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Following is the record of an Administrative Interview conducted by Professional Conduct Northern Bureau Law Enforcement Consultant Raymond Bechler on October 15, 2025, with Richard Adams, who is the subject of this investigation. The interview was recorded and is being maintained by the Professional Conduct Northern Bureau. The recording will serve as the true and accurate record of the statements made by Richard Adams. This transcript was AI generated by Axon software and reviewed for accuracy by Division Analyst II Tiana Yen.

[02:56]
Raymond Bechler: *<silence>*

[05:39]
Jason Ewert: *Hey, Mr.* Bechler*, how you doing?*

[05:42]
Raymond Bechler: *Good. How are you, sir?*

[05:43]
Jason Ewert: *You* h*ear me okay? I'm doing well, thanks for asking.*

[05:46]
Raymond Bechler: *Good. I don't see, uh, I don't see Richard on.*

[05:50]
Jason Ewert: *Okay. It says he's getting a message that says he's too early.*

[05:54]
Raymond Bechler: *Oh.*

[05:55]
Jason Ewert: *Should I just tell him to try to log back on?*

[05:57]
Raymond Bechler: *Yeah. Try try him to go one more time. Yeah.*

[06:41]
Jason Ewert: *He says he is trying right now.*

[06:44]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay, good. Thanks. There he goes. Richard, are you there?*

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[07:12]
Richard Adams: *Can you hear me?*

[07:13]
Raymond Bechler: *Yeah, I can hear you. Richard. How are you?*

[07:15]
Richard Adams: *Good, sir. How are you?*

[07:21]
Jason Ewert: *You're cutting, cutting in a little bit. You're cutting out a little bit. There. There you go.*

[07:25]
Richard Adams: *Can you hear me now?*

[07:26]
Jason Ewert: *Yep*.

[07:28]
Raymond Bechler: *Much better.*

[07:29]
Richard Adams: *Alright.*

[07:30]
Raymond Bechler: *Alright. Well good. Well, thank you for, uh, joining me today, this afternoon. Um, I, I do wanna, uh, Jason, I and Richard, I think, um, I wanna make clear about what the process is. I don't know if I said it exactly right. We did, I did present this case to our executive staff. They wanted me to go back and interview you to make sure, um, we're clear on certain things. Um, and then I'll go back to our executive staff with the attorneys, and then I will represent that. Then I, once they decide whether to move the case forward, um, or if they decide to close it out, I'll let you know either way. But, um, once you receive your, if, if they do de decide to move this case forward, um, we will send out a letter of determination that starts that 30 day window to whether you can either surrender or you can appeal to the board. And so I, I'm not sure, Jason, when we talked specifically, I might have not been as clear or was that, or was that your interpretation?*

[08:31]

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Jason Ewert: *Well, so that was the question that we kind of had as if like, you guys have already decided to move forward with the case, why are we doing another interview? Um, but he wants to be as transparent as participative as possible. Um*

[08:45]
Raymond Bechler: R*ight.*

[08:45]
Jason Ewert: *So it makes more sense that this is essentially still part of the post investigation and it's gonna go back for a secondary review with your executive team to decide whether or not*

[08:55]
Raymond Bechler: *Correct.*

[08:55]
Jason Ewert: *They're gonna recommend it. So at this point, my understanding is you are not recommending* d*ecertification, you are still in the investigations phase.*

[09:03]
Raymond Bechler: *That is true, yes. And I think I might've misrepresented that. I might've just made it sound like it was all done, but no, we want to take or, uh, what, uh, the outcome of this interview to the post executive staff and then they'll make that determination, find, find, and then they'll either send out a clo, we will send out a closure if they wanna close it or if they want to continue. Um, then you'll get a letter of determination.*

[09:24]
Jason Ewert: *Okay.*

[09:25]
Raymond Bechler: *Is that* clear?

[09:25]
Jason Ewert: *Do you have any questions about any of that, Richard?*

[09:28]
Richard Adams: *No, that makes, that makes more sense. I appreciate it.*

[09:31]

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Raymond Bechler: *Okay. All right. Well, before we get started, also, I want to just tell you a little bit about what we're, just the interview process of what I, what I'm doing here today, Richard, is, uh, I'm just gonna, I'm gonna go over just a couple things about what, uh, what was said to San Diego, sheriff, what was said to the San Bernardino County Sheriff with you had, uh, your conversation and then, uh, uh, about your IA with the CHP guys. And so I have about 20 to 30 questions for you. It's only gonna be about 45 minutes long. Um, I'm not gonna be at all as long as your CHP interview was. So, uh, just to kind of set the stage a little bit of what to expect and, um, and just know that it's not gonna be an all day process unless, of course, you know, some questions veer off. But that's about essentially where we're, what we're looking at. Does that make sense?*

[10:14]
Richard Adams: *Okay. Yes, sir.*

[10:15]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. And, and, uh, the thing about these interviews, um, before I actually start too, is that it gets convoluted, Jason. Um, if there's questions that seem a little bit, um, of course you're gonna jump in and, and, and kind of seek some clarity, but these are hard for us as, uh, law enforcement consultants because we're going over the heels of what has already been said and told with the, on the criminal side, Richard, then what you said on the administrative side, and now we're coming back over the third of that to, uh, talk about interviews and trying to put all this together for this licensing investigation is what we're doing here today. Okay. So some of the questions may seem like, okay, this seems a little bit clunky and out of order or whatnot, but just bear with me. Um, uh, there's just some certain questions that I wanna get to, but I also want a little summary up at the front.*

[11:02]
Raymond Bechler: *So at the beginning of our, uh, interview, it's gonna seem like, wow, he's doing all the talking. I'm not doing anything. It's just 'cause I wanna summarize some of the stuff that's already been said. And of course, if there's anything you have a question about, jump in there and say Okay, time out. Okay.*

[11:16]
Richard Adams: *Yes, sir.*

[11:16]
Raymond Bechler: *So don't be afraid to stop. This is like, yeah, the interview's being tape recorded, but it's more of an informal thing. I'm just, I'm just trying to get to the bottom of, of what the story is and, um, and get the information that I need. Okay?*

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[11:28]
Richard Adams: *Oh, yes, sir.*

[11:30]
Raymond Bechler: *All right. Richard, any questions before we start?*

[11:33]
Richard Adams: *No, not at this moment, no.*

[11:35]
Raymond Bechler: *Jason, anything?*

[11:37]
Jason Ewert: *No, sir.*

[11:38]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. All right. Okay. Alright, Richard, this submit,*

[11:45]
Jason Ewert: U*h, If you're, if you are audio recording it, will you share a, a ver recording of that with me at the end of this?*

[11:51]
Raymond Bechler: *Uh, yes. If I can get to it technologically, uh, if not shortly thereafter, Jason. Okay.*

[11:58]
Jason Ewert: *Okay. Yeah, no problem on the timing. I just needed to figure out if I need to record it myself as well.*

[12:03]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay, great. Alright, Richard, this, uh, administrative interview is being conducted by the com* P*rofessional* C*onduct Northern Bureau on 10 or on October the 15th of this year. Uh, with me today is Richard Adams, who's the subject of this investigation. This interview is being recorded and a true and correct copy of this recording is being maintained by the Professional Conduct Northern Bureau. The recording reflects all relevant statements and conversations occurring during the interview. This interview is also trans, will be transcribed by our teams software. This transcript was prepared by law enforcement consultant Ray Bec*hl*er. That's me,* P*rofessional Conduct Northern Bureau. This interview is being conducted by cell phone and through teams and present is myself,* L*aw Enforcement Con* C*onsultant*

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Raymond Bechler, P*rofessional Conduct Northern Bureau. I am the primary and sole investigator of this case. Also with me is Richard Adams, uh, the California Highway Patrol, who is the subject officer. And also with me is, uh, his representative attorney Jason Ewert from the law firm of Cole and Huber. Is that right, Jason? Yes, sir. Uh, he's a representative for, uh, Richard Adams. Uh, each person present is required to identify themselves on tape by giving his or her first name and or title, our first and last name and title. Go ahead. Richard.*

[13:29]
Jason Ewert: *Uh, Jason, Jason Ewert, uh, representative of Mr. Adams, uh, partner at Cole Huber.*

[13:37]
Richard Adams: *And Richard Daniel Adams. Um, interviewee.*

[13:42]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. The date is, uh, October the 15th at, um, 2025. The time is approximately* 1:*11 in the afternoon. This is an administrative inquiry concerning former officer Richard Adams of the California Highway Patrol. Richard, you're being questioned as part of an official* POST Pe*ace Officer* S*tandards and Training Accountability Division investigation. You are hereby directed to answer all questions honestly and completely. Your refusal to answer or any type of evasion, deception, dishonesty, or lack of cooperation on your part could constitute serious misconduct and result in further actions concerning your certification up to and including revocation of your post certification. Neither your statements nor any information or evidence which is gained by reason of such statements can be used against you in any criminal proceedings. No other promise will be made as an inducement for the answer to any of your, uh, questions or any of the questions.*

[14:42]
Raymond Bechler: *This recorded interview is authorized by Commission Regulation Title 11, section 1206, paren a paren four of the California Code of Regulations. You may record any portion of this interview or have access to the Peace Officer* S*tandards and* T*rainings recording. If any further proceedings are contemplated or prior to any subsequent interviews, Richard P*OST *is not your employment agency. Therefore, this interview is not subject to the Peace Officer's Bill of Rights Act, including, but not limited to sections 33 0 3 through 33 12 of the California Government Code. Uh, Mr. E*wert*, although you're representative are you as a representative, are present to assist Richard to, uh, Richard Adams Post is interested in hearing the officer's account of the matter under investigation, but you may participate during the interview when appropriate, you'll be given an opportunity to make any clarifying statements and ask*

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clarifying questions. If you need to take a break or use the restroom to attend any personal response or necessities, you may do so at any time. To maintain the integrity of this investigation, you must not discuss the questions asked and the facts discussed in this interview with anyone other than your legal counsel or is otherwise required by law. Do you both understand and agree to the pro to proceed in accordance with these instructions?

[16:04]
Jason Ewert: *Yes.*

[16:05]
Richard Adams: *Yes, sir.*

[16:12]
Raymond Bechler: *Alright. Richard, what was your relationship with* [Victim]*?*

[16:19]
Richard Adams: *Uh, she's, uh, fiance.*

[16:23]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. She was, or she is*?

[16:25]
Richard Adams: *Uh, is*.

[16:26]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. She is okay. On February the 25th of 2024, deputies from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department contacted* [Victim] *at the Hampton Inn in Poway, California. Um, regarding a domestic violence incident call,* [Victim] *disclosed to them that you physically assaulted her on several past occasions that occurred at your residence in [Location]. That's in San Bernardino County. I'd like to go over, uh, each of these incidents. As she reported, uh, her contact with the San Diego Sheriff's Department, deputies were, uh, captured on their body-worn cameras. Are you, are you aware of that?*

[17:04]
Richard Adams: *I'm aware of that, yes.*

[17:06]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. So, uh, the four incidents that she, um, described or outlined, uh, to the deputies was on February the 10th of 2024. Uh, she's reporting that you were*

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upset that she came home from work late, and that you had chased her around the house, accusing her of things. You grabbed her by the wrist and she was holding a glass, which dropped and shattered on the floor. You accused her of making a mess, grabbed her by the neck, threw her to the ground, and hit her twice in the face with a closed fist. You further told her to stop acting like a victim. She also reported on July the 13th, uh, 2023, at approximately 9:00 PM you discovered that she had been texting an ex-boyfriend. An argument ensued and you picked her up, threw her to the ground, dragged her around the house by her ankles and threw her out of the front door. This incident was captured on your front door camera system. Further, she reported on in June, either 2022 or 2023, likely it was June of 2022. She reported you pinned her against the wall with your forearm against her windpipe, and she was unable to breathe as a re and as a result, blood vessels popped in both her eyes.

[18:20]
Raymond Bechler: *She also reported on Mother's Day of 2023, you picked* [Victim] *up out of a chair and threw her into a brick fireplace.* [Victim]*'s 15-year-old daughter witnessed what you, um, you being physical with her, and she had called nine one with her mom and she called 9 1 1 upon a police arrival* (Unintelligible) *was dishonest with deputies claiming nothing happened, but* [Victim] *said she covered up for you so that you wouldn't get into trouble. So that's what was reported by the San Diego to, from her to the San Diego Sheriff's Department on February 25th. Do you have any comments right now just regarding that particular, we're gonna get into the details of each of those incidents?*

[19:03]
Richard Adams: *No, I mean, I've, I've seen the reports and I've seen the videos, so it's okay. I'm, I'm familiar with what you're talking about.*

[19:11]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. I just wanna make sure this is getting recorded. Um, yeah, I'm gonna kind of pause for the investigation right now. Jason, uh, or Richard, do either of you know for sure how this is, um, being recorded from the teams?*

[19:38]
Jason Ewert: *Uh, it says recording on the top left of my screen and it has a*

[19:43]
Raymond Bechler: O*kay*

[19:43]
Jason Ewert: I*ndication of 19 minutes and 15 seconds. Um.*

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[19:46]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[19:47]
Jason Ewert: *I use Zoom through our firm and when it, sometimes when it says it's recording, it really means AI is like transcribing it. So I don't know enough about teams to confirm that that's an audio recording or not.*

[20:02]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. We're just gonna assume, 'cause mine says recording and transcription automatically started. Okay.*

[20:09]
Jason Ewert: *Yeah, that's what mine says when I hover over it as well.*

[20:13]
Richard Adams: *I have 13 minutes here. That's probably when I entered.*

[20:18]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. We're just gonna go with it. Sorry guys. Technology is not my big thing. No problem. Okay, so we're gonna move on to, um, Richard, um, with the San Diego or with San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office. Okay. So due to the above incidents occurring in the county of, of San Bernardino, San Diego Sheriff's contacted and referred this ca their case over to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. On March the 18th you were con of 2023. Oh, that's not right. That's of 2024. You were contacted and interviewed by the San Bernardino detectives regarding the domestic violence reported by* [Victim]*. They contacted you at your residence. Do you recall this?*

[21:04]
Richard Adams: *Uh, yes sir.*

[21:05]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Their interview was captured on their body-worn cameras as well. The detectives focused their on the home video footage provided by the San Diego or provided to the San Diego County Sheriff's Department by* [Victim] *and asked you what happened. And Richard, when the San Bernardino County detectives came to your house to talk to you about a domestic violence incident involving* [Victim]*, you told the detectives that you were not aware initially, you told 'em that you were not aware of the video. When the detectives asked you, was this a true statement?*

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[21:38]
Richard Adams: *I was aware.*

[21:39]
Raymond Bechler: *Were* y*ou aware that the video*?

[21:40]
Richard Adams: *I was aware of a video she had told me about a video. Uh, I wasn't aware what was on the video.*

[21:47]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. You also mentioned to the detectives that you'd never been physical with* [Victim] *while arguing. Right. You did mention that, that you had never been physical with her while you were arguing, or that roleplaying never took place outside of your residence. Is that true?*

[22:04]
Richard Adams: *I believe I said the backyard. It does, it did go to the backyard. I just had never seen it.*

[22:10]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[22:10]
Richard Adams: *I'd never been in the front yard.*

[22:12]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. So, um, so what about in the front yard or a front porch area? Did it ever typically roll out that way?*

[22:23]
Richard Adams: *So that particular night after I, after I viewed, this is an appropriate time for me to go down that expl. Okay. So that particular night, um, her ex-husband at the time had the kids. He had been gone to Korea for six months, deployed. He was a Marine, he came back, he was in San Diego. He had the kids for that month. Um, yeah, this was now a year or or nine months when I was interviewed by the detectives. It was the event from nine months prior, so I hadn't really thought much of it. Um, but basically what we were into was a role playing, like a sexual role playing where* [Victim] *was late on the rent. And it was the first, I think it, I think it was like two weeks in, by, by the time that that video was recorded, it was like 13th I wanna say. And so she was two weeks late in rent and, you know, rent was due. And the way that she would pay rent*



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sometimes was through sexual favors and role playing. So, um, that night, that's what was happening. Uh, it's embarrassing to talk about.

[23:45]
Raymond Bechler: *Hey, Richard. Yeah, that's good because we'll get into that a little bit more when we get to the C-H-P-I-A interview. So, um, I appreciate that. But, um, I guess what I'm mostly concerned about is that, um, when, when they asked you about the video, they showed it to you and then initially, um, you said, I'm not sure you kept saying that you weren't sure it looked like it was a grainy photo or whatnot. But, um, I'm kind of wondering why it is that you would say that you weren't sure. Um, as opposed to quickly saying, yeah, I know about that video, it happened on our ring camera, all those kinds of things. You acted like you weren't sure about what happened on that video. You weren't even sure what you were looking at.*

[24:27]
Jason Ewert: *Mr.* Bechler*, I may be wrong, but I think he was trying to lay the context for that answer. So can he just finish out what, where he was going? I just don't wanna knock him off track on that.*

[24:37]
Raymond Bechler: *Well, sure, yeah, we're gonna get back into a little bit more. I just didn't want him, if you wanna do that, Richard, that's totally fine. But, uh, get you back to that later.*

[24:44]
Richard Adams: *That's fine. I can, whatever works for you. But, um, yeah, so they basically, they called me up, said they wanted to talk to me, so I didn't do anything wrong, so I didn't get a lawyer or anything like that. So I went out there and talked to him, talked to him, um*.

[25:00]
Raymond Bechler: S*ure.*

[25:00]
Richard Adams: *In the front of my garage with the kids in the house. U*m.

[25:04]
Raymond Bechler: S*ure.*

[25:04]

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Richard Adams: *And they, you know, there was an older detective there that I've worked with that reminded me of my mom. There was a other older gentleman that I've never seen before that was a sergeant there. And then there was a, a very like young detective, uh, asking me about a video that involved sexual role playing with my fiance. So it, it kind of threw me off. I I was trying to not go down the road of this being a sexual thing in front of them. And looking back now, I prob you probably one I'm, I probably should have been like, Hey, this was sexual playing. Um, and that, and that's what was going on, you know?*

[25:49]
Raymond Bechler: *Yeah.*

[25:49]
Richard Adams: *We did mention it. We did mention the sexual role playing in that conversation. I remember talking to detective about it. We just didn't go into the details. When he showed me the video, the video was on a small little screen, um, didn't have audio, I couldn't hear anything on it*.

[26:03]
Raymond Bechler: *mm-hmm <affirmative>.*

[26:04]
Richard Adams: *And it was in the middle of the, you're in the desert with the sun beaten down, you can barely make out anything. So it was very, that was very difficult before the AI thing. And I know we're probably gonna go down this road, but before the ai ai investigation actually sat down with, uh, Mr. E*wert *and we watched it on a big screen, and then I could actually see what was going on.*

[26:24]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. All right. So, um, but it seems like I, if you're being asked a question about this, I, I get that you're feeling uncomfortable about talking about your, you know, whatever sexual role playing, uh, is going on in you, but, or with you. But it seems like you would be a little bit more, they're asking you about a criminal case. Like you would be more emphasizing the fact that, wait a minute, I know, okay, this is, uh, this is all roleplaying stuff and just kind of be a little bit more emphatic. It seemed like you were unsure, you didn't want to talk to them. You, it appeared that you didn't wanna come forward. Now I hear you saying you were uncomfortable, but I guess I'm more curious, why would you not when these criminal investigators, whether they look like your mom or, uh, you know, a 20-year-old kid or whoever, um, and could just say exactly what it is.*

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[27:16]
Richard Adams: *Right, yeah. And the, the whole investigation was, was very clunky. I was never talked to in San Diego. I was in the hotel waiting to be contacted. I, I disen, I disengaged with her because she was on nine one. She was calling the police, which she did to resolve verbal arguments all the time, or, or off very often. And she's done this in the past relationships she's had too. Um, so I disengaged expecting them to come talk to me and then seeing, you know, what was said, what, what is it that she's, what's the allegations that are being made now? Uh, they never did. And then it took, I think it was like four months later and I had not been, uh, arrested or arraigned or charged or anything like that. Um, a lot of that is my own ignorance being a highway patrol officer. Like, you know, sir, we don't do a lot of domestic violence investigations. I, I don't, I didn't know what I was doing. I, I was more, they didn't say you're, you know, uh, you're a, a suspect in a crime. They just asked for an explanation of, of this video and then it, it lasted maybe five minutes and then they were gone.*

[28:31]
Raymond Bechler: *Yeah.*

[28:31]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. So let's, let's just move on then. Um, okay, so you were next, you were interviewed by, um, California Highway Patrol Internal Affairs Investigators on June the 20th of 2024. Uh, you were interviewed, um, and they asked you if law enforcement ever been called to your residence and you replied Yes. And you gave a couple different incidents. Uh, can you tell me about, uh, the June, 2022 incident? Um, following it was a regarding, well, I'll just let you talk. Uh, it was, you were talked about an incident where law enforcement arrived in June of 2022.*

[29:13]
Richard Adams: *Uh, yes. So that was three, three years ago now. But, um, yeah, from what I can recall, it was a argument we had. And she called 9 1 1, the deputies responded, um, found that no crimes coming.*

[29:34]
Raymond Bechler: *And Richard, Richard, I'm sorry. This is, this is the incident. Uh, you were just got back from the Pentagon?*

[29:38]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[29:39]

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Raymond Bechler: *Right. Okay. Alright. Just wanna make it so it's a little bit more refreshed in your mind.*

[29:43]
Richard Adams: *Yeah, lemme just, lemme just look at my notes real quick and see. I'm sorry, you said it was 2022?*

[30:02]
Raymond Bechler: *Yep. I just have a little summary if it's gonna refresh your memory.*

[30:28]
Richard Adams: *Oh, yeah. I can't seem to find that.*

[30:31]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Basically, uh, San Bernardino County deputies arri, uh, responded to your house following a nine one one call by* [Victim]. *Um, she mentions that you had, you had just returned from the Pentagon. You had said you went through her phone, you were arguing over infidelity. Um, this was the first time police officers or deputy sheriffs were called to your house.*

[30:53]
Richard Adams: *Okay.*

[30:53]
Raymond Bechler: *You told them it didn't get physical, there were no threats or Right. Anyway, go ahead. Does that remember or refresh your memory?*

[30:59]
Richard Adams: *Yes, sir. So just to lay the context, I don't want to go down rabbit holes, but about six months prior, so about six months prior to me leaving for the Pentagon, for the Covid cell, uh, she moved in with her two children, moved into my home. Um, we had been together for about two years, I believe, two, three years at that point already. So she moved in, I got ordered to the Pentagon for the Covid crisis team. So I left and went to the Pentagon. During that time, uh, she went onto my computer and found photos of old girlfriends. So this enraged her and she was very, very upset about it. And, um, that kind of laid the foundation for, you know, not taking care of my property, uh, not, not working as a team basically. And then when I got back, it kind of came to a head with an argument, um, about that.*

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Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. So, um, San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputies responded out there.*

[32:11]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[32:11]
Raymond Bechler: *And, um, you had told your sup, go ahead.*

[32:16]
Richard Adams: *Yeah, they, they took, they took me outside. I mean, I went outside, um, and she called, I went outside and she stayed inside the house. Deputies made contact with her, got her statements, and then they got my statements. There was nothing physical that happened. There was no physical injuries on either of us. Um, like I said, she calls 9 1 1 to diffuse the situation. I, it's from her past or whatever she's learned. Um, you know, she has a history of domestic violence in her years ago. Um, and she knows she's been a, I believe, a domestic violence or sexual assault counselor in the past. And this is her way of, I guess, diffusing this argument we were having. I did contact my supervisor, um, when this happened. I, I contacted my supervisor,* Sergeant Randy O'Brien *, on every, uh, incident that happened. And I was advised that, uh, just you have the employment people that can help you, like employment counseling. There's an acronym for it. I forget what it's now, but basically just call them for help.*

[33:28]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[33:29]
Richard Adams: *But no. Yeah.*

[33:30]
Raymond Bechler: *Um, okay. So, um, according to* [Victim]*, when she told the San Diego Deputy Sheriffs out at the Hampton Inn on, I was on their body-worn camera footage, um, she had mentioned that you had strangled her and you grabbed her by the throat, dragged her outta bed, used your forearm to cut off her airway and threw her head into a* TV*. Does that sound familiar?*

[33:54]
Richard Adams: *That sounds familiar for, yes.*

[33:57]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Um, did you ever strangle her?*

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[34:03]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[34:04]
Raymond Bechler: *Hit her, no. Drag her,*

[34:07]
Richard Adams: *No sir.*

[34:08]
Raymond Bechler: *Or push her head through a* TV*?*

[34:10]
Richard Adams: *No, sir.*

[34:10]
Raymond Bechler: *So, um, San uh, San Bernardino deputies arrived out there if there was no injuries on her?*

[34:17]
Richard Adams: *No sir.*

[34:19]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Um,*

[34:22]
Richard Adams: *I believe if there were, they would've charged me with a crime. That's normally how I've seen them do. In the past.*

[34:29]
Raymond Bechler: *Uh, while deputies were responding, um, while they were coming, you knew they were en route, correct?*

[34:35]
Richard Adams: *Yes, sir.*

[34:36]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Did you convince* [Victim] *not to tell them the truth about what happened?*

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[34:43]
Richard Adams: *I went outside. I, again, I disengaged from her because I knew that was a problem. If I'm going to try and talk to somebody who's an alleged victim or a witness, I just, like I did at the hotel, I got out of the way.*

[34:58]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. So, so while the deputies were on the way, you didn't have a discussion with her about, uh, how you were gonna handle it when they did, did get there?*

[35:06]
Richard Adams: *No, sir.*

[35:07]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[35:08]
Richard Adams: *I believe she stayed on the phone the entire time with the dispatcher, I believe.*

[35:11]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. Uh, can you tell me about the incident that was, uh, disclosed that you talked about on, that happened on Mother's Day of 2023?*

[35:20]
Richard Adams: *Yeah.*

[35:21]
Raymond Bechler: A*gain, you're talking to your, so you're talking to your IA investigators and disclosing this to them?*

[35:22]
Richard Adams: *Yes. This was, I believe, when she threw, uh,* beer stein.

[35:22]
Raymond Bechler: *This is when, um, her 14-year-old daughter thought that you were having a struggle inside the house and called 9 1 1.*

[35:43]
Richard Adams: *Right? Yeah. So that was part of, um, I was in the bathroom area and she saw a post on my Instagram from somebody who liked my* hock I *was at a hockey*

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game by myself, um, because we were having some, you know, time apart. And, uh, a random woman liked my Instagram posts and she found that offensive she had been drinking, um, ended up throwing a glass in my direction. It hit the mirror. And then that, uh, the daughter heard it outside. And then when we got outside, she was on the phone and I immediately, again, disengaged and I went back in the house and [Victim] *stayed out there for, I think, 30 seconds or so. I, I, I don't remember exactly how long, but, and then I came inside, or I, I was inside.*

[36:37]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. Uh, after knowing that the deputies were called to the house, 'cause you were aware that, um, she had made this phone call, correct? The nine one one*.

[36:53]
Richard Adams: *The daughter was on the phone with what we assumed was 9 1 1.*

[36:56]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Um, were you and* [Victim] *visible to the daughter from the backyard? Could she see what was going on?*

[37:04]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[37:05]
Raymond Bechler: *So you think that she just heard the commotion?*

[37:08]
Richard Adams: *She heard the commotion inside. Then we have, so she can't see inside. We have* blinds*. I was, I think graveyards, so I had the blackout* blinds *on too, so you can see anything inside. And I had in, I put in a pool for them with a hot tub and everything in ground, pool in the backyard. And that's where the daughter was. Um*.

[END OF VIDEO 1]

[START OF VIDEO 2]

[00:02]
Richard Adams: Blinds*, I think graveyards. So I had the blackout* blind*s on too, so you couldn't see anything inside. And I had, I put in a pool for them with a hot tub and everything in ground, pool in the backyard, and that's where the daughter was. Um, so she couldn't see into the house. She could hear what was going on because my*



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bedroom abuts the pool. So if she's on that corner of the pool and we're in that corner of the house, it's just a window, basically like a sliding door that you can hear through.

[00:36]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[00:36]
Richard Adams: *So that's my assumption is she heard that. And then when we walked out, um, there's a bar area that's about like five feet high. I built it and it wraps around and there's a grill. And so we went this way and she was over there. So she never saw us past that grill area, outside kitchen, I guess.*

[00:59]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. And Richard, what is your relationship like with her? The 14-year-old,*

[01:04]
Richard Adams: *The daughter? Um, so she is very religious. She went to a Catholic, like, she had a very Catholic, uh, Christian upbringing. She had a very, she's a very opinionated young lady, and her opinion about divorce and me coming in and stealing her mom and her brother, she has a lot of animosity towards me. And I've tried everything to try and, you know, I, I picked her up. I drove her to school, picked her up. I, I raised her. Mm-hmm. But nothing I could do whatever fixed the fact that I took her mom away from the dad,*

[01:43]
Raymond Bechler: *So. Okay. Um,*

[01:45]
Richard Adams: *So not good. And*

[01:46]
Raymond Bechler: *Again. Okay. Uh, so, uh, again, the San San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputies arrived at the house. And what did, uh, what did you tell them?*

[02:01]
Richard Adams: *I told them that we got in an argument and the daughter called the police. They didn't really ask me much, from what I can recall. They didn't, they didn't really ask me too much. Okay. They kind of went, they went in back, talked to* [Victim] *in the back. I was in front again. They talked to* [Child 1]*, and then they were like, Hey, it's*

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just an incident. Uh, we're not, there's no crime here. No crime was committed. Okay. So I was like, okay. And, and,

[02:28]
Raymond Bechler: *And I'm assuming they went and talked to, uh,* [Victim] *separately from you?*

[02:32]
Richard Adams: *Yes, sir.*

[02:33]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. And then, um, what was the outcome? How, how did they determine what and what was the outcome?*

[02:40]
Richard Adams: *The outcome was, it was, uh, I believe an incident only. They might've, uh, there was no report number or, uh, any, any, uh, charge from it. And they, they just left. Okay. And then I contacted my supervisor immediately and let him know what happened.*

[03:03]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. And you did that on the first occasion as well, when the deputies arrived?*

[03:07]
Richard Adams: *Yes. Yes, sir.*

[03:11]
Raymond Bechler: *And do you know if he, uh, his name was, uh, Sergeant O'Brien, is that correct?*

[03:15]
Richard Adams: *That's correct. Yes, sir.*

[03:16]
Raymond Bechler: *And do you know if he did any investigation beyond just you telling him? I know that's kind of speculative on your part, but do you know if he did anything?*

[03:25]
Richard Adams: *He did not. No.*



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[03:32]
Raymond Bechler: *All right. Let's move on to the February 10th, 2024. Can you tell me about that incident? That's when she is alleging that you chased her around the house after she came home from work late.*

[03:43]
Richard Adams: *Okay. Um, yeah, she, so she would pick up shifts. Um, a lot of, a lot of friction in our relationship. Uh, she would pick up shifts on weekends when I was off, or days I was off. And she would pick up shifts in San Diego or somewhere. And then I think one of these weekends she came home late. Um, you know, we had some trust issues. Uh, mostly I had trust issues. Um, and so she, she came home late, uh, started drinking wine and then, uh, I confronted her and asked her like, Hey, where have you been? You know, what's going on? Um, she didn't like that. And when she gets confronted about something, she kind of either runs away and is like walking and talking away from you. So I'm, I'm trying to hear what she's saying. Um, so I think she did mention something about me chasing her around yelling. It was more me just trying to catch up with what the conversation was and communicating and resolving the issue. Um, so I believe at one point she came into the, to my office with a glass of wine and just smashed it on the ground <laugh>. And I was like taken aback by it. I was like, okay, um, you know why? So I start yelling, you know, 'cause she's now just destroying things in the house and the kids aren't there. So that, that was a good thing. But still, uh, that's not how I was raised. So I just, um, you know, I confront her about it. She doesn't like that. So she calls the cops to come deescalate the yelling and the situation. And that's what she did.*

[05:33]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Um,*

[05:35]
Richard Adams: *Or I'm sorry. I know she, again, I'm get, I think she did not, not that time. That was not, yeah. Yeah. Did she, does that, that's what she*...

[05:41]
Raymond Bechler: That wasn't reported yet .

[05:41]
Richard Adams: *Yeah.*

[05:43]

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Raymond Bechler: *Uh, Richard did, again, I'm gonna ask, did you, um, she's alleging that you, um, physically assaulted her. And so I'm gonna ask you, did you, did you hit her in the face two times?*

[05:55]
Richard Adams: *No, sir. Did not.*

[05:56]
Raymond Bechler: *Did you throw her to the ground?*

[05:58]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[05:59]
Raymond Bechler: *Kick her stomach?*

[06:00]
Richard Adams: *No. We were trying to have a baby at the time, so I don't know why I would ever jeopardize that.*

[06:11]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. Moving on. Uh, and this really is the crux of the case. Um, mostly obviously it is all centered around this video footage that was in the front of, uh, your residence. Um, and so I'm gonna bring you back to July the 13th of 2024. Uh, can you tell me about this incident as much detail as you can?*

[06:33]
Richard Adams: *I believe it was 2023, July....*

[06:38]
Raymond Bechler: *Oh, you, that is, that is correct.*

[06:40]
Richard Adams: *Okay.*

[06:41]
Raymond Bechler: *It is 2023.*

[06:42]
Raymond Bechler: *Thank you.*

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[06:42]
Richard Adams: *'cause I know it was like two years ago now. So, um, so right back to like what I was saying before about, we had the kids for about six months straight, um, while the, the father, the biological father was in Korea. Um, he came back that spring, and this was gonna be, that July was his month to have the kids. So we couldn't really do much sexual role playing or sexual things because we had the kids for the six months leading up to this. So we started doing the rentee renter landlord roleplaying thing where she could pay her rent to me. 'cause I paid the mortgage and I paid all the bills and like that in like a sexual way. So after reviewing what Mr.* Ewert *showed me and what the CHP investigator showed me on the big screen,* I'm *like that, that's the sexual role playing that was going on, is that I'm throwing her out saying, Hey, you know, f you, I, I gotta get my, I gotta, you know, get you outta the house then. And so that's what you see me throwing her outta the house. Um, what you don't see in that video in the, in the conte - the context prior to what's going on inside the house. And then what happens after the video is she comes back inside the house. Nobody, there's no 9-1-1 call. There's, I mean, there's no, there's no crime committed. So she comes back in the house and pays her rent, ends up having sex with* me*. So that was the extent of that. Now, she did tell me later that she recorded the video off the Arlo as some sort of way to entrap or get me back for the pictures that I had on my computer. 'cause she wouldn't let that go. Um, later on, I did tell her about some infidelity that happened early on. So like, in this, I think it was later that year that I told her, Hey, I did. I was with these other people six months into our relationship because I didn't take it seriously. We met on her and I met on Tinder, which is the dating app. It wasn't supposed to be serious. So I just kind of, you know, and then it developed into love and a relationship. Um, but I told her about some things that happened in that early stages of our relationship. And then that's when this video, she started talking about a video and that she was gonna get me back, basically.*

[09:26]
Raymond Bechler: *How did you come up with the script, Richard? How do you guys, when you do your role - sexual role playing - how do you create these role playing scenarios?*

[09:36]
Richard Adams: *Uh, well she has a lot of different, um, outfits. So we have like a school girl outfit we have. So we'll decide, okay, tonight we're gonna do, we'll do school girl, and I'll do, I'll be the principal and you,* you'll *be the school girl. So I'll wear a shirt and tie in the best - she likes best, and, uh, we'll do something like that. Or then, or we'll come up with okay, you know, french maid outfit type thing. So she has these different outfits for different nights that we try to spicy - you know, spice it up a little bit. You*

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know, we've been, you know, when you're in a long term relationship, we're just trying to keep it exciting and, and she, she's into that. And so I, I would accommodate her.

[10:21]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[10:21]
Richard Adams: *But as far as..*

[10:22]
Richard Adams: *I'm gonna re-ask - go ahead.*

[10:25]
Richard Adams: *Uh, I, as far as script goes, you mean like a line by line script or just like the outline of that's just how we...*

[10:32]
Raymond Bechler: *Yeah. Okay.*

[10:33]
Richard Adams: *Okay.*

[10:35]
Raymond Bechler: *All right. Some of these questions may be a little bit redundant, but just bear with me. Um, so Richard, when were you first made aware that this video even existed? Uh, talk about the one on her Arlo system.*

[10:47]
Richard Adams: *Um, I believe it was relatively soon after she recorded it, she would bring it up.*

[10:57]
Raymond Bechler: *So that was prior to even, uh, this, even before the San Diego Deputy Sheriffs had contacted her in Poway, you knew about this video?*

[11:06]
Richard Adams: *Correct.*

[11:07]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

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[11:08]
Richard Adams: *I knew about a video.*

[11:10]
Raymond Bechler: *But you did you know it's content*?

[11:12]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[11:12]
Raymond Bechler: *At all, anything that it was about? She just said she's got a video.*

[11:17]
Richard Adams: *Yeah, just like, I think she said something about how she had videos of me assaulting people. She would say things and I honestly, I wouldn't really take her seriously a lot of the time. So it didn't really register to me that she, 'cause I wasn't abusing her, it didn't register to me that it would be some sort of abuse video.*

[11:36]
Raymond Bechler: *And she never said that she's got this, uh, video of this role playing thing, and I'm gonna use it as she never made any of those kind of references.*

[11:43]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[11:43]
Raymond Bechler: *So you really had no idea other than something about you having, uh, assaulting people?*

[11:49]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[11:50]
Raymond Bechler: *What does she mean, assaulting people?*

[11:52]
Richard Adams: *Well, I think that's what she said to the deputies in San Diego. If I read the report right, it was that I assaulted mult... like that. She has videos of me assaulting people, which is in fact* incorrect. *Don't, so I don't*..

[12:05]

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Raymond Bechler: *I get, I get what was on that I was ref-referring to. You knew about this video. You said prior to San Diego contacting* [Victim]*, you said you knew about the video. Um, did you know about what any of the content of that video prior to San Diego getting involved?*

[12:22]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[12:23]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Okay. So you had mentioned that you and* [Victim] *were in role playing, um, scenario, and then that was part of your sexual relationship. If this was normal activity, why would* [Victim] *keep a copy of this? Just this one video that was just normal routine roleplaying stuff. Why would she maintain a copy of it?*

[12:45]
Richard Adams: *I don't think there was ever a video of it. Like there was no video of us roleplaying except what she found on that one, on the* Arlo*. And then she used it, like I said, with the pictures. And then when I admitted to her about infidelity early on the relationship, I was telling her that because she really wanted to have a child. I wanted a child, but I didn't want the child to learn in 10 years that I did something wrong early on in the relationship. So that's why I came clean to her and told her. And that's when the vindictiveness came out and it was like, okay, well I have pictures and videos of stuff that basically could be incriminating. It's the way it was in insinuated to me.*

[13:28]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. All right. When she's, uh, reporting this to the San Diego Sheriff's deputies, it was Deputy McKenney who had his body-worn camera footage and he, it was his, it was a, a copy. It wa he was videotaping what* [Victim] *had showed him on her phone. Right. So this is that vi Um, but while she's, he's viewing that she's in the background, I'm sure you've probably seen this*

[13:54]
Richard Adams: *mm-hmm <affirmative>.*

[13:54]
Raymond Bechler: *Um, she's very emotional.*

[13:57]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[13:57]

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Raymond Bechler: *Can you explain to me why it's, her emotions are, if it's just a role playing scenario and this is part of what you do, why is she really emotional? Um, why she's giving this over to the deputies?*

[14:12]
Jason Ewert : *I would just, uh,*

[14:12]
Raymond Bechler: That's *speculative on your part.*

[14:15]
Richard Adams: *<laugh>. Yeah. Um, I've thought about this a lot. 'cause it, when I saw that video, I was upset when I first saw it. And, uh, that whole day in Poway, she had been drinking and I was trying to keep her from driving and picking up the kids to the point where mm-hmm <affirmative>. The husband had the kids, drove into the parking lot, saw her and drove away because he saw that she was intoxicated. I don't think the deputies were focused on that during the situation because of everything she was saying. And it had been* 15 *minutes, you know, that she had, she hadn't been drinking in front of them for 15 minutes at least. And, um, I just wanted to go home. I was just trying to get my stuff and we picked up her kids to go home to my house where she ended up going without a restraining order or anything like that. Um*

[15:06]
Raymond Bechler: *mm-hmm <affirmative>.*

[15:08]
Richard Adams: *But I think she realized what she was doing during that time.*

[15:13]
Raymond Bechler: *Mm-hmm.*

[15:14]
Richard Adams: *And the, the ramifications and implications that were gonna come of it. And I think that's where that emotion came from.*

[15:22]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[15:22]
Richard Adams: *So...*

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[15:25]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. And Richard, on the video itself, I'm going to bring you back to your just re uh, on the video, it seems like, seems like you were from an objective or subjective, um, position, looking at, it seems like you were really angry and she was pleading desperately. Have you taken role playing, um, or have you been through acting lessons or how did it, why did it appear to be so real?*

[15:58]
Richard Adams: *Well, again, the context, what had started inside the house, you know, and she likes rough roleplaying. She likes rough sexual things. I mean, going back to the photos, like she would show me photos of some, a bruise that she would get from walking into a table, you know, or I'm sorry, from, from walking into a table or from our, our role playing when I'd, you know, grab her arms and we'd be having sex. Um*

[16:24]
Raymond Bechler: *mm-hmm.*

[16:25]
Richard Adams: *She's anemic. So she bruised really easily. And then she would, she had those pictures and stuff on, on her phone. Um, but I think that night it was just a very passionate and dedicated role-playing scenario. You know, if she was two months late on the rent and I wanted my money, and then, like I said, what you don't see is what's going on inside the house with this, um, role playing inside and then outside what happens. I don't shut the door on her. The door's never shut. It says that in the report, but that's not true. 'cause the door, she comes back into the house and we end up having sex. So I know it's uncomfortable to talk about and it's nothing that I thought I'd ever lose my career over. Um, but here we are. So...*

[17:16]
Raymond Bechler: *So, so Richard, um, prior to this role playing, uh, uh,* [Victim] *expressed that the, um, prior to the video being captured outside, what happened inside was that you were arguing because, um, you were upset. You saw a text come in from an ex-boyfriend. And so that's what, uh, the catalyst had started an argument which led to this whole thing on the outside with this video footage. Is there any truth to that?*

[17:44]
Richard Adams: *I don't remember. I don't recall her saying that. I don't remember, I don't recall her, her making a statement about the video to the detectives or to the deputies.*

[17:54]

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Jason Ewert : *But is there any truth to it? Just answer his question, Richard.*

[17:59]
Richard Adams: *No, I, I, can you repeat the question*?

[18:04]
Raymond Bechler: *Was, what preceded that video being taken from the front door of your house? What preceded that was an argument because you had seen or known-learned about a text that she was receiving or texting to an ex-boyfriend?*

[18:21]
Richard Adams: *No.*

[18:23]
Raymond Bechler: *So not true?*

[18:25]
Richard Adams: *No. There was an incident that we were arguing about, about a text, but that was one of the other incidents. That's why I'm a little bit confused.*

[18:34]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. So, um, was there any argument or anything that preceded this role playing?*

[18:39]
Richard Adams: *No. No.*

[18:40]
Raymond Bechler: *So prior to that, everything was copacetic, your relationship was, everything was fine that evening?*

[18:45]
Richard Adams: *Yeah,* we *were role playing. We were doing, we were preparing for role play 'cause we didn't have the kids and we hadn't been able to do anything like that in a long time. So it was pretty passionate.*

[19:01]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. So, um, Richard, you mentioned in your I interview that your role playing has limitations. And you said if she ever, if she ever asked me to do any kind of striking or anything physical like that, um, that that's, that's where it stops. You wouldn't, you wouldn't allow, you wouldn't go in that, in that, in that direction.*

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[19:21]
Richard Adams: *Correct.*

[19:21]
Raymond Bechler: *However, in this video, it appears like you forcibly threw her to the ground.*

[19:31]
Richard Adams: *From what I saw, I was throwing her out of the house, and that was what we were doing. I was doing the ev- the eviction type process.*

[19:41]
Raymond Bechler: *And Richard, you have seen the video?*

[19:43]
Richard Adams: *I have. yes, sir.*

[19:44]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Would you agree that it looks like you're forcing her to the ground pretty hard?*

[19:51]
Richard Adams: *It does not look good. I, I, I understand that.*

[19:57]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Then you grabbed her legs and spun her around. So these things can kind, I mean, if you're saying that you have your limitations in the role playing of we're not gonna injure or you're not gonna harm her, yet the appearance of what this looks like is you're harming her.*

[20:17]
Richard Adams: *I didn't* -

[20:17]
Raymond Bechler: A*gree*?

[20:19]
Richard Adams: *As far as striking or injuring her. I was, that was never the intent during the role playing. And that was what we were doing is I was just getting her outta the house. She's a strong, she's very strong, about as tall as I am, and almost as heavy.*

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So she's, you know, me being able to move her, it, it, it looks bad, but it's what our process was for the role playing was to get her out. I mean, she would, she would certain, you know, she'd do things to me too. And it was just very, it was very, um, passionate, I guess is the best way to explain it.

[21:06]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Richard, obviously this led to a, um, a prosecution by the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office. Um, and are you aware what the outcome of that case was?*

[21:27]
Richard Adams: *Uh, yes. Yep. Yes, Sir.*

[21:30]
Raymond Bechler: *To the best of your knowledge, what happened? What was the, what was the outcome?*

[21:35]
Richard Adams: *Uh, from what I understand, it was dismissed.*

[21:38]
Raymond Bechler: *Do you know why it was dismissed?*

[21:40]
Richard Adams: *I think, like we discussed, when you called me, I, the lawyer went in back with the DA and then came out and said, Hey, get outta here.*

[21:51]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. This is kind of an odd question, but what would've been your defense, or what was your, uh, plan of, uh, your defense going into that case?*

[22:05]
Richard Adams: *We, uh, I, I hadn't even gotten to that point with my lawyer. So..,*

[22:11]
Raymond Bechler: *And you guys were already, uh, picking jury, correct?*

[22:13]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[22:14]

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Raymond Bechler: *When the case was dismissed. Okay.*

[22:15]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[22:16]
Raymond Bechler: *All right. And you don't know what your defense would've been?*

[22:18]
Richard Adams: *I had a very, and Mr. E*wert*r, you can testify or you can back me up on this. My lawyer for my criminal case was very, um, he was very, he, he couldn't communicate very well. So he was an older gentleman. Uh, we don't have any lawyers in the high desert. So I went with him and he kind of kept to himself as much as I asked like, Hey, what is our game plan? He was basically like, I, you know, I'll tell you when we need to go to have, actually have a trial. 'cause his, his mindset is that we weren't gonna have a trial.*

[22:52]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. All right. Thank you. Um, now I'm just gonna ask to just bounce back questions back and forth. It's, there is no, that was the final chronology talking about the San Diego Sheriff talking about San Bernardino and then your sit, uh, your highway patrol interview. Uh, we might be a little bit redundant on these last couple questions that I have, Richard, but bear with me. All right. Uh, you mentioned in your IA interview that you did not want to explain to three strangers. Um, you're talk, you're referring to the San Bernardino County detectives that the sexual stuff in, uh, that you and* [Victim] *are into. But did you realize that these detectives were investigating a crime, specifically you as a potential suspect, and that you have a responsibility to provide a complete and full statement to cooperate with the investigation, regardless of the one being a 21 or 20-year-old kid, one that looks like your mom or a stranger? but they have a duty to investigate this crime. Do you believe that you have a duty to cooperate with this investigation truthfully, and with complete statements?*

[23:55]
Richard Adams: *Uh, yes sir.*

[23:56]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Uh, on the home video, the* manner *in which you threw* [Victim]*, the way you grabbed her and dragged her is consistent with some of her prior allegations. Are you aware of that?*

[24:11]

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Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[24:14]
Raymond Bechler: *Any response to that? I'm referring specifically that it's consistent. Her accusations are consistent with what happened on the video camera*.

[24:29]
Richard Adams: *As far as the* ... s*tatements.*

[24:31]
Raymond Bechler: It's *what she's alleging, what she's* alleging.

[24:33]
Richard Adams: *Well, she alleged*

[24:34]
Raymond Bechler: *The dragging*...

[24:36]
Richard Adams: *She alleged that I, you know, closed fist, punched her and kicked her and did all these things that aren't true. So, I mean, she basically went down the gamut of violence that could be, you know, accusing me of cutting off windpipes and stuff. I she did that. She said everything, you know, so I think it falls under all any of those categories.*

[24:59]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Did, uh, was I clear on my, on my question? I just wanna make sure that all I'm saying is all I'm asking you for is that, and it's really not even, I'm just throwing it out there, that it, the video camera role playing scenario is consistent with some of the accusations that she's making in prior domestic violence incidents*.

[25:18]
Richard Adams: *Some of the accusations. Yes.*

[25:23]
Raymond Bechler: *Um, if roleplaying was a part of your sexual relationship, why would she not tell the detectives that role playing was just a part of it?*

[25:37]
Richard Adams: *I think based on what I saw from her statement in the report, um, she does state that Richard has never been violent with anybody in the home. And that*



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what's going on in that video is not what he was describing to her. So she went up right up to the line of admitting it being a role playing scenario. But I think, and this is speculation, but I, I think what her concern was is any kind of false police report situation where she could be in trouble for that. So I that's, that's my, that's what I, my conjecture - that fact.

[26:17]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. So at a certain point, um, Richard, she decided, well, I don't know at a certain point, but, uh, at one point she sent a letter to, I believe it was to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's office. Are you familiar with that letter that she sent?*

[26:31]
Richard Adams: *Yes, sir. That was in the report.*

[26:33]
Raymond Bechler: *And obviously she's trying to say that I don't wanna move further with this. Uh, uh, I want it to be done. I gotta, I wanna get back to my life. But I, I guess that's where my question is, is that why would she not just be, um, kind of like how, uh, to be emphatic to the detectives out with San Bernardino County and say, Hey, this was role playing, we were just playing, and this is part of our scenario, and be emphatic about that. Why is she not on this end being emphatic when she writes? And I go, I, I'm, I'm just asking for a speculative answer from your part, but why is it that she doesn't - I'm speaking out loud- on this letter to the DA's office mentioned, uh, and by the way, uh, this whole scenario, because that's what we're all here for, is this July 13th video*. That's *why the DA's office decided they were gonna move forward with this*, *largely because of that video, which is also why they dismissed the case* be*cause they couldn't authenticate that in court. So, um, my question to you is why would she not then articulate that and as an emphatic point that it was just role playing? She never mentions it.*

[27:38]
Richard Adams: *I mean, that would be a good question for her. And to ask her. I, I can't really speculate as to why she put what she put in that letter. I know she did write that she made untrue statements, um, in that, in that, uh, police report. That's correct. And for her to, it's a very private thing for her. Uh, I think she has some sexual, uh, abuse situations from her past that she is into the role playing. She's into the rough sex because of, and it's something that for her, she didn't want to open up that can of having to explain, like me explaining to now you are the, you know, it's recording and it's now been three or four or five people that I've had to explain this sexual role playing to. And as a 41-year-old male and a 38-year-old female, it's kind of embarrassing. So I think*



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that she thought by say, sending that letter in, that it would be handled with her desires, uh, consider, which it wasn't. Um, but that's my speculation.

[28:49]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. All right. Bear with me. I have three or four more more questions real quick, Richard. Um, so* [Victim] *provided statements to the police. She showed a video, uh, the ring video or Arlo video. Um, she also had a picture of, um, a bloody eye that she said was as a result of one of those incidents. Um, and she claims obviously, that you had assaulted her on several occasions. Is it your position that she is not telling the truth about any of the reported physical violence?*

[29:18]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[29:20]
Raymond Bechler: *Um, and can you tell me why you think that she would create these, um, these incidents up?*

[29:30]
Richard Adams: *I think*...

[29:30]
Raymond Bechler: *I think he's testified to it a couple of times, but I mean, go ahead, Richard.*

[29:34]
Richard Adams: *I, I, again, speculation as to why she would make things up. I think she has domestic violence history in her past that I did, I was not aware of until it got disclosed to me by the criminal* DA*. So she has gone down these paths before with ex-boyfriends, ex lovers. And I think that when she got the response in San Diego, it was a much bigger response for law enforcement than anything she's ever seen before, because they came in hot and heavy with five or six deputies, and I think she felt as though she had to give them something and ordered to leave. Okay. And that's what she decided to do.*

[30:27]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay, great. Thanks. Um, and Richard, what is your, uh, what is your relationship? What's the status of your relationship now with* [Victim]*?*

[30:36]
Richard Adams: *Uh, we're still together.*

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[30:38]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[30:42]
Raymond Bechler: *And, um, that's pretty much all I have, Richard. I just wanna, um, give you the opportunity to, um, say anything here as we close that would be helpful, that we should be considering, um, for the, for this investigation.*

[31:01]
Jason Ewert : *Can we have a brief break that I can talk to Richard and then we'll come back?*

[31:05]
Raymond Bechler: *Absolutely. Yep.*

[31:08]
Jason Ewert : *Um, I'm just gonna mute and step out and I'll give you a call on your phone, Richard, if that works. Okay?*

[31:13]
Richard Adams: *Yep. Sounds good.*

[32:55]
Jason Ewert : *All right, Mr. Beckler, I think I only have a couple of follow up questions, if that's okay?*

[32:59]
Raymond Bechler: *Of course. Yes, sir.*

[33:01]
Jason Ewert : *All right. Uh, Mr. Adams, you previously testified that you didn't really have a plan, uh, when you guys went into the criminal trial. Um, and I believe you indicated that you really hadn't kind of worked with your attorney on what the formal trial, uh, roadmap was gonna be. Is that correct?*

[33:19]
Richard Adams: *That's correct, yeah.*

[33:20]
Jason Ewert : *If you had been called to testify in that case, what would you have said?*

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[33:26]
Richard Adams: *Exactly what I've been saying, that it was roleplay, sexual role playing scenario that happened, and that was what the video was.*

[33:37]
Jason Ewert : *Okay.*

[33:38]
Richard Adams: *So I think a lot of, and do you have another question or*?..

[33:42]
Jason Ewert : *No, no, go ahead.*

[33:43]
Richard Adams: *Oh, I was just gonna say like the def-the defense that he, I believe he was executing, he was continuing the case, like prolonging the case and that was what he was continually doing. So we couldn't finally, I was at the point where I wanted it, I wanna finish this. And so his mindset was it was still gonna be not, it was, it was not gonna be a, uh, a trial. So, but yes, that would've been my defense if called to the stand to testify, that would've been sexual role playing* - c*onsensual act.*

[34:23]
Jason Ewert : *Okay. I don't have any further questions.*

[34:26]
Raymond Bechler: *Uh, Richard, if I could ask -thank you for that. Um, one last question I just remembered, um, when I, I try to, I did talk to* [VICTIM]*, um, maybe three weeks ago now. Um, try to get some clarity on some stuff. Uh, she did say that she now lives on the East Coast. Is that true?*

[34:45]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[34:47]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. But you're still together. Yes. You're still enga- you're still engaged as fiance?*

[34:53]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

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[35:00]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Anything else? Um, Mr. Er*wert,

[35:03]
Jason Ewert : *So, uh, Richard, what is the nature of your relationship with her? Have you been engaged this whole time or, or what has happened?*

[35:11]
Richard Adams: *So she, um, before, well it was, it was Christmas of last year. Um, she, I called her from the airport, I'm sorry, Thanksgiving. I called her from the airport and she said she was leaving for the East coast with her ex-husband, uh, and the kids. So I raised* [Child 2] *from* – [Child 2] is *her son that I met when he was four months old and he's now six. And I raised him. So she took that away from me. Uh, basically took my entire family, um, because the ex-husband retired from the Marine Corps and got a job on, in, in the East Coast. So they left Christmas Day. Um, it was copacetic. There wasn't anything, you know, this whole thing has been, there was never a restraining order, you know, she, the day she made all these allegations, she went back to my house and slept in my bed. And, you know, we were together from that point on and we didn't know that there was a criminal charge until she got a Mar*sy's card in the mail. *And that's how we found out. So that put a lot of strain, obviously on our relationship, um, to the point where she felt as though she had to leave with her ex-husband and go to go to East Coast. So, um, but we maintained a long distance, uh, relationship and, you know, basically promised each other that after everything was said and done, that we would still be together. So* that's...

[36:51]
Jason Ewert : S*o you have been physically separated and and now you're back together?*

[36:56]
Richard Adams: *Yes.*

[36:58]
Jason Ewert : *Okay.*

[37:01]
Raymond Bechler: *And you said that's been since Christmas Day-ish*?

[37:04]
Jason Ewert : C*orrect. Yeah, she left, well, I'm sorry, a few days prior to Christmas day 'cause she wanted to be where she was gonna be for the kids on Christmas day.*

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[37:16]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay.*

[37:21]
Jason Ewert : *Okay.*

[37:21]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Anything else Richard? I wanted to leave you with the last, uh, if you had anything else you wanted to say that would be helpful to the investigation.*

[37:30]
Richard Adams: *I don't know helpful to the investigation or not, but I just, I gotta say, 'cause this might be the last time I have a chance to say anything to anybody that just cares, is that this destroyed my career. I'm homeless, jobless, and it's something that has negatively affected my family and my children and my fiance. And, um, I think that that's what impacts, that's what I guess* my *impact statement is, is that, you know, having six years honorable service to the state of California and, uh, having no disciplinary issues, having no nexus to the department, I tried my best to keep this away from the department and not, and tell, inform my supervisors of everything that was going on. It's just, it, um, no disciplinary issues like I said, and accommodations. It's just, this is not where I thought I'd be. And I don't think that's where* [Victim] *thought we'd be. It's kind of a bell that can't be* un-*rung is what I think she found and I found. And, um, I would definitely do things differently if I could. Thank you.*

[38:46]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Right, Richard, Mr.* Ewert*, thank you very much for your time. And, um, yeah, we're gonna go off, if you wanna hang tight for just a second, I'm gonna go take this off so I better not mess with it, but, okay. Um, Mr. Er, uh, do you mind if I give you a call right afterwards?*

[39:08]
Jason Ewert : *Sure.*

[39:09]
Raymond Bechler: *Okay. Alright, Mr. Adams, take care and I'll be in contact, okay?*

[39:16]
Richard Adams: *Okay. Thank you.*

[39:17]

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Raymond Bechler: *Okay, Bye.*

[39:18]
Jason Ewert : *Thanks.*