

*I/V Hamilton, Amayra Transcript 10-26-09 Diskin C23

On October 26, 2009 Detectives Disken, Detective Sergeant Dan Winslow, and I interviewed Amayra Hamilton at her residence located on the Angel Valley Property. The interview was recorded and the following is a transcription of the interview. For complete details see DSS.file entered into evidence.

Det. Diskin: We're not gonna give this to the media; it's just for my notes for when I write my report. You are not in any kind of trouble, uh, criminally we're not investigating you or your husband. I don't know if you were here earlier when we talked about

Amayra: I heard it when uh (Inaudible) and I was not (Inaudible) cause I just know (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: And you guys have been completely cooperative from the beginning of this thing. Uhm, sorry it took us so long to do more of a thorough interview

Amayra: That's fine, that's fin

Det. Diskin: Uhm, you know there's quite a bit of stuff to go over. We might jump round a little bit but if there's something you need to add, even if we don't specifically ask the question, feel free to let us know.

Amayra: I will

Det. Diskin: Uhm, how did you meet James Ray, or how did you first become acquainted with James Ray?

Amayra: I have to go back (Inaudible) myself but in 2003, in August, a person that we knew James Ray evidently had contact with him because he was looking for a place where he could do his sweat lodge and his Vision Quest so the guy, he, he brought him over here and he said well, this person's looking for this, maybe I can, maybe we can, so that's how we got talking and then he's like yea, you can do that that way, and that was that. And that was for his retreat in November of 2003 so that was

Det. Poling: What's that person's name?

Amayra: Ed Lee

Det. Poling: Ed Lee? Okay. Ed Lee was (Inaudible)

Amayra: Yea because Ed had the, had the, had the business where he would you know when people would approach him he would see what he could do for him and then (Inaudible) But after that, after he dropped James here that was never in the picture whatsoever so (Inaudible) but it's

Det. Poling: meaningless

Amayra: yea

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Det. Poling: (Inaudible)

Amayra: (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: And the uh sweat lodges. When's the first time that you did a sweat lodge or you know of a sweat lodge happening here since you, you guys owned this?

Amayra: Here?

Det. Diskin: Mmm Hmm

Amayra: In 2003 we uhm, we had this kind of old leftover sweat lodge and that's what we did with a couple of people of our staff. I was involved. Michael was never so interested in it and I had done several sweat lodges over the time (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: And I thought yea that's neat. And uh so we built one and we had one person who was very known in Native American circles and he helped us; okay you do this, you do that, you do the other and (Inaudible) we would do a sweat lodge mostly once every month and I would mostly attend, Michael would not. It's just not Michael's thing and uh I would, I would, (Inaudible) nice, sweat, gentle, just nice, the way sweat lodges have to be and uhm the way I had experiences in other sweat lodges (Inaudible) I had attended in other places. When James came uh we had our own sweat lodge but that was not big enough for his group so he said I'm coming with, what was it? 40 some people, 37, 38, 39 people; we said ooh, our little sweat lodge holds 15 or so. So how do we do this? He said well could you guys build a big one? We said well okay we'll try. So we asked our friends and they said well yea we can do that so we build next to the little one that we had, we build a bigger one to the side and that's where James did his sweat lodge. And then he also wanted to do the Vision Quest and we said well what do you have in mind because if you do a Vision Quest uhm traditionally you know you can look at the Vision Quest the way the Native Americans or the indigenous people (Inaudible) traditionally do it. You can also look it from how modern day non traditional (Inaudible) business people do it. It was let's say the same version of the same principle and most people are really interested in doing that and there's now a group of people, an international organization, it's called Wilderness Rights of Passage and they, that's what they call it and they are called Wilderness something where they organize people who are guides of Vision Quests and give instructions. There's people all over the world that do it. And there's also a lot of people in this country that do it, non Native people. So the idea of a non-native person wanting to do a Vision Quest here was okay with me. Lets sit

down and see how we can do it because traditionally you would have a person that wants to do the Vision Quest and then I am the guide who guides that. The person goes out and finds a spot somewhere out in nature and I am in kind of you know in meditation, in kind of communication with that person and it depends on how long you want to do that. (Inaudible) it can be half a day, it can be a day, it can be up to seven days or something, you know, it can be, some people do it a lot. I said to James how are you going to do that with so many people? You cannot just send them out and go find and sit under a tree kind of thing. So from that time I was involved every year with okay we have to have this. We have to go out and say okay, we have so many people, we are going to create stops. It took me the first time a couple days to create spots. (Inaudible) under a tree, because they would be out for a day so you won't let them sit in the sun. Uhm you want, not want to have them sit on the rocks so it has to be a little soft. You do want them have to sit on a slope because you know it makes it very uncomfortable. So they should not be able to see each other so they had to be at enough distance so they would not see each other even though they were not supposed to leave that little spot (Inaudible). So that is how we then set it up. That's how I prepared it and that is the combination of the two things that he did. And I can share a few more things about Vision Quest because it's an important thing in the whole thing that happened because that took place before people did the sweat lodge and that brought them in the condition they were in before they entered that sweat lodge so it is an important piece of, I feel (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: And it's on the property, right?

Amayra: Actually not quite because the property itself does not contain enough spaces where you can have, in this case there were over 50

Det. Poling: 70, 50 plus

Amayra: 50 plus, last year I set out 65 people and the property, even though we have 70 acres part of it is the hillside, part of it is buildings you know so it was, most of it were on the forest land. (Inaudible) forest land around so there's no, and I knew every person, where they were. If a person says oh the person who was sitting on site 44, I know exactly where it is. So you know and over the years I knew the places very well and it took me less time to prepare it because I would use the same site as last year and you know, so, and check them, are they okay, (Inaudible) close to the creek, has there been rain lately, so I would check even the day of the event so how, whether the places were okay, they were all numbered, so we would (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Okay, and during that did they bring food with them? Did they have any kind of snacks?

Amayra: And that's the thing, they were not, they're supposed to fast. Okay and they were really told you do not bring anything out than your, than your, than your notebook and your sleeping bag and that's it. And people would smuggle something in but you know they're not supposed to do that. The first year, and I have no problem with

that at all. Because we all can't survive several days without food. The first year when we did that, that, that first uh, they uh, they were set out in the evening and then James' staff would go, go out walking to all of them, go visit them with water in the morning. Carrying water and uhm I thought oh, okay. The next year they did not go visit the people and I have all those years thought that they had water with them cause when I would help setting them out, they had (Inaudible) luggage which was a big sleeping bag of course and I was thinking that they had water. This time when I, I, I was setting them out in that area over there, uhm the last person that I set out was a young woman and she was very nervous. And I, even though we're not supposed to talk with them, uhm I just had to talk with her, calm her down and say okay, sit down and breathe. Before you leave (Inaudible) take some water and calm yourself down. She says we don't have water with us. What? No water? Are you kidding? Well I didn't say it to the woman but I thought oh no, so I was very upset by that and then when I came back and I talked with the people of the Dream Team, with his volunteer assistants who are called the Dream Team, and I said uhm and they have all done this retreat before so I said when you did the Vision Quest, did you have water with you? No. I go oh shit I never knew that. Had I known that, I mean with them being out there (Inaudible) they were all (Inaudible) within talking distance, if a person would start talking they would hear each other they would not see each other because everyone was supposed to stay in their circle but we know everybody was; everybody could find their way back. You know there was nothing big deal about it. It was more psychological because they were set out in the dark, so they didn't know where they were going, so the feeling, that's just part of the (Inaudible). That feeling was more that they were out in the middle of nowhere and all by themselves then they actually were. When they would go back afterwards they would often say my gosh it's not as far away as I thought. But you know, that's okay, for me that was very okay. But not having water there, (Inaudible). Had I known that and then had to go on for a few years and I just kinda, and I didn't know that, had I'd known that I'm just saying James you can't do that.

Det. Diskin: What that this year that you found out they didn't have water? This whole time you didn't know that they didn't have water?

Amayra: It was this year, it was this year. No because I thought the first time that he,

Det. Poling: They had water, you said they, they took heavy things down there like they were gonna give them water, the Dream Team

Amayra: The Dream, the Dream Team, the very first year, they went (Inaudible). The very first year.

(Inaudible)

Amayra: (Inaudible) to them.

Det. Poling: but not after that

Amayra: they took water to them and then the next year they would not go visit the people anymore. And then I thought because that year that they had taken the water, that the people would carry their own water which is, which is pretty normal

Det. Poling: Gotcha

Amayra: if you do an activity like that and for some reason seeing when the people were taking their backpacks they go, it looked like you know if you only are supposed to bring your, your sleeping bag and your notebook, it always looked to me like some people had bulky things with them so I thought yea, of course they had water with them so that's what I always thought so I just, I just rolled on my chair when I heard that that's just not the case for several years. I thought that they had water and they didn't. I, I was, that was shocking.

Det. Diskin: Okay, let's go back to the, when you first started building the sweat lodge. Uh you said you had a Native American that was kinda respected, people knew who he was and made a name for himself. He kinda helped you and showed you how to do it.

Amayra: Yea but we never, we never did it ourselves anyway. We had always Native American people involved and the last one, this particular one, we really had somebody that he consulted and that he paid for his consultation. And then we had somebody else who builds it that he paid for that.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: He did his job and he did a job right, he did a good job. And you know it's interesting to see in the press and also the police talk about the makeshift dah, dah, dah; it was a lodge, it was constructed right. (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: I agree with that

Amayra: It, it, that thing didn't go anywhere, it didn't cave in, we heard from the hospital, okay it, it was strong as a rock. You know, but

Sgt. Winslow: Did, did Ed Mercer, did he, was he part of that building? Did he learn that from Ted, he's our (Inaudible)

Amayra: Yes but he was part of, he helped but he did not take the lead

Sgt. Winslow: In the original (Inaudible)

Amayra: No, he helped, no, he, he helped, he had the feel for it, he had the interest in it so he was helping them but he never took the lead of the lodge itself but they did show him, you know, the, the coverings. Now the construction of the lodge is one thing, that is you have to do it with the right branches and the right, you have to structure that really right. And that was done by people who have built hundreds of lodges. Also the

guy who did it has built lodges that hold more than 100 people so 75 was not that big of a deal, even though it's not the usual thing to do. Usually they are smaller.

(Inaudible) (Inaudible) excuse me. Here is something, remember I said about James Ray and his meals? They were not separate. His assistant person is out here now and she said this is what everybody had a (Inaudible) I don't know if you've ever had one of those or not.

Det. Poling: I haven't had that (Inaudible) but that's what they all said. They all had their own little sea salt in water

(Inaudible) (Inaudible) and (Inaudible) he ate the same food but yet his assistant actually took the food to them, to him. So it wasn't that he had a separate; years before he would have fish made or something special, not this year. It was the same food everybody else was eating.

Det. Poling: Okay

Det. Diskin: Okay. Okay so Ted helped this year build it?

Amayra: He helped last year when in 2008 when uh, our General Manger, we had, the year before we had taken down the other one because that didn't look like so, such good work so that had been up there one season and then (Inaudible) so last year we, we (Inaudible) hired this David Singing Bear, he is, he is a Cherokee elder, he's been around forever. He's built hundreds of sweat lodges here and (Inaudible) and he gave advice on, he gave, he consulted on that how to do it and then he brought in his nephew or something, we have his name and address but he was a relative to actually physically build it because David didn't have time to build it and David he did come by to, to look at it and everything was fine and you know that, that worked out then. That lodge was just sturdy. And the, and it was built to contain, to have 75 people in; means that if you have fewer people in it there's more room, that people can lay down if they need to and you know, uhm, yea

(Inaudible) Tell them how it was

Amayra: Uh oh

(Inaudible) Who decided how big of a lodge to build for 2008 and 2009

Amayra: Uhm James Ray wanted his (Inaudible). When two years before when he had a group of close to 60, he said, and we needed to build a lodge for that size, we said James, I mean 60 people, that is a monster of a lodge. Is, is, it is, it is difficult to, to, to (Inaudible) right and to make it right and you know and while we slightly suggested how can you be, do a lodge with 60 people and, and have an overview of what's going on? I mean how do you do that? Anyway, what we called that and James, you never had much

direct confrontation with James. Everything, especially the last few years; in the first few years we had a little more but the last few years everything went through his staff

Det. Poling: Who in particular?

Amayra: Megan at the time. For a couple of years Megan Fredrickson, she was his main coordinator. This year, this year and last year he had another event coordinator but Megan took care of certain parts but she is very, she's been in the organization since I don't know, she came here the first time in 2003. So she knows a lot, she's a very bright girl and uh she, she for a couple of years, all our interactions went with her. And when we said to Megan, "Megan, tell James this is not good. He should split it up. Let us make a nice lodge for 30 some people, he does two ceremonies and, and you know and everything's fine." Nope! He wanted everything together, he did not want to do two ceremonies, that was too much for him and he wanted to do everything together in one group. And we said well okay, when James Ray is not a person that easily takes no for an answer. So you know as you may have understood by now. So we said well okay, well then, then we'll, we'll find a way to, to get it done and yes we got it done and, and we also had a little bit of a problem because the first times when we built a lodge for 40, which was already a stretch for us, he was complaining that it was not hot enough. The covers were not, not thick enough to keep the heat in so

Det. Diskin: And that was which year?

Amayra: That was in 2003 and 2004

Det. Diskin: So 2003 he complained it wasn't hot enough

Amayra: and 2004, both years he said he, and he was right because if you have that size of a lodge and you want to cover that in a way that it keeps the heat, that's not, you know you need more covering than you have for an ordinary you know, small size lodge.

Det. Poling: Let me ask you a question though on that. Not hot enough, what does that mean? Is there a goal to get, why does it have to be, what's the, why does it have to be hotter, what's the different? What's gonna cause a change?

Amayra: Okay. Uhm now number one, comfortably hot you sweat.

Det. Poling: Okay

Amayra: When people don't sweat that because it's not hot enough so to speak.

Det. Poling: Right, Mmm Hmm

Amayra: Now uhm what's not hot enough? Well, when everything; everybody thinks oh that was easy kind of, probably not hot enough. You know people have to experience that it's warm

Det. Poling: There's a difference between sweating and over

Amayra: Yes

Det. Poling: Okay?

Amayra: Yes

Det. Poling: Everyone can sweat. 112 day outside will make you sweat. You don't need rocks to do that.

Amayra: Exactly and the way we do our sweat lodges, it was, yes we sweated. It was good, it was nice, nobody fell ill, nobody felt uncomfortable

Det. Poling: Nobody threw up

Amayra: Nobody, throwing up? My God then you have already crossed quite a border for me. You know, throwing up means somebody's really sick.

Det. Diskin: So it's not good to throw up?

Amayra: No! Of course not. If that's happening then you know that something is way overboard.

Det. Diskin: It sounded like that was the, the goal. I mean James Ray told them that they would throw up and that they would pass out.

Amayra: Well that's not my goal of a sweat lodge and that is not normal.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: That's what I'm, that's what we're trying to figure out

Amayra: That's not normal and maybe his training has been pretty harsh. Well if you're training has been harsh it doesn't necessarily mean that you can expose a group of 60 people to that and not know what you're doing.

Det. Diskin: Right

Amayra: Because that, that, that you know

Det. Diskin: When was the first time that you saw that there was a problem or that things weren't quite right?

Amayra: Over the years?

Det. Diskin: Mmm Hmm

Amayra: In 2005

Det. Diskin: Okay. So 2003, 2004 he's saying it's not hot enough

Amayra: Yea it was not hot enough and okay, we said okay we'll cover it thicker so that it's; and that year, that's when we also decided okay maybe we have to have a, a, a vinyl over it? And I know that there's a lot of comments in the press and I can understand but we know that it's done everywhere so you know

Det. Diskin: So do we

Amayra: What you do is you do that to contain the heat. But the person inside determines how hot you go and how the people are doing and how they are feeling. You know because the person who is the leader

Det. Poling: Facilitator

Amayra: The Facilitator, that person determines how many stones come in, how many waters you pour on those stones because boy when those hot stones are in that's one thing but you all know dry heat we can (Inaudible) quite a bit but when you pour water on it and the steam come up and you know steam is hot, you know. So, but the Facilitator determines how many stones come in, how many water is poured, how long how often you open the door, how long you open the door. So that person does that. Now you question uhm in 2005 he had; we had built a new lodge because in 2004 maybe you remember we had the flood here everywhere. And the area where we used to have the sweat lodge is, got flooded. And we said uh uh, no more, no more that use of that area. We now have a (Inaudible) but no more forest (Inaudible). So we, then we chose that area where the area is now. So we had a new lodge and because of hearing complaints of two years that it was not warm enough, we decided to have the final (Inaudible) we said okay. Now what was also different in 2005 was that in 2003 and 4 he would do the sweat lodge and in 2003 he was not staying on site. In 2004 he was. But he would, in his itinerary, he would do the sweat lodge and then after that the people would go, would be taken out on Vision Quest. In 2005 he switched that around. He would do the Vision Quest first and then the uh sweat lodge.

Det. Poling: Why did he change that?

(Inaudible) I don't know

Amayra: I never questioned him on that. However, now (Inaudible) means that that was the first time people entered the sweat lodge dehydrated already.

Det. Poling: And no food

Amayra: Well no food thing; you know that could all be overcome easily (Inaudible) because if you come back from two days no drinking and you can drink 5 gallons but it just runs through your body you have to go to the bathroom but it doesn't hydrate your body because your body is dehydrated and your body takes more time. It's not a matter of pouring water in you. If it's an IV it can go quick but if it goes the natural way you can't do that so that was the first time basically that he took dehydrated people into the lodge and that, looking back at it, explained, but I never knew, since I did not know that they didn't have water with them, I have never connected that. Now so in 2005 he did, he did the lodge and what we would do is uh, and he would do it in the evening, that was all in the evening and uhm what we would do is after the lodge we would have water for them as you have seen here. We had water, we had lemon water, we had electrolyte water and we would have orange slices and watermelon slices because if you come out of a lodge you are thirsty and you want to drink and the watermelon and the orange just tastes so good. So that, that day uhm in 2005 I had been taking the stuff over, our chef had left and I took it over in the night so toward the end of the lodge and then they started to come out and my gosh people, people are in pretty bad shape. But you know, yea, and it was also dark so (Inaudible) couldn't see it all. And then there's this one gentleman that was just, he lost it. He was just totally just somewhere else, totally you know.

Det. Poling: Did the Facilitator see this?

Amayra: I don't know, I don't know whether he was it or not. The way, by the time you know people were kinda taking care of many people and by the time I said James, James was not there and James had gone to his room. And I was there and I stayed with the people and there were other people around and we tried to, the man he was wild and he would, he was a big, strong guy and he was

Det. Diskin: I don't want to interrupt but how long; when did James go to his room, was it right when they first came out or

Amayra: I don't know

Det. Diskin: So, so you go down there

Amayra: he disappeared

Det. Diskin: so you're down there with this guy, he's having problems and James is gone

Amayra: James is already gone

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: there was nobody around there, the other people

Sgt. Winslow: and how long, how long had they been out do you think?

Amayra: Well I don't know, maybe 10 minutes, maybe 15 minutes. By the time, by the time I, yea, and there were so many people not well, and then it was evening so people, when you come out of a sweat lodge and you are not feeling overly well and people get colds. So one of the things I started to do was pulling, and that's what I did this time too, pulling blankets off the lodge to wrap people in. So okay and when the person was kind of huddled in then I, I felt (Inaudible) and it was just, it was just a mess.

Det. Diskin: Was there any of James Ray's staff that was assisting the people that were sick?

Amayra: Not, there were a few outside but I, I don't remember how many people of the staff, his staff at the time was smaller than his staff is now.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Did, did you tell his staff or any, anybody, James Ray, that this person was having a problem?

Amayra: Yea so the person he did not come to, and you know he was breathing and things like that but he was just, he was out of his mind and, and I know, and you have to understand how that works. You have a body and your spirit is in your body. When you die, you go out. When you do something, when you hallucinate because you are seriously ill whether you're on drugs or whether you are in an altered state, your, your spirit is a little bit disconnected from your body. That guy's spirit was out there. Now you have to find a way back. A good facilitator knows how to guide a person back if that happens. I personally feel that it is very risky to do that if you do not know exactly what you're doing so you avoid that. You, you make that not happen. Because if the person cannot find the way back, they die. They do up, their spirit just leaves. And that's you know. And seeing this man makes me (Inaudible) gosh this is how this works. And I said this is a very tricky situation. His wife was there, she kept talking to him. How much she loved him and how much he loves his children and how much his children needed him. He had 2 children and, and she kept talking to him. And I, I forgot his name but you know she kept talking. I felt this is, this is, this is the way, this is the way but he just didn't come to. I felt, we don't know, I don't know how to handle this, nobody else knew how to handle this, I'm going to call 911. Something needs to be done here. So I took my cart, I race to James' room, knock on his door and said "James, I'm going to call 911, the guy does not come to", he says, "I'm in the shower!". Jesus! I said well whatever you want to do, I'm calling 911 so I called 911 from the dining room (Inaudible) (Inaudible)

Sgt. Winslow: (Inaudible)

Amayra: called 911, go back there and guy's still not ok and you know did whatever they could. Okay I thought okay the paramedics are coming. James comes back over there, sees me, starts yelling at me and I just (Inaudible) uh oh, so I got in my golf cart, got to the gate because I thought the paramedics are coming we have to guide them

straight to the place cause you know otherwise they may take one of the other roads and
(Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: What was he yelling at you for?

Amayra: Pardon?

Det. Diskin: What was he yelling at you for? James Ray?

Amayra: What I was doing there, I don't remember exactly what he said but he was just yelling, "Get out of my way" or something, I do not know exactly the words, that was four years ago you know. And uh, but anyway, and people around him were whew, what's this? So I went to the gate and then, and then the ambulance came, I drove in front of them so okay come, come, come so they could, so they go to the guy and by that time it seemed to, he seemed to calm down and then they did some things, took him in the ambulance and then he, he came to. So before he left the property he was, he was back. They did take him to the hospital, gave him IV and you know, next morning came back and he felt great. He said he had a great experience. He said well but it was very tricky because this is not something to, to just, just play with. Because you were at risk. And I thought kind of if you have a person that has less of a connection with life who does not have people in their life that they love, because that's the strongest pull to bring a person back, or to keep a person here, that person may say hey, I'm in a great place up there you know. So that could have happened but I'm sure that his wife pulled him back.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: So then

Det. Poling: Were they hosing him down?

Amayra: Hmm?

Det. Poling: Were they using the hoses on him?

Amayra: Oh I think, I think they did that too. I'm, I'm not sure exactly

Det. Poling: Cause that would cool the body down too

Amayra: Uh they did that for different things but I do not know exactly what we did at the time

Det. Poling: Okay

Amayra: but anyway so then after that, before James left we talked with him and we said James, this is way beyond anything that can ever happen again. Uhm, no first of all he apologized, he apologized for that has happened, he apologized for yelling at me and I

said well okay, well you know he said he was upset or he was whatever. Anyway, uhm and he said you know whatever you do, but this never again. The next year he had another sweat lodge but he changed his schedule; he put the sweat lodge not in the evening but in the afternoon and I thought that he would have learned from the experience so and I thought okay I'm going to watch whether, whether it's different than last year. So I was around that lodge almost all the time. And I had this kind of you know, I want to see it. And, and he was more moderate than the year before and the people came out and were pretty okay and you know, so I thought oh thank God, he has learned something.

Det. Poling: No throwing up?

Amayra: No, no

Det. Poling: Okay, no passing out?

Amayra: No passing out, no. Had any person passed out that year I would have said okay, that's it! But no they came out, they came out most of them walking and you know and yes

Sgt. Winslow: Exhausted

Amayra: Exhausted and that's okay, there is nothing wrong with that but, so that in 2006 was you know good enough that I thought that he had learned his lesson. Well evidently not because

Det. Poling: When was the next time?

Amayra: Well in 2007 there was not that, I don't know anything special would happen in 2008. We thought it was all calm, but then

Det. Poling: Something happened in 2008

Amayra: Well afterwards we heard from Ted and Debby actually that they said that people were not feeling well when they came out of that lodge and

Sgt. Winslow: In 2008

Amayra: In 2008 last year

Det. Poling: There was someone down in 2008. Do you know who that was?

Amayra: Down?

Det. Poling: Down meaning out for the count

Det. Diskin: (Inaudible) yea, unconscious

Amayra: I did not know that. What

Det. Poling: You don't know (Inaudible)

Amayra: I now, I now hear that and one of the reasons is because last year we had our General Manager who took more care of the daily operations so I was not overly involved and we have, we did not hear any reports that something went wrong or happened and even now I got an email from Gary whose no longer with them because he moved with his girlfriend and lives now in New Jersey and we emailed to say Gary we hear from Ted and Debby or (Inaudible) that last year it was also not so very okay. He says well I don't remember really shocking things of last year. I says oh he was there, I mean we were not so yea, it's a little bit hard to say. It's a little bit different reports. Ted and Debby uhm, one of the things that Ted and Debby said and probably when you talk to Fawn our housekeeper uh she may mention this or she may not but uh when, when Fawn said that she wanted to help this year, then Debby said, had said a comment like are you sure Fawn because it is a pretty intense thing here. Are you sure you can handle this? And Fawn had this kind of I think so. Anyway, so that indicated that evidently last year it was not, not, not what we thought it was. But we have not been reporting; we have not received reports on that and Gary, the person who was in charge of it and was present, he does not recollect that there was something really special or whatnot.

Det. Diskin: 2007 there weren't any problems?

Amayra: No, not that I know of

Det. Diskin: Okay but were you there, would you have known or was it like 2008 where you didn't know that there weren't

Amayra: I was a little bit around but not, not, not much. Saw that everything moved and okay

Det. Diskin: Did you see them when they came out of the tent in 2007

Amayra: 2007 I think I did

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: And it was, it was, it was not what I saw this year

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: And it was not, evidently, also what happened last year

Det. Diskin: Okay. Alright uhm so this year then you weren't there in 2008 so this year

Amayra: no

Det. Diskin: you, were you down there during the event?

Amayra: Yes

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: I was there when they started. I, I was there when they went in. I just, I had, I just had this uneasy gut feeling so I was just, the whole afternoon I totally restless and I, and, and they, they knew, I knew they would start so somewhere up to thirtyish something like that so I took golf cart and I just drove to the area. And actually I took two pictures before they went in and I will pass them on to you.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: Uhm

Sgt. Winslow: Was that something against James Ray's wishes for you to be down there?

Amayra: Yes. James was very protective of what he was doing. He did NOT want any involvement, he just wanted us to do what we were ordered to do, what he paid for. Like, okay, he ordered to have preparation for the Vision Quest, so he expected that I would do my task and

Sgt. Winslow: So when you went down there in that cart you were just kinda do it on the sly, just so to speak?

Amayra: Yep. I took the photo actually from you know the area where we have the (Inaudible) where we have these cabins and teepee?

Sgt. Winslow: Mmm Hmm

Amayra: I took the photo from between the trees there. I don't know why, but

Det. Poling: What was your gut telling you? And why would you just decide to take a picture?

Amayra: I was, I was just, I was just restless. I was just, I don't know

Sgt. Winslow: Was it because of the people or was it because of the facilitator, was it because of the Dream Team, the staff, anything special?

Amayra: I think it was the combination of it all of kind of you know we also had said beforehand based on certain things that we had heard but also based on our gut this is the last time. We're done with James, James wanted even bigger groups

Det. Poling: (Inaudible)

Amayra: Pardon?

Det. Poling: Before you went into 2009 you were, they just

Amayra: Before, before they came, before they came, we, we said to each other; we also said it to different people; this is going to be the last time and one, there was an actual reason. Because uhm we had heard, a friend of ours had heard, that they had uhm made a reservation or done inquiries or so at the Mago Retreat Center over there down below (Inaudible) Road and they can handle larger groups. And then, they, we heard that this year they were going to be there and we had to (Inaudible) oh yea? So we talked to Megan and Megan said no, no, no we'll be there this year. And we had this kind of, they're looking for another place because James wanted MORE PEOPLE. Uh 60 is not enough, okay we said well we are already at the stretch of our capacity. Besides we said to each other you know we have outgrown each other. He wants bigger people, he has grown more and more in a certain direction which is just not, not us. And we said okay, you can go business wise, he had been you know a considerable factor in our business things but we said you know phew, you know it's, it's, it's not us. He is going more and more in a direction that is just not us. And well so what can I say about that? Just uncomfortable feeling.

Det. Diskin: Okay. In 2009 when you were down there

Amayra: Yea

Det. Diskin: You took some pictures as they went in, did you stay there the whole time?

Amayra: I stayed for a little while in the beginning when they were first in there. I heard him his start his talking and his chant, and his kind of you know how he, how he does his, and I think you know, phew, it's not my style. It's not, it's not, not, so I left and I came back thinking well it's probably getting close to, to the end. That's another thing that is very important. Traditional sweat lodges are normally 4 rounds. He would always do 7 rounds. After 2005 I was hoping that he would be calming that down. But he kept doing his 7 rounds and this year he, I heard that he did, that he twice said this is the 4th round so he may of even done 8 rounds this year. But so I was thinking probably it's close to getting over so I just, I just (Inaudible) in my office so I, I went down there and, and Fawn was there and Fawn, she was, she was almost losing it. She was totally upset. She says Amayra, something is absolutely, totally wrong here. (Inaudible) she will testify to you. She says I can't hear this, I can't handle this. She was totally upset, I thought oh my God no!

Det. Diskin: What stage were they in, were they already done?

Amayra: They were in the 6th round, they were on the last round. I saw them when it was open and they had one more round to go and they did one more round. And I, I did not hear, I had not heard what was being said but Fawn had Fawn was totally upset, she was trembling. She was shaking, she was closely hyperventilating. (Inaudible) oh my gosh, if, if, if this is what (Inaudible) is, then we have to have every person on board to, to, to deal with what is happening when everybody comes out. So I, I took Fawn apart and I took her in my arms and I said okay let's breathe and let's ground and let's, let's just pray that everything will go okay and that whatever assistance we need to give, that we are there to help. And, and I know that she's there. She, she wanted to assist but she says Amayra, something is wrong, something is not right.

Det. Diskin: This is before they even came out?

Amayra: That is, that's when we entered the 6th round

Det. Diskin: I mean people were, okay. So there were people that were out there laying down at that point, right?

Amayra: And she, yea, at that point there were about 8 people or so? I (Inaudible) counted them but 8 people or so that were out, some were laying on, they had put up tarps and I saw them rinse them with a big hose and I had this kind of you know, I'm not so sure whether that is the optimal thing to do. But you know and, and the people of the Dream Team that were not in the lodge that I had seen before, they were kind of running around like crazy uhm. Melinda, the chief coordinator of the (Inaudible) I just (Inaudible) her because she had never done a sweat lodge. It was the first time that she was doing the event coordination, first time that she's here and she was in total horror about what happened and she was in a total panic. She was racing around like, like crazy just; she, she also lost it too and I had to stand, okay here are James Ray's staff. I mean you know, so, uhm so they said, they did one more round and, and I stayed around. I thought oh my gosh, oh my gosh, this is, this is, whew. So then they came out and oh my gosh you have not seen the chaos that, you, you saw it soon but it was, it was just, it was just horrible. People were falling and people were hanging and people were upset and people were (Inaudible) and then I saw that at the back side of the, of the sweat lodge they lifted the side because, and I didn't know why, but later I heard it was because after they had all come out, and Debby went in, back in to the sweat lodge because she also had heard that some people had passed out. And she wants to check whether there are still some people in and yes indeed there were some people in. And they were to the side and so they, and then Debby went to James Ray and said we're going to lift the side and James says no, that's sacrilegious!

Det. Diskin: Did you hear that? Or were, were you

Amayra: That is what I had heard so that (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Okay but you didn't hear that directly?

Amayra: No

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: No that was what I heard. And, and so, and then but I did see them lift the side because (Inaudible) he seems to have said something like well if you feel you need to do that then you do that, then go ahead. And (Inaudible) Debby had this kind of I don't care what you say so they started pulling up the side and then they pulled the bodies out and by that time I was also on that side of the teepee and I (Inaudible) of the sweat lodge. And so when people started to do uhm uh CPR and I thought oh this, this is wrong. And, and Debby yelled "oh my gosh we have to call 911." So she ran one way and I ran the other way and she just was on the phone a second before I (Inaudible) so they had the first message from her so then I had 911 on the phone cause I went to the, to the building there in the Center so, but she was quicker to her house where she called. And uhm I thought oh, so I went back and they continued doing the CPR. Well I'm not a medical trained person; there was one of the participants, she was an M.D. and she was kinda coordinating that and she was fortunately she was coherent enough that she could do that but, I looked at this and I just kinda oh, there was nothing, they, they, they didn't move, they didn't, they, and I was not close enough to see what some other people have seen. But you know I'm convinced that there were already dead when they were pulled out. And I do not know whether they were able to determine the moment of death but they were CPR, doing CPR on two dead people. And so, and so I, there were so many people around there doing the CPR so I, I went around with other people, started pulling blankets off the sweat lodge again because I knew how that went from previous experience that's why it looked already such a mess before you guys came, sorry. And uhm, and that people, and it was, it was just a disaster and oh here's another person that is really bad, and here's another person that's really bad and oh it was, it was just, it was just horrifying.

Det. Diskin: Where was James Ray when this was going on?

Amayra: First he was standing there and people were saying James, there, there's, and, and James was there I think to, when, when we raced out to call 911. And, but he, he, he didn't do anything.

Det. Poling: What was he looking like?

Det. Diskin: Was he in bad shape too?

Amayra: I don't know. He stood, he stood straight and, and, and I think in a situation like that when you're the facilitator and something dramatic, drastic happens that you starting to do something. (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: His facial expression, what did it look like? When you saw him and he's

Amayra: His face was like he didn't care

Det. Poling: Was he happy? Was he sad?

Amayra: I can't tell on this guy. He just looked like he didn't care. Just like okay, they'll go over it, they'll get over it kind of like thing. But I, I cannot relate to that kind of an expression or that type

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) what do you need, did he do anything to help?

Amayra: I, I, I didn't see anything he did and then he took off. Went to his room for shower.

Det. Diskin: Were you, were you watching this? I mean were, you're seeing this with your eyes that he's just standing there not doing anything

Amayra: He's, he was standing there not doing anything

Det. Diskin: Okay and then he left to go take a shower?

Amayra: And I didn't see him leave

Det. Diskin: Oh because you

Amayra: because, because, because

(Inaudible)

Amayra: I wanted to see what I could do with people who really needed help. So with James Ray, well he, he, he didn't need my help so I did not

Det. Poling: Did you see him rendering aid to anybody? Did you see him rendering aid given, given anybody, helping?

Sgt. Winslow: Helping anybody?

Amayra: I have not, I have not seen it, I cannot tell who (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: No, no, no; you can't say he did, you can say you didn't see him

Amayra: I didn't see him

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: Thanks

Amayra: I didn't see him

Det. Poling: (Inaudible)

Amayra: I (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Did you hear him say call 911 or

Amayra: Oh no, oh no

Det. Diskin: do we need help or

Amayra: Debby, no Debby and I did that

Det. Poling: Debby's Debby Mercer?

Amayra: Debby Mercer, yea

Det. Diskin: Did you tell James that you were gonna call 911?

Amayra: Nope, not this time

Det. Diskin: Okay

Det. Poling: How about the nurse on staff?

Amayra: I never heard of a nurse on staff

Det. Poling: Did you have a nurse here?

Amayra: We have a nurse on staff but not to be a nurse for an exam but that

Det. Poling: Did she come out and participate in helping?

Amayra: She did

Det. Poling: Who got her?

Amayra: I did, I called her

Det. Poling: Okay

Amayra: I got her.

Det. Poling: Okay, did anyone else instruct you to go get her?

Amayra: No, I did

Det. Poling: Okay, that's important

Amayra: I did, I did. I did and she, and she was helping the one person that was laying close to the two people that were uhm, that, that died and, and, and the guy was also taken to the hospital. I know his name and, and he, he was one of the ten that went out for the (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Lou?

Amayra: (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin:

Amayra: Sean Ronan

Det. Poling: Sean, okay. Do you remember who helped Sean Ronan out of the tent?

Amayra: Uhm

Det. Poling: I say tent, lodge

Amayra: I think he was also rolled out from the side

Det. Poling: Someone said that they helped him out and that,

Amayra: I'm absolutely sure

Det. Poling: and that Barbara Waters, do you know Barbara Waters?

Amayra: could be, yea, I don't know, could be

Det. Poling: Did you see what her part was in this?

Amayra: No

Det. Diskin: Do you know who that is?

Amayra: I know who that is

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: Yea

Det. Poling: So you, you didn't see her rendering aid to anybody or do anything?

Amayra: I think, I think all people of the Dream Team were doing something and trying to help people

Det. Poling: Mmm Hmm

Amayra: The only one that I had not seen do anything was James

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: And then later I didn't see him anymore so I guess that was the time when he had disappeared

Det. Diskin: Oay

Amayra: I know one situation I know specifically because there was one woman who had lost it the same way the guy did in, in 2005 and she was, and she was yelling and screaming and she was calling to James, and she said, "James, James, please come" and he didn't come

Det. Poling: Did he say anything?

Amayra: He was just standing there

Det. Poling: Did he say anything?

Amayra: I don't remember that he said anything but he, he just didn't come. You know when a person is losing it and there's people around to help and the person yells and screams, "James, Help" and he doesn't come, my gosh, I, I, I

Det. Poling: Was he close enough to hear?

Amayra: Oh yea! Oh my gosh and it was loud enough that anybody could hear it

Det. Poling: How many feet probably away?

Amayra: Oh from here to

Det. Poling: the door? Five feet? Ten feet?

Amayra: Oh I'd say ten, ten, twelve feet maybe but she screamed so loud oh my gosh that, you know

Sgt. Winslow: okay and was he physically and mentally capable of helping, do you think?

Amayra: I think, I think he was but if a person doesn't do it you would really doubt that because I can't relate to a person that in a situation like that that doesn't do anything. It doesn't compute for me so either he was somewhere else but he, he, he seemed to be talking normal.

Det. Poling: Well the people that are involved in this, they're telling us that well we had, there's people on scene, we had a nurse giving CPR. Well that's not, because (Inaudible) they called us because you too the initiative to go get that person

Amayra: And, and our nurse, she never did the CPR

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: She, because there was a crowd of people around both of them; there was this one lady of the group that was, that was leading it and there was the people doing the CPR and Sue Ellen said "I don't think; there's not much I can do" and besides she saw certain things with a quick nurse eye and (Inaudible) oh my gosh.

Det. Poling: Did anyone tell Sue Ellen not to help? Did anyone say no we don't need you?

Amayra: I don't know, you would have to ask her

Det. Poling: Okay, is she on staff here still today?

Amayra: She's, she's not on staff, she's one of our board members who was, who was here a lot but she's not here today.

Det. Poling: Okay. Is there any way of getting ahold of her?

Amayra: Uhm Uhm she'll

Det. Poling: Is she protective of, you know, are you okay

(Inaudible) To the extent that she was actually an employee on the day of the incident
(Inaudible)

Det. Poling: I'm not (Inaudible) as an employee, I just want to know what she saw

(Inaudible) Well I understand but if she's an employee

Amayra: She's not an employee

(Inaudible) okay

Amayra: She's not an employee

(Inaudible) She was a volunteer

Det. Poling: She lived here

Amayra: She is the board member who, who uh volunteers a lot, is not paid for it

(Inaudible) But she wasn't, she had no role that night, is that right?

Amayra: No

Det. Diskin: And it had never even been discussed that she should hang around in case something happened

Amayra: Oh no, oh no. I got her out because I first called 911 because that's the first thing you

(Inaudible)

Amayra: and I called her, I, I called

Det. Poling: same incident, (Inaudible) not gonna mean anything but what she saw

(Inaudible) yea, no I understand but

Amayra: Yea

Det. Poling: medically uhm

Amayra: yea medically, it's not

(Inaudible) I know where you're coming from

Amayra: Yea, it will be interesting to see what she did because she, she was there but she came in when they had been doing CPR for quite a while already and after I had called 911 and then tried to find her, I first couldn't find her and then I didn't. She, she heard from somebody else that I was looking for her so she came, came running by and then she, then Sean needed help and so she was working with him for quite a while. And there was so many people around these other two that you know, that's what you do. And what I heard from Beverly Bunn that she had said (Inaudible) that they pushed her out. I, I have not (Inaudible) but I guess (Inaudible)

(Inaudible)

Amayra: You know it was quite a panic because it was such a chaos, so many people not feeling well and, and, and, and so many people not knowing what to do. You know it was, you know if you have ten people and two people are unwell, that's one thing. But this you have 55 people and all over the place they are, they are vomiting and, and, and all kinds of things and they got you know, so that was kind of the situation.

Sgt. Winslow: Can you remember back to, did you watch James Ray get out of the sweat lodge? Did you watch as he exited?

Amayra: Uhm yes

Det. Diskin: Describe for me what you saw him do, I mean, well when he, cause he would have been the first one out, correct?

Amayra: Yea

Det. Diskin: Well, explain that. I, I mean just

Amayra: Well he, he, he came out, walked, walked to the metal chairs, (Inaudible) took a towel, started to dry himself and people started to come out but then, from then on I don't know because then I said oh my gosh seeing how they come out. One comes out and falls and one has to be pulled out and whew

Det. Poling: How about his face and his hands. What was he doing with his hands when he first walked out, did you see anything? I know it sounds like I'm harping on it but I really want to know cause I'm, people have said stuff so I'm trying to

Amayra: I don't know

Det. Poling: verify what they say with what they saw with someone else saying the same thing

Det. Diskin: Do you remember seeing any kind of motion with James or anybody else, like a triumph type, like 'alright, we did it' or

Amayra: I don't remember

Det. Diskin: or anything, okay

Det. Poling: How about his staff members? Did they look good when they came out? Cause his staff members were right next to him from what I understand in the sweat lodge. When they exited they lodge was

Amayra: I don't know I didn't see them

Det. Poling: That's fine

Amayra: because, because when that final round came out there were already so many people waiting there that needed assistance too so I just saw oh my gosh now it's over so now everybody comes out. So it was kind of now what, what, what needs to be done?

Det. Poling: So if I hear you right there's eight people laying out there before the last session was over and then

Amayra: I think I believe at least eight

Det. Poling: Okay

Amayra: and they were laying there and some were huddled and some were and, and then a bunch of people were sitting on chairs

Det. Diskin: When did you get there? Was it right when they were coming out or was it before?

Amayra: I got there uhm at the end of the, of the last of one round

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: That's when I, and so I saw people coming out and I thought oh my gosh and then uhm they closed the door and I saw that Fawn almost fainted so I took Fawn aside. So I spent some time with her and then I stayed around until that round was over.

Det. Poling: You've been here every year for this pretty much, maybe except for one or two, was this normal? What you saw this night, was that normal?

Amayra: Had I seen that battlefield before? That would had been the last one. Because this was worse than ever. I had seen that his lodges were pretty intense but, and in that time in 2005, that was, I thought that was the worst I had seen and I thought that he had learned from that. But what I saw this year, that was beyond, it was beyond anything and I had this kind of (Inaudible) I thought this kind of thing in there was, this is wrong. And Fawn was so right. Something really wrong here, so

Sgt. Winslow: How long was that last round?

Amayra: Ten, fifteen minutes, fifteen minutes (Inaudible)

Sgt. Winslow: Shorter maybe than the other ones, longer?

Amayra: Uhm

Sgt. Winslow: About the same?

Amayra: Uh usually we, I, I, usually the rounds are about 15 minutes but if I, if I remember it so it must have been something like 15 minutes, yea

Det. Poling: If, if someone told us that uhm prior years that the rounds would go up to four hours, would that be an incorrect statement?

Det. Diskin: Not the rounds but the entire sweat lodge

Det. Poling: Yea, up to four, you know what I'm saying. This one lasts two, usually their fifteen rounds, eight rounds, two hours we're thinking, (Inaudible) last longer?

Amayra: As far as I know he has always done seven rounds and he has always wanted to use some 50 or so stones. Well that's also very unusually because normally a sweat lodge is maybe they do in each round 4, 5 maybe 6 stones and then the leader feels how, what is the situation and that's what you do. James wanted a lot of stones, oh okay. So the last four hours, it may have, in the beginning we may have lasted a little longer but that's the thing, if it's not warm enough you can last longer. You know and those lodges are relatively big but you know were they ever lasting four hours? Mmmm you know also when it's scheduled at 2:00 before everybody's there and they were able to do a little ceremony with a little fire outside because they would uhm in the ritual burn pages of their journal and so and so it was almost ready to start in right then, it was already later so now also these times they did not enter until 3:00 and you know all in all yes it was scheduled from 2-5 but the, it's not, if, if, if you see the program, they start at 2 but they did not enter that lodge as 2:00, see?

Det. Poling: And it lasted, I mean 911 didn't come up til about 5:25

Amayra: Well you got, I heard but of course I'm not normally wearing a watch but you heard that the uh, the 911 call came in at 5:19 or so?

Det. Poling: Yea, probably

Amayra: So that was probably, let's say, maybe 5 or 10 minutes after they left so it would have been a little after 5 that they started to come out

Det. Poling: Okay

Amayra: and then before they were all out because a lot of them came out in a very bad state so it didn't go as fast as when everybody was going "Okay, we there, yes!" You know that should be the feeling, everybody saying wow you know?

Det. Diskin: How long, and you may not have known this, but how long after everybody got out that, that was able to get out, was it before Debby went in?

Amayra: Immediately

Det. Diskin: It was immediately?

Amayra: Immediately. Immediately. I, I think that the, after everybody came out and she, she watched it because she had heard that some people had passed out so when she saw everybody come out she went in. But it was not, my understanding was it has not been timed between the last, last person came out and going in

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: It's not that they were found 10 minutes later, so

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: No, no. Because she knew, Fawn had heard it

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: They had heard that people had passed out

Det. Diskin: that, that, so if, if witnesses had told us that when Debby went in it was 15 minutes after the last round; that 15 minutes probably would have been when they started coming out as opposed to when everybody got out, that didn't make sense, did it?

Amayra: It makes sense, yes

Det. Diskin: We, we, we were told that, that after the last round about 15 minutes had passed before Debby went back in and found the other two.

Amayra: That is no, DEFINITELY not 15 minutes

Det. Diskin: Did you, do you think it could have been 15 minutes from the time that James first came out?

Amayra: That could have been

Det. Diskin: I mean did it take people 15 minutes to get out of there?

Amayra: That could have been. Hey, see how many people had to come out. There were already, they had one person, there were a total of 52 people. Two people left on Tuesday. One person did not, decided that she did not want to do it, didn't feel the right thing to do, she stayed out. Three people left after the first round and I saw them. And we talked to them also.

Det. Poling: And that's where I want to go back there to in a minute

Amayra: Yea

Det. Poling: Keep going

Amayra: So uhm so and then uh another three or so and Fawn were, Fawn knows the number exactly how many, she said something like the second round; the three that came out of the first round, they never went back. And the, the, there's some people, another three came out of the second round and some of them went back but Fawn knows exactly that.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: She was there, she saw it. And then uh, so let's say of all the people, there were 40 some, let's say 44, 45 people had to come out one by one through the door. All of them feeling bad. Well that's not done in a few minutes.

Det. Poling: No, their needing helping to get out and their stumbling.

Amayra: Yea, yea

Det. Diskin: That, that makes sense

Amayra: And the number of people that go to assisting to pull them out, my gosh, it was, you know you've got somebody out and that needed attention so the person who was helping this person out; there was nobody to help the next person to come out

Det. Poling: Did he have his whole team out there for this? I mean all the Dream Team, all the uhm, all the staff?

Amayra: No because, no because some, he had some of the, some of his team was inside and one of them died.

Det. Poling: Oh Liz

(Inaudible) Liz

Amayra: Liz Neuman

Det. Poling: Right, from the Dream Team

Amayra: She was (Inaudible)

Det. Poling: Correct

Amayra: Yea

Det. Poling: But I mean was all the staff that he had, were they present at the sides and helping or were they off doing something else?

Amayra: No the people, the people of his staff, of his team; so his staff and his volunteer team

Det. Poling: Mmm Hmm

Amayra: whoever could do something, they did

Det. Poling: But they were all out there? I mean if his staff was here, Melinda and them, were they here on, on the grounds helping or were they doing something else?

Amayra: Yes, they were here. Those of the staff that were not inside were outside to help and to do whatever they could, all of them, all of them, absolutely

Det. Poling: Except for

Amayra: Pardon?

Det. Poling: Except for one

Amayra: Except for Mr. James. He did not, I did not see him reach out to anything or anybody

Det. Poling: During that first round when those people came out, did you hear anyone tell those people to go back inside? That they're venture was not over?

Amayra: Not me

Det. Poling: You didn't hear anyone say that?

Amayra: I know, I know it was said

Det. Poling: You know it was said?

Amayra: (Inaudible) Fawn

Det. Poling: Fawn heard that?

Amayra: Fawn heard several things. Fawn did not hear everything but she heard several things. We did talk with the people who came out first, after the first round

Det. Poling: So Fawn was with you in the first round when you heard these people come out and talk to them?

Amayra: When you talk to Fawn you ask her exactly what she heard

Det. Poling: Gotcha

Amayra: She was sitting to the side, not too close because number one you know you do not, also want to be respectful you do not want to be an eavesdropper but also uhm traditionally when a women is in her, has her period you should not attend a lodge or be actively participating in assisting with a lodge. Fawn was in, had her period and she is half something and so she was very respectful not to get too close. She will, she will tell you that and, but, she heard things. And she will talk, she will talk. When we talked with the gentleman and his wife that came out after the first round, afterwards because they stayed longer, we talked. Mike had talked to them and uhm they said when they were in that first round they said this is not a religious experience. We're out of here, this is not feeling right. They went out and no way would they go back in. The girl that came out

Det. Diskin: We've interviewed them

Det. Poling: Well I don't know about them but I did the girl, that's why I'm asking the questions

Amayra: Carl and Louise Nelson

Det. Poling: Not them, the other one. The, the one you were talking about, the other girl

Amayra: The other girl?

Det. Poling: Yes

Amayra: The Japanese girl?

Det. Poling: I don't know what she was

Amayra: Christie, Christie Hsiao or something, you talked with her?

Det. Poling: No but I talked to someone that, that told her something. That's what I'm trying to find out here

Amayra: Okay

Det. Poling: So and that was the one and her name was what?

Amayra: The, the third person?

Det. Poling: Yes

Amayra: Christie Hsiao, H-s-i-a-o

Det. Poling: Gotcha, thank you

Amayra: (Inaudible) that girl, she's Japanese, she was considered to be the spoiled kid in the group. She attends all the events of James Ray

Det. Poling: Princess

Amayra: She's the little princess

Det. Poling: She wear high heels?

Amayra: Uh I haven't seen her do that because

Det. Poling: Well I'm saying as princess, she's not meant to go out in the forest and sit; I'm, I'm just trying to figure this out. She's like a city girl

Amayra: She's a city girl and she, she is uh, she has a rich daddy that pays for all her things. She doesn't have a job and she attends, she loves being at James Ray's things but when James tells them what to do; this, that and the other, she doesn't do it and she doesn't do her homework too. In the group she's considered the quitter girl. You know she is just here because rich daddy pays for her and, and, but she, but she uhm she quits. She doesn't do her homework.

Det. Poling: And that's what I'm trying to figure out. Someone told her that she needs to get back in there.

Amayra: Probably

Det. Poling: And that's what I'm trying to figure out

Amayra: Most likely and that could very well be, it had to be one of the Dream Team

Det. Diskin: We still got one more interview so you don't wanna get

Det. Poling: That's fine

Det. Diskin: We don't want you to have to keep telling us what other people have told you

(Inaudible) The one thing you probably should ask her about are those, the pills bottles just so you kinda, cause I don't know the significance of that but why don't you explain. Afterwards you said you were concerned about someones car and so you

Sgt. Winslow: James' (Inaudible) and supplements or something

Amayra: I don't think it means a lot but you know I just want to hey, we want the truth out and you know uhm it could have contributed. In his luggage he, when you guys told me that you were looking for the uh, his uh,

Det. Poling: cell phone

Amayra: information to (Inaudible) to find more

Det. Diskin: That was me

Amayra: (Inaudible) and uhm I was a little shocked about it because I thought the family had already been in, in, informed uh later I heard it took a long time before it happened. But anyway

Det. Poling: (Inaudible) misinformed

Amayra: Yea

Det. Poling: I talked to them the first day

Amayra: James Shore's wife heard it on Friday night at 10:00

Det. Poling: Naw, I called the family and the brother was supposed to take care of that early on. I called them way before 1

Amayra: Oh you did?

Det. Poling: Oh yea

Det. Diskin: What the brother didn't tell what Melissa?

Det. Poling: Whenever he told he was gonna do it and that was up to him. And, and that was up to him. He's a Marine and he does death notifications for the Marines so he was picking the right time and I told him to do it before the news media got out so I just want to make that clear.

Amayra: Anyway uhm, but uhm, then, so then when you were there and (Inaudible) goes oh yea all these people they may have had rental cars and (Inaudible) well I mean let's get these back to the rental place. So then I went into his luggage to find care keys and I told you this and uhm I did find car keys but these were his personal car keys and there was no rental car

Det. Poling: It's a rental car, huh?

Amayra: It was not a rental car and we then later we found out he, he drove with somebody to come, to come here so that was okay. And, and then uhm later I realized

when I was, his stuff had to be organized anyway, James Ray's stuff had disappeared so well you know somebody has to take care of the luggage so I kind of started packing things and then when I did that there was a little, little uhm, uhm box with, with, with pills. Just simple supplements and you know it may mean nothing but when you're not in a good space and you think that your supplements may be able to give you, to boost you up a little bit, you know that may have had a, a reverse effect.

Det. Diskin: Where were the supplements found?

(Inaudible) Where did you find them?

Amayra: In his luggage

Det. Diskin: In his luggage, okay

Amayra: Yea, in his, with his toiletries.

Det. Poling: Did you send them back?

Amayra: No

Sgt. Winslow: We looked through some of that stuff

(Inaudible)

Amayra: Well he must have seen it too

Sgt. Winslow: Well we were looking for his wallet and license

Det. Diskin: Wallet

(Inaudible)

Sgt. Winslow: As soon as I found his I.D. that was it

(Inaudible)

Amayra: (Inaudible) you guys returned it to his house

Det. Diskin: No, I've got it now. Uhm we will return it to (Inaudible)

Amayra: (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Yes

Amayra: But this is, so this is what I, what was in his luggage and you know it's uh, (Inaudible) I wouldn't like to play detective but

Det. Poling: Why does it

Amayra: Uh it is called (Inaudible) and I looked it up and it is uh, uh a garlic thing so that's gonna be much but there is also

Det. Poling: You have different pills in there?

Amayra: There's also a different pill in there and that was kinda okay, I'm not sure, I don't know what that is

Det. Poling: We'll look it up

Det. Diskin: Yea we'll find it

Amayra: (Inaudible)

Sgt. Winslow: I saw that he had (Inaudible) well I looked at so many different pill bottles (Inaudible) while we were looking at stuff. I thought I saw some of that in there and, and I think we looked at them and now we're just looking for (Inaudible)

Amayra: And there's two different pills and, and, and it may mean just over nothing and, and, that could be (Inaudible) better

(Inaudible)

Sgt. Winslow: (Inaudible) put it with the wine bottles

Det. Poling: We need all the information anyway

Sgt. Winslow: And we may find some of this in his uh toxicology

Amayra: Exactly, exactly because you know one thing, know this, this event is not about using drugs. This thing was not about using (Inaudible) that's not the thing

(Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: I don't think that's what that is. I mean we'll, we'll check to see if those pills are (Inaudible)

Amayra: And I just wanted to

Det. Diskin: Okay

Amayra: You know. If something was found on him that was kind of strange

Det. Poling: Alright we should know about that because (Inaudible)

(Inaudible)

Sgt. Winslow: Did you get Fawn for us?

Amayra: Yes

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