

1 MARIANNE WALDMAN: She wants to  
2 send us to somebody else.

3 THE COURT: Who were  
4 witness to the situation as well?

5 MS. O'TOOLE: Who -- who --  
6 who report to me.

7 MARIANNE WALDMAN: Yeah.

8 MS. O'TOOLE: They're part  
9 of my office.

10 MARIANNE WALDMAN: Exactly.  
11 She wants to remove them now because they're  
12 helping us.

13 MS. O'TOOLE: Well -- well,  
14 I'm trying to min -- minimize the friction  
15 toward my office. There's, obviously,  
16 obvious hostility between these victims and  
17 myself, even though I've had very minimal  
18 conversation; as additionally now, if I have  
19 an issue where they have an issue with  
20 someone else in my office, I just think for  
21 purposes of, you know, minimizing conflict,  
22 the appearance of impropriety and everything  
23 else.

24 THE COURT: Well --

25 MARIANNE WALDMAN: There's none

1 of that with them.

2 MS. O'TOOLE: So --

3 THE COURT: -- you do you  
4 understand that those Victims of Crime  
5 advocates do work for the Prosecutor's  
6 Office?

7 MARIANNE WALDMAN: Yes, Your  
8 Honor, I do.

9 THE COURT: But what  
10 you're saying, it is your desire they remain  
11 involved in this case?

12 MARIANNE WALDMAN: Yes, Your  
13 Honor. We have no issues with them.

14 THE COURT: You do you  
15 understand that apparently Ms. O'Toole's  
16 determination as to what she does --

17 MARIANNE WALDMAN: Yes.

18 THE COURT: -- this Court  
19 has no control over?

20 MARIANNE WALDMAN: I do  
21 understand that.

22 THE COURT: Is there  
23 anything else you wish to say?

24 MARIANNE WALDMAN: No, Your  
25 Honor.

1 THE COURT: Any other  
2 questions of her, Ms. O'Toole?

3 MS. O'TOOLE: Um, no, Your  
4 Honor.

5 But if there's going to be anything  
6 further in this regard by the Court, um, I --  
7 I think, you know, it would be necessary to  
8 have a formal -- you know, if -- if  
9 necessary, 'cause I can't speak for Mr.  
10 Fortunato. This is all new to me.

11 THE COURT: Well, you can  
12 certainly discuss this with him when we  
13 adjourn this.

14 Any other questions of her?

15 MS. O'TOOLE: No, Your  
16 Honor.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Juhasz, on  
18 behalf of the defense?

19 MR. JUHASZ: I have no  
20 questions for Ms. Waldman, no.

21 THE COURT: Are there any  
22 other witnesses that wish to come forward and  
23 make the Court aware of what transpired?

24 MS. O'TOOLE: I -- I have no  
25 idea 'cause I haven't talked to my victim's

1 advocates yet. I have no idea who heard  
2 whatever. Obviously, there were several --

3 THE COURT: Well, let's  
4 hear from the lady --

5 MS. O'TOOLE: -- people back  
6 there.

7 THE COURT: -- the first  
8 lady in the back, first back row. Have her  
9 come forward.

10 MARIANNE WALDMAN: I'm excused,  
11 Your Honor?

12 THE COURT: You're  
13 welcome.

14 MARIANNE WALDMAN: Thank you.

15 MS. O'TOOLE: Your Honor, I  
16 object. If we're going to have a full  
17 hearing here --

18 THE COURT: I just want to  
19 find out what happened, Ms. O'Toole.

20 MS. O'TOOLE: Well, Your  
21 Honor, we can --

22 THE COURT: What happened,  
23 that if, in fact, it happened, should never  
24 have happened, in any case, in any court.

25 MS. O'TOOLE: Your Honor,

1 please don't yell at me. I'm -- excuse me.  
2 This is not something that --

3 THE COURT: Ms. O'Toole --

4 MS. O'TOOLE: -- if it was  
5 inappropriate that is condoned in my office.

6 THE COURT: Ms. O'Toole --

7 MS. O'TOOLE: So, I  
8 cannot --

9 THE COURT: Ms. O'Toole,  
10 you should be as interested as I am in  
11 finding out what happened.

12 MS. O'TOOLE: I am, Your  
13 Honor.

14 THE COURT: And finding  
15 out how much verification there is for it.  
16 Do you understand that?

17 MS. O'TOOLE: Your Honor, I  
18 am interested.

19 THE COURT: Now, the next  
20 individual who wishes to advise the Court as  
21 to what transpired, please come forward.

22 MS. O'TOOLE: Objection, for  
23 the record.

24 THE COURT: Your objection  
25 is noted.

1 Please come forward.

2 THE BAILIFF: Would you  
3 raise your right hand, please?

4 Do you swear that the testimony  
5 you're about to give in the hearing before  
6 this Court will be truth, so help you God?

7 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: I do.

8 THE COURT: Would you  
9 state your name?

10 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: I'm -- my name  
11 is Stephanie Sagraves; last name,  
12 S-a-g-r-a-v-e-s.

13 THE COURT: And with whom  
14 are you employed?

15 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: I am with the  
16 Victims of Crime Assistance Office under  
17 Prosecutor Colleen O'Toole.

18 THE COURT: And you wish  
19 to make a statement to the Court as to what  
20 transpired?

21 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Yeah. It  
22 started with a comment to me.

23 THE COURT: All right.  
24 I will give you the opportunity to make a  
25 narrative statement.

1                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Okay. We were  
2 getting ready to leave when, um, Chris  
3 touched my shoulder -- Christopher  
4 Fortunato -- excuse me -- touched my shoulder  
5 and asked me who he -- who Lou was. I, ah,  
6 told him he's her husband. And then Lou  
7 looked back and said, "Why don't you ask me  
8 yourself?" And then Chris asked him what his  
9 name was. Then, um, he answered it; Lou  
10 answered it. And then Lou asked Chris what  
11 his name was, and Chris answered with his  
12 name.

13                   And then, um, they -- something  
14 happened where a little hostility, um -- I  
15 don't exactly remember what Lou said after  
16 that, but once Lou made his comment, Chris  
17 said, from what I heard that he said, "Get  
18 out of this courtroom."

19                   THE COURT:                   You heard Mr.  
20 Fortunato say that to --

21                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Lou.

22                   THE COURT:                   -- Lou?

23                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Yes.

24                   THE COURT:                   Okay.

25                   Anything further you wish to indicate?

1                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: That's  
2 everything I saw.

3                   THE COURT:                Ms. O'Toole,  
4 do you have any questions?

5                   MS. O'TOOLE:                You didn't  
6 hear what Lou said to Mr. Fortunato, correct?

7                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: I did, but I  
8 can't remember.

9                   MS. O'TOOLE:                Um, and there  
10 has been quite a bit of hostility toward our  
11 office, has -- has it -- has there not?

12                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Towards the  
13 Prosecutor's Office, yes.

14                   MS. O'TOOLE:                Okay. And  
15 have there been things that have been said by  
16 the victims that were historically  
17 confrontational or otherwise, um, perhaps out  
18 of the norm, in regard to their behavior or  
19 their treatment toward our office and our  
20 staff?

21                   STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Um, towards  
22 the victim advocates, they were fine, um, but  
23 they were very opinionated about the  
24 Prosecutor's Office.

25                   MS. O'TOOLE:                Okay.



1 THE COURT: Anything  
2 further?

3 MS. O'TOOLE: Not that I  
4 know of, no.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Juhasz, do  
6 you have anything?

7 MR. JUHASZ: Just one or  
8 two, if I may.

9 Were you in here when -- when  
10 Mr. Waldman testified?

11 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Yes.

12 MR. JUHASZ: Did you hear  
13 what he -- what his recollection was of the  
14 statement --

15 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Yes.

16 MR. JUHASZ: -- that he  
17 made?

18 This -- I understand you might not  
19 be able to repeat it word for word, but all  
20 I'm trying to find out is, does that sort of  
21 mirror what your recollection is of what he  
22 said?

23 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Yes.

24 MR. JUHASZ: Okay. So,  
25 we're trying to make sure that we have it

1 accurate.

2 So, your opinion is, what he --

3 MS. O'TOOLE: Objection.

4 MR. JUHASZ: -- what he  
5 said is accurate?

6 MS. O'TOOLE: She said --

7 THE COURT: Overruled.

8 MS. O'TOOLE: -- she  
9 couldn't remember.

10 THE COURT: Ask your  
11 question again.

12 MR. JUHASZ: All right.

13 Okay. So, I guess that's what I want to  
14 know. Do you remember or are you saying that  
15 what he said --

16 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: I don't fully  
17 remember what the comment was.

18 MR. JUHASZ: Okay. And if  
19 I understand the rest of what you said, you  
20 have an okay working relationship with Mrs.  
21 Waldman for purposes of this case; is that  
22 right?

23 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Correct.

24 MR. JUHASZ: But she has  
25 expressed some negative opinions about the --

1 the lawyers handling the case for the State?

2 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: Yes.

3 MR. JUHASZ: Any reason why  
4 you feel that you could not continue to  
5 provide victim services to her?

6 MS. O'TOOLE: Objection.

7 It's not her decision. It's above --

8 THE COURT: We've  
9 established that --

10 MR. JUHASZ: Yeah.

11 THE COURT: -- but I think  
12 it's a legitimate question. You may answer.

13 STEPHANIE SAGRAVES: I can  
14 successfully complete my job.

15 MR. JUHASZ: Okay. That's  
16 all I have. Thank you.

17 THE COURT: Thank you.  
18 You may stand down.

19 Is there anyone else who wishes to  
20 make the Court aware of what transpired?

21 Noting that there are no other  
22 responses, the Court will take this under  
23 advisement.

24 Ms. O'Toole, I assume you will do  
25 what you believe should appropriately be

1 done.

2 MS. O'TOOLE: Yes, Your  
3 Honor.

4 THE COURT: Thank you. We  
5 are in recess.

6 MS. O'TOOLE: Thank you for  
7 bringing it to our attention.

8 (Whereupon, the proceedings were  
9 concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above  
and foregoing is a true and accurate Transcript of the  
hearing held in the above-styled matter, said hearing  
having been transcribed from an audio/video recording  
provided by the Office of the Honorable David A.  
Schroeder; at which proceedings the undersigned was not  
present.

*Carrie M. Iarocci*  
CARRIE M. IAROCCI, RPR, CRR  
Official Court Reporter

Dated: April 3, 2023

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