Grant Smith Ellis Court Log

USA v. Matthew Farwell - October 20, 2026

FINAL REPORT - corrected completeness audit; coverage through adjournment at 3:43:16 PM ET

About this report: This document reconstructs Grant Smith Ellis's contemporaneous courtroom reporting from his posts on X. Grant-authored reporting is reproduced as retrieved and organized chronologically by testimony/proceeding; editorial organization and known retrieval limitations are documented in the full Source & Editorial Notes at the end.

Day overview

Coverage cutoff	3:43:16 PM ET, October 20, 2026
Live-thread root	2112527033460789473
Retrieved reporting entries reproduced	142
Status	Final / court-day complete - corrected completeness audit

Pre-court note

5:43:07 AM ET | Status 2112479718830170339

Good morning from a very chilly Boston.

I am awake and ready for today's testimony in the Sandra Birchmore and Matthew Farwell trial.

Will we hear from James Fitton, the Stoughton Police dispatcher who told Matthew Farwell about Julia Perlin's Jan 20, 2021 phone call?

Open original post on X

Pre-jury rulings and housekeeping

8:51:08 AM ET | Status 2112527033460789473

Hello, this will be today's live thread for coverage of the Sandra Birchmore and Matthew Farwell trial.

I am seated, with my keyboard, and we are ready to begin.

Judge has reviewed new docket 364, as to one of the disputed exhibits, and something related to deputy chief Holmes which Judge has review.

Judge says she will take up where we left off yesterday so counsel has the benefit of her rulings to the extent they will come up today.

As to exhibits 639 and 640. There are the Dr. Leonard record and letter. Judge also read the redacted form, and the full document.

Judge says counsel can be seated.

Government objections were to relevance and hearsay. Judge considered those as such. The discussion yesterday did not focus on relevance but Judge considered it. Judge went back to her ruling on docket 196. Judge says she recalls she agreed with the defense that the relevant period went further back than the government contended. Still, judge thinks the relevance of 639 and 640 is less the further we get away from the issues in this case, particually where Mr. leonard's last appointment was back in March of 2012 and to be quite honest judge has looked through it and believes it is not entirely clear tyhat he saw Ms. Birchmore on that day. It's obvious that this document is hearsay, says Judge. Judge considered the exceptions including 803 (3), it's not clear that it's present sense impression because they are not Sandra's statements. It is not 803 (4) because it's not for the purpose of Sandra's diagnosis as a opposed to a joint diagnosis, also it is not clear that it meets the standard under 803 (6) as a business record and also judge considered 807, the residual exception supported by sufficient guarantee of trustworthiness and it has to be more probative than any other evidence that could be offered. Lastly, even going beyond relevance, Judge has concerns given that Dr. Leonard cannot be called (he is dead) thus I am concerned that any probative value is outweighed by unfair prejudice. in regards to 639 and 640, that will be my ruling. Excluding the document itself."

DOJ wins. Sandra's records from Dr. Leonard kept out. Excellent.

Open original post on X

8:52:40 AM ET | Status 2112527420670595263

"What about your experts, defense counsel, will they talk about Dr. Leonard's records?"

"We did give them to our expert to provide also, young honor, the government medical expert said that Sandra denied prior history of certain illnesses so we think the question to Dr. V would be appropriate, if I can use Dr. V to simply the record instead of her name, and while I understand your honor's ruling we want to proceed with questions to Dr. V about this."

Open original post on X

8:55:16 AM ET | Status 2112528073228726686

"Counsel, on this point?"

"That presumed that counsel is going to be able to ask the question about, 'if Ms. Birchmore had BPD, would you have taken different steps,' but there is no evidence of BPD at any point in time."

"Your honor, that presumed a history of misdiagnosis. I am not asking Dr. V to assume Ms. Birchmore had BPD, just to ask if she did have that prior digansois and we think that is a fact any doctor would want to know."

"So, counsel, I am going to think a little more about this as we continue with the current witness. I understand the government's point given that, I don't know if opening this line of questioning where the only basis for it is a document that is not otherwise going to come in so let me think about it some more."

"Yes, your honor, may we mark our redacted exhibits part of the record for any subsequent appeal?

"Yes, I assume that is the case with any documents proposed but not admitted."

Open original post on X

8:58:20 AM ET | Status 2112528844276076754

"Counsel, as to exhibit 739 or y-13, this was the section 12 document, and I considered the government's hearsay, 801 and 403 objections. I agree that it is hearsay. I considered the exceptions. I think Ms. Stevens may have mentions business records but I thought 8703 (8) (a) (2), the public records exception, is more on point here. I wanted to consider it further given the nature of this case and the nature of the document. Counsel, I also looked at applicable caselaw, US vs Lang, 1st circuit, 2012, where they affirmed the admission of an immigration form even though it was completed by LEO, I think the same applies here, this was not a document generated in a criminal case, it was actually as to a matter for lack of better term a well being matter, and here it is being offered for the defense, I know the government was suggesting a lack of trustworthiness, which is a provision in the rule for me to consider, I don't think there is a lack of trustworthiness and I don't think it rises to 403. It goes to weight for the jury to consider and frankly, and I think they already heard evidence on this point. I will allow admission of 739."

Open original post on X

9:00:27 AM ET | Status 2112529379884409331

"Will any of the updated disputed exhibit list be reached today?"

"No, not today."

"Anything else this morning?"

"The issue about Holmes?"

"I looked at the 2022 memos and the responses."

"Your honor, we found it, it was our mistake, they served it on us." - Defense

"Your honr, on i-14, the DOJ said the had no problem if they wanted to bring in attendance records, I have one from 6th grade if that's okay?"

"Any objection to that?"

"I'm objecting from the 6th grade on relevance."

"I'm assuming it's on a theory as to what if anything had an effect on her attendance record?"

"Yes, your honor and the government talkied only of 10 and 11th grade, and this is from 4 years earlier."

"Okay, I'll consider this."

Open original post on X

9:00:57 AM ET | Status 2112529506041057714

"Your honor, can we talk about the parameters for the affair partners at 4PM today?

"Yes, but we have a court ceremony at 4pom so we need to end early today."

Open original post on X

9:05:18 AM ET | Status 2112530600850510053

"Your honor we don't want to share our exhibits with the DOJ, we only want to provide it to your honor in advance of cross, but only via a secure link with the court."

"Ms. Cook, you can go get the jurors. We'll line them up. Counsel, I hear your point but that's somewhat out of compliance with the advance notice required under the local rules and my prior orders."

"Your honor, giving the DOJ the exhibits tied to the witness we want to use them with, gives the DOJ an unfair advantage."

"Your honor, its the government's view that the affirmative introduction of evidence is different that impeachment. Given that some of the defense exhibits have been proffered in the wrong form, it's difficult to ascertain what they are. As to any impeachment exhibits, no objection, but any previewing even to this point of other defense exhibits has been minimally helpful."

"Counsel, Ms. Stevens' comment is noted for the record but I think it is somewhat inconsistent

with the court's prior orders and counsel just for the record, as I don't need to tell counsel, there are 100';s of exhibits some of which raise multiple levels of hearsay and I think it's appropriate for the court to be able to consider them ahead of time not just for jury management but for the purposes of understanding the arguments not in the heat of passion in the moment but so that I can continue to give your objections the full consider I have."

Open original post on X

9:05:37 AM ET | Status 2112530678944518448

"All rise!"

Jurors entering.

Open original post on X

Continued witness - cross-examination and follow-up

9:06:07 AM ET | Status 2112530803179827552

"Good morning jurors, thank you again for your promptness, we'll get started right away. I remind you [turning to the witness], you are under oath. Ms. Daley, go ahead."

Open original post on X

9:07:52 AM ET | Status 2112531245317943438

"You testified on Direct that Ms. Birchmore did some internet searches in the weeks before her passing?"

"Yes, Ma'am."

"Can we pull up 238...exhibit 238. It has already been published. Do you recognize this exhibit?"

"Yes."

"Just to be clear, the cover sheet for this magnet forensic examination report is just a cover sheet that is generated when you pull data from a device, yes?"

"It was created by our digital forensic examiner, so I'm not familiar with when the cover sheets were attached."

"Does it have all of Sandra's web searches?"

"No."

Open original post on X

9:08:40 AM ET | Status 2112531445247852755

"Do we see searches for ultra sound, at 1:49pm, and ultra sound at 1:49pm, as searches that you talked about on direct?"

"Yes."

"And other searches, like bleeding during pregnancy at six weeks?"

"Yes."

"Baby shower venues?"

"Yes."

"Cramping at 9 weeks?

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:09:43 AM ET | Status 2112531710202052843

"Do you recognize this exhibit?"

"This looks like a list of internet searches for a variety of databases, I can't tell from this which device it came from."

"Can we make this a little bigger?"

"These are Sandra Birchmore's searches for Jan 17th, some of her searches, the day prior to the date in the report we just looked it?"

"It could be, but ti looks like a lot of them are duplicative."

Open original post on X

9:10:38 AM ET | Status 2112531940230496258

"Can we just go to page 5, the 5th page of this exhibit, and starting at page 21, this is where Jan 18th starts, yes?"

"Yes."

"So, um, at 3:34AM she is googling why do girls spot during pregnancy..."

"Objection, not in evidence."

"Sustained."

"I'm sorry your honor."

Open original post on X

9:11:29 AM ET | Status 2112532154492367246

"This internet search for Jan 18th, can you go to page 45 as marked on the document...is this the 18th going into the 19th?"

"Yes."

Note; Farwell is sitting with his hand over his mouth and communicating with Kim Stevens as this cross happens.

Open original post on X

9:13:48 AM ET | Status 2112532738351972699

"Your honor, move to admit exhibit?"

"Objection!" - DOJ

"Which pages specifically do you object to, counsel?"

"Page 19, bottom right corner."

"Your honor, we're not seeking to admit that page."

"Okay, this can be published."

Open original post on X

9:14:22 AM ET | Status 2112532880215953640

"Understanding that there are some duplicates, Sandra Googles 'do girls spot during pregnancy' at 3:34 and 3:35?"

"Yes, but some of them are duplicates so it could be just one search."

Open original post on X

9:15:10 AM ET | Status 2112533083035681189

"Duplicates stored in different databases?"

"Yes."

"She googles at 3:45 how much bleeding is normal in early pregnancy?"

"At 3:45? Yes."

"Then bleeding during pregnancy at 6 weeks?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:15:47 AM ET | Status 2112533238270873782

"Then multiple searches for six weeks pregnant or six weeks ultra sound..."

"I wouldn't know if those were multiple searches."

"Okay, so two searches, one for six weeks pregnant and one for six weeks ultra sound?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:16:33 AM ET | Status 2112533430508364038

"At 4:01, miscarriage at six weeks, ultrasound?"

"Yes."

"Then ultra sound pictures at 3:59, I'm sorry the one at 3:59 was first, ultrasound, then miscarriage at 4:01?"

"Yes."

"And these times are AM?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:16:59 AM ET | Status 2112533538079715832

"Then at 4:02am, early miscarriage and 12 week lighted over miscarriage, then miscarriage six weeks ultrasound?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:17:23 AM ET | Status 2112533642027139353

"Next page. It continues, 4:03 miscarriage six weeks ultra sound, this could be a duplicate right?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:17:54 AM ET | Status 2112533771677306961

"At 4:03am, spotting during pregnancy?"

"Yes."

"4;06, can you spot from holding your pee?"

"Yes."

"4:41am, spotting during pregnancy?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:18:50 AM ET | Status 2112534004633100414

"Then the baby yolk sack search at 9:36am?"

"Yes."

"Dr. Sooch, does that name ring a bell as referenced in the medical records?"

"Yes."

"Then another search, when does the placenta form, at 9:41?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:19:29 AM ET | Status 2112534167292654012

"Then Creative World?"

"Yes, Sandra applied to work at a day care center."

"Okay, next page; ultrasound at five weeks, another search?"

"Yes."

"Okay, next page."

This is a strange cross.

Open original post on X

9:20:11 AM ET | Status 2112534345785196576

"Ultra sound at five weeks, then creative world again, yes?"

"Yes."

"Okay, at 8:22pm, she starts googling baby shower locations in Plymouth?"

"Yes."

"Then Plymouth Restaurants?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:20:30 AM ET | Status 2112534426500428152

"Then Hingham Baby shower places?"

"Yes."

"Then when does the placenta form?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:21:08 AM ET | Status 2112534585468768475

"Now country club searches?"

"Yes."

"Outdoor venues near me?"

"Yes."

"Lakeview pavilion?"

"Yes."

"Restaurants by Plymouth rock?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:22:20 AM ET | Status 2112534886485565797

"Are there many searches related to baby showers and venues for those baby showers?"

"Yes."

"Skip ahead. We can skip ahead. Skip ahead. Okay."

"Now she searches the Simmons calendar at 9:52pm?"

"I think it is 9:59PM."

"I'm sorry, yes, 9:59PM."

"This is four days Sandra was rejected from the Simmons Nursing program?"

"She got accepted to Simmons, the general education program, but rejected from the nursing program."

Open original post on X

9:23:04 AM ET | Status 2112535069701115933

Wow, Sandra Birchmore was admitted to Simmons College, via the general education program, just a few weeks before she died.

Farwell's defense tried to make it seem like Sandra was denied from the nursing school at Simmons, and from the school itself, but the latter was not true.

Open original post on X

9:23:40 AM ET | Status 2112535220968665528

"Were there more searches than what is shown in these records?"

"Yes, there were years of searches. This is just a few days."

"Okay."

"Now let's look at Jan 19, 2021."

Open original post on X

9:25:06 AM ET | Status 2112535580357570986

"So, on Jan 19th, we can go back..."long pause...papers shuffle...someone whispers...now the lawyer says "do you recognize those searches from Jan 19th?"

"Yes."

"Your honor I move to admit Jan 19th?"

"Page numbers please?"

"That is starting on marked page 52."

"No objection."

"They may be admitted and published."

Open original post on X

9:25:44 AM ET | Status 2112535742434230565

"Back to Jan 19th now, we are back to searches for six weeks pregnant bleeding bright red, and do people who are pregnant bleed, and also early pregnanancy scan?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:27:24 AM ET | Status 2112536160991871019

"Now a planned parenthood search?"

"Yes."

"Does planned parenthood do ultrasounds?"

"Yes."

"Then heartbeat on baby can still miscarry?"

"Yes."

"Then, if you have a heartbeat on baby can you still miscarry?"

"Yes."

"Then searches for Plymouth Rock?"

"At least one I don't know if there were multiple."

"Well we see it once at the top, and once at the bottom, so those would be separate searches correct?"

"Yes."

"Then at six and a half weeks baby heartbeat?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:29:34 AM ET | Status 2112536708482752609

"You said Ms. Birchmore conducted no searches about bleeding about making no searches for bleeding after Jan 20th?"

"I don't believe I said no searches, I said she didn't discuss it again in her messages."

Open original post on X

9:31:07 AM ET | Status 2112537097223499946

"Okay, and is this Ms. Birchmore's ultrasound report from Jan 25th?"

"Yes."

"And this has a sub[mumbled] hemorrhage?"

"I'm not a medical expert, but it is my understanding is that would not require there to be outside bleeding."

"What was the measurement of the sub[mumbled] hemorrhage"

".9 x 2.9 x 1.9 cm"

Open original post on X

9:32:26 AM ET | Status 2112537426006540789

"Were you aware of reports that Sandra was making to her OBGYN about her mental health?"

"Yes, she anxious."

"Anything about depression?"

"Yes, some things about depression as well. She was put on some medication for that. Zoloft."

"Did Sandra Birchmore also report she was in the ER gushing blood on Jan 19th?"

"I think she told someone that in the heat of an argument."

"Was that statement accurate?"

"I don't know."

"Have you ever seen any medical records about that incident?"

"I don't think so."

Open original post on X

9:33:09 AM ET | Status 2112537606793601089

"Sandra said that in a recorded statement?"

"Yes."

"You also testified on direct about Sandra's medical record as a teen?"

"Yes."

"753 just for the witness please."

Open original post on X

9:42:57 AM ET | Status 2112540075582251457

"In these messages, was Joshua Heal feeding information to Ms. Birchmore?"

"Objection! may we be heard?"

"Yes."

Sidebah!

Open original post on X

9:43:17 AM ET | Status 2112540156968468897

The messages are up on the screen but they are too small for us to read.

Open original post on X

9:47:42 AM ET | Status 2112541269285339221

"Is this the text exchange where Josh Heal tells Sandra Birchmore Matt Farwell and his wife that they are expecting their third child."

"Yes."

Note; Farwell's company, named after his three children, confirms his third child is named Joey (the same name as his alter ego).

Open original post on X

9:48:29 AM ET | Status 2112541466463457497

"Did Sandra mention the day she had her last period to Mr. Heal?"

"She said October."

"Was she right about that?"

"It was actually a few weeks later."

"Okay, and then she says she hopes Matt Farwell leaves his wife?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:52:06 AM ET | Status 2112542375293653292

"How of Sandra's 2017 legal settlements were left in 2021?"

"Probably none."

"What about the money from the lawsuit over her mom's house?"

"She got about $10,000 from that in 2020."

"How much of that money was left on Feb 1, 2021?"

"Her bank statement indiciates her money went up and down every month."

"Did you know she lost some money in an apartment rental scam?"

"Yes, she was a victim of a rental scam but it was before the 2020 settlement."

Open original post on X

9:53:31 AM ET | Status 2112542734791725518

"Sandra had 21 absences from when she was in the 6th grade?"

"I don't think I reviewed attendance records before high school. I don't know about middle school records. Those could be excused or unexcused. I don't know."

"What about Matthew Farwell's record of attendance?"

"Yes."

"And you said Matt Farwell dropped out of high school?"

"I didn't say that but he did."

"And then Matthew Farwell joined the..."

"Objection."

"Sustained as to this."

"Did he get his GED?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

9:55:21 AM ET | Status 2112543194990653595

"You said there was a letter in the notes app of Matt Farwell's phone?"

"Yes."

"This a letter from Matthew Farwell's Iphone form jan 8th, 2021?"

"Yes."

"To whom it is addressed?"

"It says Senator/Representative ???"

"Who is it signed by?"

"Question mark."

Open original post on X

9:56:16 AM ET | Status 2112543424351977745

"This talks about a law that was passed in Massachusetts?"

"It was a bill, not yet a law."

"And the author wants assistance on the newly formed or proposed law?"

"Yes."

"And they're saying that chokeholds can be non-lethal?"

"They can be yes."

"And the author says non-lethal force is better than lethal means?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

10:03:17 AM ET | Status 2112545192096264396

"You got Matthew Farwell's IG records?"

"No, I don't think so."

"For Sandra Birchmore's?"

"No."

"Why?"

"We got that data from their phones."

"But you did a Facebook search warrant?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

10:04:01 AM ET | Status 2112545378021073396

"Was Sandra Birchmore wearing an Apple Watch?"

"Yes."

"When did you learn this?"

"When we got the crime scene pictures from the State Police in April of 2024."

Open original post on X

10:05:02 AM ET | Status 2112545631117979683

WILD!

Brian Tully and John Fanning waited until April of 2024, the start of Karen Read's first trial as to the death of John O'Keefe, to hand over to the FBI crime scene photos from the 2021 death of Sandra Birchmore.

Brian Tully, I know what you did in April of 2024!

I told the FBI!

Open original post on X

10:05:50 AM ET | Status 2112545835116306784

"At the time the federal investigation commenced, Dr. Capo-Martinez found Sandra Birchmore died by hanging, suicide?"

"Yes."

"And that was provided to Dr. Zoey Sundell?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

10:06:19 AM ET | Status 2112545953659916474

"Did you record that call?"

"No, it was an inter agency consult."

"It was a consult?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

10:08:43 AM ET | Status 2112546557182525575

"You collected evidence from state and local authorities as well, right?"

"Yes."

"You collected items from Chief Donna McNamara?"

"Yes, we got some boxes from them."

"Did you collect those documents in a parking lot?"

"Not at all of them. She did bring one box out to a car in a parking lot."

Open original post on X

10:09:19 AM ET | Status 2112546708731408396

"Were you aware that Brian Holmes printed out a definition of..."

"Objection!"

"Sustained."

"May we be heard?" - Defense

"Not on this counsel."

Open original post on X

10:10:11 AM ET | Status 2112546929523544427

"Did you also collect items from Sandra Birchmore's family?"

"Yes."

"And you have no idea what they threw out instead of brought to you?"

"No."

"Sandra's family found a Flamingo necklace and turned it in?"

"Yes."

"But that never made it into the possession of federal law enforcement?"

"Correct."

Open original post on X

10:11:04 AM ET | Status 2112547150626501014

"Did you ever get any SnapChat records?"

"No."

"Why not?"

"It is my understanding that SnapChat doesn't keep records in a way that would be useful to us."

"So no request was made based on that assumption?"

"Objection."

"Sustained."

Open original post on X

10:14:39 AM ET | Status 2112548053718876180

"A hotel in Newport, a Five Guys parking lot, a Costco parking lot."

Open original post on X

10:19:07 AM ET | Status 2112549174742765594

"Did Sandra ever make any threats of self-harm?"

"She never made any threats that I know of. She would sometimes make statements like KMS when talking about school work."

Open original post on X

10:20:30 AM ET | Status 2112549523184889942

"This is Sandra texting her friend Kaylnn?"

"Yes."

"And she has a picture of Matthew Farwell, his wife and his two children?"

"Yes."

"When she she get it?"

"From social media."

Note; It's a screenshot of a Facebook post.

Open original post on X

10:22:26 AM ET | Status 2112550010013561219

"In this text exchange Sandra Birchmore tells Becca Chandler that she was scared of what he had done?"

"Yes."

"Becca Chandler was interviewed by LEO about this conversation right?"

"Yes."

"And she said..."

"Objection hear say."

"Sustained."

Open original post on X

10:23:10 AM ET | Status 2112550196320010740

"Sandra Birchmore told at least one friend that she wanted at least $7,000 a month from Matthew Farwell in child support?"

"The person told that to the Massachusetts State Police. That was in one of their records."

Weird.

Open original post on X

10:24:50 AM ET | Status 2112550616820310480

Why is Farwell's defense suggesting he was scoping out Sandra Birchmore's closest before she died in order to "find space for the baby to live?"

This is ridiculous.

I object!

Open original post on X

10:25:21 AM ET | Status 2112550746637918433

"In her text exchange with Joshua Heal, Sandra said she got it in writing that Matthew Farwell

would sign the birth certificate. Have you found in anything in writing to confirm that?"

"No."

Open original post on X

10:26:04 AM ET | Status 2112550926313542129

"Josh Heal tells Sandra Birchmore that Matthew Farwell will go to court, right?"

"Yes."

"He's going to request a DNA test..."

"Objection."

"Counsel, are we talking about what is in 239?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

10:26:41 AM ET | Status 2112551082240938109

"Was Sandra told that about Farwell going to court, yes?"

"Yes."

"And Sandra said her lawyers were getting ready?"

"Yes, Sandra had spoken to lawyers."

Open original post on X

10:27:29 AM ET | Status 2112551280614748476

"Ms. Birchmore bought a key at Walmart?"

"Yes."

"Does Walmart cut keys?"

"Apparently."

Note; it's a self automated kiosk and the charge is all at once.

Open original post on X

10:38:42 AM ET | Status 2112554104858017874

"Jessica Hyde did the extraction of this apple watch, right?"

"Yes."

"And Jessica Hyde told you that the device she had, the cord that she had ... I think it's called a dongle, I don't know either... that she obtained it pre-tariff?"

Open original post on X

10:39:04 AM ET | Status 2112554195798958254

"Yes. I don't know when the tariffs were imposed."

"Thank you, nothing further."

Open original post on X

10:42:38 AM ET | Status 2112555093459366190

"You were asked whether you labeled certain messages between the defendant and Ms. Birchmore as fantasy...can you bring up 279, this is in evidence, your honor?"

"At 11:09 on jan 3rd, the defendant says did you like it was I slow enough?"

"Yes, but please don't grab my hands behind me. You can grab my wrists not my hands. Did you cum though?"

"Yes, next time it won't be so gentle though. Why couldn't you relax?"

"I started having a panic attack when you grabbed my writs from behind."

"It felt so good having you fight back and tense up. It was so tight. Can we do that again, can I force you down?"

"Yes, but please use condom and a lube and hold my hand?"

"What if I just do it?"

"I wouldn't be mad...why do you like having the power over me?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

10:43:20 AM ET | Status 2112555270480273761

"It felt like it was really like the r-word baby...I'll hold you after so you can relax and calm down."

"I'll be honest, I was in tears after you left."

"It's okay, you don't have to let me do it again. I'll stay after though, next time, so you can recover."

Open original post on X

10:47:32 AM ET | Status 2112556325892694138

"You were asked on cross about messages from Dec 28th, 2020, was that a complete record or did that have missing messages?"

"I don't recall."

"440 for the witness please."

"Are these some of the texts from the defendant and Ms. Birchmore that day?"

"Yes."

Admitted as 440 and published.

Open original post on X

10:49:07 AM ET | Status 2112556725727355003

"Please read the messages omitted from the defense exhibit;

"And you hurt me from day one. After that we don't need to deal with this tomorrow. I'll deal with this on my own. It's your decision you can say I don't know how to treat people but I didn't p[lay a stupid head game with a girl for years and try to take shit back. you're really going to fucking ignore me now2, seriously, you stated the other night that if I gave you a few months of trying when you asked. I've asked you in the past why you stayed and, not once, did you give me the reason you just gave me, which makes it clear you didn't want to stay with me from the start."

Open original post on X

10:49:59 AM ET | Status 2112556943680360921

"I was never cold hearted towards you until the past year or two. Are you okay, I'm not asking to be a bitch, I'm asking in the way of, 'are you okay tonight until we sit down?'"

Open original post on X

10:50:47 AM ET | Status 2112557143895249333

"You were shown a September, 2013, medical record where Sandra said she was not smoking, using alcohol or having sex?"

"Was Sandra's doctor a male?"

"Yes."

"Have you reviewed a medical record from before that with Dr. Brown, in 2013, in May, where Sandra said she was sexually active?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

Supplemental Reporting[1]

Notes by Kristina Rex

Continued cross-examination

Questioning about Exhibit 238 established, according to the notes, that the forensic examination report did not contain every one of Sandra's web searches.

The notes list January 18–19, 2021 searches about spotting, bleeding, ultrasound, early miscarriage, fetal heartbeat, and baby showers, including repeated overnight searches. They also note a February 1 search for "cramping at 9 weeks."

Kelsch said there was no way to establish that an individual actually viewed a cached image unless there was evidence of interaction. The notes refer to approximately 965 cached images on February 1, including two suicide-related images raised on cross. She could not say whether Sandra had actually seen those two images.

Kelsch said she joined the case in March 2024. The notes report her explanation that specialists warned an unknown Apple Watch passcode could damage data integrity, that the watch was kept in an evidence-control room, and that Jessica Hyde performed the extraction.

The notes discuss unavailable surveillance and Ring video, with an explanation that substantial time elapsed before requests were made.

Redirect

The government returned to the Apple Watch, including consultations with Jessica Hyde, FBI personnel and Apple.

Redirect revisited defense characterization of some texts as fantasy and presented exchanges concerning restraint, fear, pain, and power. The notes include a January 29, 2020 exchange in which Sandra reportedly described being in tears after an encounter.

Kelsch said she did not recall observing texts in which Sandra reported that Farwell explicitly said he would kill her. She described many messages in which Farwell did not want to discuss subjects in writing and preferred speaking in person.

The government returned to the Instagram cache. Kelsch again said she could not establish whether Sandra saw the two suicide-related images merely because they were cached.

Recross

The defense asked whether other digital artifacts might help interpret cached images; Kelsch said they could.

Kelsch's testimony ended shortly before the 10:58 a.m. break, after which Dr. Priyanka Venkataraman testified.

Source posts

Kristina Rex — October 20 morning notes, thread 1

Kristina Rex — October 20 morning notes, thread 2

Kristina Rex — October 20 morning notes, thread 3

Supplemental Reporting[1]

Notes by Kristina Rex

Direct examination

Katz, an attorney, said referrals came through several channels, including local nonprofits. She provided information and advice to people seeking services. She was no longer practicing family law and could not personally take Sandra's case.

Katz said she and Sandra first connected in March 2020 and communicated by telephone and text, never meeting in person. Sandra contacted her again in November; they discussed her pregnancy and related legal questions in January 2021.

Sandra said the father was married and had children. She asked about her rights, custody, visitation, and whether the father's name would appear on the birth certificate. Katz explained that Sandra did not need to rush decisions and sent an email referring her to attorneys who could represent her.

The notes record Katz describing Sandra as "optimistic," "happy," and positive about the father's prospective involvement with the child.

The jury heard two messages attributed to Sandra. The notes summarize one as a brief request to call back and the other as an apologetic follow-up asking whether Katz had received the earlier messages.

Cross-examination

Katz said she could not recall the precise timeframe but knew Sandra was newly pregnant. She confirmed Sandra sounded hopeful about the father's relationship with the child.

Katz testified that Sandra did not understand visitation schedules would be arranged after birth; she had thought arrangements could be worked out during pregnancy.

When asked whether Sandra had called to report something concerning to Katz in her role as an attorney, the notes record a pause and a negative answer.

No redirect or recross appears in the recovered notes; the next section begins Mackenzie Palma's testimony.

Source posts

Kristina Rex — October 20 afternoon notes, thread 1

Kristina Rex — October 20 afternoon notes, thread 2

Dr. V - medical testimony

11:21:56 AM ET | Status 2112564986237108319

We are back from recess. I have consumed an entire double white chocolate mocha in 7 minutes.

Let's do this.

Open original post on X

11:24:12 AM ET | Status 2112565556897263862

"How did you know Sandra Birchmore?"

"She was one of my patients."

"Jurors, I will give you an instruction here; you are about to hear testimony from this witness both about facts and opinions. Fact testimony is what the witness saw, heard or did. Opinion testimony is about the opinion about the witness. As to facts, you may believe everything, part or none of it. As to opinion, the opinion is allowed because of the education or experience of the witness. You may accept all, none or some of it. Give it as much weight as you think it deserves based on the witnesses experience, education and all of the other evidence in the case."

Open original post on X

11:27:07 AM ET | Status 2112566289570959823

"When was she your patient?"

"From 2019 until her passing."

"Dr. V, would you please grab that binder in front of you. Please look for tab with number 356. Please look through that and let me know if you recognize that tab?"

"That is a medical record for Sandra Birchmore. It is dated December 4, 2019."

"Your honor, I move exhibit 359 into evidence."

"It may be admitted and published."

"Dr. V, look in the middle of the page. The history of present illness section. It says there is a code for some testing. 22 YO - G1PO (gravitiva and para). What is that?"

"Gravitia is the number of pergnancies, para is the number of children)."

"Yes."

"What does it say next?"

"Has been with current male partner for 9 years. Does admit to cheating at times. Wants to have a pregnancy soon."

Open original post on X

11:30:27 AM ET | Status 2112567126137397653

"Dr. V, what is in that counseling section?"

"Reviewing pre natal vitamins, discussed things to avoid during pregnancy, even 3 months before conception, reviewing folic acid dose, at least 400mg, discussed keeping track of menses to asses when ovulation."

"What does that last sentence mean?"

"It's when ovulation ioccurs during someone's cycle."

Open original post on X

11:31:01 AM ET | Status 2112567268773437844

Basically, ovulation occurs two weeks before a woman gets her period each month.

That is the best time to try for pregnancy.

Open original post on X

11:31:14 AM ET | Status 2112567326772171041

"It's usually up to five days before and up to 1 day after. It is a seven day window."

Open original post on X

11:31:57 AM ET | Status 2112567504816275713

"How do you tell your patients to track their menses?"

"There are a lot of apps on your phone. You put in the dates when your bleeding and it helps you keep track of ovulation. The true way is track it from the first day of your period until the next first day of your period."

Open original post on X

11:41:12 AM ET | Status 2112569834764480596

"What is a perigestational hemorrhage?"

"A perigestational hemorrhage is a collection of blood that forms between the uterine wall and the chorionic membrane (the outer sac surrounding the embryo or fetus) during pregnancy."

Open original post on X

11:42:03 AM ET | Status 2112570047042564178

"What is this?"

"This is more common these days, we see it more because of ultrasounds, it is a small group of cells that leads to bleeding between the fetus and the cell wall. It shows up as spotting. Sometimes it can expand, and, if it does, it can compromise a pregnancy."

Open original post on X

11:45:21 AM ET | Status 2112570876679909389

"I told Sandra this could be an implantation bleed, we should watch it. I told Sandra you may have some cramping or bleeding. Please let us know if you have had either. I also give them some restrictions. Pelvic rest and any extreme physical activity."

"What is pelvic rest?"

"No intercourse of any kind in the vaginal region."

"Is that the same as bed rest?"

"No."

Open original post on X

11:46:01 AM ET | Status 2112571045647618129

"What is this exhibit?"

"It looks like an internal portal discussion about Sandra Birchmore."

"What is a health portal?"

"This is our internal messaging system that we use among providers in the same medical group and also among our patients and providers."

Open original post on X

11:48:20 AM ET | Status 2112571627523158346

"Why do women have spotting during pregnancy?"

"Most often, it is due to the cervix. During pregnancy, the cervix has extra blood. So even something like an ultrasound or pap smear can lead to blood, and certainly something like penetration as well, and that can show up as spotting."

Open original post on X

11:50:16 AM ET | Status 2112572116268679227

"Who wrote this message?"

"Sarah K. She is a midwife in my practice. It was Jan 18, 2021."

"What does it say?"

"Patient called, she is not spotting today. Patient says the father of the baby (FOB) is a twin, her mother is a twin, and her first cousin just had twins. I put in for another ultrasound next week."

Open original post on X

11:51:04 AM ET | Status 2112572314504089726

"What is this message?"

"A message from Sandra Birchmore through the portal on January 20th, 2021."

"What does it say?"

"It is a message to a nurse in my practice saying, 'Hi I thought I would let you know the bleeding did slow down a lot, it's not even close to a period anymore.'"

Open original post on X

11:52:04 AM ET | Status 2112572567097618896

"How did you asses your patients' mental health?"

"I usually screen them multiple times before, during and after the pregnancy."

"Why?"

"It can impact the mom's health, the health of the fetus and the health of the baby as it grows. It is considered an adverse childhood exposure, just like alcohol in some ways, as to how you would consider the impact."

Open original post on X

11:56:38 AM ET | Status 2112573715456094708

Don't call Sandra Birchmore a liar.

She'll get ya' in the end.

Open original post on X

12:00:37 PM ET | Status 2112574717626638531

"What type of drug is Zoloft or sertraline?"

"An SSRI. A selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor?"

"What does that mean?"

"It supports extra serotonin in the brain."

Open original post on X

12:01:25 PM ET | Status 2112574918831559048

"Why did you choose Zoloft?"

"It's commonly used in pregnancy, she had tolerated it before, it is important to treat someone, because under treated mental health can have worse consequences, and long term harm can be caused to the child as well, and we want to avoid that."

Open original post on X

12:03:57 PM ET | Status 2112575559536345462

"For this patient, I wanted to reach a level of 150mg, eventually."

Open original post on X

12:04:42 PM ET | Status 2112575745486934166

"You said Ms. Birchmore scored a 0 on the last question, about self harm?"

"Yes."

"What would you have done if she scored above a 0?"

"I would have had her evaluated right away, at the hospital or at my office, depending on where she was."

Open original post on X

12:08:50 PM ET | Status 2112576785153995221

"What is this exhibit?"

"Another ultrasound report for patient Sandra Birchmore?"

"What is the date?"

"Jan 25, 2021."

"At the bottom it says measurements and calculations, what was the estimat3ed gestational age of Ms. Birchmore's fetus on that day?"

"Seven weeks and 4 days."

Open original post on X

12:09:26 PM ET | Status 2112576938745171982

"Was the fetus 14mm in length?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

12:10:23 PM ET | Status 2112577176470216944

"What if anything does this record reflect about the heart rate of Ms. Birchmore's fetus?"

"The fetal heartbeat was 167 beats per minute."

Long pause.

"What does that mean in terms of her pregnancy?"

"That means the pregnancy continues to be viable."

Open original post on X

12:13:06 PM ET | Status 2112577860548415720

"What does LMP stand for?"

"Last menstrual period. December 3, 2020."

"How did you find when Ms. Birchmore's baby was conceived?"

"We used her menses, which she tracked so well. The date was between December 7 and December 17, of 2020."

"Why a 10 day window?"

"This is because not everyone ovulates on the same day every cycle. She has a range of 3-4 days as to when she could have ovulated."

Open original post on X

12:28:38 PM ET | Status 2112581768737935425

Cross now.

Kim Stevens.

"You were an OBGYN doctor for 8 years?"

"Yes."

"Now you run your own company?"

"Yes, I help new moms."

Open original post on X

12:29:48 PM ET | Status 2112582061886251193

"Tell me the important of obtaining the accurate history of a patient?"

"When I see someone who is pregnant, I rely on the patient to tell me their history to give me a better idea of potential complications. The history of present illness section is so important for that reason."

"Yes, and I gather from your testimony you encourage them to be forthcoming with you to help the patients?"

"Yes, I want to support them."

Open original post on X

12:33:36 PM ET | Status 2112583022012666254

"You were part of the Signature Healthcare branch of operations, yes?"

"Yes."

"So you'd have all Signature Healthcare records in your database even if they proceeded the date you first saw Ms. Birchmore?"

"I believe so, if the records are in the system."

"If those records were accessible, they would be important to consult when you start treating a new patient?"

"Not per se. Can I explain?"

"Please do."

"If someone comes to me, and they've been seen at Signature Medical since they were a kid, we don't go through 30 years of records in our intake appointment. I rely on the patient to report information to me, and then I review the chart with the patient as they bring information to my attention. Then the provider will check with the patient has had any changes since the last time that information was charted."

Open original post on X

12:34:03 PM ET | Status 2112583131102343356

"So their history is tracked in the records, but the adult patients relay information to you and you then intake that information?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

12:35:00 PM ET | Status 2112583371519840469

"Move to admit exhibit 364."

Admitted and published.

Open original post on X

12:36:00 PM ET | Status 2112583623207440507

"At this time Ms. Birchmore was 15 years old, right?"

"Yes."

"And it lists Prozac, 20mg?"

"Yes."

"And that's different than Zolosoft?"

"They are both SSRI's, but they have different names and they are different medications."

Open original post on X

12:55:08 PM ET | Status 2112588440373985762

Big towel stretch.

The defense lawyer is asking about COIVD options for telehealth meetings in 2021.

Open original post on X

12:56:08 PM ET | Status 2112588689037508921

"Seen at Good Sam, some spotting, ultrasound done, Jan 18-19, 2021."

Open original post on X

12:59:23 PM ET | Status 2112589506901680470

"And depression or mental illness are the most common causes of self harm according to the Zoloft black box warning?"

"Objection."

"Overruled."

"Yes."

"And the patient is to call you if they have thoughts of dying after starting Zoloft, or if they have new or worsening anxiety or depression?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

1:00:06 PM ET | Status 2112589687982555176

"Did she call and let you know that on the night of Jan 31st, 2021, into Feb 1st, 2021, she was

texting that she couldn't sleep and didn't feel well?"

"Objection?"

"Basis in a word or two?"

"Foundation, knowledge."

"Well, counsel you can rephrase the question."

Open original post on X

1:00:53 PM ET | Status 2112589885072941561

"Were you aware that during the night of Jan 31 through feb 1st 2021 that she was up during the night and not feeling well?"

"No."

"Your honor, if we may turn to exhibit 365, can we publish?"

"You may."

"What is this?"

"Medical record from Jan 25, 2021."

Open original post on X

1:02:19 PM ET | Status 2112590245703065846

"Now, as you follow up on the hemorrhage, it has measurements listed, right?"

"Yes."

"And it was roughly the same size, maybe some percentage larger?"

"Yes, and I would say when we measuring on ultrasound with such an early pregnancy. We're using a vaginal probe. It's measuring a very tiny space. Even if someone measured it at the same day, on the same time, they won't get the same measurements. This could be an example of that."

Open original post on X

2:03:49 PM ET | Status 2112605723859284449

"Dr, this is the office visit dated Jan 27, 2021, would you like to see the page before we start?"

"Sure."

"Okay here is the date from exhibit 366, and again the expected delivery route/plan notes anxiety and depression, asthma?"

"Yes."

"And the depression score was 17/30?"

"Yes."

"Then starting Sertaline, that is the Zoloft?"

"Yes."

"Who was Ms. Birchmore's therapist?"

"I don't recall."

"Did you speak with that person?"

"Yes, I just don't recall the name."

Open original post on X

2:04:57 PM ET | Status 2112606009130619051

"Jan 21, 2021, 23 year year old, G1 (1 pregnancy) P0 (no live children), at 7 weeks, is that what it says?"

"Yes."

"Does that mean this is her first pregnancy? That "1" is the pregnancy she is in now?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

2:06:50 PM ET | Status 2112606482055434458

"May we be heard on WhisperTech?"

"Yes."

Sidebah!

Open original post on X

2:08:38 PM ET | Status 2112606937007215077

Long sidebah continues. I am resting my towel hands.

Farwell looks forward at judge intently. He has one ear bud in his ear. He shared it with Joanne Daley.

We are done at sidebah!

Open original post on X

2:11:49 PM ET | Status 2112607735845966006

"She's at 8 weeks and 1 day?"

"Yes."

"Is this a telehealth visit?"

"Yes."

"And you discussed the change in dosages?"

"Yes."

"And they were changing recent to Feb 1, weren't they?"

"Yes."

"And if we look at the black box label on Sertaline, sudden changes in medication can cause adverse reactions?"

"Yes."

"And you spent 10 minutes in this visit with Ms. Birchmore?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

2:13:30 PM ET | Status 2112608161181921759

"Did you also do a 5 minute follow up reviewing the documents from that visit?"

"Well, yes, I may have followed up there to do some insurance coding. It's unclear."

"Do you normally follow up with patients once a month?"

"Well, it depends, early in pregnancy we will see them in the office once a month, but they will have ultrasounds or other visits around that. So they are seen more than once a month, and they have a team of care providers, so they have more than 1 visit per month."

Open original post on X

2:15:33 PM ET | Status 2112608677509357610

"You told the FBI you were considering referring Ms. Birchmore to higher level care providers?"

"I said, if there were further concerns with a dose, I would bring in Mass Children Psychiatric Access Program For Moms. It's a division that supports OBGYN's to help moms get that kind of care during their pregnancy. These services are not always accessible, so that would have been my plan if there were further dosage issues."

Open original post on X

2:17:06 PM ET | Status 2112609067491377434

"Actually, allow me to clarify, I would have consulted with someone from that service no matter what, even though I only had questions at that point, but I planned to consult with them going forward for Ms. Birchmore because I wanted to talk with them about the dosage I was using, the side effects, and otherwise. It is very important to get this care right away. That is why we provide this care in my office in consultation with other providers."

"And you had not yet contacted a mental health doctor about Ms. Birchmore?"

"Not at that point yes."

Open original post on X

2:29:21 PM ET | Status 2112612149855916521

"Did Ms. Birchmore communicate with you when she had a question or concern?"

"Yes."

"What, if anything, did Ms. Birchmore communicate with your office regarding side effects?"

"She sent messages about the jitteriness bothering her. And not just once."

"Did she report anything about worsening depression or anxiety after starting the Zoloft?"

"Not that I know of."

"Did she ever report thoughts of self harm to your office?"

"No."

"No further questions."

Open original post on X

2:31:12 PM ET | Status 2112612614421553249

"Recross?"

"Yes, your honor."

"Ms. Birchmore never took that Setraline in 2019 did she?"

"I wouldn't know how to confirm that answer for you."

"Let's look at exhibit 362, it has been previously..."

"It may be published."

"...admitted."

"This says she has not been on medication in the last 9-10 years, and that's an important fact, right?"

"Yes."

"And whether a patient has tolerated a certain medication is important to your treatment?"

"Yes."

"And 2019 is not 10 years before 2021 is it?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

2:32:14 PM ET | Status 2112612876599078955

"You were asked what reports Ms. Birchmore made to you about any cramping, or bleeding or symptoms?"

"Objection."

"Sustained. My memory counsel, and jurors, it is your memory that governs here, but my memory is that it was about sleep."

"You only knew what Ms. Birchmore reported to you, isn't that right?"

"Yes."

"Nothing further."

"You are excused."

Open original post on X

Supplemental Reporting[1]

Notes by Kristina Rex

Direct examination

The notes identify Dr. Priyanka Venkataraman as Sandra Birchmore's former obstetrician-gynecologist. She said she had practiced as an attending OB/GYN for eight years and was no longer practicing as a physician at the time of trial.

The notes describe a December 16, 2020 record recording Sandra's reported reproductive and relationship history, and a December 28 quantitative hCG value of 99. They record an hCG value of 9,954 on January 8, 2021.

An ultrasound on January 18 showed an intrauterine pregnancy, fetal cardiac activity, and an estimated gestational age of six weeks and four days. The notes describe a perigestational hemorrhage and counseling about monitoring bleeding and pelvic rest.

Sandra reportedly contacted the practice about spotting after intercourse, without pain or cramping. The notes describe a follow-up discussion and repeat ultrasound planned for the following week.

A January 25 ultrasound reportedly showed a continuing viable pregnancy at seven weeks and four days. The notes include an estimated due date of September 9, 2021 and a conception window of December 7–17, 2020.

The physician described prenatal mental-health screening, including the Edinburgh questionnaire and its question about thoughts of self-harm. The notes report that on January 21 Sandra scored 17/30 overall and zero on the self-harm item. The witness described a nonzero answer on that item as requiring immediate assessment.

The notes report discussion of mental-health symptoms and initiation of sertraline (Zoloft), beginning at 50 mg with a planned increase. Sandra later reported jitteriness or shakiness, and the clinician reduced the dose.

The witness said she was surprised to learn Sandra's death had been classified as suicide. The notes record her saying there was no indication of destabilization at the January 29 contact and no report of suicidal thoughts to the obstetrics practice.

Cross-examination

The defense questioned distinctions between Zoloft and Prozac, prior treatment, historical reports of self-harm, anxiety, earlier medical events, family circumstances, and Sandra's reported reproductive history.

The physician described Sandra's pregnancy as high-risk for several reasons and requested clarification when asked whether she was a "complex" patient.

Cross addressed whether the practice knew Sandra was awake and texting during the night of January 31 into February 1. The notes record that the witness was not aware of those messages and did not receive that information from Sandra.

The afternoon notes record questions about a January 21 record denying bipolar disorder or manic episodes, SSRI prescribing considerations, frequency of appointments, and what the witness would have wanted to know about a historical suicide attempt. Multiple objections and sustained objections are noted.

The notes recount questioning about a journal entry from approximately four years earlier describing conflict with Sandra's aunt and a reported attempt to overdose. The witness reportedly said she would have asked about current self-harm thoughts and referred Sandra for emergency assessment if appropriate.

Redirect and recross

On redirect, the physician said her treatment decisions were based on Sandra's presentation and answers at the time, not solely on a journal entry from years earlier. She discussed sleep disruption during pregnancy and noted that sertraline can be associated with either insomnia or drowsiness.

The notes record that Sandra contacted the office about jitteriness more than once but did not report suicidal ideation to the practice.

On recross, the witness said she did not know whether Sandra had actually taken sertraline in 2019 and that she could only know what Sandra reported, not what Sandra had not disclosed.

Source posts

Kristina Rex — October 20 morning notes, thread 1

Kristina Rex — October 20 morning notes, thread 2

Kristina Rex — October 20 morning notes, thread 3

Kristina Rex — October 20 afternoon notes, thread 1

Kristina Rex — October 20 afternoon notes, thread 2

James Fitton - Stoughton Police dispatcher

2:32:25 PM ET | Status 2112612919636852840

"The Government calls James Fitton!"

Open original post on X

2:32:45 PM ET | Status 2112613004529500464

The Dispatcher has taken the stand!

The $248 extortion!

It begins!

Open original post on X

2:33:22 PM ET | Status 2112613159928549394

He is a tall white man.

He has a long red beard.

I shall call him red beard.

Open original post on X

2:34:09 PM ET | Status 2112613356456518080

"Are you employed?"

"Yes, I work at the Town hall in the building department for the town of Stoughton since December of 2022."

"How were you employed before that?"

"I worked as a public safety dispt6acher at the Stoughton police Department?'

"When did you start there?"

"Feb, 2018."

Open original post on X

2:34:37 PM ET | Status 2112613476652970207

"What did you do there?"

"I took dispatch calls and assisted walk ins in the lobby?"

"Are there two lines, a 911 line and a business line?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

2:36:16 PM ET | Status 2112613888747344030

"Did you come to know someone named Matthew Farwell?"

"Yes, he was a Stoughton Police Detective."

"Do you see Mr. Farwell here today?"

"Yes, he has a green and blue shit jacket on and a blue tie."

"May the record reflect that the witness has identified the defendant?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

2:37:16 PM ET | Status 2112614141504495784

"What was your relationship with Matthew Farwell in Jan of 2021?"

"Co workers."

"From March of 2020 until Feb of 2021 was the pandemic ongoing?"

"Yes."

"Did the Stoughton DP have protocols as a result?"

"Yes, M95 masks."

"What observations did you make of the defendant wearing masks at the Stoughton PD?"

"I don't recall him wearing a mask."

Open original post on X

2:39:10 PM ET | Status 2112614620284498023

"Turning your attention to Jan 20, 2021, were you working that day?"

"Yes."

"Did a call come in at 7:40:45PM?"

"Yes."

"Do you recall this call coming in that day?"

"Not specifically that day."

"Do you recall coming in at that time?"

"Yes."

"And was the caller a female or male?"

"Female?"

"What does the row labeled conference in this document mean?"

"It means other people are listening in."

"How do you put someone on hold?"

"You put them on hold."

Open original post on X

2:40:59 PM ET | Status 2112615075307483444

"It was a female caller calling to speak to Matthew Farwell. She wanted to talk about a relationship between her friend and Matthew Farwell."

"What did you do when you recieved that call?"

"I took down the caller's information, I don't remember if I wrote it down on a notepad or a scrap piece of paper, and then I proceeded to....ummm...take the information and then I went to talk to Detective Farwell at some point about the call.""

"Where did you do that?"

"In the detectives office."

"Who else was there?"

"No one."

"What did you tell him?"

"The caller and the nature of the call. Then he got audibly and visibly upset with me. His facial expression changed to anger and then he told me, umm, including expletives to never talk about this again and to never tell anyone again."

Open original post on X

2:44:13 PM ET | Status 2112615888666972180

"You said that included expletives?":

"Yes."

"Was that angry reaction different than he had acted in the past?"

"Yes."

"What, if anything, did you do after that?"

"I returned to dispatch and reiterated to the desk officer, Officer Ronald "R.J." Letendr (spelling) was there, he told me to forget about the call."

"You said you had taken down what the caller had said on a note paper or scrap paper What did you do with that paper?"

"It got thrown out with my notes."

Open original post on X

2:45:12 PM ET | Status 2112616137125212518

The defendant texted Fitton;

"Let's never discuss that again. That girl is fucking insane. Both of them are."

"Nothing further."

Cross.

Open original post on X

2:45:38 PM ET | Status 2112616246432895120

"What, if anything, did you do after that?"

"I returned to dispatch and reiterated to the desk officer, Officer Ronald "R.J." Letendr (spelling) was there, he told me to forget about the call."

"You said you had taken down what the caller had said on a note paper or scrap paper What did you do with that paper?"

"It got thrown out with my notes."

OH MY GOD!

Open original post on X

2:52:44 PM ET | Status 2112618032098881626

Oh this is wild.

Wild I tell you!

"You said Officer Ronald "R.J." Letendre was told about the call?"

"Yes."

"Did he listen to the call?"

"He was in the dispatch room when the call came in."

Open original post on X

Post-testimony / courthouse foyer

3:11:50 PM ET | Status 2112622842571362698

@MicheleMcPhee Michelle and I are literally standing in the middle of the court foyer waiting for Fitton.

The cameramen have every exit covered.

We have a second layer involving @ameliarstern1 at the door.

Open original post on X

3:13:27 PM ET | Status 2112623246445301785

@MicheleMcPhee @ameliarstern1 He is on the move.

Open original post on X

3:17:55 PM ET | Status 2112624373496451358

Here is the moment James Fitton left Moakley after today's bombshell Sandra Birchmore and Matthew Farwell testimony! https://t.co/wme358onBy

Open original post on X

Additional testimony - witness identity not restated

Editorial heading only: these posts resume testimony after the courthouse-foyer interval, but the witness's identity is not restated in the retrieved posts. No identity is inferred here.

3:27:26 PM ET | Status 2112626767987175799

"On Jan 29th, 2021, Ms. Birchmore asked if you were working the 13th of February?"

"Yes."

"Will you take pictures with me after?"

"Yes."

"What did she want to take pictures for?"

"A baby announcement."

Open original post on X

3:28:14 PM ET | Status 2112626965912142036

The exhibit is adorable.

It is a Winnie The Pooh design.

It is adorable.

We are very much enamored in the press room.

"Nothing further."

"Cross?"

"Yes."

Open original post on X

End-of-day proceedings and adjournment

3:34:51 PM ET | Status 2112628632908607579

Jason Pickard Thursday!

Open original post on X

3:41:04 PM ET | Status 2112630196893618509

"Counsel, I know there was something unforeseen today, and I have my event at 4PM today downstairs, but I want to make sure dead time with the jury is limited. They have been very prompt. When we turn to the defense case, that applies the same as it applies now to the government. I would ask the government to keep updating me as to where you are so the defense knows to be ready with their witnesses."

"Counsel, there was one matter that I needed to return to because we didn't have time to do it yesterday. I did mention there would be parameters around the affairs. So, first of all, I see the special relevance as related to this issue of concealment, deletion of texts, wearing masks or not, or otherwise being convert about the relationships. I am not going to allow the government to argue that Mr. Farwell is somehow guilty because he did not engage in the same criminal conduct with the other individuals, which I am taking to be understood, Ms Cummings?"

"Yes, your honor."

"Your existence and duration of the relationship, the fact that the partcipants were adults and questions about what i would call concealment. SI there something else the government was seeking here counsel?"

"The final point would just be the proximity to the defendant's wife, relationship wise or physical proximity."

Open original post on X

3:41:47 PM ET | Status 2112630376674083274

Did Matthew Farwell sleep with his wife's sister in his wife's presence?!?!?!

Oh dear God, who are the 3 women the DOJ is now allowed to call for the purposes of putting Matt Farwell's affairs on full display during the Sandra Birchmore trial?

Open original post on X

3:43:16 PM ET | Status 2112630751829041491

Defense says,

"Would the court consider a limiting instruction?"

"I could say something like, this is the kind of evidence that can only be considered for one purpose. This is offered as bearing on intent and motive."

"Or, honestly, something that your honor said it is not offered to prove that Mr. Farwell is culpable here."

"Well, it bears on one of the elements they have to find, so I won't say it as broadly as that because I don't think that what you said is actually true."

"Anything else, counsel."

"No, your honor."

"Okay, see you in the morning!"

We are done!!!! God bless you all! What a day!

Open original post on X

Source & Editorial Notes

[1] Supplemental Reporting: Material under this heading is reconstructed from identified contemporaneous courtroom reporting or notes by a source other than Grant Smith Ellis.

- Completeness audit: the corrected report contains 142 Grant-authored reporting posts. It includes every Grant-authored post in the main October 20 court-reporting conversation through adjournment, plus the 5:43 AM pre-court note, except the 10:59 AM fundraising solicitation; that support information is represented in the dedicated support section.
- Primary-source limitation: factual courtroom narrative in this reconstruction is limited to posts authored by @GrantSmithEllis. Other users' posts are not used as report content.
- Retrieval: this corrected final version was rebuilt from the union of the uploaded October 20 x-cli morning, midday, afternoon, interim, and final timeline/thread snapshots. Records were deduplicated by X status ID and checked against the complete October 20 reporting conversation.
- Replies: Grant-authored replies are retained when they continue, expand, or document the courtroom reporting. Unrelated conversational replies, retweets, social chatter, and obvious non-reporting material are excluded.
- Duplicate consolidation: standalone quote-posts that merely duplicate text already preserved from the live thread are not repeated. Standalone Grant posts that add materially distinct courtroom reporting or contemporaneous commentary are retained.
- Witness headings are editorial organization only. The continued morning witness is not named in the retrieved October 20 posts used here, so this report does not infer an identity. The later medical witness is labeled only as 'Dr. V,' matching Grant's own wording.

- Original wording: Grant's retrieved wording, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and apparent typographical errors are preserved rather than silently corrected.
- Intervals with no Grant-authored post are not reconstructed. Silence in the retrieved corpus is not treated as proof that no courtroom activity occurred.
- Exhibits: under the current court-order breakpoint, this report does not attempt to acquire, reconcile, classify, or embed newly referenced exhibits. Grant's textual descriptions and exhibit references remain part of his reproduced reporting.
- Final cutoff: the final included courtroom-reporting post is Grant's 3:43:16 PM ET post, which ends with the court's adjournment and Grant's statement, "We are done!!!!"

Day-specific support note: At 6:26 AM ET, Grant reported that Cash App donations were being returned and that he was switching to Venmo and PayPal for now. Accordingly, Cash App is omitted from this final support section.

Support the reporting

This archive is made possible by Grant Smith Ellis's excellent on-the-ground courtroom reporting and his permission to use that work in this project. If you've found the reporting useful and would like to support his work directly:

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All donations go directly to Grant Smith Ellis; this archive is unaffiliated with and receives no proceeds from them.