of other events have told us that they were told it's okay if you throw up, you're probably gonna throw up and that's okay.

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: Was there any research done by anybody to make sure that that was okay? That people were throwing up as a result of the extreme heat?

Megan: Not that I'm aware of. You know for me I just heard James say it so I understood that could be something that happens in a sweat lodge. Just like you sweat and your nose drips and

Det. Diskin: This other thing that you did in Mexico, did anybody throw up during that?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay. To your knowledge did the Hamiltons ever tell James Ray or you or Tere Gingerella or any of James Ray's staff that they believe that his sweat lodge is dangerous?

Megan: No, not to my knowledge

Det. Diskin: Did they ever have concerns, the Hamiltons, about James Ray's sweat lodge?

Megan: In 2005, the day after the sweat lodge Amayra came and talked to me and that's how I became aware of the conversation that she and James had the night before when she went and found him and said you need to come down here and help people or whatever. When she talked to me the day after she said I'm not calling 911 again. And this is my interpretation or it's not a direct quote obviously but she had said something about the lodge needs change or you're not gonna do it anymore but I'm not calling 911 again.

Det. Diskin: Okay and

Det. Poling: Are you saying she's not gonna call 911 again or are you saying she doesn't want to call 911 anymore?

Megan: Well and, I mean, that's what she said is I'm not calling, I think she meant, or my interpretation was she meant I'm not, I don't want to be put in a position to have to call 911 again, yeah.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Do you recall a time, and this was somewhere around 2005, maybe 2006, Tere Gingerella was the Director of Operations then, and Michael Hamilton had called Tere and said we have some concerns about the size of the sweat lodge. We think that's way too many people for a sweat lodge at which point Tere had a meeting with you and James Ray to discuss that. Do you recall that?

Megan: I recall having a conversation in James' office and Tere was there and Michael Hamilton was on the phone and James was there. And it was more a conversation between James and Michael about how, how can we build a lodge this big? I don't necessarily remember it being about the number of people, I remember about how do you build, the conversation was around how do you build a structure big enough, you know, to fit that many people?

Det. Diskin: Was Michael reluctant to build a structure that big to fit that many people?

Megan: Not from my understanding because my understanding is that when he talked to Tere, and I wasn't part of that conversation, but when he talked to Tere he was kind of pushing back but in the conversation that I heard with James talking to Michael it, there didn't seem to be much concern. It was a conversation about how can we do this, how can it be done?

Det. Diskin: Was this on a speaker phone where you had a conference call and you can all hear what's going on?

Megan: Yeah, yeah we were all in James' office, he had the speakerphone on.

Det. Diskin: The meeting that I was referring to I don't think it was that same meeting. It's a time when Michael Hamilton had called JRI and spoke to Tere and said I think this is way too many people, we're not building a sweat lodge for that many people and then Tere and you and James talked about it and James said no, we are gonna build a sweat lodge for that many people and I want everybody in there at the same time. Do you remember that at all?

Megan: I don't remember, I mean I don't remember specifically that meeting, but I would imagine that the three of us would talk before we would get on the phone with Michael Hamilton so I think it's very possible and yeah, I mean I'm sure James wanted to build a lodge that big because we did.

Det. Poling: Was there a discussion about having two separate lodges?

Megan: Yes we

Det. Poling: and what was said about that?

Megan: James always held that doing 2 separate lodges wasn't preferable, I guess is the best word, because for him to physiologically to lead two lodges, would, it would just be too hard on him. And then in terms of doing, if that was were on the same day I guess, and then is terms of doing it on two separated days; he didn't really feel like that would go with the flow of the events and then he didn't if someone; if we were to split it in two and have two different facilitators, he didn't know who would be, who could do that.

Det. Poling: Would he have been okay with two separate people to give these? You know what I mean? Instead of him doing it could someone else assist and do one while he did the other? Was that discussed?

Megan: I think, yeah it was discussed and my, my understanding is that James didn't feel that there was another person who could do that, to be trained to do that or to lead his lodge.

Det. Poling: Why? Why couldn't someone lead it? Why couldn't someone else lead it?

Megan: My understanding is that it's not that someone couldn't physically lead it, they couldn't do it, but folks are coming to the seminar for James Ray. So it would need to be someone who the participants would feel was a good substitute for him

Det. Poling: Why?

Megan: and still feel like they got their, you know their value out of the event.

Det. Poling: Are they coming to this event for James Ray, or are they coming to this event for the experience of what he's offering? You see what I mean? What would be

the difference between two different people in a sweat lodge that he couldn't have someone else do it? What does he do that's special that someone else couldn't do inside the lodge?

Megan: I don't know how to exactly answer that because I don't know why. I mean there's a different mix. In my experience from the time I was a participant at the events til you know 2009, there's a variety of people who come for a variety of reasons. And there's folks who really want to be at the event because of the content and there's folks who want to be at the event because of the content but because they also believe that their gonna get the most value from James, they just resonate with him. And then there's folks who come because they love James Ray, the guy.

Det. Poling: Let me go one step further though. He doesn't tell people about the sweat lodge prior to the sweat lodge, does he?

Megan: No

Det. Poling: People don't expect a sweat lodge when they get there do they?

Megan: They do once they sign the release form at registration or once they see even the participant guide.

Det. Poling: But they paid for this before they know about what's gonna happen.

Megan: Generally yeah unless they've researched it ahead of time or talked with someone else, yeah. I just don't know.

Det. Diskin: Okay, uhm in that letter that James Ray's attorneys provided for us, it lists a series of changes that were done because of the incident in 2005. In the sweat lodge in 2006, what specifically was done differently in 2006 to prevent the problems that happened in 2005 besides what you've already discussed. You know more emphasis was placed on exit, orderly and that it was done in daylight hours. What else was done to prevent the problems from 2005?

Megan: Like I said before I wish that I could remember specifically from year to year, but I don't. Like I was there every single year and I know that we were always about continually improving. So I hesitate to say for sure something was 2006. I mean I know we added fruit at one point and electrolyte water and tarps on the ground because of the little uhm

Det. Diskin: The bullheads

Megan: Yeah, but I don't know specifically what happened each year

Det. Diskin: Do you remember when you added the tarps specifically?

Megan: On the ground?

Det. Diskin: Yes, that was in the letter from James Ray's attorney saying that tarps were added for a place where people could be hosed off

Megan: No, I don't

Det. Diskin: Do you remember those tarps being there before 2009?

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: Were they there in 2008?

Megan: I remember them being there in 2008, beyond that I can't think for sure

Det. Poling: How about 2004?

Megan: No, I don't remember them at all in 2004. It was pretty rough in 2004.

Det. Diskin: Let's discuss, in 2004 were there electrolytes and fruit and things there? No, so there was no recovery station in 2004?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay, what about water and buckets and water and hoses to hose people off when they come out, was that there in 2004?

Megan: Mmm hmm, there was a hose. There was one hose and then, I mean I remember filling up my water bottle with a hose so I don't think there was, I can't recall specifically but I don't think there was anything like a thermos or

Det. Diskin: Okay. After the sweat lodge in 2006 and also in 2007 did James Ray ever complain that the sweat lodge didn't get hot enough?

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: Okay and who did he make those complaints to?

Megan: Uhm, I know he said it to me. I don't know if he said it to anyone else. He, sorry I can remember specifically.

Det. Diskin: I'm not trying to get you to say something you can't remember. But James Ray clearly thinks that the sweat lodge isn't getting hot enough and according to some people that we've talked to he was upset about that. The sweat lodge did not get hot enough in 2006 and 2007.

Megan: I, personally I wouldn't use the word upset. I remember James like joking about it.

Det. Poling: Well what was said about it? If you went there in that year, was it not hot enough? You were a participant, did you feel it was

Megan: It's all hot. I mean I feel like it's hot. In 2006 and 7 the dome was a lot higher and I remember James just, I don't remember him being upset, I would never describe it as upset. But being like you know man, I just couldn't get it hot enough in there, that dome was really high.

Det. Poling: But as you being in that lodge, did you feel that there was a temperature change that would cause him to say oh it wasn't hot enough? I mean for instance if you're sweating in 2005 and in 2006 you didn't even get a sweat, you'd notice the difference.

Megan: Correct

Det. Poling: So I'm saying in 2006, did it feel not hot enough to you or did it feel the same?

Megan: As 2005?

Det. Poling: I hope I didn't mess up the years

Megan: I don't know. I know what you're saying.

Det. Poling: In 2006 when it wasn't hot enough, did you feel a difference from 2005?

Megan: There was a difference between 2005 and 2006 because there was a lot more space in there.

Det. Poling: No I don't care about the space. Do you feel that it wasn't as hot in 2006. If James is saying that it's not hot enough, did you feel that way in 2006, that it wasn't hot enough? And yes we do have a problem, Houston, we gotta correct this.

Megan: No, I mean for me a sweat lodge just is hot and you sweat and you're purging and it doesn't, in my opinion it doesn't have to be beyond that. So no, to me it wasn't an issue by any means.

Det. Poling: So you personally felt that 2006 and 2005 it was the same temperature inside.

Megan: No I mean I don't know that I can say that. It's a whole year in between.

Det. Poling: No it's just you, did you feel

Mr. Proctor: You know what, just give him your sense. Subjectively, can you tell the difference between the years and if so, explain it. And if you can't, tell him that.

Megan: Yes, I mean I feel like the difference, I feel like 2005, 8 and 9 were the hotter lodges that we've had. I feel like 6 and 7 were not as hot and again there's a year in between, there's me and my physical condition. You know, how athletic I am at the time, it's a difference between, I mean at least in my interpretation it's the difference between how hot it is outside versus inside and what that difference is when you open up the flap and how cool, you know, cool air can come in.

Det. Diskin: What specifically was done to correct that and make it hotter?

Megan: I don't know specifically and in what year, and what was done to make it hotter, but I, I mean James would just bring in more stones if he wanted it to be hotter.

Det. Diskin: Okay, so that's how he would control the temperature, is by how many stones he would bring in, is that correct?

Megan: Yeah, uh huh. And how much water he'd put, I don't know that that makes it hotter but it makes it more humid

Det. Diskin: More steam

Megan: Yeah, so he'd put more water on it

Det. Diskin: And he would regulate that temperature by how many rocks and how much water he would use

Megan: That's my understanding after being in there, yeah

Det. Diskin: Okay and let me ask you this. This has come up when I talked to your lawyer about this a little bit, uhm, but what was your role in the sweat lodge? Let's just go, cause you've already answered this in detail for 2009, but between 2005 and 2008, what was your role specifically just inside the sweat lodge? What were you supposed to be doing? Were you just participating or did you have a role any of those years?

Megan: Uhm I don't recall specifically in 2005 if I had a role because I was learning from Tere at the time so I believe that she was kind of instructing me. I don't remember 2005. Whatever I was doing it was whatever Tere kind of told me to do in the lodge, it has never been my role to you know physically carry people out or anything like that. In 2006, 7, 8 & 9, my role was to sit at the right hand of James and on round, on the first round and the last round to give him a little packet of incense that I would have carried in with me. And then throughout the lodge just be a support for him and I guess mostly that means when he would physically stand up to put the water in he'd have to walk back and it's completely pitch dark so I'd put my hand out so he'd know hey, I'm about to get to the back, or I need to squat down now. Or if I could sense that he laid

down, like whew this is hot or something, I might give him a little pat on the leg or something but

Det. Diskin: Did you ever tell him how many stones need to be brought in for the next round?

Megan: No, no I would tell him what round we were on cause I, I feel like I have a good ability to keep track of things. Kinda keep my head about me during situations like that so I would tell him you know we're on round two and then we also, I'm sure you've heard about the tobacco pouches that are in there, to tell him what pouch we were on so he could stay on track.

Det. Diskin: Did you ever tell him during the sweat lodge that it's not hot enough, you should bring in more stones or it's too hot, he should bring in less stones.

Megan: No, not that I can recall.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Alright. Well, we'll get back to the sweat lodge but I kinda want to go in order cause that's the only way that I can understand this is chronologically, but in Quantum Leap 2007 are you aware of an incident that happened where somebody got an arrow stuck in his eye?

Megan: I'm aware of someone having like a piece of wood hit his eye, not an arrow stuck in his eye, like that a piece of wood hit, flew up and hit his eye. I don't remember what year that was.

Det. Diskin: Quantum Leap 2007, his name is Kurt Reinkens, R-e-i-n-k-e-n-s and he had received an injury with breaking an arrow where the shaft of the arrow broke and went through his eye lid and kinda scraped the top of his eye and there's lots of blood and his eye swelled shut. Do you remember that incident?

Megan: Not specifically

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: with him. I'm aware that there has been someone who had a shard of wood in their eye

Det. Diskin: Okay. And in that Quantum Leap 2007 we're told that staff and Dream Team were wearing safety goggles and gloves, yet the participants were not given any kind of safety goggles when they broke the arrow, do you know why that is or do you remember that?

Megan: Uhm I, it doesn't seem right to me. Unless that was a change we made the following year so no, I mean I can't recall specifically but my, I mean my memory is us having the participants wear the goggles so that doesn't

Det. Poling: Did you make a change?

Megan: It could have been but I don't recall, sorry, I wish I could remember better

Det. Diskin: Do you remember discussing that with staff members, that hey, somebody got an arrow stuck to their eye, we should do something differently. You were the Director of Operations then, correct?

Megan: Yeah, that's correct.

Det. Diskin: You see that as a major issue that needs to be addressed? Somebody with the

Megan: Well yeah we would have done something differently the next year which that's what I'm saying, maybe in 2008 I remember that both of them would have worn the goggles.

Det. Diskin: So in 2008 all the participants wore goggles as opposed to just the Dream Team?

Megan: Yeah, I mean we had many sets of goggles. Uhm it's, you know there's some participants who wore glasses and they'll say no thanks and the same thing with Dream Team members. We've, same thing when we would break boards, we would make the goggles available for people but it was always kinda their choice whether they would do it or not

Det. Diskin: Okay, and there was a video of this event as with all of James Ray's events, correct?

Megan: Which, the Quantum Leap?

Det. Diskin: Quantum Leap, yes

Megan: Uhm we did film it one year, we didn't film all the events

Det. Diskin: Well in 2007 participants remember that there was somebody from James Ray's staff that was filming and the person who had the incident with the arrow had gotten up in front of people and this person filming to talk about what had happened.

Megan: Okay

Det. Diskin: So there's a video of that, my question is where is that video? Where can we find that video?

Megan: Probably a better question for Josh

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: But I don't know, my understanding is that when the office was searched a lot of that media was taken

Det. Diskin: Okay but you wouldn't know? I mean we haven't gone through all that stuff yet and we would rather not have to go through all that stuff

Megan: Josh would be the guy. If there's anyone it would be Josh who could answer that, I don't know.

Det. Diskin: Okay. 2007 you said that wasn't, (Inaudible) wasn't quite as hot from what you can remember. Do you remember any problems, specific problems in 2007 in the sweat lodge?

Megan: Uhm, not specifically. I mean if there's anything specifically you want to ask me about, like I said it's just cause I've been there so many years that it all (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: In 2007 were there people incoherent? In other words, people that were in a medical state or a spiritual state to where they weren't able to communicate or talk to people? In other words were they completely out of it or unconscious?

Megan: Uhm, I don't remember which, which year. I remember one, one year and it could have been '06 or '07 there was a girl named Dolly and she was, once she got out of the lodge, I wouldn't say she was incoherent but she wasn't completely responsive and I remember her sitting down by the fire and you know we gave her water and just kind of talked to her until she came out of that and then she, I mean from her experience she's like oh it was awesome, you know?

Det. Diskin: Okay. Did she have any kind of injury from falling down? Was she bleeding from the head?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Megan: That's, that's, I know that was, and I don't know again if that was 2006 or 2007 but

Det. Diskin: I don't remember either, I didn't put that in my notes. But that was a different girl. 2008 participants have told us that there were some issues, that there were some problems. Do you think that there were problems in 2008? Problems as far as people in medical distress or people needing medical attention?

Megan: I never really saw it as a problem, I guess.

Det. Diskin: Let me ask it this way. If people are unconscious, I mean you're trying to talk to them, their eyes are rolled back in their head, their foaming at the mouth, their unconscious; do you see that as a problem?

Megan: I would see that as yes, as a problem that would require medical attention. I don't recall that happening in 2008.

Det. Poling: So in 2007, 2008 you didn't see anyone throwing up, foaming at the mouth or anything?

Megan: In, people may have thrown up but again, like I said earlier, James explains that that could happen as part of the purging process of a sweat lodge so in my head that would not be a red flag or a problem or something that would require

Det. Poling: So it's normal for people to throw up in a sweat lodge

Megan: I wouldn't necessarily say it's normal, but it's possible

Det. Poling: Well did

Megan: You know I haven't, so to me it would be abnormal. Like if I were to do a sweat lodge after awhile

Det. Poling: How many people were throwing up in 2007 or 2008 that you noticed

Megan: Oh I don't know

Det. Poling: Well you were helping people, correct?

Megan: Once I got out of the lodge, yeah

Det. Poling: Well you were one of the first out, am I not correct on that?

Megan: Uhm not every year, some years I've stayed in to help direct traffic and I don't, I mean I don't remember from year to year

Det. Poling: And during these times, up until this time, have you experienced there are a numerous amount of people throwing up or is it always just one person out of the crowd? Or is it a number of people throwing up?

Megan: My best guess would be maybe a handful? But you know like three, four, but I don't know specifically.

Det. Diskin: What's the medical cause of people throwing up in a sweat lodge?

Megan: I don't know

Det. Diskin: Okay. In 2008 there was a girl that was having some problems and she was placed in a bathtub, were you involved with that?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Do you know of that, a girl that was placed in a bathtub to kind of cool her down?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: Bathtub? I didn't even know they had bathtubs at Angel Valley

Det. Diskin: Something that they referred to as a bathtub because it was the only thing that they could find to kind of submerge her to try to get her to cool down.

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: And in 2008, how long was, you said that you don't see certain things as a problem. But you said, you know, that their eyes were rolling back in their head, their foaming at the mouth and their unconscious; that you would see that as a problem. In 2008 Barbara Waters, how long was she unconscious?

Megan: I wasn't aware that Barb Waters was unconscious

Det. Poling: Did you tend to her?

Megan: I remember being around Barb but she was, I mean what I experienced is that she was somewhat responsive. I mean I know that people were giving her water.

Det. Poling: What did you observe on her from the time she came out to the time you stopped looking at her? What did you observe?

Megan: I don't, I don't remember. I don't think that I was outside the lodge for, I don't know. I wish I could remember but I don't.

Det. Diskin: Some of the participants tell us that there were different people that were unconscious, not just Barb. But Barb was probably the most severe, she was unconscious for maybe a couple of hours. Barb Waters told us that she doesn't think that she was unconscious that long, I don't know how you know if you're unconscious but

Megan: No, I don't

Det. Diskin: You don't remember her being unconscious?

Megan: No, I don't, maybe I have a different understanding of unconscious

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) ask you what did you observe when you were attending to her?

Det. Diskin: There's different beliefs on what is unconscious. Some people believe that, you know, their eyes roll back in their head, their not able to communicate at all, their not answering questions, their not responding to anything, therefore their unconscious. And other people say well no, their still awake kind of so their not unconscious.

Megan: Right and maybe that's my, I mean maybe I have this different interpretation of

Det. Diskin: Were there people that obviously were having severe issues or severe problems as far as they weren't able to communicate with people?

Megan: Yes there were people who weren't communicating with people. Like, like Barb, I mean she would, her eyes were in a normal place and she, you know, people could prop her up and they could give her water and I think someone was feeding her fruit or something.

Det. Diskin: Was she out of it to the point that she couldn't communicate or talk or know where she was or that kind of thing?

Megan: She didn't talk, I mean she wasn't communicating, there wasn't a dialogue.

Det. Diskin: Was she unable to communicate?

Megan: I don't know, I mean I guess that would be

Det. Diskin: Did you ask her questions, how you doing, anything, did anybody ask her questions that she'd respond to?

Megan: Yeah I think people were asking her questions. I don't, you know, I don't recall specifically

Det. Diskin: Was she unresponsive to people?

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: Okay. Do you see that as a problem?

Megan: In a situation like here in this room, that would be a red flag for me. But in a situation outside the sweat lodge, I, I didn't see it as a problem because it was always set up; I mean James explains that things like that could happen

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: You know?

Det. Poling: If you were outside a lodge and you couldn't communicate, would you want someone taking care of you

Megan: Sure

Det. Poling: in her condition?

Megan: Like if I were Barb would I want someone to care of me?

Det. Poling: Absolutely. Would you feel you were in control of your own actions if you were in Barb's state and I mean in what you observed in Barb would you want someone taking care of you?

Megan: No, I would like someone to take care of me, sure

Det. Diskin: Now going back to when you said if somebody in this room was in that state you would see that as a problem but coming outside of the sweat lodge you don't see it as a problem for somebody to be unresponsive, therefore I'm assuming something happens inside the sweat lodge that causes somebody to have that reaction. Is that correct? In other words, in here there's nothing that would cause us to be unresponsive but in a sweat lodge you said that that isn't a problem because they just came out of the sweat lodge.

Megan: Right, I mean to me that's my understanding of the sweat lodge.

Det. Diskin: What causes that? What causes somebody to be unresponsive?

Megan: I don't know.

Det. Diskin: You don't know? Do you think that would be important as the Director of Operations to know why people are unresponsive and well you say not unconscious but unresponsive as their coming out of the sweat lodge?

Megan: You know I, I think it could be important and I always just believed in, in James saying this could happen as a result of the sweat lodge and

Det. Diskin: Did he say why that could happen as a result of a sweat lodge?

Det. Poling: So basically you're going off of faith of what James says?

Megan: And my experience of the lodge

Det. Diskin: Which, the only lodges you've attended are James Rays

Megan: other than the Mexico one, yeah

Det. Diskin: so you wouldn't know if this, if this is normal? In other words in other sweat lodges if somebody was like that they'd probably take them to the hospital but you wouldn't know

Megan: I wouldn't know that, no

Det. Diskin: Okay. Let's go to, and I don't want to get into this too deep cause I don't know if it's a part of this case or not yet, but Coleen Conway, there's been a lot of people calling us upset about Coleen Conway and the way that that was handled after her suicide.

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Which we don't believe somebody killed her, we're not getting into that but it's apparent that she jumped from the third story of that mall to her death. When did you first learn about her suicide?

Megan: That is was her?

Det. Diskin: Yes

Megan: Uhm about 8:00 Saturday night, Saturday right. It was about 8:00 that night.

Det. Diskin: And that was the day that she killed herself, is that correct?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Okay. One of the buses was short one person.

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Is that correct?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Were you aware of that as that was going on?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: Okay. Were you, did you have a conversation with, let's go back. What time was that when the buses left? Do you recall and you're missing somebody.

Megan: Left downtown?

Det. Diskin: Yes

Megan: Uhm probably around 3:00, 2:30-3

Det. Diskin: Okay. So around 2:30 or 3, you knew that somebody was missing.

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: What was done to find her?

Megan: Uhm in terms of finding her, there, a JRI team member was left waiting for her at that location there wasn't

Det. Diskin: Who was that?

Megan: Rebecca Calloway. She had a car, so the bus could leave and stay on schedule and then Rebecca stayed with her car.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: So in terms of going in and searching the streets, nothing but in terms of being there where she was supposed to come back to, there was a car.

Det. Poling: Before that happened and she missed the bus, were you or your team aware that someone had committed suicide or killed in the building?

Megan: Yes

Det. Poling: So you knew something had happened

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Poling: You didn't know who

Megan: Mmm mmm

Det. Poling: But you were missing a person on the bus

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Poling: And was there anything that was done to make sure that that person wasn't Coleen?

Megan: Not at that time, no. I don't think anyone would have ever thought that, I mean, piece that together until later that night.

Det. Diskin: So from 2:30 there's somebody missing from the bus. You found out that somebody had committed suicide shortly thereafter or around that time

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: And Rebecca's there waiting, hoping that she comes back

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: Did you talk to the medical examiner's office?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Do you know who did from James Ray Int'l?

Megan: I believe Michelle Goulet did

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: And it's my understanding the medical examiner was saying hey we had a suicide; we think it might have been somebody from your group. Is that correct?

Megan: My understanding is that it was kind of the other way around. That as we, as the James Ray Int'l team couldn't find her because, please know that this, like this has happened in previous years where someone didn't come to the bus and it was because they had found their own way back to the hotel or because they had met someone interesting and we got a phone call an hour later saying oops I'm at the Jack in the Box, I lost track of time. So it wasn't at that point a red flag but once we got back later that afternoon and she still hadn't come, we started calling local hotels and so it became a matter of oh my God what if that was her and that's when it became more clear.

Det. Diskin: Coleen didn't return to her bus, this was about 3:30. Michele Goulet was left behind to kind of wait for her in case she was one of the stragglers that missed the bus

Megan: Rebecca Cathaway was

Det. Diskin: Oh Rebecca was and Michele was looking for her by calling the medical examiner's office to see if she was the one that committed suicide.

Megan: That was later in the day

Det. Diskin: That was later, what time was that, that Michele called the medical examiner?

Megan: I think around 8 p.m., maybe a little bit later than that.

Det. Diskin: Had James Ray Int'l been contacted by the medical examiner's office before, who initiated the first contact between James Ray Int'l and the medical examiner?

Megan: My understanding is that it was James Ray Int'l calling around to the hospitals and the medical examiner

Det. Diskin: Okay and

Megan: from Michele

Det. Diskin: had you had any discussions with Greg Hartle while this was going on while you

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: Okay. And did Greg talk to you about witnessing a suicide?

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: Okay, did you say what did she look like, maybe she was our missing person?

Megan: Uhm, I don't, I don't recall having that conversation but I didn't know what our missing person looked like either so I don't know that it would have been relevant at the time

Det. Diskin: Did you discuss with Greg that hey maybe this was Coleen?

Megan: No, no, I mean not until later that day when it, like I said it kind of started to piece together like oh my gosh that could have been but I mean, but it wasn't, not a thought of ours at the time, you know?

Det. Diskin: Okay, with that homeless thing where they dress up like homeless people, are they just cut loose on their own or are they with like a group of two people or how do they kind of get dispersed out in the city?

Megan: Well it's interesting and I mean I talked about this in my last interview is that that particular exercise isn't set up to be a homeless exercise, it's an exercise in resourcefulness and so what James does is invite the participants to put on different clothes, to take off their makeup, to not bring their stuff with them and to be resourceful. So he doesn't tell them at the time how long their gonna be at Horton Plaza, you know,

until their getting off the bus. Then they get their cards, they don't really know but he tells them you know, this is your opportunity to go out into, there's three different locations, but to go out and find your lunch, find a place to go to the bathroom, you know meet people, do whatever it is to be resourceful. And some people

Det. Diskin: And this is without money, without a wallet, without a cell phone? Okay.

Megan: Correct, yeah. Yeah the only thing they get is different clothes to wear and then this card that has the emergency cell phone number on it. But their supposed to go out and they'll you know, get hired at a job. Their supposed to go out and they get clothes donated to them or they'll get a facial or a manicure. And then there's some people who go and they say you know, I'm homeless and I'm gonna sit on this corner or I'm gonna talk to other homeless people.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Are they dressed in kinda ratty clothes that

Megan: Yeah they're clothes that we bought from, or JRI bought from (Inaudible) or Goodwill

Det. Diskin: If somebody's having, if one of these participants is having a concern like I don't want to do this, I don't want to mess up my hair, I don't want to take my makeup off, what are staff members instructed to do to those people at this event or to say to those people who are reluctant to do this?

Megan: In general at all the events if anyone has a concern about doing something, we'll pull them aside and tell them, and I mean they have the choice not to do it if they want. I mean they could have stayed at the hotel, they could have you know gone halfway and worn their own clothes or whatever. But we do our best as staff members to figure out if it's just that their uncomfortable and it'll be good for them or if they just don't want to go. And if they don't want to go then they don't have to go, that's (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: We were told that staff members were encouraged to kind of belittle people that were having concerns with this and this isn't necessarily a bad thing. But to show that despite you don't want to do this, you can go out and you can do it and you can achieve and you can survive this. But they kind of belittle them, like you know, say certain things to them to kind of bring down their self esteem so they can, the person can build their own self esteem back up later at the event. Are you familiar with anything like that?

Megan: That's definitely not the intention. And I don't think people are at all instructed to do that. If someone's perception was that then you know, that's possible but no, there's always a certain degree of coaching or encouragement that goes on but I mean if someone seriously doesn't want to do something then there's no belittling or forcing (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: I believe that participants, going back to 2005, "participants are repeatedly told by James Ray staff to hydrate", is that accurate?

Megan: At Spiritual Warrior?

Det. Diskin: At Spiritual Warrior, yeah

Megan: Yeah, yeah, their given one of these at registration even.

Det. Diskin: And their told hydrate, hydrate, hydrate

Megan: Mmm hmm

Mr. Proctor: We're now back to Sedona?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: This was the next event after the Coleen Conaway incident, is that correct?

Megan: There was a Harmonic Wealth weekend in between.

Det. Poling: Between April and Spiritual Warrior, so that's quite a bit of time.

Megan: Creating Absolute Wealth was in July, the end of July, 26-28 or something

Det. Diskin: One of the issues that's been brought up obviously is the Vision Quest with no food or water for a 36 hour period, why is the Vision Quest now before the sweat lodge? It used to be after the sweat lodge, correct?

Megan: I have to get myself straight. When I went through Spiritual Warrior in 2004 the Vision Quest was after the sweat lodge, we actually went, like we got hosed down and sent out in the middle of (Inaudible) or whatever. So you're asking why it was changed for the sweat lodge to be after?

Det. Diskin: Right and here's another question. Participants are told to hydrate, hydrate, hydrate, knowing that the sweat lodge is coming up. That you need to stay hydrated for that, but then the event was changed to where you have to go 36 hours prior to the sweat lodge without any food or water in the Vision Quest before the sweat lodge. So how can people do what their told to as far as hydrate and take your sea salt and stuff like that if their on a 36 hour Vision Quest immediately before the sweat lodge? Not immediately, but prior to the sweat lodge?

Megan: I think people are told throughout the week to hydrate, hydrate, hydrate cause their in the middle of the desert when it's warm out

Det. Diskin: Oh the hydration isn't because of the upcoming sweat lodge?

Megan: That's not my understanding. My understanding is cause you're in the desert and hydration is good. Again it's, kinda the (Inaudible) of the Spiritual Warrior event is to help people purge everything. I mean the negative stuff in their life and their toxins. And they eat very clean, they eat a vegetarian diet so it's, I mean water is just purging (Inaudible) you know

Det. Diskin: So you, as the Director of Operations, when you're telling your staff to tell people to hydrate and you're telling people to hydrate, it's because you're in the desert, not because there's an upcoming sweat lodge. Is that correct?

Megan: James told them from the front of the room, I wasn't our role or guidance to tell people to hydrate, hydrate, hydrate.

Det. Diskin: Oh it

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: I thought the staff members were all telling people the entire week to hydrate as well as (Inaudible)

Megan: Not through guidance of us, I mean it wasn't a requirement. They may have, I mean the Dream Team members are all, they've all been through the event themselves, so they know that James says it and they want to be like you know, like James. So they'll a lot of times say things that James has said like that

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: but it's not a directive

Det. Diskin: so but what from you believe, the purpose for hydrating is not specifically for the sweat lodge?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Mr. Proctor: Hydrating throughout the week as opposed to that day

Megan: Correct, yeah. I mean I think you can, I mean you hydrate because there's, because you're in the desert and because it's warm and because we're active and because you're purging. I mean both emotionally as well as the stuff, the food that their eating. You know their eating very healthfully so it's all part of the event. And then their having water because their gonna go on a Vision Quest and then their having water because of the sweat lodge. I think it's just a theme throughout the event.

Det. Diskin: Okay and during the Vision Quest before the sweat lodge, it used to be that participants had water with them during the Vision Quest. In fact I think in 2004, 2005 the Dream Team would actually go out there, or staff and bring water to participants on the Vision Quest. Is that true?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: So participants have never had water on the Vision Quest?

Megan: The year I went participants were allowed to bring water but encouraged not to drink it. Because when, the year 2004 when I was a participant we were, it was a lot longer. The Vision Quest was longer, we were out for two nights and three days. So we were again, like I brought my pitcher of water but I didn't drink it. Beyond that I don't, I think once we shortened it in 2005 then James said don't bring any water.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: It was never monitored. I mean people could have had it in their backpack if they wanted but

Det. Diskin: But were they told don't bring water?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: Okay. One of the participants stated that she has to take medication and needed the water to take medication and she was told by James Ray directly that you're not allowed to take that water with you, even though you have to take medication. Is that something that you would see happen? Is that a rule that you couldn't have water with you no matter what?

Megan: No, I mean my experience is that James would always tell the group kind of what he expected and then say do what you need to do to take care of yourself, just like the sweat lodge. I mean I remember someone, and I don't remember who it was, but he asked can you dry swallow it? And she said well I don't know and he said you know, his response typically is do what you need to do to take care of yourself. But you know don't go around saying oh I'm bringing my water and I'm drinking it, or, you do what you can.

Det. Diskin: So you witnessed that conversation?

Megan: I remember her standing up on mic

Det. Diskin: Oh in front of everybody?

Megan: and I remember him saying can you dry swallow it. I don't, I don't remember who it was. Someone else though asked can I bring chapstick and James was

like do you need to bring chapstick? And he's okay fine, do whatever you need to do to take care of yourself. He'd outline expectations but

Det. Diskin: What would you do if you were away from James Ray and this lady said look, I have to take this medication, I need to bring a little bit of water with me. What would you tell her?

Megan: I would have said do what you need to do to take care of yourself.

Det. Diskin: Okay. But James Ray said can't you dry swallow it?

Megan: I remember that was his initial response but I don't remember if he said something else after that but

Det. Diskin: Okay and prior to the sweat lodge did staff tell, either James Ray or his staff, tell participants that they would experience an altered state in the sweat lodge?

Megan: Did James Ray or his staff? I don't recall specifically. I mean I know James uses the word altered state with a lot of experiences but I don't recall you know specifically what context that would be in.

Det. Diskin: Did he tell participants that they would experience an out of body experience in the sweat lodge or that they could have an out of body experience in the sweat lodge?

Megan: Not that I recall. An out of body experience doesn't seem like something James would talk about.

Det. Diskin: What term would James use to describe this, some kind of spiritual event where you're not yourself, where your soul leaves or your spirit leaves for awhile? What would he call that?

Megan: I think that James (Inaudible) really use as a term like surrender. You know that like a mind over matter sort of situation. That you just surrender and you're okay with it.

Det. Diskin: But you don't recall specifically hearing either staff or James Ray tell participants you're gonna experience an altered state in the sweat lodge or you may experience an altered state?

Megan: I don't recall specifically but I think it's quite possible that James would say you may experience an altered state. I don't think he'd say you will experience an altered state.

Det. Poling: Is the term the womb and a rebirth, is that part of Spiritual Warrior?

Megan: Yes and I, you know James uses it in the context of the sweat lodge being like a giant womb and that when you come out again, that's what I was saying about exiting, to remind them

Det. Poling: How are you reborn, did he explain that? Through this process, how are you reborn? You go into the womb, how are you reborn? It would seem Greek to me, I wouldn't understand. What's expected?

Megan: Well my understanding of being reborn is that it's a state of mind. Is that, you know, when you're in the lodge you're, just like the (Inaudible), you're letting go of the stuff that's been holding you back. So in the lodge participants are, you know their physically purging and so on. Their voicing their new intentions, every round people, you know, they voice what they choose to bring into their life and then he reminds them when their exiting the lodge that it's a sacred experience and as you exit you're a new person. You know, you're reborn so do it powerfully. You know, don't do it all chaotic and (Inaudible) but to do it powerfully and say you know when I exit this, you know, I am Megan and I am, this is an example, I am a great mother or I am a powerful human or I am a great leader or whatever it might be. So you're choosing, James always says it's not the ritual, it's what you bring to the ritual. So it's just inviting the participants to come out a different person than who they were which is ultimately why they go to all of the events anyway, you know.

Det. Diskin: You said that James may have said that you know you might receive an altered state, not you will receive an altered state but he may have said that or that's something that he would say, is that correct?

Megan: Yeah, yeah, I don't remember specifically

Det. Diskin: What would be the cause of that altered state?

Megan: I would say any number of factors. I mean and this is my interpretation but you're in a very closed environment, you're, I mean really technically an altered state could be if we turn the lights off in this room because then you have a very different sense of awareness than we do right now when we can see each other. So I mean it would be, there's complete darkness, it's very tight, it's you know, it's very hot, it's very humid, I mean there's a lot of things that make that a different state than sitting in a meeting room.

Det. Diskin: Well the impression that the participants got was that they were going to experience something different. Either an out of body experience, an altered state, everybody has their own terminology, but whatever the case, their not themselves.

Mr. Proctor: If you want to agree or disagree with that, go ahead and just tell him.

Megan: Yeah, no I mean to say, I agree with how you started but then you said their not themselves and to me like I don't agree. I've been in, you know, the sweat lodge

for 5, 6, 7, that many years and I'm myself, I'm the same person. And it's an opportunity for me to say you know, I'm more than this or I can get through this. The same as if I, you know, when I went and ran a half marathon, it's an altered state like. It's a very different state of mind that you need to work yourself through then sitting here in this room.

Det. Diskin: In the sweat lodge you're sitting by the door most of the time, correct? Where you're getting fresh air?

Megan: James sits next to the door and then I sit next to James.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: So I would imagine, I never sat, well that's not, when I was in 2004 I sat across from the door. But from what I remember you, you don't really get much fresh air anywhere because it's Arizona, it's daytime so it's hot outside too. So when the flap opens there's not much of a difference of the air

Det. Diskin: Yeah the participants said they got quite a bit of relief when the flap was open, they could definitely feel a difference

Megan: maybe it was because I had someone right next to me in the door, I don't know

Det. Poling: What I don't understand and we see this experience, he's trying to talk about an out of body experience and I understand maybe in hindsight where that comes from. Maybe that's why it's easier for me to talk about this but he complains in 2006 it's not hot enough in here and I understand why it's not hot enough and what I believe he's trying to get to. But this heat is the purpose of this sweat lodge, it doesn't work if it's too cold. It has to be hot for this to happen and that's what I'm not understanding. Why does he have to have it hotter in there? It's to achieve something, do you see where I'm going? I'm not trying to lead you but you know what? What's the difference if it's 112 degrees or 120 degrees? What does it matter? The experience, from what I understand, is your own personal growth. Why does it have to be hot to get that personnel growth? Can you not have it at a cooler temperature and still achieve a spiritual experience or does it have to be hot to get there? And that's what I ask you.

Megan: I know and I wish that I could answer for James but I can't. I mean I don't know for him why he felt like it needs to be hotter. You know I do, you know I had a great experience in every one of those lodges and I don't necessarily feel like I need (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: I understand you had a great experience but you have a little bit of an advantage compared to some of the people because you are, have access closer to the door. And that's what we see, is some fresh air coming in. Versus someone on this side of the lodge and that's basically I believe what happened. I'm not a doctor but I believe

that these people over here didn't have the opportunity that some people had next to the door and, which is part of the situation here. But what I'm trying to say here is why does he have to have it hotter. Is there, is this what he's trying to accomplish on this altered state? This is what we want to know, you know?

Megan: I think he's the only one who can answer that.

Det. Poling: Did you feel comfortable when it was cooler that one day when you said that you could tell a difference in 2006 when it was cooler, did you have a worse experience because it wasn't as hot? Do you see what I'm trying to say? Did you need that extra heat to get your experience?

Megan: Me, personally? No

Det. Poling: Okay

Det. Diskin: Is it true that staff told participants that you might pass out from the sweat lodge?

Megan: The staff told participants?

Det. Diskin: Either staff or James Ray

Megan: I believe James told the participants from the front of the room in the meeting room that it's a possibility

Det. Diskin: So he told them that you might pass out? Did he say why they might pass out? What do you think is the cause of them passing out? Or becoming unconscious?

Megan: Uhm, I don't, I don't know

Det. Diskin: What I'm getting at, you're the Director of Operations. People are gonna pass out at your event. James Ray knows that and says people are gonna pass out. Why wouldn't his Director of Operations know what would cause people to pass out? Did you ever ask why are people gonna pass out, why are you telling people that it's okay for them to pass out?

Megan: No I never asked that

Det. Diskin: And he never mentioned why people might pass out

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay, and have you ever done any kind of research to determine why people would pass out in a sweat lodge?

Megan: No, no I mean I, you know James is my boss so I listened to what he says and I listened to what he told the participants and he's a teacher, he's an instructor and he's a CEO and President of the company, he's my boss. So you know

Det. Poling: But as a reasonable person why would you go into this heat, you know what I mean?

Megan: Are you implying that only unreasonable people go in or

Det. Poling: You're a reasonable person, you're going into this heat, alright? Scratch that, I'll think of it again, I had a point I was trying to make.

Megan: Well it was my job. I mean I was told that I mean I would have to go into the sweat lodge every year to do that so I would go. As a participant I went because it was part of the event and it was a physical challenge. I paid to be there, I didn't have any concerns about the experience.

Det. Diskin: Do you have any concerns about people passing out or what could cause people to pass out as the Director of Operations? Cause I would assume that people would look to you to try to find out why people are passing out or why people are having these experiences.

Mr. Proctor: Does she have concerns today, was that what you're

Det. Diskin: Well obviously today you have concerns cause people died.

Megan: Sure

Det. Diskin: In prior sweat lodges, prior to the sweat lodge in 2009, did you ever have a concern about what was causing people to pass out?

Megan: I didn't really have a concern because again James would tell participants from the front of the room that it's a possibility that you could pass out and then James was there after the lodge when people were passed out and there was, I mean there was never a call for emergency help or call for a doctor or anything like that. It was let's, you know, care for them until they come back around.

Det. Diskin: Do you think there should have been a call to a doctor, to EMS, to 911?

Megan: Based on what I knew at the time no, I didn't think that there needed to be because my understanding was that James knew that this could happen and when it did then we took care of them and made them comfortable and made sure that you know they had blankets and water and until they came back around.

Det. Diskin: Where did you learn to do this, how to make them comfortable or how to take care of people who are passed out from a sweat lodge? How do you learn how to do that?

Megan: For me I just, I'm human I guess. And I have a little bit of a caring instinct for people. If their shivering, you cover them up

Det. Diskin: If their foaming at the mouth, their eyes go back in their head, or unconscious, how would you know what to do to help that?

Megan: I personally wouldn't know, I haven't been trained, but I mean I didn't experience that. I didn't experience, until 2009, I didn't experience people foaming at the mouth or eyes rolled back or

Det. Diskin: So you never saw that even though other participants did see people who were passed out at prior events? You never saw people passed out?

Megan: Not in the state you're describing, no

Det. Diskin: Unconscious

Megan: We've always had this conversation

Mr. Proctor: You keep bringing up the foaming and the eyes rolled back and you're saying passed out and I think it's just not clear what the definition of what you're asking and I think she's trying to be helpful

Megan: I really am and we had this conversation

Det. Poling: In 2006 did anyone foam at the mouth, pass out

Det. Diskin: Well you never saw anybody foam at the mouth with their eyes rolled back in their head, is that correct?

Megan: No, not until 2009

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: 2009 I did see that, yes

Det. Diskin: Okay. If you didn't see that then we can't talk about it. I guess the question is were you aware that people could pass out in a sweat lodge?

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: Did you have any concerns ever about why people could pass out?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Megan: I do now so, as Michael said, I certainly do now

Det. Diskin: Did James Ray ever tell you why it's okay for people to pass out in a sweat lodge or where he learned that it was okay for people to pass out in a sweat lodge?

Megan: No, no, we didn't ever have a conversation about that

Det. Poling: Do you think it would be safe to pass out in a sweat lodge? You know the heat, is it safe to pass out in there?

Megan: Well you're asking me now. I mean now I would say absolutely not. Prior to I didn't ever question it.

Det. Poling: So if you were passed out in a sweat lodge in 2007 or 2008, you wouldn't be concerned?

Megan: I wasn't. I mean I really, really wasn't. I've never passed out in my life so I don't even, I have no idea what the experience is like, I've never worked with anyone who has passed out before. To me no, I've heard it said you could pass out and that's okay

Det. Poling: But you're not concerned going into a sweat lodge, being a reasonable person that you could pass out in this heat. That's not a concern? I'm just asking

Megan: For me no, that's an individual thing

Det. Poling: I wouldn't like it

Megan: Yeah, I get that

Det. Poling: If (Inaudible) and I could pass out, I would freak out

Megan: I mean if there was like a you're gonna go in and you're gonna get stung by 200 bees, yeah for me that would be alarming. To pass out, that was not alarming to me and that could just be cause I've never experienced passing out before

Det. Diskin: But James Ray tells people you could pass out. To me that would imply that he knows this cause people have passed out before. Did you ever ask him why do you say people could pass out when I've been doing this for several years and no ones every passed out?

Megan: No I didn't ask him

Det. Diskin: Did that surprise you when he said you could pass out cause you've been part of this for several years and no one's ever passed out according to you

Megan: No it didn't surprise me. I assume it's precautionary, just like release forms that say someone could die. I mean I always just thought it's precautionary.

Det. Diskin: Okay and in this conversation where he's telling people that they could pass out, what does he tell them to do if they do pass out? Or if they feel like their gonna pass out?

Megan: Well he told them if they feel like their gonna pass out that they can exit the lodge.

Det. Diskin: But if he tells them it's okay to pass out that would imply that there's no need to exit the lodge if you feel like you're gonna pass out, is that correct?

Megan: I, I don't know cause you're asking me to remember exact wording and I don't. I mean I've heard him say that it's possible that you could pass out in the lodge and I've heard him say take care of yourself. If you need to leave the lodge, leave. So to me, for me as a human being if I were in the lodge and I started feeling like I'm light headed, I need to take care of myself, I would leave.

Det. Poling: Does he tell you going in that lodge, if you feel like you're gonna go unconscious, pass out, whatever, leave before that happens. Make a conscious effort no matter what time it is to get out. If you feel you're gonna go unconscious or you feel faint or you feel this, leave as soon as you have that feeling. Does he tell you it's okay to leave at that point, just go?

Megan: No, it's definitely not that direct. He says take care of yourself and if you need to leave, leave.

Det. Diskin: Okay the concern is, is pretty much all the participants have told us that you know that some variation of that. That you could pass out and that's okay. And so the concern is that people inside feel like man I'm gonna pass out but James Ray said it's okay and then they pass out and then they die. That's the concern, that's why we're digging into that so deep.

Megan: And like I said I wish, I mean I don't remember exact wording. I don't, I mean to me it doesn't, I never understood it to be if you pass out that's okay but it was just a warning of you may pass out.

Det. Diskin: Yeah we could beat this to death so we'll move on

Megan: Sorry

Det. Diskin: Was there a plan should something go wrong? I'm talking about 2009.

Megan: No, aside from us as a team just knowing how to work together and Melinda was CPR certified. So I shouldn't say no there wasn't a plan; there wasn't an if this goes wrong we do A, B, C, X, Y, Z. It was Melinda's CPR certified, there's a handful of Dream Team members outside who can take care of people, Angel Valley is available to help. I mean there's all sorts of things that are there that's helpful. But not like a contingency plan I guess.

Det. Poling: If James Ray makes the comment people are gonna pass out, okay, as a member, or team member, whatever, what does he tell you your responsibility is to these people when they pass out, or if they pass out? So for instance someone in the back of the tent passes out, what's your responsibility? How do you know that they've passed out?

Megan: As team members, I think there's a lot of the community dynamic if someone to pass out whose next to a team member, the team member would drag them out, help them get out. There's, other people help too so you know if someone had passed out next to Josh per se as an example, he may say hey, help take this person out.

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) but are you told if they do pass out to get them out or to let them be? That's what I want to know. Are you instructed to go in and drag them out once they become unconscious or are you told to let them be? What is your role as an employee?

Megan: Well my specific role as an employee again is different from others.

Det. Poling: Does anyone have the role of taking these people out of the lodge?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Poling: Who is that?

Megan: Well it's been different every year.

Det. Poling: Why would it change?

Megan: Cause different people go to the event each year.

Det. Poling: Okay, so you say whoever's there. So someone's given the responsibility

Megan: Yeah there's specific Dream Team members

Det. Poling: Whose given the responsibility in 2009 if they pass out?

Megan: It was Josh and then Mark Rock and Liz Neuman

Det. Diskin: (Inaudible) inside though

Megan: Correct, so it has to be someone whose on the inside who can help pull people out. They're there to be the anchors

Det. Poling: So their told that if someone passes out, you go in there and you drag them out. Is that the game plan?

Megan: They're already in there

Det. Poling: I know but what's their duty, what's their responsibility? If someone's passed out, what are those people's responsibility?

Megan: To drag (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) pick them up, take them out, who makes that rule?

Megan: You keep saying go in and pick them up. Their not going in, cause their already in.

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) go to them and get them out, to rescue them

Megan: Yeah

Mr. Proctor: Okay so just explain it.

Megan: Yes their role is to help get the person out of there and it may mean they say hey, this other participant could you help me take this person out, or whatever. I mean like Josh, and he can tell you his experience, but I mean he helped several people get out of the lodge in the years that he's been there.

Det. Poling: Were they passed out?

Megan: I don't know, you could ask Josh though.

Det. Poling: I just want to know (Inaudible) for, you know what I mean?

Megan: I know

Det. Poling: If that's a responsibility, if people are passed out, is anyone really paying attention to these people and if so, who is it? You know, it's dark.

Det. Diskin: In other words, my thought specifically was he told if somebody next to you passes out, drag them out? Was he told that?

Megan: Mmm hmm, yeah. If anyone, and if anyone needs help.

Det. Diskin: Who told him that?

Megan: Probably me, I don't remember specifically. Josh and I were in charge of telling people what to do and we had a meeting that morning and we have certain points of what each of us would say.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: And in your meeting you're instructing your people to look for people that are passed out and get them out if they passed out. I don't think that's happening

Megan: We would tell them if their, right if there are signs of duress or someone asks for help then to help them out.

Det. Poling: And how do you know that they're in distress and passed out in this atmosphere that's dark, even with the flap open it's still probably pretty tough. I'm assuming, tell me if I'm wrong, that it's hard to see what people are experiencing cause there's a lot of people. Are you guys that are responsible personally looking at each one, saying this guy's fine and that guy's fine?

Megan: Mmm mmm

Det. Poling: Oh my God this one's in distress, we gotta go take him out.

Megan: No, no. I mean I really, in my experience it's a very communal experience and there's people who say

Det. Poling: You're saying it's the responsibility of everybody around then is what, if I'm hearing you, right?

Megan: Yeah, that's, I mean that's always how it's been. That's always been the atmosphere or if people are in duress they've, in the past, they've said so. I mean you'll

Det. Poling: It's hard to be (Inaudible) when you're unconscious (Inaudible)

Megan: Well I understand that and our experience hasn't been having people unconscious in there

Det. Poling: And if you have people around you that are experienced in the same thing, let's say you have four people,

Megan: I know

Det. Poling: and this one's feeling it, this one's not in his right state of mind, this one's (Inaudible), whose doing this, you know?

Megan: Correct, it's very easy in retrospect to see that and it's just not an experience that we've had before. People have said hey my leg's cramped up I gotta get out of here. Okay, well go to action, you know (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: But this unconscious stuff has happened before or someone has knowledge of it or they wouldn't make that statement is what I'm trying to get at here. You know what, if you've never had something happen like that, why would you interject that into the game plan if they may pass out unless they've had experience with that or they knew it would happen. Do you see what I'm trying to say?

Megan: I understand what you're saying and like I said before when James has said you may pass out, like I said I always felt like that was precautionary. It hasn't been something that's happened where people had passed out in the lodge.

Det. Diskin: But you and James told Dream Team members if somebody passes out, drag them out

Megan: No I said if somebody needs help or if there's signs of distress (Inaudible) them out

Det. Diskin: Okay so you never said if somebody's passed out, drag them out? Just if there's signs of distress?

Megan: I don't think so cause having people passed out in the lodge has not been my experience.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: Well I'm not trying to get in an argument but the point is someone said something that someone is passed out, am I not correct here? And (Inaudible) said no, wait til the round's over and then deal with it. Did you hear that?

Megan: No

Det. Poling: Are you saying that didn't happen or you didn't hear it?

Megan: I didn't hear it, I don't have any recollection. You asked me that in the last interview and I don't

Det. Poling: Right well and that's why we asked you cause we've had this happen

Megan: I understand other people have said that

Det. Diskin: Several people have said that

Megan: If it was just cause I was on a different side of the lodge or I was

Det. Diskin: Well you were right next to James Ray when he responded to that, you're sitting right next to the guy that's in a conversation with people and it just doesn't make sense why you wouldn't hear that.

Megan: Right, I understand that and I don't have a recollection of that

Det. Diskin: Alright uhm I'm gonna try and move through this a little faster. Now did you see people being dragged out of the sweat lodge?

Megan: During the

Det. Diskin: During the, from round one til it was over. Did you see people at different stages of the sweat lodge being dragged out?

Megan: Yes I remember specific, I mean I remember one person and I don't know who that was cause I, (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: You only saw one person

Megan: Being dragged out

Det. Diskin: in 2009 being dragged out?

Megan: Yes. I saw other people being helped out but like I remember

Det. Poling: Inside the tent, being helped out. Not from the flap out but from inside the tent, did anyone go in and help anyone out?

Megan: Not that I recall, no. I don't recall anyone coming in that wasn't in there

Det. Diskin: Did the person that you saw being dragged out, and you're basically probably 3 feet from the door opening, right? Cause James Ray is next to you next to the door

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: and then since they have to go out clockwise, people would be dragged right in front of you right at your feet, is that correct?

Megan: No there's a person in front of me

Det. Diskin: Oh so there's

Megan: Cause we sit double

Det. Poling: Inner circle?

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: So you would see people as their being dragged out, correct?

Megan: Aside from, I mean it's really dark, you have a sense of motion and movement and stuff going on but

Det. Diskin: Well James Ray, he would know as people are going in and out or people are being dragged out, correct? Cause he's right there next to the door, is that

Megan: I would think so

Det. Diskin: How did James Ray respond when somebody was dragged out?

Megan: He would say I believe, hiaya; which is honoring the person. Hiaya and if he knew the person by their face, hiaya, you know Sally or whoever. It's a way to honor them when they are exiting.

Det. Diskin: So he was, do you think that James Ray thought that it was good that they were leaving. Is this like a compliment, this term that he uses?

Megan: Hiaya means I honor the place in you where you and I are one. Like (Inaudible) so yeah, it's an honor. I guess I'm not sure how else to describe it besides that.

Det. Diskin: Okay, how else did he react to this when people were either being helped out or dragged out. What was his general reaction to that?

Megan: I think the general reaction is like a coach. You know I don't think there's, there's not a lot of attention put to the people who are leaving other than to honor that it's time to go out. As a coach he may be, like he would say things like, you know, we'll see you next round. Or good job, or things like that.

Det. Diskin: Did someone crawl out underneath the side of the sweat lodge during this ceremony?

Megan: Not that I'm aware of, no. I'm aware that someone lifted up the flap at a point and it got light in there.

Det. Diskin: Yeah. Well let's talk about that when somebody lifted up the flap. What was James Ray response to that?

Megan: I remember James said to turn off the flashlight as I think it was just his thought that someone had brought a flashlight in.

Det. Diskin: So James Ray's attorneys tell us that people were free to leave at any time and in fact one person actually crawled out from underneath the edge during the sweat lodge. In other words instead of just leaving between rounds, people could leave at any time, even crawl underneath. Are you saying that didn't happen?

Megan: No I don't have an awareness of that happening. That's the first I've ever heard that actually.

Mr. Proctor: And you know, she's not speaking for James Ray or, and she hasn't read whatever you guys pulled out before this letter or

Mr. Proctor: That's not Megan talking so I mean she's just telling you what she observed

Det. Diskin: Well part of what we're trying to do is kind of fact check what his attorneys are saying and if their right

Mr. Proctor: And they might have heard it from someone else but, so she can just say what she saw

Megan: Yeah I think you did a lot of interviews too, right?

Det. Diskin: The reason that we expect Megan to know more than most people that we talk to is because it seems like this is consistent with all the participants, the people that were closest to the door stayed in the longest and remembered more. And the people that were furthest away from the door toward the back of the lodge remember less and so that's why we expect Megan to remember stuff like. If she doesn't remember, she doesn't remember. **Did Greg Hartle leave the lodge early?**

Megan: Yes

Det. Diskin: What was James Ray's reaction to that?

Megan: **I remember James encouraging him to come back in. And reminding, and I did too, I remember reminding Greg, cause he left after the third round. And one of Greg's areas that he's working on was in opening up his heart and being you know less in his head and more in his heart and round four was the heart shakra. And so I remember even calling out to Greg and being like Greg it's round four it's the heart shakra, you know, come back in. It's encouraging and I think James did the same thing.**

Det. Diskin: Was James upset that Greg left?

Megan: Oh no

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: James, no, James would not get upset about anybody leaving

Det. Diskin: Hmm. That's different than what most people have told us.

Megan: Yeah I mean I could understand where, I think a lot of people have the perception that James, uhm, that what do I want to say? That James is judging what their doing and just knowing James for nine years, he's not. I mean he's there to encourage people and to help them along but he's not, in my perception he's not a judgmental guy. He's not berating people or judging what their doing. He's encouraging them.

Det. Diskin: Okay did you hear someone say that they were having a heart attack?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: In 2009?

Det. Diskin: In 2009

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Saying I'm having a heart attack, I'm dying

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay. Beverly Bunn in round four tried to leave. Do you recall this, first of all, Beverly Bunn trying to leave in round four?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Megan: Sorry, thanks for asking me that, I don't, you know I don't remember.

Det. Diskin: The question is, people have said that Beverly Bunn tried to leave, James Ray said no you're better than that, you need to stay or you know the door's already closed, you can't leave. And the same thing with Laura Ginari, do you remember her trying to leave at some point and was told that she couldn't?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: And again just to say again, I wear glasses so aside from being really dark, I don't, I can't see very well without my glasses on so in terms of specific people, I mean I knew Greg left because I know Greg, but

Det. Diskin: Did you see James Ray stop anybody from leaving, saying no the door's shut you have to stay?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay. Several witnesses had told us that somebody toward the back was, kept saying we can't do it, we can't do it. And Josh responded to that person. Do you remember what Josh said?

Megan: I don't remember Josh saying anything in the lodge.

Det. Poling: When did Josh leave the lodge, what round?

Megan: Before the last round so after, there were 8 rounds so after 7.

Det. Poling: Did he come back in?

Megan: No

Det. Poling: So he left, he didn't come back in?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Did he leave earlier though, like around 4 for awhile and then come back in or was he in there the whole time up until round 7 and then when he left he didn't come back?

Megan: I'm not aware of him leaving any earlier

Det. Diskin: Uhm, in 2009, you've already answered this for the most part but James Ray made statements to encourage people to stay in there, he was like a coach saying you can do it, you know you're better than that. Do you remember which statements he made to encourage people to stay in?

Megan: Not specifically but what you're saying is very similar to what James would say, you know, you're more than that.

Det. Diskin: Did he say you need to live outside of your body? Did he say that?

Megan: Not that I can recall and it doesn't sound like something James would say but you know I don't know for sure

Det. Diskin: In round 7 did you hear Laurie Tucker who was kind of in the back, did you hear her say anything?

Megan: Sorry, no, but in terms of what you just said I have heard James before say before you're more than your body, not outside of your body, but you're more than your body. Sorry.

Det. Diskin: Okay. We've talked to so many people, people kind of remember stuff but, so is that one of the things you remember him saying in 2009, you're more than your body?

Megan: Again, I'm not sure specifically what he was saying in 2009 but I've heard him say it before so it's very possible.

Det. Diskin: Which would be kind of different than you need to listen to your body, correct?

Mr. Proctor: Oh I thought you said live outside of your body

Megan: Me too

Det. Diskin: Initially that's what I said. She said, or you said

Mr. Proctor: More than

Det. Diskin: More than your body. If somebody tells you your more than your body and somebody else tells you you need to listen to your body, wouldn't that be two different things?

Megan: In my understanding yeah they would be

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: Yeah. In terms of Laura Tucker, no I don't recall specifically. And I don't know that I know a lot of people's voices

Det. Diskin: Yeah you know you may not and using her name probably isn't that important but do you remember someone having a conversation with James Ray in round 7 about specifically Liz Neuman?

Megan: No, uh uh

Det. Diskin: Okay. After the sweat lodge it kind of, you know, was kind of chaotic there for awhile. Did you hear James Ray tell Debra Mercer that it would be sacrilegious for her to open up the side of the tent to get out James and Kirby?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Were you part of that conversation?

Megan: No,

Det. Diskin: In other words

Megan: when?

Det. Diskin: At the end, at the end

Mr. Proctor: Afterwards

Megan: Oh, Debbie Mercer, sorry I was still trying to figure out who Debra Mercer was, yeah, Debbie. No, no

Det. Diskin: Did you hear her talk to James Ray at all about there's people unconscious, or there's still people inside we need to get out or any of that conversation?

Megan: No, I wasn't there for that. When I came out I was kind of sitting off on the side by myself

Det. Diskin: Okay. After the sweat lodge was over did James Ray help anyone?

Megan: Uhm, yes. And help can be (Inaudible) differently. James didn't perform CPR or anything

Det. Diskin: Well was he on his hands and knees trying to encourage people or getting towels or blankets or telling people what they need to do to correct this problem that their having?

Megan: Yeah, he went around and checked on people. Uhm and he, he was kneeling down and I remember him specifically talking to uhm a couple of folks who I know are from Canada but I can't recall their names right now. Uhm he held IV bags when the paramedics were there

Det. Diskin: James Ray held an IV bag?

Megan: Yeah, yeah

Det. Diskin: Do you remember which IV bag that was?

Megan: No I believe it was either, I mean I held Liz Neuman's for awhile so it could have been Liz's or some, it may not have been IV. It was something where if the paramedics were working they had us holding a couple different things for them at

different times. Even like their clipboards, you know, so uhm he came and talked to Liz I know. I mean he was talking to her and he was you know reminding her of how amazing she is and uhm

Det. Diskin: So he had a conversation (Inaudible)

Megan: Yeah he talked to her and I think that Tes Wong, I think he was near Tes Wong at one point too. He may have been holding an IV bag there. He helped get people blankets and towels. I know that there was, there was a period of time right afterward where it was, it was a lot of shock and I know that when James was near Kirby and James Shore he was in a kind of state of disbelief and shock and, and standing watching people do CPR and James, as far as, I don't know if James was CPR certified or not but he, you know, he didn't jump in there and do CPR. He kinda just let them do their thing, there was a lot of people there, I think four people or so. But then once it kind of became like your, the paramedics are there and we need to figure out who needs to be where and so on. Then you know I think James came a little bit out of the shock and started talking to the participants and, and you know checking on them and making sure they were okay and getting them the blankets and you know telling them that they had done a really great job and stuff like that.

Det. Poling: So you saw him tell someone they did a great job? Did he shake their hand? Did he like go down, touch them, say you did a good job?

Megan: I don't know, you know I don't remember him shaking a hand. Like I said I remember specifically this couple

Det. Poling: Well you said he told people they did a good job, participants

Megan: Yeah, yeah and it may

Det. Poling: Well what did they do a good job with?

Megan: Well if they completed the lodge it would be my interpretation of it, but I don't, you know, uhm. They, I mean they just had a big accomplishment obviously to make it, like in this lodge. And

Det. Poling: Why is that a big accomplishment?

Megan: To, well it's, I mean the lodge again, I keep liking it, for me cause I'm a runner, I mean like accomplishing a half marathon or marathon you tell people congratulations

Det. Diskin: So it's like a marathon, it's an endurance test

Megan: I mean to me it's a, it's a challenge that you put in front of yourself and say I'm gonna do this. I mean just like the Vision Quest to me, you say you know you did a good job. I don't

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) sweat lodge would be a challenge and a great thing to accomplish, you know what I mean? I don't understand that. I always thought sweat lodges were peaceful experiences where you're meditating and you're having a sweet thing but obviously this one's not like that. It's more of a

Det. Poling: You wouldn't know the difference cause you've never been trained on sweat lodges, you've never researched sweat lodges and so a lot of this, when we talk about sweat lodges, you can only think about what you've been taught by James Ray, correct?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: Which isn't a sweat lodge. It's completely different than

Megan: Well, now I know.

Mr. Proctor: Well I don't know, is that a question?

Det. Diskin: No, she wouldn't know to answer that cause she has never seen another sweat lodge

Megan: No, I mean including starting that way as a participant I've never

Mr. Proctor: I wouldn't be concerned about it. There's not a person in this room who actually is an expert in sweat lodges.

Det. Diskin: Yeah

Mr. Proctor: And when people say American Indian, their probably about 500 different American Indian tribes that engaged in different types of sweat lodges that you can't just generalize. So you know, we're talking about what happened in Sedona.

Megan: Right

Det. Diskin: Okay. You said as time went on James kinda started helping more and more. Is that accurate?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: As the initial shock of it kind of wore off he would help people and check on them. It's my understanding that when the paramedics got there it was kind of like a triage situation where their working on Kirby and James and Liz and putting IV's in.

They don't know about all the chaos that's around the corner, the tent with more people that are in medical distress and needing help. When the paramedics first got there and their doing this triage and working on the people that are worst off, what are you and James doing?

Megan: I haven't thought about that in a long time. When the paramedics first got there they attended to, I'm gonna tell you the best that I remember. When the paramedics first got there they were attending to Kirby and James and I recall being there at that time and watching them and then kind of snapping; I think I had kind of the same experience as James of like I need to snap myself out of this and see where I can be of help. And I, I don't know, I mean I wasn't, I saw James different places but I was by no means tagging along with him or anything so I can't answer for what he was doing. But I went and started to see where I could be of service in terms of checking on the participants and seeing you know where I could help and talking to the paramedics. I gave the paramedics as many names as I could and information as I could about the different participants from what I knew. You know like I said I held IV bags, I helped direct participants who were okay to you know to their rooms or sent them, because the paramedics were kind of, you know they needed help with the triage for sure. I think it was unfortunate that they didn't seem to have anyone with them who had that role and so I was doing my best to get, you know, get the participants that were doing okay to you know take showers and get themselves in warm clothes and stuff like that cause the sun was setting. And checking in with my team, you know, Melinda and the Dream Team and stuff like that and you know helping direct where I could.

Det. Diskin: Okay the reason I ask is cause witnesses, some, have told us that James Ray did absolutely nothing to help anybody and that you had held an IV bag at one point or did something like that, was over by one of the victims but that for the most part paramedics are working on people, it's a triage situation, their trying to save lives, theirs other people in medical distress and that you and James and Josh did nothing. That you just stood there and watched and didn't help anybody. And from what you're telling me, that isn't true, correct?

Megan: Correct. Yeah that's not true. I mean I'm not medically trained so I didn't step in and attempt to you know give CPR or any, I did my best to help where I could without being in the way.

Det. Diskin: One of the people that is, you know or some of the people that have claimed, that were claiming that you and Josh and James did absolutely nothing, they gave me this picture. Can you tell me where you and Josh and James are in that picture?

Megan: Josh is, oh Josh and I are right here

Det. Diskin: Okay and where's James?

Megan: Uhm, oh, right here

Det. Diskin: Okay and it appears that over here; what's going on over here? Are those people having problems?

Megan: I don't know who that is but yeah it looks like someone's laying and their talking to them

Det. Diskin: Do you remember people next to you having some problems, you know, when you guys were standing there talking? Do you remember people in the area that were either unconscious or vomiting or having severe issues on the ground or screaming?

Megan: Sure, I mean there was a lot of chaos everywhere, yeah

Det. Diskin: Okay. And why, I mean it kind of looks like you guys are just casually standing there. Josh has his hand in his pockets, it doesn't look like you guys are doing anything, or directing this effort with your Dream Team, helping people get medical attention, anything like that.

Megan: Well we yeah, I mean it, certainly at picture so it

Det. Poling: Could you tell us what part of the scene that was? I mean

Megan: No, I mean I don't have a clue when this would have taken place even

Det. Poling: (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Well let me show you. They still are working on people back here which was obviously James and Kirby. Their working on, let me see this for a second. Yeah here I believe their working on either Sidney or Liz, I can't remember where she was. So this is you know not that long into it. Their still, you know it's been when James and Kirby and Liz are still there and

Megan: Well sure, you know I understand kind of, I mean I certainly understand what you're getting at and I, you know my guess is that we got together and were regrouping to say you know what could we do and how can we help and I mean really if you, like, to be quite blunt I mean Michael Hamilton is standing here at afar watching what's going on and

Det. Diskin: Well he's back right standing over James and Kirby

Megan: Right and this guy's smiling and got a hand on her back so I don't, I mean there's a lot of, of kind of judgment that you could make from what's going on and I don't, I can't tell you specifically what this is here. We were there and we're not medically trained at all so like I said I did my best. I went around to everyone of the paramedics and asked what could I do to help and some of them were like just get out or get people out of the way and some, which my guess is there's some people who left

Det. Diskin: Is the paramedics, some of the ones that we've talked to kind of explained that they didn't know about all these people over here that were in medical distress. Their working on people that aren't breathing and then they think that their done with that once, you know they load them up. But then realize that there's all these people that are sick and need help.

Megan: Well that's why I explained I think to me what I recognize is there was a challenge. To me and I, you know what do I know about the medical profession but there was no one on their staff performing any sort of triage who was monitoring vitals of anyone

Det. Poling: What do you mean on their staff? Who are you talking about?

Megan: Like the paramedics

Det. Poling: Okay the paramedics (Inaudible) doing triage?

Megan: It didn't appear that they were and so it became apparent like you said it's kinda like, it felt like they worked from back here, this direction without going around and monitoring the situation first. I don't know how they work and what their effort is but I also didn't feel like it was my place to tell paramedics how to do their job or

Det. Diskin: Did you think that you could say hey there's more people over here that need help?

Megan: Yeah I did, yeah, yeah I did and like I said I went around and asked them how could I help. What's the best way that I could help here and I mean their responses were typically here hold this or get the people out of here or you know their busy. This is a serious situation, their taking care of stuff. And then with, the participants, what's her name, where's she from, do you know how old she is, you know stuff like that.

Det. Poling: Could I ask a question? What did James Ray, what was he wearing when he was inside the tent and performing the ceremony? What was he clothed in?

Megan: Just shorts, just I think black shorts. No shirt.

Det. Poling: Okay. Did he shower when he got out? I mean hose down or whatever?

Megan: I don't, I don't know

Det. Diskin: Well he was right in front of you, right?

Megan: Yeah, I don't, but I don't know. I was not paying attention to what James was doing. I was, like there was no

Det. Poling: What were you wearing inside?

Megan: Uhm I was wearing a black tank top and shorts

Det. Poling: And Josh?

Megan: I don't know, I don't remember. Probably shorts

Det. Poling: After you guys came out of that sweat lodge what did you do?
Immediately after leaving that sweat lodge what were you guys doing?

Megan: Uhm are you asking me about what Josh was doing or what I was doing?
Cause they happened at different times

Mr. Proctor: Take them one at a time. Just take them one at a time.

Det. Poling: What did you do when you left the sweat lodge, where did you go?

Megan: When I left the sweat lodge, as soon as I got out of the sweat lodge I got hosed down and I remember Taylor being near me. I, Melinda was there and she was helping hose me down and she was the Event Coordinator and the JRI Team Member who was on staff and I asked her, you know, how is everything and how is everybody and she's like everything's fine, it's great, you know. And she said you, you are, she said something to me like you are a real warrior. You know because I stayed in the whole time I guess. And then I walked over near where the fire was which was where Josh was cause Josh was like hey Megan, come over here and he was just sitting on the ground. So for me getting out of the lodge there was no signs of anything going wrong or whatever

Det. Poling: So you leave the lodge and you're feeling okay (Inaudible)

Megan: I was really wobbly, I was like physically wobbly. Yeah I got hosed down.

Det. Poling: Okay, did you towel off? You know dry off?

Megan: Uh, I don't remember. At that point, I think that I did

Det. Poling: After you got hosed off did you stay there?

Megan: Uhm I was there for quite a while, probably about an hour. I actually went and sat on the ground and Amayra Hamilton came over and talked to me and everything and there was still again no signs of anything going on and then Greg yelled over to me and I was just, I got water and I was sitting down to gather myself in case people needed help to get to their rooms and things like that.

Det. Poling: At what point did you leave and change your clothes?

Megan: Probably about an hour maybe, 45 minutes, I don't know I got really

Det. Poling: Before the paramedics got there or after the paramedics got there?

Megan: Uhm I don't remember, I would guess after. My house is just right up the hill from, the house that I was living in was just right up the hill from the lodge and I ran up there and I put shorts, er I took off my wet clothes, put on dry clothes and came right back down.

Det. Poling: How about Josh? When did he leave? That you noticed, if you remember.

Megan: I don't, I don't remember when Josh left

Det. Diskin: Alright another thing that we want to look into. James Ray's attorney in that document that they sent us, they said that this year that they had provided a nurse to be outside the sweat lodge in case there were any problems. Is that true?

Megan: Yeah, she was on the Dream Team. Her name was Lisa Rondan.

Det. Diskin: Okay. And Lisa is, is she a registered nurse?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Do you know what kind of nurse she is?

Megan: No

Det. Poling: When did James Ray bring her on board?

Megan: She's a volunteer

Det. Poling: Did James Ray bring her on board?

Megan: I'm not sure of the question, I'm sorry

Det. Poling: Did he ask her to be at the lodge to be the nurse? I'm sorry

Megan: No I asked her to be a part of the Dream Team and

Det. Poling: When?

Megan: I don't know, maybe 2 or 3 weeks before the event, I don't know for sure

Det. Poling: You're sure about that?

Megan: Sure about what?

Det. Poling: Asking her 2 weeks prior to be part of the Dream Team?

Megan: No I don't remember the timeframe

Det. Poling: Or did she ask you to be part of the Dream Team? Who's asking who?

Megan: I, there's a girl in our office who was in our office who was in charge of the Dream Team and from my perspective, I mean Tina approached me and said do you want Lisa Rondan to be part of the Spiritual Warrior Dream Team and I said absolutely.

Det. Poling: Why?

Det. Diskin: Why?

Megan: Well you know, Lisa was a Harmonic Wealth coach so she's been you know a coach of our participants. She's been a volunteer at other events. She's a great person and she's an R.N. which I

Det. Diskin: And the reason we ask this is cause it's clear that James Ray is claiming to his attorneys that he specifically brought on Lisa Rondan to be a Dream Team member at Spiritual Warrior because she's a nurse. When did you find out that she's a nurse?

Megan: I don't know specifically. I mean I've known Lisa for a couple years so at some point in our relationship I've just become aware that she's a nurse. Like I know that she lives in [REDACTED] but I don't specifically know when I learned that

Det. Poling: Did you know before Spiritual Warrior 2009 or did you know during Spiritual Warrior 2009?

Megan: No, before

Det. Poling: And that was, how did you find out about that, that she was a nurse?

Megan: Just from, I don't know, from being a participant and knowing

Det. Poling: Did you talk to her? When did you talk to her and find out that she was a nurse

Megan: I don't know specifically

Det. Poling: Was it during a conversation you had over coffee? What brought up your knowledge of her profession? I mean

Megan: I don't know specifically. I mean it may have been someone in my office who said Lisa, the Harmonic Wealth coach, she's an R.N. I have no idea how I know that knowledge.

Det. Diskin: Here's a point of it, was she specifically recruited because she's a nurse and therefore the sweat lodge would be safer?

Megan: Was she specifically recruited? No, not in my understanding I don't think she was recruited, she volunteered

Det. Diskin: Was she placed in that position because she's a nurse and that would make the sweat lodge safer? That's what the claim is, is that he had this nurse there that was, you know, that we specifically

Det. Poling: Specifically put a nurse there at the lodge

Det. Diskin: And we're just wondering if that's true

Megan: I mean my understanding, to tell you from my perspective and how it came to be that she's on the Dream Team is that she's very qualified in a lot of different areas and when Tina said hey do you want Lisa to be a member of the Dream Team, it fit into place. So it was yes she's a Harmonic Wealth coach, she'll be great for this event because it's a lot of working deeply with people. She's a registered nurse, so that'll be really great for this event because we have the sweat lodge, you know, and it will be great to have someone there who has medical knowledge.

Det. Poling: Who's Tina?

Megan: Tina worked in

Det. Diskin: Tina Heffner

Megan: Yeah, in the JRI office and she would pick who the volunteers were at the events and since Tina hasn't been to Spiritual Warrior she'd come to me and say what do you think about this person because she wanted to make sure they were the right fit for the event and Lisa would have been a huge asset so yeah, I naturally wanted her to be there. And then Lisa, like I was saying, Lisa was assigned to be outside of the sweat lodge because she was a nurse at that time but

Det. Diskin: (Inaudible) After the sweat lodge was over and there's panic, I mean people are first realizing that hey this isn't right, did you hear Debra Mercer tell James Ray that an ambulance needed to be called?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Did you hear anybody tell James Ray we need to call an ambulance?

Megan: No I mean not that I can remember. I mean I remember me telling Angel Valley we need to call an ambulance and they said we are but I don't remember anyone telling James Ray that we need to call an ambulance. I don't, not specifically.

Det. Diskin: Okay. I'm not talking about when, let me just ask it. Did anybody, did James Ray or his staff tell participants to go back to their rooms when the sweat lodge was over?

Megan: Yes those who were physically capable

Det. Diskin: Okay

Megan: It was, I mean like I said the sun was setting and it was getting really cold. I mean you live there and you know what that's like. And there's people who, I mean we didn't need more medical concerns. Like I said I mean my lips were purple, my, you know, my hands were purple so

Det. Diskin: Let me clarify that. That was a bad way to ask that. Prior to the paramedics arriving, did James Ray or his staff tell participants who were able, to go back to their rooms? This is daylight. This is before when the paramedics specifically; when the paramedics are coming down the hill where you could see them driving on that road, coming down into Angel Valley, was there statements made by staff and James Ray saying if you're able to, go to your rooms.

Megan: I don't recall specifically but I think that it could have been possible, yeah

Det. Diskin: I'm not saying that's a bad thing. I mean it could be to prevent further chaos and the paramedics getting there but

Megan: I don't, I mean I wish I could remember timing but it was, I'm sure you understand it was very chaotic and the timing's real blurry for me.

Det. Diskin: The concern is that people were, we believe people were told to go back to their rooms as the paramedics were coming down the hill and some of those people clearly were in medical distress and needed medical attention. So that's a concern that we have

Megan: Oh, no

Det. Diskin: and so that's why it's important to kind of remember if, did you or somebody check these people out and say okay your okay, your not that bad so you can go back to your room. I mean who determined which ones were allowed to go back to their rooms?

Megan: I think the participants determined that. I mean for me personally anyway, I mean I didn't send anyone away who couldn't get up and walk and feel good about it.

And I wasn't by any means forceful about having people go. I mean I was concerned about people being you know wet and it's getting colder and darker and then once the paramedics were there I thought about having people in the way and stuff like that, so

Det. Diskin: Okay, several people have told us that after things started to slow down a little bit and that officers and the detectives started arriving to interview people, people have told us that you and Greg and Josh and James Ray hid out in the gift shop so that you wouldn't have to talk. Not James Ray, I'm sorry, you and Josh and Greg Hartle hid out in the gift shop so you wouldn't have to talk to law enforcement. Is that true?

Megan: No I was sent by James to call the attorneys and the PR folks and the cell phone signal doesn't work at Angel Valley so I went to Michael Hamilton and asked him where I could make phone calls, if it was okay. And he had me go to the gift shop. He said it would be a quiet place but he knew I was there so I said if anyone wants to talk to me and I talked to I think her name was Mary from the fire department. In the office and she asked me some questions about incense and stuff but they didn't, I never, no one ever wanted to talk to me while I was there so

Det. Diskin: Okay. How long were you and Greg and Josh in the gift shop?

Megan: I was the only one in the gift shop. Josh was detained down at the lodge, at the sweat lodge.

Det. Diskin: Oh was he interviewed initially?

Megan: Uh yeah, or he was down there. I don't know how much of the interview happened.

Det. Diskin: The reason I brought it up is cause we look back and we don't know who anybody is when we get there. We interview everybody that we can find and, which is almost all the participants but there's a handful of people that it doesn't look like were ever interviewed and you know you were one. Which we would think you would be an important person to interview.

Megan: I would too, really, but no one did

Det. Diskin: Greg and Josh

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: And when we researched that, well where they? It looks like you guys were in the gift shop.

Megan: No, I was in the gift shop because I was, again, told to call. I was on the phone with the attorneys and PR the whole rest of the night. Greg was in the, what do they call it, the dining hall, the yellow house with the participants and he did like a prayer

circle with them and things like that. And then he was pretty much kind of the go between. He was helping, who was that? Michael Barber with making, the police wanted to know, you know are there people who are still in their rooms. So I think Greg was helping Michael Barber but I don't know. I mean Greg stopped into the gift shop maybe once or twice but until one in the morning I, (Inaudible) in there

Det. Diskin: When you were in the gift shop did you send email out to James Ray employees?

Megan: At like 3 in the morning, 2 in the morning, something like that

Det. Diskin: Okay and who was with you when you sent out that email?

Megan: Uhm Greg and Josh and Taylor and James were there. James may have left by then

Mr. Proctor: But he started out his question by saying that was when you were in the gift shop. Are you agreeing with that?

Megan: Yes, yeah we were in the gift shop. Once Josh and James were released, they came to the gift shop

Det. Diskin: Okay, was there a discussion amongst all of you in the gift shop about what that email should say?

Megan: Yeah

Det. Diskin: Okay and do you remember what that email said?

Megan: Oh, no, not specifically, uh uh. I mean I'm sure I could get it for you, but

Det. Diskin: Who was ultimately responsible for the content of that email, would that be you or James Ray? Who approved that email going out to all of James Ray International employees?

Mr. Proctor: Were lawyers involved in that process?

Megan: Uhm, God I don't remember. Uhm I mean James was there and he told us what to say. We, the only thing I can remember is the letter that we left for the participants about the conference call. I don't remember about the James Ray International employees. I don't remember what that said.

Det. Diskin: Can you tell us about that some people took ill but it was a great week and people had a great time

Megan: Yea that was, thank you, yeah that was under the advice of the attorney's, the concept of taking ill and

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: So this was in the gift shop that you're talking about now?

Megan: Yeah it's their office, it's downstairs in the gift shop

Det. Poling: And that was 2:00 in the morning?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) if you don't mind me asking. From, you went to the gift shop at one point. I thought you, was I correct, well I don't know what time you got to the gift shop, tell me that.

Megan: I don't know either. Uhm it might have been

Det. Poling: What I'm trying to figure out is I don't know where you were at and I knew that all the participants were in the cafeteria. I knew where Josh was, I knew where a few people were but we couldn't find you. All's I'm asking is where did you go during that time?

Megan: I was, I mean the gift shop the entire time on the phone with

Det. Poling: All the way up til 2 in the morning, or 3 in the morning?

Megan: Uh huh

Det. Poling: I didn't know, that's why, you said you were the only one that didn't get (Inaudible) I'm like how come we didn't find you?

Megan: I think at one time

Mr. Proctor: That's the place where you get cell coverage?

Megan: Uhm no they have land lines there

Mr. Proctor: Oh land lines

Megan: And it's been the Angel Valley office so like I said I talked to Michael and uhm what's her name, their Event Coordinator there, I can't remember. But they knew I was there and like I said I talked to, I think her name was Mary from the fire department and introduced myself and I gave her uhm, I walked through the list of participants name with her and she asked me some questions about (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Was this in person? She came to the gift shop and talked to you?

Megan: Yeah she and another, a gentleman, were there and I think they were both from the fire department

Det. Diskin: Let me ask you this. The email that went out to James Ray employees, clearly at this point you knew that people had died and that others were in critical condition, correct? At the time that you had sent that email out at 3 in the morning?

Megan: I don't think we (Inaudible) I mean we knew people were in the hospital, I don't think we had known officially that James and Kirby had (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: What time was this at that you're talking about this meeting (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: 3 in the morning

Det. Poling: 3 in the morning? No Josh knew. I talked to Josh personally and he knew so he had to have known

Megan: And he knew?

Det. Poling: Absolutely

Megan: So yeah

Det. Diskin: So why say we had a great time, some people have taken ill. Why make it sound like it's no big deal?

Mr. Proctor: So he's asking you what (Inaudible) the advice of lawyers was

Megan: Yeah we were under the advice of legal counsel as to what the wording was

Mr. Proctor: You know what? If you want her to answer it, I'm gonna let her. I really am. I'm not here to protect any privileges, Detective, I'm really not. And if you want to ask her what James Ray lawyers gave advice, I say go for it. I mean that's between you and James Ray.

Det. Diskin: If it's privileged, I don't think there's a privilege between James Ray's lawyers and Megan. I think that that's

Mr. Proctor: That's for you guys to figure out. I think a lot of people would disagree with that but I'm not taking a position

Det. Diskin: But if James Ray is being told to put this email out from his lawyers and telling Megan what to put in there, then I think that that's privileged. And I don't want to talk about that but

Mr. Proctor: Like I said you now the last thing I want to do is take a position. That's kind of between you guys and I don't want to get in that squabble

Det. Diskin: I just don't want to hear anything that's privileged even if it's close to being privileged.

Mr. Proctor: That's the only reason why I sort of asked the question the way I did and frankly I don't want you guys to mess up what you've got going by asking questions that you shouldn't be asking and getting answers that somehow taint your investigation so I

Det. Diskin: What I believed happened was that there was a discussion among the employees about what should we say and I didn't know James Ray was a part of that. But what should we tell the employees, so I thought that that was a discussion amongst the employees which isn't privileged. But if the content of that email is attorney client privilege, we can use the email because it was sent out to everybody. But we can't use the thought process or conversation going into writing that letter so let's don't talk about it anymore

Mr. Proctor: And I don't even know what the answer is to tell you the truth. I mean I personally don't even know what the answer is.

Megan: Yeah I think that's why I'm having such a hard time talking, or remembering this is I haven't talked about this with anybody until you're asking me these questions so I mean no one else has asked me these questions before uhm but can I, I mean I want to share though that from, I mean from the moment I got on the phone with the lawyers and James was also, I mean you might remember cause he was down being detained like he was on the phone with the lawyers. You know personally I don't feel like a move that we made from that point on had anything to do with us as, I mean it was all the advice of lawyers and PR. I don't feel like I really made much of a decision after that and it's a really tough position to be in but I mean most of what came, or all of what came out from the email, and the wording and all that was all at the advice of legal counsel so and PR and that's not his current counsel, just as a side note and not his current PR either so.

Det. Diskin: We'll switch gears. What health questions are asked of participants to make sure their healthy enough to safely attend these events?

Megan: Questions aren't asked of them, their just given a release form an asked to sign it. So, which from our understanding is their acknowledgment that they don't have a health concern.

Det. Poling: No questionnaire that goes out and says do you have these issues

Det. Diskin: Yeah and if you have this illness or this illness the sweat lodge could be bad for you? There's nothing like that?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay. Any concern at all for the board breaking? I mean (Inaudible) if you've had a prior hand injury or have arthritis you probably shouldn't break, you probably shouldn't participate; anything like that?

Megan: No, it's always there. I mean I've worked with a couple participants who had said you know I broke my wrist or whatever and I would always tell them then you know do you want to use your other hand or if you're not comfortable doing this then you don't have to. But not a questionnaire, a conversation.

Det. Diskin: Okay. When people sign up for Spiritual Warrior, this is, correct me if I'm wrong but this is public knowledge, it's accepted that they don't know what their getting into. They don't know that there's gonna be a sweat lodge or a Vision Quest or anything unless they talk to somebody and somebody's told them. And the reason for that is cause it has to be a surprise in order for it to work, or the less they know about it the more effective it is, is that correct?

Megan: Yeah I mean James uses, you know he'll share, he used more sales terminology and stuff from stage to let them know the benefits that they'll get so you know they know. I realize I'm like shivering, you're not scaring me, I'm just like really cold.

Mr. Proctor: Right now I feel that, that's really weird

Det. Diskin: 68 degrees for optimal learning

Megan: But no, really most of them, they talk to each other so most people know at least by 2009 most people know what's gonna happen and what's gonna go on and you hear people talk about it but it's not published by the company.

Det. Diskin: My point is if somebody, say they have MS, which they can't be in an area that's hot or can't be exposed to heat, if somebody has MS and they sign up thinking you know this is gonna be great, I'm gonna change my life and then later they find out, wait there's gonna be a sweat lodge? I can't go to that cause I have MS, are those people issued a refund?

Megan: It would depend on the circumstance. If they, there's like a 3 day refund policy so if it was within that time, like if they got their participant guide and they read it and it says that there's a sweat lodge

Det. Diskin: But two months before Spiritual Warrior, roughly about two months before you mail out, or somebody from James Ray International mails out the release and the explanation of what to bring and what's gonna happen

Megan: Right

Det. Diskin: So that would be past the three days where they could get a refund. By the time they know there's gonna be a sweat lodge they can't attend without

Megan: Yeah for some people. I mean some people sign up close to the date. But yeah, no, they would be, the Client Service Team would help them find another event they could go to that wouldn't have an issue

Det. Diskin: But at the \$10,000 Spiritual Warrior event is the big one at the end of everything else, why not give them a refund as opposed to \$10,000 worth of CD's or books or something?

Megan: Oh they could do, I mean they could do, well there's no

Det. Poling: Why don't they get a refund? Basically

Megan: James Ray International has a no refund policy

Mr. Proctor: I don't want to interject myself too much but did it happen that people cancelled because of medical reasons?

Megan: I don't know

Det. Diskin: Tina (Inaudible) would know, right?

Megan: Yeah she probably would

Mr. Proctor: Okay cause we're kinda talking in the hypothetical right? I didn't know if it happens or not

Det. Diskin: It did

Det. Poling: We have talked to people that it did happen and I believe it was, if I can say it, an MS person that says whoa I can't do this, I've got MS. Well you can't have a refund, it's a three day policy and they signed up six months before.

Mr. Proctor: Fair enough. Did you know about that?

Megan: I don't know about that particular circumstance but I

Det. Poling: I am talking right, correct?

Det. Diskin: Yeah you're, that's exactly right and what we're told by staff members is that they weren't allowed to like transfer somebody to you that was upset because they weren't getting a refund and so it's possible that you didn't know about this

Megan: Right. It's not that they weren't allowed to transfer people to me but

Det. Diskin: They said that they had to handle it. They wouldn't pass somebody off to you that's complaining about an event or something

Megan: No generally they would talk with me about it and then they could make the call back but no, James Ray International has a no refund policy beyond the three days and

Det. Diskin: Is there an age limit to attend events?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: Okay so if an eleven year old wanted to sign up for say the event in San Diego where you dress in homeless type clothes and go wander around and try and survive. If an eleven year old wanted to sign up for that and participate, would you allow that?

Megan: Mmm hmm

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: How about Spiritual Warrior?

Megan: Mmm hmm. Yeah there wasn't age limits on any of the events

Det. Diskin: Were you, I just got this today you don't even know about this, somebody sent me; you know people send this email

Mr. Proctor: You must get stuff all the time

Det. Diskin: Yeah

Megan: I bet

Det. Diskin: Someone is claiming and I don't even know who they are that at Quantum Leap 2009 that a ten year old boy attended

Megan: Quantum Leap 2009 didn't happen

Det. Diskin: No?

Megan: I mean there was no, it was cancelled

Det. Diskin: Okay

Mr. Proctor: 2009?

Det. Diskin: That's what the email said. Quantum Leap 2009

Det. Poling: Isn't Quantum Leap the one that was at Horton Plaza?

Det. Diskin: That's Harmonic Wealth.

Det. Poling: Okay I'm sorry

Megan: The one at Horton Plaza, you've said April a couple times. That was in July. There wasn't an event in April in Horton Plaza. But no that's Creating Absolute Wealth and then Quantum Leap was cancelled. And that was supposed to be in November.

Det. Diskin: Okay well maybe the year's wrong but what they described in the email was that there was a ten year old boy who was a participant and he was told to you know break the arrow by leaning up against the wall and break the arrow. He kept crying saying I don't want to do it, I don't want to do it and James Ray kept saying you can do it, you can do it, do it, just do it and he's crying I don't want to do it, I don't want to do it. Then James Ray got everyone who was there, like 200 people to root this kid on you can do it, do it, you need to do it and the little boy's crying saying I don't want to do it, I don't want to do it and ended up not doing it. Do you recall that?

Megan: No

Det. Diskin: I don't know what year that was if it wasn't 2009, I don't know but that's what the email said. Just one last issue and I appreciate you for talking to us again for all this stuff that we're going through but did you, do you remember leaving a voice mail for Melinda Martin in the weeks after the sweat lodge incident?

Megan: Uh huh

Det. Diskin: Do you remember what that message said?

Megan: I left her several voice mail messages so I'm not sure

Det. Diskin: I'm talking about the one where, and she saved this, where you call Melinda Martin and say that Josh and Greg are going through the office looking for anything that has to do with Spiritual Warrior so that you could get rid of it before the Detectives get there and find it.

Megan: Really?

Det. Diskin: Do you remember leaving that message?

Megan: Not with that language but

Det. Poling: What was the language?

Megan: Uhm, I, God, getting rid of stuff? Really?

Det. Diskin: Because the Detectives are gonna come there and get it. Or there was concern that the Detectives would come there and get it. Which we went there and didn't find hardly anything (Inaudible) from the Spiritual Warrior which we thought was odd cause we found all kinds of stuff for all the other events but for some reason Spiritual Warrior was, hardly anything was there.

Megan: **Huh.** No

Det. Poling: What was that message to her? What did you write in that message?

Mr. Proctor: Supposedly that was a voice mail on her cell phone

Megan: Are saying it was a voice mail?

Det. Poling: Her voice mail. The message you left, what was that? What was said to her?

Megan: I don't remember

Det. Diskin: One of the things you said was not to talk to the Detectives.

Megan: You know, like, I mean what I, like I said before I feel, I mean everything that we did in terms of, of our, our actions was all at the advice of legal counsel so if

Det. Diskin: And this we can talk about

Megan: I mean, yeah no, no that's totally fine but if, I mean to not talk to Detectives? That was at the advice of legal counsel so if I was passing stuff along to her. In terms of finding stuff from Spiritual Warrior I don't know, I don't even know what that would mean

Det. Diskin: **You said that Greg and Josh were going through the, going through the office looking for everything and you were asking her, where did you have anything in relation to Spiritual Warrior because we're trying to find all that so we can get rid of it. That's kind of what the message was. Of course you didn't know that she was cooperative with us at that time but**

Megan: Get rid of it? No like really I don't know what, what, I mean why would we get rid of anything?

Det. Diskin: I don't know but somebody did cause it wasn't there and you were the Director of Operations and we have this voice mail of you talking to Melinda

Mr. Proctor: You want to play it for her?

Det. Diskin: I don't have it

Megan: Yeah I would be really curious cause I don't have a recollection of that and why that, why, I mean what would we get rid of that?

Det. Diskin: I don't know

Det. Poling: That's what we want to know

Det. Diskin: Where, where, I mean there was hardly anything in there that had anything to do with Spiritual Warrior at James Ray International but we found

Megan: Did you find, did you have her binder? The thing is that Melinda never returned to work afterwards so

Det. Diskin: What you, you, you were asking her was that Josh and Greg were going around looking for the Spiritual Warrior stuff and you wanted to know if she knew where any of it was. Any of the documents or whatever, I don't know what specifically you were looking for but

Megan: Me neither

Det. Diskin: You don't remember this at all?

Megan: No, no I don't and I mean I'd love to hear the message so if there's some context of what I was looking for

Det. Diskin: I haven't listened to it. I haven't listed to it but Detective Pam Edgerton, Melinda Martin contacted Pam with the, the voice mail and I haven't listened to it, Pam did. But it was, and I could, anyway it could be a little different than what I described but that's what I remember Pam saying that, that kind of the

Megan: No I mean really I'd love to hear it because I don't have a recollection of what that, and I don't, I mean a time when Greg and Josh would be going through the office just doesn't make sense to me. Like I can't recall when they would do that for any reason. So I mean I would love to hear it and provide any light I can. I mean I want to be helpful but my understanding in terms of there not being stuff in the office is because previous years, Spiritual Warrior would all be on our shared drive which I believe you

guys have access to. Cause all those documents were scanned in so you should have access to anything previous years but 2009 Melinda would have had with her because she never returned to work so as the Event Coordinator she had a binder or whatever of information or a note pad or whatever it is that she was using and my understanding is that she would have brought that home with her

Det. Diskin: Did you make reference that the Detectives are probably gonna come here and search? Some type of reference to that?

Megan: I probably could of cause we were aware that you might, yeah

Det. Diskin: What was that, what was the concern with that? Why were you concerned that we were gonna come to James Ray International and search?

Megan: I don't think that I would have had a concern. I mean it's a little alarming to think that they, I mean I've never been through a search warrant before so it's a little alarming to think that your place is gonna get searched but I don't have a concern about anything at James Ray International. I mean it's a solid, and my understanding is it's a very solid business and there shouldn't be anything of concern

Det. Diskin: Just for the record, if James Ray's attorneys told you to contact people and to get all the Spiritual Warrior material you could find and destroy it, that's not attorney client privilege.

Megan: No, no, no. No I'm not saying, I'm saying that the, the attorney's told us not to talk to the Detectives without legal representation so that message would have been conveyed to Melinda. I mean I was asked to tell everyone that by the attorneys. In terms of finding stuff or destroying or getting rid of it, that just doesn't compute. I mean I don't know why that would ever come out

Det. Diskin: Alright. I don't want to get into anything else

Det. Poling: I'm just curious about one thing. Step on me if you don't want me to ask the question but I was just reading the statements by the lawyers that said this and this have to change for, you know, we've taken these precautions, what kinda threw me was when he threw that nurse thing out there you know, I'm curious why all of a sudden in 2009 was this such a big issue that he had a nurse there but I didn't hear anything about any medical in 2006, 2007, 2008 but 2009 for some strange reason now that people have died we had a nurse on board. And I don't mean to be sarcastic but why all of a sudden is that being brought on here when they didn't do any of these changes prior to 2009? So you have an incident in 2005, you don't do a nurse, '06 don't do a nurse, '07 don't do a nurse, oh but wow, 2009 we had a nurse on board. See what I'm saying?

Megan: yeah I can't answer why MTO is saying what their saying or why

Det. Poling: Oh no, I'm not asking, I'm just asking was that discussed about having a nurse in your operation? We should have a nurse there.

Megan: No, no, sorry. I thought I explained it well earlier about it was a matter of Lisa Rondan as a person and there was just a lot of benefits that lined up and because she was a nurse we had her stationed outside the sweat lodge.

Det. Poling: It's a coincidence, we just had that nurse on 2009 (Inaudible)

Megan: That's why I said I wouldn't use the term recruit her. I mean we didn't go recruit a nurse. Lisa wanted to be on the Dream Team and it was a blessing so we accepted her and that's, you know she, instead of being in the lodge because she's a nurse we put her in the

Det. Poling: What was the blessing about having a nurse on board?

Megan: Well given what happened I think it was a blessing that there was someone who was

Det. Poling: Did it change (Inaudible)

Megan: I don't know, I mean I couldn't answer that

Det. Poling: Okay

Megan: I think she was helpful

Det. Diskin: Alright, we're happy to hear anything that you think is important to have. I mean we don't, we don't want you to just answer questions that we have but if you have stuff that you think is important for us to know we'll be happy to document that.

Megan: Thank you. I don't, it's all up to you, is there anything that you can think of?

Mr. Proctor: I don't know, do you want a chance to talk to me? Why don't we take a minute and chat about it. I mean I guess what you're saying is there's something else that

Det. Diskin: She wants to put something on the record that says you know you guys didn't ask me this but this shows

Mr. Proctor: Well probably not but let me, give me a minute

*after a very brief break:

Mr. Proctor: I think the question was did you want to add anything and you can explain but I don't think you really wanted to add anything. It was just that you were thinking

about that last question concerning having a nurse present and the rationale. So you want to just finish that answer or finish that thought.

Megan: Yeah I just wanted to make sure it was clear cause we kinda talked about it for a little while but in having, in choosing Lisa Rondan for the Dream Team it wasn't just because she was a nurse but it was one of several talents or skill sets that she had in addition to you know being a Harmonic Wealth coach and having volunteered numerous times. But you know she was a nurse and then based on her being part of the Dream Team and having the skill set of a nurse we chose her to be outside the sweat lodge knowing that she would be able to take care of people well. And in addition, Lisa requested to be outside the sweat lodge because she thought she could provide value there. And then I also wanted to add because it hadn't really come up here but it did in the previous interview that there, James Ray International also had people CPR certified, Prepared and First Aid Certified so that they could help to take care of people at the events if there were an issue and we did have Melinda Martin at the event and she was First Aid and CPR certified as well and she was outside the lodge.

Det. Poling: Can I ask a little above that too? You said First Aid and CPR or just CPR?

Megan: They went to a First Aid CPR course

Det. Poling: So is it just First Aid just CPR or does it entail more things? Do you know what I'm saying? Does it teach you about, I mean they teach CPR

Mr. Proctor: A compound fracture

Det. Poling: or yeah they do injuries or anything, heart attacks, things like that? They learn anything more besides CPR and if they did, what more did they know?

Megan: I, I don't know for sure other than I know one of the individuals, Carly Shankman, when she was trained she was, I know she talked about being able to like make a tourniquet and (Inaudible) the first aid component of it but I don't know specifically the course outline that they went through.

Det. Diskin: Yeah I think we're done. Thanks.

Megan: Thanks so much for your time, I appreciate it.

Det. Diskin: Alright.

Tue Feb 02 08:14:42 MST 2010
Apvd C16/0394 DBW